

Friends of the Falmouth Public Library

Newsletter

Fall 2013

President:
Nancy English

Editor:
Marilyn Sanborn



Friends Make \$49,000 for the Library



Wow! What happened this summer?

I don't know if anyone knows the answer, but the Friends are pretty happy about the whole thing. This is only a theory, but have you noticed that Falmouth is different this year? Main Street is jumping. Streets are crowded with people even on weekdays and nights. Shops are open later. There are tables and chairs in front of many restaurants, and one even has flames that rise three feet into the air. There is a new French bakery that makes us all think we're in Paris. That is one festive atmosphere, and the Friends' white tents on the library lawn were right in the middle of everything for five days. How could we miss? Book lovers know a winner when they see it. They flocked to the sale ready to buy, and buy they did.

They bought for themselves, but they also bought for their parents, their kids, their friends, their husbands, their boyfriends and their grandchildren of course. Little children made their choices, paid for them, held them close, and treasured them. Do you think you will ever see a child holding a Kindle close? Not likely. There is something about the magic of a book when you hold it in your hands.

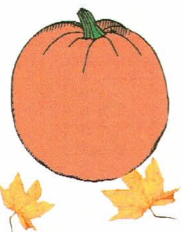
Thank you Falmouth and the book people from the other towns and cities who came to our sale. We hope to see you again next year.



Joy of Learning

FALL SCHEDULE

EDUCATIONAL AND ENLIGHTENING COURSES
BEGINNING OCTOBER 1ST ~ DETAILS INSIDE





Joy of Learning

Schedule of Courses for Fall 2013

The Friends of the Falmouth Public Library will offer five new courses which will begin Tuesday, October 1, 2013. The classes are free and open to the public.

Tuesdays: 10:15 - 11:15 am - October 1, 8, 15, 22 in Bay Room

Movies! Movies! Movies!

- **Session 1 - The Power of One:** How one person was able to stand against the crowd.
- **Session 2 - Lost and Found:** Loved ones, long separated, eventually find each other.
- **Session 3 - Plagiarism, Coincidence or Homage.** Similarities in various movies.
- **Session 4 - The Story Behind "On Golden Pond."**

Fred Gitlitz B.A. Colgate, M.A. Columbia University, Ph.D. Columbia University

Tuesdays: 11:30 am - 12:30 pm - October 1, 8, 15, 22 in Bay Room

Vignettes in American History

- **Session 1 - Evolution and the Culture War.** (Includes the Scopes Trial)
- **Session 2 - The Sacco Vanzetti Trial.** (Last shown in 2010)
- **Session 3 - Fallen Heroes.** (Last shown in 2010)
- **Session 4 - The Great Communicator: Ronald Reagan** NEW

Fred Gitlitz B.A. Colgate, M.A. Columbia University, Ph.D. Columbia University

Wednesdays: 2:00 - 3:00 pm - October 2, 9, 16, 23 in Hermann Room

Giuseppe Verdi: A Giant of the Nineteenth Century Opera

The course will examine Verdi's life and some of his greatest creations.

Louise T. Adler M.S. and Ph.D. in Microbiology & Immunology.

(Music has been Ms. Adler's lifelong avocation and a passionate pursuit.)

Thursdays: 10:00 - 11:15 am - October 10, 17, 24 & 31 in Hermann Room

Seeds of Destruction: The Origins of the First World War - This course will examine the major events of European history from the Franco-Prussian War in 1870 to the outbreak of the Great War in 1914, including the Russo-Japanese War (1904-05), the Italo-Turkish War (1911-12), and the Balkan Wars of 1912/1913. All events contributing to the entangling alliances which pushed the great European powers into a war nobody wanted.

Michael McNaught earned B.A. and M.A. degrees in history at Oxford University where he specialized in Military History and the Theory of War.

An independent school teacher and administrator for 44 years, he has lectured extensively at Falmouth Academy, the Falmouth Historical Society and the Joy of Learning program since moving permanently to Falmouth in 2004.

NOTE - All classes are free and held at the Falmouth Public Library. Tuesday classes take place before the library opens. Please enter at Meeting Room entrance on Katharine Lee Bates Road by the door at the end, close to the trash enclosure.

CUT OUT HERE

TO REGISTER: Send your selections with your name, address and phone number to:
Joy of Learning, Post Office Box 480, Falmouth, Massachusetts 02541

Please keep course descriptions as your record.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

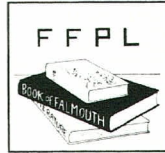
I wish to enroll in the following course (or courses):

- (1) MOVIES! MOVIES! MOVIES!
- (2) VIGNETTES OF AMERICAN HISTORY
- (3) GUISEPPE VERDI
- (4) FIRST WORLD WAR



Always Seeking New Friends

Friends of Falmouth Public Library



P.O. Box 480
Falmouth Massachusetts, 02541
508-457-2555 - ext 2918
www.FalmouthPublicLibrary.org

Dear Patron of the Falmouth Public Library

We encourage you to join the Friends of the Falmouth Public Library, a nonprofit organization with all membership fees and donations going to support the Falmouth Public Library. The Friends provides many services and materials to the Library, such as Joy of Learning classes in many subjects; a newsletter containing FFPL event notices, book reviews and articles about Library services; CDs, DVDs, museum passes and rental of current bestsellers. In the past year the Friends has added several new features including online Consumer Reports and the Mango language learning system. Much of this has been made possible by the generous contributions of Library patrons.

For memberships and donations, please clip and return the bottom portion of this sheet to the address above or hand it in at the circulation desk in the main Library. If you have a non-Falmouth address for part of the year, please let us know below so we can send the winter newsletter to the right place.

Thank You,
Bill English, Membership Chairman

Please make your checks payable to:

Friends of Falmouth Public Library

The Friends Newsletter can be seen on the Falmouth Public Library website:

www.falmouthpubliclibrary.org

Then click on "About Us" and find the FFPL in the menu

Please Note: If there is a RED sticker next to your address on the last page of this Newsletter, our records show that you have not paid dues for this year.

Friends of the Falmouth Public Library - 2013-2014 Membership Form

Name _____

Local Address _____

Telephone _____ Email Address _____

Other Address _____

FROM _____ TO _____

MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY Please check

\$15 Individual

\$120 Individual Life Membership

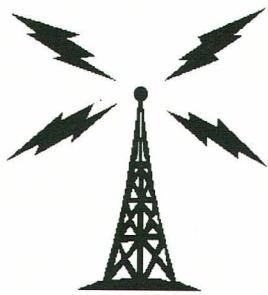
\$150 Family Life Membership

\$20 Family

Donation \$ _____

I would like to volunteer to help with the Summer Book Sale or other ways

What's Going on at the Library?



Falmouth Public Library On the Radio!

Looking for something to read? Have a radio (or a computer to listen to the podcast)? Then try tuning in to WCAI 90.1 FM and listen to The Point with Mindy Todd on the last Wednesday of every month at 9:00 AM (repeated at 7:00 PM). Mindy, Melanie Lawyers (the Cape Cod Times Book editor), and I talk books once a month. What kind of books do we talk about? All kinds of books! Books for kids, teens, and adults. Fiction and Nonfiction. Not only do we talk about books, but you can also call in with your suggestions of books as well, just by dialing 866-999-4626 or sending an e-mail to: thepoint@wgbh.org.

How did I end up on the radio talking about books? Well, it all began long ago when we were still in the old library building. Mindy was doing a show on books and had invited Melanie and me to be on the show. Well it turned out that Mindy really liked the Melanie/Jill chemistry, and so we were asked to appear again and again. So what had been a one time appearance on the radio, became a quarterly event, and gradually grew to be a once a month event! Mindy's show has grown as well, so what had been a half-hour talk on books is now an hour talk on books.

We generally have a theme that we focus on each month. Recent themes have included Buddhism, interior design, self-help, and animals. In addition, we usually have a summer reading show, a holiday book show, and our favorites-of-the-year show. What you might be surprised to know is that Melanie and I never know what the other one is going to bring into the studio. Amazingly we almost never arrive with the same books!

I always post the list of our book suggestions on the library blog, so if you would like to see some past lists you can just go to the library's web page (www.falmouthpubliclibrary.org), and at the top of the page you'll see a box that says "Search this site." Just type in "Melanie" and that will bring up all the lists since we started the library blog, including our 2012 picks of the year. Happy listening (and reading)!

~ Jill Erickson - Head of Reference Department



Message From the President

GRATEFUL

Many thanks to *everyone* who helped make the Friends Summer Book Sale the most successful ever: the *book-loving people* of all ages who generously share their books with us; the *dedicated volunteers* who spend many hours of their time sorting, filing, pricing, and boxing books; the *chairman* of the book sale and his *amazing team* who ensure success; the *Library staff* and *custodians* who help with patience, advice, and brawn; *Eastern Bank* for storing hundreds of boxes of books when the pile grows too large for our room; and finally the *thousands of book-lovers* who return every year to purchase more books. **THANK YOU TO ALL!**

~ Nancy English - FFPL President



Book sale volunteers



Holiday Book Sale



BOOKS MAKE GREAT GIFTS!

Dates for the "Friends Holiday Book Sale" are:

- Tuesday & Wednesday, Dec. 10th & 11th - 1:30 to 8:00 pm
- Thursday & Friday, Dec. 12th & 13th - 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
- Saturday, December 14th--10:00 am to 12 noon

Book Clubs for Adults ^{& children} at Main Library

“Can you help me?”

As reference librarians we do more than answer questions at the reference desk. That may be our most visible role, but we have a variety of other responsibilities that we perform in between times. One of my personal favorites is preparing for and meeting with a book club. While selecting books for a book club I get to learn and think about books that are new to me, then read and share them with a group of engaged and astute readers—what's not to love about that?



The main library hosts two book clubs for adults - Fiction and Narrative Nonfiction, and the east branch hosts one that combines the two called Fact and Fiction Book Club. (By the way, the Children's department has a book group for kids too.) The adult groups read one book a month and meet for an hour of robust discussion. The Fiction Book Club usually has a theme they follow for a six month session, whereas the Narrative Nonfiction Club likes to read a different type of book each month of our six-month session. In preparing for the new sessions starting this fall we combed through reviews, bibliographies and memories of past reads, dipping our toes into several books to test the waters, while we looked for just the right ones to stimulate discussion. Here is the line-up for the two book clubs at the main library.



Drum roll please!

Fiction Book Club - "Weddings & Divorces" is the theme this fall and winter.

- *The Wedding* by Dorothy West
- *The Custom of the Country* by Edith Wharton
- *A Wedding in December* by Anita Shreve
- *Larry's Party* by Carol Shields
- *A Spot of Bother* by Mark Haddon
- *The Sportswriter* by Richard Ford

**Meets: 7 PM on the 3rd Wednesday of the Month
and at 10 AM the Thursday morning after**

Narrative Nonfiction Book Club

- *Agent Garbo* by Stephan Talty
- *Finder's Keepers: a Tale of Archaeological Plunder and Obsession* by Craig Childs
- *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings* by Maya Angelou
- *The Psychopath Test: a Journey Through the Madness Industry* by Jon Ronson
- *Sea Change: Alone Across the Atlantic in a Wooden Boat* by Peter Nichols
- *Bookseller of Kabul* by Asne Seierstad

Meets: 10 AM on the 1st Friday of each month

We love to have readers join the groups at any time of year. If you have an interest, stop by the reference desk to pick up a schedule and a copy of the upcoming book. Read the book and come prepared to answer questions and quite likely hear a new point of view! Our aim is to have you understand the book better after the discussion. We hope to see you there!

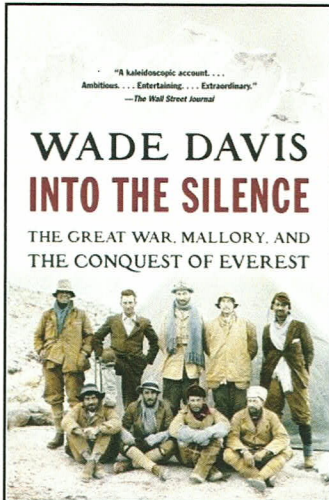
~ Faith Lee - Reference Department



INTO THE SILENCE

The Great War, Mallory and the Conquest of Everest

by Wade Davis



When I was seven years old, I was sent to summer camp in the mountains of New Hampshire. I wasn't crazy about the camp, but there was one thing I was grateful for. I was too young to go on the trip to climb a certain mountain, a yearly activity of the older girls. I didn't particularly like even looking at the mountains from afar. They made me feel claustrophobic. That feeling followed me through life.

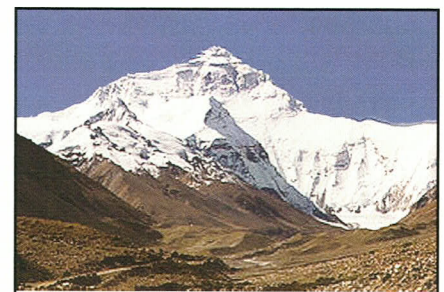
Why then, I ask myself, did I fall completely under the spell of a book not just about mountain climbing but about climbing the tallest and most dangerous mountain in the world?

Mount Everest sits between the two countries of Nepal and Tibet and the latter was the route taken by the 1921 expedition planning to climb Mt. Everest. The group was not composed of ordinary men. They came from a long line of distinguished families with a tradition of mountain climbing.

Many of them were members of the famous Alpine Club, mostly British and predominantly men from the aristocracy. All were seasoned climbers, some more experienced than others, but one stood out from the group. He was **George Mallory**, a young school teacher from Winchester, who radiated some kind of special aura which instinctively caused other men to recognize him as a leader. Beyond that, much has been written about his beautiful face. That may have had something to do with the way the reader is drawn into this true story of adventure- of danger and of fear, but most of all, one becomes transfixed by the ability of these men to withstand incredible deprivation, including the worst deprivation of all, the inability to breathe. Oxygen was seldom, if ever, used at that time. Many thought oxygen was for sissies.



George Mallory
in 1914



"It was a prodigious white fang excrecent from the jaw of the world."

I thought I would respond to this kind of self-inflicted misery and pain with derision as many people do, but no, I would find myself literally clutching the book so hard that my arms shook. Even knowing the outcome failed to lessen the suspense and the horror. Sometimes the descriptions of what these men were going through became so real that I fancied myself along side of them, digging my crampons into a glacier with my hands and feet frostbitten. Images of these obsessed men never left my mind.

The story of the Himalaya, Tibet and the Tibetans provides an ever present background to the book. The aristocratic Englishmen depended on the sherpas who were their guides, young Tibetan men trained to climb mountains while carrying all the baggage of the men who had hired them. They were illiterate but a necessity if you ever expected to reach your goal, the conquest of the tallest mountain in the world.

As they climb from one camp to the next placed at strategic spots on the sides of the mountain, we learn more about these Englishmen. Many of them were young, but not too young to have missed the Great War, not too young to have been spared the indescribable horrors of trench warfare. Wade Davis suggests that they may have wanted to find in their conquest of Everest a far more valiant victory that would erase the memory of World War I.

(continued on page 7)

Book Review *by Marilyn Sanborn*

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6)

Whatever their reasons, strong as they were, they did not make it in 1921, nor did they make it in a similar expedition in 1922 when they returned to Tibet filled with hope that this time they could correct the mistakes of 1921 and finally reach the summit which so far had alluded them.

The book ends with the expedition of 1924, the last of the three. Several of the same men were back once more to climb Mt. Everest including George Mallory, who had again left his wife and three children, to follow his bliss. I had never heard of Mallory, and yet I quickly surrendered to the spell he cast. He was young. He was beautiful. He had fought in the Great War and he was totally selfish.

On the last day of the 1924 expedition that had been allotted to climbing because of the weather, Mallory and his young partner, Sandy Irvine, were far ahead of the rest of the group who were spread out on the mountain below. Mallory's and Irvine's tiny figures could be seen high on the mountain on what looked like a site close to the summit. The weather was unremittingly hostile, and, as one climber watched from below, the figures disappeared into a swirl of clouds. That was the last time they were seen. Later, many of their colleagues insisted that they must have reached the summit, but were unable to get down in the storm that encircled the peak. Still later discoveries would add to this incredible story but not for 75 years.

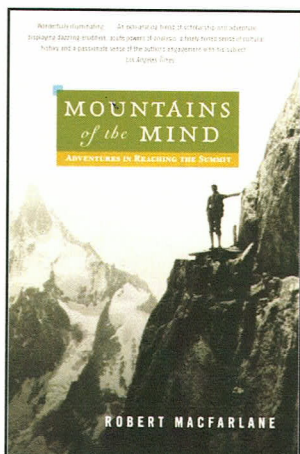
Books about Everest abound. Everyone involved in climbing that mountain has a story to tell. I would like to recommend one fairly recent one that told the same story as Davis but in a different way and at a different time. It is *Into Thin Air* by John Krakauer (author of *Into The Wild*). It is a fast read and written in a style which again holds you in suspense or frozen in terror. An experienced climber, Krakauer was part of one of the so-called guided expeditions in 1996 that climbed Mt. Everest. He made it to the summit and back down having been without sleep for 57 hours, reeling from the effects of oxygen depletion, freezing and hallucinating due to exhaustion.



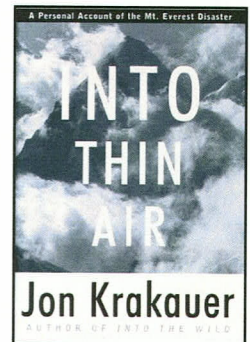
The descent can be no less perilous than the way up. Several climbers died, including Bob Hall, the leader of Krakauer's expedition as well as Fisher, the leader of a group climbing along side them. Their colleagues mourned them later in a series of memorials that occurred all over England and in other parts of the world.

There are several explanations as to why mountain climbers continue to persevere. George Mallory's reason is perhaps the most famous. He said they climbed Everest "because it was there." That is as good an explanation as any as far as I am concerned.

It was partly the title of this book which intrigued me, but I think it was the mention of one man, George Mallory, among all the climbers, that piqued my curiosity. Why was he singled out? Was he more heroic? Was he braver? One answer can be found in his home country. He was all those things and more to the British people. Mallory's story has all the makings of a myth, and that is just what the British have made of him.



One more book (have I become obsessed?) is *Mountains of the Mind* by Robert MacFarlane who succeeds in describing George Mallory in language that can only be called poetic. If you don't have time for what one critic called the majesty of *Into the Silence* or the gripping story of *Into Thin Air*, I highly recommend reading the chapter called "Everest" in *Mountains of the Mind*. The author has condensed the three expeditions admirably. It is an emotional account of the conquest of Everest, something you don't see as much of in the other two books.



In May of 1999, 75 years after his disappearance, Mallory's body was found by a search party. "His flesh looked like nothing so much as stone."

All these books and more are available in CLAMS.

Reader-Friendly Cancer Information



Falmouth Public Library and Falmouth Hospital Team Up to Establish the Cancer Resource Center



Cancer seems to have touched every life - individuals and families face serious treatment choices, lifestyle issues, pain and uncertainty.

Where can a cancer patient, or a loved one, turn for more information - or even more important, understandable information? Sometimes talking with the doctor can be overwhelming, with too much information and too much detail to grasp in one sitting. Where can a person turn to find out more? Help is as close as the Falmouth Public Library. Residents and visitors are invited to stop by the Cancer Resource Center located in the Reference Room at the Falmouth Public Library, 300 Main Street.

Back in 2009 the Falmouth Hospital and the Falmouth Public Library teamed up to establish the Cancer Resource Center to provide the general public with free, reliable information on all aspects of cancer. The Cancer Resource Center stocks over 100 different free booklet titles from the National Cancer Institute and American Cancer Society - including diagnosis, treatment, dietary guidance, financial planning, and survival. For more in-depth reading, the library offers over 100 books that can be checked out with a library card. The Library also subscribes to 20 different health-related magazines and newsletters.

The Reference Librarians are always available to guide researchers using our medical encyclopedias, directories and other medical reference books. They also assist users who wish to find Internet websites offering information on Cancer that is up-to-date and authoritative.

Even when it is not possible to come into town when the Library is open, it is easy to search after hours using online links to respected sources of information. Go to the Falmouth Public Library home page: www.falmouthpubliclibrary.org and click on the link in the lower level of the screen: "Patient Education & Cancer Resource Center." For more information call 508-457-2555, ext. 6 or email: info@falmouthpubliclibrary.org

~Adrienne Latimer - Reference Librarian



New Courses starting October 1, 2013
SIGN UP TODAY

Friends of the Falmouth Public Library

Falmouth, Massachusetts 02541
P.O. BOX 480

Change Service Requested

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