

# BOOK GROUPS



## Start your own book club or join an existing one

Wherever you are in mainland Australia – capital city or regional area – CAE Book Groups can deliver books and reading group guides on loan to your group. More than 1000 titles to choose from! To start your own CAE Book Group you need:

- a minimum of eight group members (maximum 15)
- a meeting venue of your choice – private home, café or library
- a love of reading and an interest in group discussion

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Centre for Adult Education  
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CAE Book Groups  
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# CAE BOOK GROUPS 2010

Start your own book club or join an existing one in your area.

## Why CAE?

CAE resources Australia's largest formal network of book clubs, offering you a great selection of titles, no-fuss delivery service and friendly expert advice on how to keep your club running smoothly and successfully.

## How do I start a CAE Book Group?

CAE Book Groups are a great way to connect with other readers in your local community. Get together with friends, neighbours or colleagues to discuss the sort of books that might appeal to you as a group and choose a suitable time and venue. Once you have a minimum of 8 people and have decided on the number of discussion meetings you'd prefer to have, you are ready to take the next step of electing a CAE Book Group Secretary.

## The CAE Book Group Secretary

Do you have the verve and drive to get a book group up and running? CAE Book Group Secretaries provide a permanent delivery address for books and liaise with CAE staff on book selections, payments and enquiries from potential new members. Secretaries are vital to the success of book clubs and ensure CAE keeps in touch with the needs of each group. The role of secretary can be rotated between group members from year to year.

## Where do CAE Book Groups meet and how often?

CAE Book Groups meet once a month between 6 and 11 times a year to discuss the book they've just read and to collect the book for the following month's discussion. Groups choose the time, place and format of their own meetings and direct their own discussions. Private homes, cafés, libraries and community centres all make suitable meeting places.

## Books available for loan

Each month, CAE selects a book from the list of possible titles your group has chosen from the CAE Book Groups catalogue, *Dialogue*. Groups have the option of requesting books in priority or random order and may alter their selections throughout the year.

## CAE discussion notes

Kick start your meeting with CAE discussion notes. While there is no formal tuition or assessment, all books are accompanied by specially commissioned notes, complete with discussion questions. More than just a book review, the notes are guaranteed to get your group talking.

## How much time do we have to read the book before the discussion?

One month. Books are delivered to the Group Secretary prior to the scheduled meeting. Members collect their copy of the book from the secretary then meet again the following month to discuss the book they've just read and collect their next book.

## How do we receive and return books to and from CAE?

CAE sends a box in advance of each meeting to the delivery address nominated by the Group Secretary. Books are returned to CAE by the Group Secretary via courier or post. Reply paid slips are included in all boxes. Groups operate most efficiently when books are returned to and collected from the Group Secretary by each individual member at the scheduled meeting.

## What do I get for my fee?

Fees cover the delivery and return of books each month. Each set of books contains copies of the selected book (maximum 15 copies) and notes on loan for each individual member. Group Secretaries should only distribute books to paid members. Groups also receive two editions of our print newsletter Groupvine and can sign up for six editions of CAE Book Groups E-Newsletter to receive timely news on events and competitions as well as book reviews by CAE Book Groups members.

## CAE Book Groups catalogue

FICTION • LITERATURE • CLASSICS • CRIME • NON FICTION  
MEMOIR • HISTORY • PHILOSOPHY • TRAVEL • CULTURE

The CAE Book Groups catalogue, *Dialogue*, has something for everyone: over 1,000 titles are available for loan, ranging from the latest international literary prize winners to the works of local authors. New titles are added to the catalogue each year. Books are chosen for their potential to create and sustain dynamic discussion. CAE Book Groups members may also recommend titles for inclusion in the catalogue.

## Book selection

Our catalogue is arranged thematically to help you decide which books will suit you best. We also highlight titles that groups have consistently told us create good discussion but ultimately, the choice is yours!

## Annual Membership Fees 2010 (per member)

How many books	Full fee	Seniors	Concession	Secretary
11	\$161	\$137	\$106	\$83
9	\$147	\$122	\$94	\$74
6	\$111	\$93	\$67	\$57

## The next step ...

Do you have between 8 and 15 people who would like to start a book group? Do you have consensus on the number of discussion meetings you'd like to hold? Have you elected a Group Secretary? Then you are ready to take the next step!

Contact CAE Book Groups to receive our catalogue and enrolment forms so you can begin selecting your books. Your first book will arrive within two weeks of receipt of membership payments and book selections.

## Referrals service

Looking for a CAE Book Group in your local area? New groups and individual members can join at any point during the year. New groups starting after July should contact CAE to confirm the appropriate pro-rata fee.

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## WHAT CAE BOOK GROUPS ARE SAYING

“CAE Book Groups seems to be one of the ways that new arrivals in the area find people with similar interests. Finding other readers in the community, including ones you can swap books and names of favourite authors with, is also a benefit. Discussion of books will definitely help you find kindred spirits and new friends and also new worlds of experience and viewpoints.”

**Christine Margetts, Werribee 2**

“Our group has been together for over 25 years and the secret to the group’s longevity is camaraderie, laughter, wine and adventurous reading plus the support of CAE and fortunate recruitment – our members have almost always got on famously.”

**Jack Dell, Numurkah Men’s Group**

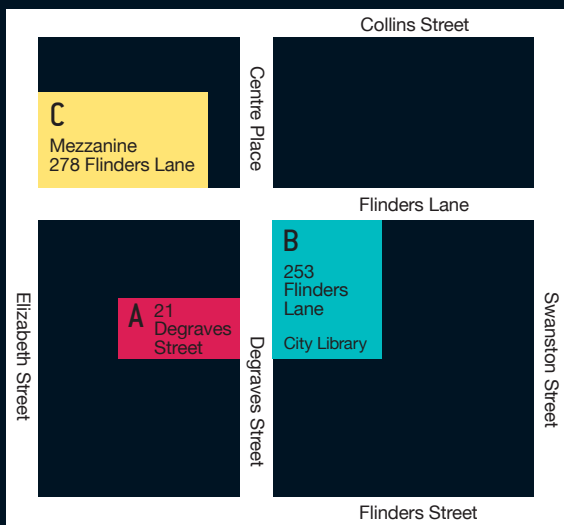
“Our group appears at times to have evolved into providing a supportive role to members in times of stress or hardship. Isolation can play a big part in the importance of groups such as ours in farming communities. It is always a comfort during difficult times to meet and feel welcomed by like-minded friends, who are not judgemental. Most of the members have been with the group for 15 to 20 plus years.”

**Verna Gillingham and Elvie Gannon, Lake Charm 1**

“The best thing about belonging to a book group is the friendship we all enjoy. We get to read books we may not otherwise have been attracted to reading. We also agree that even if we have not enjoyed a book, it is often surprising to find that we have an excellent discussion about it.”

**Andrea Driver, Rylstone: The DDG’s**

# CAE PRECINCT



## CAE Book Groups

Building B  
253 Flinders Lane  
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CAE is committed to  
Sustainable Practice

**envirocare**  
100% Recycled

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