*Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman

Gail Honeyman wrote her debut novel, *Eleanor Oliphant is Completely Fine*, while working full-time in Glasgow. It has won numerous awards including: Book of the Year at The British Book **Awards**; shortlisted for the Lucy Cavendish Fiction Prize as a work in progress ;the Scottish Book Trust's Next Chapter Award 2014, longlisted for BBC Radio 4's Opening Lines, and was shortlisted for the Bridport Prize.

Written in the first person, the reader is immediately propelled into Eleanor’s world. And what a strange but in some ways strangely refreshing world it is. This is because Eleanor doesn’t hold back on what she really thinks. Except of course that she does….

She struggles with appropriate social skills and tends to say exactly what she’s thinking. Nothing is missing in her carefully timetabled life of avoiding social interactions, where weekends are punctuated by frozen pizza, vodka, and phone chats with Mummy.

But everything changes when Eleanor meets Raymond. Through this random encounter Eleanor meets new challenges in her already immensely challenged life.

Despite the fact that Eleanor’s situation is extreme, it is a book with which we can easily identify. We have all needed courage at points in our lives and Eleanor shows us that ultimately the only way forward is to open your heart.

The Book Club unanimously enjoyed this book and it was felt that this is certainly a book that will remain in our thoughts and heart for a very long time.