

Media Release

Wednesday, 19 February 2020

Author Chris Hammer coming to a library near you!

Award winning author, Chris Hammer, will be appearing in conversation at Tweed Heads, Ballina, and Goonellabah Libraries in early March courtesy of Richmond Tweed Regional Library's new Regional Readers Book Club.

Chris's latest best-selling crime novel *Silver* is the first title selected for the recently launched book club which encourages readers from across the region to enjoy the same book throughout February and March. Readers are then encouraged to join the conversation on the Library's Facebook page and to come along to the talks.

Jo Carmody, Regional Library Manager, said "The new book club is a great way for people to be able to participate in a book club, without being tied to a time and place as all of the conversation is happening on the Library's Facebook page." Jo continued, "It's wonderful to have such a well-renowned, award-winning author visiting our area and we are delighted to be featuring Chris's book, *Silver*, as our first Regional Readers Book Club title."

Before turning to fiction, Chris was a journalist for more than thirty years, dividing his career between covering Australian Federal politics, and international affairs. He reported from more than thirty countries on six continents for SBS television. While in Canberra, his roles included chief political correspondent for The Bulletin, senior writer for The Age, and Online Political Editor for Fairfax.

His book, *Scrublands*, won the 2019 John Creasy 'New Blood' Award for best first crime novel at the UK Crime Writers' Association, Dagger Awards. Chris has also written two non-fiction books, *The River* (2010) and *The Coast* (2012). *The River* won the ACT Book of the Year Award and was shortlisted for the Walkley Book Award.

Throughout March, the library will be posting questions about the book on their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/RichmondTweedRegionalLibrary. There are plenty of copies of *Silver* available to borrow or download. You can find out more about Regional Readers Book Club on the library website at www.rtrl.nsw.gov.au or on the Library App.

6 Centenary Drive • PO Box 4031 • Goonellabah NSW 2480 • T: 02 6625 5100 • E: rtrl@rtrl.nsw.gov.au

Providing free public library services to the shires of Ballina, Byron, Tweed and Lismore City

Richmond Tweed Regional Library

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We are excited to have Chris Hammer join us here on the North Coast, in an in-conversation format. He will be speaking at Tweed Heads Library with Kerry Pearmain and David Kay who are committee members of the Gold Coast Writers' Association, Ballina Library with author Zacharey Jane, and Goonellabah Library with former Lismore City Mayor, Jenny Dowell. Chris is available for interviews prior to his visit, phone the library on 02 6625 5100 for information.

Phone the library to book now!

Tweed Heads Library 07 5569 3150

Monday, 2 March 2020 at 2pm

Ballina Library 02 6686 2831

Tuesday, 3 March 2020 at 11am

Goonellabah Library 02 6625 1235

Tuesday, 3 March 2020 at 7pm

-ends-

Media contact Jo Carmody

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Richmond Tweed Regional Library acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land on which we work and pay our respect to elders both past and present.