

## OUR BOOK CLUB

By Jennie Willett



Everyone talking with no one listening, that's our book club and I wouldn't have it any other way. It is no different now meetings are held via Zoom, except there is a MUTE button which I don't think anyone has used on me, yet.

We all think ours is the best book club because we have so much fun. It is the highlight of the month.

My picture shows me all set up ready before one of our book club Zoom meetings. This was the first meeting in Lockdown and I only had champagne and as champagne doesn't keep I had to be prepared to drink the whole bottle. I am told there is iron in champagne so it would be healthy.

Why is our book club the best ever? I think because the dynamics are good, we have diverse careers, a radio presenter, lecturers, teachers, city workers, some married, some single.

The women in our book group are the kindest most supportive, especially if anyone is going through a rough time. They are there also to celebrate when times are good. Any excuse to bring out the bubbly, and we do.

I have tried other book clubs and I'm sure they are successful, however everyone sits with a book on their lap and takes it in turn to give their critique of the book they have all read that month. In the tea break, the discussions are more informal but still all about the book.

Out of lockdown when we meet it is at a different home each month. The food is amazing (mine isn't as good as the others but they are very kind about it). Every session is something sensational, the wines compliment the food and each month it just gets better and better. We even have our own Book Club port served with the cheese, I love it and I'm not a port drinker.

In our group there is no cattiness, duplicity or jealousy; they are just the best friends ever in the true sense of the word.

The great thing about the Zoom meetings is that I don't have to pay out for an Uber home and therefore I can afford now to treat myself to champagne for each session, in fact its more than economical as we are not paying out for the expensive catering. In fact it's a bargain

The menfolk go to the pub, so it all works out really well; of course we pride ourselves on being a diverse group and if a man wanted to join he would be very welcome. Actually I think very welcome indeed, however he would need to be reminded of the unwritten rules, what is said in book club, stays in book club.

We never seem to have time to discuss books; but then nothing is absolutely perfect is it?