

The Tea Ladies of St Jude's Hospital



BOOK CLUB QUESTIONS

1. Who was your favourite character and why?
2. Was Hilary a likeable or sympathetic character?
Did her circumstances excuse her behaviour towards Joy?
Did your opinion of Hilary change at the end of the novel?
3. Joy reveals a secret towards the end of the book.
Did you spot any clues through the novel?
4. Chloe and Sam are just good friends.
Do you think their relationship is likely to change in the future?
Can men and women ever just be platonic friends, particularly if one has unrequited feelings for the other?
5. What did the relationship between Hilary and Nancy tell you about the bond between sisters?
6. Why do you think Chloe was initially unable to tell her parents how she felt about becoming a doctor?
7. What role did Hilary play in her husband's fall from grace?
Was she complicit by turning a blind eye?
8. Do you have any particular memories of hospital 'tea ladies'?
9. Have you ever volunteered in a school or hospital cafeteria or canteen?
What was your experience like?
10. The fastest growing group amongst the homeless is women over 55.
Why do you think this is the case?
11. Do you have a tried and tested scone recipe you'd like to share?

