

# Crime

Created by Inaburra Senior Library 2018

Crime books are stories about mysteries, crime, and crime-solving.

- Crime novels began to be published in the 1800s.
- Arthur Conan Doyle's Sherlock Holmes stories were among the first crime novels, as were Edgar Allen Poe's stories.
- The 'Golden Age' of crime fiction was from 1920 to around 1940.
- In the 1940s many crime novels were adapted into film noir films.

## Well-known crime authors

Agatha Christie

Lee Child

Sir Arthur Conan Doyle

Carolyn Keene

James Patterson

John Grisham

## There are different types of crime novels

*Cosy mysteries* have an amateur detective, are set in a small town or country house, and the violence isn't described in detail.

*Hard-boiled detective stories* have explicit violence, are set in the underbelly of a big city, and the detective will break the rules.

*Legal thrillers* are about what happens in the legal system after the crime has been committed. The main characters are lawyers.

*Forensic* thrillers are about a medical examiner or pathologist following a trail of forensic evidence.

*Traditional crime stories* or *whodunnits* are plot-driven, and the reader follows a series of clues about the crime.

*Police procedurals* are about a member of the police force, who has to follow regulations.