

'Pale Rider- the Spanish Flu of 1918 and how it changed the world' by Laura Spinney.

As a group we initially debated whether, in the middle of the current pandemic, it would be too depressing to read about the global pandemic of 1918-19 in which between 50 and 100 million people died. However, this proved to be a fascinating, and immensely readable, account of a largely forgotten period in history.

Laura Spinney, a science journalist, explores not only the potential causes but also the long term impact of the misnamed 'Spanish' flu in shaping huge aspects of our modern lives. It should be compulsory reading for politicians everywhere.