**The History of…  a library book / a football / a coffee mug**

The clichéd story title ‘The History of a Penny’ in fact has quite a lot going for it. Not just pennies, of course. Schoolbooks which used to (and often still do) have a record of previous owners are rich in possibilities.

First read, or at least possessed,
By Angela O’Brien, now married
With two kids and reading recipes
In bed. Then someone called
C. Gardiner who came and went
And left a row of Os in Y11’s register
And no one knows if she or
Sheila Parkinson read to the end
Or merely lent it to a friend.
And then….

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