

WHAT'S ON

Autumn 2026



ChangeMakers Macedon
Ranges Festival

National Reconciliation Week

Fleur McDonald
The Witness

ANDY
GRIFFITHS

BILL
HOPE

Andy Griffiths!
Australian Children's
Laureate



How to Book

All Goldfields Libraries events are free unless specified. You don't need to be a library member to attend.

BOOKINGS

are essential wherever you see this symbol.



ONLINE VIA ZOOM

Session links available upon booking.



ONLINE

www.goldfieldslibraries.com

IN PERSON

Visit your local library.
Information on back cover.

BY PHONE

Information on back cover.

For the latest details and information on library events visit goldfieldslibraries.com

Large print copies of this program are available. Please phone 5449 2790 or email programs@ncgrl.vic.gov.au

eLibrary

Explore our comprehensive range of eLibrary resources available free to Goldfields Libraries members!

Find us on social media



When booking an event, you'll need to provide your name, phone number, and email for communication purposes and booking confirmation. Your information will be kept confidential.

Staff may take photos or videos during events for promotional purposes, including social media, marketing materials, and our website. We'll only use your image with your consent through an Image Release Form. For more information, visit ncgrl.vic.gov.au/yourprivacy.

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CHILDREN & FAMILIES

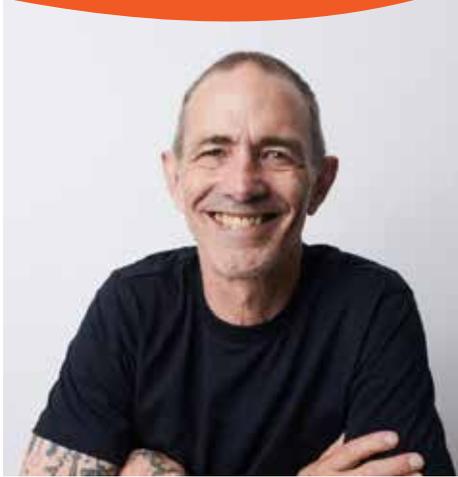
Primary School Years	25
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On the cover
Andy Griffiths!
Australian Children's
Laureate 2026-27
with illustrator
Bill Hope.

Details on next page.

SPECIAL EVENTS



Andy Griffiths!

Australian Children's Laureate 2026-27

Don't miss Andy's first appearance as the newly appointed Laureate! Known for his iconic Treehouse series and the upcoming *Let's Go!* book, this award-winning Australian children's author brings his signature energy, humour, and imagination to a lively, interactive session.

Expect laughs, creativity, and whole family fun.

Plus – illustrator Bill Hope will bring the magic to life with live illustration throughout the session.

Stay afterwards for book signings.

An Auslan interpreter will be present.

Ages 5-12 years and families.

Presented by Goldfields Libraries in partnership with the Australian Children's Laureate Foundation.

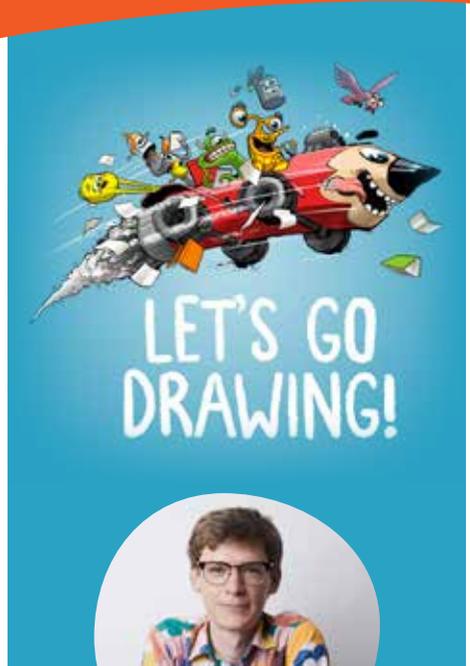
Supported by City of Greater Bendigo.

Sat 21 Mar, 1-2pm

Bendigo Town Hall
opposite Bendigo Library



BOOK
NOW



Let's go drawing! with Bill Hope

Join artist and illustrator Bill Hope for a fun morning of drawing. Bill will help kids work through some creative exercises developed with Andy Griffiths for their new book *Let's Go!* There will be some live drawing from Bill and a general atmosphere of artistic silliness.

Ages 6-12 years.

Supported by City of Greater Bendigo.

Sat 21 Mar, 10.30-11.30am
Bendigo Library

BOOK
NOW



Anne Gleeson and Angela Costi: Poems about women

Australian poets Angela Costi and Anne Gleeson present poems and stories of women deserving of our empathy and admiration. Come along for an afternoon of entertainment and interest as we honour the women we love, and the women who have not been acknowledged as they deserve. Includes poems, stories and Q&A.

All are welcome.

Thu 5 Mar, 2-3pm
Kyneton Library

BOOK
NOW



Stella Day Out: Bendigo

Join Cecile Shanahan and Cate Kennedy for a celebration of some of Australia's best women and non-binary writers. Across two sessions, surprise guest authors from the Stella Prize Longlist will share insights into their craft. Authors will be announced prior to the event on March 11.

Presented in partnership with Bookish Bendigo and The Stella Prize.

Bookings at stella.org.au/bendigo

Fri 13 Mar, 5.30-8pm
Bendigo Library

BOOK
NOW

Interfaith Forum: Care for the Earth

You are warmly invited to this special forum hosted by the Bendigo Interfaith Council, featuring speakers from four faith traditions: Baha'i, Jewish, Muslim and Christian. Each will speak for 10 minutes on their faith's traditions and attitudes towards caring for the earth, what it means to them and how they express it.

Followed by Q&A and a simple supper.

In celebration of Cultural Diversity Week.

Thu 19 Mar, 5.30-7pm
Bendigo Library

BOOK
NOW



CHANGEMAKERS

MACEDON RANGES

A climate and sustainability festival



Storytelling, comic and collage with Trace Balla

Calling all tree lovers! Join author and artist Trace Balla for a collage-cartoon-story workshop about a particular tree or forest in your life – and a peek behind the scenes of her new book, *Treeshape*.

Ages 10+ years and adults.



Tue 24 Mar, 4-5pm

Woodend Library

The best fashion already exists

Join us for a talk on how your clothing choices can reduce your environmental impact. Learn which fabrics and natural fibres are best for the planet and explore how shopping second-hand helps make the most of the clothes we already have.

Presented by Tiff Inglis from The Good Op Shop, Castlemaine



Mon 30 Mar, 11am-12pm

Kyneton Library

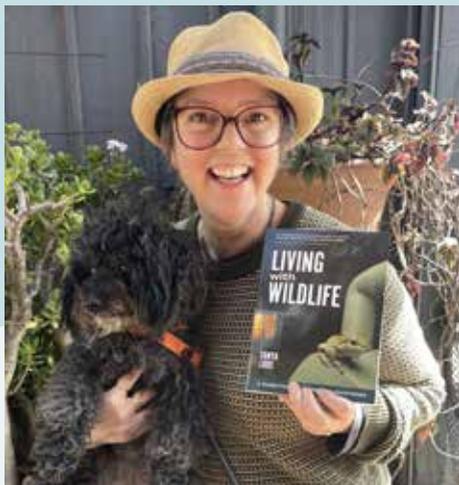
Sustainability for seniors: Get Techy Get Ready!

See page 19 for details.



Mon 30 Mar, 2-3pm

Romsey Library



Tanya Loos: Living with our wild neighbours

Possums in the roof, a snake in your backyard, or perhaps a bird attacking your windows? Join Tanya Loos, author of *Living with Wildlife: A Guide for Our Homes and Backyards*, as she provides practical information, advice and solutions for encounters with wildlife.

Books available for sale.



Mon 30 Mar, 6.30-7.30pm

Gisborne Library

More ChangeMakers events:

Junk Journals for adults

See page 21 for details.

Junk Journals for kids

See page 24 for details.

Movie screening for families

See page 26 for details.

Storytime Special:

Anywhere farms for kids

See page 28 for details.



Tim Pilgrim: Wild by Design

Naturalistic Gardening for Modern Australian Landscapes

In his first book, central Victorian horticulturalist Tim Pilgrim shares the joys of naturalistic gardening - an approach inspired by the dynamic beauty of untamed plants, the garden as wildlife habitat, the rhythm of the seasons and our future climate. Tim will share his creative inspiration and discuss how to go about creating your own plant-driven naturalistic garden, whether you're starting with an existing garden or a blank slate.

Books available for sale.

BOOK
NOW

Thu 2 Apr, 5.30-6.30pm
Kyneton Library

IDAHOBIT

International Day Against Homophobia,
Biphobia, Intersexism and Transphobia

IDAHOBIT Tiny Art Show

Celebrate inclusion, creativity, and self-expression by participating in our IDAHOBIT Tiny Art Show. Drop in and collect a mini canvas to create a tiny masterpiece using any medium - paint it, collage it, draw it. Your imagination sets the limits! Return your artwork to become part of our colourful tiny art show with big messages of pride and belonging.

All ages and abilities.

BOOK
NOW

Collect a canvas from Wed 1 April
Return canvas by Wed 29 April
Tiny Art Exhibition on Wed 13-27 May
Inglewood Library Agency

Collect a canvas by Thu 2 April
Return canvas by Thu 30 April
Tiny Art Exhibition on Thu 14-28 May
Boort Library Agency



IDAHOBIT polymer clay rainbow creations

Come along to this hands-on craft session inspired by IDAHOBIT and enjoy designing your own rainbow-themed creation using polymer clay.

All ages and abilities.

BOOK
NOW

Sat 16 May, 10.30-11.30am
Heathcote Library

NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK 2026

27 MAY – 3 JUNE

ALL IN

FOR RECONCILIATION



Welcome to Country & Central Victorian Indigenous Film Festival Launch

To mark National Reconciliation Week (27 May- 3 Jun) Bendigo Library is honoured to be welcomed back to Country by Elders of the Dja Dja Wurrung people and launch the Central Victorian Indigenous Film Festival. We will celebrate the winners of the Koorie Youth Flick Fest, followed by a film screening, light catering and entertainment.

Wed 27 May, from 4.30pm
Bendigo Library

All in: For a week of reflective action

Small calls for action that create positive change

Join us this Reconciliation Week for 'All In' — a chance to take simple, practical steps to deepen your understanding. Explore activities that help you learn more about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures, and perspectives, and be part of meaningful change through everyday actions.

BOOK NOW

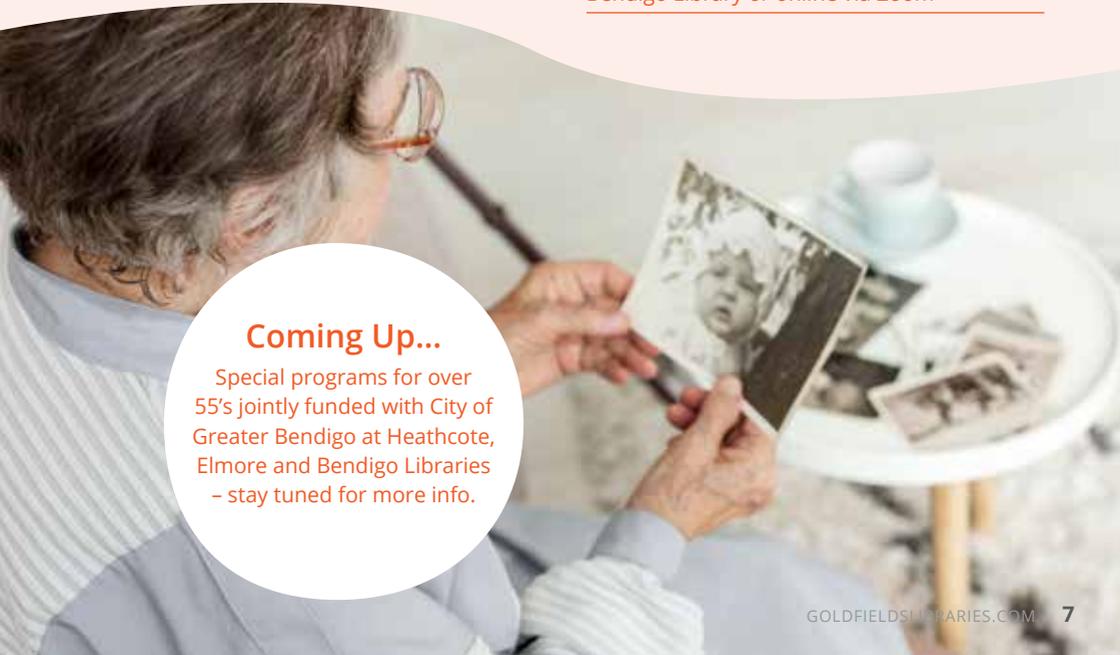
Wed 27 May- Wed 3 Jun
Castlemaine Library

Unsettling local history: Downstream of Six Peaks Speak

See page 17 for details.



Thu 28 May, 5.30-6.30pm
Bendigo Library or online via Zoom



Coming Up...

Special programs for over 55's jointly funded with City of Greater Bendigo at Heathcote, Elmore and Bendigo Libraries – stay tuned for more info.

AUTHORS, READING & WRITING

Author Talks

Paul Burke: Rails of Gold

The Building of the Bendigo and Ballarat Railways and the Fight for the Eight-Hour Day, 1852-1864

In the winter of 1861, along the stretch of track between Woodend and Malmsbury, hundreds of workers put down their tools in one of early Victoria's most significant industrial actions. Meet historian Paul Burke as he brings this story to life in his book *Rails of Gold*. For lovers of history, social justice and really good stories.

Book sales and signings.

BOOK
NOW

Sat 7 Mar, 10.30-11.30am
Woodend Library



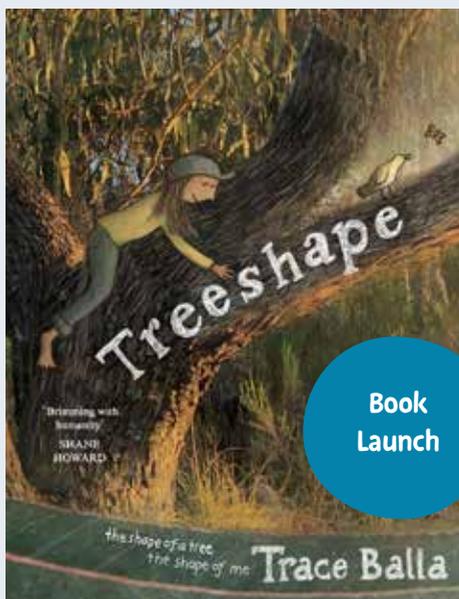
Louise Milligan: Shellybanks

Join bestselling author and award-winning ABC journalist Louise Milligan as she presents her new crime novel *Shellybanks*. From Melbourne to Dublin, *Shellybanks* is a haunting tale of secrecy and the resilience of those who survive to carry the scars.

Book sales and signings.

BOOK
NOW

Tue 17 Mar, 2-3pm
Woodend Library



Trace Balla: Treeshape

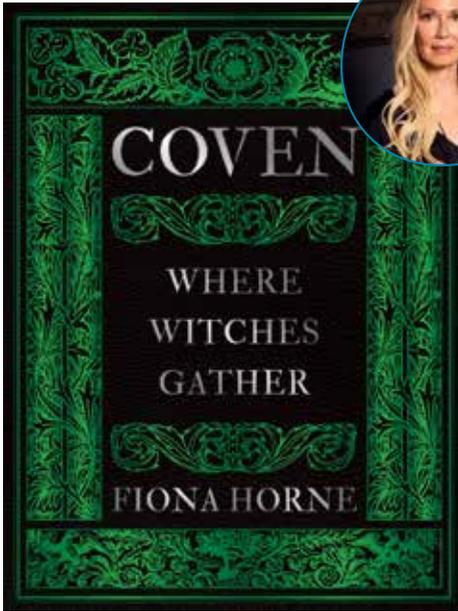
Trace Balla, much-loved creator of the multi-award-winning *Rivertime*, *Leafflight* and *Rockhopping*, has a new graphic novel about the trees in her life. Come along to the joyful launch of Trace's new book and hear about her Treeshape inspiration.

Ages 10+ years.

Signed books available for sale.

In partnership with the Castlemaine State Festival.

Sat 21 Mar, 10.30-11am
Castlemaine Library



Fiona Horne: *Coven* Where Witches Gather

Meet renowned witch and best-selling author Fiona Horne as she presents her new book *Coven: Where Witches Gather*. *Coven* is the ultimate guide to embracing your magick and finding your own personal path. Explore witchcraft past, present and future, and be led by Fiona to discover modern magickal living in your day-to-day life.

Book sales and signings.

Fri 27 Mar, 5.30-6.30pm
Bendigo Library

BOOK
NOW



Fleur McDonald: *The Witness*

With 24 novels and almost one million books sold, Fleur McDonald is one of Australia's best-loved authors. Meet Fleur and discover her latest rural crime novel, *The Witness*.

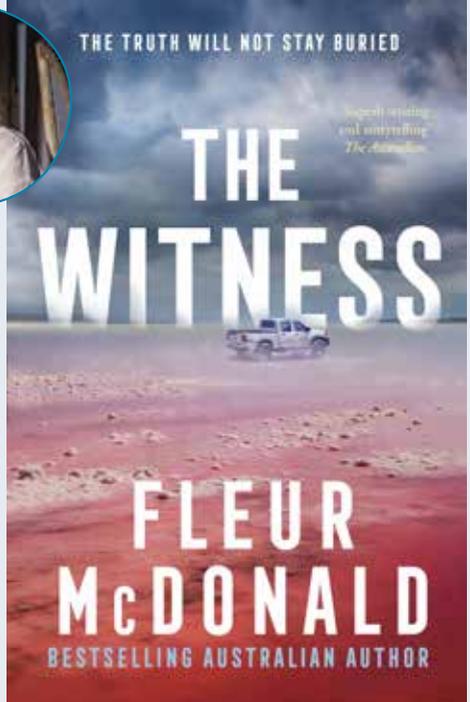
Set against the vast, unforgiving landscape of Kalgoorlie is a gripping mystery exploring long held secrets.

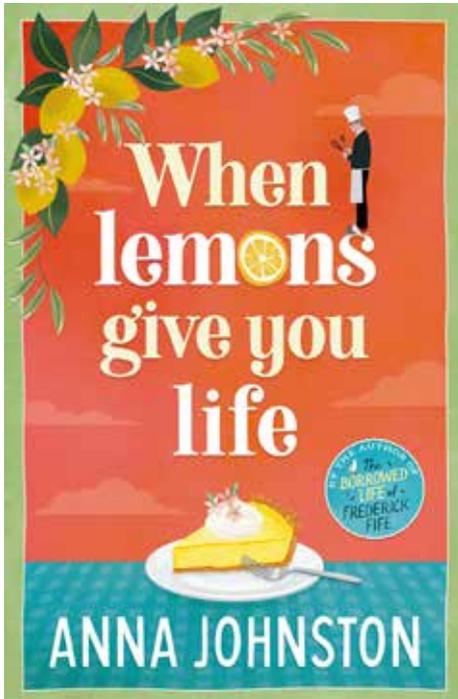
Book sales and signings.

Supported by Bookish Bendigo.

Wed 15 Apr, 11am-12pm
Bendigo Library

BOOK
NOW



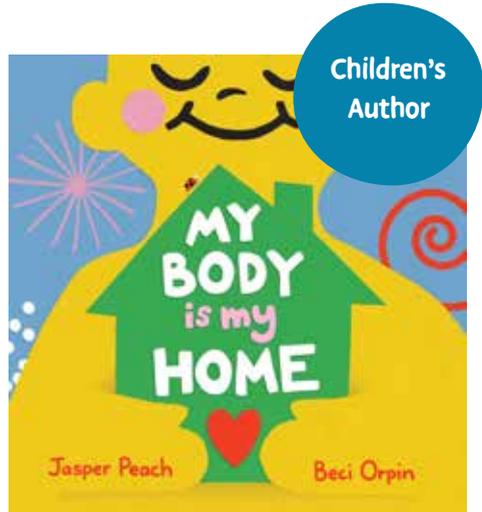


Anna Johnston:
When Lemons Give You Life

Join bestselling author Anna Johnston to celebrate the arrival of her brand new book *When Lemons Give You Life*. Drawing on Anna's experience of working in aged care, *When Lemons Give You Life* is a sharply funny and deeply moving story about food, family, and rediscovering joy when life has lost its flavour.

Book sales and signings.

Thu 30 Apr, 2.30-3.30pm
 Woodend Library



Jasper Peach and Beci Orpin:
My Body Is My Home

Join local author Jasper Peach and illustrator Beci Orpin for the launch of their beautiful new picture book *My Body Is My Home*. Filled with vibrant illustrations and warm messages of inclusivity and self-love, this gorgeous book helps readers of all ages to celebrate their individuality and uniqueness.

Book sales and signings, plus craft activities for children and families.

Sat 9 May, 10.30-11.30am
 Castlemaine Library



Children's Author: Natalie Shaw
My Busy Brain

See page 26 for details.

Sat 9 May, 11am-12pm
 Bendigo Library





Victoria Purman: The Marriage Trap

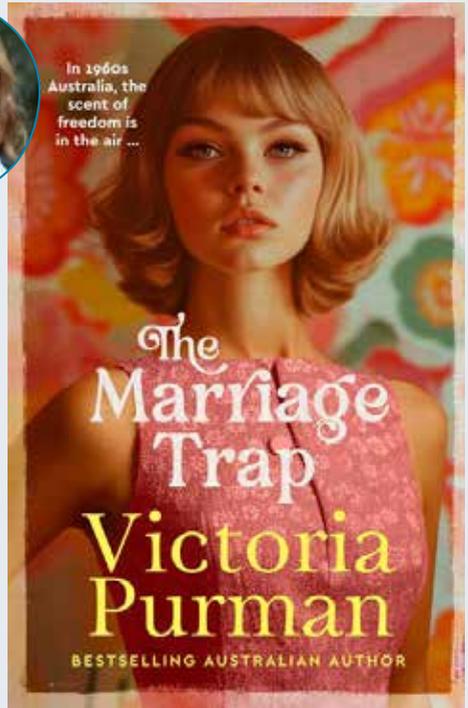
Meet bestselling author Victoria Purman touring her new novel *The Marriage Trap*, the story of a mother and her two daughters. A charming but pointed look at the tumultuous extraordinary decade of the 1960s, the effects of the pill, rebellion and new ideas on ordinary Australian women as alongside shorter skirts and the Beatles, they embrace freedom...

Book sales and signings.

Tue 12 May, 11am-12pm
Gisborne Library

Tue 12 May, 2-3pm
Kangaroo Flat Library

BOOK
NOW



Krysteen Dvoracek: Love and Parrots

Two families grappling with big questions about love, identity and what really matters. Meet author Krysteen Dvoracek as she shares her new book *Love and Parrots*, a novel exploring the many colours of love, second chances, and the courage to be seen.

Book sales and signings.

Thu 14 May, 5.30-6.30pm
Kyneton Library

BOOK
NOW

Sydney Writers' Festival: Live and Local

Sydney Writers' Festival is Australia's largest celebration of books and ideas, bringing the world's finest authors and thinkers together for insightful and exhilarating discussions. Live & Local allows regional audiences to participate with livestream of festival sessions.

Details coming soon at ncgrl.vic.gov.au/swf

Thu 21-Sun 24 May
Selected libraries

Reading

Book Club Connections

Are you interested in joining a book club? Is your book club looking for new members? Would you like to learn about Goldfields Libraries' fabulous book club sets? Come along and connect with fellow book lovers at this relaxed literary-flavoured gathering. All welcome and refreshments provided.

If you're keen but can't make these dates, please give us a call.

Wed 4 Mar, 10.30-11.30am
Romsey Library

BOOK
NOW

Fri 6 Mar, 5.30-6.30pm
Sat 7 Mar, 11am-12pm
Bendigo Library

Wed 25 Mar, 10.30-11.30am
Wedderburn Library Agency

Thu 23 Apr, 5-6pm
Kyneton Library

Tue 28 Apr, 1.30-2.30pm
Inglewood Library Agency

Thu 21 May, 5-6pm
Woodend Library

Social Book Club

No time for a regular Book Club? No worries, just drop in! Bring your curiosity and current read, and we'll chat about all things bookish. We guarantee you will add to your 'To Be Read' pile.

BOOK
NOW

Thu 26 Mar & Tue 28 Apr, 2-3pm
Sat 16 May, 10.30-11.30am
Kangaroo Flat Library

Sat 28 Mar, 10.30-11.30am
Eaglehawk Library



LIFELONG LEARNING



Talks & Presentations

Saturday Philosophy at Castlemaine Library

Gather with like-minded people to enjoy a session of thought-provoking ideas run by the Central Goldfields School of Philosophy. Theme for 2026 is Presence of Mind.

More info at practicalphilosophyvic.org.au

Presence of Mind

Sat 7 Mar, 10-11.30am

BOOK
NOW

Being Present

Sat 11 Apr, 10-11.30am

BOOK
NOW

Plato's Allegory of the Cave

Sat 2 May, 10-11.30am

BOOK
NOW

Colouring outside the lines

Parenting and caring for autistic kids

This workshop offers neuro-affirming strategies for parents and caregivers of autistic children, or those who suspect their child may be autistic. Together, we'll explore practical ways to support connection, regulation, understand sensory differences and foster positive self identity in a world that isn't always designed for neurodiversity.

Presented in partnership with Mount Alexander Shire Council and Dhelkaya Health.

Thu 12 Mar, 5.30-7pm
Castlemaine Library

BOOK
NOW

From hive to harvest

Explore the fascinating life of bees - from queen to drone, hive roles, foraging, why bees swarm, and the beekeeper's role. Watch a hive assembled, and see a frame of capped honey ready for harvest. Also includes insights into native bees.

BOOK
NOW

Fri 20 Mar, 11.30am-12.30pm

Eaglehawk Library

Review your energy bills: one-on-one help

Bring in your energy bill for expert advice on the most cost-effective energy plan for you, learn about available concessions and supports, and receive some energy-saving tips.

30-minute timeslots available.

Presented by the City of Greater Bendigo.

BOOK
NOW

Tue 17 Mar, 2-4pm.

Tue 28 Apr, 2-4pm

Tue 26 May, 2-4pm

Eaglehawk Library

Mon 23 Mar, 1-3pm

Thu 30 Apr, 10am-12pm

Mon 25 May, 1-3pm

Bendigo Library

Tue 24 Mar, 2-4pm

Tue 21 Apr, 2-4pm

Mon 18 May, 2-4pm

Kangaroo Flat Library

First aid for little kids Storytime

It's never too soon for young children to become familiar with health and first aid. See page 30 for details.

Fri 27 Mar, 9.45-10.30am

Heathcote Library

Film: Botanical Visions

A Horticultural History of Mount Macedon in the Late 19th-Century

See page 18 for details.

Sat 18 Apr, 10-11.30am

Woodend Library

BOOK NOW



Sustainable Home Kit: How to demo

Did you know you can borrow Sustainable Home Kits from Goldfields Libraries? Come and learn what's in them, how to use them, and the information gathered for your home.

Presented by the City of Greater Bendigo.

Wed 29 Apr, 2-3pm

Kangaroo Flat Library

BOOK NOW

Justice of the Peace Service

A document witnessing service is available at several of our libraries.

For more information visit
ncgrl.vic.gov.au/jp



Walking the Camino de Santiago Trail

In October 2025, Mal Brown completed the Camino Coastal Pilgrimage from Porto (Portugal) to Santiago de Compostela (Spain). He walked 280km in 12 days, describing it as a powerful physical and spiritual experience. From a small village church where fishermen gathered for a blessing before heading out to sea, to the grand cathedral in Santiago, the walk offered something breathtaking each day — seaweed harvesting, Roman bridges and huge areas of Australian natives. Mal hopes to inspire others to tackle the walk by sharing his journey and the people he met along the way.

BOOK NOW

Thu 14 May, 5.30-6.30pm

Bendigo Library

Getting ready for winter

Winter is on its way. Now is a great time to think about what you can do to your home to feel warm in winter. Come and pick up some tips on how to keep your home warm.

Presented by the City of Greater Bendigo.

Wed 20 May, 10-11am

Bendigo Library

BOOK NOW



Parenting Talks & Workshops

CatholicCare Victoria
Regional Parenting Program

Tech strategies for families

Technology is part of our reality, but setting boundaries around its use is not always easy. This workshop aims to present current research, reflect on tech use in your family, and explore strategies to create a safe and healthy tech environment.

Mon 23 Mar, 10-11.30am
Kangaroo Flat Library

BOOK
NOW

Kids and worry

This workshop discusses strategies that may help children worry less, providing information and practical tools to assist children in managing their emotions.

Wed 13 May, 1.30-3pm
Bendigo Library

BOOK
NOW

Mount Alexander Shire and Dhelkaya
Health

Friendships, relationships and big emotions

Discover what's really going on beneath your tween or teen's big emotions and behaviours and learn powerful parenting tools to guide them through the new world of big emotions, friendships and relationships.

Thu 26 Mar, 5.30-6.45pm
Castlemaine Library

BOOK
NOW

Teens and screens: Navigating technology together

Learn how to connect with teens in today's digital world. This session offers insights into teen tech habits and empowers parents to guide their kids toward safe, creative and positive online experiences.

Thu 14 May, 5.30-6.45pm
Castlemaine Library

BOOK
NOW

Macedon Ranges Shire Council Information Sessions

Transport Information

with Travellers Aid & V/Line

In this community session, Traveller's Aid provides practical support and reassurance to those who are not confident using public transport, with a special guest from V/Line. Learn how Travellers Aid helps people travel safely and with confidence across Metro Melbourne, country Victoria and Melbourne Airport.

BOOK
NOW

Tue 24 Mar, 10-11am

Gisborne Library

Bookings: phone 5422 0333

Power of Attorney and Wills

with Macedon Ranges Family Law

Join solicitor Suzanne Carey-Thomas for information on protecting your future and your loved ones through proper estate planning. Suzanne will explain the critical importance of having up-to-date wills, Powers of Attorney, and Medical Treatment Decision Maker documents in place.

BOOK
NOW

Wed 15 Apr, 10-11am

Woodend Library

Bookings: phone 5422 0333

Support at Home: Drop in session

Find out more about navigating My Aged Care and the new Support at Home program, including how these services work and what they mean for you. The MRSC Community Connector will help you understand your options, eligibility, and the next steps for accessing aged care support.

Wed 29 Apr, 10-11.30am

Romsey Library

Wed 13 May, 10-11.30am

Kyneton Library

About Dementia Training Australia

This session, presented by Dementia Training Australia (DTA), will give you the basics and understanding of dementia, concluding with Q&A.

DTA is a consortium funded by the Australian Government to provide nationwide, high-quality education and training on the care of people living with dementia.

BOOK
NOW

Thu 7 May, 10-11am

Kyneton Library

Bookings: phone 5422 0333



Family & Local History

Discovering History

Introducing PROV's Map Warper

Asa Letourneau introduces Public Record Office Victoria's (PROV's) Map Warper, an innovative online tool that brings Victoria's history to life. With more than 12,000 historic maps and plans, Map Warper enables you to explore the evolution of our towns, cities and landscapes by simply searching present-day location names or browsing across a contemporary map of Victoria.

Asa Letourneau is the Online Engagement Officer at PROV, an expert in enabling the use of its collections with new technologies.

Thu 26 Mar, 5.30-6.30pm

Bendigo Library or online via Zoom



Genealogy research help

Support and guidance from skilled volunteers for researchers of local and family history.

Bendigo Family History Group

Wed and Sat, 10am-2pm

Bendigo Library

Bendigo Regional Genealogical Society

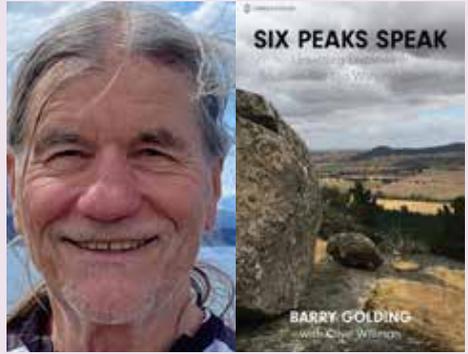
Mon, 11am-3pm

Bendigo Library

Gisborne Genealogical Group

Thursdays 1-3pm

Gisborne Library



Unsettling local history: Downstream of Six Peaks Speak

Professor Golding's illustrated presentation will draw out some of the key findings and implications from his groundbreaking book *Six Peaks Speak: Unsettling Legacies in Southern Dja Dja Wurrung Country*. The comprehensive and often violent unsettling of Dja Dja Wurrung people, which occurred on and around the six local mountains featured in the book, is often obscured by the history of gold. So many of the stories, including those about the much-loved, nearby local peak, Liyanganuk/Mt Alexander, have not previously been told.

Book sales available (\$59).

Six Peaks Speak was locally researched with Castlemaine-based geologist Clive William as part of a State Library Victoria Creative Fellowship in 2023.

Thu 28 May, 5.30-6.30pm

Bendigo Library or online via Zoom





Unearthing land titles at BRAC

Are you seeking the history of a property in Victoria? BRAC (Bendigo Regional Archives Centre) now offers free access to a digital land records portal. Book a 45-minute one-on-one session on how to use this portal, and we'll help guide you through history.

Please bring along property details and a USB drive.

Tue 24 Mar, 1.30-2.15pm & 2.30-3.15pm

Tue 28 Apr, 1.30-2.15pm & 2.30-3.15pm

Bendigo Library

BOOK
NOW

Film: Botanical Visions

A Horticultural History of Mount Macedon in the Late 19th-Century

Botanical Visions traces the botanical ideas, plant-hunting and environmental changes that shaped Mount Macedon, using archival photos, maps and records.

Highlights include a towering sequoia climb, the 150 year old garden and former home of local artist Ellis Rowan, and insights from local horticulturalist Stephen Ryan.

Followed by Q&A with the films collaborators.

Created in collaboration with the Gisborne and Mount Macedon Historical Society. Directed and produced by Elizabeth Langslow. Supported by the Public Records Office of Victoria.

Filmed on the lands of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung, Taungurung and Dja Dja Wurrung Peoples.

Sat 18 Apr, 10-11.30am

Woodend Library

BOOK
NOW

Romsey Wonder Walk

Think you know Romsey? Prepare to be surprised, delighted and intrigued. Join Romsey Library and the Romsey and Lancefield Districts Historical Society on a gentle stroll around the streets of Romsey. Learn about the history of our town and the significance of local buildings.

The tour will begin and end at Romsey Library and is suitable for all fitness levels.

Sat 18 Apr, 10-11.30am

Romsey Library

BOOK
NOW

Computer skills for family history

A hands-on session covering essential computer skills to help you search smarter, stay organised and get more from your family history research.

Fri 8 May, 2-3.30pm

Castlemaine Library

BOOK
NOW

Family history online

See page 20 for details.

Mon 18 May, 2-3pm

Bendigo Library

Digital Literacy

One-on-one IT help

Book a personalised session with our patient and experienced staff for assistance with laptops, tablets and phones. Learn how to use email, explore social media, fill in online forms, and how to access the library's fantastic online collections.

By appointment at all other branches. Bookings by phone. Details on back cover.

BOOK NOW

Mon 30 Mar, 27 Apr & 25 May, 2.30-4pm
Kyneton Library



Kickstart your financial fitness

Presented by Commonwealth Bank, Kyneton

BOOK NOW

Mon 2 Mar, 10.30-11.30am
Kyneton Library

Digital declutter

Inbox overflowing? Can't find your files? We'll show you how to organise, delete and streamline your digital life.

BOOK NOW

Thu 12 Mar, 2-3pm
Bendigo Library

Wed 6 May, 10.30-11.30am
Romsey Library



Tech tips and tricks

We all love a good hack, whether it's a tip that saves time or money, or discovering something new that can help make your life a little easier. Come along and we'll share a range of tech tips that can smooth your way.

BOOK NOW

Thu 26 Mar, 2-3pm
Bendigo Library

Sustainability for seniors: Get Techy Get Ready!

A free, practical workshop empowering you to use technology more effectively before, during and after a disaster or emergency. Includes assistance with downloading and setting up helpful apps on your smartphone or tablet.

Part of the ChangeMakers Macedon Ranges festival.

Presented by Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

BOOK NOW

Mon 30 Mar, 2-3pm
Romsey Library

Identifying and avoiding scams

Online scams are increasing, with scammers becoming more sophisticated in their approach to potential victims. Learn what you can do to protect yourself from being scammed, and what to do should you be the victim of one.

BOOK NOW

Tue 31 Mar, 2-3pm
Bendigo Library

Thu 30 Apr, 2-3pm
Kangaroo Flat Library

Beginners Android phones

Have a question about your Android phone? Learn basic skills to build your confidence – no question too silly!

BOOK NOW

Thu 9 Apr, 2-3pm

Bendigo Library

Beamafilm, Kanopy and eLibrary apps

Learn how to access a vast catalogue of films, documentaries, books, magazines and more. All free with your library card.

BOOK NOW

Thu 23 Apr, 2-3pm

Bendigo Library

Get ePrepared

We'll help you prepare for any disaster by creating a list of essential documents and teaching you how to store and access them easily. Being ePrepared and having everything in one place can help you feel confident and calm in a crisis and speed up access to services when needed.

BOOK NOW

Mon 4 May, 10.30-11.30am

Woodend Library



Photo books

Learn how to use your digital photos to create and print a one-of-a-kind photo book.

BYO device (tablet or laptop).

BOOK NOW

Thu 7 May, 2-3pm

Heathcote Library

Beginners iPhone

Have a question about your iPhone? Learn basic skills to build your confidence - no question too silly!

BOOK NOW

Thu 7 May, 2-3pm

Bendigo Library

Computer skills for family history

See page 18 for details.

BOOK NOW

Fri 8 May, 2-3.30pm

Castlemaine Library

Family history online

An introduction to online resources and databases for researching and compiling your family history.

BOOK NOW

Mon 18 May, 2-3pm

Bendigo Library

Online library resources

Ever wondered how to get the best out of the library catalogue, webpage or Spydus App? Come along and learn all about online library resources.

BOOK NOW

Thu 21 May, 2-3pm

Bendigo Library

AI for beginners

Curious about what AI (artificial intelligence) actually is, or wanting to be aware of evolving developments? Come along to this easy-going workshop for beginners with a show-and-tell of popular AI apps and information about the capabilities and limitations of the underlying technology.

BOOK NOW

Thu 21 May, 2-3.15pm

Castlemaine Library

Tue 26 May, 2-2.40pm, 2.45-3.25pm

& 3.30-4.10pm

Bendigo Library

CONNECTION & CREATIVITY

Special Activities

Montage and cut & paste

Local crafter Diane will help you use this technique to produce an artwork using assorted paper and paper images. Simple materials but endless possibilities!

Ages 13+ years and adults..

BOOK
NOW

Sat 14 & 21 Mar, 9.30am-12.30pm
Kyneton Library

Junk journals for adults

Why should kids have all the fun? Create a customised journal for you, using recycled materials and creativity for a unique result.

Part of the ChangeMakers Macedon Ranges festival.

BOOK
NOW

Tue 31 Mar, 1-4pm
Gisborne Library



The Memory Place: Family fun and hobbies

Join us for memories, conversation and fun as we share our beautiful themed memory kits. Enjoy reflecting on or learning about the past and the stories that objects can tell.

Refreshments included.

BOOK
NOW

Thu 21 May, 1.30-2.30pm
Kangaroo Flat Library



Art workshop: Abstract drawing

Artist Marilyn Andrews will show some of the many ways to create simple abstract drawings. Have fun using graphite and coloured pencils on paper to turn the real into abstract form.

Beginners welcome. Resources and refreshments included.

\$20 materials cost. Please pay cash on the day.

BOOK
NOW

Mon 30 Mar, 10am-3pm
Kangaroo Flat Library
Bookings: phone 5447 8344

Regular Programs

Craft and Sewing Groups

For the Love of Crochet

Whether beginner or expert, bring along your current project to share tips, ideas, and the love of crochet.

Mon 2 Mar, 13 Apr & 4 May, 2-4pm
Gisborne Library

Studio Social

Are you an artist or crafter that would like to meet with other creative people? Come along to Studio Social. Bring your art or craft materials and join in the creative fun.

All welcome.

Tuesdays, 2-3.30pm
(excepting school holidays 7 & 14 Apr)
Bendigo Library

Crafternooners

Meet with other crafters to try something new, or BYO current project to craft in company.

Wed 4 Mar, 1 Apr & 6 May, 1-3pm
Kyneton Library

Crafting Connections

Join our friendly gatherings and connect over craft. Bring your current crochet, knitting or craft project, share tips and learn new skills.

Preemie Heart supplies available at some locations.
Crochet Hookers Australia members present at Kangaroo Flat.

Wed 11 Mar, 8 Apr & 13 May, 5.30-7.30pm
Romsey Library

Thu 12 Mar, 9 & 30 Apr & 14 May, 1-2.30pm
Kangaroo Flat Library



Fun and Games

Puzzle and Chat

A good puzzler can complete a 500-piece jigsaw in three hours, but how quickly can a group of keen puzzlers do it? Join others to complete a lovely new jigsaw while chatting.

Refreshments provided.

Wed 4 Mar, 1 Apr & 6 May, 1-4.30pm
Kangaroo Flat Library

Colour Me Happy

Take time out and join others for some intricate, mindful and relaxing colouring.

Resources and refreshments provided.

Wed 11 Mar, 15 Apr & 20 May, 1-4.30pm
Kangaroo Flat Library

Social Scrabble

Drop in and test your vocabulary against others in light-hearted social Scrabble – a great way to keep your brain active!

Refreshments provided.

Fri 13 Mar, 10 Apr & 8 May, 1-4.30pm
Kangaroo Flat Library

No Tech Games: Mahjong

Put down the technology for a spell and immerse yourself in the cosy tabletop game of Mahjong. For people of all ages wanting to learn something new, without technology!

Fri 15 May, 3.30-4.30pm
Castlemaine Library

Jigsaw puzzle swap

Bring along an unwanted puzzle to trade for one that's new to you. Puzzles must be at least 500 pieces, in good condition, in original box, with no missing pieces. No children's puzzles, please.

Sat 23 May, 10-11.30am
Kangaroo Flat Library

Library Film Club

Adults are invited to enjoy newly released and classic films on our large screens. Collect a flyer from the library for film titles, then sit back, relax and enjoy!

Bookings preferred, but not essential.

Wed 11 Mar, 1-3.25pm

Wed 8 Apr, 1-2.35pm

Wed 13 May, 1-2.55pm

Gisborne Library

Bookings: phone 5428 3962

Golden Age of Cinema at Bendigo Library

The Bicycle Thief (G, 1948)

Fri 20 Mar, 5.30-7pm

All Quiet on the Western Front (PG)

Fri 17 Apr, 5.30-8pm

Singin' in the Rain (G, 1952)

Fri 15 May, 5.30-7.15pm

TEENS & YOUNG PEOPLE



Minecraft Lab

Come along to Minecraft Lab and enter our Minecraft world with other players.

BOOK NOW

8-14 years: Tue 10 Mar, 3.45-4.45pm
Eaglehawk Library

8-12 years: Thu 21 May, 4-5.15pm
Castlemaine Library

Montage and cut & paste

See page 21 for details.

BOOK NOW

Sat 14 & 21 Mar, 9.30am-12.30pm
Kyneton Library

Junk journals for kids

Create your own special journal using recycled materials and quirky embellishments; a fun and creative way to preserve your story.

Ages 8-15 years.

Part of the ChangeMakers Macedon Ranges festival.

BOOK NOW

Sat 21 Mar, 10am-12pm
Romsey Library

Trace Balla: Treeshape

See page 8 for details.

Sat 21 Mar, 10.30-11am
Castlemaine Library



Earth Day: Beeswax wrap making

Create your own unique beeswax wraps and ditch plastic wrap!

Ages 12-18 years.

BOOK NOW

Wed 22 Apr, 3.30-4.30pm
Bendigo Library

Junk journals for mothers and daughters

We're inviting mums and daughters to enjoy some time together at our junk journal workshop.

All materials are supplied, but you're welcome to bring along personal mementos to make your journal truly yours — think greeting cards, photos, ticket stubs, notes, and little treasures you love.

Ages 10+ years.

BOOK NOW

Sat 2 May, 10am-12pm
Gisborne Library

CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Primary School Years

The Sensory Sanctuary

A welcoming retreat where every child can explore, relax and engage in their own way. Perfect for children seeking a break or a cosy spot to recharge.

Ages 6-12 years.

Thu 19 Mar, 16 Apr & 21 May, 3.30-4.30pm
Heathcote Library

Minecraft Lab

Come along to Minecraft Lab and enter our Minecraft world with other players.

BOOK NOW

8-14 years: Tue 10 Mar, 3.45-4.45pm
Eaglehawk Library

8-12 years: Thu 21 May, 4-5.15pm
Castlemaine Library

Junk journals for kids

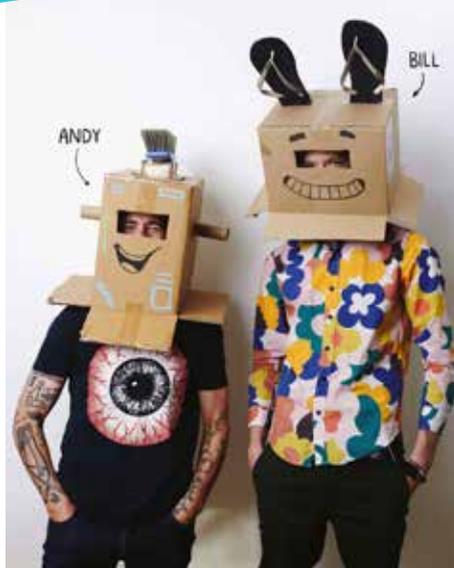
Create your own special journal using recycled materials and quirky embellishments; a fun and creative way to preserve your story.

Ages 8-15 years.

Part of the ChangeMakers Macedon Ranges festival.

BOOK NOW

Sat 21 Mar, 10am-12pm
Romsey Library



Let's go drawing! with Bill Hope

See page 3 for details.

BOOK NOW

Sat 21 Mar, 10.30-11.30am
Bendigo Library

Andy Griffiths! Australian Children's Laureate 2026-27

See page 3 for details.

BOOK NOW

Sat 21 Mar, 1-2pm
Bendigo Town Hall
opposite Bendigo Library

Trace Balla: Treeshape

See page 8 for details.

Sat 21 Mar, 10.30-11am
Castlemaine Library

Movie screening for families

(PG, 2012)

Young families are invited to come along and enjoy this delightful children's classic about a grumpy yet charming creature who fights to protect his world.

Part of the ChangeMakers Macedon Ranges festival.

Sat 28 Mar, 10-11.30am
Gisborne Library

BOOK
NOW

Sat 28 Mar, 10.30am-12pm
Romsey Library

No Tech Games: Italian Card Games

Grab your friends and check out these colourful, awesome cards and learn a new game.

Ages 7-12 years.

Thu 23 Apr, 3.30-4.30pm
Castlemaine Library



Little Bang Discovery Club

Calling all mini scientists and their parent or carer. Sign up for this fantastic four-week series of scientific exploration, discovery and learning. Includes hands-on activities and the loan of an awesome discovery box to take home. Attendance is expected at all four sessions.

Ages 4-5 years.

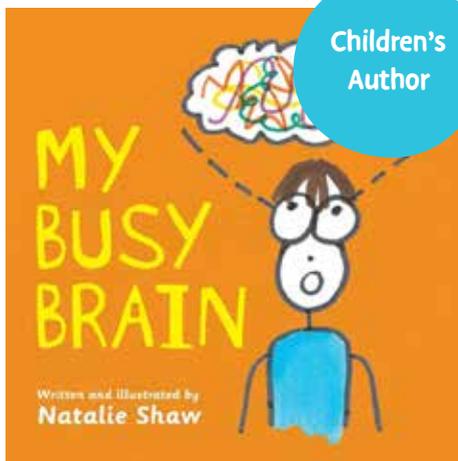
Sat 2, 9, 16 & 23 May, 10.30-11.30am
Romsey Library

BOOK
NOW

School Holiday Program

Pick up a program from
23 March, or visit
ncgrl.vic.gov.au/holidayprogram

Children's
Author



Natalie Shaw: My Busy Brain

Meet Natalie Shaw, author of a heartwarming and relatable story about Max, a boy with ADHD who shares what it's like to live with a 'busy brain'. Learn about the challenges and strengths that come with ADHD, and how a strong support team, helpful strategies, and even medicine can make a difference. With an empowering message of self-acceptance, *My Busy Brain* helps children, parents, and educators understand and celebrate the unique qualities of kids with ADHD.

Book sales and signings.

For children 4-9 years and their families.

Sat 9 May, 11am-12pm
Bendigo Library

BOOK
NOW



Early Years

Storytime Specials

Auslan storytime

Celebrating the vibrant and expressive language of Auslan. Presented by a deaf storyteller and an Auslan interpreter.

For both deaf and hearing children.

Ages 2-6 years.

Funded by a Multicultural Storytime grant from the Department of Health to Expression Australia.

Mon 2 Mar, 13 Apr & 11 May, 10.30-11.15am
Bendigo Library

Multicultural Storytime: Hindi & English

A joyful bilingual storytime featuring the Hindi language.

Ages 2-6 years.

In celebration of Cultural Diversity Week.

Mon 16 Mar, 10.30-11.15am
Bendigo Library



Storytime

Join us each week during the school term for joyful stories, songs, and rhymes. Connect with other young families and enjoy the magic of Storytime.

Collect a timetable from your library or visit ncgrl.vic.gov.au/storytimes



African Storytime with Ras Ato

Meet Ras Ato from Ghana, West Africa, who will share traditional African stories, games and musical instruments. A cultural experience not to be missed.

Ages 2-6 years.

In celebration of Cultural Diversity Week.

Fri 20 Mar, 10.30-11.15am

Kangaroo Flat Library

Sat 21 Mar, 10.30-11.15am

Bendigo Library

Bonjour Storytime

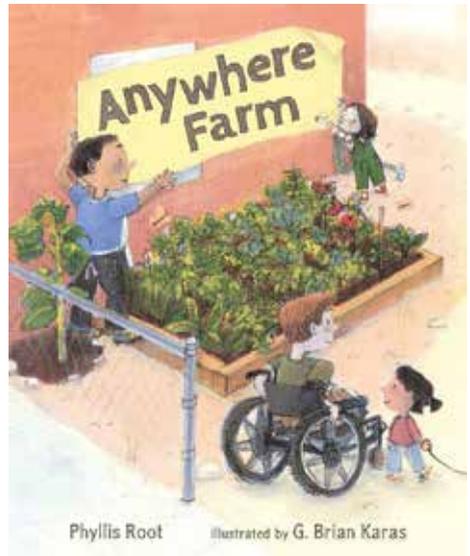
A joyful bilingual storytime featuring the French language.

Ages 2-6 years.

In celebration of Cultural Diversity Week.

Sat 21 Mar, 10.30-11.15am

Woodend Library



Storytime Special: Anywhere farms for kids

"For any anywhere farm, here's all that you need: soil and sunshine, some water, a seed."

Enjoy a reading of Phyllis Root's delightful picture book, *Anywhere Farm*, then create your own mini garden using a small vessel you bring along (a teapot, a cup, a shoe, a jar...). All it takes is one small seed and someone to plant it.

Part of the ChangeMakers Macedon Ranges festival.

Mon 23 Mar, 10-10.45am

Kyneton Library

BOOK
NOW

Mon 23 Mar, 10.30-11.15am

Gisborne Library

Mon 23 Mar, 11-11.45am

Romsey Library

Sat 28 Mar, 10.30-11.15am

Woodend Library



Curious Kids at Storytime

Presented by Discovery Science & Technology Centre, Bendigo.

Minibeasts!

A fun-filled science adventure all about insects and other tiny creatures. Enjoy a delightful story about some incredible insect friends, then explore the amazing world of minibeasts. You may even meet some up close!

Ages 2-5 years.

BOOK NOW

Mon 16 Mar, 10-10.45am

Kyneton Library

Tue 17 Mar, 11-11.45am

Romsey Library

Thu 19 Mar, 10.30-11.15am

Boort Library Agency

Fri 20 Mar, 9.30-10.15am

Heathcote Library

Mon 23 Mar, 10.30-11.15am

Bendigo Library

Wed 25 Mar, 10.30-11.15am

Castlemaine Library

Fri 27 Mar, 10.30-11.15am

Kangaroo Flat Library

Robots!

Are you a robot? How can you tell? After enjoying a fun story about a robot adventure, we'll dive into the exciting world of robotics, including learning how to 'speak robot'!

Ages 2-5 years.

BOOK NOW

Mon 25 May, 10.30-11.15am

Bendigo Library

Tue 26 May, 10-10.45am

Woodend Library

Thu 28 May, 10.30-11.15am

Gisborne Library

Fri 29 May, 10.30-11.15am

Kangaroo Flat Library

Mon 1 Jun, 11.30am-12.15pm

Elmore Library Agency

Tue 2 Jun, 10.30-11.15am

Eaglehawk Library

Wed 3 Jun, 10.30-11.15am

Castlemaine Library

First aid for little kids Storytime

It's never too soon for young children to become familiar with health and first aid. This Storytime with a difference allows playful, interactive learning with first-aid devices and simple first-aid techniques.

Ages 2-5 years.

Presented by The Sisterhood Project, proudly funded by the Heathcote and Ngambie Community Bank.

Fri 27 Mar, 9.45-10.30am

Heathcote Library



Friends are fun

Join us for a fun celebration of our friends in this special Saturday Storytime.

Ages 3-7 years.

Sat 28 Mar, 10.30-11.15am

Facepainting: 11am-12pm
Kangaroo Flat Library

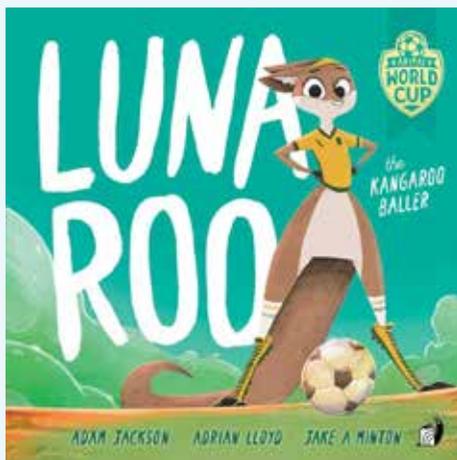
Sensitive Storyland

A supportive and inclusive Storytime designed to develop early literacy in a safe, calm and sensitive space.

Ages 3-6 years.

Sat 2 May, 10.30-11am

Heathcote Library



National Simultaneous Storytime: Luna Roo

Young families are invited to join in the fun of National Simultaneous Storytime – Australia's biggest story reading event. While some libraries will be reading the book at different times, we'll still be enjoying all the fun together!

Ages 3-5 years.

Enjoy a reading of *Luna Roo* by Adam Jackson and Adrian Lloyd, illustrated by Jake Minton.

More details at ncgrl.vic.gov.au/nss

Wed 27 May, 12-12.45pm

Selected libraries and library agencies

★ ★ ★
**1000 BOOKS
BEFORE SCHOOL**



Get in the reading habit and join 1000 Books Before School!

For more information, ask at your local library or visit ncgrl.vic.gov.au/1000books

StoryWalks

Enjoy reading a children's picture book as you walk in the sunshine and fresh air.

Full details at ncgrl.vic.gov.au/storywalk

Supported by Healthy Loddon Campaspe.
Created by Anne Ferguson and the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.

We're Going on a Bear Hunt

Michael Rosen Helen Oxenbury

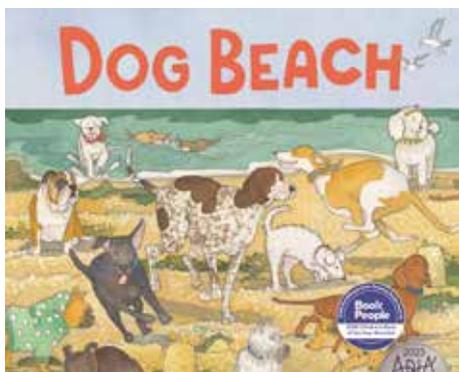


We're Going on a Bear Hunt

By Michael Rosen, illustrated by Helen Oxenbury.

Thus 2-Fri 24 Apr

Rotary Gateway Park, High Street,
Kangaroo Flat



Dog Beach

By Julie Murphy, illustrated by Annie White.

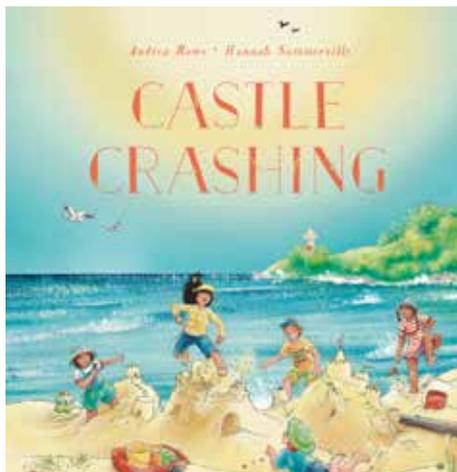
Gingell Street, Castlemaine



The Lost Library

By Jess McGeachin.

Kyneton, path by Primary School and Kinder



Castle Crashing

By Andrea Rowe, illustrated by Hannah Sommerville.

Heathcote Playspace, 126 High Street

Room on the Broom

By Julia Donaldson, illustrated by Axel Scheffler.

Nardoo Walking Track, Chapel Street
Wedderburn

Goldfields Library Corporation acknowledges the Traditional Owners and Custodians of the land and waterways of our region. We recognise their living cultures and ongoing connection to Country, and pay respect to their Elders past, present and emerging.

Libraries

Bendigo

251-259 Hargreaves Street
p: 5449 2700

Castlemaine

212 Barker Street
p: 5472 1458

Eaglehawk

Eaglehawk Mechanics Institute
1 Sailors Gully Road
p: 5446 7577

Gisborne

8 Hamilton Street
p: 5428 3962

Heathcote

121 High Street
p: 5433 3734

Kangaroo Flat

23 Lockwood Road
p: 5447 8344

Kyneton

3 Baynton Street
p: 5422 1365

Romsey

98 Main Street
p: 5429 3086

Woodend

Cnr High & Forest Streets
p: 5427 2074

Agencies

Axedale

Axedale Public Hall
94 McIvor Road

Boort

Boort Resource and
Information Centre
119-121 Godfrey Street

Dingee

Dingee Railway Station
Bendigo-Pyramid Road

Elmore

Elmore Athenaeum Hall
62 Michie Street

Inglewood

Inglewood Community
Neighbourhood House
Inglewood Town Hall Hub
20 Verdon Street

Pyramid Hill

Pyramid Hill Neighbourhood
House
Unit 5-8/43 Kelly Street

Wedderburn

Wedderburn Community Centre
24 Wilson Street

Library Agencies

p: 5449 2790

For opening hours and accessibility information visit

ncgrl.vic.gov.au