WHAT'S ON

Summer 2026

Goldfields Libraries

The Man Cave

Kid's Own Publishing Workshops

Local Authors Expo



Na Djinang Circus
Workshops

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.

BOOK NOW

ONLINE VIA ZOOM
Session links available upon booking.

ONLINE
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
@goldfieldslibrariesunited

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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On the cover
Na Djinang Circus Workshops
Details on page 6.

SPECIAL EVENTS



Tarang Chawla: A Call for Peace and Equality

Tarang Chawla brings his powerful call against violence to Bendigo, at a time when it's never been more important to hear. Tarang is the co-founder of *Not One More Niki*, a campaign to end violence against women and children, named in honour of his younger sister, who was murdered in 2015. He is an inspiring speaker on a mission to affect change within communities, relationships and families. His story is unforgettable, as is his message for peace and equality.

We gratefully acknowledge funding support from the City of Greater Bendigo.

BOOK NOW

Fri 11 Dec, 5.30-6.30pm
Bendigo Library

Bravery Gym

Step into our soundproof pod and educate yourself on how to become braver. Build your psychological fitness and learn proven techniques for standing up for yourself and others.

Wed 25 Nov-Thu 10 Dec, 3.30-5.30pm
Castlemaine Library

16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM AGAINST GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE



The Man Cave: Parent Experience

A practical workshop where parents will gain strategies to strengthen connection with their son, better understand his experiences, and build confidence through shared learning with other parents.

Best suited to parents of teenage boys.

Presented by The Man Cave in partnership with Mount Alexander Shire Council and Castlemaine Library.

BOOK NOW

Thu 26 Nov, 5.15-6.45pm
Castlemaine Library

16 Days of Activism Special Storytime and StoryWalks
See pages 26 and 27 for details.

International Day of People with Disability

Choice Voices Choir

An uplifting performance from Choice Voices, an inclusive community choir that celebrates connection, joy, diversity and inclusion through song.

Supported by Golden City Support Services.

Thu 26 Nov, 5-6pm
Bendigo Library



Karen and Afghan Artwork Launch & Display

With Bendigo Community Health Services and others

What do Bendigo people of Karen and Afghan Hazara background with a disability and their families need for safe access to services, support and community? A local project asked this question, then represented the answers via the art of Ta Na Moo and Sakineh Mohammadi. Celebrate and view the work.

Thu 3 Dec, 12-1pm
Bendigo Library

The re-developed Heathcote Library located in the new Bibi Bibi Community Centre is open for business from Mon 4 Jan.

Watch this space for celebrations to come!

BIG SUMMER READ

The BIG Summer Read for children and young people aged 0-18 years is back!
See page 23 for details.



Book Making Workshops for Kids

Join Kids' Own Publishing for two fabulous bookmaking workshops, celebrating two unique and beautiful cultures.

Places available for 30 families with children aged 4-13 years at each.

See page 24 for details.

BOOK NOW

Celebrating First Nations
Tue 19 Jan, 2-4pm
Bendigo Library

Celebrating India
Wed 20 Jan, 10am-12pm
Bendigo Library

Local Authors Expo

Find your next read and support local talent at our first-ever Local Authors Expo. Hear from the writers as they speak about their work and practice, buy a book, have it signed and take part in the rich independent grassroots literary culture of our region.

Calling all self-published authors

If you live in CoGB, Mount Alexander, Macedon Ranges or Loddon shires, or your book is set locally, we want you to come along. We'll give you a stall and some time on stage, and you manage your sales.

Contact Bendigo Library Manager Robin Pearson robinp@ncgrl.vic.gov.au for more information or to request a site.

Sat 23 Jan, 11am-2.30pm
Bendigo Library



Lunar New Year: Traditional Welcome

The Central Victorian Southern Lion, Dragon and Fu Wa Teams will bring the library to life with a noisy and spectacular welcome to the Lunar New Year of the Goat.

All welcome. Gong Hei Fat Choy!

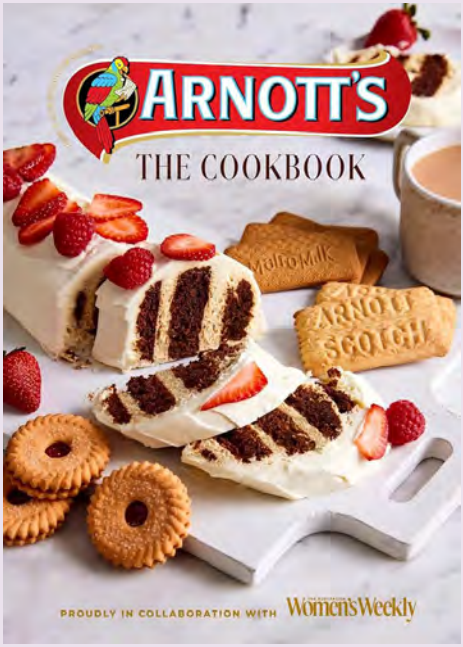
Fri 5 Feb, 5-6pm
Bendigo Library

Library Lovers Day

Origami Heart Book Marks

Fold an origami heart bookmark to celebrate your love of reading, and your local library!

Mon 15 Feb, 2-3pm
Bendigo Library



Cook Book Club: Arnott's the Cookbook

A book club set with a delicious difference! Borrow a copy of the book, choose and cook a recipe, then share and discuss with others at a delightful Library Lovers Day morning tea. Ten books available or collect an individual recipe. What's not to love about sweet treats and libraries!

Arnott's the Cookbook set will become part of Goldfields Libraries Book Club collection and will be available for loan.

BOOK NOW

Wed 17 Feb, 10.30-11.30am
Romsey Library



Na Djinang Circus Workshops

Step into the world of Blak Circus with Na Djinang, one of Australia's most imaginative contemporary circus companies. Guided by world class artists, this workshop opens a door to movement, culture and connection. You will tumble, balance and create as a team in a space that celebrates curiousity, courage and the joy of trying something new. No experience needed – just a willingness to play.

Na Djinang Circus envisions a bold future for Blak circus on unceded Indigenous lands, deeply informed by Indigenous Cultural knowledges and ways of being. From the western suburbs of Naarm they create contemporary circus that works to share unique insights with the next generation.

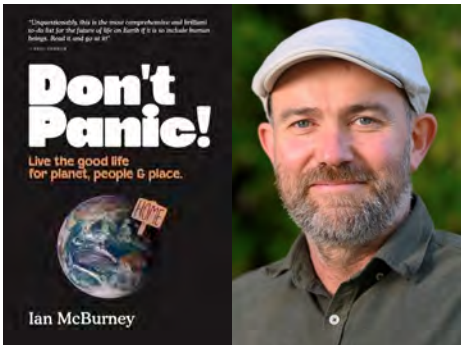
Na Djinang Circus is generously supported by Creative Australia, Creative Victoria, and the Se Beeton Foundation.

BOOK NOW

Sat 27 Feb
6-10 years: 10.30-11.30am
10-14 years: 11.30am-12.30pm
Mob only: 1-2pm
Bendigo Library



Author Talks



Ian McBurney: Don't Panic

Live the good life for planet, people and place

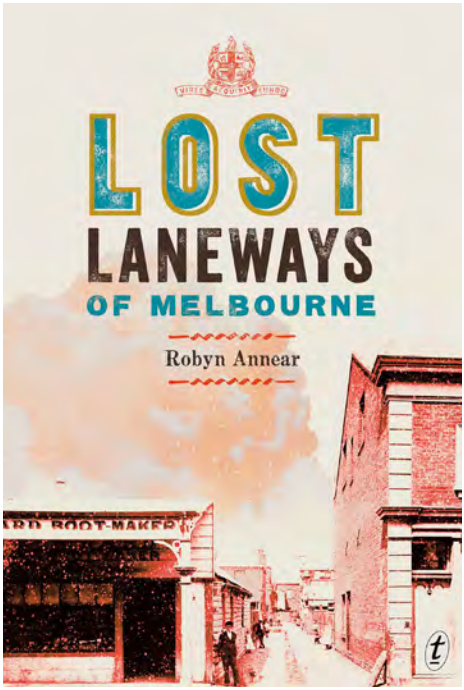
Feeling overwhelmed about the state of the planet and society? Feeling powerless to help? It's a heck of a time to be alive. Join Bendigo based ecological sustainability practitioner Ian McBurney who shares tips about living the good life through transport, energy, stuff, nature, food and money. *Don't Panic!* helps you create a comfy home and a life connected to planet, people and local place.

Book sales and signings.

Ian McBurney will be in conversation with editor Cecile Shanahan.

BOOK NOW

Thu 3 Dec, 5.30-6.30pm
Bendigo Library



Robyn Annear: Lost Laneways of Melbourne

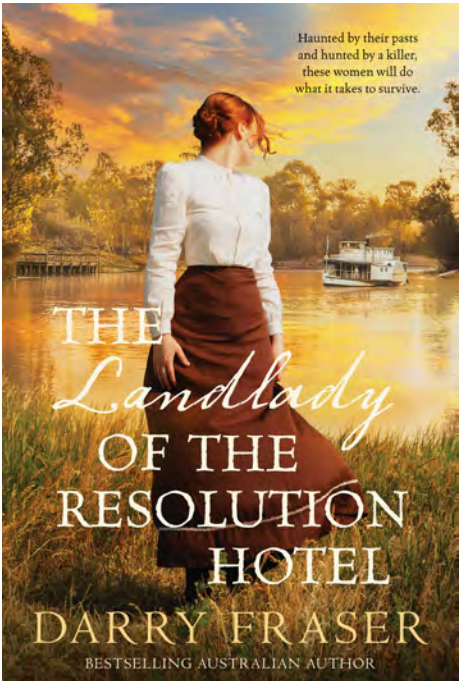
Local writer, social historian and skilled raconteur Robyn Annear takes you on a tour through Melbourne's backstreets to uncover the history, anecdotes and lore hidden within the 'City of Lanes'. Robyn's latest book traces around 320 Melbourne laneways, known by almost 500 names. She takes the reader on a series of guided walks around the modern city to discover the ghost city behind it, and the stories of people who lived there.

Book sales and signings.

BOOK NOW

Thu 3 Dec, 5.30-6.30pm
Castlemaine Library

Wed 9 Dec, 2-3pm
Gisborne Library



Darry Fraser: The Landlady of the Resolution Hotel

Darry Fraser returns to talk about her latest historical novel with her signature traits of adventure, mystery and mayhem, love and life! *The Landlady of the Resolution Hotel*, set in 1894 at the loneliest pub on the Murray River, tells the story of four women haunted by their past and hiding from the truth which is threatening to find them.

Book sales and signings.

BOOK NOW

Thu 10 Dec, 11am-12pm
Kyneton Library

Thu 10 Dec, 2-3pm
Kangaroo Flat Library

Thu 10 Dec, 5.30-6.30pm
Castlemaine Library



Millennium Poets: The Poets who took Bendigo to Melbourne

In the 1990s a crew of young Bendigo poets found freedom at ArtSpace on Lyttleton Terrace – a fearless, anything-goes scene of poetry and performance. They carried that spirit to Melbourne, where their readings helped spark a movement and the original Millennium Poets anthology.

Now they're coming home.

Millennium Poets II reunites those original voices and a new generation of writers, from Bendigo and beyond, to celebrate where the Millennium Poets began, what the words have become, and where the torch goes next.

Hear the poems.
Meet the poets.
Find your people.

BOOK NOW

Fri 5 Feb, 5.30-6.30pm
Bendigo Library



Benita Bensch: Seen Again

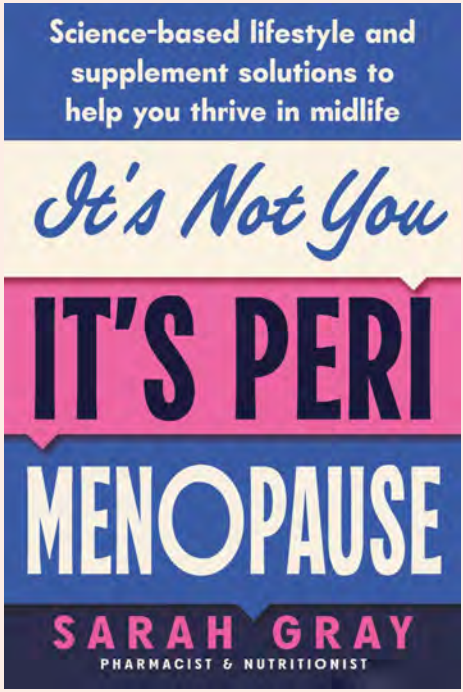
Motherhood, Identity and Finding Yourself Again

Join country woman and author Benita Bench for a relaxed discussion about her book *Seen Again*. Benita will explore the profound identity shift that happens as a woman becomes a mother, reflecting on visibility, selfhood, creativity and the often unseen inner life. This event is for mothers, grandmothers, carers and anyone interested in women's stories.

Book sales and signings.

BOOK NOW

Wed 10 Feb, 11am-12pm
Wedderburn Library Agency



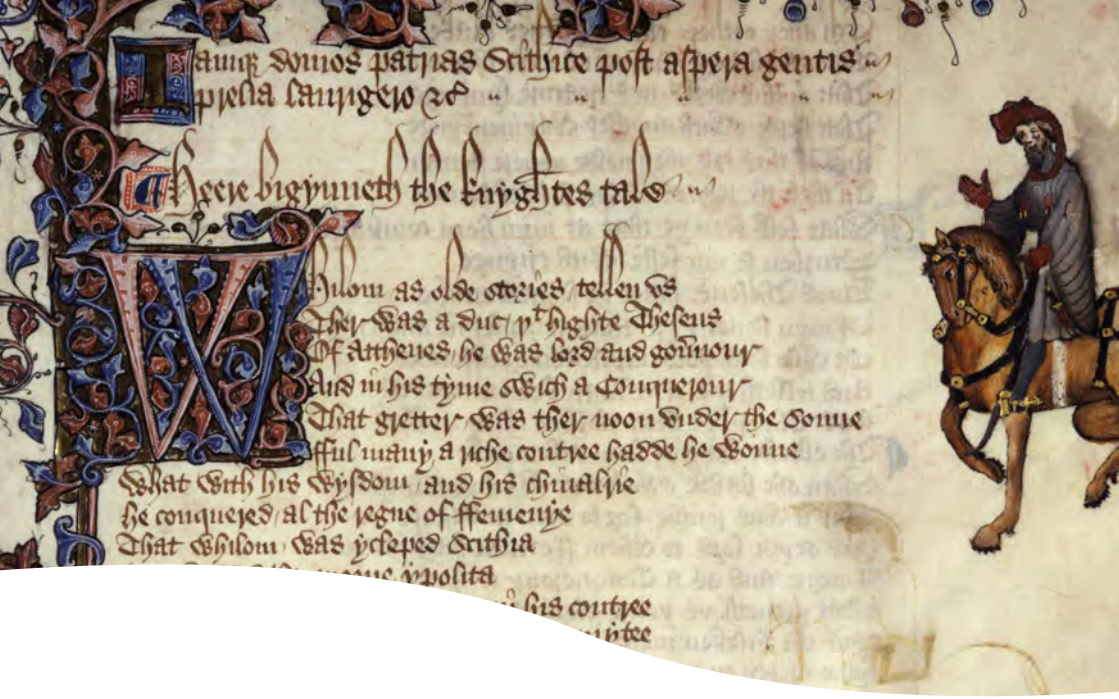
Sarah Gray: It's Not You, It's Perimenopause

Meet author Sarah Gray, a pharmacy and nutrition professional with expertise in perimenopause. Sarah will share her holistic science-based approach to help understand and mange hormone symptoms and thrive in middle life.

Book sales and signings.

BOOK NOW

Fri 19 Feb, 5.30-6.30pm
Bendigo Library



Reading

Social Book Club

Love reading but have no time for a regular book club? No worries, just drop in! Bring along your current read for a bookish chat — we guarantee you'll quickly build up your 'to read' pile.

BOOK NOW

Mon 7 Dec & 1 Feb, 2-3pm
Kangaroo Flat Library

Chaucer's Canterbury Tales

Geoffrey Chaucer's short story anthology *The Canterbury Tales* was written between 1387 and 1400 and presented as part of a storytelling contest held by a group of pilgrims travelling from London to Canterbury. Come along and take a dip into the collection.

Facilitated by Kyneton U3A. Following the first session (The Prologue) please bring along your own copy of the book.

BOOK NOW

Fri 22 & 29 Jan, 5 & 12 Feb, 10.30-11.30am
Kyneton Library

Bibliotherapy Taster

Through stories people may find comfort, companionship or new ways of seeing themselves and the world. Join us to experience the gentle and reflective art of bibliotherapy. Morning tea included.

For adults.

BOOK NOW

Tue 9 Feb, 10-11am
Bendigo Library

Cook Book Club: Arnott's the Cookbook

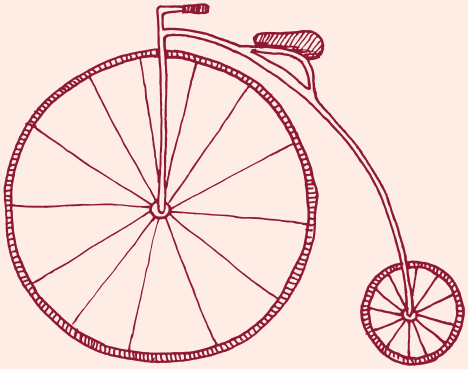
See page 5 for details.

BOOK NOW

Wed 17 Feb, 10.30-11.30am
Romsey Library

Mulga Bill

WRITING AWARD



Poets and short story writers are warmly invited to enter the annual Mulga Bill Writing Award, part of the Eaglehawk Dahlia and Arts Festival.

Theme: Invasion – interpret this in any way, big or small. From sci-fi to politics, environmentalism to fantasy, how will you be inspired?

Short story: Max. 2000 words.
Poetry: Max. 25 lines.

Prizes awarded in each category. $6 entry fee. More information and entry forms at www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/mulgabillwritingaward

Entries open: Monday 28 December 2026.
Entries close: Monday 22 February 2027.

Winners announced at the Dahlia and Arts Festival Opening on Friday 20 March.

Sponsored by Eaglehawk Festivals Inc.

Borough Summer Writing School

Meet up over three relaxed, inspiring classes. Develop a piece of writing on an agreed theme in your genre of choice. The finished pieces will be published in an eBook. Guided by local writer and qualified trainer Lauren Mitchell. Please commit to all sessions.

BOOK NOW

Workshops:
Fri 5 & 12 Feb, 11.15am-12.30pm
Reflection & Feedback:
Fri 26 Feb, 11.15am-12.30pm
Eaglehawk Library



Verse Novels with Karen Comer

An introduction to writing verse novels or short pieces with award-winning children's and YA author Karen Comer. Karen will discuss the use of narrative poetry in stories and novels. She'll guide you to begin your own piece of creative verse writing.

Karen Comer is author of *Grace Notes*, CBCA's Book of the Year for Older Readers 2024, and *Sunshine on Vinegar Street,* a CBCA noteable for Younger Readers in 2024. Her latest YA novel *Once Upon Tomorrow* is partially set in Castlemaine.

BOOK NOW

Fri 26 Feb, 2-3pm
Gisborne Library

Talks & Presentations

Healthy Towns Pop Up Clinic

Drop in for a quick check of your blood pressure, heart rate, blood glucose, temperature, oxygen levels and more. Get practical tips to stay well.

No bookings needed.

Thu 3 Dec, 10am-2pm
Castlemaine Library

Tour du Mont Blanc: 3 Women, 3 Generations, 3 Countries

Is the Tour du Mont Blanc beckoning? In July 2026 Mandy, Vicki and Lola walked the trail through stunning valleys, steep mountain passes and local villiages across France, Italy and Switzerland. Discover how to plan, train and prepare to walk the 170km in their footsteps.

BOOK NOW

Thu 3 Dec, 6-7pm
Woodend Library

Understanding Treaty: Community Conversation

What is Treaty, how did we get here, and what could it mean for Victoria's future? Join Isobel Morphy-Walsh and Levi Power from Gellung Warl, Victoria's First People's Assembly, for a conversation about Australia's first Treaty and the journey that has lead to this historic moment.

BOOK NOW

Thu 25 Feb, 5-6pm
Kyneton Library

Walking the Camino de Santiago

Ever dreamt of walking the Camino de Santiago Trail? Mal Brown traversed 280km of the historic pilgrimage, between Porto and Spain in 2025. Be inspired by his stories of this powerful physical and spiritual experience.

BOOK NOW

Thu 25 Feb, 5.30-6.30pm
Castlemaine Library



Parenting Talks & Workshops

CatholicCare Victoria Regional Parenting Program

Starting School

Starting primary school can be a time of mixed emotions for parents and children – this session provides an opportunity to explore concerns and ideas for an easier transition.

BOOK NOW

Tue 1 Dec, 1-2.30pm
Bendigo Library

Tech Strategies for Families

Setting boundaries around tech use is not always easy. Hear about current research, reflect on tech use in your family and explore strategies for creating a safe and healthy tech environment.

BOOK NOW

Wed 17 Feb, 2-3pm
Woodend Library

Mon 22 Feb, 11am-12.30pm
Bendigo Library



Loddon Children's Health & Wellbeing Local

ADHD: What Is It and How Do I Help?

Learn what ADHD is like for your child, plus strategies to help you support their development. There will be the opportunity to ask questions about your child and their behaviour.

BOOK NOW

Sat 20 Feb, 10.30-11.30am
Bendigo 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. Book online or enquire in branch.

Presented by City of Greater Bendigo and volunteers from the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group).

BOOK NOW

Wed 16 Dec, Thu 7 Jan & 4 Feb 11am-1pm
Kyneton Library

Wed 3 Feb, 10am-12pm
Bendigo Library

Tue 9 Feb, 1-3pm
Eaglehawk Library

Wed 10 Feb, 2-4pm
Gisborne Library

Mon 15 Feb, 11am-1pm
Kangaroo Flat Library



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



Family & Local History

The Right to be Remembered

Castlemaine Cemetery Recovery Project

Learn about this community-led project uncovering the stories of people whose final resting places at Castlemaine Cemetery were disturbed or lost. Through historical research, volunteers are piecing together the lives behind the names, discovering who these people were and their place in Castlemaine's history. Find out how you can contribute to restoring dignity, recognition and remembrance.

Presented by Nicci Foster, Heritage Consultant & Project Lead and Debra Tranter, Chairperson, Castlemaine Cemetery Trust.

BOOK NOW

Sat 16 Jan, 11am-12pm
Castlemaine Library

Family History Online

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

BOOK NOW

Wed 10 Feb, 1-2pm
Bendigo Library

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
(closed 16 Dec-13 Jan)
Bendigo Library

Bendigo Regional Genealogical Society

Mon, 11am-3pm
(closed Mon 21 & 28 Dec)
Bendigo Library

Gisborne Genealogical Group

Tue, 10am-1pm, & Thu, 10am-5pm
(closed 1-31 Jan)
Gisborne 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 access the library's fantastic online collections.

Also available by appointment at all other branches and agencies.

Bookings by phone. Details on back cover.

BOOK NOW

Dec-Feb
All library branches and agencies



Christmas eCards in Canva for Beginners

Learn how to make personalised digital Christmas cards using Canva, a free and easy-to-use graphic design tool. Suitable for beginners only – BYO laptop or use one of ours.

BOOK NOW

Fri 4 Dec, 10-10.30am, 10.30-11am & 11-11.30am
Bendigo Library

AI for Beginners

Curious about what AI actually is, or want to be aware of evolving developments? Come along to this easygoing, beginner-friendly workshop featuring a show-and-tell of popular AI apps and information about the capabilities and limitations of the technology.

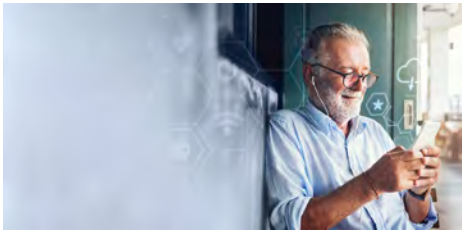
BOOK NOW

Tue 5 Jan, 10.30-11.45am
Eaglehawk Library

Wed 20 Jan, 10.30-11.45am
Romsey Library

Wed 17 Feb, 1.30-2.45pm
Inglewood Library Agency

Fri 19 Feb, 11.30am-12.45pm
Elmore Library Agency



Get to Know Your Device

Struggling with your phone or tablet? Book a 30-minute timeslot for help to confidently navigate your device and troubleshoot common issues.

BOOK NOW

Thu 14 Jan
iPhones & iPads: 10am-12pm
Android phones & tablets: 2.30-4.30pm
Bendigo Library

Family History Online

See page 14 for details.

BOOK NOW

Wed 10 Feb, 1-2pm
Bendigo Library



Cricut Basics

Curious about Cricut? Learn the basics of making vinyl decals with Cricut Design Space. Explore what the machine can do, and take home a simple project of your making.

BOOK NOW

Mon 15 Feb, 2-3.30pm
Kangaroo Flat Library

All About BorrowBox

Learn how to browse, borrow and enjoy eBooks, eMagazines and eAudiobooks on BorrowBox with your library card anytime, anywhere!

BOOK NOW

Wed 17 Feb, 1-2pm
Bendigo Library

Stream and Listen for Free

Learn how to access eAudiobooks, documentaries, movies and TV shows for FREE on your device – anytime, anywhere with your library membership.

BOOK NOW

Tue 16 Feb, 2-3pm
Eaglehawk Library

Cloud Storage Subscriptions and More

Learn about setting up a cloud subscription to store files remotely, back up data, and keep photos safe. Also take a look into the other benefits that come with the most popular subscription services.

BOOK NOW

Fri 19 Feb, 2-3pm
Castlemaine Library

Celebrating Christmas

Special Activities

December Card Project

Bendigo Health invite you to write a message of hope and kindness to people receiving mental health care. Your support and understanding can help ease stigma, loneliness and isolation in our community.

Use your own card or one from the library and place unsealed into the boxes provided.

Mon 23 Nov-Fri 18 Dec
Bendigo, Eaglehawk and Kangaroo Flat libraries

Christmas eCards in Canva for Beginners

See page 15 for details

BOOK NOW

Fri 4 Dec, 10-10.30am, 10.30-11am & 11-11.30am
Bendigo Library

Creative Christmas Workshop

Create bespoke Christmas decorations, from felt Christmas trees and beaded wreaths, to cards and tags. All materials supplied and no experience necessary.

Adults and young people aged 13+.

BOOK NOW

Fri 4 Dec, 1-3pm
Gisborne Library

Christmas Cards

Come along and learn some simple card-making techniques using upcycled books.

For adults.

BOOK NOW

Tue 8 Dec, 2-3.30pm
Bendigo Library

Wrap & Chat

Take a break from the Christmas rush and join us for some festive Wrap & Chat! Bring your gifts and wrapping paper, and we'll privide the tape, scissors and crafty bits to make gift tags. Enjoy Christmas carols, light snacks and a private space to wrap, relax and chat.

Sat 12 Dec, 10-11.30am
Romsey and Woodend Libraries

Post-it Art Show

People of all ages are invited to contribute to this fun and quirky art show using colourful post-it notes.

One entry per person – drop in any time and add to the show!.

Sat 2-30 Jan
Woodend Library



All Together Storytime

For adults with disability and their carers

Join us for a heartwarming and inclusive Storytime featuring interactive storytelling with music, songs, and gentle dancing in a relaxed and supportive environment. Enjoy fun and connection, no matter your age or ability.

BOOK NOW

Fri 4 Dec, 8 Jan & 12 Feb
1.30-2.15pm
Woodend Library

All Day Art Workshop: Bush Landscapes with Graphite

Join artist Marilyne Andrews for a creative and restful day exploring how to sketch bush landscapes.

Refreshments provided.

Adults 18+ years. Beginners welcome.

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

BOOK NOW

Mon 8 Feb, 10am-3pm
Kangaroo Flat Library
Bookings: phone 5447 8344

Mindful Drawing for Seniors

Explore the benefits of mindful drawing – a gentle creative practice that can help you find a state of inner calm. Learn some simple techniques for pleasing results in a relaxed setting.

Materials provided and no experience necessary.

BOOK NOW

Mon 22 Feb, 11am-12pm
Bendigo Library

The Memory Place: Early Working Life

Join us for memories, conversation and laughs as we share our beautiful themed memory kits. Enjoy reflecting on or learning about the past.

BOOK NOW

Thu 25 Feb, 1.30-2.30pm
Kangaroo Flat Library

Regular Programs

Craft groups

Studio Social

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

All welcome.

Tue 1, 8, & 15 Dec & 2, 9, 16 & 23 Feb, 2-3.30pm
Bendigo Library

Craft Skill Share

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

Wed 2 Dec, 6 Jan & 3 Feb, 1-3pm
Kyneton Library

Elmore Creatives

Join our creative monthly gathering to be inspired, share and create opportunities, motivate and support each other. Reignite or nurture your creative spark amongst like-minded locals.

Fri 4 Dec & 5 Feb, 11am-12pm
Elmore Library Agency

For the Love of Crochet

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

Mon 7 Dec & 1 Feb, 2-4pm
Gisborne 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.

Crochet Hookers Australia members present.

Thu 10 Dec, 14 Jan & 11 Feb, 1-2.30pm
Kangaroo Flat Library

Studio Social

Enjoy making in our Ngawan Room where you can chat, have a cuppa and get creative in the company of others. Bring your own project (paints excluded) or dip into our supply of craft materials.

All welcome.

Please check-in at the library desk on arrival.

Mon 1, 8, 15 & 22 Feb, 2.30-4.30pm
Gisborne Library

Fun and games

Puzzle and Chat

Join others to complete a lovely new jigsaw while chatting. Refreshments provided.

Wed 2 Dec & 3 Feb, 1-4.30pm
Kangaroo Flat Library

Social Scrabble

Drop in and test your vocabulary against others in light-hearted social Scrabble. Refreshments provided.

Fri 11 Dec & 12 Feb, 1-4.30pm
Kangaroo Flat 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, and in the original box with no missing pieces. No children's puzzles please.

Sat 20 Feb, 10-11.30am
Kangaroo Flat Library

Beyond the Books: Library Lounge Nights at Bendigo

Join us each Friday evening for social, relaxing and fun activities. Bring your friends or family, or come solo. Come to some or come to all!

Families, teens and children.

Board games

Fri 4 Dec & 5 Feb, 5-6.30pm

Jigsaws

Fri 11 Dec, 8 Jan & 12 Feb, 5-6.30pm

Dungeons and Dragons

Fri 18 Dec, 15 Jan & 19 Feb, 5-6.30pm



Boxes, Bricks & Beyond

Build, design and explore with boxes and bricks, then challenge family and friends to a range of board games. A relaxed and informal activity for familes, kids and people of all ages.

Mon 4-Sat 23 Jan, opening hours
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 9 Dec, 10.30am-12.15pm
Wed 10 Feb, 10.30-12.45pm
Romsey Library
Bookings: phone 5429 3086

Wed 9 Dec, 12-2pm
Wed 10 Feb, 12-2pm
Gisborne Library
Bookings: phone 5428 3962

Golden Age of Cinema at Bendigo Library

White Christmas (PG 1954)

Fri 18 Dec, 5.30-7.30pm

Stormy Weather (G 1943)

Fri 26 Feb, 5.30-6.50pm



Big People Movies, Small People Welcome at Castlemaine Library

Back to the Future (PG, 1985)

Thu 11 Feb, 10.30am-12.30pm

The Castle (M 1997)

Thu 18 Feb, 10.30-11.55am

TEENS & YOUNG PEOPLE



Movie Trilogy

Guess which classic sci-fi trilogy we are screening? Will it be what you **hope** for or will you **strike** out, either way you can **return** ... Come dressed in character if you wish and may the force be with you.

No. 1: Tue 5 Jan, 2-4pm
No. 2: Tue 12 Jan, 2-4pm
No. 3: Tue 19 Jan, 2-4.15pm
Castlemaine Library

Beyond the Books: Library Lounge Nights

See page 20 for details.

Studio Open

A creative summer maker space for young people. Make a badge, give the Cricut a go, bedazzle your phone case, colour or draw. A welcoming space to create, connect, and express yourself.

Ages 12-18 years.

Fri 8 & 22 Jan, 2-4pm
Bendigo Library

Dungeons & Dragons

Prepare for a campaign of adventure, storytelling and imagination, guided by a qualified Dragon Master, and filled with mystery, teamwork and epic quests.

All experience levels welcome.

Ages 12-16 years

BOOK NOW

Mon 12 Jan, 2-3.30pm
Woodend Library

D & D Level Up: Dungeon Master Training

Ready to move from player to storyteller? If you've played a few games of Dungeons & Dragons and want to take the next step, this workshop is for you. Learn the essentials of running your own campaign, creating memorable encounters, managing player chaos and thinking on your feet.

For ages 12-18 years with some D&D playing experience. No Dungeon Master experience required.

BOOK NOW

Fri 15 Jan, 2.30-4pm
Bendigo Library



I Made This

Zine Workshop

Design, create, and share an 8-page zine using a combination of collage, photocopier, illustration and writing techniques.

Please register for both dates.

BOOK NOW

Wed 6 Jan & Thu 7 Jan, 2-4pm
Castlemaine Library

T-Shirt Upcycling with Cricut

Upcycle your wardrobe and create an iron-on design with our Cricut machine. Bring along an item of clothing to work with.

Please register for both dates.

BOOK NOW

Wed 13 Jan & Thu 14 Jan, 2-4pm
Castlemaine Library

Crochet Basics and Social Stitching

Learn how to crochet and craft in the company of others. Bring along a project you're already working on, get some tips or learn the crochet basics.

BOOK NOW

Wed 20 Jan & Thu 21 Jan, 2-4pm
Castlemaine Library

YA Author

Karen Comer: Create a Mini Art Journal to Gather Writing Ideas

Join award-winning verse novelist Karen Comer to create a mini art journal using coloured and patterned paper and washi tape. Karen will guide you with prompts to gather fragments and ideas for a poem and short story, focusing on the themes of AI, the climate crisis, fairytales and legacy based on her latest book, *Once Upon Tomorrow*. All materials provided.

Ages 13+ years.

Book sales and signings.

BOOK NOW

Fri 26 Feb, 6-7pm
Castlemaine Library

Na Djinang Circus Workshops

See page 6 for details.

Sat 27 Feb
10-14 years: 11.30am-12.30pm
Mob only: 1-2pm
Bendigo Library



CHILDREN & FAMILIES

Primary School Years



The BIG Summer Read is back!

Read five books, or for five hours over the summer and be in the running to win great prizes, including book, EB Games and Smiggle vouchers.

To get started, register at your local library or visit ncgrl.vic.gov.au/bigsummerread

For children and young people up to 18 years.

Dec-Jan
All libraries and selected library agencies

Launch Parties

Let's get this BSR party started! Face painting, icy poles and hands-on creative activities for the whole family. Sign up on the day for the chance to win a family voucher for some summer fun – open to launch day sign-ups only.

Sat 28 Nov, 10am-12pm
Castlemaine Library

Sat 5 Dec, 10am-12pm
Bendigo and Woodend libraries

Summertime Fun!

Lots of great school holiday activities for kids and young people. Pick up a program from mid-December, or visit ncgrl.vic.gov.au/holidayprogram



Winnie-the-Pooh Movie

Join us for a special movie screening to celebrate the 100th anniversary of the original Winnie-the-Pooh book, first published in 1926. Can you guess which movie we will watch? Ask at the library for more details.

Ages 5+ years.

Winnie-the-Pooh written by A.A.Milne and illustrated by E.H. Shepard celebrates 100 years of publication in 2026.

Sat 19 Dec, 10.30am-12.15pm
Gisborne and Romsey libraries

Mon 21 Dec, 10.30am-12.15pm
Bendigo Library

Wed 23 Dec, 10.30am-12.15pm
Castlemaine Library

Boxes, Bricks & Beyond

Drop in to build, design and explore with boxes and bricks, then enjoy a board game or two!

Families and people of all ages.

Mon 4-Sat 23 Jan, opening hours
Kangaroo Flat Library



Book Making Workshops for Kids

with Kids' Own Publishing

Two fabulous bookmaking workshops over two days for children and families celebrating two unique and beautiful cultures. Kids' Own Publishing artists will guide children and families through the process of turning their cultural stories, imaginations, experiences and ideas into their very own 8-page books – copied and published on the spot!

After exploring a library of books, written and illustrated by kids, children will devise their book title and blurb, create the text and art, and learn the magic behind folding and publishing, allowing them to create even more books at home.

Each 8-page book will be a limited edition celebrating children's art and creativity in the moment, and will be launched with fanfare!

For children of all cultural backgrounds, aged 4-13 years.

Places available for 30 families each day.

Kid's own Publishing is changing the world one book at a time. They work with artists to publish books by kids, for kids, in a process that supports literacy, creativity, confidence and connection.

Celebrating First Nations

Celebrating the rich cultural storytelling traditions of local Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung, Yorta Yorta and other First Nations peoples.

Facilitated by an artist of First Nations background.

BOOK NOW

Tue 19 Jan, 2-4pm
Bendigo Library

Celebrating India

Celebrating the vibrant culture of India, touching on Hindi, Telegu, Punjabi, Malaylam, Marathi (and more) culture and language.

Facilitated by an artist of Indian background.

BOOK NOW

Wed 20 Jan, 10am-12pm
Bendigo Library

Na Djinang Circus Workshops

See page 6 for details.

Early Years

Special Events



Jack and Molly's Christmas Show

Join Jack & Molly performers for a wonderful and interactive show to celebrate the end of the year. The joy of Christmas will shine throughout with energetic and whimsical songs using sign language, along with more quirky songs like the *Ute Song* and *Jingle Jangle Santa*. Young families will love it!

Ages 0-6 years.

BOOK NOW

Sat 5 Dec, 10.30-11.15am
Gisborne Library



Twinkle Toes is Here!

Kangaroo Flat Toddler Timers and Eaglehawk Storytimers are warmly invited to jingle all the way with Twinkle Toes the Christmas ballerina! Christmas stories, fun and joy! Wear your Christmas gear if you wish.

Tue 8 Dec, 10.30-11.15am
Eaglehawk Library

Wed 9 Dec, 10.30-11.15am
Kangaroo Flat Library



Storytime

Thank you to our wonderful Storytime families for sharing stories, songs and rhymes with us in 2026. We hope you had fun, and we can't wait to see you all next year!

Collect a 2027 timetable from your library from mid-January, or visit ncgrl.vic.gov.au/storytimes



Storytime Specials

16 Days of Activism Storytime: Outdoor Storytime at Lake Neanger

A special Storytime for little kids following the Walk & Run Against Family Violence at Lake Neanger and Lake Tom Thumb. Badge making beforehand then stories, songs and lots of fun!

For young families.

Sat 28 Nov
Badge Making: 9-10.15am
Storytime: 10.30-11am
Lake Neanger, Simpsons Road, Eaglehawk

Happy Birthday Communities for Children Bendigo!

Join us at a special preschool storytime as we launch a short video celebrating 21 years of C4C in Bendigo. Stories, fun, and cupcakes!

Ages 0-5 years.

Mon 7 Dec, 10.30am-12pm
Bendigo Library

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 14 Dec & 8 Feb, 10.30-11.15am
Bendigo Library



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

Created by Anne Ferguson and the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.

The Very Steep Hill

By Ben Kitchin, illustrated by Megan Kitchin.

Wed 6-27 Jan
Rotary Gateway Park, High St Kangaroo Flat

Miimi and Buwaarr, Mother and Baby

by Melissa Greenwood.

Nardoo Walking Track, Chapel St Wedderburn

Dog Beach

By Julie Murphy, illustrated by Annie White.

Heathcote Playspace, 126 High St

The Lost Library

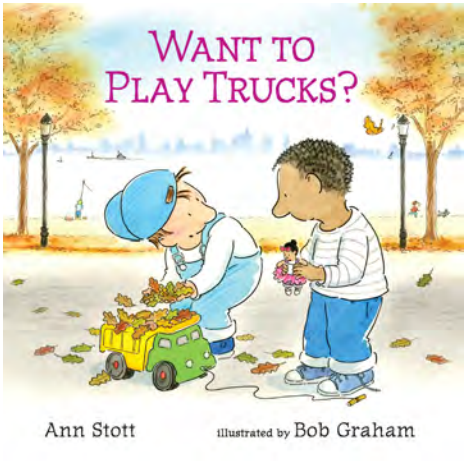
by Jess McGeachin.

Gingell St, Castlemaine

Room on the Broom

By Julia Donaldson, illustrated by Axel Scheffler.

Kyneton, path by primary school and kinder



16 Days of Activism Against Gender Based Violence

Want to Play Trucks?

by Ann Stott, illustrated by Bob Graham.

A gentle and inclusive picture book that explores gender roles and friendship with warmth and understanding.

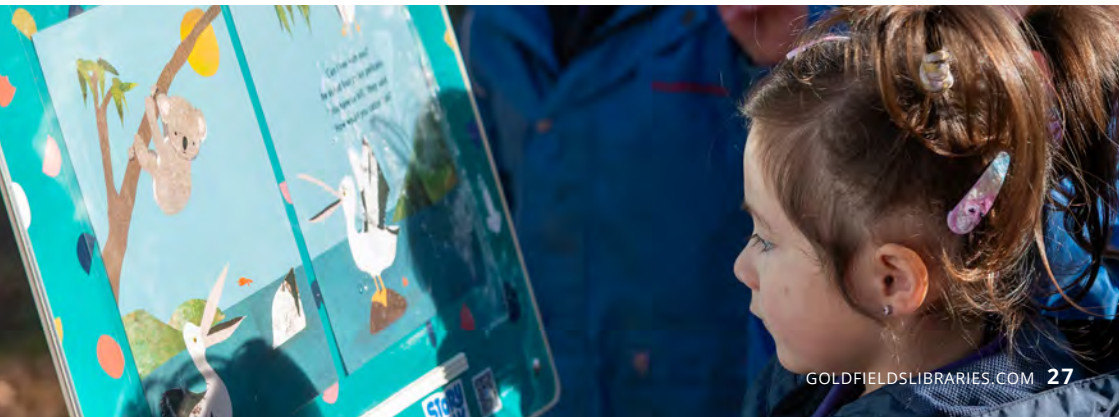
Wed 25 Nov-Thu 10 Dec
Gingell St, Castlemaine

How to be a Lion

by Ed Vare.

A timely and charming story about the importance of being true to yourself and standing by your friends in the face of bullies.

Wed 25 Nov-Thu 10 Dec
Kyneton, path by primary school and kinder



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

Goldfields Libraries