



Children's Book Week 22-28 August

Swan Hill Library staff got into the spirit of Children's Book Week, dressing up to celebrate the Children's Book Council of Australia's (CBCA) 80th year of the Book of the Year Awards.

Over three mornings, groups from Swan Hill South Kindergarten visited Swan Hill Library to join in the celebrations. Students, teachers and accompanying parents embraced the Book Week spirit by dressing up as their favourite book characters.



The children enjoyed a fun-filled morning of stories, rhymes and craft activities, with plenty of opportunities to share their love of books and let their imaginations take centre stage.

It was wonderful to see the library filled with colourful characters, enthusiastic young readers and families coming together to celebrate the magic of reading.

Want to discover some great new books? The [CBCA's 2026 Book of the Year winning](#) titles are now available to explore. Contact or visit your local library branch to request a copy and discover your next favourite story.

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Check out the upcoming author talks at the Swan Hill Library on Page 6.



For learning, for leisure, for life!

New books

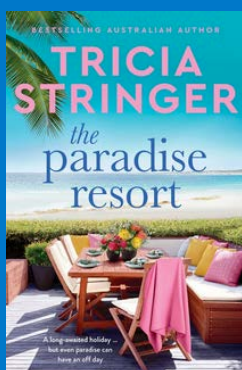
Love unlocked
Celia Ahern

The Bridge
Colm Toibin

The Shadow Friends
Tess Gerritsen

Adam and Eve
Jeffrey Archer

Ruthless
Danielle Steel

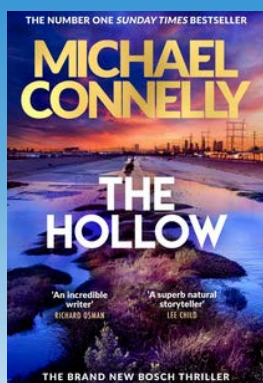


The Paradise Resort
Tricia Stringer

King's Ransom
Matthew Reilly

Whispers of Sweetwater
Mandy Magro

The Hollow
Michael Connelly



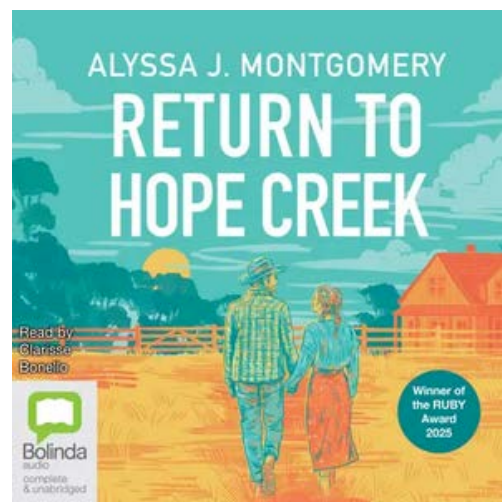
BorrowBox e-audiobook of the month

Return to Hope Creek
Alyssa J. Montgomery

USA Today bestselling author

A horrific car accident ended former world number one Stella Simpson's tennis career, and a betrayal ended her relationship with her fiancé-coach. When a family friend offers to sell her half of a property in the rural community where she grew up, it seems like the perfect place to escape, heal and begin the next phase of her life.

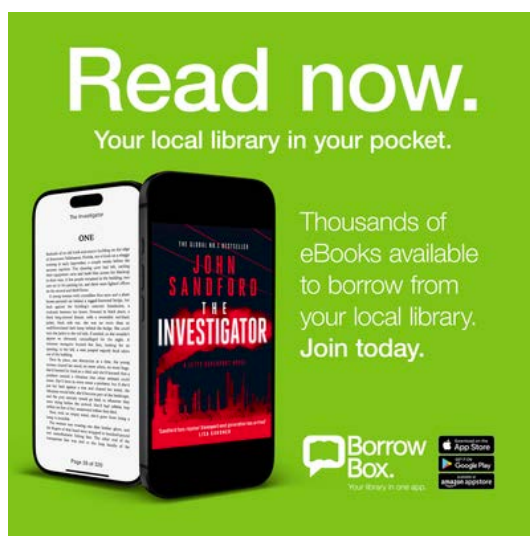
Mitchell Scott seemingly had it all: fame and fortune as one of the NFL's highest-paid quarterbacks and a beautiful family. But wealth and celebrity can't compensate for a loveless, toxic marriage, and he's glad to give it all up to raise his son in the one place that always brought him peace.



Encountering Stella again so long after the messy end to their relationship is a complication he doesn't need...

Join us for an author talk by Alyssa @ the Swan Hill Library.
See details on p.6

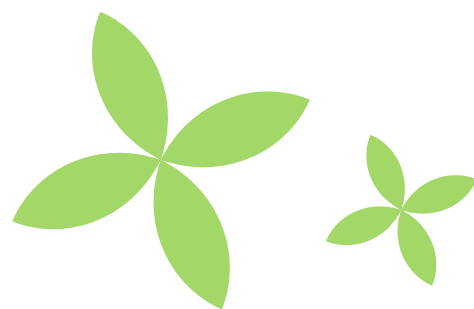
BorrowBox September Campaign Title: 'Outback'



Our September campaign title on Borrowbox is the eBook **The Investigator** by John Sandford.

Letty Davenport, the brilliant and tenacious adopted daughter of Lucas Davenport, takes the investigative reins in the newest thriller from #1 bestselling author John Sandford.

For the month of September, simultaneous borrowers can read this title at the same time. Perfect for book clubs!



Join us on socials!

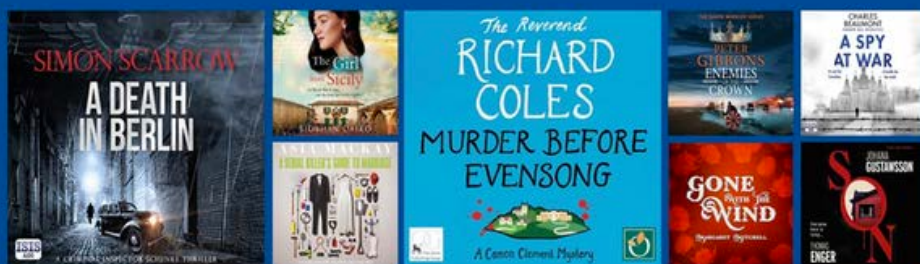
@swanhillregionallibrary



Or, check out our website: library.swanhill.vic.gov.au

uLibrary e-audio books

Discover our latest audiobooks



Ulibrary

Download on the
App Store

GET IT ON
Google Play

New digital resource : Informit Explore

Informit Explore

Informit Explore is an Australian database providing access to trusted sources of information in publications, articles and videos focussed on issues facing Australia today.



[Visit Informit Explore](#)

Check out Story Box Hub for Children's Book Week

Story Box Hub is a website where children can enjoy stories read aloud by talented Australian and New Zealand storytellers, perfect for bedtime or as a read-aloud model. Congratulations to the winning CBCA books for 2026! Read them on [Story Box Hub](#) using your library membership details.



Book chat

Open to people aged 16+, the Book Chat group meets at the Library every second Wednesday of the month, 7pm-8.30pm.

Knitter Knatters

For people aged 16+. Knit, crochet, sew & chat! Every Tuesday morning from 10am-12pm.

Jigsaw Club

Open to people aged 16+, the Jigsaw Club meets every Thursday from 2pm to 4pm.

Scrabble Club

For people aged 16+, the Scrabble Club meets every Tuesday, from 2pm to 4pm.

Mahjong

Open to people aged 16+ the Mahjong Club meets every Thursday from 2pm to 4pm. Suitable for beginners.

Toy Library

Borrow toys and educational resources for babies, toddlers and children.
Fridays: 11am to 12pm
Saturdays: 10am to 11.30am
First Wednesday of the month, 11am to 12pm
Contact 0427 847 486.





Tech Tip from our Technology Support Librarian:

Regular checking that your device system and app updates have successfully installed helps to keep your device and apps safe and reliable, fixing issues and addressing new security concerns.

Swan Hill Community Toy Library celebrating 40 years!

What an incredible milestone for a much-loved community group, made possible by the dedication, passion and countless hours of the amazing volunteers who have kept the Toy Library going over the years.

The celebrations began with a special supper for past and present volunteers — a wonderful opportunity to come together, reminisce and celebrate the contribution of so many people.

The celebrations continued on Saturday 22 August with an open morning for the wider community, featuring sensory play, face painting, birthday cake, door prizes, plenty of toys and lots of fun!

A huge congratulations to everyone involved in reaching this fantastic milestone. Here's to 40 years of play, connection and community!



Mallee Family Care Homelessness Awareness exhibition

A heartfelt thank you to everyone who attended the official opening of Mallee Family Care's 'Homelessness Week 2026 Community Photography' exhibition on 5 August.

It was wonderful to welcome around 50 people to the Swan Hill Library to share in this important event. Thank you to The Hon. Peter Walsh, Member for Murray Plains, for officially opening the exhibition, and to everyone who attended, listened, reflected, and supported the conversations around homelessness and housing insecurity in our community.

The exhibition featured powerful artworks created by people from across our region, offering deeply personal perspectives on homelessness and housing insecurity in the Mallee. A special thank you to local artist Melody Scholtens for her thoughtful curation, bringing these works together in a way that created a moving and impactful exhibition.

Together, we can build understanding, raise awareness, and inspire positive change.



Fresh Food Swap @ Robinvale & Swan Hill



FRESH FOOD SWAP



Opportunity to swap your produce, seeds, seedlings, herbs, and preserves

When: 3rd Saturday of every month

Date: Saturday, 19 September

Time: 10am-12pm

Location: Robinvale Library & Swan Hill Libraries

WHAT YOU CAN SWAP:



All produce brought must be good quality.
All preserves must be labelled with ingredients.
Seeds, seedlings and bulbs must be labelled.



*This initiative is compliant with the 'Food Act 1984' as there is no sale of food occurring.



Nappy Drive - support local families

Do you have nappies at home that your little one has outgrown? We'd love to put them to good use!

Swan Hill Library is proud to be supporting **The Nappy Collective**, collecting unused nappies to help families experiencing hardship across Australia.

We are accepting:

- ✓ Open or unopened packs of nappies
- ✓ All sizes and brands
- ✓ Pull-ups and swim nappies (new and unused)

Simply drop your donations into the collection box at Swan Hill Library. Every nappy donated can make a real difference to a family in need. Thank you for helping us support this wonderful cause.



Alyssa J. Montgomery author talk



Alyssa is the **USA Today** bestselling and award-winning romance writer of the popular *Royal Affairs*, *Hope Creek*, *Billionaires & Babies*, and *Wattle Crossing* series.

Whether you're a devoted reader, an aspiring writer, or simply love discovering great romantic fiction, we'd love you to join us!

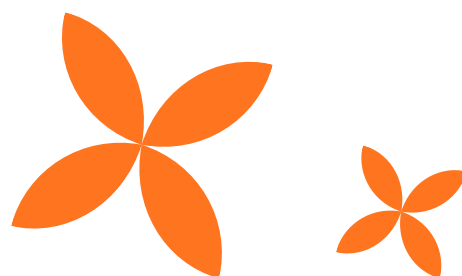
Event details:

Where: Swan Hill Library

When: 2pm, Monday 7 September

Bookings preferred. Contact the Library on 5036 2480 or email library@swanhill.vic.gov.au

Book signing & sales available courtesy of the author (cash & Eftpos)



Meet the author : Leonie Kelsall



Join bestselling author Leonie Kelsall as she discusses the tenth novel in her much loved *Settler's Bridge* series, *The Windmill in the Silver Gums*.

Whether you're an avid reader, an aspiring author, or simply love exploring Australian fiction, we'd be delighted to see you there!

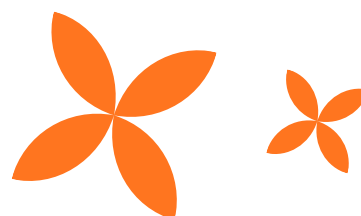
Event details:

Where: Swan Hill Library

When: 7pm, Wednesday 30 September

Bookings preferred. Contact the Library on 5036 2480 or email library@swanhill.vic.gov.au

Book signing & sales available courtesy of Collins Booksellers Swan Hill.



Outreach school holiday program



Library Outreach Holiday Program

Join us for a colourful session of creativity and fun as children design their own unique sand art masterpiece to take home. With vibrant colours, imagination and a little bit of library magic, this hands on activity is perfect for young artists of all ages.

Lake Boga

Where: Lake Boga foreshore near the Flying Boat Museum
When: Monday, 21 September 11am - 1pm

Nyah West

Where: Nyah West Park
When: Wednesday, 23 September 11am - 1pm

Manangatang

Where: Manangatang Parks and Gardens
When: Thursday, 24 September 11am - 1pm

Free, all children to be supervised by an adult.



School holiday program @ Swan Hill Library



What's happening at Swan Hill Library these School Holidays...

Library activities are available 21 September — 2 October 2026

To book, DM or call the library on 5036 2480. Check the Library's Facebook page or newsletter for more details.



Scan the QR to book



Creation Station - All holidays

Open Daily: 10:00AM - 5:30PM | **FREE** | Suitable for children of all ages

Drop into the Creation Station in the library's children's area these school holidays! Kids can draw, cut, paste, colour, and craft using a variety of materials, including fun recycled items. Explore activity booklets and make your own unique creations. Perfect for sparking imagination!

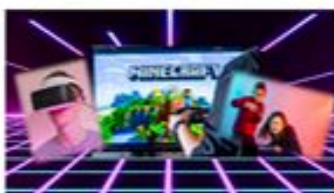


Springtime Search & Find - All holidays

All holidays | **FREE** | Suitable for children 5 - 14

These school holidays, search the library for hidden Springtime posters! Find them all to score a reward and go in the draw to win a \$50 Swan Hill Gift Card! Winner drawn Tuesday, 6 October 2026.

Proudly sponsored by Swan Hill Inc.



Minecraft, Switch & VR Fun - Monday, 21 & 28 September

1- 4pm | **FREE** | Suitable for children 5 - 18

Join us for an action-packed afternoon of gaming fun! Dive into Minecraft, step into new worlds with PlayStation VR (users must be 12 years of age or older), and try out our new Nintendo Switch. Just drop in and play.

No bookings required.



Spring Shelf Sitters - Tuesday, 22 September

2 - 3pm | **FREE** | Suitable for children 5+

Celebrate the magic of spring with a fun-filled afternoon at the library!

We'll share a beautiful spring-themed picture book, create an adorable spring animal shelf sitter to take home, and enjoy a special hands-on animal experience with our friends from Mallee Pets Supplies.

Meet some furry and feathered visitors while getting creative with lambs, rabbits, and chicks inspired by the season.

Perfect for children who love stories, crafts, and animals!

Bookings required.



Lego Brick by Brick: Build Your Imagination - Wednesday, 23 & 30 September

2 - 4pm | **FREE** | Suitable for children 3 - 18

Come along and enjoy the fun with our free Lego @ the Library sessions these school holidays! Complete one of the many challenges or enjoy free-play using your imagination to make a fantastic creation for a chance to win a prize!

No bookings required.



Get Creative with Loom Bands - Wednesday, 23 & 30 September

2 - 4pm | **FREE** | Suitable for children 7+

Join us for a fun loom band session these school holidays! Whether you're a beginner or experienced, come and create colourful jewellery and fun crafts. All materials, bands, boards, and hooks are provided!

No bookings required.



- Youth friendly activities and workshops. **Please note:** Children under 12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

School holiday program @ Swan Hill Library



What's happening at Swan Hill Library these School Holidays...



Scan the QR
to book

Library activities are available 21 September — 2 October 2026

To book, DM or call the library on 50362480. Check the Library's Facebook page or newsletter for more details.

Dad's-Do-Hair - Wednesday, 23 September

7 - 8:30pm | **FREE** | Suitable for children ages of all ages



Calling all dads! Join us for a special Twilight Tales. We'll read *Daddy Do My Hair* by Tola Okogwu, before learning some handy hairdressing tips and tricks. A professional hairdresser will be at the library to show dads how to tackle their children's hair. From brushing and plaiting to creating simple styles they can try at home, no child will ever have a bad hair day again. And that's not all! Children will also enjoy a FREE goody bag filled with fun hair accessories, thanks to Swan Hill Health Promotions.

Come along, have some fun and leave ready to conquer those tricky hair days!

Bookings required.

Footy Craft with Bunnings - Thursday, 24 September

2 - 3pm | **FREE** | Suitable for children 5+



Get ready for some football fun with Trista from Bunnings in this exciting hands-on DIY session!

Design and build your very own tabletop football game to take home, then challenge your friends and family to a match. Perfect for kids who love creating, building, and playing!

All materials will be provided. Just bring your imagination and get ready to score some goals!

Limited places. Bookings required.

Kids Create: Baked Potatoes - Tuesday, 29 September

10:30 - 11:30am | **FREE** | Suitable for children 3 - 5

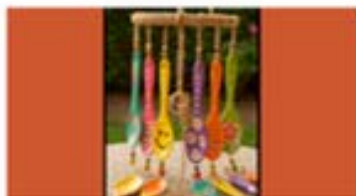


Join us for a fun, hands-on session with Bronte from Swan Hill District Health! We'll start with a delightful story before diving into creating your own yummy and healthy baked potatoes. A perfect mix of creativity, food, and fun for kids!

Limited places. Bookings required.

Wind Chimes - Thursday, 1 October

2 - 3pm | **FREE** | Suitable for children 5 +



Get creative with Trista from Bunnings in this fun, hands-on DIY session! Transform ordinary wooden spoons into a colourful wind chime to hang at home. Decorate, design, and assemble your unique creation while learning how to turn everyday materials into something beautiful and musical. Perfect for kids who love making and crafting!

All materials will be provided. Just bring your imagination and get ready to create something that chimes in the breeze!

Limited places. Bookings required.

Crafternoon - Friday, 2 October

2 - 4pm | **FREE** | Suitable for children of all ages



Get creative these school holidays with a fun Crafternoon! Enjoy a range of engaging activities, each designed to spark imagination and self-expression. All materials are provided. Just bring your creativity.

No bookings required.

- Youth friendly activities and workshops. **Please note:** Children under 12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.

Children's Book Week @ Robinvale Library

What a wonderful way to celebrate Children's Book Week!

A huge thank you to **Robinvale District Health Services, Early Years Programs** for visiting Robinvale Library last Thursday and hosting a very special Book Week Playgroup. It was wonderful to welcome children and families into the library for a morning filled with stories, books, play and plenty of smiles.

The children enjoyed exploring books, taking part in fun Book Week-themed activities and sharing in the joy of reading together. Events like these are a wonderful opportunity to encourage a love of books and stories from an early age, while also bringing local families together in a welcoming and fun environment.

We loved celebrating **Children's Book Week** with you all and look forward to many more opportunities to share the magic of books, reading and play with our local community!



The Local Chapter Book Group for Robinvale students

Join two skilled facilitators for two book group sessions centred on Shivaun Plozza's young adult novel *Running in Circles*

Twelve-year-old Dell lives in the town of Tully, the wettest place in Australia. Passionate about the weather and intent on becoming a climate scientist, Dell loves nothing better than to check her weather station and gather meteorological data. That is, when she's not helping her best friend, Teddy, search for extinct mountain mist frogs. But a different kind of storm starts brewing when, after five years away, Dell's estranged mother reappears to investigate crop circles in the local area. Determined to keep her at arm's length, Dell goes into battle to shield her family from this unwelcome intrusion and the hurt her mother is bound to cause.

When:

7 Sept & 5 Oct, 4-5.30pm

Where:

Robinvale Library & Learning Hub
88 George Street

FREE books and snacks!

RSVP via Humanitix

Email brigid.magner@rmit.edu.au for more information



This activity is supported by funding from the Victorian Department of Education as part of the Victorian Challenge and Enrichment Series (providing extra opportunities for high school students in Victoria)

Victorian Challenge & Enrichment Series

Murray River Council is a member of the Swan Hill Regional Library network.

Locations:

- Barham
- Mathoura
- Moulamein

Outreach:

- Tooleybuc
- Wakool



Barham Library author talk

In conversation

with Author
Alyssa Montgomery



Join author Alyssa Montgomery as she speaks about her award-winning **Hope Creek** series.

The books are gripping, emotional stories of courage, redemption and the healing power of love - all set against the rugged beauty and soaring skies of the Australian outback.



Tuesday 8th September, 2026.

11am. Barham Riverside Reception Centre.

FREE event. Bookings essential.

Books available for sale on the day.

Light refreshments will be provided.

"Return to Hope Creek" won the romantic Book of the Year (RUBY AWARD) for long contemporary romance 2025. The second book of the series "Sharing Forever in Hope Creek" won two awards at the Australian Romance Readers Awards this year and has been nominated for a RUBY Award for rural romantic suspense this year (finalists yet to be announced). These two books, along with the third title "Now and Always in Hope Creek" (released 1st May, 2026) are all available currently as ebooks through Borrowbox and all three will be available as audiobooks from September 1st.

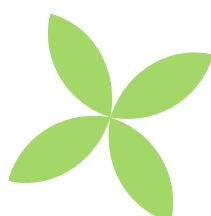
To book, contact:

Barham Library, 03 5480 1587

barhamlib@murrayriver.nsw.gov.au

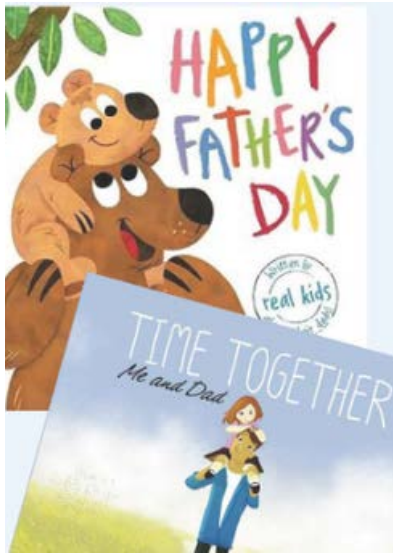


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Barham Library News

Speical Father's Day Storytime



Saturday Storytime will be held on 5 September and will feature a special Father's Day theme, with stories and activities celebrating dads, grandads, and other special father figures.

Children will enjoy listening to the heartwarming stories *Time Together: Me and Dad* and *Happy Father's Day*, before getting creative with a special Father's Day craft activity. Participants will have the opportunity to paint and decorate their own coffee mug, creating a unique handmade gift for Dad to treasure.

Speical Father's Day Storytime

Our next Tech Savvy Seniors program commences on Wednesday, 26 August at 10.00am, helping local residents build confidence and skills in using digital technology. For more information contact the Barham Library on 0354 801 587.

National Science Week

National Science Week was a resounding success at Barham Library, attracting enthusiastic participation from students and staff from Barham Public School. Throughout the week, children engaged in a variety of hands-on science activities designed to encourage curiosity, creativity, and problem-solving.

Participants explored scientific concepts through interactive experiments and practical challenges, giving them the opportunity to learn by doing. The activities sparked excitement and enthusiasm, with students eagerly testing ideas, making observations, and discovering how science plays an important role in everyday life.

The strong level of participation and positive feedback from both students and teachers highlighted the value of providing engaging STEM learning opportunities within the community. The program not only supported learning outcomes but also fostered a sense of wonder and exploration, inspiring young people to develop an ongoing interest in science and technology.

Barham Library would like to thank Barham Public School students and staff for their support and participation, which helped make this year's **National Science Week** activities such a rewarding and memorable experience for everyone involved.



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Barham Library

Social Book Chat

Every Tuesday at 10am
Bring along a coffee and the book you're currently reading (instant coffee is also available).
Chat about what's a good read or just listen in.

Move and Groove

Thursday at 10.30am
Songs, dance, storytime and craft for toddlers and pre-schoolers!

Saturday Storytime

Second Saturday of the month at 10.30 am (Not held in January)
Storytime and craft in a fun learning environment.

Cryptic Crosswords

Friday at 1.30pm. Ipads are available for use. Afternoon tea supplied.



Young Mentors Program @ Swan Hill Library



Swan Hill Regional Library

library.swanhill.vic.gov.au

53 Campbell Street, Swan Hill

Phone: 03 5036 2480 Email: library@swanhill.vic.gov.au

This service is provided by the Swan Hill Rural City Council

