



*For Learning, For Leisure, For Life*



## Christmas Operating Times

Swan Hill Library will close at 3pm on Wednesday, 24 December and re-open at 10am on Monday, 5 January. Robinvale Library will close at 6pm on Monday, 22 December and re-open at 2pm on Monday, 5 January.

You are welcome to borrow extra items so you have plenty to read during the holiday period. No items will be due for return during the time the library is closed.

If you are going away, the loan period for items can be extended - just ask one of our friendly library staff. Items can also be returned in the after-hours chute, while the library is closed.

You can renew your items online. You can also ring the library on 5036 2480 or email us at: [library@swanhill.vic.gov.au](mailto:library@swanhill.vic.gov.au) In your message please include your name, library card number and request to renew your items.

You can also borrow e-books, e-audio books, movies, music and magazines through the library's online resources such as Hoopla, BorrowBox, uLibrary, Cloud Library Newsstand and LOTE4Kids.

*Library staff would like to wish everyone a very  
Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year!  
See you in 2026.*

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Swan Hill Library will be closing at 1 pm & Robinvale Library will be closing at 11am on Thursday 18 December. We apologise for any inconvenience.

## Coming soon

*Otherwise Engaged*  
Susan Mallery

*The Devil's Bible*  
Steve Berry

*The Winter Bride*  
Katie Flynn

*Cross and Sampson*  
James Patterson

*Second Chances*  
Roisin Meany



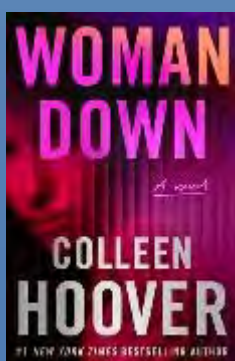
*The King's Ransom*  
Janet Evanovich

*Shadowed Vows*  
Nora Roberts

*Tom Clancy :  
Executive Power*  
Brian Andrews

*Must Love Christmas  
Cowboys*  
Diana Palmer

*Woman Down*  
Colleen Hoover



## BorrowBox e-audiobook of the month

***The Midwife's Christmas Miracle***  
Fiona McArthur

Award-winning author Fiona McArthur delivers a heartwarming romance, where a runaway midwife and a Texas cowboy discover that even two weeks at Christmas might be enough to change everything.

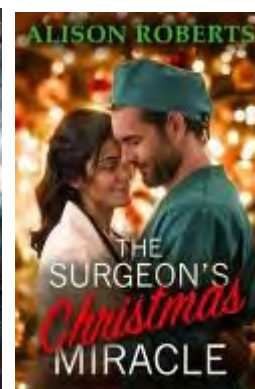
Fleeing a life her wealthy father planned – including the groom he picked out – Perth midwife Gabi Hudson heads off grid to the small and charming town of Wirralong in the Outback. She's hoping for a fresh start and to live a life of purpose while working in a local baby crèche during her friend's maternity leave. A cute cottage is included, but the hot cowboy setting up an unusual holiday display is a heart-pounding surprise.

Texas cowboy Cormack Callaghan has been travelling the world working odd



jobs, until a lucrative hobby changes his fortunes. He loves making metal art in Wirralong, but Cormack's finally booked his ticket home. He promised his patiently waiting family that he'd finally be home for this Christmas, but then he's blindsided by the intriguing Gabriella.

## Featured BorrowBox e-books for December



Find out what's happening at the Library



Visit [library.swanhill.vic.gov.au](http://library.swanhill.vic.gov.au)

or like us on Facebook or Instagram!





## uLibrary e-audio books of the month



Download the uLibrary app, browse eAudio titles by genre or audience, preview books, and use features like the sleep timer and adjustable narration speed. Track your loans, reserves, and explore new books with the Next Read feature on your account.

## Featured BorrowBox campaign title for December



The [BorrowBox](#) campaign title for December is the e-audio book *My Favourite Mistake*. Written by Marian Keyes, one of the most successful Irish authors of all time, this novel follows Anna, one of the Walsh family sisters.

Anna is a 'gorgeous human being' who is 48 and having something of a mid-life crisis. She's burnt out, perimenopausal and getting over a relationship breakup...

For the month of December, simultaneous borrowers can read this title at the same time - perfect for book clubs!

Download the free BorrowBox app, sign in with your library card number and PIN and enjoy reading / listening!

## 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

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

The Scrabble Club meets every Tuesday, from 2pm to 4pm.

## Discover Mahjong

Open to people aged 16+, Discover Mahjong meets every Thursday at 2pm.

## Genealogical Society

Closing 3pm Thursday 11 December.

Re-opening 10am Tuesday 3 February 2026.

## Toy Library

Open for returns only (until 13 December)

Fridays: 11am to 12pm

Saturdays: 10am to 11.30am

First Wednesday of the month, 11am to 12pm

Re-opening in February 2026.

## Swan Hill Library Storytimes 2026:

### Move and Groove

10.30am on  
Wednesday 7, 14, 21  
and 28 January.

### Baby Rhyme Time

10.30am on Friday 9,  
16, 23, and 30 January.

### Saturday Storytime

Will resume at 10.30  
am on Saturday 7  
February 2026.

A big thank you to our  
wonderful Storytime  
volunteers and guests  
who have conducted  
Saturday Storytime  
sessions or Twilight  
Tales throughout 2025:

Nic, Helen, Rita,  
Renita, Alison,  
Michelle,  
Denise, Tim, Deborah,  
Leigh & Bruce.

Also thanks to Jude for  
being the musician and  
leading the carols at  
our special Christmas  
storytimes.

## Last Storytimes for 2025

The last **Move and Groove** session at the Swan Hill Library for 2025 will be on Wednesday, 24 December at 10.30am.

The last **Baby Rhyme Time** session at the Swan Hill Library for 2025 will be on Friday, 19 December at 10.30am.



## Christmas Storytime

Join us for our special Christmas Storytime at Swan Hill Library.

We will be reading Christmas stories and singing Christmas Carols.

Santa Claus will make a brief stopover on his trip around Australia and is looking forward to seeing lots of local children getting into the Christmas spirit!

Children will have the chance to make a fun Christmas craft to take home.

Where: Swan Hill Library

When: **10am**, Saturday 20 December

Age: All ages. Children under 12 must be supervised by an adult

Cost: Free!

**Bookings are essential.** For more information or to book please contact Swan Hill Library on 03 5036 2480.



Find out what's happening at the Library



Visit [library.swanhill.vic.gov.au](http://library.swanhill.vic.gov.au)  
or like us on Facebook or Instagram!





## 16 Days of Activism @ the Swan Hill Library

### Despite the weather, the Swan Hill Library's 16 Days of Activism StoryWalk Was a Success!

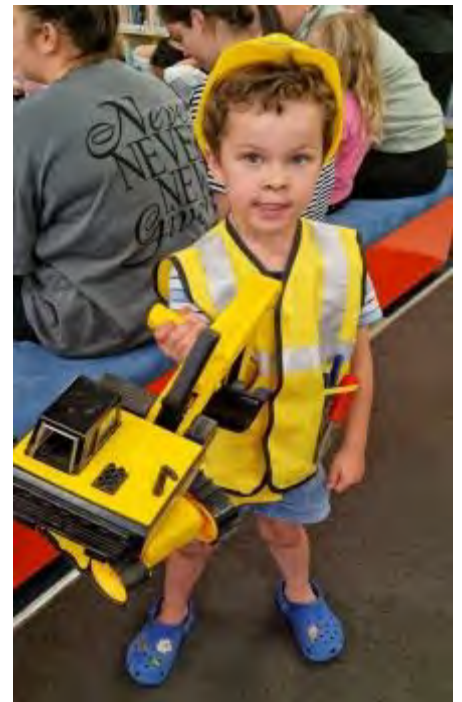
Even though the weather kept us inside, it didn't stop our community from coming together! We had a fantastic turnout for our Swan Hill StoryWalk inside the library, where families joined us on a walk-through reading of *No Difference Between Us* by Jayneen Sanders, a beautiful story sharing an important message about respect, equality and kindness.

Families were delighted with another story from ambulance officer Holly, and had a blast dressing up in costumes thanks to Mallee Family Care Supported Playgroups. Then the kids got creative with the emergency services match-up craft, which added another fun and engaging activity to the day.

A huge thank you to the wonderful members of BPW, who worked hard chopping fruit to make our delicious fruit cups.

There was laughter, learning, and plenty of fun all around! A perfect way to celebrate the *16 Days of Activism* and empower our young people with such an important message.

This event was proudly supported by the Swan Hill District Gender Equity Network, whose commitment helps bring these meaningful activities to life.





At your Library

# BIG SUMMER★

## ★ READ

*"Open a book, open your future."*



**FOR AGES 5–18 YEARS**

**BIG STORIES. BIG FUN. BIG ADVENTURE.**

**SIGN UP AT YOUR LIBRARY OR REGISTER AT:  
[READBOOKS.COM.AU/BSR](http://READBOOKS.COM.AU/BSR)  
TODAY!**

- Read for a chance to win an awesome prize!
- Audio books included
- Every reading log entered wins a prize!
- Beat the summer slide







Learn more by visiting [bookwormsbookclub.com/big-summer-read](http://bookwormsbookclub.com/big-summer-read)

Enjoy the **BIG SUMMER READ** with...

**How to access Bookworms Book Club's Big Summer Read library**

To access our BIG Summer Read library, you must first download the uLibrary app.

Once downloaded, select **Big Summer Read** from the list of libraries and **enter your normal library barcode**. *If you don't have a library barcode, please contact your local library.*

You can also listen to and stream audiobooks in a web browser, simply by visiting [bookworms.ulverscroftulibrary.com](http://bookworms.ulverscroftulibrary.com).

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

**Just some of the library activities coming up in January!**

To book, contact the library on 5036 2480. Check the Library's Facebook page or January newsletter for details of more activities.



## **Deadly Aussie Animals Search & Find - All holidays**



**10am - 5.30pm FREE Suitable for children 5+**

Search for and find all the 'Deadly Aussie Animals' posters in the library these school holidays. Receive a reward and go into the draw for a chance to win a \$50 Swan Hill Gift Card! The winner will be drawn on Monday, 2 February 2026.



## **Minecraft / VR / Nintendo Switch - Monday, 5, 12 & 19**



**1pm - 4pm FREE Suitable for children 5+**

Join us for an action-packed afternoon of gaming fun! Dive into Minecraft, step into new worlds with PlayStation VR, and be among the first to try out our brand-new Nintendo Switch. Just drop in and play. No booking needed!



## **Potpourri Boxes - Tuesday 20**

**3pm FREE Suitable for children 5+**

Create your own Potpourri Box! Join is for a hands-on crafting adventure where you'll decorate a special box to fill with your treasures or some sweet-smelling goodies.

[Limited places. Bookings essential.](#)



## **Under the Gum Tree Twilight Tales - Wednesday 21**

**7pm FREE Suitable for families**

Join us for a cosy, Aussie bush storytime adventure! Slip into your comfiest PJs and get ready for brilliant bush stories, lively action rhymes and hands-on craft. Then finish the night with a tasty slice of pizza! A fun evening for the whole family.

[Bookings preferred.](#)

**Please note: Children under 12 must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.**



- Youth friendly activities and workshops.



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

Just some of the library activities coming up in January!

To book, contact the library on 5036 2480. Check the Library's Facebook page or January newsletter for details of more activities.



## Crafternoon - Friday, 9, 16 & 23



**2 - 4pm | FREE | Suitable for primary school age children & youth**

Get creative these school holidays with a fun-filled Crafternoon session! There'll be a range of exciting and engaging activities for children to enjoy, with something for every kind of creative mind. Each project is unique, full of personality and designed to inspire imagination and self-expression. All materials are provided just bring your creativity and let the fun begin!

[No bookings required.](#)



## Kids Create: Smoothies - Tuesday, 6

**10:30 - 11:30am | FREE | Suitable for children ages 2 - 5**

Join Tara from Swan Hill District Community Health for this healthy, hands-on activity. Children will enjoy listening to a beautiful children's story before making some yummy smoothies!



## Dream Catchers - Thursday, 8

**2pm - 3pm | FREE | Suitable for children 7+**

Get crafty with Trista from Bunnings Swan Hill! Dive into a fun, hands-on workshop where you'll design and decorate your very own magical dream catcher. Sparkly, colourful, feathery. Make it as unique as you are!



## Build-a-Bot: Micro:bit Adventures - a STEM activity - Tuesday 13



**2:30 - 4:30pm | FREE | Suitable for children 12+**

Build it, code it, make it move!

Dive into STEM fun with the 32-in-1 micro:bit Wonder Building Kit. With endless ways to build and code, tech assistants will be on-hand to help with creating cool gadgets, silly machines, and so much more!

[Limited places. Bookings essential.](#)



## String Art - Thursday, 8

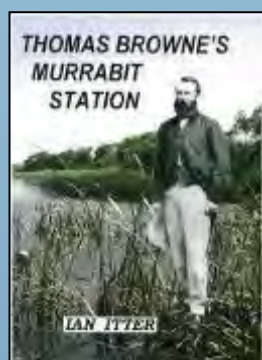


**2pm - 3pm | FREE | Suitable for children 7+**

Create a stunning string art star these school holidays with Trista from Bunnings! Kids will build a star by weaving colourful embroidery thread to bring their artwork to life. [Bookings essential.](#)

## Local Books for sale

Need an idea for a Christmas gift? How about a local history book? The Swan Hill Library currently has several local history titles for sale, ranging from \$12 to \$35 (cash only please).



Copies of former local Lynne Dunoon's cook-book '300 Well-Loved Go To Recipes For Every Occasion' are also for sale for \$50 each (cash only).

All proceeds will go to the local SHDH MRI fund raiser and Swan Hill Multiple Birth Association.



# Telkaya 2025 Exhibition



You are invited to join us for the  
**2025 Telkaya Exhibition Opening**  
Swan Hill Regional Library On the 10th  
of December Commencing at 2pm  
**All welcome**



## Discover Mahjong

Join our new weekly beginners group and learn this fascinating tile game in a relaxed, friendly setting - no experience needed.

Enjoy friendly social connection. Mahjong sets provided. No bookings required.

**When:** Thursdays at 2pm  
(note: Not held on 18 December)

**Where:** Swan Hill Library

**For:** People aged 16 +







### Christmas Storytime

Join us for our special Christmas Storytime at the Robinvale Library.

We will be reading Christmas stories and singing Christmas Carols.

Santa Claus will make a brief stopover on his trip around Australia and is looking forward to seeing lots of local children getting into the Christmas spirit!

Children will have the chance to make a fun Christmas tree craft to take home.

Where: Robinvale Library

When: 10.30am, Saturday 21 December

Age: All ages. Children under 12 must be supervised by an adult

Cost: Free!

**Bookings are essential.** For more information or to book please contact the Robinvale Library on 03 5036 2461



Robinvale Library will close at 6pm on Monday, 22 December and re-open at 2pm on Monday, 5 January 2026.



Heiata & the library team wish everyone a very Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year!

### Big Summer Read @ the Robinvale Library!

Big Summer Read starts at the Robinvale Library on 1 December.

If you are aged 5-18 years, come in to the library to register for this program.

Read 10 books or for 10 hours.

Return the completed reading log to go in our major prize drawer!

Contact the Robinvale Library on 5036 2461 for more information or pop in to register.

### School Holiday Activities @ the Robinvale Library!

Follow us on the Swan Hill Regional Library Facebook page to see what's coming up for the January school holidays.

The full program will be in the January newsletter or you can pick up a program from the Robinvale Library.

## LIBRARY HOLIDAY HOURS:

### Barham Library

Closing at 4.00pm on  
Tuesday 23 December  
2025 and reopening at  
11.00am on Tuesday 6  
January 2026.

### Moulamein Library

Closing at 5pm on  
Tuesday 23 December  
2025 and reopening at  
2pm on Tuesday  
6 January 2026.

### Mathoura Library

Closing Friday 12  
December for building  
renovations.

Re-opening in January  
2026.

During Mathoura's  
closure for  
renovations, library  
services will be  
available through the  
mobile library which  
will be based in  
Mathoura. Please  
contact Murray River  
Council for more  
information.

Phone 1300 087 004

## Mathoura Library News

Mathoura Library recently enjoyed a beautiful morning tea for children and their grandparents. It was a lovely gathering filled with chatter, smiles, and plenty of creativity. Everyone enjoyed fresh fruit and sandwiches before getting hands-on with a range of fun activities.

Children especially loved making their own little pot plants topped with bright flowers to take home and grow. There were also bookmarks to design and other craft activities that kept everyone busy and happy.

Thank you to all the grandparents who came along and helped make the morning so special. We look forward to hosting more family-friendly events in the new year.



*Above: A delicious morning tea was provided.*

## Barham Library News



**Christmas Story time  
at the Library!**

Join us for story time in the  
Barham Library as we read  
**Santa's Aussie Holiday!**

**Saturday 13 December  
10.30am.**

There will also be a  
Christmas-inspired craft  
activity following the story  
where you can make tree  
decorations, a Christmas  
card and gift wrapping.

Concludes at 11.30am.  
**Free event.**  
All ages welcome.

**Santa's Aussie  
Holiday**

Maria Farrer | Anna Walker

Call us on 03 5480 1587.  
Or visit the Library:  
15 Murray St Barham.

**murray river  
council**



**Murray River  
Council Library  
staff would all  
like to wish  
everyone a Merry  
Christmas  
&  
a Happy New  
Year!**

**See you in 2026.**



## Barham Library News

### Move & Groove

Move & Groove has once again seen the children enjoy some lovely stories read by Joy our wonderful volunteer and the creation of some beautiful craft.

Move & Groove is on every Thursday morning from 10.30am until 11.30am.



### Saturday Storytime

At our November storytime we heard the story "Where the Lyrebird Lives" by Vikki Conley then children enjoyed creating their lyrebirds out of natural materials.

Christmas Storytime will be held at 10.30 am on Saturday 13 December.

*(see page opposite for more details).*

### School Holiday Program

Stay tuned for information about our January school holiday activities. Keep on eye on our Facebook page and read the upcoming January newsletter for details.



### Cryptic Crossword Fun @ Barham Library

The Cryptic Crossword workshops run every Friday afternoon at 1.30pm. Participants are enjoying learning the tricks to easily solve these elusive puzzles whilst enjoying each other's company. Afternoon tea is provided.

### Social Book Chat Group

The Social Book Chat group meets every Tuesday morning at 10.00am and enjoys catching up on what everyone is reading and lots of discussion on current events in our lovely cool library in the warm weather. Everyone is welcome to join. Morning tea is provided.



murray river  
council

### BARHAM LIBRARY

#### Social Book Chat

Every Tuesday at 11am

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

Storytime and craft in a fun learning environment.

#### Cryptic Crosswords

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



## Rachael Treasure author talk @ Swan Hill Library



Bestselling Tasmanian author [Rachael Treasure](#) and her 'pawe-some' sidekick Dolly Pupton were a hit at the Swan Hill Library recently.

Rachael captivated us with stories from her writing journey and heartfelt insights into farming and rural life — while Dolly was an absolute star (especially with anyone carrying Schmackos in their pockets!).

During the Q & A, the audience asked thoughtful questions about Rachael's inspiration, writing process, and life on the land. Her generous, down to earth— and funny— answers gave us all a deeper appreciation of her stories and the people and places that shape them.

Rachael is currently writing a book based on a fictional character called 'Irene', who was 'born' at Goodnight, NSW.



## Peter FitzSimons author talk @ Swan Hill Library



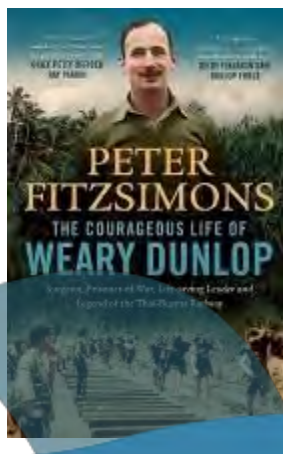
We were privileged to recently host one of Australia's greatest storytellers, Peter FitzSimons, at the Swan Hill Library.

Peter had the crowd laughing, reflecting, and completely captivated as he shared stories from his incredible career and the remarkable people he's written about.

Peter was presented with a copy of 'Traces of the Past' written by local historian and retired teacher Graham Gardner, by the author himself.

Huge thanks to [Collins Booksellers Swan Hill](#) for partnering with us to present this event and to Georgina from [Hachette Australia Books](#) for making it happen!

You can borrow Peter's new book, 'The Courageous Life of Weary Dunlop', from your local library branch.



## Swan Hill Regional Library

[library.swanhill.vic.gov.au](http://library.swanhill.vic.gov.au)

53 Campbell Street, Swan Hill

Phone: 03 5036 2480 Email: [library@swanhill.vic.gov.au](mailto:library@swanhill.vic.gov.au)

This service is provided by the Swan Hill Rural City Council

