



For Learning, For Leisure, For Life



## BIG Summer Read prize winners!

Congratulations to all those who participated in the BIG Summer Read. This year saw 155 children from Swan Hill and Robinvale libraries read the equivalent of 3,190 books! A fantastic effort!

### Prize drawer winners (Swan Hill Library):

- Adele Dodgshun** - 64GB Ipad
- Wyatt Hutchinson** - Apple AirPods & charging case
- Wilma Holt** - Family 4-in-1 pass Pioneer Settlement
- Jasnoor Kaur, Eleanor McMahan** - \$100 EB Games Gift Card
- Oscar Kim** - Gaming headphones & desktop
- Heidi Stacey** - Lego: Star Wars Tie Bomber
- Cole Hutchinson** - Lego: City Police Mobile Crime Lab
- Toby Garnham** - Lego: Super Mario Battle with Roy
- Archer Gow, Eloise Brawn** - Lego: Wicked: Glinda and Elphaba's Dormitory
- Maddison Giles** - Lego: Harry Potter, Ollivanders & Madam Malkin's Robes
- Toby McCann** - Lego: Dinosaur Missions: Stegosaurus Discovery
- Darcy McLaughlin** - Lego: Harry Potter: Diagon Alley – Weasleys' Wizard Wheezes
- Zack Grierson** - Lego: Friends
- Eiley Garlick** - Lego: Disney Stitch

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**Celebrate Cultural Diversity Week  
17-23 March**

p. 8-9

## Coming soon

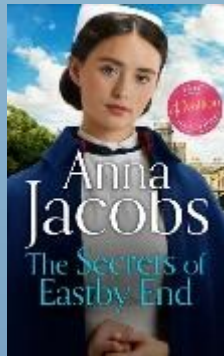
*Strangers in Time*  
David Baldacci

*The Summer Guests*  
Tess Gerritsen

*Nobody's Fool*  
Harlan Coben

*Black Silk & Buried Secrets*  
Deborah Challinor

*Duty of Care*  
Gerald Seymour



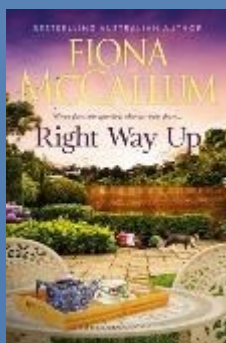
*The Secrets of Eastby End*  
Anna Jacobs

*Battle Mountain*  
CJ Box

*Far From Home*  
Danielle Steel

*Prospect*  
Fleur McDonald

*Right Way Up*  
Fiona McCallum



## BorrowBox e-audiobook of the month

*Meadow's Law*  
Quentin McDermott

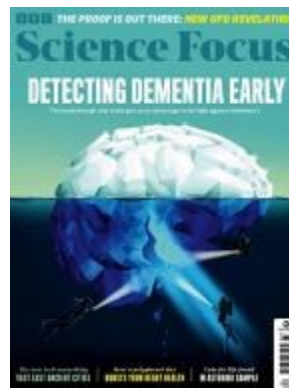
In 2003, Kathleen Folbigg was found guilty of smothering her four young children to death, one by one. Medical experts told her trial that they had never come across a family like hers, where three or more infants had died from natural causes. Extracts from diaries she had written were judged to be virtual admissions of guilt, and Folbigg was sentenced to 40 years in jail. But did she do it?

This is a gripping and meticulously researched account of one of Australia's most infamous criminal cases, written by investigative journalist Quentin McDermott, whose groundbreaking work with ABC's Australian Story helped trigger a push by scientists to uncover the genetic cause of two of the



children's deaths. It is also the story of how dedicated teams of lawyers, friends and supporters fought to achieve Kathleen Folbigg's eventual pardon, release and acquittal after 20 years behind bars.

## Featured BorrowBox e-magazines for March



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!



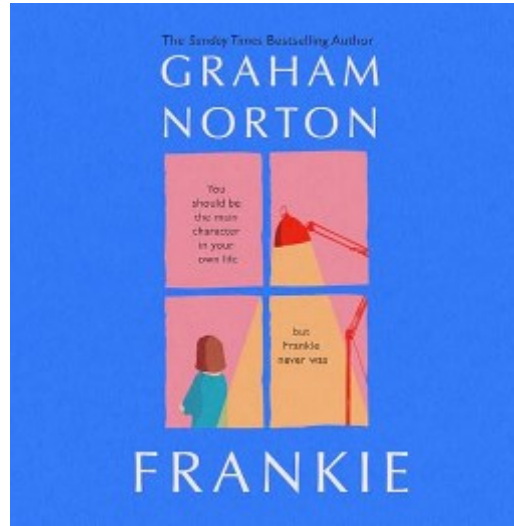
# uLibrary e-audio book of the month

**Frankie**  
Graham Norton

Always on the periphery, looking on, young Frankie Howe was never quite sure enough of herself to take centre stage - after all, life had already judged her harshly. Now old, Frankie finds it easier to forget the life that came before.

Then Damian, a young Irish carer, arrives at her London flat, there to keep an eye on her as she recovers from a fall. A memory is sparked, and the past crackles into life as Damian listens to the story Frankie has kept stored away all these years.

Travelling from post-war Ireland to 1960s New York - a city full of art, larger than life characters and turmoil - Frankie shares a world in which friendship and chance encounters collide. A place where,



for a while, life blazes with an intensity that can't last but will perhaps live on in other ways and in other people. But as Frankie's past slowly emerges, her spirit and endurance are revealed as undeniable . . . and unforgettable.

## FREE digital resources for Library members!



**cloudLibrary NewsStand**  
find your favourite magazines  
in 60+ languages!



Not a member?  
Join us today!



## Book Chat

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

## 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.

## Knitter Knatters

Knit, crochet, sew & chat! Every Tuesday morning from 10am-12pm. Come along and join in the fun!

## The Genies

Family & local history enquiries.

Open Tuesday - Thursday 10am to 3pm.

## 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.

## BIG Summer Read - Swan Hill Library

### *Prize drawer winners (Swan Hill Library):*

**Christi Pretorius** - Lego: City Fire Rescue Plane

**Darby Phyland** - Lego: Classic (box)

**Mine' Diederiks, Oscar O'Bree** - Lego: Classic (tub)

**Gia Skelsey** - Pen Creator Studio

**The Lucky Door prizes were exclusively for children who were present at the draw:**

**Joesph Kennedy, Heidi Stacey, Fletcher Auricht, Nadaya Jenkins** - \$50 Swan Hill Gift Card each

**Isla Harvey, Maddison Giles, Nate Chislett, Cole Hutchinson** - \$50 Showbiz Cinema Gift Card each



### BIG Summer Read sponsors (Swan Hill Library)

**Special thanks to our wonderful sponsors for providing this year's wonderful incentives and prizes for our BIG Summer Read at the Swan Hill Library:**

- B R & C Agents
- Crop Rite
- McDonald's Swan Hill
- Murray Downs Golf & Country Club
- Murray Mallee Training Company
- One 28 Doors
- Pioneer Settlement
- Ray White & Associates Swan Hill
- Subway Swan Hill
- Swan Hill Betta Home Living
- Swan Hill Aquatic & Recreation Centre
- Swan Hill Lions Club
- Swan Hill RSL & Three Arms Bistro
- Swan Hill Windscreens Collision Repair Centre
- Syd Wilson Auto Electrics

# BIG Summer Read - Robinvale Library

**Congratulations to the wonderfully dedicated readers from Robinvale, Euston and surrounds, who did such an amazing job with their entries for the Big Summer Read. Prize winners:**

**Dylan Costa** - TV from Betta

**Isla Costa** - Summer Water Pack

**Aston Romeo** - Tobbie 2 the robot

**Ora Kilpatrick** - Board Game pack

**Joanna Minoneti** - Ford Pack & Robinvale Golf Club gift voucher

**Xavier Carey** - Ford set: water bottle, cap, icy pole holder, Zooper Doopers & \$25 REBA gift card

**Jamie Costa** - Lego Friends pack & \$25 Robinvale Golf Club voucher

**Jordan Campbell** - Ford pack & Robinvale Golf Club voucher

**Miranda Sutton** - Simba Lego pack & \$25 Robinvale Golf Club Voucher & Zooper Doopers

**Louie Zaffina** - Remote control car

**Neil Kilpatrick** - 3 in 1 Lego Parrot set & \$25 REBA gift card



**Special thanks to the wonderful sponsors providing prizes for the BIG Summer Read at the Robinvale Library.**

- [Cobram Estate](#)
- [Euston Club Resort](#)
- Pioneer Ford
- Robinvale Betta
- [Robinvale Corner Store](#)
- Robinvale Golf Club

## Library Lover's Day competition winners



Why is the Library important to you?

We received so many wonderful entries in our Library Lover's competition in February. Thank you to everyone who participated.

Congratulations to our winners! Written entries: Sarita Paska, Brian Wood, Layla Murphy and Eloise Brawn. Drawing entries: Jasnoor Kaur, Harnaaz Kaur and Lillie Comitti.

Each of our winners received a box of chocolates.



*"You always make my days better (by spending time in your building) and my nights lively (by reading your book collection). Thank you for welcoming me as your member even though I am a foreigner. I never felt foreign in your company" - Bella*

*"I am so grateful to be able to rely on the library's diverse and extensive selection of resources and the courteous and efficient team at the Library - Brian*

Above: Layla Murphy, Eloise Brawn

*"It's a fun, engaging space that fosters a love of reading in my children. Thank you." - Mary*

*"The friendly helpful team and the opportunity to meet other book-lovers at the Book Chat meetings" - Dione*

*"The library is fantastic because the helpers help you whenever you need. When you want a book you'll find it there". - Paddy*

**LOVE**  
the **LIBRARY**

February is Library Lover's Month



Above: Brian Wood

*"The library is lovely and cool in the summer and warm in the winter, making people feel welcome. Lots of facilities for everyone's needs" - Rhys*

*"I love doing puzzles and reading books from my childhood and the staff are so kind." - Lianna*

*"The library is important to me because it has lots of my favourite books and because of the Kids Corner." - Eiley*

*"I love learning new things from the books I read and I also love the library because you can borrow books for free" - Maddy*

## Library Lover's Day competition winners



Why is the Library important to you?

**"I love being surrounded by people who like me, love books. I love how interactive the library is too. There is a toy library and always a cool display to look at. I could go on, but I'd need a bigger page!" - Layla**

**"I love choosing lots of books and doing activities. My favourite activity is the scavenger hunt. I also like the Big Summer Read." - Eloise**

**"I love the library because its very peaceful and I love the workers because they're really kind." - Jos**

**"I love the library because its like stepping into another world where there's no stress or worries and you can be yourself. ." - Kathleen**



**Above: Lillie with Mum**



**"The Garfield comic book collections are my favourite and the library is the only place that has them in Swan Hill. And the people who work here are very nice to us." - Kiara**

**"What I like about the library is it's fun and has lots of interesting books. I like doing all the fun activities." - Lexi**



**Above: Jasnoor & Harnaaz**

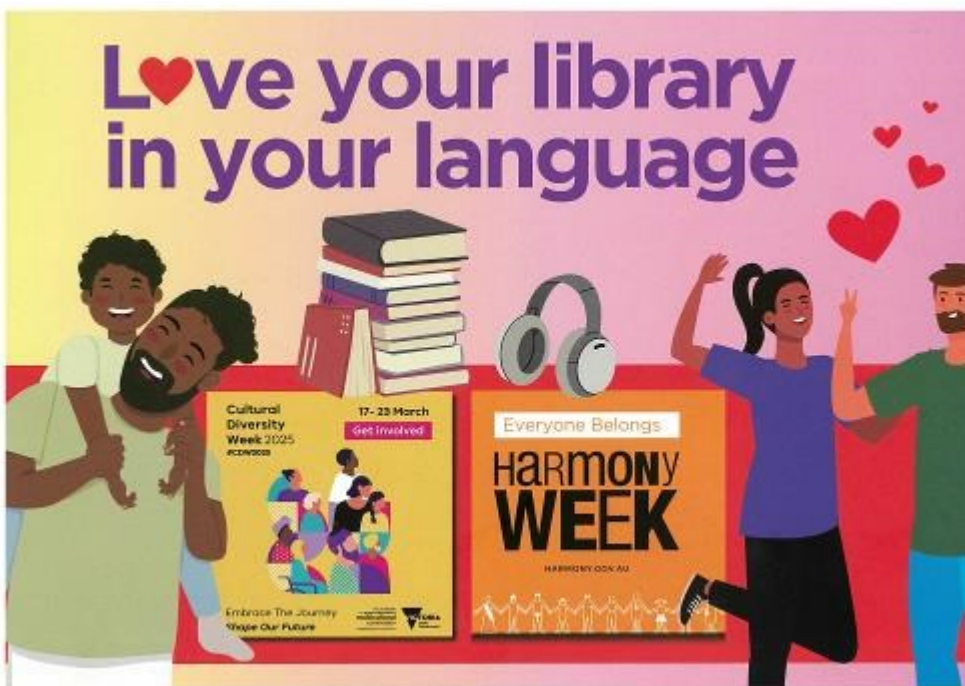


## Cultural Diversity Week 17-23 March

Cultural Diversity Week (CDW) is Victoria's leading multicultural celebration, held annually in March to coincide with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination and Harmony Day on 21 March. This week-long initiative from 17 to 23 March showcases the colourful sounds, flavours, sights and traditions of Victoria's rich and ever-diversifying communities.

Cultural Diversity Week coincides with several important cultural and religious observances, enriching our collective celebration of diversity, including:

- Ramadan (begins evening of 27 February – ends evening of 30 March 2025) – A sacred month of fasting, prayer, and reflection observed by Muslims worldwide
- Holi (Friday, 21 March 2025): A vibrant festival celebrated by the Hindu faith, marking the arrival of spring with colours, music, and joy, bringing communities together worldwide.
- Harmony Day (Friday, 21 March 2025): An Australian celebration promoting inclusiveness, respect, and belonging.



*This year's theme, "Embrace the Journey, Shape our Future," highlights the unique and collective stories that define our communities and encourages meaningful connections across cultures.*

### Show the love to your library in your own language.

Tell us what you love about your library!



**Love your Library in your language!**

Join us in celebrating cultural diversity and harmony within our communities during 'Cultural Diversity Week' and 'Harmony Week' this March.

Visit your local library branch, pick up a postcard and write a short message to show the love to your library in your language!





# The Community Project NEEDS YOUR JUNK

We invite everyone to join the **Swan Hill Harmony Band** where we'll create our own instruments from junk. Guest artist **Graeme Leak** will guide us in making the instruments and teach us how to play them, culminating in a joyful parade.

We'd love your donations to help us get started on making instruments for the  
**HARMONY BAND**

*These are the types of things we are looking for...*

- **MUSICAL INSTRUMENTS** ~ any percussion, wind, brass, or string instrument, working or broken.
- **TIN CANS** all sizes, large is good, washed, labels off
- **'PET' PLASTIC BOTTLES** tall, straight sided are best
- **FUEL TANKS** and **JERRY CANS**
- **PLASTIC DRUMS** 30 - 250L
- **CONDUIT** and **PVC PIPE** 20 - 50mm/1 - 2" diam
- **WATER FOUNTAIN BOTTLES**
- **POLY PIPE** 20mm/1" - great to make drum sticks
- **VINTAGE METAL HUBCAPS**
- **HARDENED STEEL TOOLS**
- **MACHINE PARTS**
- **BROOMSTICKS** and **DOWELLING**
- **PLYWOOD SHEETS**
- **WIRE** ~ tie, fence, piano, coat-hanger
- **BOXES - WINE, CIGAR, TEA CHESTS**
- **TIMBER** off-cuts, soft and hardwood
- **SCRAP METAL** ~ rod, sheet, square and round tube
- **BAMBOO** and **CANE POLES**
- **TENNIS BALLS**
- **STRING** and **TWINE**
- **WEBBING** and **STRAPS**

plus...

**ANYTHING that LOOKS or SOUNDS INTERESTING,  
INCLUDING THE KITCHEN SINK!**



please deliver your donations to  
**Swan Hill Library, 53 Campbell St**  
between **10am to 5.30pm, Mon - Fri**  
**10am to 12noon, Saturday**  
Any questions please ring **5036 2473**

# LOUD @ THE LIBRARY

Sing . Dance . Perform



FREE ENTRY, PIZZA & SOFT DRINK

28 March 2025 @ 7pm

Performers ages 12 - 25

Audience - all ages  
*No bookings required*

53 Campbell Street Swan Hill

Loud @ the Library Registration





## Nourishing Little Minds

Is your child a fussy eater? Would you like tips on introducing new foods to your preschooler? Join us for Nourishing Little Minds, a fun, hands-on program where children will explore healthy foods!

This exciting program is brought to you by Swan Hill District Health Community Health and Swan Hill Regional Library.

Each session includes songs, rhymes, and stories, along with food tasting and preparation activities. You'll also receive guidance from an Accredited Practising Dietitian and Library staff, providing practical tips, strategies, and recipes to make mealtimes more enjoyable and help your little one embrace healthy eating.

### Session details:

**Where:** Swan Hill Library

**When:** **Week 1:** Thursday, 13 March

**Week 2:** Thursday, 20 March

**Week 3:** Thursday, 27 March

**Week 4:** Thursday, 3 April

**Time:** 10:00 AM – 11:00 AM

**Cost:** Free!

Limited places available – call 5036 2480 to book your spot for all four sessions today!

*Nourishing Little Minds is a Registered Trademark of Nutrition Australia ACT Incorporated.*

Stories,  
interactive  
songs and  
rhymes

For ages  
3 - 5

A yummy  
twist on  
Move &  
Groove!

ANZAC DAY 2025

# Dear France

Write a letter to our friends in Villers - Bretonneux

## How to participate?

Write a letter or draw a picture

Include your name and address

Submit your creation to the Robinvale Learning and Community Hub (Library) by 12 March 2025

We will send it for you directly to Villers - Bretonneux!

Please use A4 or smaller sized sheets of paper to write your letters



## For more information

**Robinvale Learning and Community Hub**  
5036 2461  
lib-rob@swanhill.vic.gov.au  
88 George Street, Robinvale VIC 3549

Opening Hours  
Monday and Wednesday: 2pm - 6pm  
Thursday: 9am - 1pm  
Saturday: 10am - 12pm

**Swan Hill Library**  
5036 2480  
library@swanhill.vic.gov.au  
53-67 Campbell Street, Swan Hill VIC 3585

Opening Hours  
Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 10am - 5.30pm  
Wednesday: 10am - 5.30pm and 7pm - 8.30pm  
Saturday: 10am - 12pm



## Dear France project

The Swan Hill Regional Library is collaborating with Robinvale's sister city library, Médiathèque Patrick Simon, and the Tourist Information Centre in Villers-Bretonneux to launch an exciting new project - Dear France! Chère Australie!

This project aims to connect people from France and Australia through letter writing and drawing.

The Swan Hill Regional Library team have been meeting online with the Villers-Bretonneux library since last year and have identified that they share the common goal of making connections.

Everyone is invited to participate in the Dear France! Chère Australie! Project, to foster cultural exchange, friendship, and create meaningful connections between people from both countries.

Participants can drop their letters into the Robinvale Learning and Community Hub or Swan Hill Library by 12 March. Letters should be written or drawn on paper that is A4 sized or smaller.

Participants can choose what they write about, but for those needing inspiration, we suggest topics like summer holiday activities, daily school routines, employment, where they live, and even the pets they own.

While these topics may seem ordinary, they will undoubtedly be fascinating to someone living on the other side of the world.



## Robinvale Library exhibition



### Three Well Known Australians Art Exhibition

The Robinvale Library is excited to welcome the Three Well Known Australians exhibit by Martin Shaw to our space. This conversation-starting art work will be on display until mid March.

This painting invites the viewer to share their opinion of who these characters might be and view other peoples guesses, all the way back to 1983.

Where: Robinvale Community and Learning Hub, Library  
When: February 17 to mid March 2025  
Age: Open to all ages  
Cost: FREE



Swan Hill Community

# TOY Library

Play · Learn · Party

The Swan Hill Community Toy Library Committee is excited to announce that we have re-opened for 2025. Now is a great time to come and visit us as we have made some huge improvements to our Toy Library during 2024 and have continued to purchase some new items for our collection over the summer break. There really is something for everyone! So come and have a look and borrow 1,000s of toys, without the expense!

Our regular opening times are

Friday 11.00am-12.00pm

Saturday 10am-11.30am

First Wednesday of the month 11.00am-12.00pm

New members are welcome at any time.

12 month membership options for families are:

3 Toys Family      \$45

6 Toys Family      \$50

Toys can be borrowed as frequently as members choose, with a maximum loan period of four weeks.

Do you have a party to plan?  
Ask us about our **EVENTS HIRE** options!

[swanhilltoylibrary@gmail.com](mailto:swanhilltoylibrary@gmail.com)



Find Us



facebook



Instagram



## New Toys



An Ageing Persons Information Expo will be held in Barham on 6 March. Entry is free and there will be a variety of organisations attending to provide valuable information.

The Barham library will be there to share information and resources that people can access through the library such as Tech Savvy Seniors, The Young Mentors Program, Be Connected digital mentors and resources, Book Chat, Home Delivery and more.

# AGEING PERSONS INFORMATION EXPO

Thursday March 6<sup>th</sup> – 9.30am

Barham School of Arts Hall

15 Murray Street BARHAM

## FREE ENTRY



*As you age there are so many things you need to know.*



**Stall holders will include:**

Centrelink / Services Australia - *An Aged Care Specialist Officer*

Murray River Council - *Community Services*

Country Care - *Supportive Equipment*

Healthy Eating - *Dietician*

L-HAC - *Support & Advice*

Glowreys - *Solicitors*

Murray Haven Homes - *Aged Care*

Murrumbidgee Health - *ACAS, Healthy Ageing & Mental Health*

Barham Pharmacy - *Pharmacy*

Blooms - *Hearing Specialists*

Quantam - *Doctors*

Barham (Kerang) Dentist – *Dentist*

Rivergum Podiatry – *Podiatrist*

Lions & Probus Clubs – *Support*

Uniting Aged Care – *Care Finder*

*And more .....*

***Come, ask questions, get information &  
enjoy a free cuppa & light refreshments.***

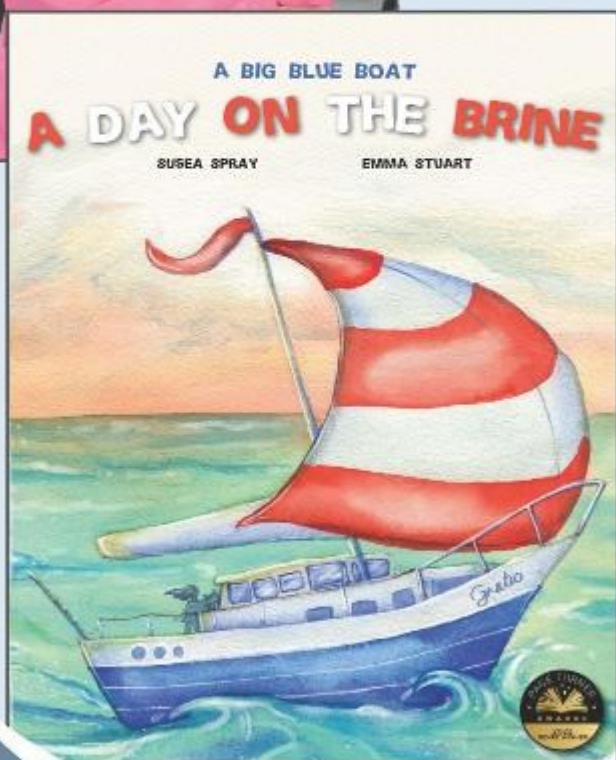
For more information: Marion Barker 0418 686 409

IT'S  
FREE!



## Special Storytime and Book Launch!

# A Day on the Brine



Join author Susea Spray for a special Storytime featuring her brand new children's picture book, 'A Day on the Brine'.

**Tuesday 25 March, 2025.**

**1.45pm** at Barham Riverside Reception Room (next to the Library).

Bookings Preferred.

Susea will share her new book, along with songs and craft. Children will love joining in with the fun wording and rhymes in this award-winning story.

[www.suseaspray.com](http://www.suseaspray.com)

Enquiries & Bookings:  
Barham Library: 03 5480 1587



murray river  
council



## Barham Library News

### Move & Groove

Children enjoyed fun stories read by Joy, our wonderful volunteer, and created some interesting craft. Move & Groove is on every Thursday morning at 10.30am.

### Saturday Storytime

Saturday Storytime will be on 8 March at 10.30am and will be featuring the book *Keven the Sheep* by Isobel Scott. Following the story the children will be able to create their own sheep and wolf masks.

### Robyn Howarth 'Faraday' author talk

Robyn Howarth, author of *Faraday - A Community Rediscovered*, visited the Barham Library on 21 February to chat about her book.

This event was very well attended with over 50 people coming along to meet Robyn. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed the afternoon and asked Robyn lots of questions.



### Digital mentoring and Be Connected programs

We continue to take bookings for Digital help for people with their devices etc. through our partnership with Be Connected and the Digital Mentoring program and we welcome all enquiries.

### Social Book Chat

The Social Book Chat group has been meeting every Tuesday morning at 10.00 am and enjoy catching up on what everyone is reading with lots of discussion on current events. Everyone is welcome to join in.

### Cryptic Crosswords

The Cryptic Crossword workshops have been running 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, iPads are available for use.



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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 during January)

Storytime and craft in a fun learning environment.

### Cryptic Crosswords

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

## Darry Fraser author talk @ Swan Hill Library



## School holiday activities @ Robinvale Library



**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

