



For Learning, For Leisure, For Life



Christmas Operating Times

Swan Hill Library will close at 3pm on Tuesday, 24 December and re-open at 10am on Thursday, 2 January. Robinvale Library will close at 6pm on Monday, 23 December and re-open at 2pm on Monday, 6 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 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, Newsstand and LOTE4Kids.

*Library staff would like to wish everyone a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year!
See you in 2025.*

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The Swan Hill Library will be closed from 1pm to 5.30pm on Thursday December.

We apologise for any inconvenience.

Coming soon

Bellevue
Robin Cook

Whispers of the Dead
Lin Anderson

Coffin Island
Kate Ellis

Christmas Duet
Debbie Macomber

Texas Murders
James Patterson



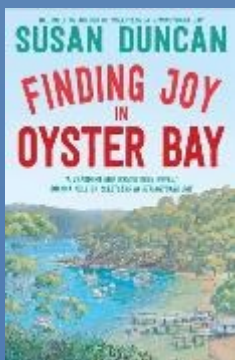
Twist of Fate
Karly Lane

Revenge of Rome
Simon Scarrow

Trial By Fire
Danielle Steel

Remember When
Mary Balogh

Finding Joy in Oyster Bay
Susan Duncan

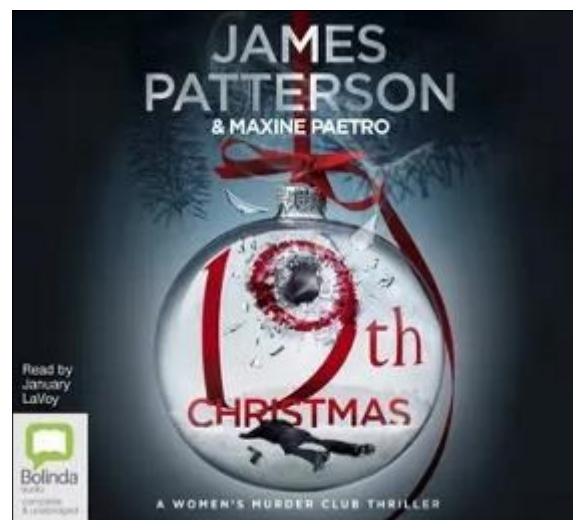


BorrowBox e-audiobook of the month

19th Christmas
James Patterson

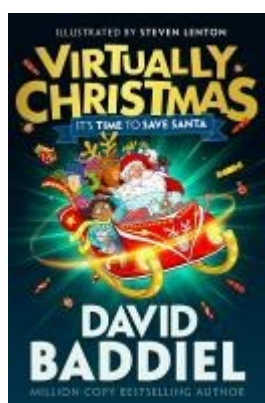
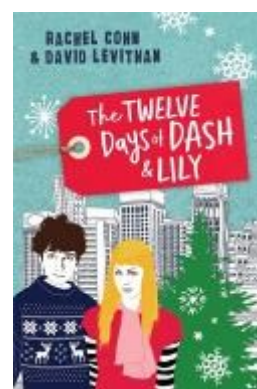
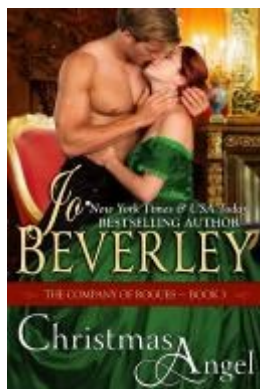
As the holidays approach, Detective Lindsay Boxer and her friends in the Women's Murder Club have much to celebrate. Crime is down. The medical examiner's office is quiet. Even the courts are showing some Christmas spirit. And the news cycle is so slow that journalist Cindy Thomas is on assignment to tell a story about the true meaning of the season for San Francisco.

Then a fearsome criminal known only as "Loman" seizes control of the headlines. He is planning a deadly surprise for Christmas morning. And he has commissioned dozens of criminal colleagues to take actions that will mask his plans. All that Lindsay and the SFPD can figure out is that Loman's greed — for riches, for bloodshed, for attention — is limitless.



Solving crimes never happens on schedule, but as this criminal mastermind unleashes credible threats by the hour, the month of December is upended for the Women's Murder Club. Avoiding tragedy is the only holiday miracle they seek.

Featured BorrowBox e-books for December



Find out what's happening at the Library



Visit library.swanhill.vic.gov.au

or like us on Facebook or Instagram!



uLibrary e-audio book of the month



The advertisement features the uLibrary logo in the top left. The main text reads 'Win an iPad!' in large white letters. Below this, it says 'Simply download the uLibrary app and borrow an eAudiobook before January 12th to be in with a chance of winning.' At the bottom left are the App Store and Google Play logos. On the right is a smartphone displaying the audiobook cover for 'Storm Child' by Michael Robotham, which shows a lighthouse on a rocky shore with waves crashing.

Participants can enter the competition by borrowing any eAudiobook via the uLibrary platform. The giveaway is open to all Swan Hill Regional Library members and the competition will run from 18 November 2024 until the 12 January 2025.

Download the uLibrary app onto your device and happy listening!

<https://library.swanhill.vic.gov.au/2021/11/ulibrary/>

Hoopla Digital: Movies of the month!



The advertisement has a blue and yellow border. At the top center is a yellow badge with the 'hoopla' logo and 'MOVIES OF THE MONTH' text. Below the badge are three movie covers: 'Christmas with the KRANKS', 'A CHRISTMAS CAROL GOES WRONG', and 'Christmas CATCH'. At the bottom, there is a URL: <https://library.swanhill.vic.gov.au/2021/12/hoopla/>

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.

U3A

Discussion and writing group.

1st & 3rd Thursdays of the month from 11.30 am.

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 Sharyn on 0427 847486.

Swan Hill Library Storytimes 2025:

Move and Groove

10.30am on
Wednesday 8, 15, 22
and 29 January.

Baby Rhyme Time

10.30am on Friday 3,
10, 17, 24, 31 January.

Saturday Storytime

Will resume at 10.30
am on Saturday 8
February 2025.

A big thank you to our wonderful Storytime volunteers and guests who have conducted Saturday Storytime sessions or Twilight Tales throughout 2024:

Erin, Nic, Helen, Rita,
Alison, Michelle,
Denise, Tim, Deborah
& Leigh

Last Storytimes for 2024

The last **Move and Groove** session at the Swan Hill Library for 2024 will be on Wednesday, 18 December at 10.30am.

The last **Baby Rhyme Time** session at the Swan Hill Library for 2024 will be on Friday, 20 December at 10.30am.



Christmas Storytime

Join us for our special Christmas Storytime at the 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 tree craft to take home.

Where: Swan Hill Library

When: 10am, Saturday 14 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 Swan Hill Library on 03 5036 2480.



Find out what's happening at the Library



Visit library.swanhill.vic.gov.au
or like us on Facebook or Instagram!





Join the BIG Summer Read!

It's easy! If you are ages 5 -18, follow the steps below to read your way through the school holidays and win great prizes!

Step 1: Register at Swan Hill Library or on our outreach vehicle, 'Libby' and collect your BIG Summer Read reading log or starter pack .

Step 2: Read **10 books** or for **10 hours**. Return the completed reading log to claim a prize!

Step 3: To enter the **Major Prize Draw**, submit your completed reading log to the library, or Libby, by **Friday, 31 January 2025**.

Step 4: Join us for the exciting **Major Prize Draw on Friday, 7 February 2025!**

The more reading logs you return to the library, the more chances you have to win one of these fantastic prizes!

- Apple iPad 64GB Wi-Fi 10th Gen
- Apple AirPods 4
- Lego packs
- A Pioneer Settlement Family 3-in-1 pass
- Gaming headphones & desktop
- \$50 Swan Hill gift cards
- \$50 EB Games gift cards
- \$50 Showbiz Cinema gift cards
- ...and lots more!



Join online: Register at <http://readbooks.au/bsr> for the chance to win a **state-wide prize!**

The **Major Prize Draw** will be held at **4pm on 7 February 2025**.

Please note: The **Read Books competition** runs separately from our in-house competition. To be eligible for **both** competitions, please register at the library **and** on the Read Books website.



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

Library activities are available 2 - 24 January 2025

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



Creation Station - All holidays

10am - 5.30pm **FREE** Suitable for children of all ages

Set up in the children's area of the library for the duration of the school holidays. Children can draw, cut, paste, construct, colour in, complete activity booklets and make all sorts of creations using recycled items including wool, material, coloured paper and more!



Search & Find - All holidays

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

Search for and find all the 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, 3 February 2025.

Proudly sponsored by Swan Hill Inc.



Minecraft Monday - Monday, 6, 13 & 20 January

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

Join us for an afternoon of 3D blocking fun! Play in Survival or Creative mode, explore, experiment, create or break apart, it's all up to you! This child-friendly computer game combines exploration and survival skills as it tests children's imagination and creativity. It's like digital LEGO!



Lego - Wednesday, 8, 15 & 22 January

2pm - 4pm **FREE** Suitable for children 3+

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.



Loom Bands - Wednesday, 8, 15 & 22 January

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

Have you just discovered loom bands? Or are you already an expert at making all sorts of creative things with them? The library will be holding two free loom band sessions throughout the school holidays. Loom bands, boards and hooks will be supplied to make a range of fantastic jewellery and craft!



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



- Youth friendly activities and workshops.



swan hill regional **library**

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

Library activities are available 2 - 24 January 2025

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



Pet Rocks - Friday, 10 January

2pm - 3pm FREE Suitable for children ages 2 - 5

Join staff from Bunnings Swan Hill for a fun and creative activity. Create your own unique pet rocks! A range of colourful paints and materials will be supplied to help you create your pets.

Bookings required.



3-D Flying Wooden Birds - Friday, 17 January

2pm - 3pm FREE Suitable for children 7+

Join staff from Bunnings Swan Hill for a fun and creative children's activity.

Create a unique 3-D bird mobile. No need to bring anything! All decorative materials supplied.

Bookings essential.



STEM Engineering - Thursday, 23 January

10.30am - 12pm FREE Suitable for children 8+

Join us for some guided maker fun with blocks, rollercoaster materials, cardboard construction and a pneumatics kit! Many of the activities will be launched with a storybook, for our signature library feel. Children can build rollercoasters, which is fun for all ages, work in groups or complete solo Kapla block challenges and build a Mars hub with cardboard and MakeDo – no tape or glue required! There will also be a pneumatics challenge based on "We're Going on a Bear Hunt", and other story-based challenges!

Bookings essential.



Sand Art - Friday, 24 January

2pm - 3pm FREE Suitable for children 5+

Join staff from Bunnings Swan Hill for a simple, fun and creative children's activity!

Create a unique picture using coloured sand, sticky paper and your imagination!

Bookings essential.



BIG Summer Read - Friday, 1 December 2024 - 31 January 2025

FREE For children 5+

Join the BIG Summer Read and read your way through the summer holidays! Receive some awesome incentives and to go into the prize draw for a chance to win a fantastic prize! See our website for more details <https://library.swanhill.vic.gov.au/big-summer-read/>

Join us for the prize draw on Friday, 7 February 2025 at 4pm.



January school holidays

@ the Gallery



Tuesday January 7 10.30-11.30am Air Dry Clay Sculpture - Birds

Visit our exhibition of ceramics and sculptures by local TAFE students and join us for some fun clay play, shaping and carving your very own cute, small bird sculpture to take home

Tuesday January 14 10.30-11.30am Bush Flower Pompoms

Create a bush flower pompom using yarn, embroidery thread and colourful felts to then tag to your school bag, key chain or anything else!

Thursday January 9 10.30-11.30am Cute Collage Echidna

Create one of our favourite Australian animals, the Echidna using collage. Make your own colourful, spiky artwork, by drawing, cutting and pasting.

Thursday January 16 10.30-11.30am Who's Who in the Zoo!

Paint your favourite zoo animal in bright acrylic paints on your very own canvas

All workshops are delivered at the Swan Hill Regional Library by local artist Robyn Patterson, for Primary School aged children. Cost is \$5 per child or free with a Gallery Family Membership. For bookings, call the Gallery on 50362430



'Libby' Christmas & holiday activities



Discover something new at your
Libbrary

*Nyah District
Christmas Carnival*

Catch "Libby" the Library Outreach Vehicle again this year
Christmas Storytime
Join up for the Big Summer Read

When: Friday 6, December 2024 from 6pm
Where: Nyah Recreation Reserve



SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

swan hill regional library



Discover something new at your
Libbrary

*Library Outreach
Holiday Program*

Lake Boga
Where: Lake Boga Foreshore
When: Tuesday 7, January 10am-12pm

Nyah West
Where: Two-Bays Pool
When: Wednesday 8, January 1-3pm

Manangatang
Where: Manangatang Pool
When: Thursday 9, January 1-3pm



All children to be actively supervised by an adult.
Bring hats, sunscreen and water bottles.
Follow all pool rules. Have lots of fun.
Pool Fees Apply and All Ages Event

swan hill regional library

SWAN HILL
Rural City Council

Handmade Christmas library bags for sale

If you need an idea for a Christmas gift, how about a handmade library bag?

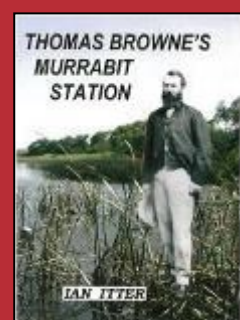
Bags are only \$4 each, with all proceeds going to the Australian Cancer Council.

A huge thank you to our wonderful library patrons who donated their time and spare material to make these lovely bags for our customers. And they're so handy you can use them for more library books!



Local History 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).



16 Days of Activism @ the Swan Hill Library

Rain or Shine, the Swan Hill Library's 16 Days of Activism StoryWalk Was a Success!

Despite the recent wet weather, our StoryWalk event found a cozy home inside the Swan Hill Library, where 46 children and 35 adults gathered for a day of fun and learning.

The event featured captivating storytelling, an engaging activity, and refreshing fruit cups - courtesy of the Swan Hill District Gender Equity Network (SHDGEN). Special thanks go to Marina from Victoria Police, who delighted the audience by reading *Bold Australian Girl* by Jess Black, and sharing insights about her role as a police officer.

We're grateful for the wonderful support from SHDGEN and Mallee Family Care, who helped make the day such a success. It was great to see so many people join us for this meaningful and memorable event!



16 Days of Activism @ the Robinvale Library

16 Days of Activism StoryWalk in Robinvale – A Great Success!

On a beautiful morning in Robinvale, the 16 Days of Activism StoryWalk brought together 66 children and 27 adults from Euston Public School, St. Mary's School Robinvale, Murray Valley Aboriginal Co-operative (MVAC), and the Robinvale District Health Service (RDHS) Playgroup.

The day kicked off with a high-energy Move & Groove session led by Heiata from Robinvale Library, setting the tone for an engaging morning. Participants then embarked on a vibrant StoryWalk featuring "*I Want to Be a Superhero*" by Breanna Humes, weaving inspiration around the Robinvale College oval.

Danielle from Victoria Police and Cara from Ambulance Victoria added an exciting touch, bringing along their emergency vehicles for inspection - complete with sirens! Danielle also captivated the audience by reading the picture book *Bold Australian Girl*, written by Jess Black, sparking conversations about courage and self-belief.

The RDHS team contributed a fantastic range of play equipment, ensuring the children had plenty of fun. Adding to the enjoyment, Modester from RDHS arrived with delicious fruit cups, which were a hit with everyone.

Educators shared overwhelmingly positive feedback and expressed enthusiasm about participating again in 2025.

A huge thank you to everyone who contributed to the success of this event, from organizers to attendees - it was truly a morning to remember!



Robinvale Library news

Robinvale Library Book Club



Brigid from Mallee Reads and RMIT University held a book club event at the Robinvale library on Wednesday 27 November at 5pm.

The club was a small and interactive group that found the book *Mallee Girl* by Jennifer Scoullar to be interesting and very much fiction. (A lot happened in the span of two weeks!) All participants enjoyed the event and look forward to future book clubs gatherings.

if you think you'd be interested in joining a book club with Robinvale Library next year, contact Heiata or Toneea at lib-rob@swanhill.vic.gov.au or call the Robinvale Library on 5036 2461 during library opening hours.



Robyn Howarth Author Talk @ Robinvale Library

Lake Boga author Robyn Howarth was delighted to visit the Robinvale Library to talk about her book *Faraday : a community rediscovered*.

As a former Maternal Child Health nurse in the region, it was also a great opportunity for Robyn to catch up with old friends.

Robyn was the eldest of six female students, who along with their young female teacher, were kidnapped from the tiny Faraday Primary School in 1972. It has taken Robyn 52 years to acknowledge with pride that she came from Faraday and was educated at Faraday State School 797.

If you would like to borrow Robyn's deeply personal book, please ask the friendly staff at the Robinvale Library to hold it for you.





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, 23 December and re-open at 2pm on Monday, 3 January 2025.



Heiata & Toneea 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 2 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.

Changes to opening hours in 2025.



Please note the upcoming changes to face-to-face opening hours at our customer service locations. These changes will come into effect permanently from **Monday 6 January, 2025.**

Moama
Main Admin Office, Perricoota Rd
Monday to Friday: 10am – 4pm

Barham
15 Murray St, Barham
Monday: Closed
Tuesday to Friday: 10am – 4pm

Moulamein
Business Centre, Morago St
Monday: Closed
Tuesday to Thursday: 9.30am – 1pm
Friday: Closed

Mathoura
Visitor and Business Center
(and Library)
Monday to Thursday: 10am – 4pm
Friday: Closed

Barham Library
Tuesday: 11am – 4pm
Thursday: 10am – 2pm
Friday: 11am – 4pm
Saturday: 9am – 12pm

Moulamein Library
Tuesday: 2pm – 5pm
Wednesday: 2pm – 5pm
Thursday: 2pm – 5pm

Call Centre
Our call centre is available 24/7:
9am-4pm for general business
calls and enquiries.
All other times for emergencies
relating to water, roads and
compliance.

For more information
contact Murray River Council on 1300 087 004
or visit www.murrayriver.nsw.gov.au

Christmas Story time at the Library!

Join us for story time in the
Barham Library as we read
Macca's Christmas Crackers!

Saturday 14 December
10.30am.

There will also be a craft
activity following the story
where you can make
your very own Christmas
Crackers filled with fun
items!

Concludes at 11.30am.

Free event.

All ages welcome.



Murray River
Council Library
staff would all
like to wish
everyone a Merry
Christmas
&
a Happy New
Year!
See you in 2025.

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 at 10.30am until 11.30am.



Saturday Storytime

Saturday 8 November we heard the story "Birdsong by the Billabong" by Maura Finn & Cate James and then the children created their own swooping Magpies.

Christmas Storytime will be held at 10.30 on Saturday 14 December.

(see page 15 for more details).



School Holiday Program

There will be a special Science themed school holiday activity during the summer holidays at the Barham Library. Watch our Facebook Page for further information and bookings details.

Be Connected & Digital Mentoring

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.

Barham High School Young Mentors

Our Young Mentors from the Barham High School and the Mentees are having two catch up days on 29 November and 6 December. This will provide an opportunity for a follow up on the very successful Young Mentor sessions held recently at the Barham Library.

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. iPads are available for use. Afternoon tea is available.

Social Book Chat Group

The Social Book Chat group has been meeting every Tuesday morning at 11.00am and enjoy catching up on what everyone is reading and lots of discussion on current events. Everyone is welcome to join in.



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.
I pads are available for use. Afternoon tea supplied.

'Faraday : a community rediscovered' Robyn Howarth author talk



Local author Robyn Howarth spoke about her book *'Faraday : a community rediscovered'* at the Swan Hill Library in November.

A deeply personal story, Robyn's book can be borrowed from your library branch.



We wish Robyn well in the remainder of her book tour across the state, including an upcoming visit to the Barham Library Branch.

Contact the Barham Library for more information on 1300 087 004.

'Of Service' Jenani Therone artist / author talk



Acclaimed Melbourne artist & author Jenani Therone was warmly welcomed back to the Swan Hill Library to speak about the journey of making her incredible fine art tribute to returned veterans, *'Of Service'*.

'Of Service' can be requested to borrow from your library branch.

Work Placement : Umer Elahi

Swan Hill Library staff were delighted to host Swan Hill College student Umer Elahi recently for a work placement. Umer enjoyed his experience at the library and we wish him well in his future endeavours.



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

