



For Learning, For Leisure, For Life



National Volunteer Week 18-24 May

[National Volunteer Week 2026](#) celebrates the power of volunteering to bring people together with the theme *Connecting Communities*. The Swan Hill Regional Library acknowledges the spirit of connection and the incredible impact volunteers have in building inclusive and thriving communities.

The Library's volunteers generously give up their time to support library services and programs: re-shelving returned books, covering new books, Saturday & Twilight Storytimes, local history, and school holiday activities. Thank you also to the volunteers from the Nyah District Men's Shed and the Swan Hill Woodworker's Club who assist with running woodworking activities during school holidays. A special thanks to the Swan Hill Genealogical & Historical Society who are based at the library and work closely with staff in finding historical information for customers and the Swan Hill Community Toy Library who assist with Roving Storytime and other events throughout the year.



Left: Jen Rust, who has been volunteering at the Swan Hill Library since 2024 assists library staff one morning a week in preparing craft for children's activities, seed packets and more. Jen says she 'enjoys helping out at the library and chatting to the staff'.

Inside this issue

New books, e-books	2-3
Big Morning Tea	4
Craft stall	4
IDAHOBIT	5
Future planning talk	6
Law week exhibition	7
Safe cats, wildlife	8
Paint N Sip	9
Author talk	10
Branch news	11-13
Holiday activities	14

National 18-24 MAY 2026
Volunteer
 YOUR YEAR TO VOLUNTEER **Week**

Join us on 28 May for our Biggest Morning Tea! Donation of \$7 per person, raising money for the Australian Cancer Council. RSVP by 26 May.

Coming soon

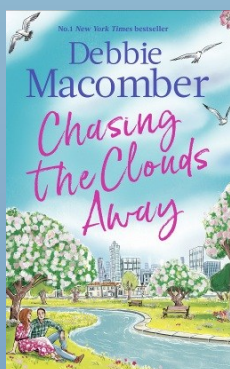
The Opposite of Murder
Sophie Hannah

A River Red With Blood
John Connolly

Dreams of Bronze
Camila Lackberg

Kill For A Million
Janet Dailey

Who Can You Trust
Susan Lewis



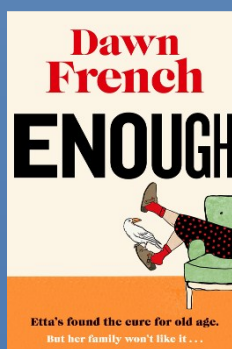
*Chasing the Clouds
Away*
Debbie Macomber

26 Beauties
James Patterson

*The Moonlight
Runner*
Karen Robards

Die For A King
Scott Mariani

Enough
Dawn French

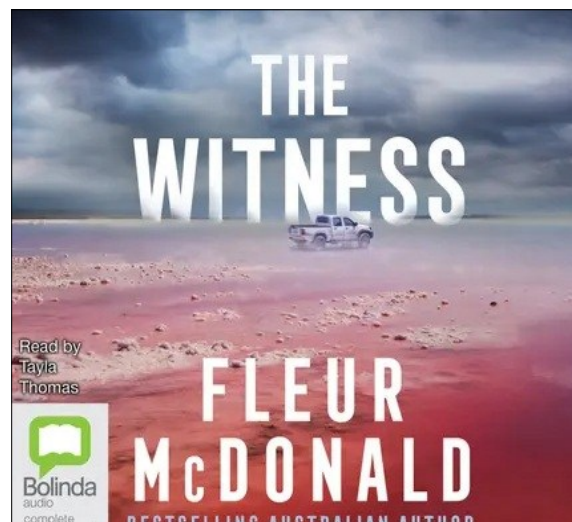


BorrowBox e-audiobook of the month

The Witness
Fleur McDonald

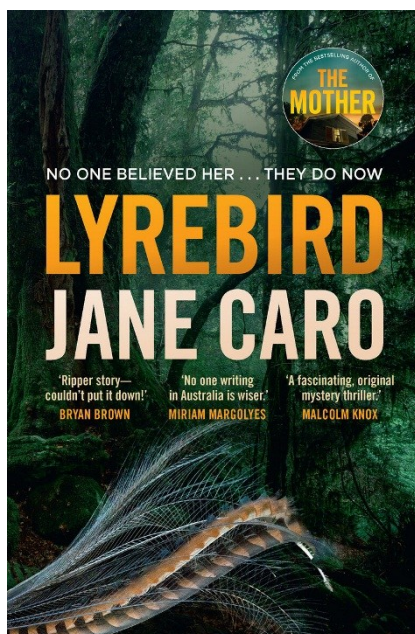
At the age of five, Molly Walker was placed in protective custody after witnessing the murder of her mother, Constable Sammi Walker. Twenty years later, everyone assumes the threat has passed.

Then Molly's adoptive parents are killed in a car accident, just after asking about reopening the investigation into Sammi's death. Coincidence or something more sinister? Detective Jack Higgins doesn't believe in coincidences. And as he and Detective Angie Sullivan look into the accident, it becomes clear that this was a deliberate act. But is Molly still in danger, so long after the original crime?



From the blood-red soil of Kalgoorlie, long-buried lies continue to surface, while someone is becoming increasingly desperate to keep them hidden.

Featured BorrowBox campaign title for May



Can a Lyrebird be a witness to a crime?

When a bird screams out desperately for help, Jessica knows the bird is mimicking what it's heard. But the police won't take her seriously.

Twenty years later, when a body is found, the case is reopened.

Set in the Barrington Tops, this is a gripping atmospheric thriller/police procedural story with a brilliant premise. The threat of a major bushfire puts our investigators in a race against time to pin down the perpetrators.

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

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

Find out what's happening at the Library



Visit library.swanhill.vic.gov.au

or like us on Facebook or Instagram!



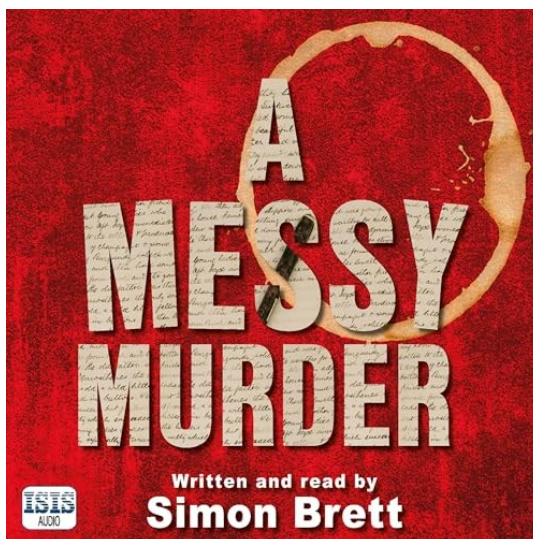
uLibrary e-audio book of the month

A Messy Murder Simon Brett

Professional declutterer Ellen Curtis doesn't need to like her clients to help them sort their homes out. Aging TV personality and curmudgeon Humphrey Carter might have a chip on his shoulder the size of England, but a job's a job.

But when Ellen arrives the morning after Humph's eightieth birthday party, primed and ready to tackle his study - she gets the shock of her life. Humph's dead. . . and all signs point to him having taken his own life.

His wife is adamant he's been murdered, and the more Ellen looks, the more dirt on Humph she digs up. . . and the more suspects she uncovers. Can she track down a



killer - if there even is one? And can she keep herself from killing not only her own infuriating mother, but also her two grown-up children, who all seem determined to destroy her peace of mind?

FREE digital resources for Library members!



cloudLibrary NewsStand
find your favourite magazines
in 60+ languages!



Download on the
App Store

GET IT ON
Google Play



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.

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.

Beginners Mahjong

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

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 847486.

Knitter Knatter craft stall: 4 May - 9 June



Our fabulous Knitter Knatter group is raising money for the Australian Cancer Council!

Items will be displayed for sale in the Swan Hill Library during May, with all proceeds going to the Australian Cancer Council to raise funds for people impacted by cancer.

Come in and check out the range of fantastic items for sale, including everything from booties to cup warmers, scarves and toys, and contribute to a worthy cause.

Or better yet, why not come along on **Tuesday mornings (10 am to 12pm)** and join the ladies in making items to sell!

You are invited to our Biggest Morning Tea!



Library Staff will host our 16th annual Biggest Morning Tea at the Swan Hill Library on **Thursday 28, May from 10am to 11am** to raise money for the Cancer Council. We host this event in remembrance of friends and family who have been touched by cancer.

Our Biggest Morning Tea is also a great opportunity to bring along a friend and introduce them to the library.

Tea, coffee, homemade cakes and slices will be provided for a **cash donation of \$7 per person**. If you can't make it on the day, you are welcome to leave a donation towards this worthy cause.

National Simultaneous Storytime



On **Wednesday, 27 May at 10.30am**, the Swan Hill Library will join other libraries around the country to read the picture book *Luna Roo: the Kangaroo Baller* written by Adam Jackson and Adrian Lloyd and illustrated by Jake Minton.

Luna Roo: the Kangaroo Baller is a story about a rookie captain who leaves nothing on the pitch as she leads FC Outback in a thrilling face-off against Bush United. Faced with a spider goalkeeper, snakes in attack and bubbling nerves, Luna must trust her skills and her teammates to soar to victory.

National Simultaneous Storytime, co-ordinated by the Australian Library and Information Association, aims to promote the value of reading and literacy and the important role of libraries.

Bring your children along, dressed up in their sport gear to this special Move and Groove session and have some fun!

Rainbow Storytime - Saturday 16 May

Celebrate Diversity at Rainbow Storytime!

We're excited to invite you to a special Rainbow Storytime with Michelle on Saturday, 16 May, in celebration of IDAHOBIT, the International Day Against Homophobia, Biphobia, and Transphobia.

Michelle will be sharing the beautiful and empowering story *Julian is a Mermaid* by Jessica Love—a heartwarming tale that celebrates individuality, self-expression, and acceptance.

In addition to the story, there'll be:

- Songs and rhymes to sing along to
- Colourful scarves to wave and play with
- A fun, rainbow-themed craft activity
- And plenty of joy and laughter for everyone!

This event is a wonderful opportunity to come together as a community to celebrate inclusion and diversity in a welcoming and family-friendly environment.

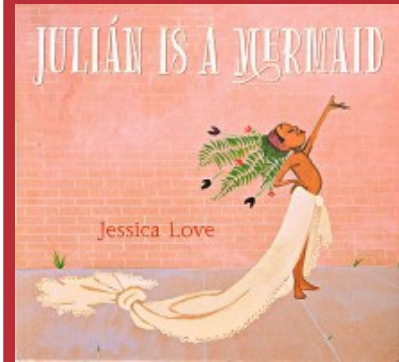
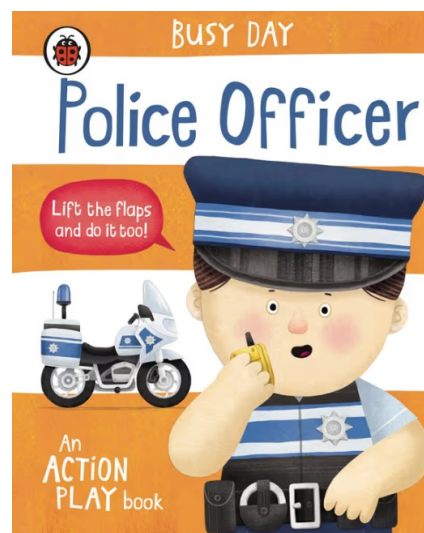
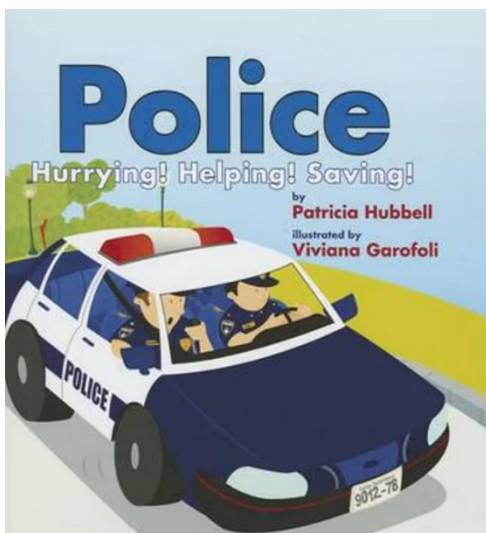
Everyone is welcome. Come dressed in your favourite colours and get ready to have some fun!

For more information, contact the library on 5036 2480.

Special Law Week Storytime - Saturday 23 May

Leading Senior Constable Tania Peters doing a special police themed Storytime, in celebration of the Law week display, on Saturday 23 May at 10.30 am.

Police books and rhymes, and a chance for children to have their fingerprints taken by a real police officer!



Did you know? Gilbert Baker designed the rainbow flag for the 1978 San Francisco's Gay Freedom Celebration. In the original eight-colour version, pink stood for sexuality, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for the sun, green for nature, turquoise for art, indigo for harmony and violet for the soul.

The Victorian Pride Centre in Melbourne later added black and brown stripes to its rainbow logo in support of indigenous Australians and Australians of colour.

Victorian

Lawweek

18_24May2026

Planning for the Future

Powers of Attorney and Advance Care Directives



Free information
session in **Swan Hill**

All welcome!

Monday 18th May

2pm-3.30pm

Swan Hill Regional Library

Afternoon tea provided

Get practical, easy-to-understand information about planning for the future and ensuring your wishes are respected.

The team from Mollee Family Care Community Legal Centre will explain the importance of Enduring Powers of Attorney, Medical Treatment Decision Makers, and Advance Care Directives, and how these tools can help if you're ever unable to make decisions for yourself.

Please note: this session provides general information only and does not include individual legal advice.

Registrations preferred **but** not essential

P: 5036 24820

E: library@swanhill.vic.gov.au

Law Week Historical Society Exhibition & Opening



Swan Hill Genealogical & Historical Society presents

SWAN HILL FOLK-LAW EXHIBITION

11 - 23 MAY

“WHEN LAW MEETS LIFE”

- Artefacts,
- Photographs
- Printed information
- Guest speaker

SUPPER PROVIDED



LAW WEEK EXHIBITION OPENING

Wednesday, 13 May, 7:00pm
Swan Hill Library

RSVP: 8 May for catering purposes

PH: 0428 584 325

E: shghso@hotmail.com

Explore the people and stories that shaped local justice and Australian law. The exhibition features early solicitors, notable police figures and significant local cases, alongside the role of local media in the justice system. It also honours those who served and those who lost their lives in the pursuit of law and order.

This event is proudly sponsored by Beck Legal.

www.swanhill.vic.gov.au/community/community-directory/swan-hill-genealogical-and-historical-society



Seed Library @ Swan Hill & Robinvale Libraries



Your harvest may be winding down, but your garden still has plenty to give! As plants go to seed, don't let them go to waste; collect, dry, and save those seeds for next season. It's an easy way to keep your garden cycle going while saving money and growing plants perfectly suited to your space.

Pop into the library to pick up some seed envelopes to share your extras with the community because great gardens grow even better when shared!

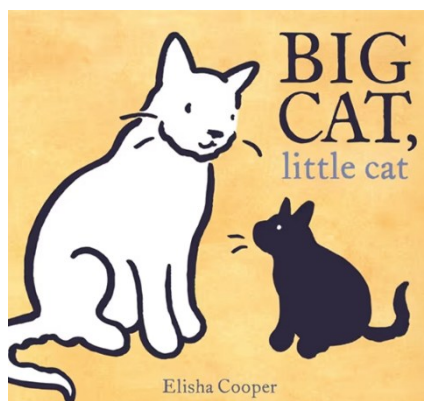
'Safe Cat, Safe Wildlife'

'Safe Cat, Safe Wildlife' is a joint initiative between RSPCA Victoria, Zoos Victoria & Public Libraries Victoria.

More and more Australians are keeping their cats safe at home. With your help, 'Safe Cat, Safe Wildlife' is building a community of cat owners with the know-how to provide their cat with the longest and happiest lives possible by keeping them safe and enriched at home.

Get the kids involved by participating in our 'Catsafe' Search & Find at Swan Hill & Robinvale libraries. There are awesome prizes to be won!

Join us for a cat themed Storytime at Swan Hill Library on Saturday, 30 May at 10.30 am.



Paint & Sip @ Swan Hill Library

We unleashed our creativity with a beverage in hand at our relaxed and social Paint & Sip Night at Swan Hill Library. The evening brought together everyone from complete beginners to more experienced artists, all keen to enjoy a fun and welcoming creative experience.

Participants followed a step-by-step painting process guided by our friendly facilitators, Gail and Donna from Mallee Artists Swan Hill. Along the way, guests enjoyed sipping their beverage of choice and a delicious snack before taking home their very own masterpiece. With plenty of laughs and great conversation, it was a fantastic night of art and connection and we can't wait to do it again!





Meet the author: Rosemary Garreffa

Join Euston author Rosemary Garreffa at the Swan Hill Library to hear her talk about her compelling new historical novel, *Raising Sparrows*.

Inspired by the remarkable life of her great-great-grandmother Annie, *Raising Sparrows* brings the past vividly to life. Beginning on the goldfields, the story follows an extraordinary journey through Geelong, Horsham, St Arnaud, Wentworth, and beyond to Chowilla Station in South Australia.

Through resilience, hardship, and hope, Rosemary weaves a rich narrative grounded in real events and family history.

Come along to hear Rosemary speak about the inspiration behind her novel, her research process, and the stories that shaped this powerful work of historical fiction.

Where: Swan Hill Library

When: 2pm, Thursday 11 June

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

Book signing & sales available (cash or Eftpos)


swan hill regional library

 **SWAN HILL**
Rural City Council

Robinvale Library news

Fresh Food Swap

It was amazing to see our community come together once again in March and April with local gardeners, farmers, and even businesses generously sharing their homegrown and homemade produce. From fresh veggies to delicious fruit and eggs, the tables were full and the spirit of giving was even fuller.

A big thank you to everyone who contributed, swapped, and supported—events like this truly showcase the heart of our community.

Our next swap is happening Saturday, 9 May from 10am–12pm — we'd love to see you there!

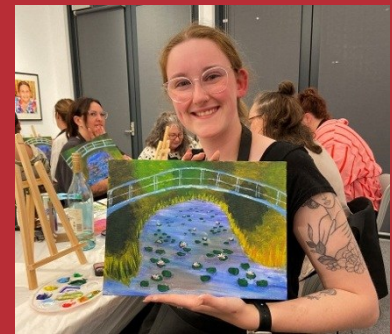


Paint N Sip

We had another wonderful evening at Robinvale Library's Paint & Sip session on 19 March.

Inspired by the beauty of Claude Monet's garden in Giverny, Normandy, participants brought their creativity to life on canvas while enjoying a relaxed and welcoming atmosphere. It was fantastic to see everyone unwind, connect, and truly embrace the experience.

A big thank you to Simone for helping create such a special program—our community clearly loved every moment!



Mathoura Library News

Mathoura Library renovations are progressing well. The updated space will include a beautiful new children's area and plenty of new stock for everyone to enjoy.

We are looking forward to welcoming the community back soon! Stay tuned for an opening event in May.



STORY TIME

at the Barham Library



Join us in the Barham Library for a **Mother's Day inspired Story Time!** We'll be reading 'Amazing Mum.'

Saturday 9 May
10.30am-11.30am

After the story you can take part in a fun craft activity - creating your own 'Amazing Mum' portrait & heart and an 'Amazing Mum' hug token!

FREE
ACTIVITY
FOR KIDS



Barham Library News

Move & Groove

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

School holiday fun!

Our school holiday activity was held on Tuesday 14 April and children enjoyed helping to solve the mystery of the Time Travelling Library Card.

They followed time bending clues, solved puzzles and helped return the card to its rightful owner before history got scrambled.



Saturday Storytime

At our April Story time, we heard two fabulous Bluey stories: Zoo and Copycat. Children had lots of fun creating a Bluey Paper Mask and a Keepy-Uppy balloon paddle game! Our next Saturday Story time will be on 9 May, celebrating Mother's Day.

Tech Savvy Seniors

We held 3 sessions of Tech Savvy Seniors during April. These covered Introduction to Computers, Microsoft Word, PC keyboard shortcuts, Streaming Services and much more. There will be five more sessions during May commencing on the 4 May and continuing weekly until 1 June. These sessions will be from 10.00am until 12.00pm and will cover Smartphones, Tablets & iPads, Online shopping, Cyber Security, Email, Online Banking and much more. **Call 0354 801 587 or call into the library to register your interest.**

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 library. Everyone is welcome to join, and morning tea is provided

Cryptic Crossword Fun @ Barham Library

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.



murray river
council

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.

School holiday fun @ the Library and out in the community!



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

