



For Learning, For Leisure, For Life



Young Writer's Awards 2024

Swan Hill Library proudly hosted its eighth annual Young Writer's Award presentation on 30 October, with over 100 attendees celebrating the achievements of our talented young authors.

The Young Writer's Award, one of the Library's key literacy programs, encourages creativity and skill development in young writers. This year's theme, *Flood*, inspired remarkable entries from budding authors across the community. Special thanks to St Mary McKillop College teacher Jane Alderuccio and retired English Literature teacher Laurel Harrison, who had the challenging task of selecting winners from 40 shortlisted entries submitted by students from 10 different schools. We also extend our gratitude to the shortlisting team, which included Swan Hill College teacher Nikki Arnott and her dedicated Year 11 Literature Class.

Congratulations to all participants, especially those who had their stories shortlisted, received commendations, or won in their respective categories. Swan Hill Rural City Council CEO Scott Barber presented each young writer with certificates of achievement and prizes, including notebooks, pens, and Showbiz Cinema gift cards. Scott also expressed appreciation to the award's sponsors - Murray Mallee Training Company, NOVO Youth Council, and Nikki Arnott's Year 11 Literature Class - by presenting a certificate of thanks.

A full list of prize winners is available on page 4, and shortlisted stories can be enjoyed on the library's Facebook page or viewed in person at the library for a limited time.

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Library closed:

Tuesday 5 November
Melbourne Cup Day

Coming soon

*Stories From the Otto
Bin Empire*
Judy Nunn

Whispers of the Dead
Lin Anderson

Ghosts of August
Peter Watt

One Big Happy Family
Susan Mallery

House of Cross
James Patterson



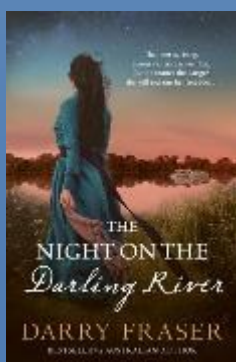
To Die For
David Baldacci

Out in Nowhere
Fleur McDonald

Molly
Rosalie Ham

Summerfield Saddle
Penelope Janu

*Night on the Darling
River*
Darry Fraser



BorrowBox e-audiobook of the month

From Here to the Great Unknown
Lisa Marie Presley & Riley Keough

Born to an American myth and raised in the wilds of Graceland, Lisa Marie Presley tells her whole story for the first time in this raw, riveting, one-of-a-kind memoir faithfully completed by her daughter, Riley Keough.

In 2022, Lisa Marie Presley asked her daughter to help finally finish her long-gestating memoir.

A month later, Lisa Marie was dead, and the world would never know her story in her own words, never know the passionate, joyful, caring, and complicated woman that Riley loved and grieved.

This extraordinary book is composed of both Lisa Marie's and Riley's voice, a mother and daughter



communicating across the transom of death as they try to heal each other. Profoundly moving and deeply revealing, From Here to the Great Unknown is a book like no other-the last words of the only child of a true legend.

Featured BorrowBox e-audiobook for November

Read now.
Your local library in your pocket.

Thousands of eBooks available to borrow from your local library. Join today.

BorrowBox
Your library in your pocket.

Available on the App Store, Google Play, and Amazon Kindle.

The [BorrowBox](#) campaign title for November is the e-book *Darling Girls*, by Sally Hepworth.

Darling Girls is the story of three sisters who grew up in foster care and each of the girls carry scars from their childhood, affecting their sense of self-worth and relationships today.

A psychological mystery, beautifully crafted with great character development and a satisfying twist.

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

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

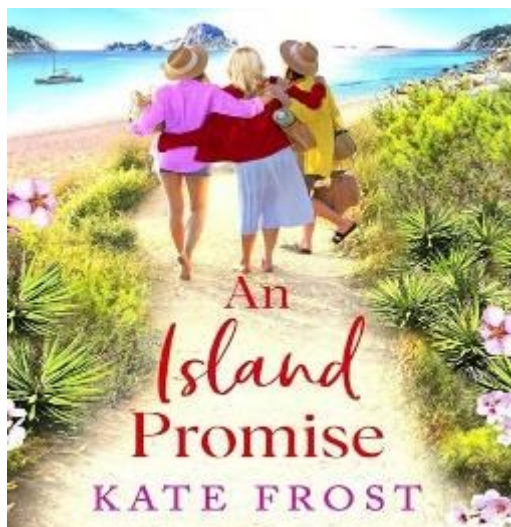
An Island Promise

Kate Frost

For twenty-one-year-old Belle Madden her first holiday to Ibiza with best friends Gem and Laurie was memorable for all the right reasons: partying the night away, planning a future filled with big dreams and making a promise to return in ten years to celebrate living their best lives – hopefully...

Fast forward a decade and Belle is desperate for a change. Eager to escape her relationship troubles, she jumps at a job opportunity that takes her back to the White Isle.

Despite loving island life and her new job, Belle realises something is missing. With their busy lives the



three friends have drifted apart, their friendship fractured. Remembering their promise to return, Belle seizes the opportunity to organise a reunion holiday. After the initial excitement of being back together in Ibiza, cracks start to appear.

Hoopla Digital Bonus Borrows!

During the last week of November, patrons can enjoy the [Comics Kingdom BingePass](#) without using a borrow.

Enjoy Bonus Borrows more often! hoopla's Bonus Borrows will be available the last seven days of each month. Choose from these select titles without using your monthly borrows!

<https://www.hoopladigital.com.au/collection/30266>

hoopla BingePass

One Borrow | Unlimited Access | Seven Days

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.

(continued...) Young Writers Awards

Grade Prep

Winning story: Blair McLean, Untitled, (Swan Hill Primary School)

Commended: Vidura Rajapaksha, 'The Golden Egg' (St Mary's Primary School)

Year 1/2:

Winning story: Hattie Martin, 'Flood Catastrophe' (St Mary's Primary School)

Commended: Indi Maher, 'The Flood' (St Mary's Primary School)

Year 3/4:

Winning story: Zara Oswin, 'The Day My sister and I Travelled Through the Drain' (Swan Hill Primary School)

Commended: Madison Giles, 'The City Floods' (Swan Hill Primary School)

Year 5/6:

Winning story: Miyana Baber, 'The Waters Rise' (St Mary's Primary School)

Commended: Lil Pretty, 'Surviving 2022' (Nyah District Primary School)

Multiclass:

Winning story: Lachi Roberts, 'Chaos Storm' (Swan Hill Specialist School)

Commended: Harley Gross, 'The Last Wave' (Swan Hill Specialist School)

Year 7/8:

Winning story: Meg Rogers, 'When Life Changed Forever', (Swan Hill Secondary College)

Commended: Zarlina Gahan, 'The Flood of Four Seasons', (Swan Hill Secondary College)

Year 9/10:

1st Winning story: Nirvana Jenkins-Jaiswal, 'The Beast Below' (Swan Hill Secondary College)

2nd Winning story: Kaidyn Tants, 'Story' (Swan Hill Secondary College)

Commended: Harrison Brown, Untitled (Swan Hill Secondary College)

People's choice award (voted for on Facebook, with 137 votes):

Lilah Roberts, 'Lost and Found' (Nyah District Primary School)



Welcoming the Art Gallery to the Swan Hill Library



The Swan Hill Regional Art Gallery is now closed for redevelopment and will reopen late 2025.

The Art Gallery has relocated to the Swan Hill Library, 53-67 Campbell Street, with our Gallery Shop and a small exhibition space.

Contact: 5036 2430 or artgal@swanhill.vic.gov.au



While you are at the Swan Hill Library, visit the *Changemakers* exhibition, which is on display in the new Gallery space in the Library until 7 December.

The exhibition showcases textile banners exploring a range of social issues. It is part of a touring exhibition by the Museum of Australian Democracy.



Get Online Week in October: Getting tech savvy

A big thank you to all those who participated in our Good Things Foundation Australia sponsored



This year our Get Online Week events focused on scam awareness and trying new skills with your technology.

Our learner events, such as the *Be Connected* presentation (pictured) on *Can you spot a scam?*, tied in with our *Serious or Scam* quiz competition.

Prize winners of the quiz are:

- 1st: Siteri Bose
- 2nd: Denise Waterson
- 3rd: Lisa Kimm



If you have a new device and need assistance learning its features, require training for different programs or device apps, or need assistance with online forms and other digital services, we can help! Free Tech Help sessions are available Tuesdays and Thursdays at the Swan Hill Library.

Contact the library on 5036 2480 to book a session.



One-on-One
Technology Help



FARADAY

A COMMUNITY REDISCOVERED



'Faraday' author talk with Robyn Howarth

Robyn Howarth was the eldest of six female students who, along with their young female teacher, were kidnapped by two masked men from the tiny Faraday State School in 1972.

Robyn, 10 years old at the time, tells the story of her life on the farm, that heinous event and the aftermath in the long road for justice. Narrated through the lens of childhood trauma and the effect it had on her family, it has taken Robyn 52 years to acknowledge with pride that she came from Faraday and was educated at Faraday State School 797.

Robyn lives in Lake Boga with her husband David and two badly behaved cats and enjoys her role as a Maternal and Child Health Nurse working for the Victorian State Government Department of Health.

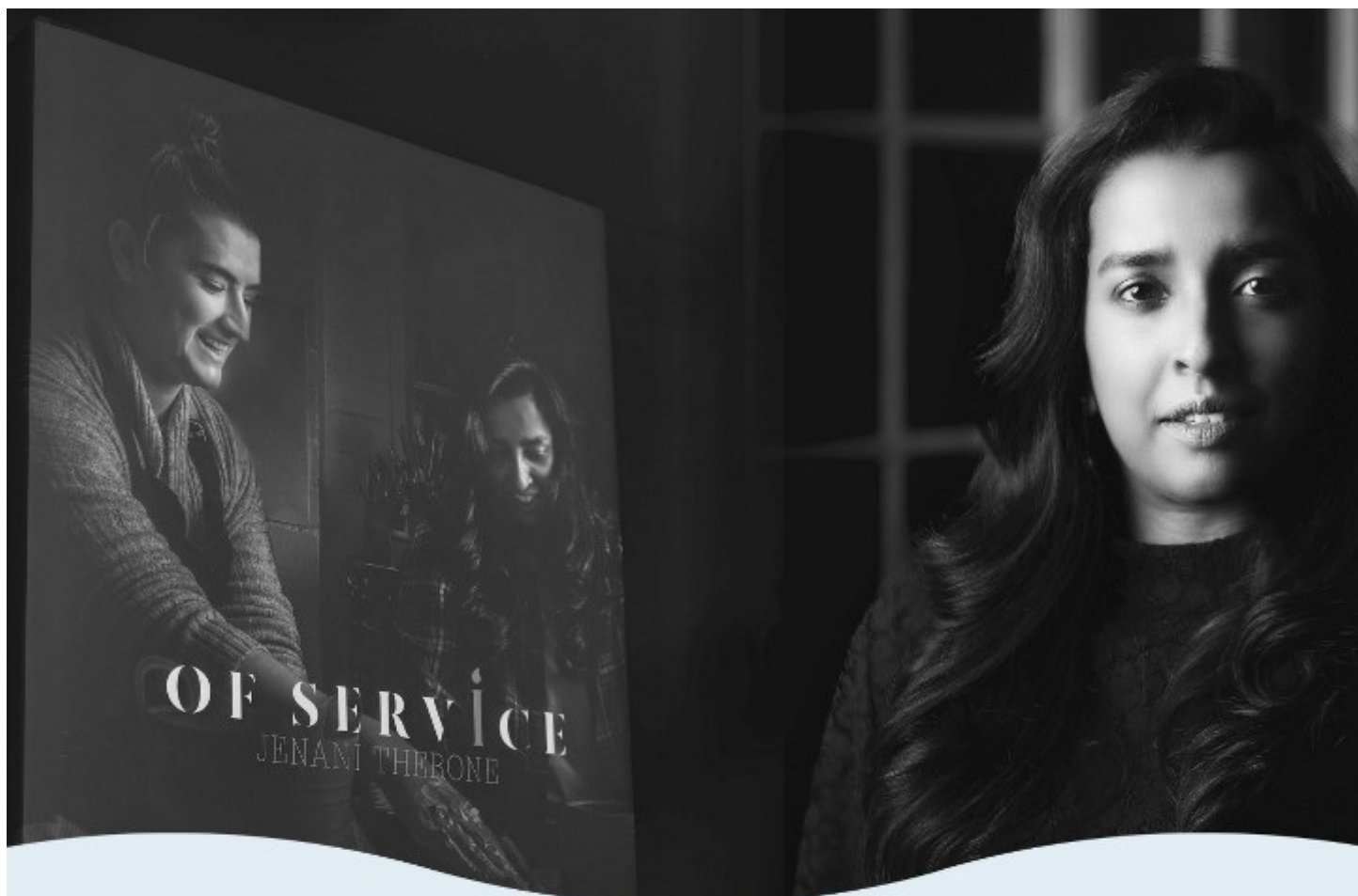
Where: Swan Hill Library. **When:** 7pm, Wednesday 13 November
Where: Robinvale Library **When:** 4pm, Monday 18 November

Bookings preferred. Contact the Swan Hill Library on 5036 2480 or Robinvale Library 5036 2461.

Book signing & sales available. Books \$25 each.


swan hill regional library

 **SWAN HILL**
Rural City Council



Jenani Therone presents 'Of Service' : Honouring Veterans & Raising Awareness of Mental Health

Join us for an inspiring evening with acclaimed artist and author Jenani Therone, as she shares the remarkable journey behind her fine art publication, *Of Service*. Over three and a half years, Jenani travelled more than 36,000 kilometres across Australia, photographing veterans in meaningful locations and capturing their powerful stories of resilience, strength, and hope. Her work highlights the theme of "giving life a second chance," a testament to the struggles many veterans face in overcoming trauma and mental health challenges.

Of Service was conceived in Australia, capturing the heart and spirit of the country's veterans, and was beautifully brought to life in Italy with high-quality printing by master craftsmen in Florence. In this talk, Jenani will reflect on the emotional and artistic journey of creating *Of Service*, emphasizing the critical need to raise awareness for veteran mental health and suicide prevention. This is a unique opportunity to hear from Jenani, who will share the deeply personal impact of her journey, making her work all the more relatable.

When: 7pm, Wednesday 27 November

Where: Swan Hill Library, 53 Campbell Street.

Bookings preferred. Contact the Swan Hill Library on 50362 480.



Congratulations to Lisa on her retirement!



Above: Lisa & Ashlee

After 18 years of service at the Swan Hill Library, Lisa Edge has retired. Library staff recently farewelled Lisa with a breakfast at the Paragon Café.

Lisa was the face of the library, working in customer service, diligently sourcing books and information for customers and assisting them with a myriad of other services.

Lisa also ran the very popular Home Library Service, delivering books to people in private homes or living in aged care facilities in Swan Hill. She assisted in organising many special events over the years, including author talks.

Lisa will be greatly missed by staff and customers alike, and we wish her well.



Back row: Gaelle Pain & children, Ann Blencowe, Tracey Free, Kellie Carlo & Rod Pierce.

Front row: Camille Cullinan, Lisa Edge & Karen Delmenico.

Meet Kayla Young: Customer Service Officer (temporary position)

What are you looking forward to most about working at the Swan Hill Library?

I am excited to be a part of the Swan Hill Library as a Library Customer Service Officer. Working at the library is amazing! You're constantly surrounded by books and all the incredible knowledge they hold. It's such a rewarding feeling to help others access that information and become more involved in the community.

Do you enjoy reading? Who are your favourite authors?

I love to read. I love fantasy, science fiction, and mystery genre, as well as myths, legends, and history.

What are your favourite movies?

Three of my favourite movies are Jurassic Park, Indiana Jones, and Battleship.

What else do you enjoy doing in your spare time?

I started crocheting a few years ago and I love it. I find it relaxing and enjoy creating new things. Last Christmas I even gifted some festive red, white, and green crocheted potholders/placemats.

Tell us one thing that is on your bucket list.

I would love to visit some UNESCO World Heritage Sites one day, mainly the Historic Centre of Rome (Italy), including the Colosseum, the Pantheon, the complex of the Roman and the Imperial Forums.



Rosalie Ham's *The Dressmaker* author talk & high tea



Sunbury Rock Festival revival



Children's Book Week



Welcome to the 16
Days of Activism

STORYWALK[®]

Enjoy a walk with your children as we read "I want to be a superhero" by Breanne Humes, illustrated by Ambelin Kwaymullina.



The walk will begin at the Swan Hill Library on Wednesday, 27th November at 10:30am and finish on the lawns at the Clock Tower for fruit cups, more stories and fun activities!
Thanks to the Swan Hill District Gender Equity Network.

Please remember to bring a hat, sunscreen and water bottle.

The StoryWalk[®] Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montplelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.

Robinvale Library news

Robinvale Library Board Games sessions

Fortnightly board game sessions are held on Wednesday afternoons at the Robinvale Library. Aimed at Young Adults, but all ages are welcome.

Bring some friends with you or make some new ones!

Dates:

13 November

27 November

Time:

4pm to 6pm



Welcome to the 16 Days of Activism



STORYWALK[®]

Enjoy a walk with your children as we read "I want to be a superhero" by Breanne Humes, illustrated by Ambelin Kwaymullina.



The walk will begin at the Robinvale Library on Thursday, 28th November at 10:30am and finish on the Robinvale College oval for fruit cups, more stories and fun activities!

Thanks to the Swan Hill District Gender Equity Network.

Please remember to bring a hat, sunscreen and water bottle.

The StoryWalk[®] Project was created by Anne Ferguson of Montplelier, VT and developed in collaboration with the Kellogg-Hubbard Library.



@swanhillregionallibrary



@swanhilllibrary



Author Talk @ Robinvale Library

Join us for the 'Faraday' author talk with Robyn Howarth, 4pm Monday 18 November.

See flyer on page 6 for more details.

Robinvale Library news

Robinvale Centenary Display at Robinvale Library

As part of Robinvale's Centenary celebrations, the Robinvale Library is hosting a unique historical display that invites the community to explore the town's rich history.

The exhibition features rare items from Swan Hill Rural City Council's records department and is a chance for people to reminisce and celebrate how far Robinvale has come over the last century.

The display will be accessible during regular library hours until the end of November 2024.

Among the treasures on display is the 1924-25 Rates Book, showcasing prominent landowners of the time.

There are also detailed maps of the township showing block ownership and documenting the gradual expansion of Robinvale over the decades.

To find out more, contact the Robinvale Library on 5036 2461.



Pictured are some of the people who attended the guided tour of the Robinvale College and display of rare items at the Robinvale Learning & Community Hub on Friday, 25 October.

School holiday fun @ the Robinvale Library

A lot of fun was had at the Robinvale Library during the recent school holidays, including storytime sessions, playing board games, craft and other activities.



**MOULAMEIN
LIBRARY**

Storytime

Friday at 3.30pm

Storytime and craft in a fun learning environment.

Games Afternoon

Friday 3pm to 6.30pm

All ages welcome!

Mathoura Library News

Pictured below is the Mathoura Library all set up for school holiday activities in September / October. Make sure to visit the Mathoura library and enjoy the space in the January school holidays.



Barham Library News



**Story time at
the Barham Library**

**FREE
ACTIVITY
FOR KIDS**

Join us for story time in the Barham Library as we read **Birdsong by the Billabong**.

**Saturday 9 November
10.30am - 11.30am.**

After the story you can create your own swooping magpie in our fun craft activity!

Suitable for ages 4 and up.



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

Barham Library News

Move & Groove

Move & Groove has once again seen the children enjoy some lovely stories read by Joy, our wonderful volunteer, along with creating some beautiful craft.

Grandparent's Day

We celebrated Grandparent's Day on Thursday, 24 October and Friday 25 October, with morning and afternoon teas and special craft activities for children and their grandparents / special person to enjoy together.

Space Week

We celebrated Space Week during the school holidays, creating a Solar System, space-themed scratchboards and a satellite. We had fun exploring our Space Discovery Box which includes a programmable Rover Robot!



Young Mentors program concludes

The Barham High School collaborated with our library to undertake the Young Mentors program during term three. The program concluded on Friday 27 September. The program was a great success and we hope to run it again in 2025.



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.

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.



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.

Roving Storytime celebrating Children's Week

This Children's Week event was presented by the Swan Hill Regional Library in partnership with the Victorian Government & local community groups.



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

