8TH ANNUAL

BOOKLOVERS

FESTIVAL

Stories that are...

Thursday 30 June to Sunday 31 July 2016
Stories that are...


What kind of story will you tell? Stories that are... delves into a world of stories old, new and different.

Through a range of events from writing workshops and oral history recordings, to insights into how stories were created and crafted, right down to digital storytelling and the stories of ideas.

Stories that are... has something for everyone
www.yprl.vic.gov.au
Booklovers Festival Launch: 
The Dressmaker and the Storyteller

Stories that are...adapted

Thursday 30 June: 6.45pm – 8.00pm  
Guest: Rosalie Ham

Eltham Library

Rosalie Ham’s debut novel, *The Dressmaker* (2000), was a bestseller long before it became a blockbuster film starring Kate Winslet. But how did Rosalie come to write this Australian gothic novel of love, hate and haute couture? How did she begin her writing career? How did the book become a film? Armed with behind-the-scenes film photos, this intimate evening with Rosalie is every booklovers’ dream.

About Rosalie:

Rosalie Ham was born and raised in Jerilderie, a small country town in New South Wales. Returning to Australia after seeing the world, Rosalie ‘rushed to university because Gough Whitlam made it possible’, enrolling in Drama and Literature. But it was the story that ignited her flame and, having moved on to creative writing, Rosalie ‘skewed a few accumulated secrets’ and wrote her first novel, *The Dressmaker* (published in 2000). *Summer at Mount Hope* (2005) and *There Should be More Dancing* (2011) followed, and her novels have now sold over 150,000 copies in Australia and internationally.
Creating Compelling Writing: Writing Workshop

Stories that are...yours

Saturday 2 July: 11.00am – 1.00pm

Whittlesea Library

Guest: Ruth Clare

Join Penguin author Ruth Clare in this two-hour workshop. Learn techniques to keep readers gripped and bring your writing to life. Your work will benefit from this session whether your genre is fiction, narrative non-fiction or memoir. Writers at all stages on their writing path welcome. Bookings required.

About Ruth Clare

Ruth Clare has been a professional writer since 2004. She is the author of ‘Enemy: a daughter’s story of how her father brought the Vietnam War home.

“Resembling a novel in its sensory detail and riveting narrative...Ruth Clare’s memoir takes us deeper, into the mind of the child...” Australian Book Review

“...emotionally charged and thoroughly engaging book.” The Australian

“...more terrifying and explosive than any war book I’ve read in years...” Angus & Robertson

Merri Creek: From Whittlesea to Parklands Exhibition: Story Collection

Stories that are...artistic, local and yours

Monday 4 July – Sunday 17 July

Mill Park Library

Presented by City of Whittlesea and Merri Creek Management Committee, this exhibition documents the history of community action that transformed the Merri Creek over the last 25 years.

The library is collecting community stories and experiences of Merri Creek to produce a book. If you have stories to tell, please pick up a form at the exhibition and share your experiences.
Memoir Writing and Other Adventures

Stories that are...dangerous and taboo

Tuesday 5 July: 7.00pm – 8.00pm
Eltham Library

Guest: Lee Kofman

Join award winning Israeli-Australian author of four books, co-editor of the anthology of Australian female memoir Rebellious Daughters and popular writing teacher Lee Kofman as she speaks about her recent book, the memoir The Dangerous Bride, and her writing process. The rebellious daughter of ultra-orthodox Jews, Lee explores in this book unconventional non-monogamous relationships, love, migration and religion and is her first book in English. She will discuss her book, the ethics of writing a memoir and the challenges in changing the language in which you write.

About Lee

Lee Kofman is an author of four books, including the memoir The Dangerous Bride (Melbourne University Press), and co-editor of Rebellious Daughters (Ventura Press), an anthology of memoir by prominent Australian writers. Her short works have been widely published in Australia, UK, Scotland, Israel, Canada and US, including in Best Australian Stories and Best Australian Essays. Her blog was a finalist for Best Australian Blogs 2014. More information at www.leekofman.com.au
Little Red Riding Hood Panto

Stories that are...performed

Wednesday 6 July: 10.00am – 11.00am
Ivanhoe Library

What happens when the Big Bad Wolf meets a modern day Little Red Riding Hood? Once again, Mary and Andrew have taken a favourite story and turned it on its head. Enjoy the new adventures of Little Red Riding Hood as told by Andrew and Mary in this wacky, side splitting panto mime.

Hijabi Girls Storytime

Stories that are...inclusive

Saturday 9 July: 11.00am – 12.00noon
Thomastown Library

Guests: Özge Alkan and Janelle Dunstan

Stories, stories, everywhere...for everyone. Janelle and Özge will read, play, and sing through this fun storytime adventure and you’re invited to join in! Come and hear the story of Melek, a feisty young girl who wears a hijab and is on a mission to start an Aussie Rules Football team at her school.

About Özge

Özge Alkan was born in Turkey, grew up in America and lives in Australia. She worked as head librarian at Ilim College and now on maternity leave from her position at Boroondara Library Service. She is a passionate reader and literacy advocate. ‘Hijabi Girl’ which she co-authored with Hazel Edwards is her first book. Find her on Twitter @OzgeSevindik.
Exhibition: *Always…*

Saturday 9 July: 10.00am – 9.30pm  
Plenty Ranges Arts Centre  
35 Ferres Boulevard South Morang

In celebration of Plenty Ranges Arts Centre’s tour of *Always… Patsy Cline*, view an exhibition of heartfelt letters composed by community members to their heroes. To contribute a letter to this exhibition, or for more information see [www.yprl.vic.gov.au](http://www.yprl.vic.gov.au) for entry form and guidelines. Entries close Monday 4 July 2016.

*Always… Patsy Cline* is based on the true story of Patsy Cline’s friendship with Houston housewife Louise Seger. Having first heard Cline on the Arthur Godfrey Show in 1957, Seger became an immediate and avid fan of Cline’s and the two women struck up a friendship. The relationship, which began as fan worship evolved into one of mutual respect and remained a pen-pal relationship, lasting until Cline’s untimely death in a plane crash in 1963.


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**Stafford Ray: Writing Tourist**

**Stories that are…*a good yarn***

Monday 11 July: 6.30pm – 7.30pm  
Lalor Library

It all started with letters to his grandmother written in invisible ink. Now Stafford Ray writes books full of political intrigue, detention centres and love. Join us as author Stafford Ray shares his personal writing journey through anecdotes, short stories and poems. Author of *Cull*, nominated for Books of MIFF in 2015, and *Australian Gulag*.

**About Stafford:**

Stafford Ray is the author of *Cull*, which was nominated for the Melbourne International Film Festival 2015 and *Australian Gulag: a love story*. Books will be available to buy at this session.
Lithium and Lost Souls: the History of Bundoora Homestead as a Repatriation Mental Hospital (1920–1993)

Stories that are...poignantly historical

Tuesday 12 July: 2.00pm – 3.00pm
Rosanna Library

Guest: Cassie May

Bundoora Homestead is an ornate Queen Anne style Federation mansion used today as the public art gallery for the City of Darebin. For over seventy years it was a dedicated Repatriation Mental Hospital for the care and management of ex-servicemen who returned to Australia initially after World War I (1914–1918) in 1920, World War II (1939–1945), and later conflicts. This presentation will reveal its intriguing history; initially as a renowned horse and cattle stud, its transition to a convalescent farm and hospital, and the location where Dr John Cade discovered and experimented with the drug Lithium.

About Cassie:

Cassie May is a freelance curator and advisor on museum collection care and management. She has a Masters of Creative Arts (focus on Australian Surrealism), and a Bachelor of Creative Arts (Hons.), Victorian College of the Arts, The University of Melbourne. In 2014 she worked with the City of Darebin to research and curate the exhibition Coming Home (3 October - 7 December, 2014); a survey of the history of Bundoora Homestead as a Mental Repatriation Hospital (1920 - 1993) for returned servicemen.

Whittlesea Word Weavers – Memoir Evening

Stories that are...locally performed

Tuesday 12 July: 6.30pm–7.30pm
Whittlesea Library

Guests: Whittlesea Word Weavers

To celebrate the recent memoir writing workshops, The Word Weavers of Whittlesea are reading and discussing their work. If you enjoy writing come and enjoy local stories and a cup of tea and coffee.
Laughing Waters Road: Reclaiming traces of culture, mapping marks of time

Stories that are...local and cultural

Tuesday 12 July: 7.00pm – 8.00pm

Eltham Library

Guests: Jane Wollard and Murnong Dave

Since 2001 more than one hundred artists have participated in the Laughing Waters Artist in Residence Program hosted by Nillumbik Shire Council and Parks Victoria. In Laughing Waters Road: Art, Landscape & Memory in Eltham by Jane Woollard, their experiences and art making are woven together with Wurundjeri, European and local family histories to create an evocative account of a special place in a bushy outer suburb of Melbourne.

Join Jane Woollard and Murnong Dave as they share their journeys into the past and present of Laughing Waters, Eltham.

This session is kindly supported by Nillumbik Shire Council.

About the authors:

Jane Woollard is a writer, theatre director and dramaturg. Her recent book Laughing Waters Road: Art, Landscape & Memory in Eltham is an exploration of the cultural history of particular earth buildings in Eltham and the artists who worked in them. Laughing Waters Road also explores the indigenous history of the area.

Murnong Dave is a consultant/educator in Traditional Aboriginal Culture and Ecology. Dave is also an expert craftsman specialising in traditional aboriginal crafts of south/eastern Australia, particularly the manufacture and use of weapons/hunting gear, as well as traditional fibre craft.
Looking for a good book?

Stories that are...*good for you*

**Wednesday 13 July: 1.00pm – 2.00pm**  
Ivanhoe Library

If you find yourself staring at rows of books with no idea which one to borrow, you are not alone. At this session Mary will step you through how to separate the literary wheat from the chaff using Yarra Plenty Regional Library’s own website, and a few other online resources, to find new authors, great reading lists and much more. Bookings required.

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200 Years of Australian Fashion

Stories that are...*fashionable, stylish and always chic*

**Wednesday 13 July: 2:30pm – 3:30pm**  
Ivanhoe Library  

*Guest: Jan Wallage from the NGV special presentation*

What is Australian fashion? Since settlement, Australian fashion has been shaped by geographic, seasonal and cultural variants, and defined by colloquial vernacular. From the early dressmaking establishments of Brisbane and mid-century salons of Collins Street to the contemporary studios by Bondi’s beaches, [Jan Wallage](#) will share highlights of the [National Gallery of Victoria’s](#) *200 Years of Australian Fashion* exhibition, traversing over two centuries of fashion design in Australia.
Secret Stories, Hidden Histories.

Stories that are...oral and intriguing

Thursday 14 July: 1.00pm – 2.00pm

Ivanhoe Library

Guest: Lyndel Caffrey

A stolen child, a hanged man, a leather strap cut into little pieces and returned to the teacher's desk. How do we access the secret stories and uncomfortable truths in our family and our community, and how do we retell them with respect and integrity? This illustrated talk by Lyndel Caffrey, historical fiction writer and curator of the “Stories from School” exhibition at Brunswick Secondary College examines the remarkable hidden histories that oral history interviews can reveal, and explores how historians and writers can research and validate them for a new generation. Bookings required.

About Lyndel

With one grandfather a First World War veteran and the other a born story teller, Lyndel Caffrey's interest in writing Australian stories was sparked at a very young age. Her poetry, life writing, short stories and historical fiction have been published widely, with Glad, her novella of 1920s Melbourne featuring in Griffith Review 38. Shortlisted for the 2015 The Richell Prize for Emerging Writers, Lyndel teaches creative writing and works as a mentor and assessor with Writers Victoria. She's just completed Stories from School, an exploration of one hundred years of history at Brunswick Technical School.
On the Outside

Stories that are...outside the mainstream

Thursday 14 July: 7.00pm – 8.00pm

Ivanhoe Library

Guests: Cath Ferla and Emma Viskic

Crime writers Cath Ferla and Emma Viskic are both drawn to writing about characters who exist ‘outside’ mainstream society. In GHOST GIRLS, Ferla delves into the complex, raw and sometimes alienating experience of Sydney’s international student community, while Viskic’s RESURREPTION BAY features a profoundly deaf investigator who has always lived on the fringes of the hearing world. Come and join these two Melbourne crime writers as they discuss the ethics, difficulties and joys of writing diverse characters.

About the authors

Cath Ferla is a Melbourne-based writer with a background in screenwriting and script editing, educational publishing and arts writing. Also a trained teacher, Cath has taught English as an Acquired Language (EAL) in Melbourne, Sydney and Beijing. She has a keen interest in regional Chinese food and once took a solo food pilgrimage to China’s Sichuan province. Ginger, chilli and garlic are her favourite flavours.

Emma Viskic is the author of the critically acclaimed crime novel, Resurrection Bay (Echo Publishing, 2015). She has won both the Ned Kelly S.D. Harvey Award, and the New England Thunderbolt Prize for her short form fiction, and been published in Review of Australian Fiction and Award Winning Australian Writing. Also a classical clarinettist, Emma divides her time between writing, performing and teaching. She is currently working on the sequel to Resurrection Bay.
Stories that are...yours...

Writing Yourself and Others as Characters: Writing Workshop

**Stories that are...yours**

**Friday 15 July: 12.00noon – 2.00pm**  
**Guest: Lee Kofman**  
**Diamond Valley Library**

You may know yourself and the people in your life well, but how do you make yourself and others known to readers who never met you? How do you express in writing people’s complexities, paradoxes and idiosyncrasies? How do you animate them and bring them to life on the page? In this workshop you will learn developing compelling characters and characterizing them vividly for the readers. Bookings required.

**About Lee**

Lee Kofman is an author of four books, including the memoir *The Dangerous Bride* (Melbourne University Press), and co-editor of *Rebellious Daughters* (Ventura Press), an anthology of memoir by prominent Australian writers. Her short works have been widely published in Australia, UK, Scotland, Israel, Canada and US, including in *Best Australian Stories* and *Best Australian Essays*. Her blog was a finalist for Best Australian Blogs 2014. More information at [www.leekofman.com.au](http://www.leekofman.com.au)
Road to Somewhere: Writing Workshop

Stories that are...yours

Saturday 16 July: 11.00am – 1.00pm
Watsonia Library

Guest: Lyndel Caffrey

Every story takes us on a journey, and as writers we all want our readers along for the ride. Like the classic road movie, our stories may take be scenic or bumpy, with unexpected characters hitching a ride, unplanned detours and entertaining stops along the way. Even for the writer, the route and destination are not always clear. Bring along a pen, paper and a few ideas, and learn more about the key elements of short fiction and how to give your reader’s the ride of their lives. Bookings required.

About Lyndel

With one grandfather a First World War veteran and the other a born story teller, Lyndel Caffrey’s interest in writing Australian stories was sparked at a very young age. Her poetry, life writing, short stories and historical fiction have been published widely, with Glad, her novella of 1920s Melbourne featuring in Griffith Review 38. Shortlisted for the 2015 The Richell Prize for Emerging Writers, Lyndel teaches creative writing and works as a mentor and assessor with Writers Victoria. She’s just completed Stories from School, an exploration of one hundred years of history at Brunswick Technical School.
Inner Workings – Visual Story Telling by Van T Rudd

Stories that are... radically and artfully yours

Saturday 16 July: 2.00pm – 4.00pm
Lalor Library

Guest: Van T Rudd

Van will take you on an inspiring journey of creativity with his story building method that infiltrates his sculptures and cartoons. This will involve how he imagines his next artwork from the idea to the sketch and the final creation. Will his next cartoon fail dismally? Will he break his next sculpture while carrying it to the streets? Will he kick his artwork in disgust and never create again? Not likely he reckons.

Come and learn how you too can create your own visual stories using everyday items

About Van

Van T Rudd (or V-T-R) loves telling stories through 2D drawings, paintings, 3D sculptures and performances, and is also a social justice activist based in Melbourne, Australia. He makes his often controversial art in support of various social justice campaigns such as refugee rights, Aboriginal Rights, Black Lives Matter and anti-war campaigns. He is currently organiser of the notorious #RichForks exhibition which sources dinner forks recently used by the 1% (retaining their saliva and crumbs on the forks), and his hyper-real street sculptures are making waves via social media to various parts of the world. He also has just finished designing images for a children’s book with award winning author Maxine Beneba Clarke, and he can’t wait for it to be released later in 2016. V-T-R also loves playing football (soccer) and has been coaching on and off for a number of years.
Book Lovers Green Screening

**Stories that are...digital**

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<th>Monday 18 July: 1.00pm – 2.00pm and 7.00pm – 8.00pm</th>
<th>Mill Park Library</th>
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There’s nothing like being consumed by a great story…or becoming the story! Get your picture taken in front of our green screen and choose a cover or picture scene from your favourite book and become part of the book.

Making sense of your senses

**Stories that are...scientific**

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<th>Monday 18 July: 7.00pm – 8.00pm</th>
<th>Guest: Jen Martin</th>
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Are there smells that take you back in time? Are you aware that the music playing in the supermarket may affect what you buy? Is it just an urban myth that waiters wearing red get more tips? And how fast do you decide whether you trust someone you’ve just seen for the first time? Join Dr. Jen from 3RRR to find out the answer to these and many other questions about the science of our senses.

About Jen

Dr. Jen Martin spent many years studying the sex life of possums among other ecological and zoological questions. However her real passion is the world of science communication. Jenny created and teaches the University of Melbourne’s acclaimed science communication program. She has a popular weekly segment Weird Science on 3RRR Breakfasters and has also been a co-host of 3RRR’s popular Sunday science show, Einstein-a-go-go for more than a decade. Jenny tweets from @scidocmartin and blogs about science at www.espressoscience.com. When she’s not writing or talking about science, she can be found cooking up a storm, singing with her choir or hiking in the bush with her husband and kids.
Never Lost, Only Found, In Translation

Stories that are...translated and performed

Tuesday 19 July: 2.00pm – 3.00pm   Guest: Moreno Giovannoni
Ivanhoe Library

Stories travel across land and sea, mother tongue to pen and paper. There’s something inherently special about being read to that strikes a chord with us all. Moreno Giovannoni will be reading his poignant and magical stories about San Ginese in both Italian and English and will talk about how he came to write them. This session will also feature photos of San Ginese.

About Moreno

Moreno Giovannoni is a freelance translator and writer who was born in Tuscany and grew up in North-East Victoria. His writing has been published in The Saturday Age, Island and Southerly. Moreno was the 2015 inaugural winner of the Deborah Cass Prize for Writing, whose judges (Alice Pung, Christos Tsiolkas and Tony Ares) awarded the prize to Buona Fortuna! for “its evident quality of writing, [...] whimsical without being sentimental, inventive without being precious. [They] agreed that while it seems to take real stories from life, the writing also captures in a humorous, ironical voice something delicate but intangible about loss, nostalgia and home.”
Literary Nillumbik Celebration

Stories that are...local and celebrated

Wednesday 20 July: 6.30pm – 8.30pm (7.00pm start)
Eltham Library Multipurpose Rooms (check against)

Poets, writers and readers join us to celebrate literature in Nillumbik. The evening will launch the new Literary Nillumbik anthology of award winning writing which includes winning stories and poems from the Alan Marshall Short Story Award 2016 and Nillumbik Ekphrasis Poetry Award 2016. The evening will also include readings by award winning actress Debra Lawrance, music by local musician Tyrian and refreshments.

Bio:
Nillumbik Shire Council in partnership with Yarra Plenty Regional Library presents the Alan Marshall Short Story Award now in its 31st year. The Nillumbik Ekphrasis Poetry Award invites poets to respond to artworks drawn from the Nillumbik Shire Council Visual Art Collection and special exhibitions. In 2016 Literary Nillumbik branding was developed to bring together poet, writers and all facets of literature in Nillumbik.

My Good Money Journey

Stories that are...life changing journeys

Wednesday 20 July: 7.00pm – 8.00pm
Watsonia Library

Guest: JM Green

Not all stories... the journey of JM Green's debut novel, GOOD MONEY sounds like a season of Masterchef: full of highs and lows, wrong turns and ingredients, tears, and then the inspiring finale. JM Green will cover the writing process, getting rejected, getting published and the critics responses. Suitable for crime fiction readers, aspiring writers and interested library patrons. Plenty of time for questions at the end.

About JM Green

JM Green studied professional writing at RMIT. Her first novel, GOOD MONEY, introducing Stella Hardy, was shortlisted in the Victorian Premier's Prize for an Unpublished Manuscript and is available from Scribe Publications. The second Stella Hardy novel is TOO EASY. She lives in the western suburbs of Melbourne. Her feature articles for Overland Literary Journal include Ernie Althoff: the concept of organised sound, a tribute to a Melbourne sound artist, and In the slipstream, which explores issues around genre fiction.
Going Under

Stories that are...about going under

Thursday 21 July: 2.00pm – 3.00pm
Rosanna Library

What happens when a book about anaesthesia pulls its author into a confrontation with her own unconscious self? This session explores, among other things, Kate’s decade-long struggle to write a book about the anaesthetic unconscious, and some of the strange discoveries (scientific and otherwise) she made along the way; the challenges of narrative non fiction, and the blurring of personal voice and experience with hard science and writing as a process of discovery. This session is perfect for writers and anyone interested in the marriage of science and art.

About Kat

Kate Cole-Adams is a Melbourne writer and journalist with an enduring fascination in unconscious processes. Her first novel, Walking to the Moon, was published by Text Publishing in 2007. Her next book, a non-fiction exploration of the very weird and wonderful world of anaesthesia, is due out next year (also with Text). When she is not contemplating the porous boundary between our conscious and unconscious selves, she works at The Age newspaper, where she trains reporters in feature writing and digital journalism.
Our stories: Communicating Indigenous Stories

Stories that are...ours

Thursday 21 July 6.30pm – 7.30pm
Lalor Library

Guest: Kat Clarke

Join Kat Clarke as she shares stories of a culture that is at the heart of our beautiful country, and discuss the way in which we tell Indigenous stories that captivate, shock, and inspire us all. If you wish to share your own favorite Indigenous stories then bring them along, the session is open to anyone who has any questions in relation to communicating Indigenous stories.

About Kat

Kat Clarke is a multi-talented creative from the Wimmera. Being a proud Wotjobaluk woman, Kat takes pride in being active with both her own community and the Aboriginal community in Melbourne. Having graduated from RMIT with a specialty in writing and film, Kat dreams of one day developing her own business that is focused around the Creative Arts Industry, where she aims to incorporate a learning environment for disadvantaged cultural groups and low-socio economic groups that supports creative talent and encourages self-worth and self-management. From a grass-roots and professional level, Kat has worked as a writer, cultural consultant and public speaker/performer for various organisations, festivals and communities, some of these include: The Rag and Bone Man Press, RISE for Refugees’, STREAT/RMIT, The Department of Education and Training, The Koorie Heritage Trust, Sista Girl Productions, The Wheeler Centre, Blak and Bright Festival, Art Is Festival, Footscray Community Arts Centre, Tin Man Games and the Whitehorse Greens.
Beginnings: Writing Workshop

Stories that are...yours

Saturday 23 July: 1.00pm – 3.00pm  
Mill Park Library

Guest: Caroline Petit

Fiction is autobiography of the imagination. Beginnings is designed to get your writing started through a series of exercises based on memory and experience. These exercises will give your imagination a workout, get your writing muscles pumping and your stories to take shape. It will be fun, challenging and set you on your story-telling path.

About Caroline

Caroline Petit has published two novels, The Fat Man’s Daughter and Deep Night. Her short stories have appeared in anthologies, literary journals, and broadcast on Radio National Australia. She has also received screenwriting funding from the then Australian Film Commission. In 2015 Caroline mentored adult refugees and migrants, then helped to edit and produce an anthology, Home Truths, that was launched at Readings. In 2016, Caroline was awarded a Varuna Fellowship to work on her fourth novel. Her credentials include an Arts Diploma in Professional Writing and Editing from RMIT.

‘Keeping it Unreal: Crafting Characters for a Novel About Overseas Surrogacy’

Stories that are...difficult

Monday 25 July: 7.00pm – 8.00pm  
Eltham Library

Guest: Angela Savage

Angela Savage was six months into a Creative Writing PhD on overseas surrogacy between Australia and Thailand when the Baby Gammy case broke in the international media. How did she navigate the rocky terrain between real life and fiction to develop characters for her novel? And why, as an established crime writer, did she choose not to write a crime novel on a topic that seems to lend itself so well to the genre? Come along to this session to find out.

About Angela

Angela Savage is a Melbourne writer who has lived and travelled extensively in Asia. She won the 2004 Victorian Premier’s Literary Award for an unpublished manuscript, and the 2011 Scarlet Stiletto Award for short crime fiction. Angela teaches creative writing and is studying for her PhD in Creative Writing at Monash University. http://angelasavage.wordpress.com/ @angsavage
Discovering Shakespeare afresh over 400 years – along with Paul Scott, the Brontë sisters and other writers

Stories that are...classic

Tuesday 26 July: 2.00pm – 3.00pm
Meeting at Rosanna Library then heading to Heidelberg theatre

Guests: Barabara Sharpe and Shakespeare Society

We return to stories over and over again because they speak to us on a human level. 400 years after Shakespeare's death, readers and writers are still returning to his work for inspiration and to reflect on modern life. Join Barbara Sharpe as she discusses Shakespeare and his influence over other writers while members of the society perform beloved scenes to emphasize the wondrous words and worlds of Shakespeare.

Hijabi Girl: writing and publishing stories that want to be told

Stories that are...self-made

Tuesday 26 July: 6.30pm – 7.30pm
Lalor Library

Guest: Özge Alkan

The talk will be about her journey into co-authoring and self publishing ‘Hijabi Girl’ with a famous Australian author, Hazel Edwards. She decided to write Hijabi Girl when couldn’t find the book she wanted to read with a young vivacious hijab wearing main character for young children.

About Özge
Özge Alkan was born in Turkey, grew up in America and lives in Australia. She worked as head librarian at Ilim College and now on maternity leave from her position at Boroondara Library Service. She is a passionate reader and literacy advocate. Hijabi Girl which she co-authored with Hazel Edwards is her first book.
Writing your Future: How to Follow Your Dreams and Influence People

Stories that are...internationally recognised

Tuesday 26 July: 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm
Watsonia Library

Guest: James Phelan

How did James Phelan dramatically change his career path from architecture to bestselling international writer? Join James as he discusses his journey and how he writes his books. James will also share writing tips about what makes a great story, how to make your work shine and how to follow your dreams. This session is perfect for anyone who wants to write (regardless of your age) or who wants to hear more about how James comes up with the ideas for his unbelievable thrillers.

About James:

James is the Melbourne-based author of many novels, including thrillers, young adult, and middle grade fiction. He is noted for a fast-paced writing style that appeals as much to boys as girls. James is a highly in-demand speaker and delivers his entertaining and engaging presentations all around the world, including three months of each year on book tour in schools throughout the USA.


Degas: A New Vision

Stories that are...visionary and legendary

Thursday 28 July: 2.00pm – 3.00pm
Watsonia Library

Guests: Jan Wallage from the NGV special presentation

Edgar Degas is one of the most celebrated artists associated with French Impressionism. Complex and compelling, Degas has fascinated the art world for over a century and has had an immense impact on modern and contemporary art. From his paintings of ballerinas to the social world of Parisian nightlife, Degas' works embrace painting, drawing, printmaking, monotypes, sculpture and photography. Celebrate the 2016 Melbourne Winter Masterpieces Degas: A New Vision exhibition with Jan Wallage from the National Gallery of Victoria and gain an insight into the artist’s life and works.
Subterranean Ink: Myth, Magic and Dreams

Stories that are...mythical

Thursday 28 July 4.00pm – 5.00pm
Diamond Valley Library

Guest: Subterranean Ink collective
featuring Janet Doyle, Luke Harris,
Brendan Murphy, and Lachlan Plain

Subterranean Ink is a Melbourne-based writer’s collective. We revel in myth, allegory, magic and dreams. Their tales map psychological and cultural landscapes to uncover some concrete truths about the world. As Subterranean writers, the collective uses literature to explore and celebrate the borderlands between the real and unreal. The authors from Subterranean Ink will talk about the imagination that drives their work.

About Subterranean Ink

Janet Doyle grew up on a dairy farm on the outskirts of Sydney, became a psychologist and clinical audiologist, and later a restaurateur. She has worked in UK, Hong Kong and Australia and was Associate Professor in Human Communication Sciences at La Trobe University. She has run a consultancy, worked in private practice, hospitals and universities, and as a ‘flying doctor’ rural audiologist. Her academic writing focused on effective communication between practitioners and patients, and the processes of decision-making in audiology.

Luke Harris was raised in an underground home on an opal field in the New South Wales outback, and at a remote mine in the high country of Victoria. Escaping the lure of opal and gold, he studied politics and history at Monash University, worked as a book designer and eventually moved to the outer fringes of Melbourne. He lives in leafy Eltham with his wife and two young daughters. He enjoys writing, painting, nature, changeable weather and at all times, reading.
Subterranean Ink: Myth, Magic and Dreams (continue)

**Brendan Murphy** was raised in Sheffield, England, with dreams of becoming a writer, and has written every day since he was nine years old. After reading medicine in London and psychiatry in Manchester, he moved to Australia in 1999. He is an Associate Professor at Monash University and a Fellow of both the Australian and UK Colleges of Psychiatry, and has written widely on youth mental health. His nonfiction work on the development of football in Victorian society, *From Sheffield with Love*, was published in 2007. He is contracted to Assent Publishing for his six-book fantasy series, *Sebastian and the Hibernauts*. The first adventure, *Beyond the Gloaming* was published in 2014, the second, *The Traitor’s Trap*, was published in 2015. He lives with his wife, Katrina, and their children, Sebastian and Violette, in a sprawling property built for the composer, Dorian Le Gallienne. They share their garden with a mob of kangaroos, a wombat, two possums, any number of creepy crawlies, and some very feisty kookaburras.

**Lachlan Plain** won the 2012 Impress Prize for *The Lost Journals of Pedro Piscator and other Tales*, an eclectic illustrated collection of tall tales. He has taken part in several solo and group exhibitions, as well as creating street art, public art and community art for business, government and community-based clients. The most notable of these being *Life on Planet Daisyworld* (2015), and *The Final Voyage of Pedro Piscator*, a 5 x 11m mural at Bulleen Art & Garden. He is artistic director of Sanctum Theatre, a visual performance company presenting folk theatre in everyday spaces. Sanctum Theatre’s inaugural show, *lament: candles & compost* at the Abbotsford Convent (2006). He has also worked for the Snuff Puppets for the past few years, an irreverent and scatological giant puppet company, performing in their shows and directing their People Puppet Projects in Australia, Denmark, Sweden, South Korea, Thailand and Chile ([www.snuffpuppets.com](http://www.snuffpuppets.com)).

**Literary Trivia Afternoon**

**Stories that are...trivial**

Saturday 30 July: 2.30pm – 4.00pm

Mill Park Library

If you love reading and books, why not grab a few friends or come on your own and enjoy a fun-filled trivia and games afternoon. Prizes and giveaways to be won. Bookings Required
Confessions of a Sort of Crime Writer

Stories that are...journeys

Saturday 30 July: 2.00pm – 3.00pm
Rosanna Library

Guest: Tania Chandler

Confessions of a sort of crime writer is a conversation about the ups and downs along Tania Chandler’s journey from family day carer to two-book-deal author. Tania will discuss how a wistful, literary story of love and loss turned into a psychological crime thriller. For anyone wanting to write and be published, this event is not to be missed. Tania will also share writing tips!

About Tania:

Tania Chandler is a writer and editor. Her debut novel, Please Don’t Leave Me Here, was published by Scribe in Australia and the UK in 2015. The sequel, Dead in the Water, is due for release this October. Both her books will be published in Germany in 2017. Please Don’t Leave Me Here was selected for the State Library Victoria’s Summer Read program. Tania’s work was awarded a special commendation in the Writers Victoria Crime Writing competition and her short stories have been published in literary magazines.

Rajith Savanadasa Doesn’t Know

Stories that are...in Ruins

Sunday 31 July: 2.00pm – 3.00pm
Mill Park Library

Guest: Rajith Savanadasa

In Sri Lanka, where Rajith grew up, the national conversation is very polarised. You’re either for the separatists or against them, you’re Sinhala Buddhist or you’re not. But this isn’t just a Sri Lankan trend. In the age of instant knowledge everyone’s an expert. Everyone’s definitive about their stance, be it politics, religion or simply where to find the best donuts. In a climate where there’s a backlash against every backlash, where’s the room for doubt? Does anyone ever say, ‘I don’t know’ anymore? Hear Rajith speak about his debut novel ‘Ruins’.

About Rajith

Rajith Savanadasa was born in Sri Lanka. He runs Open City Stories, an ongoing series of interviews documenting the lives of a group of asylum seekers in Melbourne. Rajith was shortlisted for the Asia-Europe Foundation short story prize and the Fish Publishing short story prize in 2013 and received a Wheeler Centre Hotdesk Fellowship in 2014. His debut novel, Ruins, will be published by Hachette Australia in 2016.
Stories that are...recommended

Kathrine Clarke recommends:
Heat and Light by Ellen Van Neerven

Rajith Savanadasa recommends:
Loitering by Charles D’Ambrosio

Janet Doyle recommends:
Love in the Time of Cholera
by Gabriel García Márquez

Luke Harris recommends:
Little, Big by John Crowley

Brendan Murphy recommends:
Crime and Punishment
by Fyodor Dostoyevsky

Lachlan Plain recommends:
Selected Fictions by Jorge Luis Borges

Cath Ferla recommends:
Red China Blues by Jan Wong

Emma Viskic recommends:
Leap by Myfanwy Jones

Angela Savage recommends:
The Household Guide To Dying
by Debra Adelaide

Lyndel Caffrey recommends:
The Neapolitan novels
by Elena Ferrante

Tania Chandler recommends:
Alias Grace by Margaret Atwood

JM Green recommends:
Birds without wings
by Louis de Bernières

Lee Kofman recommends:
Master and Margarita
by Mikhail Bulgakov

Literary Nillumbik recommends:
Illuminations: The Alan Marshall
Short Story Awards 2003-2010

Jen Martin recommends:
Guns, Germs, and Steel
by Jared Diamond

Kate Cole-Adams recommends:
H is for Hawk by Helen Macdonald

Cassie May recommends:
Diary of a Genius by Salvador Dalí,
published in 1963

All titles available at Yarra Plenty
Regional Library.
Banyule
Ivanhoe Library
255 Upper Heidelberg Road
Ivanhoe 3079
Telephone 9497 5780

Rosanna Library
72 Turnham Avenue
Rosanna 3084
Telephone 9459 6171

Watsonia Library
4-6 Ibbottson Street
Watsonia 3087
Telephone 9435 2397

Whittlesea
Lalor Library
2A May Road
Lalor 3075
Telephone 9465 2353

Mill Park Library
394 Plenty Road
Mill Park 3082
Telephone 9437 8189

Thomastown Library
52 Main Street
Thomastown 3074
Telephone 9464 1864

Whittlesea Library
Whittlesea Community Activity Centre
57–61 Laurel Street
Whittlesea 3757
Telephone 9716 3028

Nillumbik
Diamond Valley Library
Civic Drive
Greensborough 3088
Telephone 9434 3809

Eltham Library
Panther Place
Eltham 3095
Telephone 9439 9266

General enquiries:
94087888

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