

Packing Light for Travel

Tuesday 17 January
10.30am–11.30am

Can't decide what to pack when you travel? Learn how to pack light for travel with **Imogen Lampert** from **Bespoke Image**. Imogen will show you how to create an effective travel wardrobe. Bookings required.



Just4Kids

Music Fun

Wednesday 1 February
3.30pm–4.30pm

Make a Mexican bird rattle. In Mexico these rattles are used during New Year celebrations – they are shaken to welcome the kind spirits of the new year and drive away the unhappy spirits of past years. Bookings required.

Chess Club with Chess Master

Saturday 4 February
10.30am–11.30am

Do you have a passion for chess? Back by popular demand, **Chess Master Frank** will give you tips and tricks for winning chess moves. Bookings required.



Thomastown Book Group

Tuesday 7 February
(First Tuesday of the Month)
11.00am–12.00noon

Come along and enjoy a friendly chat about our book of the month, make new friends and enjoy a cuppa. For more information contact Georgina West at the library.



ESL Conversational English

Tuesdays
Begins Tuesday 7 February
2.00pm–3.00pm

Is English your second language? Practise your English conversational skills and enjoy an afternoon cuppa.

VALENTINE'S DAY

Love Readings

Thursday 9 February
10.30am–11.30am

Sally Fischmann from the **Ministry of Feng Shui** will discuss how to arrange flowers to attract love. Sally will then give you a love 'reading' after the talk so you can find out what love direction is in store. Bookings required.



Interested in joining a Book Group?

Meet with others at a time that suits the group to discuss your latest read, and share ideas and thoughts over refreshments. Book kits supplied by the library. Group fee applies. To register your interest, contact us on 9434 3809.

Scrabble Club

Friday 27 January & 24 February
(Last Friday of the month)
3.00pm–5.00pm

Test your word skills – join our Scrabble Club for a fun afternoon of socialising and game playing. Refreshments provided. Bookings required.

Chemistry Exhibition

Monday 30 January to Monday 5 March

The Material Futures exhibition focuses on the role chemistry plays in improving materials and creating new ones to meet our changing needs. Topics include magnetism, light metals, and optical fibres and sustainability.



Homework Help

Mondays
(Commences 13 February)
3.30pm–5.00pm

Need some help with your homework? Weekly tutoring sessions are available to assist students with their studies. For further details contact us on 9434 3809. Bookings required.



Dungeons & Dragons Meet

Wednesday 22 February
4.00pm–5.00pm

Are you new to the game? Do you want to learn? **Stephen** will guide you through a game of D&D. Age group: teens.

Family History Fest Births, Deaths, Marriages

Wednesday 29 February
1.30pm–2.30pm

Join Family History Librarian **Liz Pidgeon**, who will introduce the Victorian historical indexes to family history researchers with tips to make the most of a search.

Book online at www.yprl.vic.gov.au

LIBRARY LOVERS DAY

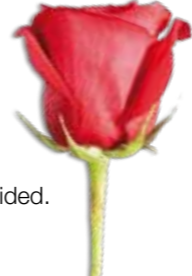
Blind Date with a Book
Tuesday 14 February

Pick up a mystery book and a chocolate with your selection on Library Lovers Day. Get in quick so you don't miss out!

Speed Book Dating

Tuesday 14 February
7.00pm–8.00pm

You don't have to be single – all you need is your favourite book to share with a fellow book lover. Broaden your reading horizons. Wine and cheese provided. Bookings required.



NILLUMBIK – ELTHAM LIBRARY

For the Love of Poetry...

This summer, try your hand at writing a sonnet, stanzas or haiku on the theme of love or romance and be in the running for some great prizes. Be creative and inspired by some of the poetry the library has to offer. Entries for all ages can be submitted to the library by COB Wednesday 8 February. Winners announced after Valentine's Day.



The BFG (Big Friendly Giant)

Presented by *The Victorian Youth Theatre* and *the Children's Performing Company of Australia*

Monday 16 January
2.30pm–3.30pm

The BFG depicts the amazing friendship between a little girl and a big-hearted giant. Adapted from Roald Dahl's best-selling book, this production features actors and puppets. For primary school-age children.



Get Connected

Thursday 19 January
10.30am–12.00noon

Learn how to **Skype**. Keep in touch with distant friends and family in this introduction to the online program **Skype**. Bookings required.

Friday Focus Holiday Reading

Friday 3 February
10.30am–11.30am

Share your holiday reading with others over morning tea and get some reading tips from others at this friendly chat group for older adults.



Bedtime Storytime

Monday 6 February
6.30pm–7.30pm

Join us for special bedtime stories, songs and a take-home craft activity.



Ev Hales – A Work in Progress

Tuesday 7 February
10.30am–11.30am

Join well-known local artist **Ev Hales** as she discusses her beautiful new book, which explores her creative process as an artist, techniques and her inspiration from nature, and view a display of Ev's artwork.

Book online at www.yprl.vic.gov.au

Family History Fest Births, Deaths, Marriages

Wednesday 29 February
1.30pm–2.30pm

Join Family History Librarian **Liz Pidgeon**, who will introduce the Victorian historical indexes to family history researchers with tips to make the most of a search.



SUSTAINABLE LIVING FESTIVAL

Reusable Nappy Workshop

In Partnership with Shire of Nillumbik

Tuesday 21 February
10.00am–12.00noon

Modern cloth nappies are easy to use, affordable, comfortable and environmentally friendly. Learn about the latest alternatives to disposable nappies.

Your Library

YARRA PLENTY REGIONAL LIBRARY

www.yprl.vic.gov.au

JANUARY & FEBRUARY 2012



Nearly half the population struggles without the literacy skills to meet the most basic demands of everyday life and work. There are 46% of Australians who can't read newspapers, follow a recipe, make sense of timetables, or understand the instructions on a medicine bottle.

Australian libraries and library associations are behind a campaign to turn 2012 into the National Year of Reading.

Join us this year for a whole host of inspirational programs and events, and rediscover everything your local library has to offer.

Summer Reading Club Catch the Reading Bug!



Until Wednesday 1 February 2012

Hey kids! Are you aged 3–12? Join our Summer Reading Club and read at least 10 books to be in the running for an **Apple iPad 2** and other great prizes.

Grab a reading kit and holiday activity brochure at your local branch and get reading!

YREAD this Summer

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this summer

Aged 13–18? Register yourself into the YREAD program and be in the running to win your choice of an **iPad 2** or **netbook computer**. Read at least three books, or magazines or blogs to be in the running. Program activities will run at Rosanna, Lalor, Eltham and Mill Park. **For more details check out www.yprl.vic.gov.au**

Chinese New Year

2012 is the Year of the Dragon on the Chinese calendar. Join us at the library in February for celebratory events including the famous lion dance, Tai chi, Chinese calligraphy and cooking demonstrations.

See inside the brochure for event details.



Romance Month

Love is in the air at your local library as we celebrate Valentine's Day and Library Lovers Day on **February 14**. Help spread the love during February by creating a love song CD or listening to a serial online dater share her stories, or write some poetry to be in the running for prizes.

For event details see inside the brochure.



All branches will be closed for the Australia Day public holiday on **Thursday 26 January**.

Downloading e-Books

Monday 9 January
10.00am–11.00am

Monday 27 February
6.30pm–7.30pm

Learn how to download free e-books from the library's website. Session includes hands-on trial of e-Book readers including the iPad, with library staff assistance.



The BFG (Big Friendly Giant)

Presented by The Victorian Youth Theatre and the Children's Performing Company of Australia

Monday 16 January
10.30am–11.30am

The BFG depicts the amazing friendship between a little girl and a big-hearted giant. Adapted from Roald Dahl's best-selling book, this production features actors and puppets. For primary school-age children.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese Lion Dance

Thursday 19 January
11.00am–11.30am

Experience the exciting Chinese lion dance, which will begin outside the library and make its way inside the building.



First Wednesday Book Club

Wednesday 1 February
10.00am–12.00noon

Each month the club meets to discuss a different book. New members welcome. Books available from the library. Contact the branch for more information.

French Storytime

Tuesday 7 February
(First Tuesday of the Month)
11.15am–12.00noon

Introduce your pre-school children to a new language with this storytime, which features stories in French and English.

Goal-Setting Workshop

Monday 13 February
7.00pm–8.00pm

Learn how to get from where you are to where you want to be with the START method of setting goals. Presented by **Pauline Bennell of Mindset Momentum**.

Bedtime Storytime

Tuesday 14 February
7.00pm–7.45pm

Come in your pyjamas and bring your teddy or special toy to the first Bedtime Storytime of the year. For preschool children.



Just4Kids

On the Beach

Tuesday 21 February
4.00pm–5.00pm

Seashells, seaweed and sand. Come to the library for some beachy crafts, stories and puzzles.

For primary school-age children.

Summer Reads and Eats

Thursday 12 January
12.30pm–1.30pm

Join us for lunch and discuss your Summer reading. Relax and unwind with some scrumptious food supplied by **Amore Cucina**. Bookings required.

Goal-Setting Workshop

Wednesday 18 January
7.00pm–8.30pm

Learn how to get from where you are to where you want to be with the START method of setting goals. Presented by **Pauline Bennell of Mindset Momentum**. Bookings required.

Just4Kids

Wednesday 1 February
4.00pm–5.00pm

Come to the library for some craft, games and a chance to borrow the new books first. Tell us what you'd like to see in the library and what you'd like to do at J4K.



Chess Club

Thursday 2 February
4.00pm–5.00pm

Play chess and improve your chess-playing skills. Suitable for all ages and skill levels.

Saturday Storytime

Saturday 4 & 18 February
(Alternate Saturdays)
11.00am–11.30am

This lively storytime puts one letter of the alphabet in the spotlight. Discover the special stories and sing along with **Jane**. Suitable for children of all ages. These sessions now run on alternate Saturdays.



Selling on Ebay

Monday 6 February
1.30pm–2.30pm

Join us to discover the basics of selling on one of the most popular online auction sites and fulfil that New Year's resolution to declutter or sell those unwanted Christmas gifts. Numbers limited. Bookings required.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Feng Shui

Thursday 16 February
7.00pm–8.00pm

Join **Tina Curro** from **The Ministry of Feng Shui** to discover the basic principles of Feng Shui and what the Year of the Water Dragon means. Bookings required.

Bedtime Storytime

Thursday 23 February
7.00pm–7.45pm

Wear your pyjamas and bring your favourite toy to hear stories, sing songs and do craft. Suitable for all ages.



Bilingual Storytime (Italian)

Wednesday 29 February
10.00am–10.30am

Daniela and **Lee** will read stories in both Italian and English. Children can learn the Italian words for animals, colours, shapes and numbers and do a craft activity. Stay for an Italian Language Café after the session.

Book online at www.yprl.vic.gov.au

Chess for Fun

Monday 9 January & 13 February
6.30pm–8.00pm

If you love playing chess, or want to improve your skills, come and join this friendly group and learn new moves from chess coach **Jim Cannon**. The group covers all ages and levels of experience. Newcomers welcome.

Writers@Watsonia

Summer Sessions

Thursday 19 January
6.30pm–8.30pm

To celebrate summer we are taking to the streets to do observational writing. We will do a walk to the local park for some sky-gazing, writing and chilled wine. Bring your notebook. All welcome.



Spanish Language Café

Wednesday 1 February
7.00pm–8.00pm

Join our Spanish teacher **Laura Mendoza** for an informal session of conversational Spanish. If you are learning Spanish, travelling, or just want to improve your skills, this class is a must.

British Crime Writers

Thursday 9 February
7.00pm–8.00pm

Teacher and writer **Helen Webberley** will give us an overview of British crime writers from Conan Doyle, Amis, Christie and Le Carre to Rendell and PD James. If you are addicted to crime, espionage and thrillers, this session is not to be missed.

Language Café

Every Monday
Begins Monday 16 January
2.00pm–3.00pm

Come along, meet new people, have a cup of tea and improve your conversational English skills.

Job Search Help

Every Tuesday and Thursday
Begins Tuesday 17 January
2.00pm–3.00pm

Looking for a job? Get help with applying/sending emails, resume writing and preparing for interviews. Also, get free printing of three copies of your resume.

Weekly Seniors

Every Thursday
Begins Thursday 19 January
1.00pm–2.00pm

The conversation is always interesting at our Weekly Seniors group. Join in the conversation, play games and stay for afternoon tea.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese New Year Celebrations

Saturday 21 January
11.00am–3.00pm

Witness the spectacular lion dance, Tai chi and Chinese calligraphy demonstrations and cultural performances. Lucky door prizes and light refreshments. Children aged 5–13 can enter the dragon colouring competition.



The BFG (Big Friendly Giant)

Presented by The Victorian Youth Theatre and the Children's Performing Company of Australia

Tuesday 24 January
2.30pm–3.30pm

The BFG depicts the amazing friendship between a little girl and a big-hearted giant. Adapted from Roald Dahl's best-selling book, this production features actors and puppets. For primary school-age children.

Dragons Storytime

Wednesday 25 & Friday 27 January
10.00am–11.00am

2012 is the year of the dragon, so come and celebrate dragons great and small at this week's Preschool Storytime sessions.

Australia Day Celebrations

Friday 27 January
Join us for post-Australia Day celebrations with new books, dvds, cds and, of course, a sausage off the barbecue.

Charity Knitting Group

Wednesday 1, 15, 29 February
(Once a Fortnight)
10.00am–12.00noon

Use your skills to knit for charity. Beginners welcome. Donations of wool needed.

Memories of Our Community

Summer Treasures
Tuesday 14 February
10.30am–12.00noon

Come along to this friendly conversation group and bring along any memorabilia or photos that remind you of Summers past. The discussion will be led by the library's **Lynne Siejka**.

Writers@Watsonia

Summer Sessions

Thursday 23 February
6.30pm–8.30pm

In the last of our Summer Sessions we will be doing meditative exercises exploring the sounds and smells of summer. Please bring a towel or mat with you. All welcome.

VALENTINE'S DAY

Favourite Love Songs

Monday 6 February
7.00pm–8.00pm

Come along to this information session about **Freegal**, a music download site available through the library. Create your own love song compilation CD for Valentine's Day. Bookings required.

Chess Club

Tuesday 7 February
10.00am–12.00noon

Join **Cliff** from **U3A** to learn how to play chess, and challenge other chess players to a game.

Mahjong Club

Tuesday 7 February
10.00am–12.00noon

Have you ever wanted to learn to play Mahjong? Come along and watch this fascinating game in progress.

Just4Kids

Valentine's Craft

Wednesday 8 February
3.30pm–4.30pm

With Valentine's Day only a week away, make something special for a friend, family member or a secret crush. Create a card to tell someone how much you care about them. Suitable for primary aged students.

Book online at www.yprl.vic.gov.au

Influences of Feng Shui 2012

Monday 20 February
6.30pm–8.00pm

Tina from the **Ministry of Feng Shui** will discuss with you the Year of the Water Dragon and how Feng Shui can help you in all aspects of your life. There will be Feng Shui items available for sale on the night. Bookings required.



Recording Community Readings

To celebrate the **National Year of Reading**, we invite visitors to be recorded reading a passage from their favourite book. The five-minute recordings will be compiled and made into an audio-book available for public access. All ages invited to participate.

Pick up a form from the library.

Write Now! Exhibition

Wednesday 4 January to Tuesday 31 January

Short story entries from Yarra Plenty Regional Library's 2011 short story competition, Write Now.

Photo Workshop

Monday 16 January
11.00am–1.00pm

Organise, edit and improve your holiday snaps with free online programs. You may bring along your camera, connection cable, and USB stick. Refreshments provided. Bookings required.

Creating Photobooks

Friday 20 January
11.00am–12.30pm

Instead of photo albums, why not turn your collection of digital photos into an impressive library of photobooks? Bookings required.

Paranormal Discussions NEW

Wednesday 8 February
(Second Wednesday of the month)
7.00pm–8.00pm

Are you into the strange, the odd and the unexplained? Join this new discussion group and discuss all things supernatural and weird. View and discuss film footage of paranormal happenings, and share your own experiences. Refreshments provided. Bookings required.

VALENTINE'S DAY

Just 4 Kids

Valentine's Day Craft

Monday 13 February
4.00pm–5.00pm

Create a beautiful paper garland to decorate your room or to give to someone you love.

Finding a Perfect Match

Monday 13 February
7.00pm–8.00pm

Author **Maxine Bennett** will talk about her humorous book: *Personal Columns: A true and funny story of one woman's 30-year search for her perfect match*. Books available for sale. Bookings required. Refreshments provided.

Understanding Handwriting to Rate Your Mate Before You Date

Wednesday 15 February
7.00pm–8.30pm

Professional graphologist **Maxine Bennett**, will present the fascinating science of handwriting. How you can tell someone's personality by simply understanding their style of handwriting. Bookings required.

Buying Books Online

Friday 17 February
11.00am–12.00noon

Online shopping has become a popular and easy way to buy books and save money. Learn how. Bookings required.

Join a Group in 2012

Join one of our regular groups: anime and manga; book clubs; cardmaking; chess club; community cooking social group; computer troubleshooting and discussion; downloading free audiobooks and e-books; English language 'café'; knitting and sewing; trivia; paranormal discussions, and writing. For further details contact Jack Chan on 94378189 or jchan@yprl.vic.gov.au.

Photoshop Workshop

Wednesday 29 February
6.30pm–8.00pm

Photographer **Kev Howlett** will help you edit your photographs with some key Photoshop tips.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Chinese Photographic and Art Exhibition

In Partnership with the Whittlesea Chinese Association

Friday 20 January to Monday 20 February

Celebrating the Chinese Year of the Dragon, this exhibition showcases photos and artwork from Whittlesea's local Chinese community.

Asian Cooking

Monday 23 January
1.00pm–2.30pm

Chef **Yuki** returns to demonstrate some great Chinese recipe ideas for you to taste and recipes to take home. Bookings required.



Feng Shui and The Year of the Dragon

Wednesday 22 February
7.00pm–8.00pm

Expert **Nadia Lapadula-Merino** will explain the ancient practice of Feng Shui. Learn how Feng Shui can transform your life and what The Chinese Year of the Dragon really means. Bookings Required.

Chinese Dim Sims and Dumplings

Monday 27 February
1.00pm–2.30pm

Eating dim sims and dumplings is a traditional Chinese custom to welcome the Chinese New Year. Come along to this demonstration, get some great ideas and recipes, and enjoy a taste test. Bookings required.

Book online at www.yprl.vic.gov.au