

Newsletter



**BALLARAT
MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE**

APRIL / 2022



BALLARAT ANZACS

4 - 28 April



Dear Members

The BALLARAT ANZACS display opens on Monday in the Heritage Reading Room. Many thanks to Garry Snowden, Committee President, Arch of Victory—Avenue of Honour, for the work the work he has undertaken in pulling together this display. Garry, Yvon Davis and Phil Roberts will be conducting talks each Thursday during the display so I hope members will take the opportunity to come along to hear about Ballarat's own. The Library was an important gathering place during the years in order to keep up to date with events by accessing newspapers.

If you are curious about your own family and friends that served, Garry and Yvon & Neil Leckie will be there to assist your research.

Thank you also to Marian Blythman, Danny Stonehouse, Judy Peters and Mary Walker for drawing on our own heritage collection to support the display. Another tireless volunteer, Major Neil Leckie has contributed through his involvement with the Ballarat Ranger Military Museum. I'd also like to thank Integra and the Ballarat RSL for their support.

Speaking of tireless, Prue Bentley and Phil Roberts have been working around the clock to bring you the 2022 Season of Twilight Talks, whilst we are still finalising speaker slots the program is well underway for a welcome start, Wednesday 13 April, we would love to see you there.

Mike Stephens

Library news

with Rosemary McInerney



Author of the Month

Greg is a graduate of Harvard and Oxford Universities, he lives with his family in California, where he writes screen plays, comics and produces for the blockbuster television hit V.



Gregg Hurwitz

Book of the Month

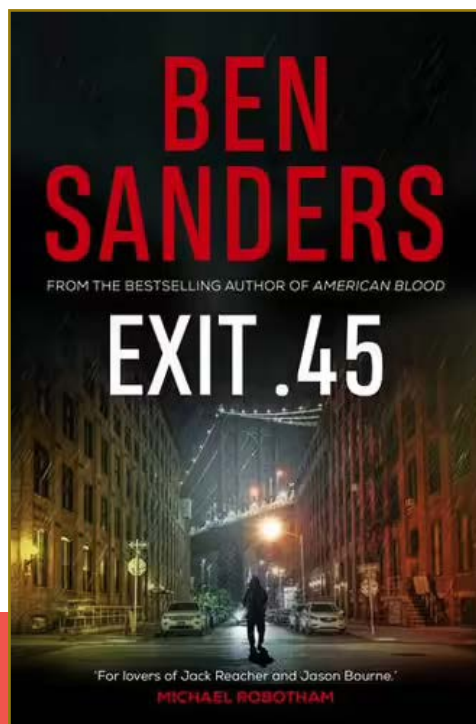
The Secrets of Bridgewater Bay
by Julie Brooks

Australia, 2016: Amongst her late-grandmother's possessions, Molly uncovers a photograph of two girls dressed in First World War nurses' uniforms, labelled 'Rose and Ivy 1917', and a letter from her grandmother, asking her to find out what happened to her own mother, Rose, who disappeared in the 1960s.

Compelled to carry out her grandmother's last wish, Molly embarks on a journey to England to unravel the mystery of the two girls whose photograph promised they'd be 'together forever'.

Recommended Reads

Exit .45 by Ben Sanders



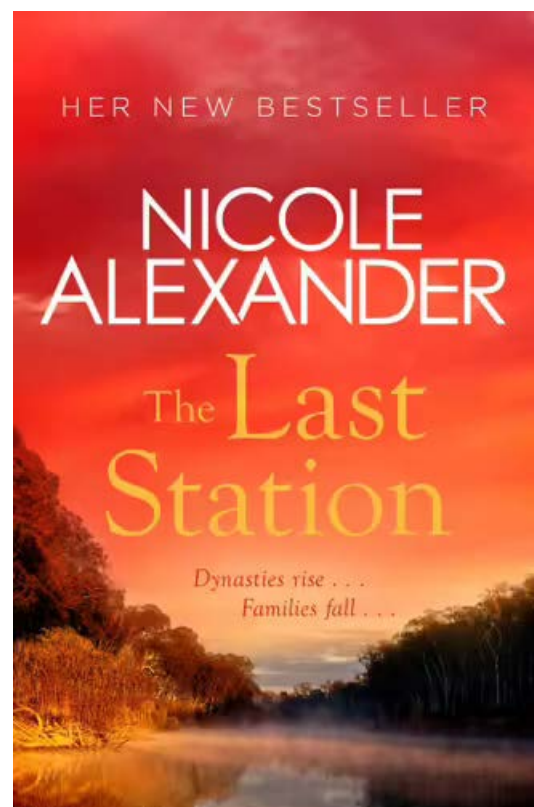
Ray Vialoux is in trouble. Big trouble. He needs Marshall Grade's help. Reluctantly, Grade agrees to meet. Over dinner in a Brooklyn restaurant, he learns that his former NYPD colleague owes money – a lot of money – to

the wrong people. But the conversation is cut short by gunfire and suddenly Ray is lying dead on the restaurant floor.

As Marshall investigates the circumstances leading up to the murder, tracking down the drug dealers, bag men, bent cops and mob players within Ray's orbit, it becomes clear there's far more to the killing than a gambling debt. Just who is responsible for Vialoux's death...and why? What secrets are his family hiding? And can Marshall find the answers before his own history marks him as the prime suspect?

The Last Station by Nicole Alexander

In the nineteenth-century New South Wales, the name Dalhunny stood for prosperity and prestige. The family's vast station was home to more than 80 people, and each year their premium wool was shipped down the bustling Darling River to be sold in South Australia. Yet just decades later, Dalhunny station is on the brink of ruin...



Our Library web-page
Reserve your copy >

More Library news & Around the BMI

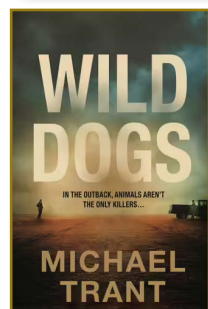
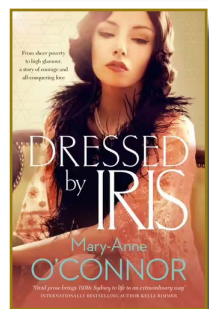
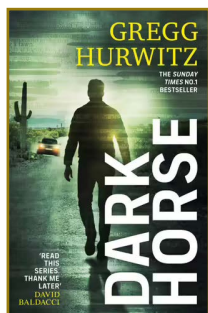
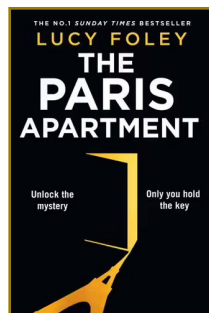


New Releases for April

Mystery

Take Your Breath Away
My Darling Husband
The Shadow House
For Your Own Good
The Paris Apartment
One Step Too Far
Something to Hide
Dark Horse
Deadlock
Breathless
Exit .45

Linwood Barclay
Kimberly Belle
Anna Downes
Samantha Downing
Lucy Foley
Lisa Gardner
Elizabeth George
Greg Hurwitz
Quintin Jardine
Amy McCulloch
Ben Sanders



Australian

The Last Station
Dressed by Iris
Moonlight and the Pearler's Daughter
Wild Dogs

Nicole Alexander
Mary-Anne O'Connor
Lizzie Pook

Michael Trant

Novels

The Secrets of Bridgewater Bay
The Last House on the Street
Girl A

Julie Brooks
Dianne Chamberlain
Abigail Dean

Non-Fiction

In the Shadow of the Mountain

Silvia Vasquez-Lavado

Historical

The Gilded Years
The Little Wartime Library

Karin Tanabe
Kate Thompson

Romance

Invisible

Danielle Steel

Psychological

Girl 11
Playing Nice
A Flicker in the Dark

Amy Suiter Clarke
JP Delaney
Stacy Willingham

Scandanavian

The Mirror Man

Lars Kepler

Explore the BMI

Join a BMI tour to learn about the history and features of Ballarat's oldest cultural institution. Recently restored to its heritage condition, with stunning architecture and a large collection of heritage photographs dating back to the 1850s.



Tours depart each Tuesday at 2pm | \$10per person
1.5hrs duration
Group tours by arrangement, bookings essential

Our Library web-page
Reserve your copy >

Tours web-page
Book a Tour >

BALLARAT ANZACS

Display Talks & Research

4 April – 28 April | Library & Heritage Reading Room



Talks

Garry Snowden, President of the Arch of Victory & Avenue of Honour will facilitate a talk at 11am on each Thursday of the display:

Thu 7 April, 14 April, 21 April & 28 April.
Refer to the website for topics and speakers.

Research

Garry with the assistance of Neil Leckie from the Ballarat Ranger Military Museum and Yvon Davis will be available to assist with family research into BALLARAT ANZACS in the Heritage Reading Room:

Tuesdays & Thursdays between 12.00 and 2.00pm.

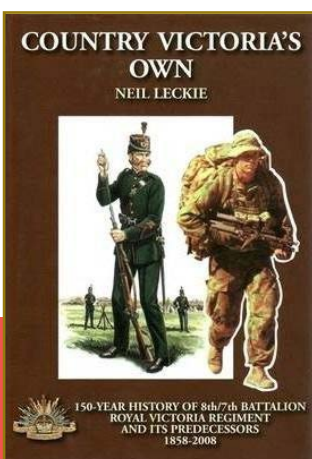
If you would like to take advantage of this opportunity please complete the enquiry form on the website.

Special note: If you are expecting to take-away data from your research, please ensure you bring a USB stick or another form of electronic information storage.

On sale in the library will be important local books:

- *Mining Mud & Medals* by the Victorian Interpretive Projects Group.
- *Country Victoria's Own* by Neil Leckie

[Go to our Event Listing](#)

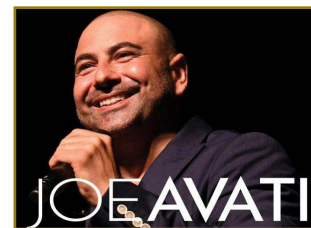


MiningMud&Medals

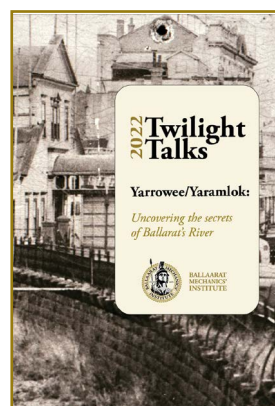
Joe Avati | 25 Live – Have some Respect Tour

Sunday 7 April, 7pm

The comedian touted as Australia's answer to Seinfeld is back with a brand new show for 2022 – and with most of us needing a good laugh after the events of the last two years, his tour will be just the ticket.



[Go to our Event Listing](#)



2022 Twilight Talks

Yarrowee/Yaramoluk:
Uncovering the Secrets of the Ballarat River

- Session 1 – Wednesday 13 April, 5pm
Yaramlok's Cultural Connection: *Then & now*
- Session 2 – Wednesday 20 April, 5pm
What bird or beast is that?
The special wildlife of the Yarrowee & surrounds
- Session 3 – Wednesday 27 April, 5pm
How people power is protecting local waterways
- Session 4 – Wednesday 4 May, 5pm
Liquid gold down under, and the "sludgy" history of Yarrowee Creek
- Session 5 – Wednesday 11 May, 5pm
From eel traps to bluestone: *Our changing use of the Yarrowee*

[Go to our Event Listing](#)

What's on

ballaratmi.org.au/events



Ballarat Film Society

Thursday 14 April, 7pm | *White Riot*

In late 1970s Britain, fascists and racists were gaining ground, extending their influence across popular culture.

This film documents a vital London protest movement established in response. Rock

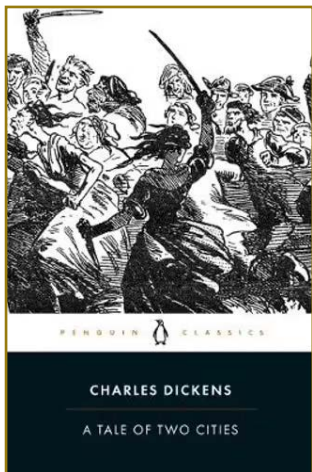
Against Racism (RAR) was formed in 1976, during a hostile environment of anti-immigrant hysteria and National Front marches. As neo-Nazis recruited the nation's youth, RAR's multicultural punk and reggae gigs provided rallying points for resistance.



White Riot, UK, 2019, 81 min.
Director: Rubika Shah.

The Reading Room

Tuesday 24 April, 10.30am | Hooper Room



Fahrenheit 451 by Ray Bradbury produced a lively discussion at the March meeting and members are looking forward to stepping into *Tale of Two Cities* by Charles Dickens at the April session.

If you would like to be a part of this monthly discussion group then

we would love to hear from you. The session is free, however you are required to be a member, we would be happy to offer a trial for non-members with a view to you joining the BMI.

[Go to our Event Listing](#)

Nellie in her own Write

Sunday 29 May, 2pm

Nathan Bryon (tenor), Natalie Grimmett (soprano) and Tom Nicholson (baritone) share Dame Nellie Melba's colourful life story through song with associate artist Sharolyn Kimmorley AM.

Beloved arias and songs are interspersed with/ accentuated by/highlighted with entertaining stories and anecdotes from Melba's memoir, *Melodies and Memories* narrated by Stefan Cassommenos.

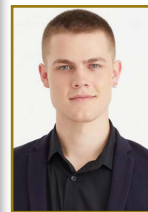
[Go to our Event Listing.](#)



Nathan
Bryon



Natalie
Grimmett



Tom
Nicholson



Stefan
Cassommenos

current affairs

This member lead discussion group will meet fortnightly at 10.30am. The first of these sessions will begin in May. Members will bring 1 or 2 cuttings or articles from a current newspaper or news-source that they would like to put up for discussion. Please contact the Library to register your interest or register your interest at:

[ballaratmi.org.au/news-and-newsletters/
clubs-talks-and-associations/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/news-and-newsletters/clubs-talks-and-associations/)

Our Events web-page
[BMI Events](#)

Rosemary's

Book of the month

Ballarat Chess Club

Thursdays at 6.30pm

Tournament games begin 7.30pm and the Junior Chess Club meet 6pm, everyone welcome.

P | 0499 255 240

E | president@ballaratchess.com



BALLARAT FILM SOCIETY

We meet , every 2nd Thursday of the month
7pm for 7.30pm start.



Check the website for program updates and screenings.

P | (03) 5341 2266
[ballaratfilmsociety](http://ballaratfilmsociety.com)



BMI Vintage

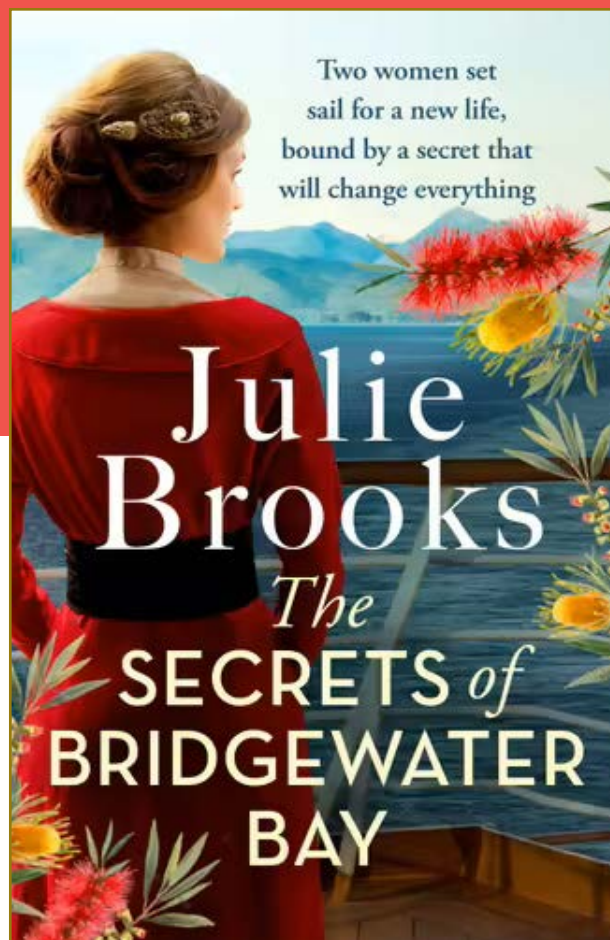
& Collectables

Thursdays & Fridays
11am – 3pm | Opening in February.

Go to the shop web-page for details on operating hours, how you can be involved in this volunteer lead initiative.

The shop is an important BMI fundraiser.

ballaratmi.org.au/shop/bmi-vintage-and-collectables



Ballaarat Mechanics' Institute acknowledges the support of Ballarat City Council

CITY OF
BALLARAT

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Library Hours
Monday to Friday 10am – 2pm
Saturday 9.30am – Noon
Venue Hire Enquiries
venue@ballaratmi.org.au
0419 677 713

