

Newsletter



**BALLARAT
MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE**

OCTOBER / 2022

*Salon
Sessions*



Author of the Month

Jock Serong:

Jock is an Australian author, who writes crime fiction, suspense and thriller novels.

Today Jock resides in Port Fairy. In addition to being a noteworthy author, Jock also practices law.



Jock Serong

Book of the Month

The Seamstress of Sardinia by Bianca Pitzorno

Born in poverty, the seamstress spends her days sewing in the houses of wealthy families. Her work is simple and honest, taught by her nonna, she skilfully prepares nightgowns, undergarments and children's cloths, leaving the finer work of dressmaking to the ateliers in Paris. Her story weaves in and out of the lives of the people she works for, whose secrets and scandals she is privy to.

Set at the dawn of the twentieth century, The story follows the girl as he grows into a woman, strives to educate herself and falls in love-always fighting for independence in a world dominated by men and old social conventions.

Recommended reads

The Paris Mystery by Kirsty Manning

As Australian journalist Charlotte 'Charlie' alights at the Gare du Nord, ready to start her role as correspondent for The Times, Paris is in turmoil as talk of war becomes increasingly strident.

Charlie is chasing her first big scoop, needing to prove to her boss that she can do this job as well as, if not better than, her male counterparts. And the best way to forge the necessary contacts quickly is to make the well-connected expats, Lord and Lady Ashworth, her business.

On a summer solstice eve, the party is in full swing with the cream of Parisian society entranced by burlesque dancers, tightrope walkers, a jazz band and fireworks lighting the night skies. But as Charlie is drawn into the magical world of parties, couture houses and bohemian wine bars, secrets start to unravel including her own. Putting a foot wrong could spell death ...

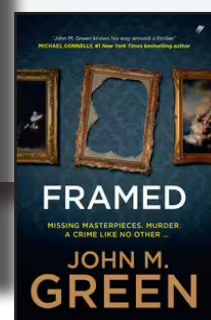
The Girl in the Green Dress by Jenni Haynes/Dr. George Blair-West & Alley Pascoe

This is a harrowing, unforgettable and ultimately inspiring memoir from woman who refused to be silenced. Including powerful and fascinating insights from Dr George Blair-West, Jeni's psychiatrist and an expert in DID who worked with her for over twenty years, this is a unique and profoundly important book for victims of abuse, their families, clinicians, police and anyone interested in the complexity of the human mind. Is it proof that survival is possible and joy can be found after the darkest of times.

Framed by John M. Green

As a scientist, Ben understood the seriousness of his condition. But what he didn't expect was how being a patient would make him feel. During eighteen long months of treatment, including repeated radiation, high-risk surgery and aggressive chemotherapy, Ben felt scared, overwhelmed, sometimes invisible and often alone.

As he recovered, it struck Ben that after everything he'd been through he couldn't go back to his former career. He needed a change – and he wanted to make change. He wanted to become a doctor. He passed the medical school entrance exam and dived headfirst into an unrelenting timetable and the challenge of maintaining empathy under pressure...

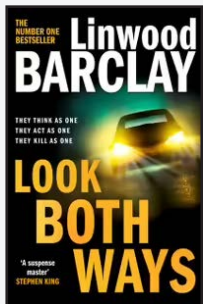


New Releases for September

Mystery

A Silent Truth
Look Both Ways
Woman on Fire
The Rising Tide
The Ink Black Heart
Listen to Me
The Last Party
Next In Line
Old Bones Lie
Closer to the Dead

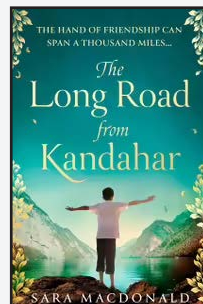
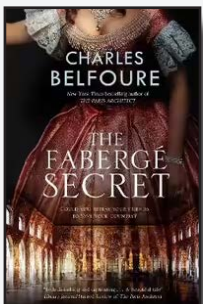
Rachel Amphlett
 Linwood Barclay
 Lisa Barr
 Ann Cleeves
 Robert Galbraith
 Tess Gerritsen
 Clare Mackintosh
 Marion Todd
 Marion Todd
 Scott Hunter



Historical

The Faberge Secret
The Last Dress from Paris
The Proxy Bride
The Italian Ballerina
The Long Road from Kandahar

Charles Belfoure
 Jade Beer
 Zoe Boccabella
 Kristy Cambron
 Sara MacDonald



Novel

The Seamstress of Sardinia

Bianca Pitzorno

Romance

The Wedding Party

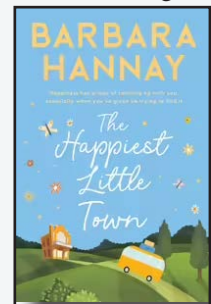
Kathy Kelly

Australian

The French Agent
Becoming Beth
The Keepers of the Lighthouse
The Crimson Thread
Framed
The Happiest Little Town
The Paris Mystery
The Pride
The Settlement

Belinda Alexandra
 Meredith Appleyard

Kaye Dobbie
 Kate Forsyth
 John M. Green
 Barbara Hannay
 Kirsty Manning
 Tony Park
 Jock Serong



Psychological

Stay Awake

Megan Goldin

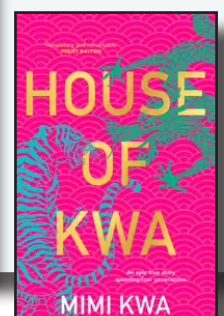
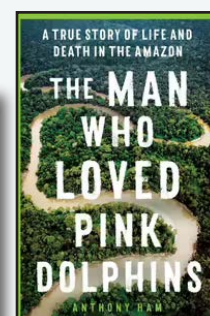
Non-Fiction

The Girl Who Fell From the Sky
The Man Who Loved Pink Dolphins
The Girl in The Green Dress

Emma Carey

Anthony Ham
 Jeni Haynes/Dr
 George Blair-West
 & Alley Pascoe
 Melody Horrill
 Mimi Kwa
 Rachel Kennedy

A Dolphin called Jock
House of Kwa
Rachel



Around the BMI

2021/22 Annual Report

To be presented for adoption at the AGM.
4 October @ 4pm

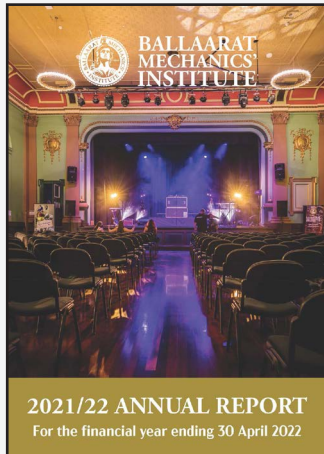
President's Report Overview

It is very rewarding to have the support of our members and the local community for our programs and events as we emerge from the lock-downs and restrictions of the Covid pandemic.

Our members and volunteers are the heart of the BMI, and it is this strong and committed base that provides the essential foundation for all that we do. I'd like to thank members and volunteers for their support and commitment during the past 12 months.

Highlights for the year include:

- The Board and staff have continued to review operations and explore opportunities to ensure that the BMI continues to be a vibrant hub of community engagement,
- We successfully held workshops to explore opportunities for the use of the building including the renovated basement,
- Conducted an internal review of all space within our building to ensure we maximise the use of space and income,
- Relaunched our Twilight Talks and building tour programs,
- We successfully participated in the Ballarat Heritage Festival,
- Hosted our first exhibition in our renovated basement – the Ballarat Foto Biennale “The Michael Gudinski” exhibition had more than 3,000 visitors, and,
- The BMI 2022 annual fundraising appeal raised \$92,430.



I would like to acknowledge the valuable financial support we have received from the **State and Commonwealth Governments via Job Keeper**, Business support packages, and the significant grants from **DELWP** and **Creative Victoria**. Without this support, the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic would have had a much more severe impact on the viability of the BMI.

We have continued to develop a valuable relationship with the **City of Ballarat** and thank them for their support via our City of Ballarat Strategic Partnership program.

Board

I would like to thank the BMI Board for their hard work, diligence, professional expertise, and generosity of their time. In addition to quarterly Board meetings, each Board member also provides their energy and time to working groups and committees which meet on a regular basis.

Mike Stephens - President

Rosemary's 2022 Book-Sale

We are planning a fundraising Book Sale in December and we need your pre-loved books to help us do so. If you would like to clear your book shelves in preparation for your 2022 Christmas presents, then we would like to hear from you. We are happy to take delivery of books during regular Library operating hours.



Current
Affairs
Dialogue
AT BMI

**The
Reading
Room**

If you would like to be involved in these member lead discussion groups, you would be most welcome. Go to our Events Webpage to see how you can become involved.

Go to our [Events Page](#) for more.

Around the BMI

BMI Vintage

& Collectables

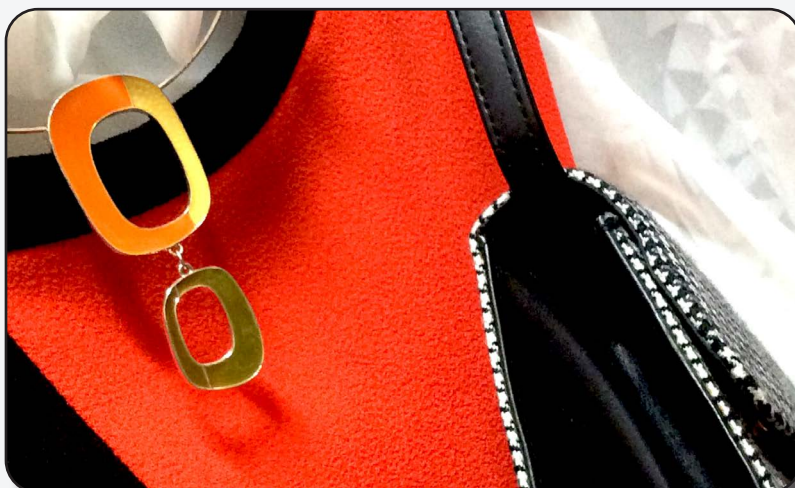
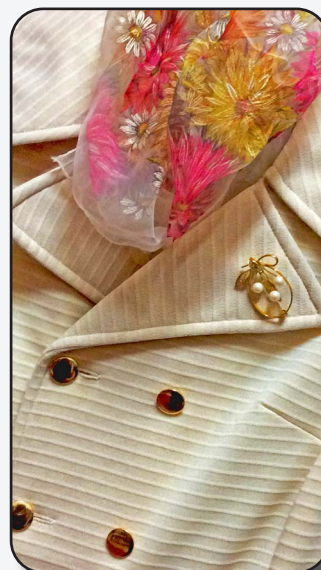


Vintage & Collectables

This shop has been operating since 2019 and is a major fundraiser for the BMI.

All staff who assist with the shop are volunteers and we appreciate their assistance over the years, we are also grateful for those kind patrons who have donated clothing and collectables, enabling us to stock eagerly anticipated quality vintage.

We are now operating extended hours, Wednesday & Friday 11am to 3pm, Thursdays through until 4pm and **the first Saturday of the month**, pop in to say hello to Geraldine and Dona.

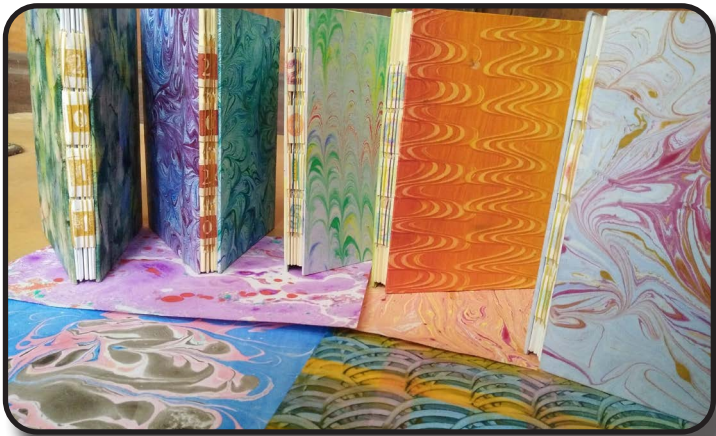
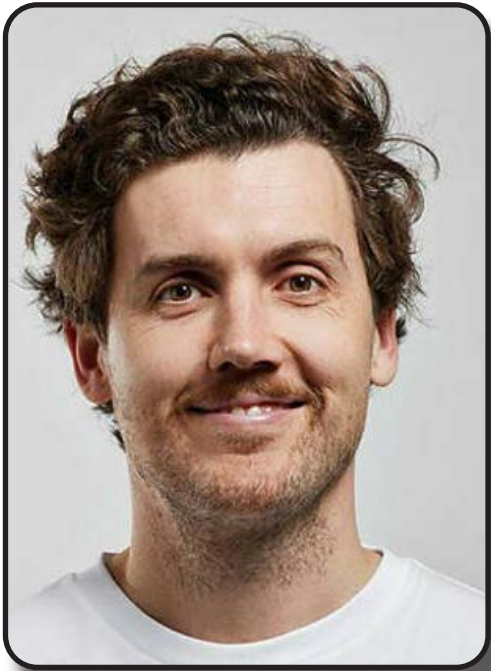


BMI Vintage

& Collectables



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OPENING HOURS

Library:	Mon-Thu -Fri, 10am-4pm Wed & Thu 10-3pm Sat 9.30am-12noon Sun Closed	Vintage & Collectables	Sun-Tue Closed Wed-Thu 11am-3pm Fri 11am-4pm First Sat of month 11am-3pm	117 – 119 Sturt Street, Ballarat VIC 3350 ballaratmi.org.au library@ballaratmi.org.au (03) 5331 3042
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WHAT'S'ON



WHAT'S ON						
	TUE 4 OCT 10am-3pm Library 10am-3pm Innovators Exh 2pm- 3pm BMI Tours	WED 5 OCT 10am-4pm Library 10am-4pm Innovators Exh 11am-3pm Vintage Shop 7.30pm-9pm Kadampa Meditation	THU 6 OCT 10am-3pm Library 10am-3pm Innovators Exh 11am-4pm Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm Ballarat Chess Club	FRI 7 OCT 10am-4pm Library 10am-3pm Innovators Exh 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables	SAT 8 OCT 9.30am-12noon Library 9.30am- 12noon Innovators Exh	SUN 9 OCT Closed Library
MON 10 OCT 10am-4pm Library 10am-4pm Innovators Exh	TUE 11 OCT 10am-3pm Library 10am-3pm Innovators Exh 2pm- 3pm BMI Tours	WED 12 OCT 10am-4pm Library 10am-4pm Innovators Exh 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables 7.30pm-9pm Kadampa Meditation	THU 13 OCT 10am-3pm Library 10am-3pm Innovators Exh 10am-1pm Book-making With Maggie Dannatt 11am-4pm Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm Ballarat Chess Club 7pm-9.30pm Ballarat Film Society, Quo Vadis, Aida?	FRI 14 OCT 10am-4pm Library 10am-3pm Innovators Exh 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables	SAT 15 OCT 9.30am-12noon Library 9.30am- 12noon Innovators Exh	SUN 16 OCT Closed Library
MON 17 OCT 10am-4pm Library 10am-4pm Innovators Exh	TUE 18 OCT 10am-3pm Library 10am-3pm Innovators Exh 11am-12pm Chris Hammer in conversation with Lyn Yeowart 2pm- 3pm BMI Tours	WED 19 OCT 10am-4pm Library 10am-4pm Innovators Exh 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables 7.30pm-9pm Kadampa Meditation	THU 20 OCT 10am-3pm Library 10am-3pm Innovators Exh 10am-1pm Book-making With Maggie Dannatt 11am-4pm Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm Ballarat Chess Club	FRI 21 OCT 10am-4pm Library 10am-4pm Innovators Exh 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables	SAT 22 OCT 9.30am-12noon Library 9.30am- 12noon Innovators Exh 8pm-9pm Daniel Connell, Gutless Wonder	SUN 23 OCT Closed Library
MON 24 OCT 10am-4pm Library 10am-4pm Innovators Exh 10.30am-11.30am Book Club	TUE 25 OCT 10am-3pm Library 10am-3pm Innovators Exh 2pm- 3pm BMI Tours 10.30am-2pm The Reading Room	WED 26 OCT 10am-4pm Library 10am-4pm Innovators Exh 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables 7.30pm-9pm Kadampa Meditation	THU 27 OCT 10am-3pm Library 10am-3pm Innovators Exh 10am-1pm Book-making With Maggie Dannatt 11am-4pm Vintage & Collectables 1pm-3pm CAD at BMI 6.30pm Ballarat Chess Club	FRI 28 OCT 10am-4pm Library 10am-4pm Innovators Exh 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables	SAT 29 OCT 9.30am-12noon Library 9.30am- 12noon Innovators Exh 10.30am-11.30am Book Club	SUN 30 OCT Closed Library
MON 31 OCT 10am-4pm Library 10am-4pm Innovators Exh	TUE 1 NOV 10am-3pm Library 10am-3pm Innovators Exh 2pm- 3pm BMI Tours	WED 2 NOV 10am-4pm Library 10am-4pm Innovators Exh 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables 5.30pm-7pm Twilight Talks 7.30pm-9pm Kadampa Meditation	THU 3 NOV 10am-3pm Library 10am-3pm Innovators Exh 10am-1pm Book-making With Maggie Dannatt 11am-4pm Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm Ballarat Chess Club	FRI 4 NOV 10am-4pm Library 10am-4pm Innovators Exh 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables	SAT 5 NOV 9.30am-12noon Library 9.30am- 12noon Innovators Exh 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables 7pm-9pm Charm of Finches (w Coda Chroma)	SUN 6 NOV Closed Library 2pm-3.30pm Salon Sessions, Duo Latte

Exhibition, Innovation, environment, ecology & climate

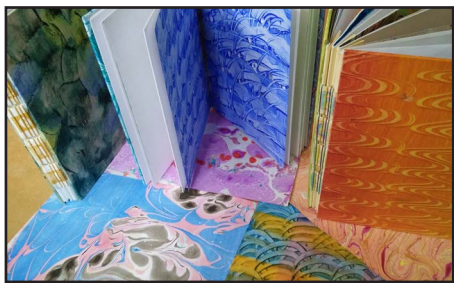
Until - 24 October | Heritage Reading Room

This exhibition is based on topics of the recent Twilight Talks, Season 2. It comprises of our collection of heritage books and support from Federation University Historical Collection.

For more: [Go to our events page](#)

Book-Making with Maggie Dannatt

Wednesdays, 13 October - 3 November, 10am - 1pm | Heritage Reading Room



I made my first book as a teenager, wanting to save all my favorite Don Martin cartoons from all the

Mad magazines I had bought. I later learnt basic bookbinding at art school so that I could bind the books I was illustrating. I have made many sketch books since then and taught these skills to children and adults.

I love creating art that taps into a sense of play and is easily accessible to everyone.

In these workshops we start by making decorated papers that we then paste and sew together to create a simple book. It is a variation on the concertina style.

The book will be a beautiful long lasting item to hold photos, drawings, writing or all of the above.

This is a 4 part series | Cost: BMI members \$94.40 Concession: \$118.80 | Regular: \$132.00 incl. gst. Maximum of 8 attendees.

Bookings: [Go to our events page](#)

Ballarat Film Society

Thursday 13 October, 7pm
Quo Vadis, Aida? | The Minerva Ballarat

Bosnia, 1995, middle-aged Aida is a United Nations translator located in the small mountain town of Srebrenica when the Serbian army ignores a UN peace ultimatum and begins a series of round-ups. Aida's translation skills come into action when Aida and her family find themselves among 30,000 besieged citizens attempting to find shelter. The director, herself a survivor of the war, has made a film of universal urgency and power.



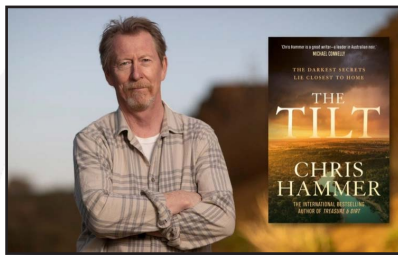
Bosnia and Herzegovina, 2021, 101 min.
Directed by Jasmila Zbanic

Go to our [Events Page](#) for more.

Chris Hammer: In conversation with Lyn Yeowart

Tuesday 18 October | 11am - 12pm
Humffray Room

Join bestselling crime writer Chris Hammer in conversation with 2022 Indie Book Award winner for debut fiction, Lyn Yeowart. the multi-award-winning author of *Scrublands* will be discussing his highly anticipated novel *The Tilt*.



Yeowart's debut novel *The Silent Listener* and Hammer's latest work explore protagonist returning home and delve into gritty stories set in the heart of small-town Australia.

Got a question for Chris? There will be a 5 minute Q&A at the end of the session.

Books available for purchase and signing. A partnership with Ballarat Municipal Libraries

Tickets: Free
Bookings: [Go to our events page](#)

BALLARAT LIBRARIES
LOVE YOUR LIBRARY

Daniel Connell | Gutless Wonder

Saturday 22 October, 8pm



Award-nominated stand-up comedian Daniel Connell (as seen on the Melbourne International Comedy

Festival Gala, and Kinne Tonight) brings his new show Gutless Wonder to Ballarat for one night only. Despite the pandemic, 2021 was a huge year for Daniel, he made his third appearance on The Gala, sold out his entire run at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival, and announced his first Australian tour.

In 2022 Daniel made his first appearance on the Opening Night Allstar Supershow (ABC), and sold out his entire run at the Melbourne International Comedy Festival.

Don't miss out on this show! Grab your mates for a guaranteed night of laughs.

For tickets go to:
<https://www.minervaballarat.com.au/>

2022 Twilight Talks

Wednesdays, 2 November - 23 November, 5pm/5.30pm - 6.30pm

We are finalising the program for this series, please keep an eye on the website for updates.

Bookings: [Go to our events page](#)

Charm of Finches (w Coda Chroma)

Saturday 5 November, 7pm



Melbourne sister duo Charm of Finches (aka Mabel and Ivy Windred-Wornes) makes haunted tunes about love, grief and

whispering trees; indie folk awash with seamless blood harmonies traversing melancholy and wonder in equal measure.

For tickets go to:
<https://www.minervaballarat.com.au/>

Salon Sessions

In partnership with Duo Latte

Sunday 6 November, 2pm

Come and John Dods, and Dana Czarski for an afternoon of light classics for cello and piano in the ambiance of the Humffray Room.

Afternoon Tea provided in the Library courtesy Afredton Rotary Club.

Bookings: [Go to our events page](#)



In conversation with Fleur McDonald

Wednesday 16 November, 5.30pm - 7.30pm
Humffray Room



Don't miss this opportunity to learn more about Fleur and hear what's in store for this engaging Australian Author. Keep an eye on our website for details.

Tickets \$10 per person.

BMI Maker & Community Market

Maker Market & Book Sale

Maker Market & Book Sale coming 17 & 18 December, keep an eye on our website for details.

BALLARAT MECHANICS' INSTITUTE Events

Keep an eye on our *Events Webpage* updates.

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

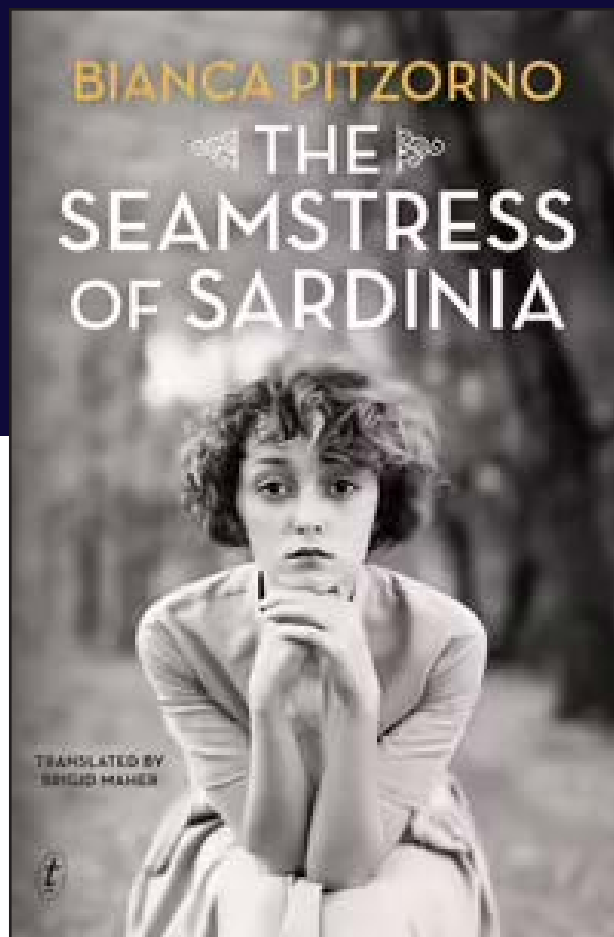
& Collectables

Wed & Fri| 11am – 3pm
Thur | 11am – 4pm
First Saturday of the Month

In line with the new Library
operating hours and the
enlivening of our Front of
House shopping strip
Geraldine Roberts is
experimenting with extended
operating hours. Keep an eye on our website for details.

The shop is an important BMI fundraiser.

[vintage&collectables >](#)



Ballaarat Mechanics' Institute
acknowledges the support of
Ballarat City Council

CITY OF
BALLARAT

Ballarat Mechanics' Institute
117 – 119 Sturt Street, Ballarat VIC 3350
ballaratmi.org.au
library@ballaratmi.org.au
(03) 5331 3042



Library Hours
Mon. Wed. & Fri. 10am – 4pm
Tue. & Thu. 10am – 3pm
Saturday 9.30am – Noon
Venue Hire Enquiries
venue@ballaratmi.org.au
0419 677 713