

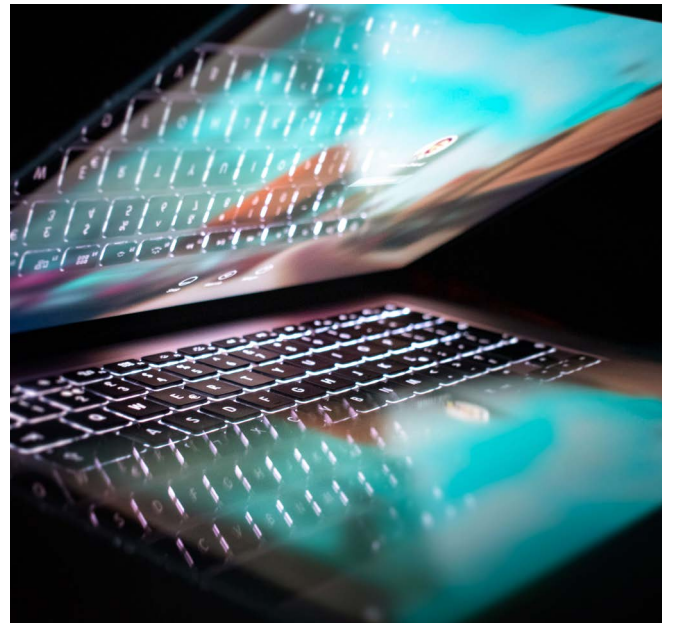
Newsletter



**BALLAARAT
MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE**

**2023 Twilight
Talks**

Community Bank
Buninyong
Bendigo Bank



FEBRUARY/ 2023



Author of the Month

Jennifer Chase

Jennifer is a fiction author, as well as a consulting criminologist. She holds a bachelor degree in criminology & criminal justice.



Jennifer Chase

Jennifer lives in California with her husband dogs and cats.

Book of the Month

The Light We Carry by Michelle Obama

The Light We Carry offers readers a series of fresh stories and insightful reflections on change, challenge and power, including her belief that when we light up for others, we can illuminate the richness and potential of the world around us, discovering deeper truths and new pathways for progress. Drawing from her experiences as a mother, daughter, spouse friend and *First Lady*, she shares the habits and principles she has developed to successfully overcome various obstacles.

Recommended reads

The Crimson Thread by Kate Forsyth

In Nazi-occupied Crete, a young woman risks her life to hide two allied soldiers.

When Crete is invaded by the Germans in May 1941. Alenka saves the lives of two young Australian soldiers.

Jack and Teddy are childhood friends who joined up together to see the world. Both are left behind when the tattered remains of the Allied soldiers must evacuate Crete, after a bitter eleven-day battle. They are forced to hide for months as the Nazi occupiers tighten their grip on the island.

But all three will find themselves tested to their limits. Alenka's brother is a traitor and a collaborator who spies on her every move, and the Germain's are determined to crush any hint of defiance.

Alenka must choose whom to trust, and whom to love, and in the end whom to save.

The Night Watch by Neil Lancaster.

A lawyer is found dead at sunrise on a lonely cliff-top at Dunnett Head on the northern most tip of Scotland. It was supposed to be his honeymoon, but now his wife will never see him again.

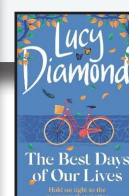
The case is linked to several mysterious deaths, including the murder of the lawyer's last client – Scotland's most notorious criminal – who has just walked free. DS Max Craigie knows this can only mean one thing: they have a vigilante serial killer on their hands.

But this time the killer isn't on the run; he's on the investigation team. And the rules are different when the murderer is this close to home. He knows their weaknesses, knows how to stay hidden, and he thinks he's above the law.

The Best Days of Our Lives by Lucy Diamond.

When 35 year old Leni McKenzie is knocked off her bike, her family's world is turned upside down. Leni and her sister Alice were best friends, as well as siblings. But did they know each other as well as Alice thought? In the hope of coming to terms with her grief, she tries to piece together Leni's last weeks – but her discoveries only lead to more questions. And that's before the surprise reappearance of someone from the past. Life is certainly getting very complicated...

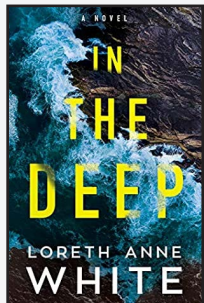
Meanwhile, the rest of the family seem to be falling apart, Belinda, Alice's mum has developed an unhealthy obsession with a clairvoyant, and Tony, her dad, is stressed about becoming a father all over again...



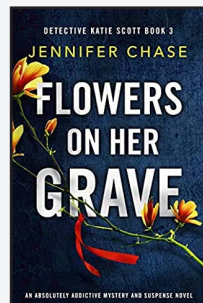
New Releases

Mystery

Starvation Lake
Last Girls Alive
Flowers on her Grave
NO Plan B
Desert Star
Racing the Light
Ice Cold Malice
A Killer's Heart
Bleeding Heart Yard
The Boys from Biloxi
Gone to Ground
Know No Evil
The Soulmate
The Blood Tide
Hidden Scars
The Girl in the Castle
Find Me in the Dark
The Killing Parade
The It Girl
In The Deep



John Carson
 Jennifer Chase
 Jennifer Chase
 Lee Child
 Michael Connelly
 Robert Crais
 Rhys Dylan
 Thomas Fincham
 Elly Griffiths
 John Grisham
 Bronwyn Hall
 Graeme Hampton
 Sally Hepworth
 Neil Lancaster
 Angela Marsons
 James Patterson
 Dea Poirier
 T.G. Reid
 Ruth Ware
 Loreth Anne White



Australian

When we Fall
Day's End
Keeping up Appearances
Murder In Williamstown
Broad River Station
Call of Empire
One Woman's War

Aoife Clifford
 Garry Disher
 Tricia Stringer
 Kerry Greenwood
 Fleur McDonald
 Peter Watt
 Christine Wells

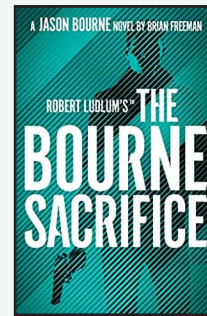
Historical

The Hidden Place
The Wife who Risked
Everything

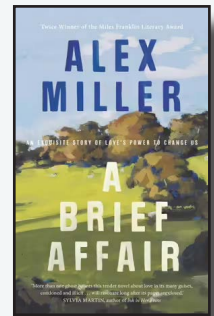
Dinah Jefferies
 Ellie Midwood

Novel

The Bourne Sacrifice
The Temple of Skulls



Robert Ludlum
 Andy McDermott



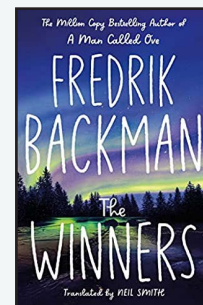
Literature

A Brief Affair

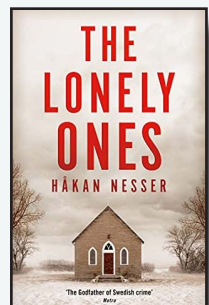
Alex Miller

Scandinavian

The Winners
For the Lost
Little Drummer
The Lonely Ones



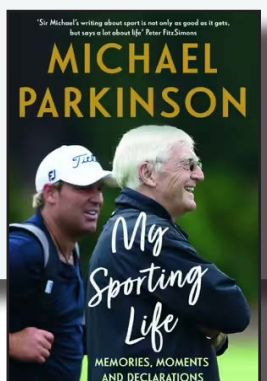
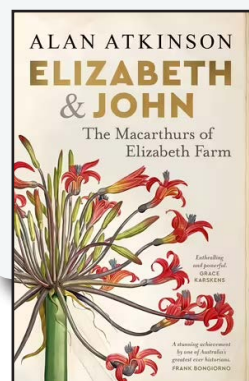
Fredrik Backman
 Lina Bengtsdotter
 Kjell Ola Dahl
 Hakan Nesser



Non Fiction

Elizabeth and John
Big Things Grow
The Light We Carry
My Sporting Life

Alan Atkinson
 Sarah Donnelley
 Michelle Obama
 Michael Parkinson





BALLAARAT
MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE

FEBRUARY



Public Talk

Choose Happiness



OPENING HOURS

Library: Mon-Thu -Fri, 10am-4pm
Wed & Thu | 10-3pm
Sat 9.30am-12noon
Sun Closed
Christmas closures 23 - 31 Dec

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

WHAT'S'ON



	<div>TUE 31 JAN</div> <div>10am-3pm Library 2pm- 3pm BMI Tours</div>	<div>WED 1 FEB</div> <div>10am-4pm Library 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables 7.30pm-9pm Choose Happiness Gen Kelsang Dornying</div>	<div>THU 2 FEB</div> <div>10am-3pm Library 10am-1pm Book-making With Maggie Dannatt 11am-4pm Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm Ballarat Chess Club</div>	<div>FRI 3 FEB</div> <div>10am-4pm Library 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables</div>	<div>SAT 5 FEB</div> <div>9.30am-12noon Library 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables</div>	<div>SUN 5 FEB</div> <div>Closed Library</div>
<div>MON 6 FEB</div> <div>10am-4pm Library</div>	<div>TUE 7 FEB</div> <div>10am-3pm Library 2pm- 3pm BMI Tours</div>	<div>WED 8 FEB</div> <div>10am-4pm Library 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables 5.30pm-7pm Twilight Talks 7.30pm-9pm Kadampa Meditation</div>	<div>THU 9 FEB</div> <div>10am-3pm Library 10am-1pm Book-making With Maggie Dannatt 11am-4pm Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm Ballarat Chess Club</div>	<div>FRI 10 FEB</div> <div>10am-4pm Library 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables</div>	<div>SAT 11 FEB</div> <div>9.30am-12noon Library</div>	<div>SUN 12 FEB</div> <div>Closed Library</div>
<div>MON 13 FEB</div> <div>10am-4pm Library</div>	<div>TUE 14 FEB</div> <div>10am-3pm Library 2pm- 3pm BMI Tours</div>	<div>WED 15 FEB</div> <div>10am-4pm Library 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables 5.30pm-7pm Twilight Talks 7.30pm-9pm Kadampa Meditation</div>	<div>THU 16 FEB</div> <div>10am-3pm Library 10am-1pm Book-making With Maggie Dannatt 11am-4pm Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm Ballarat Chess Club</div>	<div>FRI 17 FEB</div> <div>10am-4pm Library 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables</div>	<div>SAT 18 FEB</div> <div>9.30am-12noon Library</div>	<div>SUN 19 FEB</div> <div>Closed Library</div>
<div>MON 20 FEB</div> <div>10am-4pm Library</div>	<div>TUE 21 FEB</div> <div>10am-3pm Library 2pm- 3pm BMI Tours 10.30am-2pm The Reading Room</div>	<div>WED 22 FEB</div> <div>10am-4pm Library 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables 5.30pm-7pm Twilight Talks 7.30pm-9pm Kadampa Meditation</div>	<div>THU 23 FEB</div> <div>10am-3pm Library 11am-4pm Vintage & Collectables 10am-1pm Book-making With Maggie Dannatt 6.30pm Ballarat Chess Club</div>	<div>FRI 24 FEB</div> <div>10am-4pm Library 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables</div>	<div>SAT 25 FEB</div> <div>9.30am-12noon Library</div>	<div>SUN 26 FEB</div> <div>Closed Library</div>
<div>MON 27 FEB</div> <div>10am-4pm Library</div>	<div>TUE 28 FEB</div> <div>10am-3pm Library 2pm- 3pm BMI Tours</div>	<div>WED 1 MAR</div> <div>10am-4pm Library 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables 5.30pm-7pm Twilight Talks 7.30pm-9pm Kadampa Meditation</div>	<div>THU 2 MAR</div> <div>10am-3pm Library 11am-4pm Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm Ballarat Chess Club</div>	<div>FRI 3 MAR</div> <div>10am-4pm Library 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables</div>	<div>SAT 4 MAR</div> <div>9.30am-12noon Library 11am-3pm Vintage & Collectables</div>	<div>SUN 5 MAR</div> <div>Closed Library</div>



BALLAARAT MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

Dried Floral Arrangement with Fay Marshall

Wednesday 25 January, 11am



Learn to make beautiful floral arrangements and posies and how you can use colouring to enhance all your arrangements

Bookings go to: ballaratmi.org.au/events

Choose Happiness | A Public Talk, Buddhist Monk, Gen Kelsand Dornying

Wednesday 1 February | 7.30pm 9pm

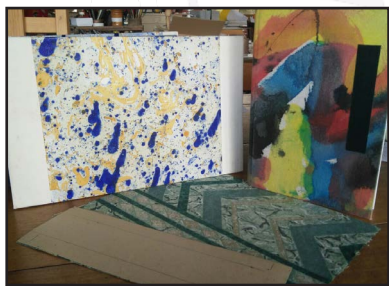
Join Buddhist monk Gen Kelsang Dornying for a one-night-only public talk on true happiness. Gen Dornying will explain the art of meditation, and how to enjoy great quality of life – whatever happens!



Bookings:
meditateinmelbourne.org/pages/special-events

Book & Photo Album Making workshop with Maggie Dannatt

Thursday 2, 9, 16 & 23 February, 10am-1pm
Heritage Reading Room



Two projects will be completed in these classes: One a classic Photo album with the pages sewn into a concertina spine to allow for extra thick items

to be added at a later date. The cover will have a buckram spine and corners.

Cost: For all 4 sessions
Members \$120 - Conc \$130 - Regular \$150
Bookings go to: ballaratmi.org.au/events

2023 Twilight Talks

Wednesday 8, 15, 22 February, 1 & 8 March
5.30pm-7pm | Humffray Room

From travel to the red planet to Ballarat's Commonwealth Games:

BMI's Twilight Talks brought to you by the
Community Bank, Buninyong

2023 is off to a bang with the latest series: Ballarat
Mechanics' Institute's popular Twilight Talks.

We've found more fascinating local speakers
with topics as varied as astronomy, history,
and Ballarat's biggest upcoming event, the
Commonwealth Games with Steve Moneghetti AM.

We're excited to announce that thanks to the
generous support of the [Community Bank,
Buninyong](http://Community Bank, Buninyong), the BMI can offer these talks **free
of charge to the public.**

As a largely volunteer organisation with a big,
beautiful, old building to look after though, we
would be grateful for any voluntary donations.

Join us each Wednesday from 8th February to 8th
March, as the Twilight Talks take you to a new part
of Ballarat, the world, or indeed the universe!

Feb-March series schedule:

- Wed 8 Feb | *The Red Planet & Ballarat's
Lady Astronomer*

Graeme Hood, amateur astronomer and retired
electrical engineer on the prospect of life on the
red planet, Mars and what drives our desires to
go there.

Dr Anne Beggs-Sunter, Historian, Federation
University on the life and times of Ballarat's 'lady
astronomer' Effie Baker

- Wed 15 Feb | *A regional Commonwealth Games
& creating great teams*

Steve Moneghetti AM, Commonwealth Games
gold medalist and champion long distance runner
on what Ballarat can expect from the 2026
Commonwealth Games.

Gerard FitzGerald, former premiership coach
of the North Ballarat FC, and ABC Ballarat
sports commentator, on how great teams are made,
in sport, work and life.

- Wed 22 Feb | *History; The Ballarat Club
& Trades Hall*

Dr Phil Roberts OAM, Ballarat historian,
revealing research from his latest book on the
history of the *Ballarat Club 1872-2022*.

Jenny Beacham, local history researcher, with
a look at the history of one of Ballarat's most
storied institutions, *Trades Hall*.

- Wed 1 Mar | *Making a difference to Ballarat's
homeless*

Ballarat Future Shapers, Western Region
Leadership Project, and how they dreamed big
to help the homeless and deliver the *Sleepbus*
to Ballarat.

Michael Poulton, CEO, *Committee for Ballarat*
follows up with other big local projects and what
Ballarat could look like in the next 50 years.

- Wed 8 Mar | *Your data and how to protect it*

George Fong, Founder of *Lateral Plains* and
Ballarat's own 'tech guru' on why your data is so
valuable, and in the wake of recent major breaches,
how you can protect it.

All talks run for 1 hour in total and start at 5.30pm.

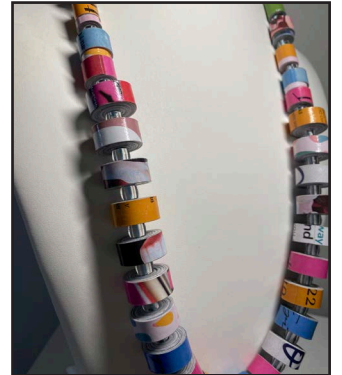
Tickets: FREE
Bookings Essential
ballaratmi.org.au/events

Community Bank
Buninyong
Bendigo Bank

Paper Bead-Making with Faye Heininger

Wednesday 8 & 15 March, 10.30am
Heritage Reading Room

This workshop is
designed for adult
beginners. It will allow
you to create your own
paper bead necklace
using recycled paper.
Paper selection will
determine the finished
product.



Jewelry by Faye Heininger

The workshop will
be a two-day course.

Session 1 - Will be a four-hour session where you
will learn to make the paper beads by:

- Select the correct paper
- Creating different size paper beads.
- Learning how to roll and create the desired
beads.
- Sealing your beads.

Session 2 - Will be a two-hour session where you
will focus on building and creating your necklace.
You will learn how to:

- Create your necklace using the beads you rolled
in session 1.
- Select some complimentary jewellery findings
and a clasp to enhance your beads, and
- Learn how to fit an acrylic clasp to your
necklace.

Cost: Includes 2 sessions
Members \$110 - Conc \$120 - Regular \$130
Bookings go to: ballaratmi.org.au/events

Glass Painting with Vienna Bischard

Wednesday 29 March, 5, 12 & 19 April
10.30am-12.30pm
Heritage Reading Room



Glass Painting
Vienna Bischard

Glass Painting is the
technique of applying
thick paint to a
translucent surface,
creating a transparent
work of art. In this
workshop, you will
be guided by Vienna
through painting on
Perspex sheets to
create your own.

This workshop covers design, transfer, and
technique.

Vienna is a young artist living and working
in Ballarat. She is currently studying for her
Masters in Fine Art at Federation University.

The workshop is suitable to wide skill ranges
and ages. The finished artworks look great in
windows, and have a stained glass appeal.

Vienna is brought to us by the
Femxle Experience Art Rebellion
Art Collective

Cost: For each session
Members \$18 - Conc \$23 - Regular \$25
Bookings go to: ballaratmi.org.au/events



ESTD 1859

BALLAARAT
MECHANICS'
INSTITUTE **E**vents

Around the BMI

2023 Twilight Talks

Support for Twilight Talks

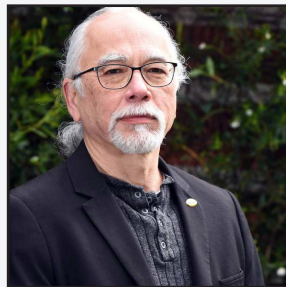
We hope you all have the opportunity to be engaged in Season 1 of the 2023 series of talks. We are thrilled to have the support of Community Bank Buninyong, this enables us to offer this well loved event, free of charge.

We involve local community identities who lead talks on local topics that involve us all, we hope you can join us.

Some of our speakers:



Steve Moneghetti AM



George Fong



Michael Poulton



Dr Anne Beggs-Sunter



Phil Roberts OAM

Bookings Essential:

ballaratmi.org.au/events

Support: If you or your organisation would like to support BMI Events then we would love to hear from you. Contact our Executive Manager:

execmanager@ballaratmi.org.au | (03)5331 3042



BMI Tenants

Our tenants are now all open and operating now that the holiday season is almost over, just as a reminder of who our tenants are:

- **The Sturt Street Cobbler.** Jeff has been a tenant for a very long time, his work is top class and I know many of our members are regular visitors.
- **Tickety Boo Antiques & Collectables.** Malcolm has a great range of anything and everything for the table and home interiors, quality, sophisticated items that have been cherished.
- **The Ballarat Imaginarium.** Melinda Muscat as many of you know is an established local artist, you may have attended workshops she has conducted at the BMI, she has been a regular supporter of our series of Maker Markets, her shop contains *fantastic imaginings* that include not only her work but that of many of Ballarat's creative talent.
- **Vintage and Collectables.** Whilst Geraldine Roberts and Dona Pentland aren't necessarily rent paying tenants they certainly more than make up for it with the volunteer hours and creative energy they put into this little shop being the success that it is, as well as being a major fundraiser for the BMI.
- **Woodward Nhill Financial Planning** Woodward Nhill have also been tenants for many years their Ballarat office sits at the very top of the BMI (in what used to be the Ballet Studio) and provides financial services to Ballarat.

We have a wonderful group of businesses in our small shopping precinct that really complement the Library and the BMI. We hope you get the opportunity to visit them.



Vintage & Collectables



The Ballarat Imaginarium

Around the BMI

Tours of the BMI

Katrina Hill (BMI Arts & Events Officer) who, in conjunction with Marilyn Furness (BMI Volunteer Coordinator) lead our team of volunteer tour guides spoke with Edwina Williams, Ballarat Times last week, if you would like to see the full article go to the Tuesday, January 17th, issue of the Ballarat Times, [Times News Group](#) or go to our [News & Newsletters](#) webpage where we have linked the article, courtesy Ballarat Times.

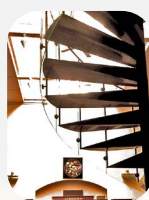
arts & culture

UNCOVER THE BMI'S *best secrets*



Resource-4.8: The huge Heritage Reading Room is packed with one-of-a-kind books, documents and specimens, some hundreds of years old. Photo: EDWINA WILLIAMS

Book a Tour Minerva's Secrets



Ballaratmi.org.au/Tours

Tour Volunteers

We would like to take the opportunity to thank our

Volunteer Tour Guides: Collections Volunteers

- Danni Stonehouse
- Judy Peters
- Neil Leckie
- Phil Roberts
- Marilyn Furness
- Barry Hughes
- Marian Blythman
- Judy Peters
- Danni Stonehouse
- Stuart Robinson
- Mary Walker

Library Volunteers

- Chrissy Stancliffe
- David Richardson
- Cheryl Russell
- Rosemary Tolhurst

Events Volunteers

We have an amazing events crew ensure you pickup our March Newsletter to find out who.

Enquiries

For any volunteer enquiries please contact, Marilyn Furness, Volunteer Coordinator
E: volunteers@ballaratmi.org.au

New Curator Role at BMI

We are pleased to announce that Ellen Becker has commenced working at the BMI as our Heritage Collection Curator.

Ellen is a museums and cultural heritage professional with a desire to connect communities with collections.

Ellen has experience in collections management, curating, delivery of education and public programs, and policy development.

As our Heritage Collection Curator the major objective will be to undertake the creative expansion and management of the Ballarat Mechanics' Institute's extensive book and photograph collection.

Ellen will usually be at the BMI each Friday. Please say hello next time you are in.

We are looking forward to bringing a diverse skill-set particularly in the roles of education management and media.

**Ballarat's Oldest
Cultural Institution**

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.



**New program starts mid
to late January 2023.**
Check the website for
program updates and
screenings.

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



BMI Vintage

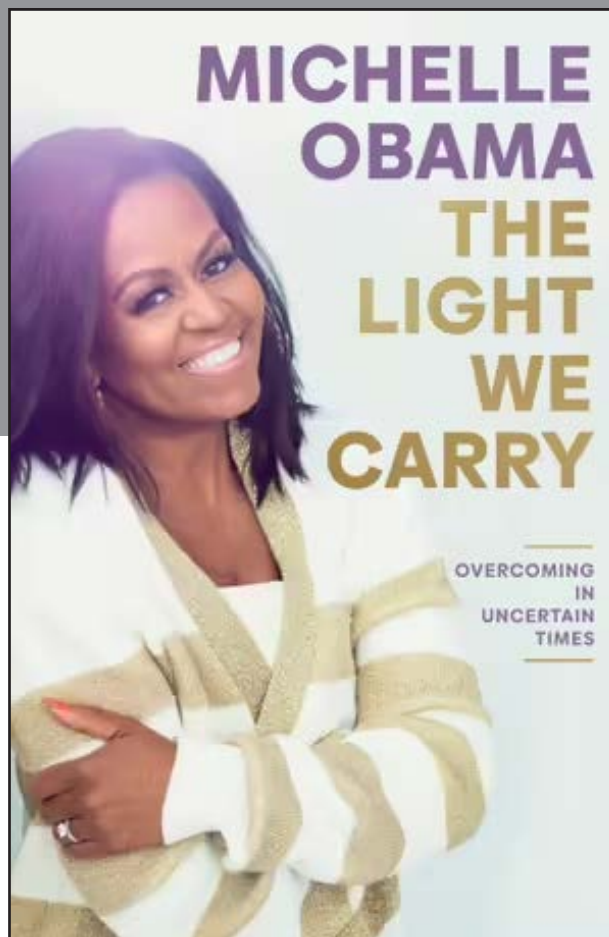
& Collectables

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

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