

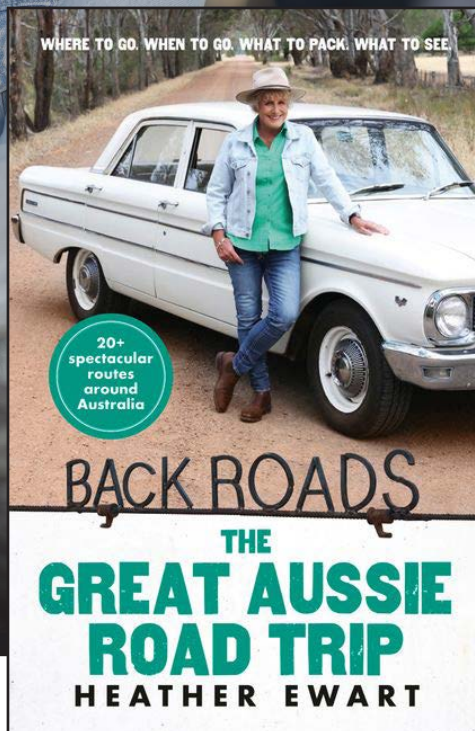


The Wheeler Centre  
Books Writing Ideas



## Heather Ewart In conversation

10 September at 6pm  
[ballaratmi.org.au/events/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/events/)



# Newsletter

SEP / 2024

## From the Chair

Hello everyone.

As we farewell the last few days of winter, the staff and volunteers at the BMI have been far away from hibernation!! The building has been alive with beautiful music and voices as we enjoyed having the wonderful Royal South Street Society in our Minerva Space and Humffray Room over the last couple of weeks. We would like to extend a heartfelt thank you to them for placing the Institute at the centre of these very important competitions and we look forward to playing a role again next year. More inside...



BALLARAT  
MECHANICS'  
INSTITUTE

# Message from the Chair

## Message from the Chair continued... from front page.

We were delighted to receive some very positive feedback regarding the venue, in terms of the aesthetically pleasing aspects of a Heritage Building and in general, in terms of acoustics and practicality of the spaces. We are committed to continuing to bring high quality music events into the venue and are currently looking at ways to market our capabilities in this area.



Bailey Montogomerie, Darcy Carroll, Bronwyn Douglass, Felicity Tomkins, Asher Reichman & Henry Shaw have advanced to the final to be held at Melbourne Recital Centre on Saturday 19 October. Photos: Capture My Event.



Sophie competed in both voice & debating.



Supper in the Humffray Room

As mentioned last newsletter, The Melbourne **Rare Book Week** event held in our Heritage Reading Room at the end of July was a sell out, and almost 40 people, many of whom were new visitors to the Ballarat and certainly

the BMI, enjoyed a presentation by our own Ellen Becker and Toni Burton from the State Library of Victoria. Feedback from the event was also very positive, with attendees surprised at what is contained within our building and the collection itself. Thanks to Phil Roberts and Ross Furness who also conducted building tours at the end of the presentation and to Rex Bridges who enlighten the crowd with details on the rare books presented on the day. We believe there is now an appetite for more regional events within this “festival” and we are proud to have been a trail blazer! As part of the promotions for this event, Ellen Becker our curator, had the opportunity to speak on the ABC radio, both in Ballarat and Melbourne and was able to present to a wide audience around the importance of Mechanic’s Institutes in the past and the relevance today. We thank her for creating this marketing opportunity and for her professionalism in delivering this message so eloquently.

Thanks also to Neil Leckie who delivered a talk to the ladies Probus Club at the Golf House Hotel on August 1. Neil of course is so well qualified to take our message out to other community groups and thanks to the group for providing a donation to the BMI in recognition of his time and expertise. Neil along with Phil Roberts, Judy Peters, Dani Stonehouse, Marilyn Furness and other volunteers continue to deliver the ever popular BMI Building tours. If anyone is involved with other community groups, please offer this to your groups, and indeed the option for one of us to come and talk about the BMI at an outside venue, we are still very aware that large segments of our community don’t know that we are here!

We are pleased to welcome a new staff member in Liam Mudge to work as the Venue Operations Manager. Liam brings with him technical skills, OH&S experience, event management in the music, arts and culture areas, and will work with Tim Constantine to enhance





# Message from the Chair

our customer service, event delivery and venue development going forward.

We have some almost sold out Author Talks coming up over the next couple of months (more inside...) so don't forget to book your places if you're keen, and also please pass these events to your contacts, the more the merrier!! I know that Rosemary is already working on some events for 2025 some in conjunction with other organisations and some internal functions as usual. We also thank Collins Booksellers on Lydiard for their continued support with this program.

On August 2nd, we were so pleased to host a lovely morning tea for the family and friends of the late John Mildren OAM upon receipt of the von Gerard framed print now hanging in our Lending Library. The piece was bequeathed to the BMI by Mr Mildren and has found a natural home at the Institute, continuing to tell the stories of early Ballarat. It is so pertinent to note that Mr Mildren was of course a man of education, becoming a teacher and then a senior lecturer at the Ballarat College of Advanced Education. The BMI having always been a place of education is privileged that he saw fit to add to the various educational resources of which we are custodians. Along with this aspect sits his work as a representative of the community of Ballarat through his parliamentary career. The BMI only came to be through the work of the community and indeed many members of parliament were instrumental in its establishment in the early years and those that followed.

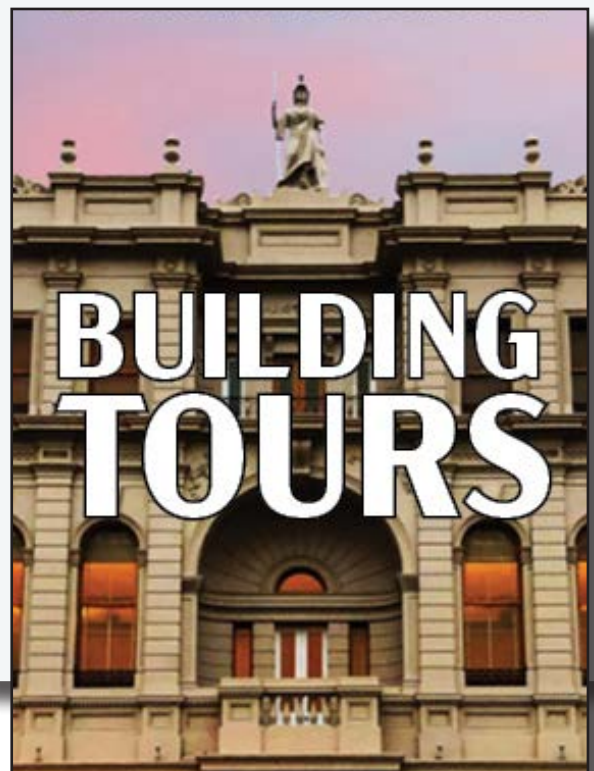
We are so thankful to be able to feature this remarkable work in our library, a fitting and extremely fine addition to our image collection featuring many scenes of Ballarat, this really does literally complete the picture in many ways, and we have already had much interest since it has been hung here.

At the BMI we are often participating in or hosting various festivals, our venues naturally providing options for differing formats of audience interaction. August was no different as we welcomed the **Festival of Australian Queer Theatre** from August 22-25. Thanks to Deb Lord and the team for activating our building and promoting the Institute through widening networks!

A reminder that the **Annual General Meeting** will be held in October, a notice will go out to Members shortly with details.

And finally, the BMI Board would like to extend a thank you to the trustees of the **E.D. Black** trust for a recent donation to the Institute. We continue to strengthen our profile and brand, in an effort to remain attractive to local trusts, foundations and corporate supporters in maintaining and developing the business. We continue to reach outside of our current membership base to the wider community to share the load and the reward of caring for our magnificent building and the Institute itself, this strategy hopefully resulting in longer term and mutually beneficial relationships for all.

**Paula Nicholson**



# Rosemary recommends

## Authors of the Month

### Josh Pomare

Josh is an award-winning writer, whose work has been widely published. He was born in New Zealand and now lives in Melbourne.



Don't miss Josh in-conversation on 4 September at the BMI. More information [Here](#)>.

### T.L.W. Robb

Tom describes his life as a "Traveller, Outlaw, and Producer". Tom grew up in Ballarat and had what many would consider a miserable childhood. His father "shot through," his mother suffered from mental health issues, the family constantly moved, with Tom and his sister attending many different schools, living in orphanages, and leaving school at 15 to work in a factory. From this background,



Tom's journey from the factory floor to travelling the world with his partner Luis Moreno producing "tits and feathers" Moulin Rouge style extravaganzas in 21 countries is a fascinating and entertaining read.. - **Lesley Hewitt**

Don't miss Tom in-conversation on 19 September at the BMI. More information [Here](#)>.

## Books of the Month

*17 Years Later: What really happened to the Primrose family* by Josh Pomare.

The violent slaughter of the Primrose family while they slept shocked the nation. Their young live-in chef, Bill Kareama, was swiftly charged with murder and brought to justice. But the brutal crime scarred the idyllic town of Cambridge forever.

Seventeen years later, true-crime podcaster Sloane Abbott tracks down prison psychologist TK Phillips. Once a fierce campaigner for an appeal, TK now lives a quiet life with Bill's case firmly in his past. As Sloane lures a reluctant TK back into the fight, evidence emerges that casts new light on the Primroses – and who might have wanted them dead.

*From the Tip: From Ballarat to Baghdad* by T.L.W. Robb

The book is full of anecdotes about the various countries Tom's Australian Entertainment Company (AEC) performed in, including Europe, the Middle East and Asia. He believes that growing up it was his sexuality that gave him the resilience to move away from Ballarat and the straightened circumstances of his family and peers.

## Recommended reads

*The Glassmaker* by Tracy Chevalier.

Across the lagoon lies Murano. Time flows differently here-like the glass the island's maestros spend their lives learning to handle.

Women are not meant to work with glass, but Orsola Rosso flouts convention to save her family from ruin. She works in secret, knowing her creations must be perfect to be accepted by men. But perfection may take a lifetime.

*Red Sky Mourning* by Jack Carr.

A storm is on the horizon. America's days are numbered. A Chinese submarine has gone rogue and is navigation toward the continental United States, putting its nuclear missiles within

Reserve your copy >

# New releases

striking distance of the West Coast.

A rising Silicon Valley tech mogul with unknown allegiances is at the forefront of a revolution in quantum computing and Artificial intelligence. A politician controlled by a foreign power is a breath away from the Oval Office.

***Shadows in the Moonlight* by Santa Montefiore.**

When Pixie Tate is summoned to the wild Cornish coast to unravel a curious mystery at the stately St Sidwell Manor, she knows that something quite extraordinary must be hiding in its shadows.

One hundred years ago, in the dark of night, a child vanished from his bed never to be seen again and Pixie must now discover the truth of those final moonlit hours.

## New Releases

### Mystery

*The Lost Victim*  
*Red Sky Mourning*  
*Heavy is the Crown*  
*Headland*  
*Little Girl Missing*  
*What He Did*  
*This Is Why We Lied*  
*All The Colours of the Dark*  
*The Girl on Wildfire Ridge*

Robert Bryndza  
Jack Carr  
Jack Gatland  
Ged Gillmore  
J.G. Roberts  
J.G. Roberts  
Karin Slaughter

Chris Whittaker  
Leslie Wolfe

### Australian

*Woman Missing*  
*The Wife's Secret*  
*The Homestead in the Eucalypts*

Sherryl Clark  
Barbara Hannay  
  
Leonie Kelsall

### Novel

*The Honeyeater*

Jessie Tu

### Scandinavian

*The Widows Silenced*

Pascal Engman  
Sólveig Pálsdóttir

### Historical

*The Girl With The Violin*  
*The Painter's Daughter*  
*Shadows in the Moonlight*

Shelly Davidow  
Julie Klassen  
Santa Montefiore

### Literature

*The Glassmaker*

Tracy Chevalier

### Psychological

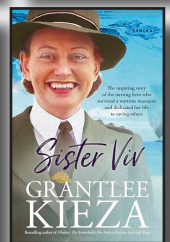
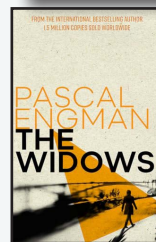
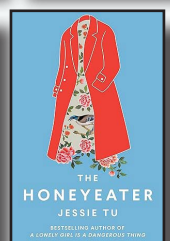
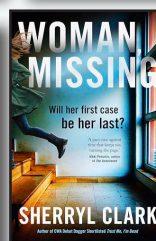
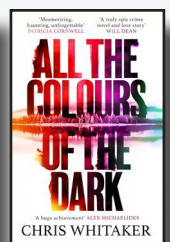
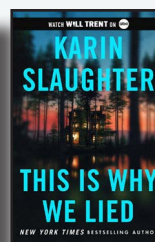
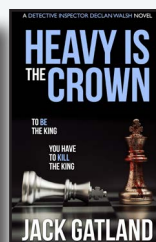
*What Have You Done?*

Shari Lapena

### Non Fiction

*The Friday Afternoon Club*  
*Sister Viv*  
*From the Top*

Griffin Dunne  
Grantlee Kieza  
T.L.W. Robb





# Around the BMI

## Membership News

*"It's good to hear from you"*

We would love to hear from you with news items or activities.

[ballaratmi.org.au/submit-for-newsletter/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/submit-for-newsletter/)

## National Quantum & Dark Matter Road Trip

Ballarat was chosen to host a public talk as part of the National Quantum & Dark Matter Road Trip on 9 August.

The road trip is travelling across Australia during August to spread the joy and excitement of dark matter and quantum science by visiting schools and hosting public talks.



The event gives communities the opportunity to come face-to-face with scientists at the cutting edge of scientific exploration. The Talk presented by Professor Elisabetta Barberio, Director of the Australian Research Council Centre of Excellence for Dark Matter Particle Physics.



Paula Nicholson & Professor Barberio

Professor Barberio spent much of the early of her career as a researcher at CERN in Geneva, where she played a key role in discovering the Higgs boson particle using the Large Hadron Collider.

In 2014 she initiated Australia's dark matter direct detection program, which led to the construction of the first underground physics laboratory in the Southern Hemisphere, the Stawell Underground Physics Laboratory, known as SUPL. SUPL will host the first major Australian dark matter direct detection experiment, SABRE South, which Professor Barberio will lead.

Earlier this year, her work – which has contributed to two Nobel Prizes – was recognised when she was awarded Italy's highest honour – the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic. Professor Barberio spoke about the extraordinary search for dark matter happening right on our doorstep in regional Victoria.

## Author Talks At the Library

Support for Rosemary's Author Talks continue to grow and we thank our regular attendees and our social media followers as it seems that many of our bookings come from this source including @literary\_listings and @happyvalleybooksread. boote. We also get wonderful support from Ballart Libraries, Collins Booksellers on Lydiard, Ballarat Writers Group, The Wheeler Centre and our Australian Authors all of whom enlighten our Literary lives.



Margaret Hickey, Rosemary  
McInerney & Gabriel Bergmoser

# Around the BMI

In August we had a fantastic night with author Margaret Hickey, who along with host Gabriel Bergmoser gave us so much to talk about. The full house (in the Heritage Reading Room), were spellbound. The topic, her new book *The Creeper*, (the Aussie bush certainly holds some surprises). We can't wait for her next book.

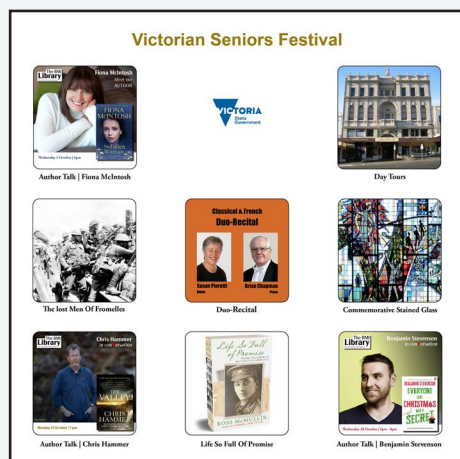
A special thank you to Judy Peters & Marilyn Furness who volunteered their time to create a magical evening.

Keep across our Author Talks check out our Library webpage.

[ballaratmi.org.au/library](http://ballaratmi.org.au/library)

## Ballarat Seniors Festival & Twilight Talks in October

The Ballarat Seniors Festival, held in conjunction with the Victorian Seniors Festival will be happening again in October, the BMI will be participating again this year again, see below the Seniors Festival activities, of course all are welcome.



### Author Talk with Fiona McIntosh

Wednesday 2 October | 6pm - 8pm  
Humffray Room | \$10

Fiona McIntosh is an internationally bestselling author of novels for adults and children. She



co-founded an award-winning travel magazine with her husband, which they ran for fifteen years while raising their twin sons before she became a full-time author.

Fiona roams the world researching and drawing inspiration for her novels, and runs a series of highly respected fiction masterclasses. She calls South Australia home.

**This event is already 60% booked.**

### Day Tours of the BMI

Friday 4 October | 10.30am, 12.30pm  
& 2.30pm | \$10

A colourful history of the Ballarat Mechanics' Institute and it's people.

These tours are lead by volunteer tour guides.

### Discovering the lost men of Fromelles & Ballarat Connections | Twilight Talks

Wednesday 9 October | 5.30pm - 7pm  
Humffray Room | \$8 Seniors Festival & BMI members \$12 general admittance.

**Speakers: Lambis Englezos AM & Garry Snowden OAM**

While visiting the cemetery at Fromelles in 2000, Lambis noticed a large discrepancy between the numbers of AIF soldiers killed and those in marked graves. But where were the missing dead buried?



# Around the BMI

## Classical & French Duo-Recital

Sunday 13 October |  
2.30pm - 4.15pm  
Humffray Room | \$35



Pianist Brian Chapman will be joined by violinist Susan Pierotti.

Mozart: *Violin Sonata in A, K.305* & Beethoven: *“Grief, Denial & Rage”* A unique perspective on the *‘Moonlight’ Sonata*

Massenet: Meditation from *Thaïs* & Franck: *Violin Sonata in A*

## Lights Everlasting: Australia's commemorative stained glass, Boer War to Vietnam | Twilight Talks

Wednesday 16 October | 5.30pm - 7pm  
Humffray Room | \$8 Seniors Festival & BMI members \$12 general admittance.

**Speaker: Dr Bronwyn Hughes OAM**

Almost hidden within religious buildings, hospitals, school chapels and civic buildings, stained-glass windows tell of Australians at war.

## In Conversation with Chris Hammer

Monday 21 October | 1pm - 3pm  
Humffray Room | \$10



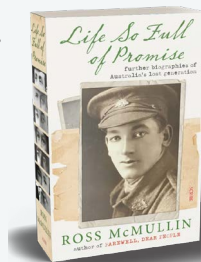
Chris Hammer is a leading Australian crime fiction novelist, author of the internationally bestselling Martin Scarsden series: *Scrublands*, *Silver* and *Trust*.

## Life So Full of Promise: Australia's Lost Generation | Twilight Talks

Wednesday 26 October | 5.30pm - 7pm  
Humffray Room | \$8 Seniors Festival & BMI members \$12 general admittance.

**Speaker: Ross McMullen, Author**

Ross McMullen is an award-winning historian, biographer and storyteller.



*Life So Full of Promise: Further Biographies of Australia's Lost Generation* won The Age Book of the Year Award. It follows *Farewell Dear People*, which won The Prime Minister's Prize for Australian History, and Ross's biography of Ballarat's own *Pompey Elliott*, which won multiple awards.

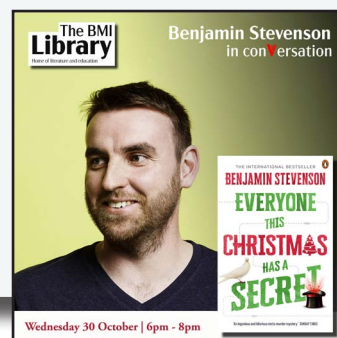
## In Conversation with Benjamin Stevenson

Wednesday 30 October | 6pm - 8pm  
Humffray Room | \$10

Everybody Loves a Christmas Spin-Off and this perfectly giftable novella is the star atop the tree. Following the success of *Everyone In My Family Has Killed Someone* and *Everyone On This Train Is A Suspect*, and their joyful interpretation of *The Golden Age Mystery*, Benjamin has again turned the genre on its head with this standalone Christmas special.

Find out more about these Festival events:

[ballaratmi.org.au/victorian-seniors-festival/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/victorian-seniors-festival/)





# Around the BMI

**B**MI Fundraising  
Events coming soon...

## Fashion Parade Fundraiser | Vintage A & Collectables

Sunday 27 October | 2pm - 4pm | Minerva

Don't miss this popular fundraising activity, we sold out last year so get in early.

We will be raising money for the refurbishment of the lantern light ceiling in the Heritage Reading Room.

**Cost:** \$60 includes fashion parade, champagne on arrival.

[ballaratmi.org.au/event/vintage-collectables/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/event/vintage-collectables/)

## Open Garden & Devonshire Tea Errard Hall - BMI Fundraiser

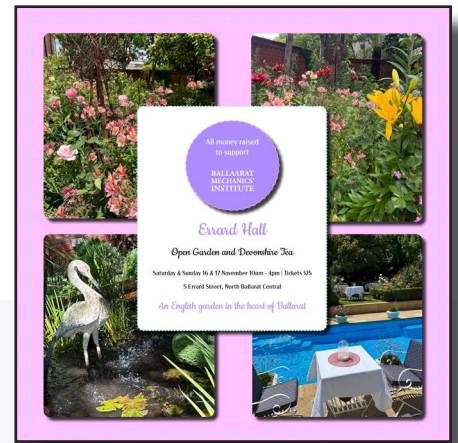
Saturday & Sunday 16 & 17 November  
10am - 4pm | *Errard Hall*, 5 Errard Street,  
North Ballarat Central

*Errard Hall* was built in 1902. Built in the grand Victorian style, it has big features, with a garden to match. The garden was designed by Janene Byrne in 2014. 'I was asked by my clients to help them create a beautiful garden that would complement their grand period home, situated in the heart of Ballarat'.



Tickets includes Devonshire Tea. Bookings can be made by a visit to the BMI Library. or go to:

[events.humanitix.com/errard-hall-open-garden-bmi](https://events.humanitix.com/errard-hall-open-garden-bmi)



## Golf Day Fundraiser | Snake Valley Golf Club

Friday 22 November | 12.30pm - 3pm

Take part in this important BMI fundraiser. 9 holes of golf (approximately 2.5hrs) preceded by lunch, a raffle, presentations and then the option to play another 9 holes of golf and enjoy daylight saving on the picturesque golf course.

This is a fund raising day for BMI and an opportunity to reward your people with a fun day out, all gender teams are welcome.

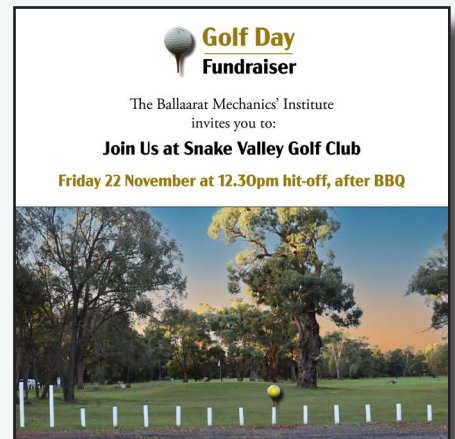
Ways to be involved is to sponsor a hole at \$1,000 (includes 4 players) or register as a player at \$100 per player.

Find out more at:

[ballaratmi.org.au/event/golf-day-2024/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/event/golf-day-2024/)

## Live Music at the BMI Daniel Champagne

Friday 1 November | 8pm - 10pm  
Minerva Space



# Around the BMI

The young virtuoso recently described as “the finest guitar player of this generation” has been selling out shows all over the globe and will be bringing his dynamite live show back home audiences this Spring!

Growing up in the Bega Valley on the Far South Coast of New South Wales, the story goes that the young singer-songwriter and one of a kind guitar virtuoso first picked up his instrument of choice

as a 5-year-old following in the footsteps of a musical father. He began writing songs at 12, training classically throughout his teens and performing wherever he could, honing his craft and developing the dynamic live show that he is renowned for today.

At 18 he finished school, turned professional and hit the road without looking back.

He has been described as “a leading light in acoustic music” and “a performer that must be seen to be believed”.

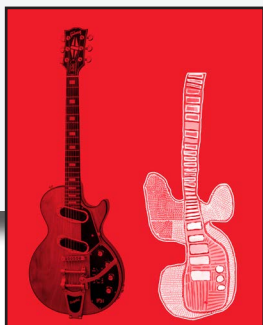


Cost: \$32

Find out more: [ballaratmi.org.au/live-music](http://ballaratmi.org.au/live-music)

## Medieval to Metal, Art Gallery of Ballarat

Why not take the guitar experience to the next level and visit the **Art Gallery of Ballarat** to see their exhibition:

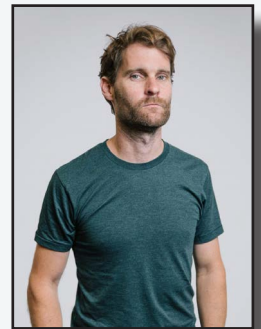


*Medieval to Metal: The art & evolution of the guitar on from 13 October - 2 February.*

[www.artgalleryofballarat.com.au/](http://www.artgalleryofballarat.com.au/)

## Live Comedy at the BMI Luke Heggie

Saturday 2 November  
7pm - 8pm | Minerva Space



These are the tribulations of someone just trying to stay alive until he's dead, while attempting to remain a man of the people. The people aren't really honouring their end of the bargain. Besides nothing, the crushing majority of people don't know anything. In fact, most of them are heading in the right direction for a smack.

Luke Heggie recently discovered that a slip of the tongue is now more commonly known as “his true colours” and that salted caramel was not just a fad. He'd like for these things to be rectified, but stopping short of standing in a major intersection waving around a plank with nails sticking out of it, there is nothing that can be done. This show is not recommended for anyone who was brought up to believe nothing is their fault. Most things are your fault.

‘Utterly extraordinary... A knock-out.’ \*\*\*\***The Age**  
\*\*\*\***The Advertiser.**

Cost: \$30

Find out more: [ballaratmi.org.au/live-comedy](http://ballaratmi.org.au/live-comedy)

## In Conversation with Tea Cooper

Monday 11 November | 6pm - 8pm  
Humffray Room

Tea Cooper is an award-winning Australian author of historical fiction.



In a past life she was a teacher, a journalist and a farmer. These days she haunts museums and indulges her passion for storytelling. She is the internationally bestselling author of several novels, including *The Talented Mrs Greenway*, *The Butterfly Collector*, *The Naturalist's Daughter*, the USA Today-bestselling *The Woman in the Green Dress*, *The Girl in the Painting* and *The Cartographer's Secret*, winner of the prestigious Daphne du Maurier Award.

**Cost:** \$10.  
[ballaratmi.org.au/event/tea-cooper/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/event/tea-cooper/)

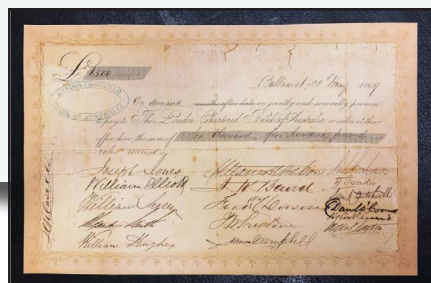
## Rex's Snippets 1869 Promissory Note

On the 28th, May 1869, the committee of the Ballarat Mechanics' Institute collectively signed a Promissory note (a joint and several) to the London Chartered Bank of Australia, for the total sum of six thousand five hundred pounds.

This amount was for the balance outstanding for the building of the four story addition to the original Mechanics' Institute. It faced Sturt Street and had a statue of Minerva on the top.

Each member who signed the promissory note was personally responsible for the 'joint and several' of the total outstanding.

19-01-1869 letter to N.H.Embling Esq., M.D. Letter directed by the Committee informing you the following resolution passed at the meeting on Friday evening; "that all Members of the Committee declining to sign the Promissory Note at the Bank be informed that they will be expected to resign with a view of having others appointed who will share the responsibility".



The secretary, Mr. Batten,

# Rex's Snippets

conducted an Art Union on behalf of the members, and the debt was paid in full before the Promissory note became due.

Here is a most interesting story about this document.

From the BMI Archives – **The Incredible Story of the Joint & Several**

At the 1951 BMI Committee annual meeting, attention was drawn to a promissory note signed in 1869 by seventeen Committee members that held them "jointly and severally" responsible for the bank loan of 6,500 Pounds Sterling, enabling the erection of a building on the Institute's Sturt Street site. The document hung on the wall in the library corridor until it went missing and some years later was rediscovered when a stamp dealer in NSW lodged a newspaper advertisement seeking information about an old document he had found. A BMI member saw the advertisement and for a moderate sum the precious item was returned to the care of the Institute.

1. The quote in paragraph.1 is from the 1951 BMI Annual Report.
2. NOTE: The original document is in the Main Safe (Library Desk).

## Rex's Snippets Breeches Bible

This publication was a gift to the Ballarat Mechanics' institute by gift from Miss M. J. Lacy , 26 Bevan St. Balwyn E . 8



**Ref BMI Minutes** ID M1545 Monthly Meeting 22/06/1959

**Family Bible.** Dated 1585. Listings of families. Davison Woodhouse Morley Thomas.

**Printer-** Christopher Barker Printer to Queen.



# Scribbler Events

Heritage database record 1205 Dewey 220BIB  
Date 1585

## Contributor Roger Burrows:-

We have only three mainstream religions that are focussed on books , Judaism, Christianity and Mohammedanism . Other religions have their sacred writings but do not hold them in the same authority as the Book -religions do with their sacred tomes and the *Breeches Bible* represents a turning point in both political and religious power in the troubled times of the 16th. and early 17th. Centuries in England .

Tyndale began to translate the new testament in 1523 into English with much opposition from the clergy indeed he had to flee to Europe and hide to continue his work and finished around 1534 two years later he was put to death and his body burned .After Henry VIII broke with the Roman Church and declared himself head of the English church in 1537 the English awoke one day to find that they now had two versions of the bible one by Tyndale and one by Coverdale his version being called the *Great Bible* because of its size ostensibly.

Then came Mary and her persecution of things protestant and burning of the English language bibles. This onslaught forced the English scholars to flee to Europe and mainly around Geneva where they found untrammelled access to material for scholarly study and produced a new version called the *Geneva Bible* the first to be printed with verses .

This was an excellent version and it is the bible of Shakespeare , Knox , Calvin and the pilgrim fathers and of the old Scottish church and was printed in Edinburgh . It was small enough to be carried around unlike the *Great Bible*, it was first to be mechanically printed and so was considerably cheaper than previous editions and never received full royal patronage only tacit approval . However it was extremely popular and even after James decreed his version to be

the official one, the Geneva continued to be printed and 1599 seemed to be a year of extraordinary output.

Our book is a *Geneva Bible* with the nickname *The Breeches Bible* that came about by the translation of Genesis 3:7 by Whittingham, Gilby and Sampson in 1579 and they sewed figge-tree leaves together and made themselves breeches There are many names given to bibles due to translation differences or errata and is an amusing subject in itself.

## Scribbler Events

### Collins Booksellers on Lydiard in-conversation with:

#### Jock Serong

Thursday 12 September 6.30pm - 7.30pm  
Old Colonists Club, Ballarat

Join us for an evening with award winning author Jack Serong as we celebrate his latest novel *Cherrywood*.

Free | Please register at:  
**JockSerongBallarat.**  
**eventbrite.com.au**



### Ballarat Writers Group Pamela Miller Flash Fiction Prize

The winner is Richenda Rudman with her entry, *The Seventh Son*. Sixteen entries were received for the members-only contest on the theme this year of FIRE. The judges were members of the Ballarat Writers committee: Darren Rout, Phil Green,



# Scribbler Events

Cassandra Arnold and Bev Foster.

Find out more about Richenda's book go to: [ballaratwriters.com/](http://ballaratwriters.com/)

## The Martha Richardson Memorial Poetry Prize 2024

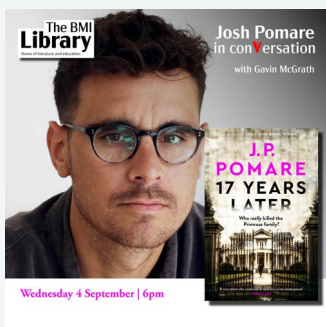
Ballarat Writers is now accepting entries into the Martha Richardson Memorial Poetry Prize, to be judged this year by acclaimed Australian poet Melissa Watts.

Entries must be your own original and unpublished work on the 2024 theme of *The Bush*.

This prize is open to anyone, find out more about the prize:

[ballaratwriters.com/the-martha-richardson-memorial-poetry-prize-2024/](http://ballaratwriters.com/the-martha-richardson-memorial-poetry-prize-2024/)

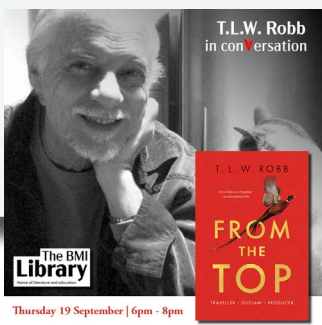
## Up coming Author Talks at the BMI



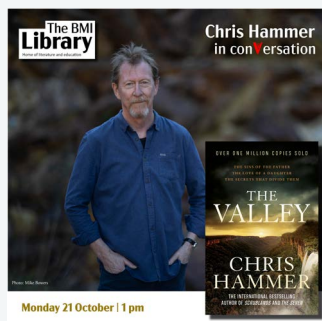
50% sold



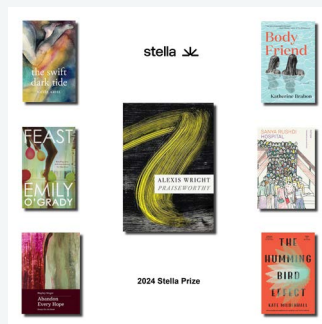
Brought to you by  
The Wheeler Centre  
almost Sold Out



60% sold



Selling fast



Stella Day Out  
information coming soon...

## Recent Author Talks



Leonie Kelsall, centre



Rosemary  
& Anna Romer





# BALLAARAT MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

## WHAT'S ON September



**The BMI Library**  
Home of literature and education

**Josh Pomare**  
in conversation  
with Gavin McGrath

Wednesday 4 September | 6pm

### TEENY TINY Stevies

Ballaarat Mechanics' Institute

### OPENING HOURS

**Library:** Mon, Wed & Fri, 10am-4pm  
Tue & Thu, 10am-3pm  
Sat 9.30am-12noon  
Sun Closed

### Holiday closures

AFL GF Friday - 27 Sep?  
Melbourne Cup - Tue 5 Nov  
Christmas Day - Wed 25 Dec  
Boxing Day - Thu 26 Dec

### School holidays

21 Sep - 6 Oct 2024  
21 Dec - 28 Jan 2025

### Important Dates

The Wheeler Centre	10 Sep
AMaGA National Conf.	17-20 Sep
Victorian Seniors Festival	1 - 31 Oct
Twilight Talks Season 3	9-23 Oct
Fashion Parade Fundraiser	27 Oct
Stella Day Out - 11am-4pm	16 Nov
Garden Party Fundraiser	16 & 17 Nov
Golf Day Fundraiser	22 Nov



	Tue 3 Sep	Wed 4 Sep	Thu 5 Sep	Fri 6 Sep	Sat 7 Sep	Sun 8 Sep
	10am-3pm   Library 2pm- 3pm   BMI Tours	10am-4pm   Library <b>6pm-8pm   In-conversation with J. P. Pomare</b> 7pm-8.30pm   Kadampa Meditation Series   Embracing Change & Finding Purpose	10am-3pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm   Ballarat Chess Club	10am-4pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables	9.30am-12noon   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables	Closed   Library <b>2.30pm-4pm   Teeny Tiny Stevies - Twice the Love Tour</b>
<b>Mon 9 Sep</b>	10am-4pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables	10am-3pm   Library 2pm- 3pm   BMI Tours <b>6pm-8pm   In-conversation with Heather Ewart, The Wheeler Centre</b>	10am-3pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm   Ballarat Chess Club <b>7.30pm-9pm   Ballarat Film Society   Stop Making Sense</b>	10am-4pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables	9.30am-12noon   Library	Closed   Library
<b>Mon 16 Sep</b>	10am-4pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables	10am-3pm   Library 2pm- 3pm   BMI Tours	10am-4pm   Library <b>11am-12.30pm &amp; 3.30pm-5pm   AMaGA National Conference</b> 7pm-8.30pm   Kadampa Meditation Series   Embracing Change & Finding Purpose	10am-4pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables <b>12.30pm &amp; 3.30pm-5pm   AMaGA National Conference</b>	9.30am-12noon   Library	Closed   Library
<b>Mon 23 Sep</b>	10am-4pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables	10am-3pm   Library 2pm- 3pm   BMI Tours	10am-4pm   Library 7pm-8.30pm   Kadampa Meditation Series   Living Meaningfully, Dying Joyfully	10am-3pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm   Ballarat Chess Club	Closed   Library	9.30am-12noon   Library
<b>Mon 30 Sep</b>	10am-4pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage Shop <b>1.30pm-3pm   Reading Rm.</b>	10am-3pm   Library 2pm- 3pm   BMI Tours	10am-4pm   Library 7pm-8.30pm   Kadampa Meditation Series   Living Meaningfully, Dying Joyfully <b>6pm-8pm   Author Talk with Fiona McIntosh</b>	10am-3pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm   Ballarat Chess Club	Closed   Library	9.30am-12noon   Library
	10am-3pm   Library 2pm- 3pm   BMI Tours	10am-4pm   Library 7pm-8.30pm   Kadampa Meditation Series   Living Meaningfully, Dying Joyfully <b>6pm-8pm   Author Talk with Fiona McIntosh</b>	10am-3pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm   Ballarat Chess Club	10am-4pm   Library <b>10.30am-11.30am   Seniors Festival Tour</b> <b>11am-3pm   Vintage &amp; Collectables</b> <b>12.30pm-1.30pm   Seniors Festival Tour</b> <b>2.30pm-3.30pm   Seniors Festival Tour</b>	9.30am-12noon   Library	Closed   Library
	10am-3pm   Library 2pm- 3pm   BMI Tours	10am-4pm   Library 7pm-8.30pm   Kadampa Meditation Series   Living Meaningfully, Dying Joyfully <b>6pm-8pm   Author Talk with Fiona McIntosh</b>	10am-3pm   Library 11am-3pm   Vintage & Collectables 6.30pm   Ballarat Chess Club	10am-4pm   Library <b>10.30am-11.30am   Seniors Festival Tour</b> <b>11am-3pm   Vintage &amp; Collectables</b> <b>12.30pm-1.30pm   Seniors Festival Tour</b> <b>2.30pm-3.30pm   Seniors Festival Tour</b>	9.30am-12noon   Library	Closed   Library





## BALLARAT MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

### J P Pomare in conversation

Wednesday 4 September | 6pm - 8pm  
Hooper Room

#### *17 Years Later: Who really killed the Primrose family*

Josh will be hosted by Gabriel Bergmoser

The unputdownable new bestseller by multi-award-winning author J. P. Pomare.

The violent slaughter of the Primrose family while they slept shocked the nation. Their young live-in chef, Bill Kareama, was swiftly charged with murder and brought to justice. But the brutal crime scarred the idyllic town of Cambridge forever.

Seventeen years later, true-crime podcaster Sloane Abbott tracks down prison psychologist TK Phillips. Once a fierce campaigner for an appeal, TK now lives a quiet life with Bill's case firmly in his past. As Sloane lures a reluctant TK back into the fight, evidence emerges that casts new light on the Primroses – and who might have wanted them dead.

**Cost:** \$10 includes light refreshment.  
[ballaratmi.org.au/events/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/events/)

### Teeny Tiny Stevies Twice the Love Tour, Ballarat

Sunday 8 September | 2.30pm - 4pm  
Minerva Space.

#### *The ultimate live gig experience for young families.*

The old feel young, the young feel like grown-ups, and everyone just meets somewhere in the middle for a rocking good time!

Playing all the **Teeny Tiny Stevies** favourites along with some sparkly new ones from their most recent offering, *The Green Album*, Byll, Beth and their band create a snug atmosphere with much delight! Even the most serious adults will find themselves singing, laughing and potentially even moving their bodies in a way that resembles... dancing.

**Cost:** \$32 plus bkg. fee  
[ballaratmi.org.au/events/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/events/)

### The Great Aussie Road Trip Heather Ewart in conversation

Tuesday 10 September | 6pm - 7pm  
Minerva Space

Over a career spanning four decades, Heather Ewart has been senior political reporter and a foreign correspondent posted to London, Washington and Brussels. Raised on a farm in country Victoria, her adventures have come full circle to see her hosting ABC TV's popular program *Back Roads*.

In Ewart's new book, *Back Roads: The Great Aussie Road Trip*, the much-loved journalist shares hot tips from her travels around Australia. From ideas on where to go and when to go, what to pack and what to see – she covers it all.

For this in-conversation event, she will be in conversation with Lexie Jeuniewicz to discuss the joyous moments of her road trips and share practical tips for discovering lesser-known parts of this beautiful country.

Presented in partnership with:  
**The Wheeler Centre**

**Cost:** \$10 [ballaratmi.org.au/events/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/events/)

### Ballarat Film Society Stop Making Sense

Thursday 12 September | 7.30pm - 9pm  
Minerva Space.

#### *Classic Talking Heads Concert*

USA, 1984 Digital Remaster. **Dir: Jonathan Demme.** Actors include David Byrne, Chris Frantz, Jerry Harrison and Talking Heads musicians.

Viewing a filmed music concert has been a tradition of the BFS, so this year we are fortunate to have a new remastering of the very famous 1983 concert that *Talking Heads* did over four live shows at the Pantages Theatre in Los Angeles.

**Director** Jonathan Demme is known for his film *Silence of the Lambs* (1991) which won 5 Academy Awards and best picture. David Byrne implored the band to wear neutral coloured clothing to ensure an optimum camera recording and quite a lot of editing took place but the reviews of the film are astounding. On the Rotten Tomatoes aggregator, *Stop Making Sense* holds an approval rating of 100% based on 66 reviews: an average of 9.3 out of 10. Why *Talking Heads*? Well, they are pretty well known plus they are very, very good on stage. Enjoy! **Madman.**

**Why not join the BFS?**  
[ballaratmi.org.au/events/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/events/)

### AMaGA National Conference

Wednesday 18 September - Friday 20 September  
11pm - 5pm | Humffray Room & Minerva Space

AMaGA is Australia's peak body for the museums and galleries sector

The AMaGA National Conference represents a cornerstone of our professional development calendar, offering the largest annual forum for Australian museum and gallery professionals to engage in networking and knowledge exchange.

This event will be happening at various locations in Ballarat with many of the concurrent sessions occurring at the BMI.

For more go to: [ballaratmi.org.au/events/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/events/)

### T LW Robb in conversation

Thursday 19 September | 6pm - 8pm  
Heritage Reading Room

#### *From the Top: From Ballarat to Baghdad*

A moving and inspiring memoir of a young man and his journey from Ballarat, Australia, to the international stage where he and his partner Luis Moreno, produced showstopping Moulin Rouge and Las Vegas style extravaganzas in big cities, mixed with stars of the stage and screen and travelled the world in what could only be described as a tour de force.

T.L.W. Robb delivers a warm, honest and fascinating story of a bygone era in show business and reflects on how it was to grow up as a gay man in Australia in the second half of the twentieth Century.

At its heart, this is a love story - you'll laugh, cry and simply won't want to miss a word.

A magnificent, astonishing, moving and vivid account of a life that transforms from the bleak misery of 1950s orphanages into the glittering universe of top-level entertainment. Carmel Bird.

**Cost:** \$10 includes light refreshment.  
[ballaratmi.org.au/events/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/events/)

### Fiona McIntosh in conversation

Wednesday 2 October | 6pm - 8pm  
Humffray Room

#### *The Fallen Woman - The heart-stopping new historical adventure from the bestselling author of The Sugar Palace*

Botanical artist Jane Saville is devastated when her manipulative mother banishes her to the countryside to protect someone else's honour. Isolated far from home, she is forced to live an impoverished, secretive life to save the family from public shame.

Guy Attwood is heir to a fortune, but prefers his quiet passion for rare-apple hunting on behalf of Royal Kew Gardens to building the family's business empire. He sets out to find a critically endangered apple species that he dreams of gifting and re-naming for his friend, the soon-to-be coronated George V.

When the paths of these people from two very different worlds collide, Jane begins to hope for a different future, but their new friendship is shattered by jealousy, misunderstanding, duty and treachery. A young boy will inspire Jane to defy the powers working against her and prove she is no woman to be outcast.

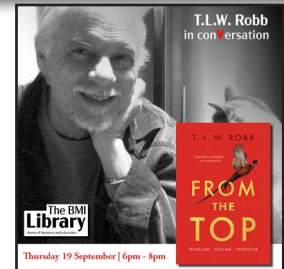
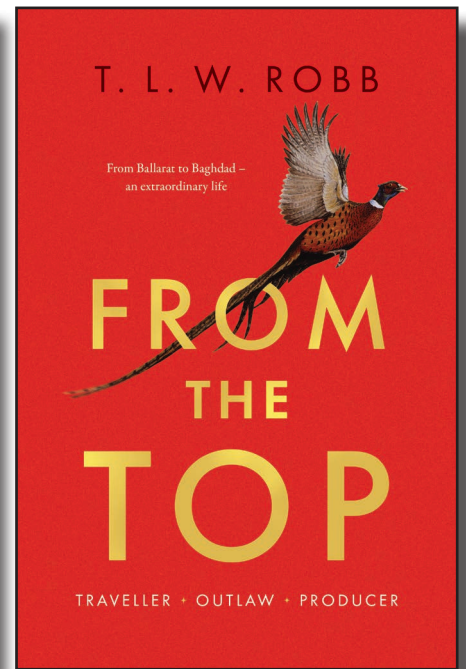
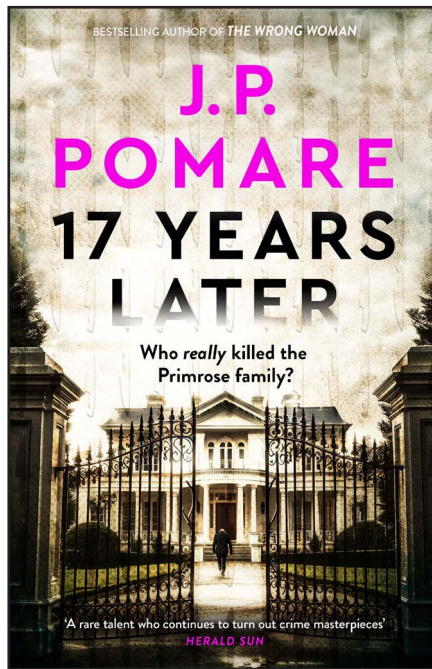
**Cost:** \$10 includes light refreshment.  
[ballaratmi.org.au/events/](http://ballaratmi.org.au/events/)

# Rosemary's Books of the week

## Library Operating hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 10am - 4pm  
Tuesday & Thursday: 10am - 3pm  
Saturday: 9.30am - 12 noon

Refer to the Events Insert for  
holiday closures.



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We acknowledge the support of our valued Supporters & Partners

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G Gay & Co Mitre 10 | Federation University | IMD Tech

Find out how you can become involved.  
[ballaratmi.org.au/about-us/supporters-partners](http://ballaratmi.org.au/about-us/supporters-partners)

Ballarat Mechanics' Institute  
117 – 119 Sturt Street, Ballarat VIC 3350  
[ballaratmi.org.au](http://ballaratmi.org.au)  
[library@ballaratmi.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:venue@ballaratmi.org.au)  
0419 677 713

Thank you to the office of Juliana Addison MP, Member for Wendouree, for their assistance the delivey this newsletter.