



MAY NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

THE ATHENÆUM'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

A reminder to members that the Melbourne Athenaeum's 182nd Annual General Meeting will be held this Monday 2 May at 1pm. There were two committee vacancies and two nominations received by the closing date, so no election is required. Members are warmly invited to attend the meeting where the President and Treasurer will present reports on the past year. Light refreshments will be provided. Please advise you attendance or apology for the official record to library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au or please call 9650 3100 to advise.



LIBRARY TO REOPEN ON MONDAYS FROM 2 MAY 2022

The committee and staff are thrilled to announce that from this Monday (2 May), the library will open its doors once again on Mondays from 10am-6pm. This means the library is now open six days per week – Monday, Tuesday and Thursday from 10am-6pm, Wednesday 10am-8pm, Friday 10am-4pm and Saturday 10am-2pm.



This is a very welcome development and we hope to see you at the library very soon.

BEL CANTO SPECTACULAR

Celebrate Mother's Day (Sunday 8th May) with a superb line-up of Australia's most renowned opera stars and the Melbourne Opera Chorus and Orchestra performing the *Bel Canto Spectacular* at the Athenaeum Theatre.

Renowned lyric soprano Lee Abrahmsen, international tenor Shanul Sharma, baritone Chris Hillier, current Herald Sun Aria winner Georgia Wilkinson, Naomi Flatman, Stephen Marsh and Darcy Carroll will present a delightful concert of popular arias, duets and ensembles by the masters of the bel canto tradition, Bellini, Rossini and Donizetti.



Tickets are available through Ticketek. For more details visit athenaeumtheatre.com.au



THE
MELBOURNE
ATHENÆUM
INCORPORATED



MUSIC: INVENTI ENSEMBLE

There are less than 20 seats available for the Friday 6 May performance (at 6pm) by the Invention Ensemble, which is renowned for its arrangements of large-scale orchestral works for chamber ensemble.

Melissa Doecke (flute), Ben Opie (oboe), Chris Haycroft (bassoon), Kyla Matsuura-Miller (violin), William Murray (viola) and Steph Stamopoulos (cello) will perform Dvorak's *New World Symphony* and *Slavonic Dance number 8*, both arranged by Glynn Davies, and Gordon Kerry's *Six-Part Interventions*.



The event is free for members and guests pay just \$10. Bookings are essential, either by calling 9650 3100 or emailing library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au. If you RSVP for a musical event and are then unable to attend please let us know. We usually have a waiting list to attend musical performances.

ALLEN & UNWIN CRIME FICTION PRIZEWINNER



Vikki Petraitis has been announced as the winner of the inaugural Allen & Unwin Crime Fiction Prize, but we will have to wait until August for her prizewinning manuscript to be published.

The prize was open to all unpublished full-length manuscripts in the crime or thriller genres between 70,000 and 100,000 words in length, written by residents of Australia and New Zealand. Both debut writers and already-published writers could enter.

Allen & Unwin publisher Jane Palfreyman said: "Vikki Petraitis has taken a lifetime of observing police work and true crime and brought this experience to writing fiction for the first time, and the result is this fantastic novel: tightly paced, plausible, a fabulous read and, above all, completely gripping."



Her novel, *The Unbelieved*, will be added to the library's collection when available. Vikki Petraitis has been writing true crime books for the past three decades, including *The Frankston Serial Killer*, which is on the library's shelves.

AUSTRALIAN FAIRY TALE SOCIETY, SATURDAY 28 MAY FROM 2PM

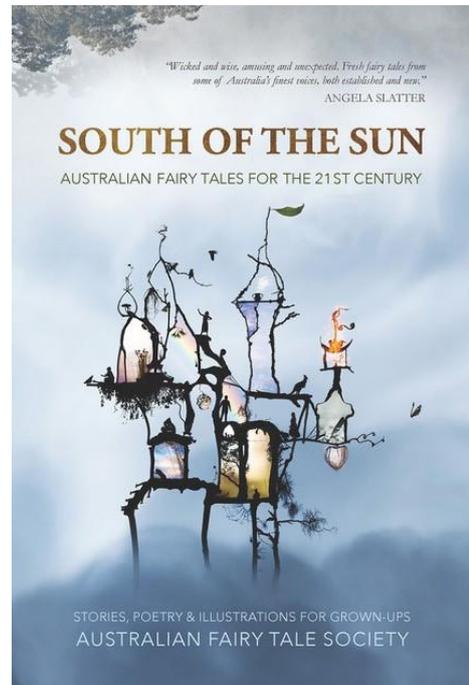
Why are fairy tales still so fascinating? What is a fairy tale? Are there Australian fairy tales? Come to the Melbourne Athenaeum Library at 2pm on Saturday 28th May to hear Carmel Bird and other writers and illustrators of *South of the Sun – Australian Fairy Tales for the 21st Century* discuss this and other questions.

South of the Sun is an enchanting, illustrated book of fairy tales, but not the kind you read to children at bedtime. They are strictly for grown-ups. There are dark stories where things don't end happily ever after, tales to make you laugh out loud, stories of sweet revenge and scenes of sheer delight in the world of magic and the fey.

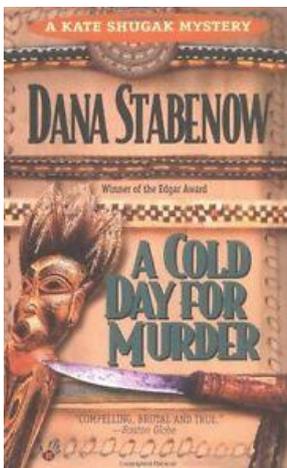
There will be magical music, readings, book sales and free refreshments too!

Bookings essential for catering purposes.

Email library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au or phone 9650 3100.



BOOK CLUB READS



You don't have to be a member of one of our book clubs to enjoy their chosen titles. These May selections can be found on the library's shelves – *Cold day for murder* by Dana Stabenow, *84*, *Charing Cross Road* by Helene Hanff, *Taboo* by Kim Scott and *The man who died twice* by Richard Osman.