



NOVEMBER NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

Library Closures

5 November: Melbourne Cup Day

Noon – 4pm, 18 November: Unfortunately, space issues require us to limit the number of people at the 185th event to those with event tickets. We apologise for the inconvenience.



Talk and Workshop by Alissa Duke

Artist-in-residence Alissa Duke has spent the past 12 months sketching many of the library's Friday night concerts and delving into the archives collection to draw some fascinating old objects.

Alissa is a librarian who loves draw. She sketches daily, documenting everyday events and objects and travels in her life.

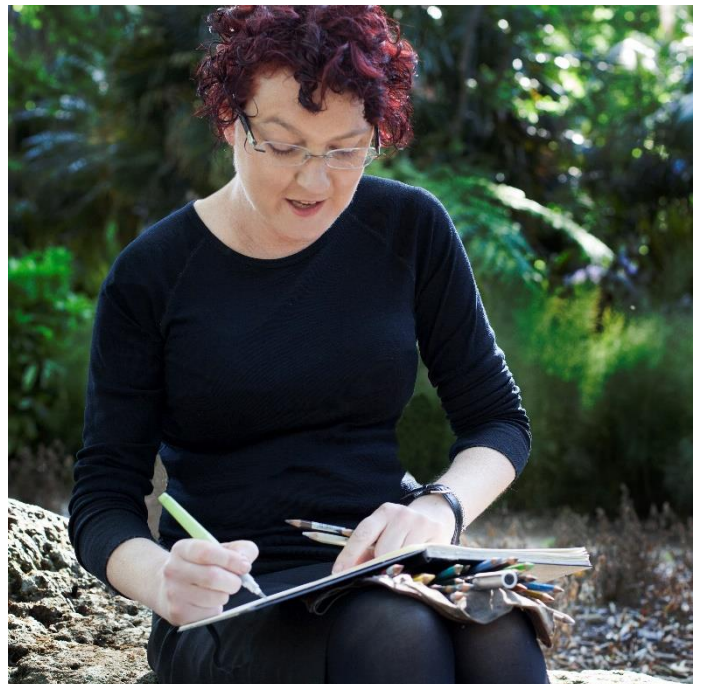
In November Alissa will speak at the library about her drawings and explain her processes of watercolour pencil sketches and sketching on location.

The free talk will be held on Saturday 9th November from 3-4pm. Book [here](#).

On Saturday 16th November join Alissa for an inspirational workshop. Sketch with watercolour pencils to record your experience in the library and learn tips and techniques along the way.

No equipment or previous experience is required – just bring your enthusiasm.

The free workshop will be held on Saturday 16th November from 3-4pm. Book [here](#).





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Ash Flanders' Play Reading at the Ath

Come along to the library in November for a rehearsed reading of a new play by our 2024 playwright-in-residence, Ash Flanders (pictured).

Ash, a multi-award winning playwright and performer, has spent many hours writing in the library and says he has loved being able to write outside of his wardrobe.



On Thursday 21st November the library will host a rehearsed reading of *Commentary*. It tells the story of Nick, a filmmaker-turned-film-lecturer, who is offered the chance to record a director's commentary of his one successful film for the Melbourne International Film Festival. This chance leads to him being pulled in countless directions. Is this a comeback or certain death? A chance to reframe and redress the past? And what exactly is he supporting by allowing the film to be shown again?

The rehearsed reading of *Commentary* will be directed by Matthew Lutton and features Luke Ryan, Brigid Gallacher, Artemis Ioannides, Eva Seymour and Mia Tuco.

Details

Thursday 21st November
Doors open 6pm, reading from 6.30pm
Free for members, \$20 non-members
Book [here](#).



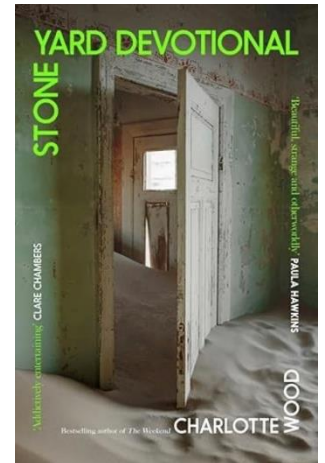
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Booker Prize Shortlist

Members have the opportunity to select their favourite novel amongst the Booker Prize Shortlist – in the lead up to the winner's announcement in mid-November.

Authors from five countries are on the shortlist, including the first Australian in 10 years, Charlotte Wood. The winner of the Booker Prize receives £50,000.

The shortlisted novels, which are either on the library shelves or have been ordered, are *James* by Percival Everett, *Orbital* by Samantha Harvey, *Creation Lake* by Rachel Kushner, *Held* by Anne Michaels, *The Safekeep* by Yael van der Wouden and *Stone Yard Devotional* by Charlotte Wood.



Save the Dates: La Descarga and Phil Manning

Affinity Quartet might be booked out in November, but December has a couple of musical offerings for members.

On Friday 6th December La Descarga (pictured) will make a welcome and colourful return. La Descarga began in Melbourne in 2010 as a tribute to the folkloric rhythms of Colombia and a preserver of its cultural heritage. Their shows combine colour, upbeat tropical rhythms and psychedelic sounds.



On Friday 13th December, guitarist and singer Phil Manning will perform at the library.

More details and booking information will be provided in the December eNews.



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Member Numbers

In the month when we celebrate our 185th birthday, it is a pleasure to report that our membership is at a level not seen for more than 20 years.

The Melbourne Athenæum now has well over 900 members and we hope to reach 1000 before the end of the year.

Thank you to each and every one of our members for your support of one of Melbourne's most significant cultural institutions.

As always, if you have any suggestions for improvements at the Ath please speak to one of the staff or use the suggestion box in the library.