



# JULY NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

## Library Disruptions

The library will be participating in Open House Melbourne from Friday 25<sup>th</sup> July to Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> July. We are expecting an influx of visitors on those days, particularly the weekend, so the library could be quite busy.

From Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July to Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August there will be various Rare Book Week events in the library (details in this eNews) and the stage and seating will remain in place for the week. Tables for members will be available on the other side of the library and we will do our best to accommodate everyone during the week. We hope you will take up the opportunity to enjoy one or more of the Rare Book Week events.

Thank you in advance for your patience during this busy time and please speak to the library staff if you have any queries.

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## Artistic Endeavours in the Library

Our artist-in-residence, sculptor William Eicholtz, will be working in the library most weekdays from July 14 to July 31, and during Open House Melbourne (July 26 and 27).

This is a great opportunity for members to watch William at work, and chat with him about his inspirations and his art.

William is also organising a life drawing event on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> July from 5pm. Numbers are strictly limited and members need to book by phoning the library on 9650 3100 or speaking to a staff member. This is an untutored event and the model will be wearing the Nick Bottom costume from *A Midsummer Night's Dream*.

William has a long-held connection with the Ath, having worked here in the early 1980s as a prop maker and sculptor. He is planning to reference *A Midsummer Night's Dream*, which is one of the productions he worked on, to create a small wax sculpture, which will be cast in bronze and included in the Athenaeum's collection.





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## Rare Book Week Events

Members are encouraged to book quickly if you would like to attend any (or all) of the Rare Book Week events in the library. Some events only have a few tickets left:

- Monday 28<sup>th</sup> July, 7-8pm. *Sixty years a bookseller*: Kay Craddock, AM, in conversation with author Jane Sullivan. This event is fully booked. To be added to the waiting list please call the library on 9650 3100 or email [library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au](mailto:library@melbourneathenaeum.org.au)
- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> July, 7-8pm. *Outrageous Fortunes*: author Lucy Sussex in conversation with author Jane Sullivan. Information and bookings [here](#).
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July, 11am-12pm. *Discover Melbourne's Oldest Lending Library* with Archives Manager Fiona Moore. Information and bookings [here](#).
- Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July, 1-2pm. *From Convict Printers to Book Arcades*: Wallace Kirsop and Judy Donnelly in conversation with Des Cowley. Information and bookings [here](#).
- Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> July, 6.30pm. Hear artist Peter Lyssiotis and Monash University Library staff discuss the similarity of an archive to an archaeological site. Information and bookings [here](#).



For all RBW program information click [here](#).

On Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> July, from 6.30pm to 7.30pm, Library Manager Fiona Malcolm and Archives Manager Fiona Moore will join an expert panel discussing *Rare Books in Mechanics' Institutes*. This event will be held at Prahran's PMI Victorian History Library. Information and bookings [here](#).

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# JULY NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

## Music Event: Xani Kolac

Join us for an evening with Xani Kolac, a musician, improviser, collaborator, singer, songwriter and principally an electric violin player.

Xani's is a repertoire coloured by the ferocity of her instrumental output and shaded by a deep creativity, her earnest voice, and pure joy.



In just a decade, she has won Best Musician at the 2022 Music Victoria Awards, collaborated with Australian music pioneers including Clare Bowditch, Tim Rogers, Jens Lekman and Kate Ceberano, and performed at Hamer Hall and in the multi-award-winning productions *Come From Away* and *Girl From the North Country*.

### Details

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> August

Doors open 5.40pm, music from 6pm

Free for members, \$20 non-members

Book [here](#).







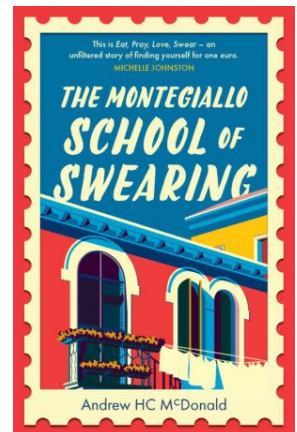
# JULY NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

## Reading Inspiration

Seeking some inspiration for what to add to your reading list?

Librarian Katy Watters recommends:

- *The Montegiallo School of Swearing* by Andrew HC McDonald. "An Australian teacher experiencing a bit of a life crisis accidentally purchases a one euro house in Sicily. He moves to the picturesque town and tries desperately to fit in, with hilarious results. I laughed out loud on the train while reading this," said Katy.
- *The trials of Marjorie Crowe* by C.S. Robertson. "Set in a small Scottish town where murder, witchcraft and devil worship make for all sorts of conflict. Marjorie Crowe is a quirky and captivating character and the plot gripped me until the end."
- "I can also recommend C.S Robertson's *The undiscovered deaths of Grace McGill*."



To view the library's catalogue click [here](#).

To view the library's latest acquisitions click [here](#).

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## Scarlet Stiletto Awards

It's Scarlet Stiletto Award time again and, with more than \$13,000 prizemoney on offer, there's no better time to start penning an entry.

Sisters in Crime's 32<sup>nd</sup> Scarlet Stiletto Awards celebrate the best short crime and mystery stories written by Australian women in various categories. The library is again sponsoring the Body in the Library Award and stories by past winners and runners-up can be read [here](#).

Judges' co-ordinator Professor Emerita Christina Lee said the awards were remarkable in their ability to discover outstanding criminal talent. "Winning a Scarlet Stiletto Award has often been a springboard to a literary career. To date, 4777 stories have been entered, with 34 Scarlet Stiletto Award winners – including category winners – going on to have novels published," she said.

The closing date for the awards is 31 August 2025. For more information click [here](#).





# JULY NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

## Graphic Novelist Award and Artworks

Congratulations to our 2019 artist-in-residence, graphic novelist Chris Gooch, who has been awarded his second Aurealis Award.

The Aurealis Awards are for Australian speculative fiction and both times Chris won in the Best Graphic Novel or Illustrated Work category.

His first win was in 2020 with *Under-Earth*, the book he was working on during his library residency. This year's award was for *In Utero*, a thrilling coming of age story. We have both of these plus even more of Chris's work [in our collection](#).

We are also now displaying some of Chris's artwork in the library. The works are from his book *Bottled*, which was the focus of a talk he gave as part of his residency. They can be admired above the New Releases section.

Members can also enjoy two works by international, award-winning artist Marco Luccio, who worked from the library throughout 2024.

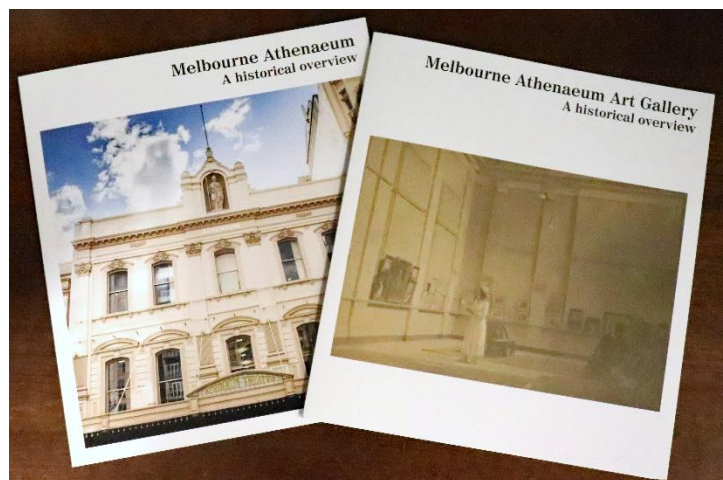


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## Athenaeum Art Gallery Brochure

We now have two brochures in our series commemorating our 185<sup>th</sup> anniversary, with the recent release of a historical overview of the Melbourne Athenaeum Art Gallery. Both are available in the library.

These publications relate some fascinating stories about the institution's colourful history and present-day role in Melbourne's cultural fabric. We plan to produce further brochures detailing other aspects of the institution, including the theatre and museum.





# JULY NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

## Peter Blazey Fellowship

Entries are invited for the Peter Blazey Fellowship, an annual award to further a work in progress for writers in the non-fiction fields of biography, autobiography and life writing.

The fellowship was founded to honour the work and legacy of writer, activist and journalist Peter Blazey, who was born in Melbourne in 1939 and attended Scotch College and the University of Melbourne. He later worked for the Liberal and Labor parties, and wrote for outlets ranging from *The Australian* to *OutRage* magazine.



Peter published a serious political biography of Victorian premier Sir Henry Bolte, which is available in our collection, and a satirical work entitled *The Secret Diary of Jeffrey Kennett aged 45½*. His own autobiography was posthumously published as *Screw Loose: Uncalled for Memoirs*.

The Peter Blazey Fellowship includes a prize of up to \$20,000 and is open for entries until August 11. More information [here](#). Entry details [here](#).

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## Upcoming Events



More details will follow in our upcoming eNews bulletins but some dates to add to your diaries are:

- Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> August, author talk with Jennifer Kloester
  - Friday 29<sup>th</sup> August, Somesh Putcha (pictured)
  - Friday 5<sup>th</sup> September, Affinity Quartet
  - Friday 12<sup>th</sup> September, Zoe Knighton
  - Friday 10<sup>th</sup> October, Phil Manning and Mark Ferrie (contemporary)
  - Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> October, talk by artist Alissa Duke.
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Help the Melbourne Athenaeum continue to live up to its position as Melbourne's first and finest cultural institution by supporting our Giving Appeal at  
<https://www.givenow.com.au/annualgivingappeal>



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