



OCTOBER NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

Music Event: Stella Anning

Guitarist and vocalist Stella Anning will make her library debut on Friday 16th October, joined by Pat Jaffe on piano, Richard Rose on bass and Kyrie Anderson on drums.

Stella is recognised as a versatile guitarist, composer,

songwriter and performer whose practice spans jazz, soul and folk.



An established figure in Melbourne's vibrant music scene, Stella has performed with artists including Guy Sebastian, Sarah Blasko, and Clare Bowditch. Her playing features on dozens of recordings across genres, and she has toured extensively in Australia and internationally.

Details

Friday 16 October

Doors open 5.40pm

Music from 6pm

Free for members, \$25 for non-members

Book [here](#).



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Talk: Introduction to Haiku

Find the extraordinary in the ordinary.

Haiku are brief poems that capture a moment in time.

They celebrate the ordinary and invite us to see the world with fresh eyes.

Explore the spirit and craft of Haiku with examples and discussion, in this presentation from Rob Scott and the Melbourne Fringe Myrtles Haiku Group. Rob Scott is an author and poet. In 2015 he received a Masters of Research from Victoria University, with a dissertation titled *The History of Australian Haiku and the Emergence of a Local Accent*.

His haiku have been published widely and he is the current vice-president of the Australian Haiku Society and convenor of the Fringe Myrtles Haiku Group in Melbourne.



Photo by Jen Worthington

Details

Tuesday 27 October

Doors open 6.40pm, talk from 7pm

Free for members and non-members

Book [here](#).

Haiku Writing Workshop

Join our haiku writing workshop in the library to explore this Japanese short-form of poetry.

Haiku consists of three lines, with five syllables in the first line, seven in the second, and five in the third.

Presented by the Melbourne Fringe Myrtles Haiku Group and its convenor, Rob Scott, the workshop will include guided activities to help you observe, write and share haiku.

Details

Saturday 31 October

3pm to 5pm

Free for members and non-members

Book [here](#).





OCTOBER NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

'Tis the Season ... for Crime Fiction Awards

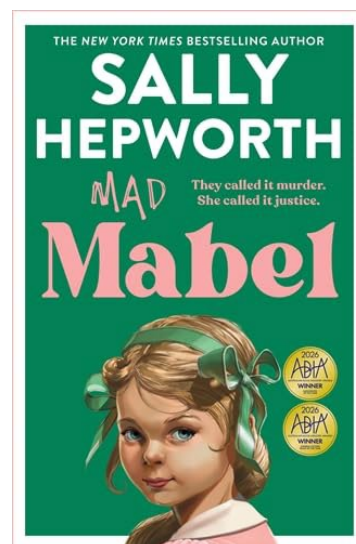
2026 Davitt Awards winners (celebrating excellence in crime writing by Australian women)

Best Adult Fiction: Joanna Jenkins, *The Bluff*

Best Nonfiction: Kate Wild, *The Red House*

Best Debut: Angie Faye Martin, *Melaleuca*

Kerry Greenwood Readers' Choice Award: Sally Hepworth, *Mad Mabel*



2026 Bloody Scotland awards

The McIlvanney Prize is Bloody Scotland's annual prize awarded to the best Scottish crime book of the year. It provides Scottish crime writing with recognition and aims to raise the profile and prestige of the genre as a whole. Frances Crawford won the 2026 McIlvanney Prize for her debut novel, *A Bad, Bad Place*, making history as the first-ever double winner by also capturing the Bloody Scotland Debut Prize at the festival in Stirling. Librarian Katy reviewed *A Bad, Bad Place* in the July 2026 eNews.

2026 Ned Kelly Awards (presented annually by the Australian Crime Writers Association)

Best Crime Fiction: Sally Hepworth, *Mad Mabel*

Best Debut Crime Fiction: Liz Allan, *In Bloom*

Best True Crime: Charlotte Grieve, *Duty to Warn*

Best International Crime Fiction: Abigail Dean, *The Death of Us*

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



OCTOBER NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

MIV Conference Update

Bookings open in October for the conference celebrating the bicentenary of mechanics' institutes in Australia, being held at the Melbourne Athenaeum in March next year.

A fantastic program is coming together that looks back at the first 200 years and forwards to what the next 200 might hold.

More information [here](#).



Ath Archives Go Live Via Website

The integration of the Melbourne Athenaeum Library website and the eHive collection management system is complete, and people can now explore our terrific archives collection [here](#).

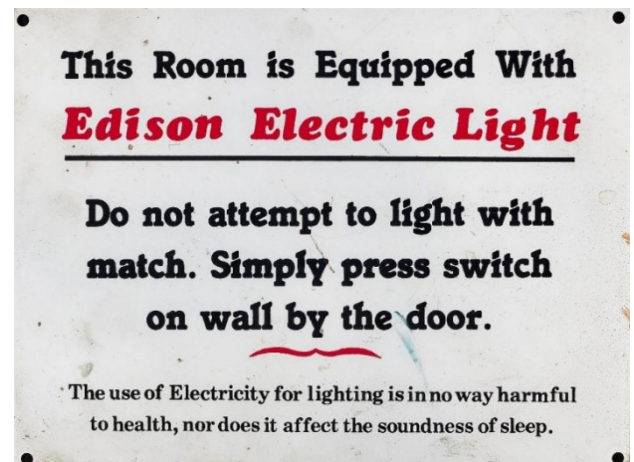
This search capability via our website is in addition to the online access provided through eHive [here](#).

The cataloguing and digitisation of the archives is an ongoing project so items continue to be added.

We were extremely grateful to recently receive another grant of \$5000 from the Stuart Leslie Foundation to continue work to make the collection accessible online. Thank you to the Foundation for its continuing support.

Online access to the archives has also been generously supported by the Local History Grants Program and the Public Record Office Victoria supported by the Victorian Government, and the Estate of Marjorie Dalvean.

Photo: Metal Sign, Edison Electric Light, c. 1882, Melbourne Athenaeum Archives





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Seniors Festival Tours

The library is hosting tours for the Seniors Festival from 11am to 12pm on most days during the week starting Monday 5th October.

These tours are booked out and numbers have been limited in an effort to minimise disruption to library members.

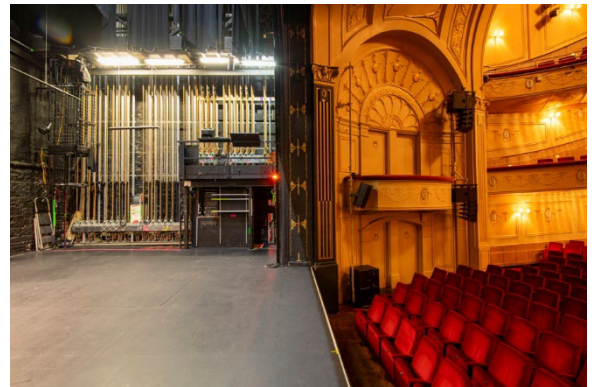
The Seniors Festival offers a great opportunity to introduce the library to a new audience.



Theatre History Book

The Athenaeum Theatre (pictured) has joined dozens of historic theatres and cinemas in a new book that pays homage to the intricate design, craftsmanship and storied histories of venues around Australia.

The book, *Australian Theatres & Cinemas*, is by Gavin John, a photographer and author who says “Australian theatre and cinemagoers have an exceptional array of venues to patronise”.



Gavin spent more than two decades documenting extreme environments in many of the world’s most remote locations. In recent years he has focused on history, heritage and the built environment, and has written several books, including *Australia’s Historic Pubs*.

To find out more about the *Australian Theatres and Cinemas* book click [here](#).



OCTOBER NEWS FROM YOUR LIBRARY

Participants Sought for Research Project

Have you thought about what happens to your digital data after you pass away? Have you had to look after a loved one's online accounts after they have passed away?

If you have, and would be willing to share your views, library member Dr Sian Supski would love to hear from you. Sian is part of a team from Monash University, RMIT and the University of the West of England that is researching people's views and beliefs on what should happen to their online data when they or a loved one passes away.



More information on the project is [here](#). Sian can be contacted at sian.supski@monash.edu

Upcoming Events

Check upcoming eNews for details and booking links:

- Saturday 14 November: drawing workshop with Alissa Duke
- Saturday 21 November: *Shut Up and Write* session from 2pm
- Thursday 26 November: Talk with Associate Professor David McInnis
- Friday 27 November: Music - Pierre Jaquinot (pictured, contemporary/jazz).



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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