

Inc. A0032641Z
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Winter 2019



*The Friends
of the
Benalla
Library
Newsletter*

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FOIBLES



Benalla Library's Biggest Morning Tea Voted a Success



On Thursday, 23rd May, Benalla Library hosted a Biggest Morning Tea. This annual event is held Nationwide to help raise funds for Cancer Council Australia's important research. Around 30 family and friends were seated at tables covered by lace tablecloths and treated to tea and a delicious array of finger food and treats. 3 Lucky Door Prizes were then drawn.

Marlies welcomed tea-guru, local Karthika Raj of Good Vibes store, who educated us about the history of tea and then invited guests to partake in a tasting of the many and varied teas available in her shop. The audience found this talk informative very interesting: perhaps even encouraging some to change the brand or flavour of tea on their pantry shelves at home?

**Note:* TripAdvisor recommends top score for Benalla Library Tea Room's Biggest Morning Tea. Thank you to all who contributed – esp. FOBL and library staff members Kay and Shelley, who decorated the “Tea Room”. (Kay, we loved your orange cake!). Of course: not forgetting those attendees at the North-East Water meeting in Pat Claridge Room, who helped boost funds!! We donated \$220.45 to the Cancer Council Victoria. Special thanks to Kat (from Good Vibes) for the wonderful array of teas.

President's Piece

Winter has seen a number of our Redb4 volunteers heading off on holiday, seeking warmer weather. Many thanks to those who have “doubled up” on the shop roster to cover absentees. The Friends has purchased a trolley for use within the library for shelving books, as well for library volunteers to use to deliver books to Homebound customers and residents in Coinda and Estia. We continue to support our wonderful Community Library, financially and physically, in a wide range of library activities and events, including successful author visits, that Librarian Marliese organises..

It is heartening to see so many Secondary School students coming into the Library to complete after school studies.

Our Annual General Meeting is to be held on Wednesday August 7th at the Library. It would be wonderful to have you all attend!

~ Geraldine McCorkell, FOBL President

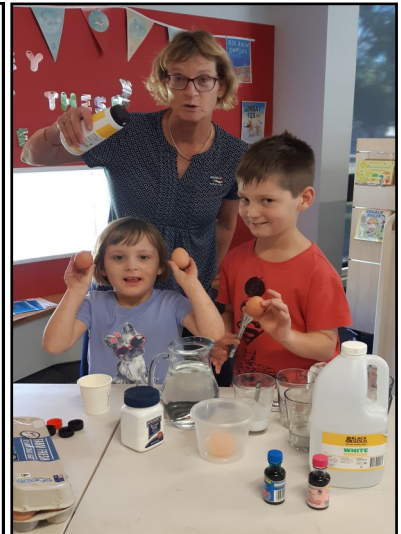
Librarian's Lines : Report by Marlies Tammes

We have a VERY busy autumn behind us, and lots of baking by our Friends has been happening behind the scenes. I only have to mention the month of May.....!

Fiona Lowe, author talk on a Monday morning; visit and informative talk by Vicki from Samaria farm; followed by a Volunteers' afternoon tea; the Biggest Morning Tea; plus a visit by historian Peter Spring from Wangaratta, who spoke so knowledgeably of all that happened long time ago in Normandy (Normandy Landings Commemoration). In addition, National Simultaneous Storytime was celebrated with a wonderful audience of children all ages; Peep (Tomorrow Today); and visiting children for Story Time; visits from the students of the Benalla Australian Christian College.

Next time you visit the library, you might notice how Kay, Shelley and Robyn have been rearranging the shelves. The children's area is in the far corner and away from the emergency exit. The area seems bigger now. The DVDs and the audiobooks have also been tidied and rearranged and are more accessible now.

We are introducing two after-school activities: Construction Club on Tuesday and Wii gaming on Thursday. These will be free for all and no bookings required. We hope to get more children in the library after school with these activities. Stay warm this winter and enjoy a good book with a cuppa!
~ Marlies



Tuesday, 9th April:
Marlies is pictured above assisting budding young scientists Ben and Emma with their very own egg experiment during the library's EASTER EGG SCIENCE event.



Pictured left: Some of the happy customers enjoying the Biggest Morning Tea. **Below:** Chris, the lucky winner of the Cake raffle.



Autumn : Library Hosts Several Public Events & Author Visits.



Samaria Rose Farm Visit May 6th.

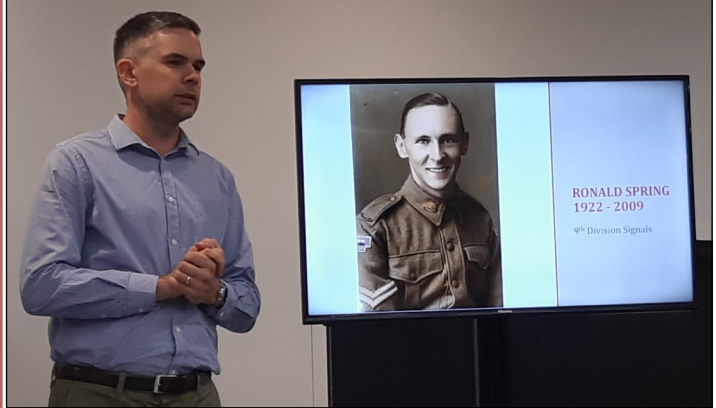
Vicki and Allan Wight (pictured left) from Samaria Farm, are Australia's only rose oil producers, with over 3,000 damask roses planted. The rose farm, bought in 2010, is a labour of love for the Samaria couple.

Allan explained the distillation process, which creates about 10 litres of refined rose water a batch, or 300 litres in the season, more concentrated than imported varieties. Vicki displayed some of Samaria Farm's beautifully-scented essential oils and hydrosols—all pure, natural products of very high quality.

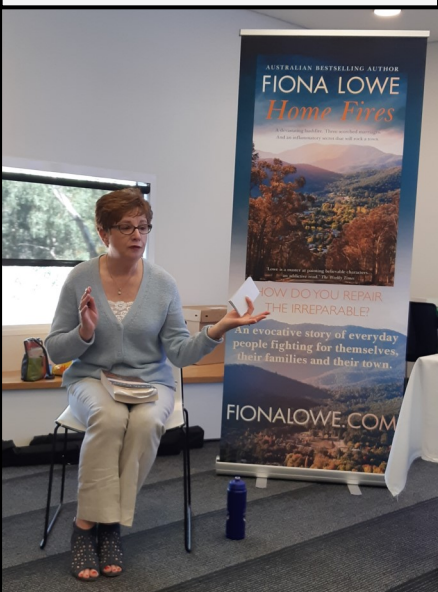


Above: April 6th : Benalla Short Film Festival : FOBL treasurer, Corrie Witlox, presents two cheques, for \$500 each, to the two judges, for the joint winners of Best Film Award.

Below: May 29th : Peter Spring-The Invasion of Normandy : This was a very interesting and informative talk by the Wangaratta historian on the background, planning & landing on D-Day, WW2.



AUTHOR VISIT : FIONA LOWE Monday, April 29th; 11-12.30pm.

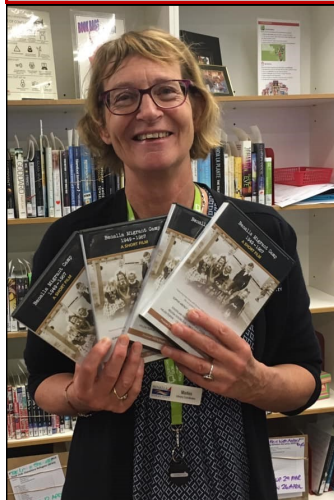


A large and very appreciative audience joined popular author Fiona Lowe, who returned once again to Benalla Library, this time to launch her new novel "Home Fires". Fiona introduced the novel's main characters and outlined the reasons behind her decision to write this story. Inspired by recent tragic Victorian bushfires, the novel discusses the themes of community, secrets and lies, and the power of friendship on the road to recovery after a natural disaster. The story takes place in the fictional town of Myrtle, nestled in Victoria's Otway Ranges. When a lethal bushfire tears through Myrtle, the town's buildings - and the lives of its residents - were left as smouldering ash. For three women in particular, the fire fractured their lives and their relationships. Fiona had done her research for this book, interviewing many community members and Emergency Personnel, to add authenticity to her story. She read excerpts from her novel, tempting a lot of eager members of the audience to buy a personal signed copy of "Home Fires" and immerse themselves in another of Fiona Lowe's absorbing stories. ~ Bev. Thornell.

Below: FOBL member, Betty Lindsay, joined the queue to purchase her personally signed copy of "Home Fires".



New Library Items



Librarian, Marliese, showing some brand new copies of the DVD "Migrant Camp 1949-1967" short film, that Sabine, from the Benalla Migrant Camp, presented to the library.

**Soon to be made available to borrowers.*

Library Event : Author Visit



AUTHOR VISIT : Suzanne Daniel :

Hosted by **Benalla Library** and **Booktique Wangaratta**

Wednesday, June 26, 2019 : 6 PM-7PM.

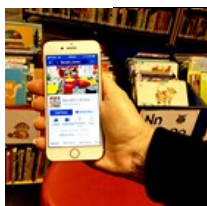
*** Supper provided.*

You are invited to hear Suzanne speak about her novel, "Allegra in Three Parts". *Suzanne Daniel is a journalist and communication consultant who has worked for ABC TV, the Sydney Morning Herald, the United Nations, BBC (London) and in crisis management and social services.*

For the past 20 years she has served on community, philanthropic and public company boards.

Allegra in Three Parts is her first novel.

**Please come and support this interesting event..*



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BOOSTERS



Storytime

Every Friday at 10.30am at the Benalla library
*from 0-6 year olds.



Writers' Corner

The Last Wednesday of each month: from 5.00-6pm. Share, discuss and enjoy some time and creativity with other writers..

Book Space

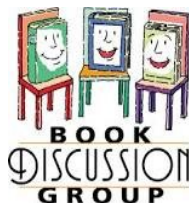
Third Thursday of the month at 2pm at the library. Join us for a casual discussion about books that you have read and enjoyed and want to share with other readers.



Reminders

"On the Same Page" Book Club

Book Club members meet monthly to share and discuss the group's latest set title.
*Ask Library staff today about joining this Book Club.



Sit and Knit

Get together to share a love of knitting and fellowship: Meets at 2pm every Wednesday at the library.



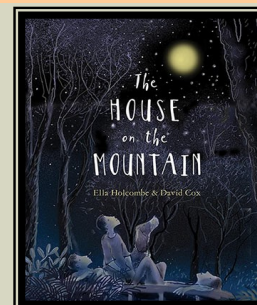
TECH SUPPORT

Need help setting up an email or using the internet? A volunteer is available to assist you, one-on-one, between 1pm - 3pm every Tuesday *Bookings are essential.*

Toddler Tales

Every Monday at 10.30am.
Enjoy songs, rhymes and a story.
For children 12 months-3 years.

REMEMBERING BLACK SATURDAY



"THE HOUSE ON THE MOUNTAIN" by Ella Holcombe, illustrated by David Cox, is a moving story of a family who lose their home in the 2006 Black Saturday bushfires in Kinglake, and their personal journey of recovery. This picture book is aimed at younger readers, in particular those who have experienced similar traumatic events.