

# The longest book in the world, focusing on the City of Greater Geelong

An ongoing creative community project to create the longest book in the world” from concertina one-off publication.

Challenge is one kilometre long.  
Authors and illustrators are library  
goers of Geelong Regional Libraries.





The following pages are of the contributors (authors and illustrators) who are members and/or library goers of Geelong Regional Libraries and attend The Longest Book in the World open freefall workshops.

Conceived, designed and managed by artist and storyteller Fern Smith.

Please note there are no photographs of participants.

# Portarlington artist breaking world record one page at a time

BY VINNIE VAN OORSCHOT

A LOCAL artist has put the call out to Greater Geelong residents to assist her in breaking a Guinness World Record through a series of workshops across the region.

Local Portarlington artist of 37 years, Fern Smith, is attempting to break the Guinness World Record for "Longest Book in the World".

The record, presently held by Yang Shuanming in Taiyuan, Shanxi China, measures 814.26 metres in the form of a concertina book, a fold-out book that extends horizontally similar to an accordion.

Ms Smith will aim to break the record also in the form of a concertina book.

She began the project in October last year and is conducting a series of workshops across Geelong and the Bellarine, inviting residents to assist in the designs of each page.

Each workshop encourages participants to contribute and design a page to the book.

Contributions can be done through a range of art techniques including drawing, collage or micro-writing, drawing inspiration from their own



Local artist Fern Smith with her concertina book currently measuring 37 metres in length. The record, held by Yang Shuanming in Taiyuan, Shanxi China since 2019, measures 814.26 metres. Photo: VINNIE VAN OORSCHOT

says the number of pages will quickly grow through invitations to major art events and festivals.

"It's a slow art project, by no means will it be rushed, but if everything continues ticking along as it has, I expect to have the book done within the next two years," Ms Smith said.

"Seeing others creating art, expressing themselves by contributing to this book, that is what rocks my boat as an artist."

The book is already supported by Geelong Writers Incorporated and the Geelong Regional Libraries Corporation with workshops hosted at



Authors and illustrators are documented at the back of the single edition handmade concertina book.

CONTRIBUTORS  
give their consent - photographs of work  
to give their consent - for their work to be  
used in the book to promote this project.

- 21 Suzanne Miller
- 22 Jacqueline Ellis
- 23 Samantha Martin
- 24 Laurence Burton
- 25 Angela Burton
- 26 Charlie Casinella
- 27 Nicola Novak
- 28 Jane Flower
- 29 Sarah Pridell
- 30 Jessica Green
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CONTRIBUTORS  
give their consent - for their work to be  
used in the book to promote this project.

- 43 Lien Tanner
- 44 Jessica Sheerin
- 45 Joanne Estendge
- 46 Amina
- 47 DANIEL SHO
- 48
- 49 ESTHER SHO
- 50 Jayden Shaver
- 51 Chloe Anne Ginn
- 52 Hayley Bradanovic
- 53 ALANA TONKA - SHOWING
- 54
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# Workshop pages drying at Corio Library

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Artwork by Jacki Willox



Geelong (Djilang/Djalang) is a town nestled in Corio Bay. It was established in 1838. Geelong Djilang is a gateway town of Western Victoria and the great ocean road. It also includes the city of Great Geelong, incorporating the Corio Peninsula and the plains.

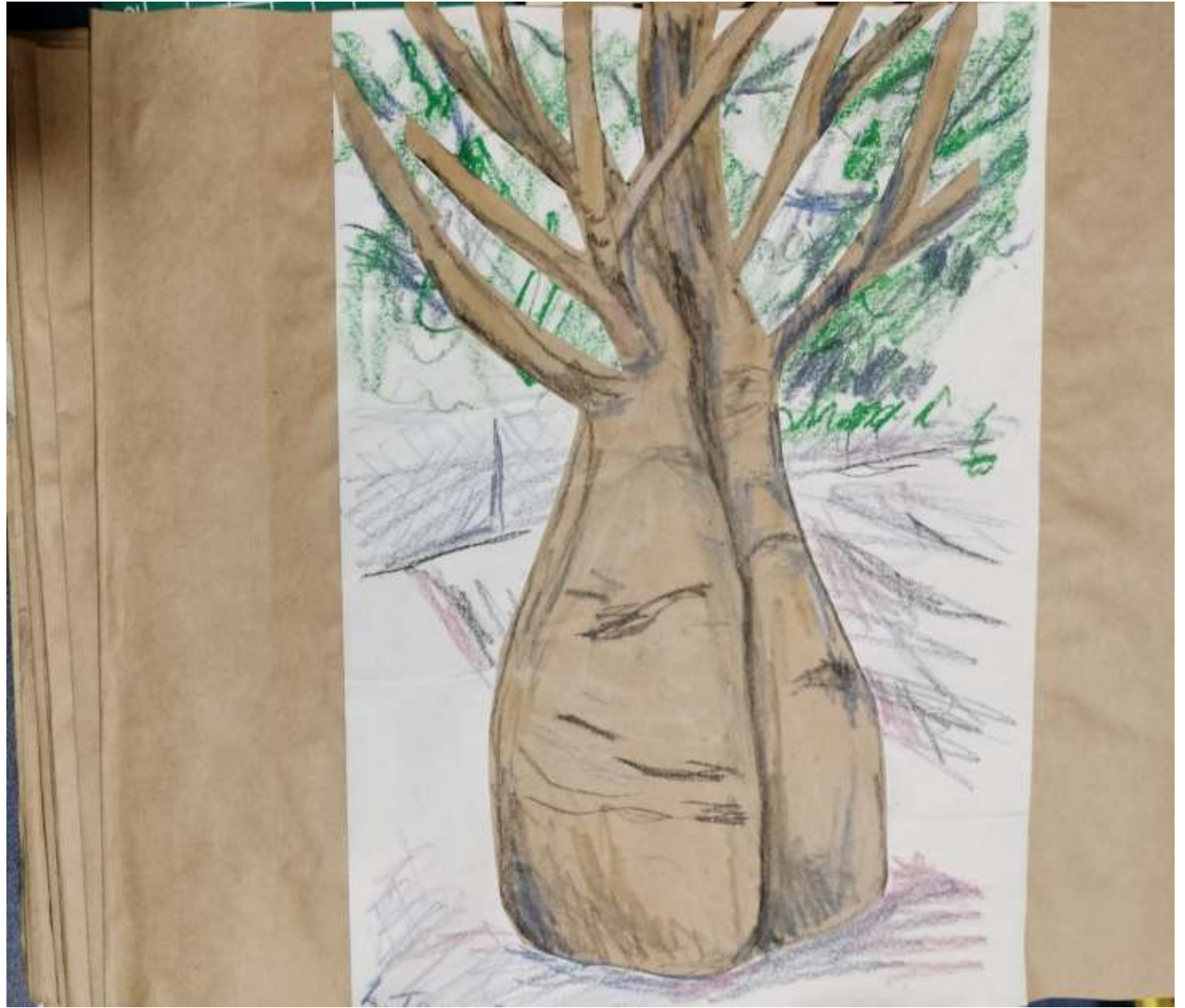


Curlewis

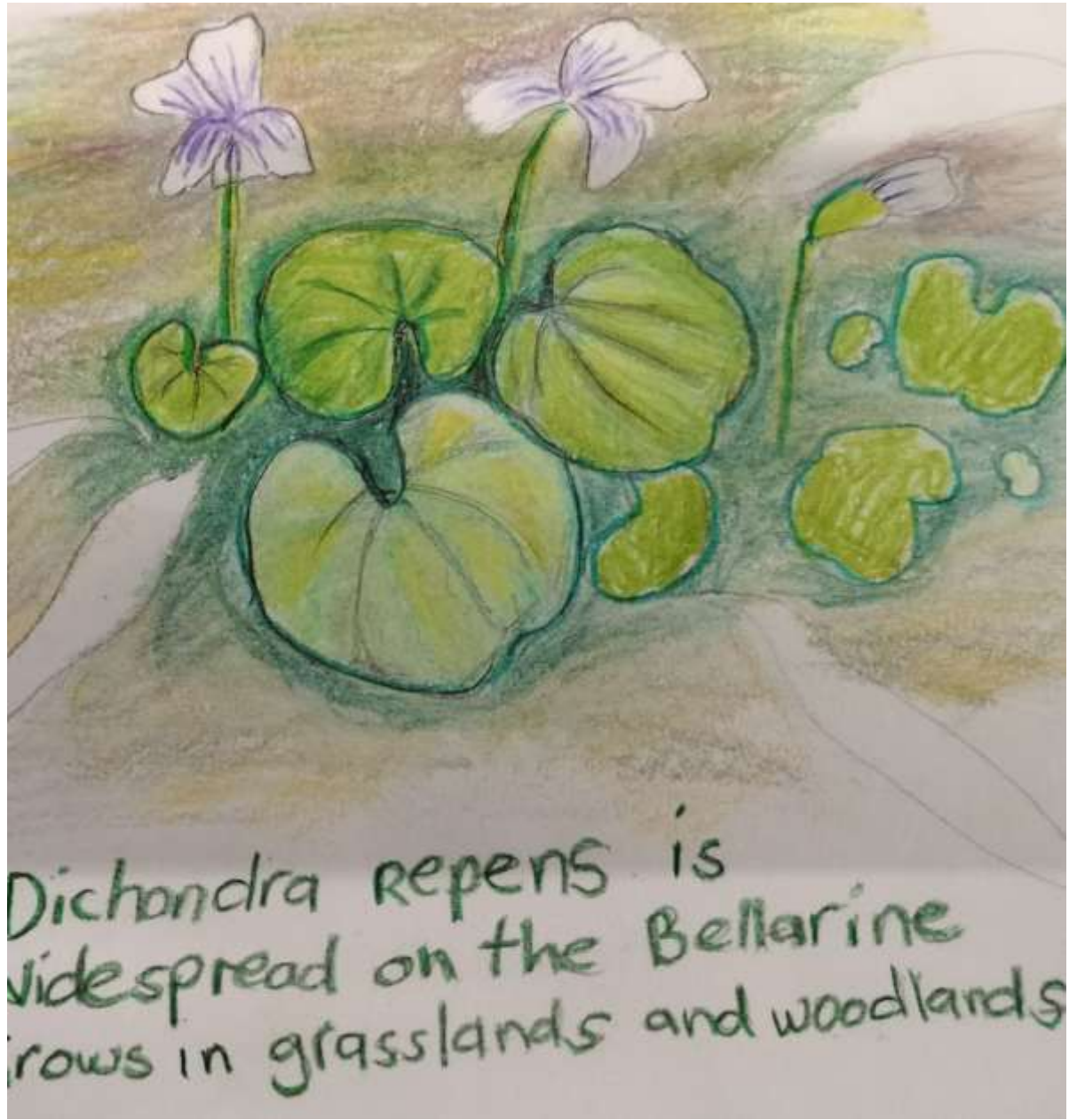
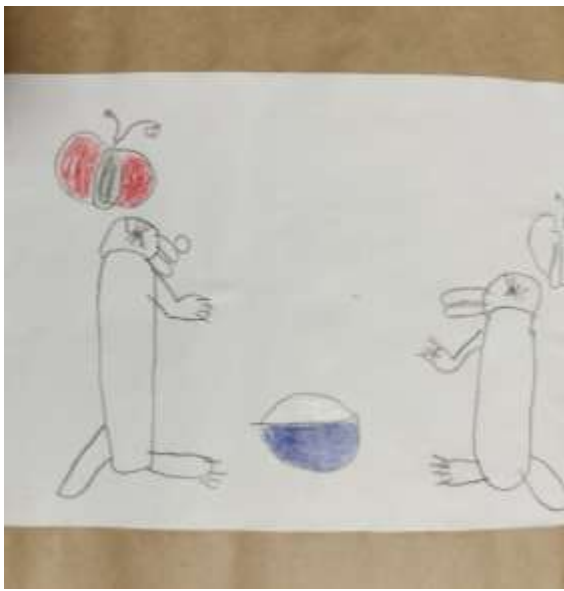


side bay - Edwards point - shallow tidal pools -

oo Paul Kenso







KEVIN HOFFMAN WALK

INDONESIA



Nama saya Ivan Aditya, lahir & besar di Jakarta, INDONESIA. Saat ini saya sedang berkunjung ke tempat wisata yang berlokasi di Geelong. Saya sama berada di sini, karena rasanya Geelong area seperti rumah kedua.

Saya senang mendengar apa yang Fern buat untuk buku terpanjang di dunia. Saya berharap banyak orang dapat inspirasi dalam menulis buku ini dan tentunya menginspirasi dengan senyumnya. Saya mau balik kesini lagi dan melihat buku ini dipajang di museum Geelong!

-IVAN, Indonesia-



- This is just a snippet.



Join local artist Fern and nursery volunteers to create the longest concertina book in the world. Page by page. We'll meet at the reserve, cuppa break, then draw, write or paint. For more information contact the Bellarine Nursery Landcare - Belcher Bay. **When: Friday 8th November 10.00am**  
More: <https://fernartz.com/the-longest-book-in-the-world/>  
FB <https://www.facebook.com/longestbookgeelong/>  
More planned for Autumn and Spring 2024



years, Fern Smith, is attempting to break the Guinness World Record for "Longest Book in the World". The record, presently held by Yang Shuanming in Taiyuan, Shanxi China, measures 814.26 metres in the form of a concertina book, a fold-out book

Local artist Fern Smith with her concertina book currently measuring 37 metres in length. The record, held by Yang Shuanming in Taiyuan, Shanxi China since 2019, measures 814.26 metres. Photo: VINNIE VAN OROSCHOT

**Turning Geelong into the world's longest book**  
08/11/2024

