



Library Hours:  
Tues-Thurs 9-8  
Fridays 9-5  
Saturdays 9-2  
Sundays & Mondays  
Closed



*"We are such stuff as  
dreams are made on..."*  
~William Shakespeare,  
*The Tempest*

Winter 2025

## Leading the Shakespeare Class at Meredith Public Library is One of His Unexpected Joys (A Talk with Expert Shakespeare Instructor John Lin)

by Matthew Buteau, Adult Services Librarian

I spent a fun and informative afternoon interviewing John Lin about his background, teaching career, extensive Shakespearean studies, and the joy of learning he shares with the attendees in the Shakespeare group that he leads at the Meredith Public Library.

John revealed an interesting paradox. In his words, "I was a terrible English student in high school and I tell my high school English students that all the time to motivate them and inspire them to recognize at one stage of one's life, you might not be interested in something, but later on, a lot can change."

That was certainly true in John's case. After flirting with both pre-med and philosophy as college majors, he eventually found an appreciation of literature and earned an undergraduate degree in English which led to teaching in a private school in Connecticut. During summers there, he earned a master's degree in English.

Through a professor in that master's program, John was intro-

duced to a program at Oxford University in England where he got to spend an additional three years studying Shakespeare full time. The program was located a mere 40 minutes away from Shakespeare's birthplace, Stratford-upon-Avon, which is also the home of the Royal Shakespeare Company. John would go there to attend plays. After the shows, he would visit the Dirty Duck Pub and interact with the actors (often still in costume) he'd just seen on stage.

Our discussion turned towards the Shakespeare group at the library. John said, "It's been one of the joys of my retirement!" He explained further that it was also completely unplanned. When he originally proposed the idea of a Shakespeare class at the library several years ago, John thought they would just tackle one or two plays, starting with *Hamlet*. Over twenty people showed up that first day. The group has been so successful that they have declared a goal to go through the entire Shakespearean repertoire. *continued on page 3*

FRIENDS OF THE MEREDITH LIBRARY

**BOOK  
STORE**



**HOURS:**

**WEDNESDAYS 10 AM – 6 PM**  
**THURSDAYS 10 AM – 4 PM**  
**FRIDAYS 10 AM – 4 PM**  
**SATURDAYS 9 AM - 1:30 PM**



## News from the Children's Room! December \* January \* February



### Bookworm Bunch Story Time



Wed. from 10 to 11

**No Storytime on December 3rd!**

**December 10, 17 & 31**

**January 7, 14, 21 & 28**

**February 4, 11, 18 & 25**

Stories, crafts & snacks. All ages are welcomed. No sign-up required.  
Coffee & Tea served.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Children's Christmas Concert



**Friday, December 12**

**From 10:00 to 11:00**

Join us in the function room and listen to The Sweetbloods play their guitars and sing to you.

The Sweetbloods are a local duo from Meredith. Their music is well known in the lakes region.

Come listen, sing and dance.

Snacks Served.

\*\*\*\*\*

### Holiday Story Time!

Sat. Dec. 13 at 10:00

Come listen to the *Polar Express*.  
All ages are welcomed! Snacks.



### Tot Time Reading Circle \* Friday's 10 to 11

December 5 & 19

January 9, 16, 23 & 30

February 6, 13, 20 & 27

Join us in the children's room for stories, puppet friends and beautiful art work created by you. Coffee & Tea. Snacks served. Come read and play.



### Winter Reading!



Starting January 23 you may sign-up for winter reading! Winter reading is like summer reading, only COLD! You will receive your reading log, fill it in, return it to the children's room and shop in the **Snowflake Hut**.

Lots of fun things to get. We will have weekly raffles. You may do as many reading logs as you like.

Winter reading ends February 28.

## Shakespeare

*continued from page 1*

They are well on their way to succeeding. Members of the group are so enthusiastic that John led several of them on a trip to England so they could see the plays performed in the same area they first debuted hundreds of years ago.

What is a typical session at the library like? The group covers one act per week so each play takes five weeks. John explains, "We sometimes watch several versions of the same scene. We do a lot of reading out loud so we want to get the words and the texts in our bodies. We want to feel how these words sound saying them to somebody else." The sessions run on Wednesdays from 1 PM to 2:30 PM. No background in Shakespeare is necessary. The current play is always available at the desk for \$5.

To hear the complete audio interview (including Shakespearean controversies, favorite quotes, iambic pentameter, and Matthew's infamous sonnet as well as many more details of John's stories than we have room for in this article), please visit the library website at [www.MeredithLibrary.org](http://www.MeredithLibrary.org) and look for Episode #31 (Part 1) and Episode #32 (Part 2) of the *Check It Out* library podcast. From the library homepage, follow this path: click on **News & Events...Meredith Library Podcast Studio...Check It Out**. You can also ask at the circulation desk and we can show you several ways to find the podcast.



*Members of John Lin's Shakespeare Group during their trip to England.*

## Genealogy at the Library

The Meredith Public Library meets the third Tuesday of each month from 4:00-5:00PM, except in December. Various topics are discussed. If you would like to be added to the mailing list, please email [erin@meredithlibrary.org](mailto:erin@meredithlibrary.org).

The library is a Family Search Library Affiliate. When you log into [familysearch.org](https://familysearch.org) using the library's wifi, you will have access to 40% more records than you can access from home. The library also hosts Ancestry.com, thanks to the generosity of the Friends of the Meredith Library. We also subscribe to American Ancestors, with access to numerous databases focusing on New England, but also other areas. Both of these databases must be used in house.

We host several Genealogy Lock-Ins each year when you can use the library after hours for research. Our next one is Friday, January 16 from 5:00-8:00PM.

# Winter Crafternoons

## First Fridays, 1-3PM

*All materials provided; \$5.00 fee per class.  
Registration Required.*

**Wine Cork Christmas  
Tree  
December 12.**



**Flower Pot Snowmen  
January 9**



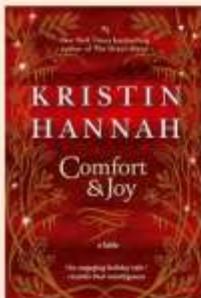
**Paper Flower Bouquet  
February 6**



# BOOK CLUBS

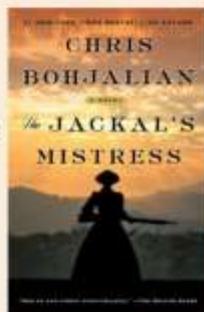
## Brown Bag

DEC 4



*Comfort & Joy*  
by Kristin Hannah

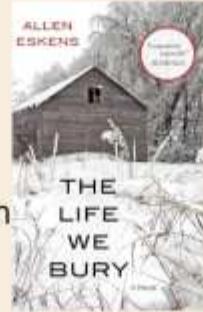
JAN 29



*The Jackal's  
Mistress*  
by  
Chris Bohjalian

Meets at 12 PM

FEB 26



*The Life We Bury*  
by Allen Eskens

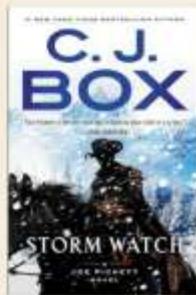
## Mystery

DEC 11



*Deceived*  
by Irene  
Hannon

JAN 8



*Storm Watch*  
by C.J. Box

Meets at 10:30 AM

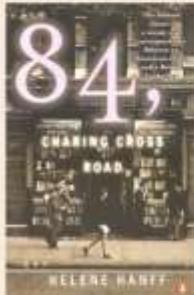
FEB 12



*Murder at  
Black Oaks*  
by Phillip  
Margolin

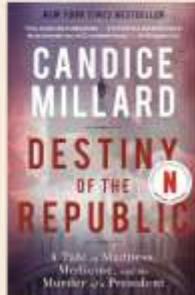
## Non-Fiction

NOV 25



*84, Charing  
Cross Road* by  
Helene Hanff

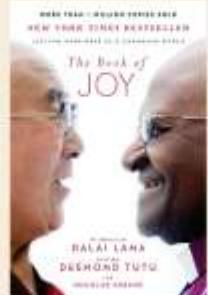
JAN 27



*Destiny of  
the Republic*  
by Candice  
Millard

Meets at 6:30 PM

FEB 24



*The Book of Joy*  
by Dalai Lama  
Desmond Tutu

DECEMBER 2025



# MEREDITH LIBRARY TEEN ZONE

**WED. 12/3 MYO ORNAMENTS  
THURS. 12/4 GIANT COLOR BY NUMBER**

**WED. 12/10 FUN WITH FELT  
THURS. 12/11 MYO BUTTONS**

**WED. 12/17 TINY ART SHOW  
THURS. 12/18 CRAFT EXPLOSION**

**AMONG US  
EVERY  
TUESDAY**

**JACKBOX  
EVERY FRIDAY**

**TAKE THE BUS AFTER SCHOOL TUES.-FRI. 3:30-5:00  
MEET NEW FRIENDS SPECIAL EVENTS SNACKS AND MORE**

For ages 10+, however, the library is not responsible for supervision.

JANUARY 2026

# Meredith Library Teen Zone

AMONG US TUESDAYS      JACKBOX FRIDAYS

JOIN IN THE FUN, MAKE NEW FRIENDS, AND ENJOY AN  
AFTER SCHOOL SNACK

1/7 STRING ART HEARTS

1/8 MOVIE & POPCORN

1/14 AFTER SCHOOL HANG TBD

1/15 FAUX STAINED GLASS

1/21 NEW YEAR NEW MOON

1/22 FRACTURED ART

1/28 ZEN DOODLE

1/29 GALAXY JARS

TUES.-FRI.

TAKE THE BUS AFTER SCHOOL

3:30-5:00

FOR AGES 10+, HOWEVER, THE LIBRARY IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR SUPERVISION

MEREDITH LIBRARY

FEBRUARY 2026

# TEEN ZONE

## >>> EVENTS <<<



TAKE THE BUS AFTER-SCHOOL  
TUES.-FRI 3:30-5:00



AMONG US EVERY TUESDAY  
JACKBOX EVERY FRIDAY

WED. 2/4 OLD SCHOOL VIDEO GAMES

THURS. 2/5 READ AND BEAD

WED. 2/11 PAPER QUILLED CARDS

THURS. 2/12 MOVIE + POPCORN

WED. 2/18 SHOELACE PINS

THURS. 2/19 GLOW ART

WED. 2/25 BLOCK PRINTS

THURS. 2/26 READ AND BEAD

FOR AGES 10+, HOWEVER, THE LIBRARY IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR  
SUPERVISION.



**Saturday, December 13**  
**Meredith Public Library**  
**9 AM - 1:30 PM**

## **Last Minute Christmas Markets:** **Holiday Craft & Vendor Fair**



- ◆ **Crafters & Vendors**  
Variety of local artisans and businesses
- ◆ **Holiday Storytime**  
Reading of *The Polar Express* at 10 AM
- ◆ **Christmas Carols by the Fire**  
Local Choirs & Musicians perform from 10:30 am - 1 pm
- ◆ **Bake Sale**  
Homemade goodies 
- ◆ **Gift Wrapping Station**  
For items bought at the event 
- ◆ **Holiday Book Sale**  
Books always make the perfect gift 
- ◆ **Hot Cocoa Bar**  
Flavors, toppings & more 
- ◆ **Library Keepsake Ornaments**  
2025 edition

**CRAFTERS & VENDORS: RESERVE YOUR TABLE TODAY!**

Most Tables Are 58" x 29" / Only \$10 / Electricity Available

Contact Matthew at the Library: 603-279-4303



## **WATERCOLOR CLASSES**

Featuring Artist  
Larry Frates

 **10AM-12PM | Saturdays, Jan. 10-31**

**Registration Required. Limit 12. \$10 in support of the Friends of the Meredith Library. All materials provided. Keep your paint and brushes!**



This Workshop is designed to help build your confidence in painting with watercolor. Geared towards beginners, but all experience levels are welcome. Still life, flowers, seascapes and cityscapes. Even if you thought you could never paint anything in your life, you will walk away amazed!



## **Retirement Income Planning**

- Early vs. delayed retirement
- Setting goals
- Asset allocation & risk
- Income sources
- Accounting for taxes & inflation

Join Matthew Rigatti, a Financial Planner and Senior Vice President from Pointes North Wealth Management, in the library Function Room to get your questions answered.

Meredith Public Library

**Tuesday**  
**December 16**  
**6:30 - 7:30 PM**



## **Genealogy Lock-In**



**Friday, January 16,  
5:00-8:00PM**

Bring your notebook, laptop and research materials. Library computers will also be available. Work with your fellow genealogists after the library closes.

Bring \$5.00 if you want pizza. Dessert and beverages served.  
Sponsored by the Friends of the Meredith Library.



# 2025 LIBRARY ORNAMENT KEEPSAKE COLLECTION



- Metal & ceramic choices
- Lovely vintage library photos
- Backs show library logo & year
- Red satin gift bags included
- Available at the circulation desk

**only \$10**



*Please join us for a community seminar:*

## SCAM AWARENESS

*A guide to recognizing scams and what you can do to stay safe.*

**Presented by**

Adam McKinney and Susannah Perron

**Tuesday, January 13**

6:00 PM - 7:00 PM

Meredith Public Library  
91 Main Street, Meredith



### BREWING IN NEW HAMPSHIRE PRESENTED BY GLENN KNOBLOCK VIA ZOOM

Glenn Knoblock explores the fascinating history of New Hampshire's beer and ale brewing industry from Colonial days, when it was home and tavern-based, to today's modern breweries and brew pubs. Whether you're a beer connoisseur or a "tea-totaler", this lecture will be enjoyed by adults of all ages.

Link is available via our online calendar or email [erin@meredithlibrary.org](mailto:erin@meredithlibrary.org).



NEW HAMPSHIRE  
humanities

THURSDAY  
JANUARY 22  
6:30PM  
VIA ZOOM



**FRIENDS OF THE MEREDITH LIBRARY**

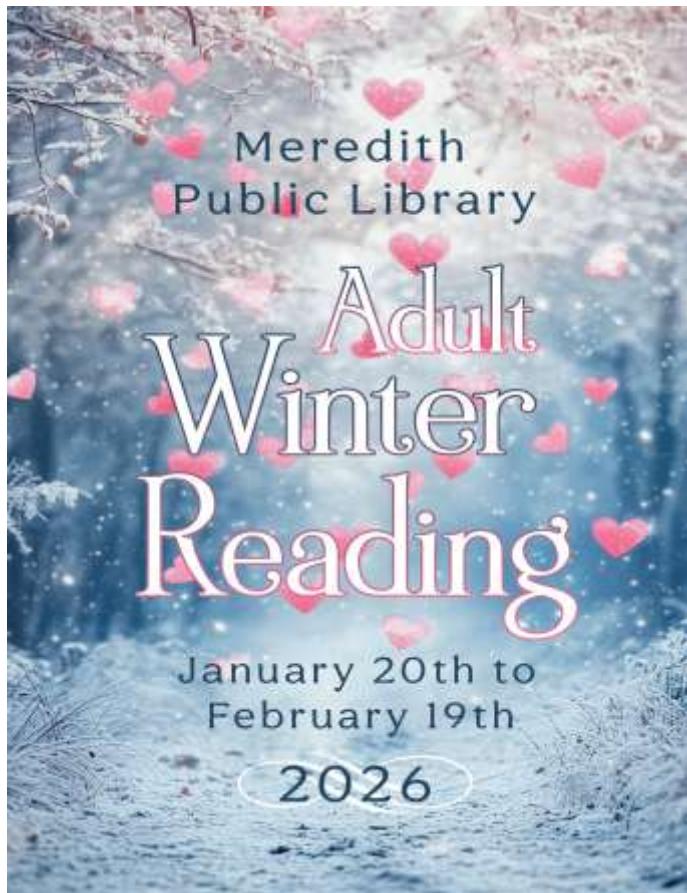
# BOOK STORE

**HOURS:**

**WEDNESDAYS 10 AM - 6 PM**  
**THURSDAYS 10 AM - 4 PM**  
**FRIDAYS 10 AM - 4 PM**  
**SATURDAYS 9 AM - 1:30 PM**



**LOCATED IN THE BASEMENT**  
**BOOKS FOR ALL AGES**  
**DVDS, PUZZLES!**



Friends of the Meredith Public Library  
Book Sale

Located at:  
91 Main Street Meredith NH

THU. FEB 12 - 10:00 TO 4:30  
FRI. FEB 13 - 10:00 TO 4:30  
SAT. FEB 14 - 9:00 TO 1:00

JOIN US IN THE FUNCTION ROOM FOR GREAT BOOKS & AWESOME BARGAINS

Our Current Play:  
**Henry VI**  
Part 1

**WEDNESDAYS**

WITH SHAKESPEARE

1:00 - 2:30 PM

Act I - 1/7 • Act II - 1/21 • Act III - 1/28  
Act IV - 2/4 • Act V - 2/11

**Meredith Library Holiday Closings:**

**Closed for Thanksgiving**  
Wednesday - November 26 (at 5 PM)  
Thursday - November 27  
Friday - November 28

**Closed for staff event**  
Friday - December 5 (at NOON)

**Closed for Christmas**  
Wednesday - December 24 (at NOON)  
Thursday - December 25  
Friday - December 26

**Closed for New Year's**  
Wednesday - December 31 (at 5 PM)  
Thursday - January 1, 2026  
Friday - January 2, 2026

*PLEASE NOTE CHANGE!* *PLEASE NOTE CHANGE!*

**Take a Book Share a Book**

\*Please take advantage of our Little Free Libraries during times of closure!

## MEREDITH PUBLIC LIBRARY

PO BOX 808  
91 MAIN STREET  
MEREDITH, NH 03253

Phone: 603-279-4303  
Fax: 603-279-5352  
E-mail: erin@meredithlibrary.org

Library BUILDING Hours:  
Sunday & Monday: Closed  
Tues: 9am-8:00pm  
Wed: 9am-8:00pm  
Thurs: 9am-8:00pm  
Friday: 9am-5:00pm  
Saturday: 9am-2:00pm

*Please remember the library in your estate planning.*

### Computer Club

Tuesdays @ 10AM Dec. 9, Jan. 13, Feb. 10

Various topics are discussed and open to all experience levels.

### *We Want Your Scrap Wood!*

*(To be used in our Glowforge laser engraver)*

Must be no larger than 18" x 20" to fit in our machine and can be no thicker than 1/2". Please call and ask for Chris for more details.

### One-on-One Technology Training

Need help with your new tablet, laptop or smart phone? Is your email giving you problems? Sign up for a one-on-one session with Chris.

### Check Out a Kindle Fire

The library has three Kindle Fires for circulation. Watch a movie or TV show using our Amazon Prime account or request a book we can download for you.

## Library Mission Statement

The Meredith Public Library's mission is to be the cultural heart of Meredith; a gathering place where community members can acquire and share knowledge.

## Are You Talented?

Do you have a special skill such as knitting, scrapbooking or model train building you'd be willing to share with others at the library? Are you an artist looking for a place to display your work? If so please contact the library. If displaying artwork please ask for Matthew Buteau. If you would like to present a program at the library please contact Erin Apostolos.

### Knotty Knitters

Join us weekly on Thursdays at 9AM in front of the historic fireplace.

### Senior Center Tech

Meets Fridays at 9AM.

12/5, 1/9, 1/23, 2/6, 2/20  
Community Center.

Check out our very awesome telescope. Take it home for one week. *(Must be at least 18 years of age with a valid driver's license.)*