

Meredith Library News

Library Hours:

Tues-Thurs 9-8

Fridays 9-5

Saturdays 9-2

Sundays & Mondays

Closed

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



*"We are such stuff as
dreams are made on..."*

~William Shakespeare,
The Tempest

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

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



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 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.

The library is a Family Search Library Affiliate. When you log into 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

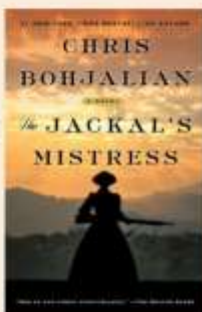
Brown Bag Meets at 12 PM

DEC 4



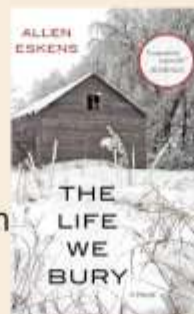
Comfort & Joy
by Kristin Hannah

JAN 29



The Jackal's Mistress
by Chris Bohjalian

FEB 26



The Life We Bury
by Allen Eskens

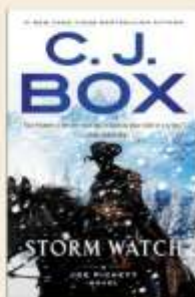
Mystery Meets at 10:30 AM

DEC 11



Deceived
by Irene Hannon

JAN 8



Storm Watch
by C.J. Box

FEB 12



Murder at Black Oaks
by Phillip Margolin

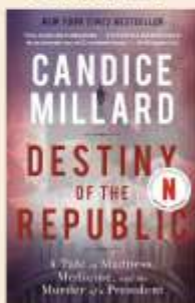
Non-Fiction Meets at 6:30 PM

NOV 25



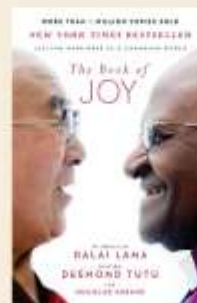
84, Charing Cross Road
by Helene Hanff

JAN 27



Destiny of the Republic
by Candice Millard

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**

TAKE THE BUS AFTER SCHOOL

**TUES.-FRI.
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 COLLECTON



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

only \$10

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.



**THURSDAY
JANUARY 22
6:30PM
VIA ZOOM**



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



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

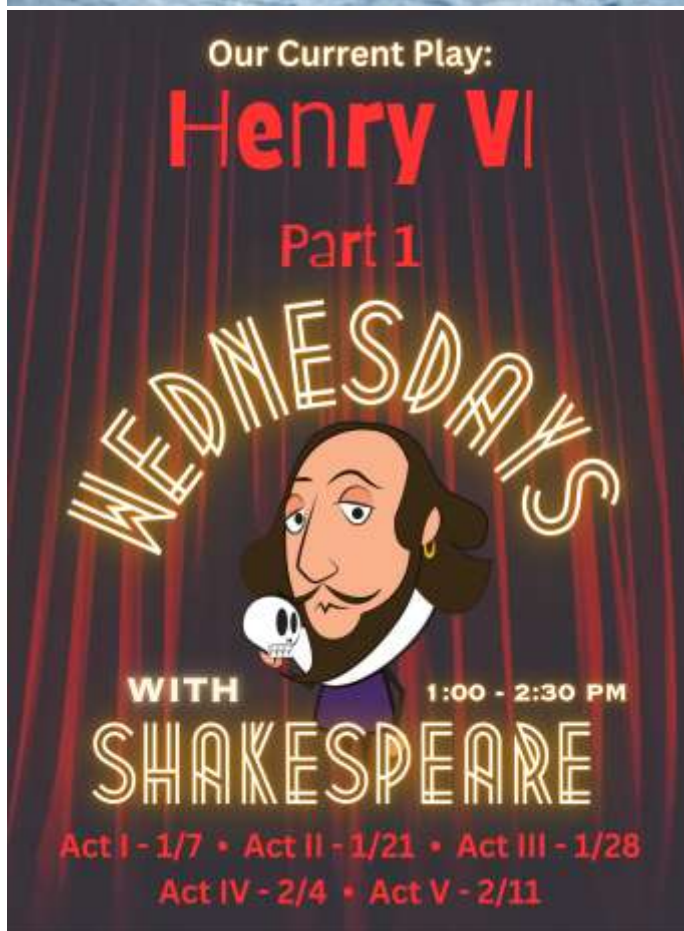
Located at:
91 Main Street Meredith NH

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



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!



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



www.meredithlibrary.org

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 prob-
lems? 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 re-
quest 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, 1/09, 1/23, 2/06, 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.)*