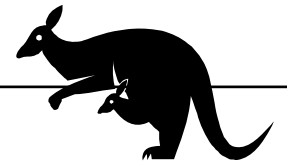


Australian & New Zealand

Films at Ames Public Library



1915 (DVD ACTION NIN) 357 min. 1982. A classic Australian World War I saga, this miniseries captures the hopes and heartaches of innocent country boys as they embark on the greatest and worst adventure of their lives, when they face the filthy deprivations and shocking savagery of trench warfare.

Australia (DVD ACTION AUS) 165 min. 2009. In northern Australia during early World War II, an English aristocrat inherits a cattle station the size of Maryland. When English cattle barons plot to take her land, she joins forces with a rough-hewn stock-man to drive 2,000 head of cattle across the country's most unforgiving land, only to face the bombing of Darwin by the Japanese who had attacked Pearl Harbor only months earlier.

Breaker Morant (DVD DRAMA BRE) 107 min. 1979. After the brutal death of a British captain in the Boer War in South Africa in 1901, Lt. Harry Morant leads his unit in pursuit of the Boers, attacks their camp, and executes a captive. Other executions and deaths lead to the arrest and trial of Morant and two other lieutenants.

Bush Christmas (DVD FAMILY BUS) 77 min. 1947. Two children, heading home to Australia for Christmas, encounter a group of thieves. They accidentally give them the information needed to steal their father's horses. The children then try to save the horses.

Crocodile Dundee (DVD COMEDY CRO) 97 min. 1986. An Australian who hunts crocodiles, stares down giant water buffaloes, and drinks mere mortals under the table, faces the ultimate test – a trip to New York City.

Crocodile Hunter's Croc Files (597.98 DVD CRO) 110 min. 2001. Take a look at some of the unusual animals found only in Australia: kangaroos, koalas, wallabies, and wombats. Some crocodiles and native species of North America are also featured.

December Boys (DVD DRAMA DEC) 105 min. 2007. In the late 1960s, four orphan boys with December birthdays go for a holiday on the South Australian coast. But these teens--Maps, Spit, Spark and Misty--have much more in common. With no hopes of ever joining a family, they form their own familial bonds. Then the unexpected news comes that a young couple may adopt one of them, and the long-time pals suddenly share a rivalry to be the chosen one.

Families of Australia (J 306.85 DVD FAM) 30 min. 2005. Visit eight-year-old Phoebe on her family's farm near Attunga, a town northwest of Sydney, as she gathers eggs for breakfast, rounds up sheep, enjoys Sports Day at school and takes a violin lesson after school. Seven-year-old Josh lives in Sydney, Australia's largest city. Follow Josh as he takes care of the pet chickens, goes to school, visits his grandparents and makes a chain of volcanoes from an egg carton.

Fortress (DVD DRAMA FOR) 90 min. 1985. In the Australian Outback, a resourceful schoolteacher and her class must save themselves from four masked gunmen.

Gallipoli (DVD ACTION GAL) 111 min. 1981. Two friends are involved with the battle between Australians and the German-occupied Turks in this commentary on the wastes of war.



Heavenly Creatures (DVD DRAMA HEA) 99 min. 1994. Based on an actual crime involving mystery writer Ann Perry when an adolescent, this is the story of two bright and imaginative teenage girls who form a bond, creating a private fantasy world. Disturbed by the intensity of the friendship, their parents threaten to keep them apart. The girls devise a plan that leads to shocking consequences. Filmed in New Zealand.

Her Majesty (DVD FAMILY HER) 105 min. 2004. Based on a true story. A girl's unusual friendship with an outcast old woman changes an entire community. As a rural New Zealand town prepares for a visit from Queen Elizabeth, the townspeople pressure the old woman to sell her shack that is a community embarrassment.

Innocence (DVD DRAMA INN) 96 min. 2002. After more than forty years apart, a couple embarks on an affair as reckless and intense as when they were young lovers.

Kangaroo Jack (DVD FAMILY KAN) 89 min. 2003. Charlie and Louis are from Brooklyn. Charlie's stepfather, Sal, is a criminal who sends Charlie and Lewis to Australia to meet and deliver a large amount of cash to a Mr. Smith. En route to the outback, Charlie and Louis accidentally run over a kangaroo, and they dress it in sunglasses and Louis' jacket for snapshots. Since the animal wasn't dead, it hops away - taking the mob money with it.

Kings in Green Castles (DVD TV KIN) 200 min. 1998. Set in the mid 1800s, this is a saga of hatred and tragedy, wealth and romance – a true story of settlers from famine-struck Ireland who find new life in Australia.

Lantana (DVD DRAMA LAN) 121 min. 2001. A woman disappears and four marriages are drawn into a tangled web of love, deceit, sex and death.

The Man from Snowy River (DVD FAMILY MAN) 104 min. 1982. Jim Craig has spent his first 18 years in the Australian mountains on his father's farm. The death of his father forces him to the lowlands to earn money to get the farm back on its feet. Kirk Douglas plays two roles as twin brothers who haven't spoken for years. A 20-year-old feud re-erupts, catching them in the middle as Jim is accused of letting a prize stallion loose.

Mary and Max (DVD COMEDY MAR) 92 min. 2010. Mary is a lonely eight-year-old in the suburbs of Melbourne. Struggling with questions that no one can answer, she writes to Max, an obese 44-year-old Jewish man with Asperger's Syndrome living in New York City. Their friendship spans 20 years and two continents.

Muriel's Wedding (DVD COMEDY MUR) 105 min. 1994. Muriel finds life in Porpoise Spit, Australia, dull and spends time listening to Abba music and dreaming of her wedding. Slight problem: Muriel has never had a date. She steals money for a vacation, meets a wacky friend, changes her name, and the adventure begins.

On the Beach (DVD DRAMA ON) 134 min. 1959. Radioactive fallout from a nuclear war has wiped out the northern hemisphere, except Australia. With fallout expected, the Australians review their lives, establish new relationships, and prepare for their tragic demise.

Ozzie (DVD FAMILY OZZ) 90 min. 2001. When an evil businesswoman conspires to clone a talking koala named Ozzie, she sends two bumbling henchmen to the Australian outback. On the plane, Ozzie hides in the backpack of a child and they get into all kinds of mischief.

The Piano (DVD DRAMA PIA) 121 min. 1992. A young mute woman and her child travel to New Zealand in the 1800s for an arranged marriage to a farmer. After the marriage she meets another man, who competes for her love. Just one of the men realizes that her affections can only be won through her beloved piano.



Picnic at Hanging Rock (DVD DRAMA PIC) 107 min. 1975. In 1900, a group of schoolgirls prepare for a picnic at Hanging Rock. Four of them disappear and are never found.

The Proposition (DVD ACTION PRO) 104 min. 2005. Charlie Burns receives an impossible proposition from law enforcement. He can save his younger brother from the gallows by killing his psychotic older brother.

Quigley Down Under (DVD DRAMA QUI) 120 min. 2001. Sharpshooter Quigley travels to western Australia, only to be saddled with a half-loco lady and locked in battle with a local rancher.

Rabbit-Proof Fence (DVD DRAMA RAB) 93 min. 2002. In 1931, Molly and two younger cousins were half-caste children from Western Australia who were taken from their parents under government edict and sent to an institution, where they were taught to forget their families and their culture and become members of "white" Australian society. The girls began an epic journey back home, traveling 1,500 miles on foot with no food or water, and by following the fence that was built across the nation to stem the rabbit population.

Rain Shadow (DVD TV RAI) 326 min. 2007. Two veterinarians in the Australian outback battle to save their drought-ridden farming community from a devastating sheep blight. Originally broadcast on television as individual episodes. Disc 1: "The Long Paddock," "You Can't Eat Scenery," "Paringa Rules." Disc 2: "Black and White," "The Call of the Wild," "The Soldier's Choice."

Return to Snowy River (DVD FAMILY RET) 99 min. 1988. Set in Australia's Victoria Alps, this is the story of a stormy romance and a violent landowner feud.

The Road from Coorain (DVD DRAMA ROA) 97 min. 2002. Growing up in the outback of New South Wales in the 1930s, Jill chafes under her mother's domination, a prickly relationship that becomes even more so after the death of Jill's father. Although she grows wealthy, Eve becomes a bitter alcoholic, all but forcing Jill out into the world to stand on her own two feet. Drawn into the Australian intellectual renaissance of the 1940s, Jill's feminist values are challenged when she falls in love with a rough-hewn American mining engineer.

The Road Warrior (DVD SCI-FI ROA) 95 min. 1981. A former police officer is now a lone wanderer, traveling through a post-apocalyptic Australia looking for the now-priceless fuel of petrol. He lives to survive and is none too pleased when he finds himself the only hope of a small group of honest people running a remote oil refinery. He must protect them from a bike gang while transporting their entire fuel supply to safety.

The Shiralee (DVD TV SHI) 190 min. 1987. A fiercely independent man reluctantly takes his daughter on the road with him to the Australian outback while he looks for work.

Sweetie (DVD DRAMA SWE) 99 min. 1989. Jane Campion, director of *The Piano*, will always be remembered for this stunning debut feature. The focus of this film is the hazardous relationship between button-down, superstitious Kay, and her rampaging sister, "Sweetie."

Swimming Upstream (DVD DRAMA SWI) 97 min. 2003. Based on the true story of Tony Fingleton, a young man from a troubled family. He lives in the shadow of an abusive father, but Tony finds the inner strength to become a swimming champion. Always overshadowed in his father's eyes by his brothers, it is only when Tony displays an extraordinary swimming talent that he feels he has a shot at winning his father's heart.

Tap Dogs (DVD MUSICAL TAP) 73 min. 1996. Six young Australian men steal tap from the world of black ties and tails and carry it body and soul into the nineties.



Ten Canoes (DVD FOREIGN TEN) In Aboriginal language and English, with English captions. 88 min. 2006. In the past, Dayindi coveted his older brother's wife. To teach him the proper way, he is told a parable of forbidden love from the mythical past, a story of wrong love, kidnapping, sorcery, and revenge gone wrong.

The Thorn Birds (DVD TV THO) 487 min. 1983. The epic story of a priest torn between God and human passion and a beautiful girl desiring only what she cannot have – spanning five decades of ambition, fear, longing and revenge, and set against the vast horizons of Australia's Outback.

Two Hands (DVD DRAMA TWO) 90 min. 1999. 19-year-old Jimmy finds himself in debt to a local gangster when some gang loot disappears and sets him on the run from thugs. Meanwhile, two street kids start a shopping spree when they find the missing money.

Walkabout (DVD DRAMA WAL) 100 min. 1971. Stranded in the Australian outback, an English girl and her brother are rescued by an Aborigine boy who is there on his "walkabout" – a tribal initiation into manhood.

Whale Rider (DVD DRAMA WHA) 101 min. 2002. The Whangara people of New Zealand believe their ancestor Paikea was saved from drowning by riding home on a whale, and have since granted leadership positions to the first-born males of a certain family, believing them to be the descendants of Paikea. A mother dies in childbirth along with her newborn son, but his twin sister, Pai, survives and is raised by her grandparents. Learning the skills of chieftdom from her grandfather, Pai shows that she possesses natural leadership ability. This film is based on the book by Witi Ihimaera.

Wolf Creek (DVD SCI-FI WOL) 104 min. 2005. Kristy, Ben and Liz are friends who set out to hike through the scenic Wolf Creek National Park in the Australian outback. Trouble begins when they return from their hike to find that their car won't start. They think they have a way out when a friendly local bushman named Mick Taylor offers help, but what Mick has in mind for them has nothing to do with friendliness.

The World's Fastest Indian (DVD DRAMA WOR) 127 min. 2005. Burt Munro, a Kiwi from far south New Zealand, has been building and rebuilding his antique Indian motorcycle for the last forty years, dreaming of the day when he and the bike can go to Utah's Bonneville Salt Flats and see what they can really do. When Burt's heart goes bad on him, he is afraid his dream has come to an end, but he is not ready to give up. He mortgages his house and he and the motorcycle head for America to participate in "Speed Week" at the Salt Flats.

