

Meredith & district News

March 2011

Our Free Community Newsletter since 1972

It's Water Over the Bridge

Media Release

Over 100mm falling in the Meredith region over the night of Friday 4 February and Saturday 5 February brought substantial damage to the local roads network.

Two bridges, in Whinray and Schefferlie Roads were severely damaged by the flood waters and require replacement.

The bridge on Schefferlie Rd initially isolated two residences and a temporary access track has been constructed by Council to access these properties.

The Whinray Rd bridge will be closed for an extended period of time with one embankment under the bridge washed away. Access to adjoining properties however is adequately accommodated by other roads.

Council has commenced planning for the replacement of these bridges, a process which is expected to take some months to undertake surveying, bridge design and construction.

It is estimated that the bridges will cost a total of \$500,000 to complete, this cost is in addition to the estimated \$1.3million damage sustained in Golden Plains Shire from the January floods. (*The summer rainfall report is on page 21*)

MPS Captains Named

Ben Gallagher

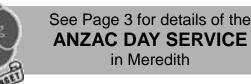
Meredith Primary School congratulates our school captains for 2011 Hattie Macdonald and James Fear along with our school vice captains Max Kocon and Lily Purcell. Lily is following in the footsteps of her older brother Jordan who was also a vice captain in 2009.

Along with our school captains we have also announced our house captains for 2011 (see page 10) Congratulations to all of the Grade Six students who prepared excellent speeches and spoke extremely well in their own individual bids to become our 2011 school captain. Good Luck to all of the grade Six's and we look forward to an excellent year!

> PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE PUBLICATION



The damaged McLeod Street bridge will remain closed until further notice.



Vice Captains Max and Lily and School Captains Hattie and James.



W: www.meredithnews.com.au



Meredith and District News

The Meredith and District News is published by a volunteer subcommittee of the Meredith Community House comprising: Jim Elvey, Dawn Macdonald, David Jones and Trudy Mitchell .

NEWS & VIEWS

Subject to the conditions outlined below, contributions accompanied by the contributor's name (which will also be published) and contact details, are most welcome. Please email to

mchnews@netconnect.com.au or deliver to the Meredith Corner Shop.

DATES AND DEADLINES

The Newsletter is distributed on the first Thursday of each month (except January). All advertisements and submissions must be lodged by the last Thursday of the preceding month, but earlier is really appreciated.

ADVERTISING

Advertising in the M&D Newsletter is a great way to let district residents know about your business. Contact us for full details and lodgement forms. as are as follos

| Rates are as follows. | | |
|--------------------------------------|------------------|--|
| Business Card | \$14.00 | |
| Quarter page | \$25.00 | |
| Half page | \$40.00 | |
| Full page | \$80.00* | |
| *\$20 loading for preferred position | | |
| Classifieds | FREE** | |
| **For small, personal notices from | | |
| residents Otherwise | \$7.50 or \$5.00 | |

ээ.00 if paid on lodgement. Community Groups can have a 1/4

page ad for free or a \$25.00 discount on larger ads. (conditions apply) **SUBSCRIPTIONS**

If you are outside our delivery area you can subscribe for only \$10.00 p.a. (11issues) and get the Meredith and District News posted to you anywhere in Australia.

CONTACT US

Post: Post Office, Meredith, 3333 Email: mchnews@netconnect.com.au Ph: (BH ONLY please) Jim 5286 1273 or Dawn 5286 1274.

WEB

You can check back copies and lodge comments at meredithnews.com.au DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the publishers. The publishers may edit or reject contributions and accept no responsibility for errors or omissions.

Maternal Infant & Childcare Nurse

Call 0409 900 224 to make an appointment Emergency Phone at the Meredith Community Centre 10th & 24th March 7th & 21st April

Geelong Regional Library Van

At the Meredith Community Centre 1-3pm 11th/25th Mar 8th/22nd April www.geelonglibraries.vic.gov.au

Senior Citizens

Meet at the Meredith Memorial Hall Ph. Hope 52861 306 New members are always welcome

Justices of the Peace

Mr R Cooke Meredith 52,861,346 Mr H Woerner Meredith 52 861 402 Mrs S W Dynon Steiglitz 52 819 223 Mr G Leslie Bannockburn 52 811 854 Mr P Ryan Elaine 0409 861 296

Tell us if you have any **Community News**

... and we'll tell the Community!

See panel on left for contact details.

Community Contacts

| Community Centre-Joan | 5286 1348 | |
|---|--------------|--|
| Primary School-Doug | 5286 1313 | |
| Kindergarten-Kim | 5286 1227 | |
| Police Station | 5286 1222 | |
| Red Cross- Mel | 5286 1558 | |
| CWA-Joan | 5286 1559 | |
| Tennis Club-Julie | 5286 1211 | |
| Jnr Footy Club-Terry | 0418178513 | |
| M'bool Valley Masters- Mick | 0408 545 246 | |
| Recreation Reserve- Mick | 5286 1222 | |
| Memorial Hall-Lynn | 5286 1566 | |
| Hall Bookings-Sandra | 5286 1545 | |
| Golf Club- Denis | 5341 5748 | |
| Senior Citizens-Hope | 5286 1306 | |
| Cemetery Trust-Dawn | 5286 1274 | |
| Motor Cycle Club- Mark | 0437 009250 | |
| Angling Club- Daryl | 53 543 879 | |
| Advanced Meredith-Di | 5286 1291 | |
| CFA- Robert Cooke | 5286 1346 | |
| Let us know if you want your Community | | |
| number added or changed, or you know of one | | |
| that should. | - | |
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Numbers

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| 000 or 112 |
| 5286 1222 |
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| 1800 888 236 |
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| 1800 551 800 |
| 1300 363 036 |
| 0408 508 635 |
| 5220 7111 or |
| 0409 830 223 |
| 5281 1221 |
| 13000 wildlife |
| |

ELAINE NEWS & EVENTS

Elaine CFA Scrap metal collection as equipment fundraiser Contact David 0418993239 Junior Fire Brigade Training every Monday 5.30 pm Contact Viv 0428518675

Elaine Mechanics Hall Committee - Jayne 53415596

Hall for Hire Heating and Cooling

Elaine Recreation Reserve Committee Try out the tennis courts, bring your own racquet.

Room with facilities for Hire Ideal for meetings Contact Ron 53415703

"Light travels faster than sound. This is why some people appear bright until you hear them speak." Unknown

Meredith Anzac Day Service

A service for ANZAC will be held at the Meredith Memorial Hall on

ANZAC Day Monday 25th April starting at 10am. Following the service we will march to the Cenotaph for laying of wreaths. Morning tea will be provided at the RSL Hall.

ALL WELCOME.

A plate would be appreciated. For further information, please call RSL President, David Jones on 52 861 452.



MEREDITH & DISTRICT RED CROSS UNIT.

WINE & CHEESE TASTING PLUS PHOTOGRAPHY EXHIBITION AT THE LETHBRIDGE WINERY

SATURDAY MAY 28TH 2011

Tickets available later, but put the date in your diary, and watch for more information.

Classifieds

FREE to good home

2 Pet female goats free to good home. Our kids have out grown their pet goats and we are looking for a good home for them. They are 5 or 6 years old, great lawn mowers, very friendly and tether well. They have been together from birth and we will not separate. Meredith Area phone Terry on 0411 745 697

Wanted

Any unwanted fruit from your fruit trees. Don't let it go to waste, call Bow or Jo on 5286 1553.

For Sale

Bungalow for sale. 2 bedroom, kitchen, bathroom, air con. and hot water service \$3000 Call Carmel 0417 308 768

For Lease

Expressions of interest are invited for the lease of the Anglican Church paddock, fronting Lawler Street and Russell Streets, Meredith, for grazing of stock only. Enquiries to, Parish Secretary Fay McFarlane. Ph: 5286 1283. 407 502 794

Congratulations Wendy Cooke

Congratulations to Wendy Cooke on her retirement. Wendy has worked as the teacher's assistant for the Meredith Kindergarten for over 15 years and during this time, her commitment and dedication has always exceeded our expectations.

To show our appreciation, the kindergarten is holding a celebratory afternoon tea for Wendy at the

Meredith Memorial Hall on Sunday the 20th of March at 2.30pm. Please join us with your family to celebrate this joyous occasion. For catering purposes please RSVP to Louise on 52 861 444.

Thank You

Heidi Allison

This is a Special THANK YOU to a wonderful family that came to my aid . This group of four arrived at my place pushing wheelbarrows with tools . Both girls had their own wheelbarrow, but not before I was given a bunch of flowers and a plate of cookies baked by the girls. I am writing about Jo, Beau, Tilley and Jovita..

On Friday when we received that huge deluge of rain , my backyard flooded, and I mean flooded . Some of my Chookie pens were completely covered in water . My brother and his son , Ben, helped me save some of my precious chooks. It was an instant decision on 'who are your favourites' , and then it was a race against time. They could not get to all due to the water rising and being too deep. It was approximately 11pm at night and that was a problem, as I had no torches charged up. It was dreadful to hear the birds flapping trying to save themselves. We rescued quite a few , but a lot died and many we could not get to and ran out of time.

It was all over by about 12.30pm. Saturday morning, I got up at 7am to look at the damage, with great reluctance. It was unbelievable there were small puddles of water here and there but nothing, nothing compared to the night before, it was almost a dream, except for the dead bodies, lying in the pens, the huge mess it created in my sheds and lets not forget the stench.

As I was doing the rounds, Beau was walking the dogs and I spoke to him telling him about the night before. Then on Sunday the family arrived . Beau picked up all the dead chooks and then they cleaned out 90% of my houses. It was all heavy work as the litter was wet and heavy, there was no way I could have done it by myself.

To think that these people I don't know 'that' well, came to my aid, I am very , very grateful for their kindness and help. Once again : THANK YOU ... JO, BEAU, JOVITA and TILLEY.....

I am kicking myself for not taking a photo but I will never forget that Sunday morning.

Anakie 1st Cubs and Scouts.

1st Anakie Cubs for boys and girls aged 7-10, meets Wednesdays 6.30 to 8p, at Anakie Hall, Staughton Vale Road. Enquiries Amanda 52819497

1st Anakie Scouts Tuesdays 7pm Anakie Hall, S/Vale Road Anakie. New members welcome. Enquiries- Bruce 52841257

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MEREDITH ANGLICAN CHURCH

2nd Sunday 11am with & at Uniting Church 4th Sunday 11am Uniting at Anglican Church of the Epiphany **MORRISONS ANGLICAN CHURCH**

Contact: 5368 1342

9am every 2nd & 4th Sunday and a combined service at one of our three churches on the 5th Sunday in the month. *Enquiries Fay McFarlane 52861283*.

"Parish Office, Byron St. Bannockburn open Wednesdays, call in for a coffee and a chat.

Ash Wednesday service at St John's Bannockburn 9 March 7.30pm."

MEREDITH & ANAKIE CATHOLIC CHURCHES

Baptisms, weddings, funerals, pastoral care . Father Herman 52861230

Mass Times for March 2100.

Meredith 11a.m. Sunday March 13th/ 27th

Anakie 11a.m. Sunday March 6th/ 20th

Ash Wednesday March 9th Meredith 5p.m. Bannockburn 7p.m.

Easter Timetable: Meredith : Holy Thursday April 21st 8p.m.; Easter Vigil Saturday April 23rd. 8p.m.

Bannockburn: Holy Thursday April 21st 6.30 p.m.; Good Friday April 22nd 3p.m., Easter Vigil Saturday April 23rd 6p.m.

Good Friday Ecumenical Way of the Cross Friday April 22nd commencing at St. Joseph's Meredith at 10 a.m. for hot cross buns and a cuppa; Walk around Meredith commences at 10.30a.m. World Day of Prayer ; Join Christians throughout the world in a service prepared by the people of Chile at the Anglican Church of the Ephipany on Friday March 4th at 7p.m. All welcome.

SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH:

Fr. Theodore—Ph. 5341 5568

Holy Liturgy 10am every Sunday, Saturday & Major Feast Days.

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA

St. Marys House of Prayer Elaine Solemn mass Sundays 10.00am

Rosary and Vespers Saturday 5.00pm.

Confessions by appointment **Fr. James Ph. 5341 5544** UNITING CHURCH TIMES

Monthly Service Times: 2nd Sunday Meredith 11am Uniting Church; 4th Sunday, Meredith 11am Church of The Epiphany 1st and 3rd Sundays 9.45 am Buninyong Uniting Church Enquiries Doug McFarlane 52861283 or Jean 52817479

Thank you from the Meredith Senior Citizens *Hope Hodge*

The Senior Citizens would like to thank the following business's for the wonderful donations to our end of year Break Up.

The Corner Shop, Woolabrai, Foxy's garden ornaments, The Meredith Road House, Frank Parnell Real Estate, Meredith Nursery, Hearn's Hotel, Henry's Corner, Clyde Park Winery and Paul Ryan (Elaine Store), Di and Kevin. Our entertainers Kym Ivory and the wonderful group of young people from the Lethbridge Primary School and last but not least to all the members who donated and then helped to make the day happen. Meredith Community Centre, Inc. 4 Russell Street Meredith 3333 PH 5286 1348 Fax 52861 563 "Working for our community"



Public Internet Access

Public internet Access...FREE! Days: Tuesdays 10-12pm Wednesday 10-2pm Thursday 10-2pm

Public internet access is available to community members on the above days and times. Bookings are recommended as limited computers are available for this service.

This service made possible through State Govt. funding.

Meredith Community Centre News

Joan Brick Happy 2011!

We are looking forward to providing a number of interesting activities and classes over the coming year. We are glad to see that Playgroup is up and running again and hope to see more of you join in as well. Please check out our website for current news and upcoming classes as well as a copy of our current Program on <u>www.meredithcc.com.au</u>

We areall women to join us in celebrating International Women's Day on March 9th from 7-9pm. Classes still on offer for the term include First Aid, CPR, Basic Jewellery, Herb Gardening, Power Tools, Small Engine Maintenance and Canvas Photo Boards. We welcome new members of the community and invite you to come down and let us show you around.

For further information please call us on 52861348.

1911 - 2011 Celebrating 100 years

International Women's Day

Meredith Community Centre & The Golden Plains Shire proudly invite you to share in CELEBRATING THE CENTENARY OF

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

Wednesday March 9th, 2011 from 7-9pm at The Meredith Community Centre

> Spend an informal evening celebrating all local women and their achievements!

International Women's Day is a global day

celebrating the achievements of women past, present and future.

Enjoy an evening of with friends, food, displays and great company!



RSVP 52861348 for catering purposes



Meredith History Interest Group

Marg Cooper

The first meeting of the Meredith History Interest Group for 2011 will take place on Sunday 13, March at 1.30 pm at the Masonic Centre.

At this meeting we will plan activities for the year and have an election of office bearers.

Memberships of \$10 will be due at this meeting. Everyone is welcome to bring their ideas, to see what the group has been doing over the past year, to view our treasures and to share history over afternoon tea.

We will catalogue from February on the last Thursday in each month at the Masonic Centre.

If you would like to help please come along after 9 am.

Some of us went to a seminar run by PROV in North Melbourne on Wednesday, February 23 to learn how to care for collections and to mount displays.



It's History

"A fatal accident occurred," states the Geelong Advertiser, "on the road between Meredith and Morrisons on Wednesday afternoon. Mr. Elder, who had been on a visit to Mrs. M'Kinnon, of Moreep, for some time past, drove over to meet the mid-day train to Geelong, accompanied by Mrs. M'Kinnon and Mr. M'Rae. A telegram was received at Geelong about 6 o'clock, intimating the bare fact that he had been killed, about half way between the two places. The deceased gentleman, who was about 40 years of age, and who was widely known and respected throughout the Western district, was a son of the late Major Elder, of Inverness-shire." The Argus (Melbourne) Friday 15 October 1875

ELDER.- On the 13th inst, at Meredith, accidentally thrown out of a buggy, in the 43rd year of his age, William Elder, son of Lieutenant-Colonel Elder, of Knock, Isle of Skye. The Argus (Melbourne) Tuesday 26 October 1875

Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group

Jerry Daniels - A Migrant's Story

Marg Cooper

Jerry and his parents were picked up off the migrant boat in Melbourne in 1976 by Charlie Havlicek and taken to East Geelong to a flat they had rented. The next day they were in Meredith!

Their contact in Geelong knew Charlie and knew that he had a car and they all came from the same country of origin. Charlie Whiskers as the locals called him, had retired from being a land surveyor for the government and had bought a block of land on Steiglitz Road at Meredith and had moved a house onto the block in the late 1960's.

On that first weekend they went yabbying. Yabbies had become extinct in Europe and there was much excitement when they caught some yabbies.

Jerry's father had a work permit for International Harvester and Jerry tried to get an apprenticeship there but he was told that, "he was too late this year and would be too old next year"! Within 2¹/₂ weeks of landing he received his first pay packet from International Harvester, working in the machine shop. Jerry and his parents had left Czechoslovakia in 1969 when Jerry was 10 years old and had finished Primary School. The borders were shut 5 to 6 weeks after they left. They left Czechoslovakia on a temporary visa and went to Vienna.

But knew that they wouldn't be going back to Czechoslovakia. They migrated from Vienna to South Africa where Jerry completed his entire Secondary Schooling. His father was mad keen to go to New Zealand but Jerry suggested they go one step at a time.

They lived in rented houses in Geelong before they bought a house in North Shore. They were delighted with this house because they had good neighbours, room around them and a 1/4 acre block and enough room for a vegetable garden.

He bought his first 5 acres of land in Meredith from Ron Lowne in 1980 and has extended his holdings extensively since then. He also built a house for his family on a block on Ballan Road. He has now retired from outside work and is now a farmer. He is proud of his achievements and thankful to all the locals who have befriended and helped him and his family.



Jerry pictured here with his tractor.

sports

Meredith Cricket Club

Chris Hart Clutching at Finals Straws

The first and second elevens go into the final round against Bell Park with only slight chances of making it through to the finals despite resounding wins against Corio Bay the previous week. A rain effected draw and a loss for the two teams respectively against Bannockburn in round 10 all but put paid to the Rams chances.

At Meredith against Bannockburn the Rams did well to hold their opponents to 161 in a full days play largely thanks to the efforts of Russ Baddeley (5-34) and Chris "Spud" Moreland 2-63 from 29 overs. As is now customary, it rained and the ground near the practice nets was a small lake when play was due to resume the second week. After a delay of 2 hours enough water was literally pumped off the ground for play to commence and the Rams began their chase with only 48 overs available and on a sodden outfield. The chase was well on target at 2-60 but a couple of very dubious umpiring decisions consigned the remaining batsmen to playing out time for a draw.

The second eleven were well on track to restrict the home team to a low total until an eighth wicket partnership of 60 allowed Bannockburn to escape to 199 all out. Danny McMahon was the pick of the bowlers with 4-39. The run chase was progressing reasonably well with Alfie Rayner (44) combining with Craig "Dougie" Whitehand to move the score to 1-60. A steady progression of wickets had the Rams faltering late in the day to be all out for 146: Danny McMahon completing a fine double with 31 runs towards the end of the innings.

Corio Bay provided obstinate resistance with the bat at Evans Reserve on day one of the first eleven clash in the penultimate round. Ty Watts with 4-30 perhaps should have bowled himself earlier after breaking the second wicket stand of 100 runs. Mick Rayner (3-42) and Spud Moreland (3-39) collected the remaining wickets. Conceding a disappointing 217 runs the Rams would need to work hard to secure first innings points and after an early set back they took the attack right up to their opponents. Troy Bott cashed in with a chanceless 109n.o. ably supported by Heath Bush 52 and Ty 55n.o. as the Rams amassed 4-268 to leave themselves with a sniff of finals action if they can convincingly defeat the top placed Dragons in the final round.

The second eleven made much lighter work of their opponents achieving outright points in one day. Terry Hart with match figures of 9-20 lead from the front as Corio Bay were dismissed for 14 and 62. Danny McMahon (42n.o.) did the work with the bat in Meredith's 4-94 dec. A win over finals bound Bell Park at the MCG should be enough to see the Rams sneak into the last finals berth.

The prospect of finals for the thirds has been long lost and unfortunately having to forfeit twice since the Christmas break has been disappointing for those who regularly make themselves available. Brendan Rayner, Damian Brunt, Cam Boer and Matty Willis have all returned reasonable results at some stage during the last month with Pumba and Damo both earning call ups to the seconds. The thirds finish off their season with a home game against Corio Bay then travel to Little River.

To stay up to date with what the Rams are up to visit the web site and add it to your favorites at <u>www.freeteams.net/</u><u>meredithrams</u>.

Meredith: On the Rampage



Meredith Ladies & Men's Golf

Meredith Ladies. Opening Day 15.02.11

Played 9 Hole Ambrose
Winners: S Watson, M Diffey, J Stanley, K Macdonald 42-9 3/4 - 32 1/4
Runner up: K Rosch, S Molesworth, C Powles. 42-8 3/4-

Runner up: K Rosch, S Molesworth, C Powles. 42-8 3/4-33 1/4

NTP: J Donghi- 9th 2nd hit.

22.02.11

Played 18 hole Stableford Winner: K Rosch 34pts Runner up: S Parkinson 33pts NTP: M Diffey 9th hole 2nd hit.

Men's Golf :Stableford 12.02.11

Winner: M Macri 41 pts Runner up: P Rees 36 pts NTP: 9th B Moritz 16th P Rees.

Elaine Tennis Club

The Elaine Tennis Club has tennis practice every Wednesday at 4.30pm. New members welcome.

Enquiries please ph Carol, 53415766 Evan, 53415857 Shane 53415602

Thank You

Helmut and Sue Woerner would like to thank the many loyal Elgas customers for their continued patronage over the years that we have been delivering Elgas.

We have decided to semi retire and are planning to extend our travel around this beautiful country of ours so as of the 1st of March we will no longer be the Elgas area representatives.

You can still order your gas from Elgas by phoning 13 11 61.

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*Free Quotes

St Vincent de Paul Society

Meredith and District Conference Covering Meredith, Bannockburn, Anakie, Lethbridge, Inverleigh, Teesdale, Shelford, Elaine and Winchelsea.

The Meredith and District St Vincent de Paul Conference consists of dedicated volunteers who undertake home visitation in pairs to assist people in need within our local community.

Our members extend the hand of friendship and offer practical support such as assistance with food, material aid, utility bills, back to school costs, referrals for budgeting and legal advice and advocacy issues.

St Vincent de Paul volunteers are known as Vincentians and our visits to individuals and families in need are conducted in a caring manner where privacy and confidentiality are always respected.

Life has its ups and downs and hardship does not discriminate, it can happen to any one of us. *St Vincent de Paul Meredith and District Conference* is here to help.

If you are in need of assistance please phone 5221 9170.

WOOLABRAI PTY LTD (Meredith Wool Store)

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30 min lessons weekly Tuesdays and Thursdays from 4pm onwards Wednesdays now available on request Reasonable rates Friendly atmosphere All genres catered for Any age Beginners to professionals Group sessions also available

Call Kym Ivory at Song for the moment to book your time slot to avoid disappointment now on: 0419593306 or email her on kym@songforthemoment.com 10yrs of professional lessons 20 yrs exp in stage performance and musical theatre

Merciful Molly

Marg Cooper

Molly was born on 12/7/1907 to Peter and Susan Smith {Brady} and was sister to Philip b. 1910 and Herman b. 1912. Family tell that Peter and Susan Smith went into the hotel till the licence ran out.

The obituary of Peter Smith tells that, "He was a senior partner of the well known firm of Smith Bros. builders.



He had an illness resulting from a fracture of one of his legs while playing football in 1902 and was a patient at Geelong Hospital for some time before eventually he got well enough to continue his business till 1912 when he had a stroke that practically incapacitated him from arduous duties.

The firm then built the Royal Hotel and Peter Smith took possession but the loss of his wife made his position almost impossible and the property was eventually sold. He leaves 3 brothers to carry on the firm's business, Messrs Jack, Mick and William Smith".

The Royal Hotel burnt in 1913 and was rebuilt in 1914 by Smith Bros. Susan Smith {Brady} died in 1915.

Molly stayed with her father and Uncle Jack until Jack got married about 1918 and then Molly went to the Brady's in Lethbridge to live and went to school there. Molly entered the Mercy Convent in March 1928 at Ascot Vale and became Sister Eymard. She taught in many Catholic Schools including North Geelong, Castlemaine, Kyneton and Coburg.

From about 1980 she worked in the communities around Geelong including Whittington and North Geelong. Molly died in 1992 and is buried in the private cemetery at Sacred Heart College, Geelong.

Mary Alice Smith (Molly) is photographed below in her pram in front of the Royal Hotel, Meredith about 1908.



If YOU have something to Celebrate?

Let us know so we can join in too! Personal announcements are **FREE**

(All personal notices must be placed by an immediate adult family member.)

Vale to Max Dunstan

Marg Cooper

Maxwell Thomas Dunstan died in the Hamilton Hospital on January 28 and a Funeral Service was held at Scot's Uniting Church in Casterton.

Max had a heart attack on December 21, had a by-pass operation at the Alfred Hospital on January 13 and had stroke on January 24.

Max was born in Colac in 1933 and the family lived at Irrewillipe on a farm.

His sister Valerie died from an accident on the farm in 1936, his three brothers, Lyndsay, Albert and Brian all died between 1939 and 1941, then his mother passed away in 1943 and his Father in 1946 leaving Max the only surviving member of the family. Max and his father had moved into Colac to live with his grandparents when his father became ill.

After the death of his father Max moved to live with an Aunt and Uncle in Casterton for about 18 months to finish his schooling at the age of 14.

His first employment was with a Scottish grocer in Colac and the he worked in Public Benefit Shoe Shop in Geelong. During the rest of his life he has had a variety of employment including Fords and SEC.

After he followed Jean to New Zealand in 1960 he worked in a fruit and vegetable market, a wire mesh factory, a furniture retail shop, another grocery shop, a galvanizing plant, security at New Plymouth Power Station and later in Wellington and

Christchurch, owned a second hand shop before returning to Australia with the family in 1990.

Jean and Max then owned a corner store in Ballarat for a short

time.

After moving to Meredith, upholstery became a side income to help the pension along. Max finished his working life as a school crossing supervisor for about 12 years in Meredith for which he received a Certificate of Appreciation from the Golden Plains Shire.

Jean and Max met at Palais dances. Jean left him behind in March 1960 to visit a friend in New Zealand and Max became lonely so followed a few weeks later.

They married in May 1960 and the

Test

to Loong Manage of

Maxwell Thomas Dunstan ~ Max ~

 $10{\text{-}}11{\text{-}}1933 + 28{\text{-}}1{\text{-}}2011$

three children, Kaye, Valerie and Noel were born in New Plymouth.

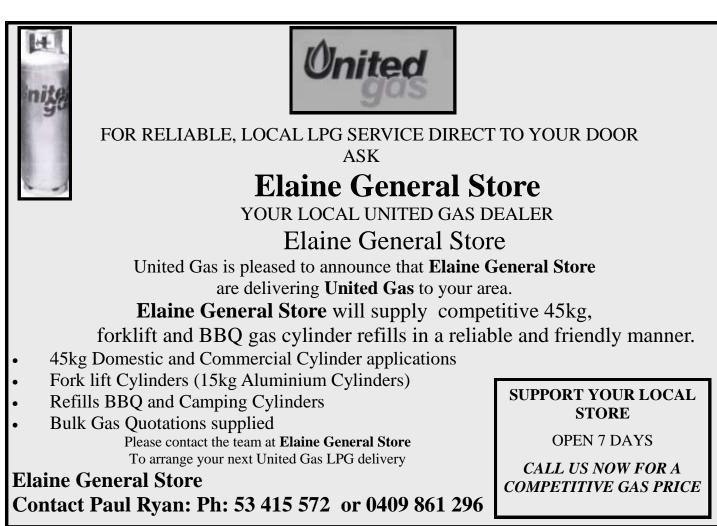
They bought their first home in 1962 and spent $12\frac{1}{2}$ years there before moving to Johnsonville Wellington and after 4 years moved to Christchurch for $13\frac{1}{2}$ years.

Max did National Service at Puckapunyal in the 1950's, was a St John's First Aider in New Zealand, played cricket and always supported the Geelong Football Club.

Max had his teeth pulled many years ago but he hardly ever wore his dentures.

Max's grandson Ben read the obituary at the Funeral service and tributes from members of the family.

Max and Jean were valued members of the Meredith Community before they moved to Casterton.





MPS House Captains

Ben Gallagher

Page 10

Meredith Primary School has announced House captains for 2011. For Red House, the captains are Harris and Tiffany, whose brother Anthony was the red house captain last year. Blue house captains are Kat and Matt. Matt's brother Will was the blue house captain in 2009.

Below L. to R. Red House Captains Harris and Tiffany, Blue House Captains Kat and Matt

> PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE PUBLICATION



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March 2011

GPS Hosts 3rd Annual Arts Trail

Media Release

The third annual Golden Plains Arts Trail, sponsored by Turi Foods, will take place on 2 and 3 April 2011.

This year, the Golden Plains Arts Trail embarks on the most exciting journey of its young life with a new visual identity and website (www.artstrail.com.au) to spread the Arts Trail message further and better than ever before. The Arts Trail showcases the best the region has to offer in art and cultural tourism.

The Golden Plains Arts Trail is a family-focused travelling adventure, grab a copy of the official Arts Trail map and take a self-guided art tour of the Trail, roam from Bannockburn and Teesdale to Smythesdale and Nintingbool. A free shuttle bus will also be available to take people from place to place. Seating is limited and can be booked by calling 5220 7162.

The Golden Plains Arts Trail features artist studios in private residences as well as artists exhibiting and working in community halls. Other art venues include a school, a winery and a number of notable community public places. A total of 50 artists will exhibit in 28 venues on this year's Trail. Visitors will be able to enjoy viewing artworks shown by artists themselves, art demonstrations and hands-on activities.

The Golden Plains Shire in partnership with the Trail's artist committee has established four trail routes which represent the diverse character and landscape to be found across the countryside between the Great Ocean road/Otways in the south and the Goldfields in the north. Visitors will have flexibility when touring since all venues will be open between 9am and 5pm both days.

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Golden Plains Shire Mayor, Cr Geraldine Frantz, believes that the Arts Trail is a unique arts and tourism attraction. "The Arts Trail is an exceptional opportunity to experience the amazing breadth of creative art which can be found within Golden Plains Shire. It is also a wonderful way to enjoy the scenic delights a drive through our region offers."

The diversity of the Golden Plains Arts Trail is summed up by Barry Pearce, leader of the artist committee, "The event is unique. It attracts local and regional artists of great diversity, from hobbyists to highly regarded artisans, who would otherwise never have come together for an exhibition in a gallery."

This year's Trail has secured a naming rights sponsor *Turi Foods* along with sponsorship from a Geelong signage specialist *Signific* and *Clyde Park Winery* in Bannockburn. There is a strong support from a range of local accommodation and catering providers as well.

For event details, shuttle bus bookings and Trail maps, please contact Golden Plains Shire's Marita Batna, Arts & Culture Coordinator on (03) 5220 7162 or 04 37 000 216.

Visit the Trail's new website www.artstrail.com.au for even more information.



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Swimming with the Jellyfish by Vicki Hastrich

Lal lives in the small coastal town of Pocket Head with a cast of unforgettable characters.

There's Rosie who can't stop making jam because in it she hides like fruit the dark secret of her life, there's Lal's uncomplicated husband, there's Lal's lover with a private museum and an angry wife, there's her Dad who sleeps with 2 pillows shaped to fill the place Mum left, there's the Question Mark man, there's the Vampire Bride, the Oyster man and others.

Lal has lived in Pocket Head all her life.

Her mother mysteriously disappeared leaving Lal and her father devastated and forever wondering why and how. For many years Lal has grieved for her mother and has many coping strategies.

This personal and private tragedy is at the heart of the novel but it takes until the final chapter for some resolution to become possible.

Through the book the author weaves a tapestry of people and places and relationships.

The novel has the surface of a slight entertaining comedy but with deceptive defenses the author binds many themes together including, love, death, heroism, tragedy, courage, betrayal and the nature of history.

The descriptions in the book give detailed and delightful images such as this:

"Question Mark Man shuts his eyes to drink the music. A big upturned lippy smile of sweetness sculpts his face. He has the dome of Buddha and I see that he is older than I thought. A thousand year old egg."

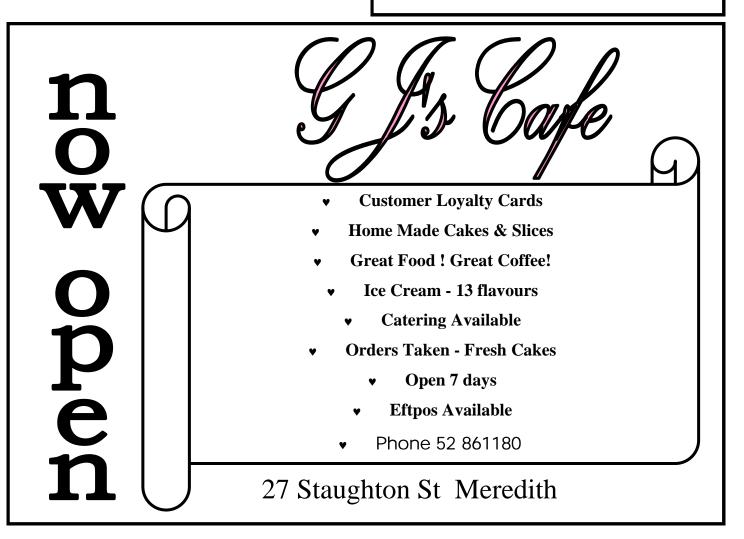
DEADLINE for the April issue is Thursday 31st March. As always, earlier submissions appreciated and may be necessary where our input is required.



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Come the Floods

A Morrisons resident sent these photos in from around their property, from the February storms and floods.





And below is the Coolebarghurk Creek breaking its banks at Meredith's Dickmans Bridge



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On the Move Again

Ah, uni life.

On the outside, it's all one long lazy stretch of sleeping in till noon and getting paid to wander about in your pyjamas, eating noodles and reading the occasional book. There's no doubt uni is great fun; if it wasn't I wouldn't still be there after all these years. But a life of endless leisure, eternal poverty and nothing to keep you in one place has its downsides too, and one of them is how often I find myself piling all my possessions in to my car and moving house.

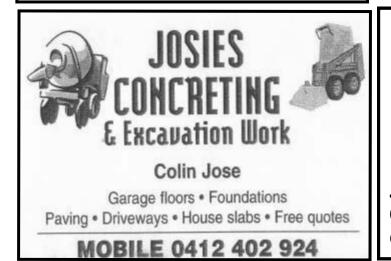
Since the end of high school I've found myself repeating the painful process at least once a year. When my parents have gently hinted at how much they'd like a spare room, when the lease has run out, when my housemates have had to move, when my parents have not so gently hinted at how much they'd like their spare room back, please...again and again, the time comes to pack up and move on.

This time I've set off to Ballarat, and now that I'm actually here and mostly organised I can laugh at my moving day panic. At the time, it wasn't a laughing matter. In denial about just how much packing and

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shifting I had to do, I slept in, woke up grumpy and proceeded to try to pack my 'couple of things' in to supermarket enviro bags. When that didn't quite go to plan (enviro bags are no match for my terrifying mountains of clothes, dangerously wobbly piles of books and inexplicable collection of bric a brac) I approached the problem from a different angle. Looking around, I realised for the first time what a scandalous amount of things I own. I asked myself some tough questions. When do I wear that mountain of clothes? Do I need to own every book ever published? What exactly is bric a brac, and why do I have so much of it? There was only one thing to do, and I did it. Three quarters of my clothes and bits and pieces went off to the Salvo's, but at the last minute the professional student in me quailed at the thought of handing over my books. I don't exactly have anywhere to put them here, but luckily I've sneakily spent the last few years turning my family's home in to a very well stocked library.

When I finally got to my new house and unpacked, my moving anxiety melted away. Apart from my bed and furniture getting a little rained on along the way, and my chest of drawers falling apart on the nature strip, I felt I'd done rather well. I was even a little smug, managing to get through a move without losing anything or leaving anything behind. When I dragged the last bags out of my car I began to wonder if I'd spoken too soon. Sewing machine? Check. Laptop? Check. Toothbrush? Missing. Shoes? Nowhere to be found. I'm not sure how it's possible to move house without shoes. All I know is I managed it.

I don't know how many times I'll move house before I eventually settle in one place. I just hope my family don't mind living in my library until then.



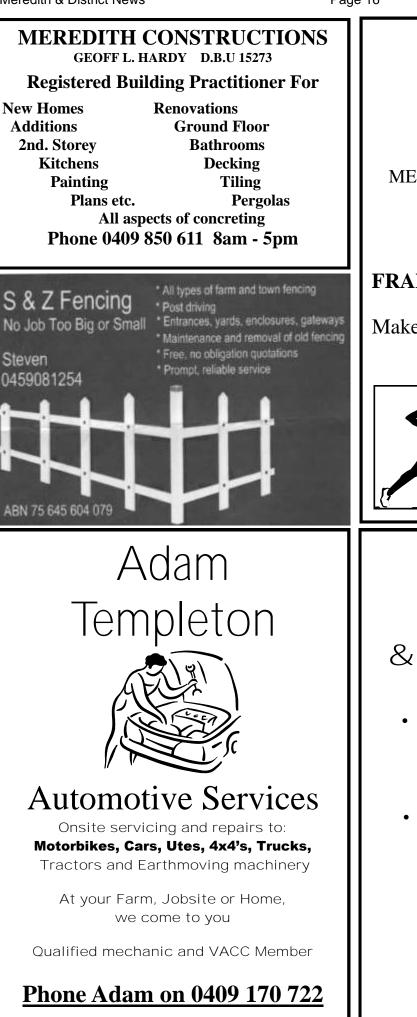
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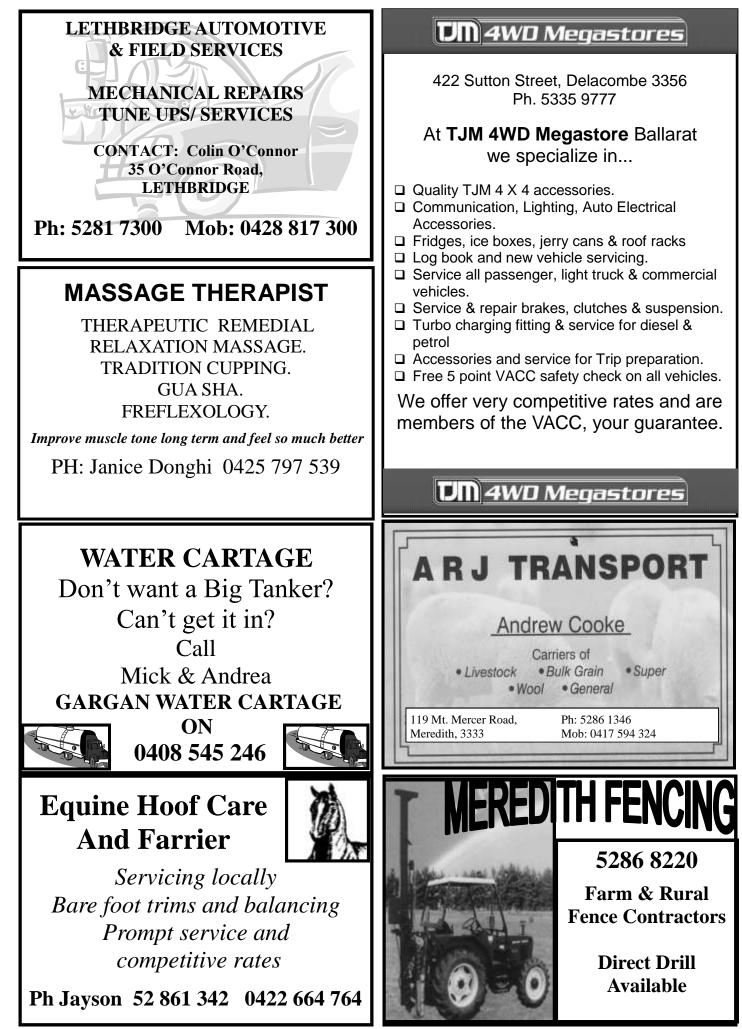
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Meredith & District News



Town Pathway renamed "Middleton Walk"

Media Release

During 2010 Council was approached by the Advance Meredith Group to have the frontages to the Coolebarhgurk Creek within the Meredith township between Ballan and Steiglitz Roads (incorporating the Path Of The Ibis) named the Ken Middleton Walk.

At the Council meeting on 24 June 2010, it was resolved to give public notice of the intention to name the area mentioned the "Ken Middleton Walk" and to seek approval from the Office of Geographic Names to have the name registered. On 13 January 2011 officers were advised by the Office of Geographic Names that the requested name "Ken Middleton Walk" was not accepted due to possible conflict with a bridge named Ken Middleton Bridge in Maude, although the name "Middleton Walk" would be accepted.

At the Council meeting on 25 January 2011 it was determined that Council would provide information to the Office of Geographic Names requesting the frontages to the Coolebarghurk Creek within the Meredith township between Ballan and Steiglitz Roads (incorporating the Path Of The Ibis) be now known as the "Middleton Walk".

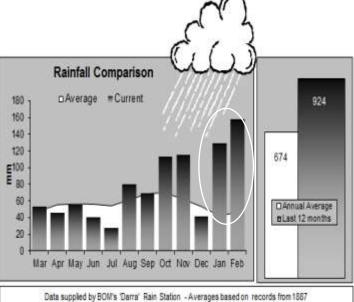
Once confirmation is received from the Office of Geographic Names, appropriate signage will be put in place on the walk.

A Different Summer

Hope you didn't spend too much on your summer wardrobe! It was probably one of our coolest and was certainly one of our wettest on record. Last summer's 327mm was well over double the long term average (LTA) of 142mm.

And the 136mm that fell on the 5th February this year is the highest recorded on any one February day.

Last year registered 718mm of rain which is 53mm above the LTA.



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The Orchard Lease

Marg Cooper

The Orchard Lease is 5 acres in the middle of the bush about 2 miles from Meredith.

It is believed that Albert James Shell b. 1867 at Lethbridge, was the first person to lease the block.

He married Martha Groves and they reared 11 children, born between 1891 and 1908, in a small house on the orchard lease. Family tell that the children walked to Meredith State School from the lease block and Jack Shell carried his younger sister on his back.

They planted fruit trees on the orchard lease and paid a small yearly rent.

It is believed that the Shell family went to Lilydale to work in the clay mines.

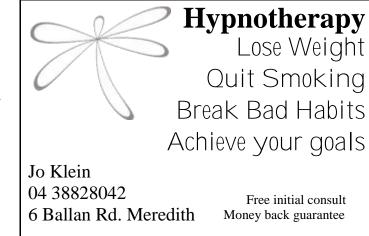
The lease of the 5 acres was taken over by the Byrne family and when Patrick died in 1964 Jack Powles took over the lease. Jack re-fenced the lease and the famous stallion "Highland Fling" was paddocked there.

Jack bought the horse in his old age and bred a few horses from him including "Perfection Maid" who won many races for Jack. "Highland Fling" had been owned and raced very successfully in New Zealand and he had held 8 World Records and was known world wide. The "Post" Newspaper discovered that "Highland Fling" was at Meredith, visited, took photos and featured him in his peaceful surroundings in their paper.

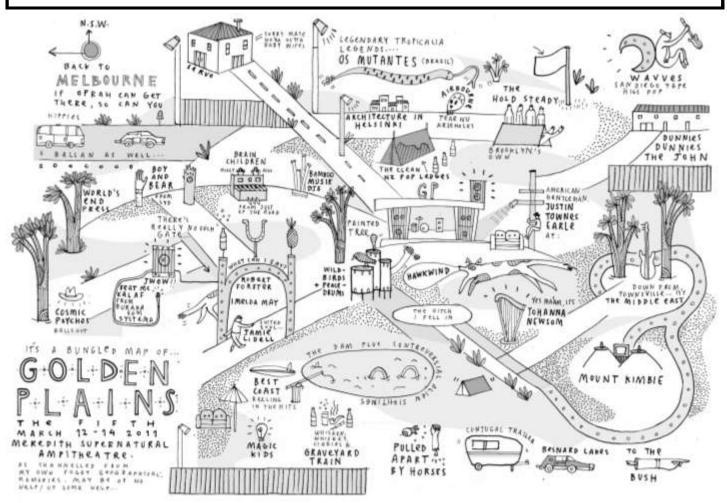
"Highland Fling" died aged 33 years in the 1970's.

Hundreds of kangaroos made the cleared valley their home so Jack relinquished the lease and it has become part of the bush area.

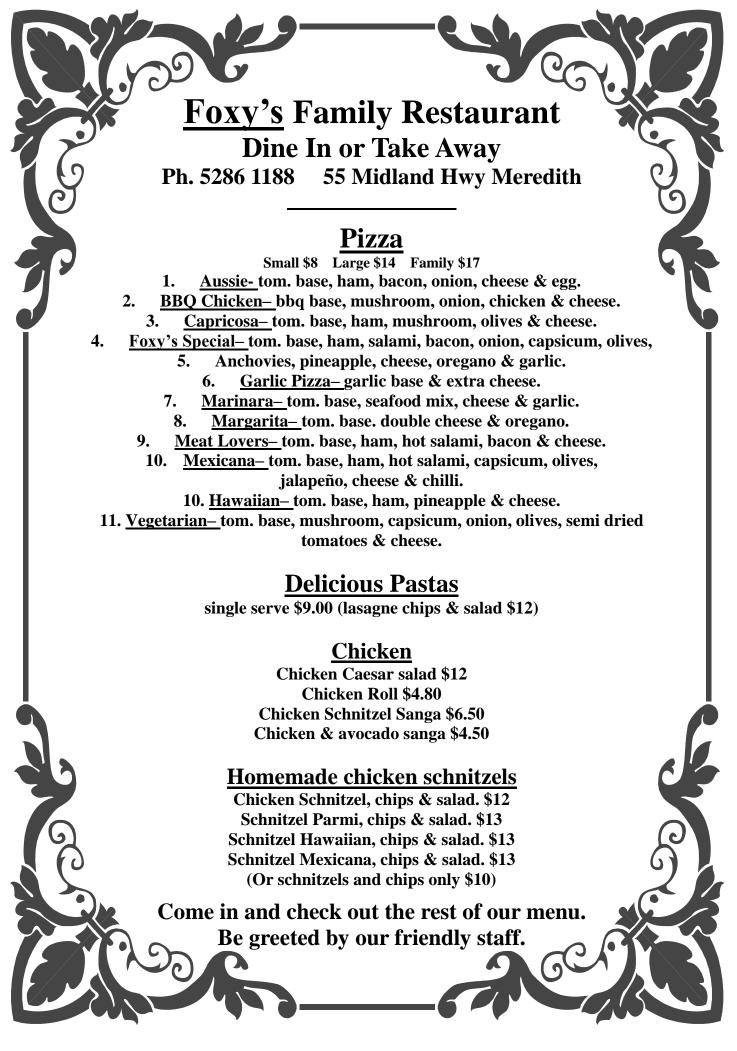
Several apple trees survive from the time of the Shell family and in February 2011, after the good summer rains, and although rugged and spindly, are bearing fruit.



The 'bungled map' created by local artist Stephanie Hughes of the Golden Plains Festival site



March 2011





PHARMACY

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New GIFT CLUB & Gifts now available

New GIFT CLUB available

Last month we had great pleasure to introduce our new Gift Club. We have had over 200 hundred customers already sign up to our new Gift Club. For anyone who hasn't joined the benefits of our new Gift Club are as follows:

- FREE to join!

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* Discount doesn't apply to items already discounted. Cannot be used in conjunction with Chemmart Rewards Card

Come in and get your Gift Club Membership card and start saving instantly! It's that easy! So don't delay, join now and start saving!

New Giftware

Not only have we introduced our new Gift Club we have also introduced a lot of new gifts to our Pharmacy as well. At the beginning of February we went to Salt & Pepper to preview and purchase from their new stock. We managed to find a lot of new gifts and homewares with some particularly good specials. A lot of this stock has already come in with more arriving each week.

At the end of February we also went to the Sydney Gift Fair where we purchased gifts from a lot of new companies that we previously haven't bought from. A summary of the gifts purchased from Sydney are as follows:

- Fragrance candles

- Stirling Silver jewellery

- Teddy bears & plush puppy dogs. Milleni ladies handbags & wallets
- Mens wallets
- Envirosax bags
- Fizpouch handbag organisers Photo frames.
- Baby clothing gift packs. Microwavable animal bed warmers
- Boys & girls activity sets. plus lots more!
- Catherine Manuell Design handbags, wallets & travel luggage
- Range of children stationery (gel pens, highlighters, rubbers, etc)
- boys & girls overnight bags, shoulder bags, pencil cases, bean bags
- Larsen & Thompson loose leaf tea & green tea flowers
- Baby Inkless Birth Certificate, Print kits & Photo Frame kits.

A lot of these new gift lines are already in store with the remainder arriving weekly. So come in and see what we have to offer. Don't forget our prices are below the RRP plus you receive **20% off** if you are a member of our new **Gift Club**.

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Are you a member of our new Gift Club?