

Meredith & district Newsletter



our 1st
36
page issue!

April 2012

Our Community Newsletter since 1972

FREE to district residents

Sun Shines on Festival

John Diffey

The Golden Plains Music Festival was successfully staged over the long weekend in March, with around 8000 music lovers being fed and entertained. Part of the team doing the feeding was the Meredith Community Tucker Tent; "tent" being a term applied to our permanent kitchen building that we now have. Over 300 volunteers and a hardworking committee of nine managed to dispose of a large amount of barbecued food and drinks all at reasonable prices. The MCTT is a non-profit organisation that passes on profits from sales to Meredith organisations, particularly those that Chris Nolan was involved with. These include the Primary School, Kindergarten, Memorial Hall, Cricket Club, Football Club (both Senior and Junior), Tennis Club and the Golf Club. A percentage is passed to Chris to assist with his care and a percentage is maintained in the bank for ongoing requirements.

Each of these groups provide between 40 and 45 volunteers to staff a six hour rostered shift during the festival. The Co-ordinating Committee would like to thank all those who volunteered for any of the numerous tasks undertaken during this time. We are always looking for local volunteers so if you feel you could assist, then talk to a committee member of the above listed groups or leave your name at the Primary School.

PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE
PUBLICATION

Historic Athletics Win!

Doug Cations

The current Meredith Primary years 3 to 6 students made a little bit of history on Tuesday March 20th by **winning the district athletics sports**.

The school has been checking with various school and local sources and no one can recall the school winning this event for at least 30 years. The most pleasing aspect about winning the carnival was the consistent effort put in by all the competitors. Teachers and parents also saw a great school spirit being displayed all day as well as tremendous support given to each other. A large number of parents came along on the day to cheer the students on and were able to share such a great experience. The school also had two **age group champions** with **Amy Canavan winning the 10 year girl's medal and Mitch Emmlin winning the 12 year boy's medal**.

Going through the results the school will also have a good sized group heading off to the next level of competition in late term three.

Above: Sports Captains Haylee Earl and Mitch Emmlin with that elusive Athletics Shield



in this issue....

- CWA Branch Closes
- ...and the Masonic Lodge too
- 150 Years in Training
- A Diamond Anniversary

... and the usual **more!**

e: mchnews@netconnect.com.au **w:** www.meredithnews.com.au





Community

Meredith and District News

The Meredith and District News is published by a volunteer sub-committee of the Meredith Community Centre 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.

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 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.

(11 issues) 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 at the Meredith Community Centre

19th April 3rd, 17th, 31st May

Geelong Regional Library Van

At the Meredith Community Centre

1-3pm 20th April: 4th, 18th May

www.geelonglibraries.vic.gov.au

Senior Citizens

Meet at the Meredith Memorial Hall

Ph. Jim 52868 232

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

Next DEADLINE Wed. 25th April

Earlier submissions appreciated & necessary when our input is required.



Community Contacts

Community Centre-Joan 5286 1348

Primary School-Doug 5286 1313

Kindergarten-Kim 5286 1227

Police Station- Greg 5286 1222

Red Cross- Mel 5286 1558

CWA-Joan 5286 1559

Tennis Club-Julie 5286 1211

Jnr Footy Club-Jaron Munday 0430 587674

M'bool Valley Masters- Chris 0417370681

Recreation Reserve- Gordon 0429841399

Memorial Hall-Lynn 5286 1566

Hall Bookings-Sandra 5286 1545

Golf Club- Denis 5341 5748

Senior Citizens-Jim 5286 8232

Cemetery Trust-Dawn 5286 1274

Motor Cycle Club- Mark 0437 009250

Angling Club- Daryl 53 543 879

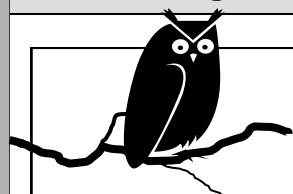
Advanced Meredith-Di 5286 1291

CFA- Robert Cooke 5286 1346

Let us know if you want your Community number added or changed, or you know of one that should.

any NEWS or VIEWS?

mchnews@netconnect.com.au



"I know not with what weapons World War III will be fought, but World War IV will be fought with sticks and stones.

Albert Einstein

Emergency Phone Numbers



Police, Ambulance, Fire	000
(from mobile phone)	000 or 112
Meredith Police Station	5286 1222
Power Failure	132 412
Nurse-On-Call	1300 606024
Mental Health Advice	1300 280 737
Poisons Information	13 11 26
Barwon Water	1300 656 007
SES Emergency - flood & storm help:	132 500
24 Hour Helpline	1800 629 572
24 Hour Drug & Alcohol Counselling	1800 888 236
Kids Help Line	
24hr 5-18yo	1800 551 800
Golden Plains Shire	1300 363 036
A.H. emergencies	0408 508 635
Ranger	5220 7111 or 0409 830 223
Bannockburn Vet	5281 1221
Injured Wildlife	13000 wildlife

ELAINE NEWS & EVENTS

Elaine CFA Scrap metal collection as a fundraiser Ph David 0418993239
Junior Fire Brigade Training every Monday 5.30 pm. Ph 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

Elaine Tennis Club

Contact Shane 0448 291 074

Anakie Cubs and Scouts

Cubs: Meet School Term times Wed. 6.30 -8pm Amanda 03 5281 9497

Scouts: Meet School Term times Tue. 7.00 - 9pm Bruce 03 5284 1257
Staughton Vale Hall, Staughton Vale.

Maude Fire Brigade

Visit to Mattel Toy Club

We have organized a visit to Mattel toy Club in Derrimut on **Saturday 26th May 2012 from 10.30-12 noon.**

Tickets are \$10 each with a limit of 50.

Strictly no entry to persons under 16 including infants
Organise a car load and start your xmas shopping now!!

Tickets will be available on receipt of money and
can be picked up at the

Maude Fire Brigade Trash and Treasure.

Sunday 6th May

Maude fire station Steiglitz rd Maude

**For information and tickets ph Kath 52 819 301,
Priscilla 52 819 382 and Lex 52 819 293**

Meredith Anzac Day Service



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

ANZAC Day Wednesday 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.

World Day of Prayer

Di Richie

The World Day of Prayer was held at St Joseph's Church at 9.30 am on Friday, March 2.

The World Day of Prayer is a world wide movement led by Christian women of many traditions who call the faithful together to observe a common day of prayer each year.

More than 170 countries participate in this annual day of celebration which brings together people of various races, cultures and traditions.

The Worship service has a special annual theme and through participation we can come to know the needs and understandings of people of other countries, languages and cultures.

The 2012 program was created by the women of Malaysia and the theme was "Let Justice Prevail".

Their prayer was that in the midst of such diversity that is Malaysia, tolerance and harmony, fair and just governance for all races, ethnic groups and religions is vital and their hope is that all peoples will work together for religious harmony and a just and integrated development for everyone.

The service that is repeated all around the world included Bible Readings, Hymns, Prayers and Voices reading and responding. Father Herman, straight off the plane from the Philippines delivered the message that Justice does not prevail at the moment in many Asian Countries but that should not stop the world from continuing to demand and work for justice.

Morning tea was served in the Parish Centre after the World Day of Prayer service.

Meredith Kindergarten

Ruth Schofield-Smith

Hullo again from the staff and children. Due to the children beginning to develop their behavioural skills, we now see happy, fun-loving, caring behaviours. Children can live healthy lives when they have firm but gentle limits set for them - they are given a secure environment in which to play. Using our special behaviour management programme, there is a visual conversation led by the staff in which there is "no one in trouble." The conversations are a TOOL for the child to think about. We use a "Thinking Chair." The positive outcomes are being observed in the children's homes as well as here at the kindergarten.

To join in the 150th celebrations of the first train to run from Geelong to Ballarat the children are making a train using boxes and things. Their interest and their ideas and participation is wonderful to witness.

Meredith Senior Citz Luncheon

Marg Cooper

Some 22 Seniors met in the Meredith Hall on March 19 for their fortnightly lunch, supplied by the Golf Club Ladies. As always the meal was fantastic.

After lunch the group settled down for a very informative talk by Maureen from Consumer Affairs. Many questions were asked of Maureen and much information was gained on the rights of us, the consumers.

The rest of the afternoon was spent playing bingo and some men played pool. The next planned activity is a bus trip to Lorne planned for April 2.

We finished the afternoon with tea and coffee and afternoon tea.

Classifieds

For Sale

Border Collie pups, 3 Blk & White males. Parents great workers and great with kids. Micro chipped. \$200
Call Ian 0427 676 976

For Sale

Baltic pine hall table with one drawer. L:118cm W:41cm
Good condition ph 0419 860 726 5286 1427 \$60 ono.

For Sale

Honda CRF 70 4 yrs old, rider outgrown
Exc. Cond. \$1,900 ono Ph 5286 1566

For Sale

Camper Trailer (1994)Registered, Roadworthy
KS Bed & under storage, flip over canvas room
2400x2400

Awnings and Annex. Easy to tow and set up. \$ 1,500 ono
ph 52861566

Wanted

1950's Dresses, Skirts, Tops size 14

Will pay cash, phone Sharni Holtz on 0437 926 843



Church News

ANGLICAN

PARISH OF INVERLEIGH BANNOCKBURN MEREDITH

Weekly services, baptisms, weddings, funerals, pastoral care. Rev

Elizabeth Bufton, Vicarage: 52651284;

Church Office 52812553; Mob. 0437524864.

Service times: Meredith

11.00am 2nd Sunday at Uniting Church, Holy Communion

11.00am 4th Sunday Anglican Church Holy Communion

Bannockburn

10.30am 1st, 3rd Sundays Holy Communion

10.30am 3rd Sunday Family Service

6.00pm 4th Sunday Prayer & Praise

Inverleigh

8.45am 1st, 2nd, 3rd Sundays Holy Communion

10.00am 4th Sunday Morning Prayer

11.00am 5th Sunday Holy Communion

Parish Office, Byron St. Bannockburn. Open Wed; call in for cuppa &

chat. Enquiries, Parish Secretary, Fay McFarlane; Office 52812553,

Home, 52861283; Mob 0407502794.

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.

UNITING CHURCH

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

SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH:

Fr. Theodore—Ph. 5341 5568

Holy Liturgy 10am every Sun, Sat & 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

ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

MEREDITH & ANAKIE CATHOLIC CHURCHES

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

St. Joseph's Catholic Parish Meredith

Bannockburn - Mass every Sunday @ 9 a.m.

Winchelsea - Mass every Saturday @ 6 p.m.

Meredith Mass at 11 a.m. Sunday April 22nd

Anakie Mass at 11 a.m. Sunday April 8th (Easter

Sunday) 15th/29th.

Bannockburn every Sunday at 9 a.m.

Winchelsea every Saturday at 6 p.m.

Meredith Community Centre, Inc.

4 Russell Street Meredith 3333

PH 5286 1348 Fax 52861 563

"Working for our community"



Meredith Community Centre Childcare Service

Occasional Care Vacancies



The Meredith Occasional Care Centre has places available for preschool children at the Community Centre during the school term. The Centre provides a quality social, recreational and educational developmental program supported by qualified and caring staff.

Sessions

Wed. - 9:15-12:15pm

Fri. - 9:15-12:15pm

Bookings essential on 52861348

Arts Trail Meredith

Joan Brick

The Meredith Community Centre provided a number of visitors on the Golden Plains Arts Trail with some interesting pieces of art and handcraft made by talented local community members. Items on display included exquisite hand embroidered patchwork quilts, unique knitted toys and clothes, colourful folk art pieces and many superb paintings done in a variety of mediums and on various themes. Louise Corral was our "in house artist" for the weekend.

The Community Centre appreciates the opportunity, made possible through the Arts Trail, to put on show the variety of classes that we offer in the art and craft area that have resulted in the array of items that were exhibited on the Arts Trail. We are proud to be part of this event and congratulate Marita and the Golden Plains Shire for their work in making 2012 another successful year on the Arts Trail. Enquiries to 52861348.



One of the fabulous quilts aired at Steiglitz - also on the Arts Trail.

GOOD FRIDAY WAY OF THE CROSS

Di Richie

Join with us for the Annual Way of the Cross on Good Friday April 6th. Commencing at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph's Meredith for a cuppa and a hot cross bun and then walking through the streets to the other churches as a witness to the Way of the Cross

Landcare

The next Landcare meeting will be held on the 1st of May in the Community Centre at 8pm, all welcome. Reminder that this meeting will be the AGM. Also reminder that membership is due, \$44 inc GST per year. Please complete the slip below and sent to W Webb PO Box 77 Meredith. 3333

Name _____ Address _____

Amount _____



meredith**Police**news

Leading Senior Constable Greg Kitchen

Again during the last month, crime within our area has been minimal which has been truly fantastic. There was however a red coloured 3 Ton trolley jack stolen from a rural location in Morrisons which has a value of approximately \$500. The jack was supporting an implement in a paddock in Grants lane. It is not clear as to whether the offender was a local or non local however if anyone has any information in relation to this or sighted any unusual vehicles in the area on or about Tuesday the 13th March, please don't hesitate to let me know.

On the 8th March, 2012 I had cause to arrest and Interview an offender for multiple Burglaries and Thefts. These offences were committed in the Bannockburn area and the offender has now been officially charged and bailed to appear at the Geelong Magistrates Court on the 26th April, 2012.

On the 7th March, 2012 I interviewed and formerly charged the driver of a semi trailer with offences of Conduct likely to cause serious injury and driving in a

manner dangerous. These offences relate to an on going investigation which commenced in January this year where the truck driver whilst overtaking a car and caravan caused four vehicles to run off the road and further causing two of the vehicles to collide. The truck driver failed to stop or render any assistance to the drivers. He has been officially charged and bailed to appear at the Geelong Magistrates Court on the 26th April, 2012.

It was remarkable that no person was killed or seriously injured as a result of the truck drivers actions. I would like to impress on all drivers to be mindful at all times whilst on the roads and to be aware of other driver's actions.



I am very happy to report that the Blue Light Disco for primary school aged children is up and running again in Meredith. My current plan is to run one event each school term with the first event being scheduled to kick off on Friday the 1st of June, 2012. There will then be a second Blue Light Disco on Friday the 14th September, 2012 and a final Disco for the year being held on Friday the 30th November. Each Disco will start at 7.00 p.m. and finish at 9.00 p.m. There will be a \$5.00 entry fee and it will be held at the Meredith Hall. There will be posters located at the Meredith Primary School and Meredith general store and other locations soon with full details.

Geelong to Ballarat Railway 150th Meredith Celebrations Saturday April 14 & Sunday April 15.

Walk around the Station. Vintage Engines, Cars & Truck. Town Crier. Meredith Heritage Walk. Ride the TOOTLE EXPRESS. Stalls.

Model Railways. Meredith Railway History. Meredith History. Book Sales. DVD of Vintage Trains. Competitions. Face painting. Photo Opportunities. Art Works. Children's activities. Afternoon Tea.



sports



Cricket Cup Just Out of Reach

Beaten but not bowed is a fair assessment of the GCA Div 3 First XI grand final for the Meredith Rams. Having performed mightily with the ball the batsmen were unable to capitalize on the strong work of the bowlers, falling 37 runs short in the pursuit of 142 against Lethbridge at Winchelsea.

Having dragged his club over the line against Winchelsea, Captain Ty Watts was unable to conjure up another masterful assault to elude defeat at the hands of the Lethbridge quicks. The Rams would not have had the opportunity to contest the final had Ty not obliterated the Winchelsea attack two weeks earlier where he took the score from a desperate 6-39 to a match winning 9-149. His 87 not out probably the greatest single handed innings seen at the club to salvage an elimination final.

The following week it was gun allrounder Chris Moreland's time to shine. He smashed the Inverleigh batting line up with 4-56 from 21 ferocious overs then savaged their bowling with a devastating display of power hitting scoring 107 out of 150. The Rams wrapped up the match in only 23 overs and progressed to the final to confront the Rosellas who had comfortably accounted for Winchelsea: the ladder leaders exiting the finals in straight sets.

Ty's decision to send Lethbridge in paid dividends with a steady stream of wickets leading up to the lunch interval (6-81). Terry Hart had claimed 3-32 from 16 overs unchanged; all but one delivered without the encumbrance of a strained calf. From the other end the skipper searched and probed to pry out another four economical wickets reducing Lethbridge to 8-91. A late rally by Toby Spiller and Paul Stewart ultimately elevated the total to 142- the last 50 runs proving to be the difference between the teams. Being required to bat for 12 overs to complete the days play, left the Rams with plenty to lose and not much to gain. 5 in the wickets column at the close of play had effectively ended the contest. As the sole remaining top order batsman it would fall to Ty to attempt a repeat of his elimination final heroics but it was not to be. Russ Baddeley (33) and Shane Grinter (13) rode their luck in an effort to get the Rams over the line, their gallant resistance ending at 105.

No premiership glory for the Meredith Rams this season but the improvement in the last two seasons has been fantastic. Congratulations must go to Ty and Heath for the way they have come in and turned the club's playing fortunes around. The first eleven has consolidated itself as a force again in local cricket and with confirmation of next year's outstanding recruits only days away, along with the commitment of a number of recent past players to again strap on the pads, the whole club can look ahead with confidence.

The second eleven weren't able to replicate their successes of last year and the thirds were too often let down by a lack of

commitment to the club and their team mates but regardless it has been an enjoyable summer of cricket. As a club and as a community lets all unite to make the next season the best season and back the Rams in as they strive for a premiership cup in 2012-13.
Meredith: On the Rampage



Div 3 1st 11, players Troy Bott (back) Terry Hart, Chris Watts (back), Shane Grinter, Marty Barbaro (back), Ty Watts, Aaron Hart (back), Russell Baddeley, Chris Moreland and Michael Hammond coming off the ground after bowling Lethbridge out for 142.

Elaine Auskick

Auskick registration day is Sunday April 1st at 1pm at Elaine Recreation Reserve. Cost is \$70

Ages 5-12 boys and girls.

More info visit aflauskick.com.au

Enquiries Owen ph 0418423767

Shane ph 0448291074

Meredith Golf Club

Ladies

27.03.12 Guest Day-Pinehurst

Wining Team: G Skinner, S Watson 84-9 3/8-74 5/8

Runner up: H McSparrow, V Lund 85-9 3/4-75 1/4

NTP: 2nd G Skinner. 9th V Lund

10th S Dyer, 14th K Rosch

20.03.12 Monthly Medal

Winners: S Watson 30 pts

Runner up: M Diffey 26 pts

NTP: S Watson.

13.03.12 Stableford

Winner: C Powles 18 pts. Runner up: M Diffey 16 pts

06.03.12 9 Hole Flag Comp.

Winner: M Diffey +3 Runner up: B Perry -1

Mens

24.03.12 Par

Winner: M Colvin Runner up G Brown

NTP: 14th B Moritz. Ball Comp: D Jury, M Macri

10.03.12/11.03.12 Stroke

Winner: B Moritz 82-16-66 on C/B G Brown

Putting comp: Winner B Moritz 25 putts

Birdie Balls: D Gear, G Wilkins 7th, B Moritz 13th

G Brown 16th.

Masonic Lodge

Marg Cooper

The Masonic Lodge building was auctioned on Saturday, March 24, 2012. Here is something of its history.

"In Meredith services were held for a time in a room on Michael Ward's property.

On June 23, 1858 a public meeting was held at the home of R Grant and Sons {at Borhoueyghurk} to consider a more permanent arrangement for the Meredith district.

After lengthy negotiations, on July 9 1859 a site was reserved by the Crown being ½ acre on the SE corner of suburban allotment 85 with frontage to Geelong-Ballarat Road. A timber church 30'x 15'6'' was soon erected at a cost of £88.0.5.

In 1862 Rev Peter MacPherson was ordained and inducted in the Meredith Church. Messrs WJ Reid, John McGillivray and Malcolm McPherson were gazetted as trustees of the church land and the following month the area reserved was increased to 2 acres.

In 1868 the Committee of management consisted of WJ Reid, J Cumming, J McPherson, D Kelly and M McPherson. It was resolved to build a new church at Meredith. Accordingly, a stone building designed by JL Shaw of Geelong was erected and opened on September 5, 1869 at a cost of £590.5.5 of which £393.10.2 came by way of grants under state-aid regulations. The old building was sold for removal for £12.

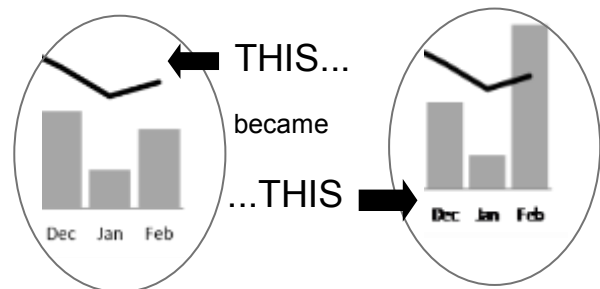
From 1874 the Free Presbyterian Church had no regular supply of ministers given that the Free Church of Scotland had endorsed the formation of the Presbyterian Church of Victoria.

The Meredith Church was leased to the Masonic Lodge in 1910 and was sold to the Lodge for £180 in 1934. The glebe at Meredith was sold to AE Wells in 1937 for £16 per acre and the Masonic fraternity built an addition to the bluestone church in 1961."

History of the Free Presbyterian Church from Presbyterian Church of Eastern Australia Archivist, Rev Dr R S Ward. In 2008 the Meredith Masons invited Meredith History Interest Group to use the buildings which includes the Free Presbyterian Church built in 1869.

A Rain Fall

Aah... the perils of publishing. We prepared the summer rainfall report in the February issue on the last day possible - the 26th February - and reported only 57% of the long term average. Nearly 38mm fell two days later, boosting the tally to a respectable 84%.



GJ's Cafe

**WOULD LIKE TO SAY A HUGE THANK-YOU TO ALL
OUR VALUED CUSTOMERS**

**UNFORTUNATELY, DUE TO THE BUILDING BEING
SOLD WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN NOTICE TO VACATE
THESE PREMISES**

**WE WILL BE CLOSED PERMANENTLY FROM
THURSDAY 8TH MARCH**

THANKS AGAIN!!

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*Chakra Crystal Healing

*Intuitive Healing

*Farmer's / Footy Massage

*Original Art

*****MOTHER'S DAY GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE!!*****

Mandy would love to see you at Labeccamoo!

Open: Wednesday-Friday: 10-4ish. Weekends: 10-5ish.

***Evening appointments available.**

Ph: 0433 092 112.

48 Staughton St, Meredith.

CWA Branch Closes

Marg Cooper and Grace Doherty

Meredith CWA Branch held its last meeting at the Meredith Public hall on February 21, 2012. Twelve members attended including Geelong Group President Lynette Wilson, Life Members Margaret Musgrove and Alvie Wiseman and past members Jan Clarke, Barbara Buckley and Cambria Parkinson.

After 66 years of service to the Country Women's Association it was very sad to see the closing of the Meredith Branch. Over the years the branch members have been involved in raising funds for many charities with most recent donations to Meredith Fire Brigade, Meredith & District Community Emergency Response Team and the Meredith Kindergarten.

Rugs have been knitted, toilet bags made and filled, beanies, scarves and clothing also knitted and donated to Cottage by the Sea, MacKillop Family Services and Glastonbury Family Services. Beanies and mittens have been knitted for the currently serving soldiers in Afghanistan.

Breast cancer cushions have been made and donated to the Andrew Love Centre. Also bags with liners have been made and donated for wildlife animal rescue. Breakfast food and saucepans have been donated to the Christ Church Community Meals Program. Catering was done for the Senior Citizens of Meredith, local weddings, funerals and other local events.

Meredith Branch has had many entries in the Craft Pavilion of the Geelong Show winning many prizes over the years.

After so many years of achievements, friendships, laughter and good times the time has come for the group to finally close. With quite an aging group of women, some members moving to other towns and some needing to spend time on other endeavours, unfortunately the time has come for the group to disband.

But some members will join the new CWA Group in Lara that had its first meeting on Saturday April 24. Sixteen enthusiastic women met and decided to meet on the third Saturday of each month at 10 am. For more information contact Grace Doherty or Sue Woerner.

On September 18, 1946 a public meeting was held and Meredith CWA Group was formed. The aims and objectives of CWA offered many opportunities to improve the lifestyle and conditions of women of the district. Some of the women present at the first meeting were Mrs Sayers, Group President, Mrs Kay Gordon Cameron elected President, Mrs Austin elected Vice President, Mrs Todd elected Secretary, Mrs Janet Cooke elected Treasurer, Mrs Austin elected Magazine Secretary and Mrs Woodgate, Mrs Cooper, Mrs Mooney, Mrs Nolan, Mrs Horan and Mrs Bowman on the Committee. A strong branch of 57 members was formed.

Alvie Wiseman tells that Grandma Wiseman took her to the first meeting when she wore a pink suit edged with black, a black hat, gloves and high heel shoes. Alvie especially remembers the Christmas Shows that Mary Brady organized. The whole town came to see the CWA women act and have a lot of fun! Alvie always supplied fresh milk from her cow for CWA meetings and events.

Alvie also attended the last meeting: a devoted member of Meredith CWA for 66 years.

An Autumn Clean Up

On a perfect autumn day last month, around a dozen volunteers undertook a clean up at the Meredith Police Paddocks. As well as weeding around the hundreds of recently planted trees and collecting stakes and guards for reuse, a team also pulled out discarded tyres and dumped car body panels from the Coolabaghurk Creek.

If you want to join locals in occasional working bees, or just want to be kept informed of developments at the Paddocks, contact Jim Elvey on 5286 1273.

Drawing on Experience

Jim Elvey

Vaughan Reeves only moved to Meredith late last year, but wasted no time setting up a life drawing group in the town. His motivation was to allow him to pursue a long time passion for life drawing but, in the process, he has given all district residents interested in exploring or sharpening their drawing skills access to professional models in a relaxed and friendly setting.

But Vaughan's interest has deeper roots. He has himself been a professional life model for the last 20 years, mainly at the Monash and RMIT University Arts faculties. It's work that has involved some interesting assignments, including hens' parties, a medical model and posing as a classical statue. This has given him a valuable network of models to draw on (oops!... a pun) and the ability to fill in if a model is running late.

He also has a design background, evident in the easels he has made for the group's use. And there's also supplies of paper, boards, clips, charcoals, great music and a pot of tea! It's not a class; just an enjoyable and creative night out.

The group meets at 7.30pm at the Memorial Hall every Tuesday. Drawers and would-be drawers are welcome.

Last month, Vaughan was on his way to a modelling assignment at Monash University when his car broke down in the middle lane of the Westgate freeway in peak hour traffic – everyone's worse motoring nightmare. The electrics had failed so no hazard lights and two lanes of traffic either side! But within minutes, two emergency vehicles were on the scene and expertly shepherding Vaughan and his ailing car to safety. One of the drivers was bemused by Vaughan's profession and said it was something he "...always wanted to have a go at." Well, he got his wish: next week he was the model for the Meredith Life Drawing Group!!





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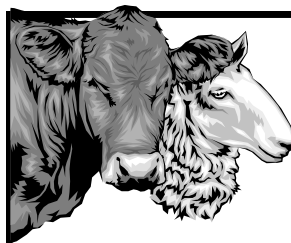
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*Enquiries: Diane Ritchie 52861230/52861291
or Mary Foster 52861459*

No laws to Mushroom Lore

Alison Pouliot

Wild food foraging has increased in popularity in Australia in recent years. In particular, mushroom picking appears to be a favourite new autumn activity. However, the fungal poisonings that resulted in two deaths in Canberra in January this year are a tragic reminder that confusing edible and poisonous mushrooms can be a fatal mistake.

Over the centuries and across the globe, mushrooms have been enshrouded in a bizarre and largely negative mythology. They've been associated with witchcraft and other evil misdoings with some cultures believing them to have supernatural powers. Yet at the same time, mushrooms have been a subsistence food for people in over 80 countries. In Australia, knowledge about the edibility of mushrooms is scant relative to that of many European and Asian nations. Of the huge diversity of mushrooms that grow in Australia, only a minority have been formally described and named. Even less is known about their edibility and toxicity.

When fungal knowledge from one region is applied elsewhere, mistaken identities can have fatal consequences. This is believed to have been the case with the recent two Canberra fatalities as well as three prior fatalities from the same area. The mushroom responsible for the deaths in Canberra was the aptly named Death Cap, or *Amanita phalloides*. This is an exotic species believed to have been accidentally introduced to Australia during the 1960's. It also grows in central Victoria.

The moral to this awful scenario is that folkloric rules about edibility always have their toxic 'exceptions' and are therefore not failsafe. The only way to positively identify fungi is to know the characteristics specific to a particular species to ensure accurate identification, and then to have reliable information that the species in question is edible.

Despite the bad press that fungi have received due to the toxicity of some species, they are a fascinating and important group of organisms that play a vital role in maintaining the health of our forests and natural environments. Australian conservation has focussed on flora and fauna and almost entirely overlooked the third major kingdom, the fungi. Yet fungi underpin almost every terrestrial ecosystem on earth.

If you're keen to know more about this curious kingdom and increase your fungus identification skills, you can attend a fungi workshop this autumn. Further information and some striking photos at www.alisonpouliot.com

Talking fungi, this colourful specimen was found growing on a rotting pine tree stump at the Police Paddocks. An eye catching orange brown, it is known both as the Spectacular Rustgill and Giant Gold Cap. Common names aren't as well established for fungi as they are for animals and plants, and sometimes have multiple names or different names in different regions. (It is also known as *Laughing Jim* - now he sounds like a real fun guy!) More reliable is the scientific name: *Gymnopilus junonius*. They are quite common, but NOT for eating!

Geelong to Ballarat Railway 150th

Marg Cooper

On Tuesday, April 10, 2012 an Anniversary Civic Ceremony will be held at Geelong Railway Station commencing at 9.45 am.

A heritage train with the dignitaries aboard will then depart from Geelong Railway Station at 10.20 am for Ballarat.

Golden Plains Shire representatives will board the train at Lethbridge and Moorabool Shire Representatives will board the train at Lal Lal.

The train will pass through Meredith on its trip.

Watch out for the special train, TAKE PHOTOS and WAVE!!

"The official opening of the railway line was on April 10, 1862. On this day a special train carrying Councillors and passengers left Ballarat at 7.30 am to bring the Governor and guests from Melbourne and Geelong to Ballarat where the Governor was to officially declare the line open.

The train was held up for half an hour at the Caledonian Bridge as it found difficulty in climbing the steep gradient to Warrenheip.

By the time the train reached Meredith the firewood supply was exhausted - so there was another delay while the crew stopped to cut wood to replenish the stock.

Eventually the train continued on at the phenomenal speed of 15 mph arriving at Geelong at 11.45 am.

The Governor boarded and the train returned to Ballarat by 2.45 pm. Then came the Official Opening, complete with a banquet and grand ball."

Quote from "Three Times Blest" by Peter M Griffiths.
(See "Gary Eddy, Railway Man" p. 26)

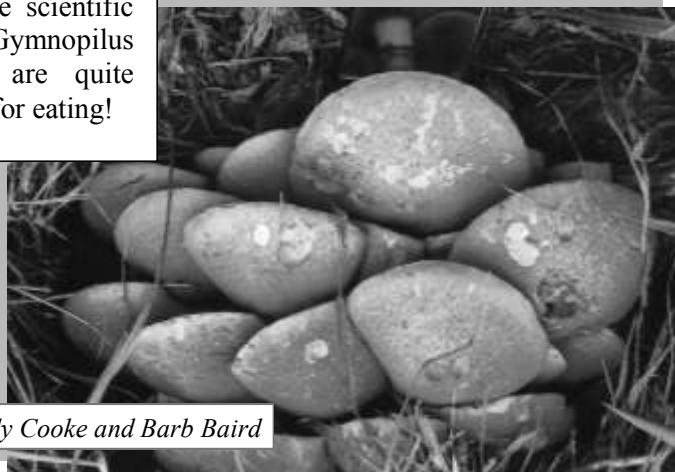
Ballan Community Garden Visit Friday 20th April

9.30am for 10am departure from the
Anakie Community Depot, Geelong
Ballan Rd. Return to Anakie 2.30pm
Destination: Ballan Community

Health Garden
Bradshaw St, Ballan
Carpooling is encouraged.

RSVP: Helena Lindorff
Email: helenal@pacific.net.au

Ph: 5284 1363



Thanks to Wendy Cooke and Barb Baird

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*COMPUTERS BASICS

Date: Mon. Apr. 30th–Jun. 18th
 Time: 9:30-12.00pm
 Cost: \$55 (7 weeks)

*FLEXI COMPUTERS

Date: Mon. Apr. 30th–Jun. 18th
 Time: 12:30-3pm
 Cost: \$55 (7 weeks)

*CAMERA TO COMPUTER

Intro to Picassa

Date: Sat. June 2nd
 Time: 9.30-12pm

PICASA: ONE ON ONE TRAINING

Date: Sat. June 2nd
 Time: 1-4pm
 Cost: \$25/hr or \$15 half hour

TELSTRA CLASSES

FREE to SENIORS(over 50+)

Email 3 session class

Thur. May 31st
 Thur June 7th, 14th June
 10-12pm

Internet 2 session class

Thur. May 17th, 24th 10-12pm

Internet Banking & Shopping

Wed. 6th June 10-12pm

ABC Open Story Photo Workshops

2 sessions

Wed. June 13th 11:30-2pm

Sat: May 26th 1-4pm

Free

**Contact the Centre for further
 information
 on the following classes:**

Novelty Cake Decorating
 iPad and Tablet Basics
 Advanced Digital Camera
 Techniques
 Thai Pastes and Sauces
 Painting Workshops
 Hand and Skin Therapy

Bookings
 for classes
 essential.



CRAFT

OLIVE OIL MAKING

Date: Wed. June 2 7th
 Time: 7-9pm
 Cost: \$10

CREATIVE PAINTING

Date: Fri. Apr. 20th-Jun. 29th
 Time: 9.30-11.30am
 Cost: \$10 per class

INTRO TO FABULOUS FABRICS

Date: Sat. May 19th
 Time: 12.15-4.30pm
 Cost: \$50 incl materials

FLEXI PATCH-QUICK QUILTS

Date: Thurs. June 21st
 Time: 10-3pm
 Cost: \$35 Collect mat.

ADVANCED FABULOUS FABRICS

Date: Sat. May 5th
 Time: 12.15-4.30pm
 Cost: \$55 incl materials

CRYSTAL FLOWER CRAFT

Dates: Mon. May 7th
 Time: 1-3pm
 Cost: \$20 inc. materials

BUS TRIPS

CLUNES BOOKTOWN

Date: Sun. May 6th
 Time: 9-5pm
 Cost: \$25 BYO Lunch

TRAINING COURSES

BASIC FOOD HANDLING

Dates: Sat June 2nd
 Time: 9.30-4.30pm
 Cost: \$95

NEW*NEW*NEW

CRYSTALS & CRYSTAL HEALING

Date: Wed. May 9th
 Time: 7-9pm
 Cost: **GOLD COIN DONATION**

ADVANCED PHOTOGRAPHY

Dates: Tue. 29th May
 Time: 7- 8.30pm
 Cost: \$20

HYPNOTHERAPY

Dates: Wed. 30th May
 Time: 7-9
 Cost: \$15

RELAXATION / STRESS

Date: Thurs. May 14th
 Time: 7-9pm
 Cost: \$15

HEALTH & WELLBEING

PILATES

Date: Fri. Apr. 20th-Jun. 29th
 Time: 3-4pm
 Cost: \$88 for 11 weeks

ADVANCED TAI CHI

Date: Tue. April 17th-Jun. 26th
 Time: 11.30-12.30pm
 Cost: \$93 for 11 weeks

TAI CHI FOR BEGINNERS

Date: Tue. April 24th-Jun. 26th
 Time: 9.30.10.30am
 Cost: \$85 for 10 weeks

CIRCUIT TRAINING & MORE

Date: Fri. April 20th– June 29th
 Time: 1.45—2.45pm
 Cost: \$88 for 11 weeks or \$10 casual visit

YOGA

Date: Mon. April 23rd–Jun. 18th
 Time: 7.30—8.45pm
 Cost: \$85 for 8 weeks

BONE DENSITY SCAN

**Monday 30th April
 12.30-2pm
 Just \$28 Ph: 52 861 348**

**SIT DOWN &
TAKE AWAY**

Foxy's

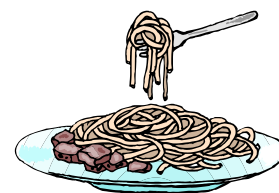
**TAKE AWAY
HOT FOOD
ALL DAY**



Ph 5286 1188

Pizza

Small \$8 Large \$14 Family \$17



1. Aussie—tomato base, ham, bacon, onion, cheese & egg.
2. BBQ Chicken or Satay chicken—bbq base, mushroom, onion, chicken & cheese.
3. Capricosa—tomato base, ham, mushroom, olives & cheese.
4. Foxy's special—tomato base, ham, salami, bacon, onion, capsicum, olives, anchovies, pineapple, cheese, oregano & garlic. (seafood mix on request, extra)
5. Garlic Pizza—garlic base & extra cheese.
6. Marinara—tomato base, seafood mix, cheese & garlic.
7. Margarita—tomato base, double cheese & oregano.
8. Meat Lovers—tomato base, ham, hot salami, bacon & cheese.
9. Mexicana—tomato base, ham, hot salami, capsicum, olives, jalepeno, cheese & chilli.
10. Tropical (Hawaiian)—tomato base, ham, pineapple & cheese.
11. Vegetarian—tomato base, mushroom, capsicum, onion, olives, semi dried tomatoes & cheese.
12. Fungi—tomato base, ham, mushroom & cheese.
13. Potato—tomato base, potato, salami, cheese & oregano.
14. American—tomato base, hot salami & cheese.
15. Bolognaise—bolognaise sauce & cheese.

Pizza Wraps (your choice of pizza wrapped in pizza dough) \$8.00

Extra toppings	Small .60	Lge \$1.00	Family \$1.30
Extra chicken, salami or seafood	Small \$1.00	Lge \$2.00	Family \$2.30

Garlic Bread \$3.50

Delicious Pasta single serve \$9.00

(lasagne served with chips & salad \$12.00)

Lasagna—homemade meaty sauce.

Chicken Lasagna—creamy mushroom sauce.

Spaghetti Bolognaise—homemade meaty sauce, topped with parmesan cheese.

Vegetarian Pasta—capsicum, onion, mushroom, semi dried tomato in a tomato pesto sauce, topped with parmesan cheese.

Carbonara—creamy mushroom, onion, bacon & egg, topped with parmesan cheese.

Chicken Pasta—creamy mushroom, onion, capsicum, chicken & sweet chilli, topped with parmesan cheese.

Foxy's ph. 5286 1188

Fish And Chips

Onion rings .70c

Potato cakes .80

Dim sims .80c

Calamari rings \$1.00

Chicken nuggets \$1.00

Seafood sticks \$1.50

Garlic balls \$1.50

Scallops \$1.50

Chilli chicken tenders \$1.80

Salt & vinegar tenders \$1.80

Chicken wing dings \$1.80

Sav in batter \$2.00

Hamburger in batter \$2.00

Chicko roll \$3.00

Minimum chips \$3.00

Flake \$4.80

Fish, chips and salad \$10.00

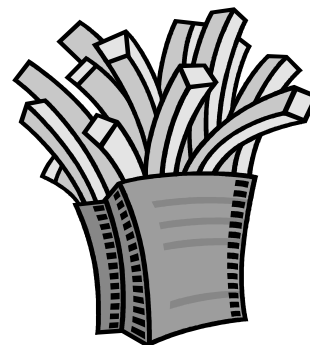
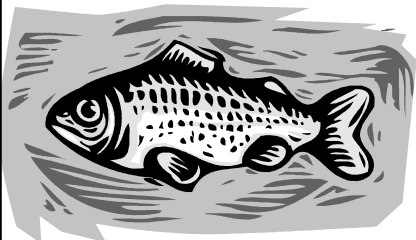
Wedges Sml \$4.50 Lge \$5.50

Wedges, sour cream & sweet chilli \$6.50

Chips & gravy Sml \$3.80 Lge 4.20

Gravy Sml \$2.50 Lge \$3.50

Tossed Salad Sml \$3.00 Lge \$4.50



Snack Pack

3 onion rings

1 dim sim

1 potato cake

Chips

1 can drink

\$7.50

Workers Pack

1 Flake

1 dim sim

1 potato cake

Chips

1 can drink

\$10.00

Seafood Pack

3 calamari rings

1 seafood stick

1 flake

Chips

1 can drink

\$13.00

Family Pack

4 flake

4 dim sim

Chips

1.25 bottle drink

\$29.00

Homemade Pastries

Regular—\$4.00

Egg & bacon quiche

Vegetarian quiche

Sausage rolls

Mushroom/onion pie

Chicken pie

Mexican pie

Tomato & cheese pie

Meat pastie

Vegetarian pastie

Mini—\$2.00

Egg & bacon quiche

Vegetarian quiche

Sausage roll

Chicken pie

Mrs. Macs Pies—\$4.00

Meat pie

Pepper pie

Bacon & cheese pie



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Homemade Chicken Snitzels & Parmis

Chicken Snitzel ,chips , salad and gravy. \$12.00

Parmigana–(tomato base, ham & cheese) chips and salad. \$13.00

Hawaiian Parmi– (tomato base, ham, pineapple & cheese) chips & salad. \$13.00

Mexicana Parmi– (tomato base, salami, jalepeno, capsicum, olives & cheese) chips & salad. \$13.00

or snitzel and chips or salad only \$10.00

parmis and chips or salad only \$11.00



Chicken

Chicken Caesar Salad– chicken, lettuce, anchovies, bacon, croutons, egg & parmesan cheese. \$12.00

Chicken Roll (gravy optional) \$4.80

Chicken Sanga—snitzel, mayo, lettuce, onion & tomato. \$6.50

Maryland Chicken Pack—chicken thigh & leg, chips, gravy & salad \$12.00

Maryland Chicken & chips or salad \$10.00

Maryland Chicken only \$7.50

Homemade Hamburgers

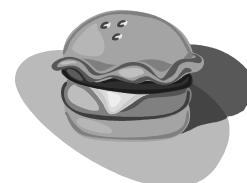
Plain burger \$5.00

Cheese burger \$5.30

Bacon/cheese burger \$5.50

Hamburger with lot \$6.50

(burger, cheese, lettuce, tomato, onion, bacon, beetroot & egg)



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Tzatziki sauce, lettuce, tomato, onion, cheese and chicken, served with chips. \$12.00

Open Chicken souvlaki \$9.00

Children's Menu

2 homemade chicken strips & chips \$6.00

Bowl of chips \$3.50

Sml. Chicken Parmi & chips \$6.00

Fish N Chips (kids) \$6.00

4 Nuggets & chips \$6.00

Bolognaise (penne) \$6.00

Ice-cream & topping \$3.50

Foxy's ph. 5286 1188

Baked Potatoes

All come with butter, salt & pepper.
(option sweet chilli sauce or garlic butter)



Plain—potato & cheese. \$5.00

Aussie potato—potato, cheese, bacon, coleslaw & sour cream. \$6.00

Mex potato—potato, capsicum, onion, coleslaw, sour cream & chilli. \$6.00

Bolognaise potato—potato, bolognaise sauce, cheese & sour cream. \$6.00

Deluxe potato—potato, cheese, bacon, onion, pineapple, coleslaw & sour cream. \$7.00

Chicken Potato—potato, cheese, chicken, onion, capsicum, coleslaw & sour cream. \$7.00

Hot Dogs all toasted

Plain \$3.00

Cheese dog \$3.50

Bacon/Cheese dog \$4.00

Deluxe dog \$5.00 (Bacon, onion, pineapple & cheese.)



Toasties—Sandwiches—Rolls



Double cheese \$3.50

Ham & cheese \$3.70

Cheese & pineapple \$3.70

Ham, cheese & tomato. \$4.00

Ham, cheese, onion & tomato \$4.30

Chicken & cheese. \$4.00

Chicken, cheese & pineapple \$4.30

Chicken, cheese & tomato. \$4.30

Chicken, cheese, onion & tomato \$4.60

Chicken & avocado. \$4.50

Chicken, avocado & cheese. \$4.70

Chicken, avocado, onion, tomato & cheese. \$5.00

Chicken or ham salad

(lettuce, onion, tomato, cheese & carrot) \$5.50

Mixed Sandwiches \$4.00



All Day Breakfast

2 toast with (vegemite, jam or peanut butter) \$3.50

2 toast open grilled with tomato & cheese \$3.80

Bacon & cheese roll \$5.00

Bacon & egg roll \$5.50

Bacon & egg sanga \$5.50

Bacon, 2 eggs fried, tomato fried, mushroom and 2 toast. \$7.50

Scrambled eggs & toast. \$6.00

Foxy's scrambled eggs

(onion, mushroom, bacon & capsicum) on toast. \$7.00





Welcome to

MEREDITH PRIMARY SCHOOL

A Term of Achievement

It's been a short but very busy term one. Our history making victory in the ***District Athletics*** was the highlight of the term and was just reward for the effort that has been put in by all students and teachers over the past few years to get the school to this stage.

We had two students represent the school at the ***Division Swimming*** at Kardinia Pool this term and they were competing in very trying conditions. ***Alison Kemp and Annie Klein*** both put in terrific performances in their events. Annie's times will see her go on to compete in Warnambool at the Regional Swimming carnival.

We also have a ***new state champion*** with ***Amy Canavan*** winning the 10 year age group in race walking at the State Little Athletics titles that were held recently in Bendigo. Amy is currently ranked number one in Australia for her age group and that is an outstanding effort!

Mr Gallagher and Mr Cations went to Melbourne during March with our 8 school leaders to attend the ***Young Leader's Day***. The day was held at the Melbourne Convention Centre and attended by approximately 4000 year six students from throughout the state. The students listened to a number of inspirational speakers who presented their thoughts and experiences about being a leader. The speakers included "Young Australian of the Year" Martia Cheng, blind guitarist Lorin Nicholson and North Melbourne AFL captain Andrew Swallow.

The ***year 5/6 students*** had a great day in early March at the ***Mt Clear Language Centre***. The "***Chinese Immersion Day***" was a great success and they took part in a variety of activities including cooking, craft and Tai Chi. Our ***year prep and one/two students*** also began a ***Chinese language program*** this term and are receiving lessons through video conferencing from the language centre. We are trialling this process this year and we will keep you updated throughout the year on various aspects of the program.

The term was finished off with a very busy week that included the ***Year 6 Farm Safety*** visit to "Wurrock South Farm" near Rokewood, ***school captains*** attending a ***special leadership day at the shire with the mayor*** and the year sixes holding a ***"technology evening"*** where they shared various presentations via skype with students from Hong Kong and Romania. We also held a ***"Colonial Australia" dress up theme*** on the last day of term.

Next term there are a range of activities planned that include the ***Lapathon (yrs P to 2)*** and ***Cross Country (yrs 3 to 6)*** on the first Friday back next term. The ***Jim Stynes "Reach Rookies" program*** will happen again next term for year 5 & 6 students. We will be also attending the a special performance of the ***"Little Mermaid"*** at the Memorial Hall and we will be preparing for the ***official opening of the new building*** set for early June.

PHOTO OMITTED FROM
ONLINE PUBLICATION

PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE PUBLICATION

Mollie's COLUMN

24 Candles

I've always considered birthdays a wonderful invention. Who was it that first decided being born was an anniversary that should be celebrated every year with cake? They were a genius. No matter who we are or what we do, what we have or haven't accomplished, every person gets that one day when we are celebrated just for being created. What's not to love? There's cake! There are gifts! There's a shower of adoration!

Then, in the last week of March, I turned 24. There were almost more candles than cake.

Not everyone shares my enthusiasm for birthdays. I happen to be related to someone who dislikes her own so much it's really the safest option to pretend that particular '29th' on the calendar is a printing error. I could never understand the stress caused by one day ticking over to the next, another year and another number rolling around. What, after all, is the difference between the last day of being 23 and the first of being 24? I didn't grow taller or become wiser overnight, sadly. Nothing changed, but when the clock struck midnight I knew. I was 24 now. It sounded...stern. There's nothing whimsical about 24.




It's a serious kind of number. Am I doing it right? I wondered to myself. Am I where a 24 year old is meant to be?

Of course, there are as many right ways to be 24, or 47, or 83 as there are people of those ages, but it doesn't always feel that way. Through studying Psychology and speaking with my friends and family it's become clear that this worry about being on track, doing it 'right', is something we all face sometimes. I have friends who study, friends who work, friends who travel and friends who are settling down and having families of their own. I have friends who wear expensive suits and commute, and friends who stumble out of bed around noon. As time passes, it seems more of us are being herded toward the 'right' path, whatever that may be, and those of us that aren't ready for a more narrow road are beginning to get jittery. There's an almost panicked sense that while others are getting on with real life, we've stayed too long at the fair.

Now that I'm 24, I'm going to get on with real life too. I'm going to forget all about that 'right' track, and take a few roads less travelled. I'm going to surround myself with the people I care about, not the possessions I don't. I'll measure my worth not by what I can gain, but what I can give.

Next year on my birthday, I'm going to enjoy blowing out 25 candles. I have no doubt I'll enjoy the cake, too.



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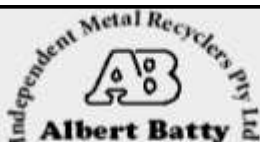
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Meredith History Interest Group

Marg Cooper

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting of MHIG was held on February 26. An enthusiastic group of people attended, attracted by the invitation to talk about the politically incorrect subject of "dunnies". The President presented a report of the activities of MHIG in 2011.

The Secretary/Treasurer presented a financial statement. Elections were held and Marg Cooper was elected President, Fay McFarlane was elected Secretary/Treasurer and Peter Griffiths was elected Vice President.

Dinkum Dunnies Talk Fest

Most people had experienced the toilet way down the backyard, covered with a creeper, with the pan underneath the seat, with cut up newspaper hanging on a nail, with the phenyl bottle of white stinky fluid that was used to disinfect the pan and the horror of night time trips and snakes and spiders.

The town residents told how the night man who came during the day would pull the full can out the back door of the dunny, place an empty can under the seat, hoist the full can on his shoulder, deliver it to his truck and empty the town supply in a trench he'd dug by hand in an isolated area.

He got well paid because no one wanted the job!

Shearers would comment that a toilet at a shearing shed was a 6 stander, that is it had 6 holes in the bench seat over 6 pans with no flushing, no compartments and one door.

Ron Read told that there were 56 men in a shearing team living in shearing quarters near Balranald and it was a hell of a rush in the morning when they all went to the toilet before work.

John Parkinson told of the wings of hessian erected around two lines of about 20 pans in the Army. He told that it took a couple of days to get used to sitting with 39 other men toileting.

Max Heard told that when he was at State School the students dug the hole and emptied the pan once a week.

Some soldier settlers put their toilet on skids, dug a new hole now and again with the post hole digger, towed the toilet over the new hole and filled in the old hole.

Pam Armstrong told that their toilet at Steiglitz was a long, long drop because it was positioned over a gold mine.

Others told that they hadn't experienced an outside toilet until they went to the country to work or went camping. Rick just didn't go to the toilet when he camped with his family over a weekend. He got terrible cramps in his stomach!

Kerosene drums were sometimes used and they rusted out in a few weeks!



"Dinkum Dunnies of Meredith", produced by Marg Cooper, is a light-hearted creation, a bit of fun with a quirky quip about each. Enquiries 52 868201



It's History

The morning of Thursday, the 10th of April, an eventful day in the history of the metropolitan goldfield, saw the members of the Eastern and Western Municipal Councils assembled at the terminus on Soldiers' Hill for the purpose of proceeding to Geelong to meet his Excellency Sir Henry Barkly on his way to Ballarat to officially open the Geelong and Ballarat Railway. The Geelong Corporation had previously invited the members of the two councils to breakfast, and it was anticipated that by leaving the terminus at 7a.m. the party would reach Geelong by half past nine o'clock, and arrive there some two hours before the Governor. ...The steam was got up by 7.30 and in a few minutes the train, with some seventeen empty waggons attached, was steaming towards its destination at the rate of 15 miles per hour...Every mile the train sped the more impressed were our municipal magnates with the usefulness and importance of the line, the opening of which that day was to be celebrated with so much pomp and ceremony....

...At the Green Hills the train stopped to give the iron horse a drink. Here are some 50,000 cubic yards of bluestone reduced to the proper size for railmaking by Appleton's patent machines. After a delay of some 15 minutes the train was again on its way and reached Meredith at 20 minutes to 10 o'clock. The line now passes through a well grassed country of medium soil, lightly timbered and fenced in. Suddenly it emerges on a plain known as the "Bay of Biscay," and here we find traces of agriculture on each side of the line. Lethbridge, with its bleak stoney land, was next reached....

From The Star (Ballarat) Friday 11 April 1862

*Compiled by Jan McDonald,
Meredith History Interest Group*

Gary Eddy, Railway Man

Marg Cooper

Gary walked out of school when he was 15 years old, went to Melbourne for a medical and started work the next day on the Victorian Railways as a "number taker", recording numbers of wagons and tonnages. He was also required to jump on a bike (from the lost property office in Melbourne) and deliver messages to guards, drivers etc about their shifts from one end of Geelong to the other, in any weather.

He progressed to 'shunter' and then 'leading shunter' which required a lot of jumping on and off moving trains. He became a Guard on goods and passenger trains when he was just 21 years old, which made him responsible for the train and kept busy with a lot of important jobs.

Guards wore a uniform and a cap on passenger trains and a felt hat on goods trains. They had a whistle and a red and green flag in a Guards Kit which also included timetables, detonators, running statements etc.

They had to signal to the driver with flags and hand signals, pull the pins to uncouple wagons or carriages, walk up to the engine to speak to the driver, unload items carried in the guards van and have them signed for, unload other goods, pull the handbrake if necessary and be aware at all times of what was going on.

His wife Gwen recalls he'd work four days on one of four different shifts: 8am to 4pm, 4pm to 12pm, 12pm to 8 am or 12am to 8pm. She and her children hardly saw him for the 10

years that he worked as a Guard.

Gary says the "11.30 Darkie" out of Melbourne was a terrible train, was renowned for trouble and often had police travelling incognito on it.

Goods in the guard van could include pay envelopes for railway workers, ferrets, ducks, dogs, cakes, cheese, crayfish and fish, beer, groceries and parcels of all sorts. There was even hay for Henry Bolte. Thursday was van goods day. Wagons were delivered to designated stations. Sometimes the wagons were unloaded by the guard and sometimes they were uncoupled and left for unloading.

The Victorian Railways ran "dance trains" from Geelong to various destinations. One night at Meredith when it was almost time to leave for Geelong, Gary found that all the passengers had disappeared. They rang the loco whistle a few times but there was no sign of anyone.

They rang the Top Pub and asked if there was a crowd in there from the train. The publican replied in the affirmative and was asked to send them back to the train quickly as their train had to depart on time as other trains were scheduled on the line.

Gary became a Yard Foreman and then a Yard Master at North Geelong and Geelong and later, an Operations Officer. He was the youngest man to be employed as supervisor and the youngest as a yard master in the Victorian Railways.

He was also a Breathalyser Officer which required him to breath

"Goods ...could include pay envelopes ... ferrets, ducks, dogs, cakes, cheese, crayfish There was even hay for Henry Bolte. "

test railway workers when they clocked on to work.

Gary retired after 39 years 6 months and 6 days working for Victorian Railways. 1964-2003, amusing his workmates when he worked overtime on his last day. The train he was to join at Ararat was very late coming from Horsham.. This trip was arranged as a last fling by two of the eldest drivers and consisted of two G Class Locomotives and 4,000 tonnes of grain.



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The Bairds Move On

Jim Elvey (with a little help from their friends)

Peter and Chris Baird are returning to the urban life after 35 years 'in the bush'. They first came to the district when Peter took up the position of resident teacher (*aka Camp Commandant*) at Moreland High School's Steiglitz camp. This led to the purchase of their own property in Taylors Road, fittingly, from Mrs Taylor, where they have lived these past 30 years.

Peter worked for many years as a writer at Ballarat University as well as undertaking numerous related assignments in writing and editing. He served on the Meredith Primary School Council for several years and worked on the School Newsletter (the forebear of *Meredith and District News*) over that same period.

They are both avid conservationists. Chris fought persistently to preserve remnant natural vegetation in the district and successfully had Taylors Road declared Victoria's first 'Roadside of Significance', recognising both its historical and environmental value. They have both been prominent in the Police Paddocks revegetation project in recent years, taking a keen interest in the project's environmental and historical elements. Here again, Chris's research skills and knowledge of native fauna have been of considerable value to the project.

Their many friends in the district will miss their bright and convivial company but will wish them well in their new life in 'the big smoke'.

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A Diamond Anniversary

June Cameron

On Saturday, 4th February, John and Bebe Cameron celebrated their 60th Wedding Anniversary at a luncheon at Peter and Fiona Cameron's home 'Mossgiel', Mount Mercer.

John the elder son of Neil and Kathleen (Cammy) Cameron of 'Glenspear' Meredith, and Bebe, eldest child of Harold and Maud Pearson were married at Holy Trinity, Kew on the 5th February 1952. They resided at 'Glenspear' for several years while their home 'Camberley' was being built on the Mount Mercer side of the Leigh River. They moved there in time to bring home their firstborn, Peter. Three more children were born. Andrew, who now lives at 'Camberley'; Margaret visiting from Townsville and Dinny, visiting from Heyfield.

The surprising and most delightful aspect of the celebration was that the entire bridal party of Best Man – Peter Eaton, Groomsman – Neil Cameron, Bridesmaids – Joan Pearson and Judith Clarke (nee Pearson) and flowergirl – Gaye Johnson were all present for the occasion. The bridal gown was brought out of mothballs for display as was the bridal veil which was originally made by a nun for Cammy's wedding in 1925. (The veil has since been worn by various brides from both June and Neil's family and John and Bebe's.)

The guest list included a handful of close friends and all the family with the exception of – three grandchildren, Anna (New York), Scott (desperately flat hunting in Brisbane) and Simon (at a summer Uni Course in Canberra). Much to Bebe & John's pleasure letters of congratulations were received from the Prime Minister - Julia Gillard, our Federal Member - Catherine King, the State Premier – Ted Baillieu, the Governor General – Quentin Bryce and top of the list, Queen Elizabeth II. Bebe and John's greatest delight though was to have all their children and most of the grand kids around them for a most wonderful celebration. Here's cheers.



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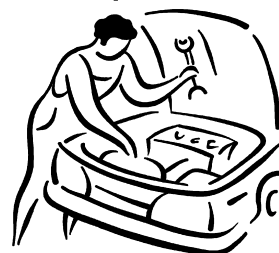
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Marg's Book Review

"Nothing But Gold" by Robyn Annear.

Robyn Annear has captured the essential fervour of goldfields life in the early 1850's and helps us to see that the hope and excitement was sustained amidst considerable discomfort, hardship and deprivation. It is a well researched book.

The author has read widely and has used quotes and information from her research to write the book but has interspersed them with her witty asides and word pictures.

She has an eye for detail and quirky anecdotes and has searched for the unsung companions in the goldfields, the women, the horses, the dogs and the cats.

The book describes the finding of gold, getting to Melbourne, preparing for the diggings, getting to the diggings, pitching and living in the tent, the food, the neighbourhood, climate, illnesses, insects, doctors and death, digging, the perseverance needed, gold, the spirit of the diggers, manners, language and the colonial look. Most of the diggers were unprepared for life on the goldfields but they soon adapted and enjoyed the freedom and the camaraderie.


She describes Ballarat in September 1851 as "a population electric with stirrings of undreamt liberty and possibility, being told and believing that gold would make them their own masters".

It is not until chapter 18 that she describes the licences and the law, and in the following 4 chapters she describes commissioners, police and soldiers, digger hunts, corruption, tyranny and ferment at the diggings.

It is a wonder that Eureka didn't happen in 1852 but Robyn Annear tells that the aggravation was damped down by the exhilarant complacency peculiar to an infant gold community.

For 1852 was, above all, the year of the Great Adventure, the one year of Victoria's history in which there was nothing but gold. The book is very readable, very informative and interesting and the author draws a wonderful picture of the diggings from information selected from a huge reference library listed in the bibliography.

The book for book club in April is "Mailman" by Robert Lennon.



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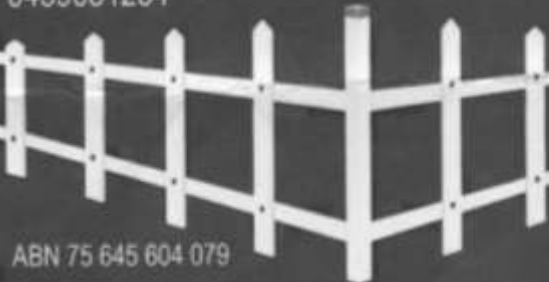
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Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

6 High Street
Bannockburn VIC 3331
Phone: 5281 1519

Sukin Organic products now available!!

We are pleased to announce that we are now full stockists of [Sukin Organic products](#)! Sukin boasts a comprehensive range of skin, hair & body care products that meets the highest standards of performance and sustainability, yet remain affordable. There are 33 different products available including a children's range all of which we stock.

Australian made and owned, Sukin uses a generous blend of active botanicals, essential oils and natural ingredients that have been carefully selected to restore the natural vitality and radiance of your skin.

Sukin products **do not contain**: sodium lauryl sulphate, sodium laureth sulphate, synthetic fragrances, animal derivatives, harsh detergents, propylene glycol, EDTA, artificial colours, triethanolamine, mineral oils, parabens.

Sukin proudly offers certified carbon neutral products ensuring all their manufacturing processes and day to day operations focus on and contribute towards lowering their impact on the environment.

All products are packaged in environmentally friendly, recyclable packaging.

Sukin is against animal testing.

Burt's Bees

Don't forget we are full stockists also of Burt's Bees products. We have a new Burt's Bees stand which is located next to our new Sukin stand. There will also be Burt's Bees products located throughout the Pharmacy in our Lip Care section and Mother & Child sections. For more information about Burt's Bees products visit www.burtsbees.com.au

Mother's Day - Sunday 6th May

Don't forget that Mother's Day is on Sunday 6th May. We have lots of gifts available for our special mums ranging from perfume, to handbags through to fragrance candles. Don't forget Dad's that we offer free gift wrapping so you can take credit for the beautifully wrapped gift that is given!

FREE Hearing Tests

On **Monday 16th April** from **1:30pm to 4:00pm** we have Australian Hearing visiting the Pharmacy where they will be conducting **FREE** hearing tests. For further information and to make a booking please phone the Pharmacy on 5281 1519.

Facebook page

Do you use Facebook? If you would like to be kept up to date regularly with what's happening at the Pharmacy, health advice, special events, promotions, etc then search **Bannockburn Chemmart Pharmacy** to find our new Facebook page and click "**like**" and you will be kept informed what's happening at the Pharmacy.

Pharmacy Features:

- **International Protein**
- **Homy Ped shoes**
- Diabetes Australia Agency
- Kate Morgan Weight Loss Centre
- Vitamins
- Webster-paks
- Home Medicine Reviews
- Medicare Access Point
- Kodak Photo Developing
- Digital Photo printing
- Giftware for all ages
- Free gift wrapping
- Darrell Lea Chocolates
- **Burt's Bees**
- Natio
- Revlon
- BYS Cosmetics
- Fragrances
- In Essence Aromatherapy
- Natural Instinct
- Baby section

Opening Hours:

Monday: **8:30am-6:00pm**
 Tuesday: **8:30am-6:00pm**
 Wednesday: **8:30am-6:00pm**
 Thursday: **8:30am-6:00pm**
 Friday: **8:30am-6:00pm**
 Saturday: **8:30am-1:00pm**
 Sunday: **Closed**
 Public Holiday's: **Closed**

Gift Club members receive 20% off all gifts!! Join now for FREE!

HENRY'S CORNER

Meredith Country Hotel



Mark McNamara (Lic)

20 Wallace Street, Meredith

Tel: (03) 5286 1100

E: maca74@skymesh.com.au

Henry's Heritage Restaurant



Raj Shelake



Ph: 5286 1100

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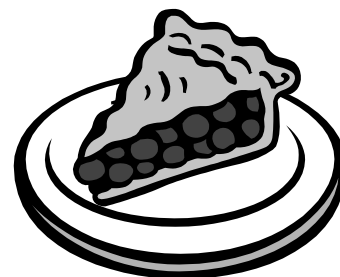
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