

# Meredith & district Newsletter



February 2012

Our Community Newsletter since 1972

Distributed FREE to district residents

## Australia Day Awards Shine on Meredith

*Jim Elvey and June Cameron*

The 2012 Golden Plains Shire Senior Citizen of the year is Meredith resident Dawn Macdonald. Among Dawn's many good deeds recognised at a ceremony held at the Shire Hall last month, were her long time membership of the Red Cross, (current President and former State Council member) the CWA (former secretary), Meredith Community Centre (former president), Meredith Cemetery Trust (current secretary) her foundation of the Meredith Kindergarten (and its first president), service as a Guide leader and nearly 30 years as a member of the committee that produces this newsletter. She is also known for giving generously of her talents in the fields of music and golf. (Incredibly, she has played off a handicap of less than 10 for over 50 years!)

Dawn is one of those people who selfishly and tirelessly work to make living in our community a richer experience.

The Shire's Citizen of the Year is Bannockburn's Seka Powell, who over several years has worked hard to promote the needs of greater recognition and support for mental health. This has included the successful "Christmas in July" fundraiser which has yielded over \$100,000. The Young Australian of the Year is David Beath of Napoleons.

Meredith residents stepped up again when the History



*Senior Citizen of the Year, Dawn Macdonald is flanked by Margaret Cooper (Meredith History Interest Group) and Barry Pearce.*

Interest Group was awarded the "Event of the Year" for the Bamganie Soldiers Memorial Rededication which marked the discovery and refurbishment of a World War I memorial plaque that is now proudly hung in the Shire Hall. The history behind the plaque was the focus of a community ceremony and captured in a book published by Marg Cooper.

Then Meredith resident Barry Pearce was honoured with a Citizen's Recognition Award for his work with the Arts Trail Committee and representing the interests of returned soldiers. And, in case that wasn't enough, long time resident Sue Woerner attained her Australian citizenship at the same ceremony.

*On behalf of our readers, we extend our heartiest congratulations to all recipients.*

## Yes, but Where?

Golden Plains Shire CEO, Rod Nicholls, issued a media release reaffirming Council's commitment to the establishment of a Visitors' Centre in Meredith. This follows Council's receipt of a petition seeking review of the chosen location. Consultation sessions held late last year identified Council owned land on the corner of the Midland Highway and Lawton Street as the preferred site.

Mr Nicholl's said the Centre "...progresses several priorities within the Meredith Community Plan, including the desire to develop visitor information and continuing to enhance heritage aspects of the township."

Council determined to seek an officer's report on the siting issue.

## in this issue....

- Community Grants Open
- Tucker Tent Tales
- Lunch Box Tips
- The Police Paddock's Big Year
- New Kinder a Step Closer

*Plus Community and Sports News, Contacts, Regular Columns, Services and much more!*

**E:** [mchnews@netconnect.com.au](mailto:mchnews@netconnect.com.au)

**W:** [www.meredithnews.com.au](http://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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://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

**9th, 23rd Feb.**

### Geelong Regional Library Van

At the Meredith Community Centre  
1-3pm **10th, 24th Feb. 9th & 23rd Mar**  
[www.geelonglibraries.vic.gov.au](http://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. 28th March**

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- Mick	0408 545 246
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](mailto:mchnews@netconnect.com.au)

## Emergency Phone Numbers



Police, Ambulance, Fire	<b>000</b>
(from mobile phone)	<b>000 or 112</b>
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.



...and I get the mouse!

"The early bird might get the worm, but the second mouse gets the cheese."

Anon.

## CAR BOOT SALE

Does your house and shed need cleaning out, well here's the time to do it. The Meredith Junior Crocs Footy Club are holding a car boot sale on Sat March 24<sup>th</sup> at Pioneer Park from 8am - 1pm. All sites are \$10 and must be pre booked before 17<sup>th</sup> March. All enquiries phone Karen on 0400152869.

## 2012 ENROLMENTS EXPLORE CREATE LEARN

**Meredith Kindergarten is currently accepting enrolments for 2012.**

Our enthusiastic and dedicated staff, provide an excellent program to cater for the needs and interests of all children. Our refurbished classroom and new outdoor playspace, to be completed for the 2012 year, will provide an exciting learning environment for your child.

Vacancies for 3yr old and 4yr old sessions are filling fast. To arrange a tour or to enrol your child, please contact the Meredith Kindergarten.

Enrolments Officer: (03) 52 861 480 Director: (03) 52 861 227

Plains Shire Council in partnership with Meredith Kindergarten Inc.

## Community Grants Program Open

*media release*

Community groups from across Golden Plains Shire are invited to submit funding applications for community projects through Council's 2012 Community Grants Program.

Grants are available for projects that provide benefit to the community. Examples include new community events, purchase of equipment and undertaking facility improvements projects.

### Information Sessions

All applicants are encouraged to attend an information session prior to submitting an application, the application process is clearly explained and there are opportunities to discuss individual applications and to ask questions.

The Community Grants guidelines and application forms will be available from Wednesday 1 February 2012 at the Bannockburn and Linton Customer Service Centres, the Smythesdale Business, Health and Community Hub, the Northern Community Centre, Haddon or by contacting Council on 5220 7182 or 5220 7111. Applications will also be available online at [www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au](http://www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au).

**Applications close 5.00pm Wednesday 29 February 2012.**

If you would like further information regarding this program please contact Community Recreation Officer, Michael Hynes on 5220 7182 or email [enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au).

## Bamganie/Meredith Landcare

There will be a Bamganie/Meredith Landcare Meeting at the Meredith Community Centre on Tuesday 14th. February at 8 pm. All Welcome.

## Fire Restrictions are now in force across Golden Plains

The Country Fire Authority (CFA) has introduced Fire Restrictions (Fire Danger Period) for all private land in Golden Plains Shire. from 1am on the 26th of December, 2011 and will remain in force; unless otherwise curtailed or extended, until 1am on the 1st of May 2012.

During this period residents are required to obtain a permit to burn in the open air. Golden Plains Shire is situated within the Central Fire District, meaning Total Fire Bans for the Central Fire District apply to the whole of the Golden Plains Shire area.

Council urges all residents to take the necessary steps to ensure they are FireReady. CFA has plenty of resources to help you prepare this summer. Talk to your local brigade or visit the CFA website [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au).

## Golden Plains Festival Tickets

Golden Plains Sixxxx will be held at the Meredith Supernatural Amphitheatre on Saturday 10 March – Monday 12 March, 2012. A quantity of tickets set aside for locals will be sold at the Meredith Corner Store in February. Everything you need to know is at [www.goldenplains.com.au](http://www.goldenplains.com.au).

## Kinder thanks the CWA

*Stefania Parkinson*

The children of the Meredith Kindergarten have been cooking up a storm thanks to a generous donation from the Meredith CWA. During 2011, the CWA donated \$500.00 to the Kindergarten which we used to purchase new 'home corner' equipment, consisting of a stove, kitchen sink and fridge.

Without the generous support of the CWA, the Kindergarten would not be able to upgrade and purchase new equipment for the children.

The Committee and staff of the Meredith Kindergarten would sincerely like to thank the Meredith CWA for their generous donation and support.



## Classifieds

### Lost

Between Elaine and Meredith. Green truck tarpaulin. Please contact the Meredith Community Centre and leave a message on 5286 1348



## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday at Uniting Church, Holy Communion

11.00am 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Anglican Church Holy Communion

#### Bannockburn

11.30am 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays Holy Communion

10.30am 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Family Service

6.00pm 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Prayer & Praise

#### Inverleigh

8.45am 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays Holy Communion

10.00am 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Morning Prayer

11.00am 5<sup>th</sup> 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 @ 11 a.m. Meredith 12th & 26th Feb.

Anakie - Mass @ 11 a.m. Sundays 5th & 19th Feb..

ASH WEDNESDAY FEBRUARY 22ND.

MASS AND DISTRIBUTION OF ASHES

BANNOCKBURN 7 P.M. WINCHELSEA 7 P.M.

## Meredith Community Centre, Inc.

4 Russell Street Meredith 3333

PH 5286 1348 Fax 52861 563

"Working for our community"



## Learn Locally

Meredith Community Centre invites community members to participate in the variety of classes and activities that are on offer during 2012. In addition to classes in Meredith we are also offering classes in Bannockburn. Some of the highlights for this term include Cheese making classes, Hairdressing, Cake Decorating, CPR, Digital Photography, Yoga, Thai cooking and various levels of Computer classes. We are also holding an International Women's Night celebrating the diversity and contribution of women in our local communities. Occasional Childcare as well as Playgroup sessions are also held at the Centre. Services available include computer and internet use, faxing, laminating, a free library and room hire for community groups and organisations. Our Centre is part of the Golden Plains Art Trail so why not take the opportunity to visit us and see the range of arts and crafts that are being produced by community members. For further information on these and other programs we offer, please contact us on 52861348 or [mch@netconnect.com.au](mailto:mch@netconnect.com.au).

Don't forget to check out our website [www.meredithcc.com.au](http://www.meredithcc.com.au) to view our Summer Program and other services and activities provided to our local region.

## You are invited to the annual World Day of Prayer Service

Friday March 2<sup>nd</sup>. 2011 at St. Joseph's Church, Lawler Street, Meredith at 9.30 a.m. World Day of Prayer is a worldwide movement dating back to the 19th century which brings together Christian traditions for an annual service of prayer. On the first Friday of March each year more than 3 million people in over 170 countries join in a service prepared by the women of a different country each year in an attempt to help us to better understand their traditions, their culture and their problems.

**WE WILL HAVE MORNING TEA AFTERWARDS.  
PLEASE BRING A SMALL PLATE OF MORNING TEA  
TO SHARE.**

## Christmas in Meredith

Thank you to all who decorated their sheep this year at Christmas time to help make Meredith a festive and welcoming town. Now it's time for the sheep to be put out to pasture and to be brought back brighter than ever for next year.

Congratulations to all who decorated their houses and businesses with festive Christmas lights. There were some spectacular displays.

Winner of best house:

Jo Primmer- Staughton Street

2<sup>nd</sup>. Place : Wheelers- Wilson Street

Honourable mentions: The Bakery – Staughton Street and Karen and Angus Pritchard McLeod Street

Winner Commercial : Foxy's- Wallace Street

Winner non residential, non commercial: Father Herman, St. Joseph's Lawler Street.







meredithPolice**news**

Leading Senior Constable Greg Kitchen

All in all, the Christmas and New Year period has been very quiet within the Meredith Township and the surrounding district. I am so pleased to report that there have been no motor vehicle accidents of note reported to police in the area and crime has been extremely low. I have just returned from three weeks of annual leave the feedback from police members from surrounding stations was excellent in that very few jobs were attended within the last month in the area.

The Meredith Music Festival which was run in December went well with only a few issues being raised. On the Friday at the commencement of the festival, I arrested a Geelong based male who was attending the event and who was in possession of a significant quantity of amphetamine. This male was later conveyed to the Geelong Police Station where he was interviewed and charged with serious drug offences.

Two of the issues which have been brought to my attention relate to the temporary speed restriction signage along Meredith - Mount Mercer Road during the running of the event and the behaviour of young drivers and festival goers around the Meredith Township on the Friday morning of the event. Both of these issues will be the focus of future pre planning and overall improvement for the event.

The Golden Plains Music Festival will be run this year from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 12<sup>th</sup> of March. All of the 9000 tickets have now been sold and planning for the event is well under way. Again there will be a focus on driver behaviour at the commencement and at the conclusion of the festival. It is important that drivers using Mount Mercer Road between Meredith and the festival site be mindful of temporary speed restrictions. It was disturbing for me to see the number of alcohol impaired drivers leaving the event and being detected by police.

On another note, it has become evident that rubbish has been frequently dumped around the Meredith skate park. This week, I have had cause to speak with young people who I watched discarding rubbish onto the ground not 5 metres from bins provided. This is extremely frustrating to watch as the park has been established for the benefit of the community's children. I would like to take this opportunity to appeal to parents to encourage their children to be mindful that bins are provided and that the current penalty for depositing litter is \$244.00.

I will close the months report and wish everyone within the Meredith district a very safe and prosperous start to 2012.

Regards Greg Kitchen.



## Artists Hit the Trail

Christmas is a busy time for artists across Golden Plains as they commence preparation for the 2012 Golden Plains Arts Trail.

Golden Plains Shire Council and local artists first presented the Golden Plains Arts Trail in 2008. In the coming year on 24 & 25 March, 60 artists will exhibit at 30 art venues across Golden Plains for a weekend long art festival.

Jeanette Skrokov will open her studio in Durham Lead for the first time on the Trail. Working among historic gold fields, Jeanette captures authentic scenes and stories from the past in her painting. "I have had a busy year with several commissions completed. I have lots of sketches, photos and ideas and there will be new works for the Arts Trail. I have also invited two young artists from the local area to show and demonstrate their work," Jeanette said.

The 2012 Golden Plains Arts Trail welcomes locals, art lovers and travellers to experience art in studios, wineries, public facilities and historic buildings. The Trail will feature music, poetry and special events in every part of the region.

For individual artist stories contact Golden Plains Shire Arts and Culture Coordinator Marita Batna on 03 5220 7162 or 0437 000 216.

Event information is available online at [www.artstrail.com.au](http://www.artstrail.com.au)

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# sports



## Elaine Cricketers at MCG

Shane Dunne



Elaine Milo Cricketers made their debut on the MCG at lunch time on Boxing Day. What a thrill for the children (and adults who accompanied them!)

Cricket Victoria gave free tickets to 16 Milo Cricket Groups in Victoria to get into the MCG and for the children to play on the field during lunch time of the Boxing Day Test Match. The Elaine cricketers were

lucky to be one of them.

When the 4-10 year old children enlisted for the 10 week Milo cricket training they each received a bat, ball, hat and t-shirt and the eight cricketers from Elaine who played on the MCG looked very sporty in their yellow t shirts and hats.

The children were encouraged to improve their skills so they could be selected to play test cricket for Australia when they grow up.

We thank Daryl Hunt and Les Kocon for coaching the Milo cricketers and Andrew Edminston for driving the bus on the day.

Milo Cricket at Elaine will be run on Friday 4th, 11th and 18th February 530pm-630pm. The 18th is also our breakup. A BBQ supplied but please bring a salad or dessert to share.

## Meredith Golf Club

### Mens Golf

#### Weekend Comp 7th & 8th Jan

Winner A Slocombe 43pts on a 2 stage count back from D Jury.  
NTP 14th 2nd shot J Cooper

#### Weekend Comp. 14th & 15th Jan

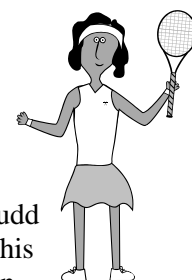
Winner J Cooper 41 pts On a count back from A Slocombe.  
NTP 14th 2nd Shot J Cooper

Stableford 21st/22nd Jan

Winner. C Osborne 40 pts. R up. D Jury 39 pts  
NTP 9th P Schillier m 10th D Gear, 14th C Osborne

## Elaine Tennis Club

Tennis practice resumes every Thursday from 2nd February at 4pm. All welcome



Elaine Tennis Club would like to thank Ron Budd from Meredith Bakery and Henry's Corner for his financial support for our club. Thankyou to Ron and all our sponsors. Without you all we would not have any hope of getting new tennis courts which we badly need. Together with grants/fundraising and sponsorship we are extremely confident works will start this year. Much appreciated.

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

...and we'll tell the Community!

See info panel on p. 2 for contact details.

## catch us on the WEB

Read the M&D News online, incl. back copies, lodge ads & articles and more.

[meredithnews.com.au](http://meredithnews.com.au)

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## Tales from the Tucker Tent

*Mollie Flood*

From high up on the hill on Bamganie Road, you can see them. They stretch along Mt Mercer Road like a slow-moving metallic snake, the morning sunlight glinting off a hundred windscreens. They've trundled along the Midland Highway in convoy, and stocked up on supplies at the petrol station and corner store. Now they're arriving out at the Meredith Supernatural Amphitheatre, thousands upon thousands. In the Tucker Tent, the barbecues fire up.

From sunrise until late in to the night at both Meredith and Golden Plains Festivals, the Tucker Tent not only provides great food at low prices, but vital funds for Meredith organisations and community groups. From humble beginnings in a hot, smoky and dusty tent, the Tucker Tent has grown along with the festivals, leading to the construction of a purpose built, comfortable, functional and permanent building in 2009. The new building on the usual site features running water, fans and a concrete floor, and definitely makes a six hour shift more enjoyable! Over the years, the Tucker Tent has kept on barbecuing through scorching afternoons battling dust and flies, electrical storms and one of the wettest weekends to hit the district in living memory, when most festival goers were covered in mud and chilly volunteers warmed up next to the bain maries. The gorgeous weather of December 2011 caused a steady demand for ice, with the volunteers manning the ice truck selling out almost as quickly as they could heave bags out of the truck. On Saturday afternoon the queue eagerly awaiting the next delivery stretched all the way across the food court, but spirits remained high and strangers were seen to embrace when the truck finally pulled in again, before dashing off to restock their eskies. Despite any challenges presented by the unpredictable weather conditions, customers often comment on the friendliness of the volunteers, the speed of the service and the quality of the food served up at the Tucker Tent.

The amount of organisation required for the Tucker Tent to cater at both festivals is enormous, and this year-round undertaking is led by a hard-working committee made up of representatives from the various groups involved. These individuals put in an

incredible amount of work attending meetings, organising supplies and, when the weekend arrives, coordinating teams of up to 40 volunteers over a six-hour shift. With many volunteers returning each year it's a fantastic chance to catch up with friends, see some great bands and help out our community.

In 2011 the Tucker Tent was once again a popular choice among hungry revellers in search of good food. Each year the profit raised over the two weekends is divided among community groups including the Meredith Primary School, hall, kindergarten and cricket, football, golf and tennis clubs. A portion is donated to the Nolan family to assist with the ongoing costs of their son Christopher's care. Since the first years of operation, funds raised by the Tucker Tent have been put to good use by the community groups involved, in specific projects or simply as essential means of staying up and running. Past projects include:

- Meredith Primary School - Learning resources, Classroom computers, Refurbishment, New playground equipment
- Meredith Memorial Hall - Improvements to facilities, Maintenance and repairs, new kitchen appliances including ovens and pie warmer
- Meredith Kindergarten - Funds from the Tucker Tent play a vital role in keeping the kindergarten operating
- Meredith Cricket Club - Equipment for juniors, New nets
- Meredith Golf Club - Upgrade of change rooms, Upkeep of grounds and equipment, New equipment including sand scrape and mower
- Moorabool Valley Football Club - Junior Crocs football program, Professional umpiring, Transport, Lighting - New uniforms, General upkeep and maintenance of grounds and facilities, New equipment
- Meredith Tennis Club, Heavily subsidised membership fees, Professional coaching, Uniforms, Lighting, Court resurfacing and maintenance, New nets and equipment

Thank you to the many volunteers who gave up their time during Golden Plains and MMF in 2011, not to mention the countless hours put in throughout the year. The essential funds raised by the Tucker Tent do amazing things for our community, making it possible for us all to continue to enjoy our fantastic facilities and resources.



# Bannockburn MAINTENANCE & ENGINEERING

Pty Ltd

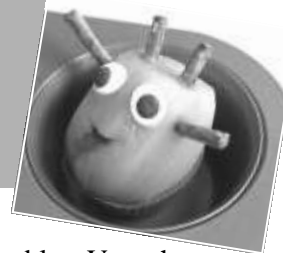
- Mechanical Maintenance
  - Machining
  - Welding
  - Fabrication
- Onsite Service Available

Contact Gavin Adamson

**0428 521 489****AH: 5281 2003****43 Holder Rd  
Bannockburn**

## Top Tips for a Healthy Lunch Box

“The number one tip for parents is to keep the school lunches interesting!” says Chris Browne from *Go For Your Life*.



- Always include fresh fruit and vegetables. Vary the selection to keep it interesting.
- Offer a variety of whole grain breads, rolls, pita bread and flat breads.
- Use avocado as a spread instead of butter or margarine.
- Use reduced fat dairy foods. Cheese and yoghurt are ideal.
- Kids need a serve of protein at lunchtime. Ensure you include lean meat, egg, peanut butter, chickpeas or tuna.
- Add a chilled bottle of water and limit juice.
- **Keep it fresh - packing the lunchbox**  
It's important to keep food in the lunch box cold to inhibit the growth of harmful bacteria.
- Pack the school lunch in an insulated lunch box and include a small freezer brick or freeze a bottle of water and pop it into the lunchbox to keep food cool.

From [freshforkids.com.au/lunch\\_box](http://freshforkids.com.au/lunch_box) and [education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool](http://education.vic.gov.au/aboutschool) Visit either for more great tips on keeping hungry kids happy AND healthy.

## ELAINE FARM SUPPLIES

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### COMPUTERS

#### \*COMPUTERS BASICS

Date: Mon. Feb. 13th–Mar.26th  
Time: 9:30-12.00pm  
Cost: \$55 (6 weeks)

#### \*FLEXI COMPUTERS

Date: Mon. Feb. 13th–Mar. 26th  
Time: 12:30-3pm  
Cost: \$55 (6 weeks)

#### \*CAMERA TO COMPUTER

Date: Sat. Mar 17th  
Time: 9.30-12pm  
Cost: \$25

### TRAINING COURSES

#### RSA- RESPONSIBLE SERVING ALCOHOL

Dates: Sat. Mar. 24th  
Time: 9.30-1.30pm  
Cost: \$70

#### CPR BASICS-REFRESHER

Date: Wed. Feb. 8th  
Time: 11.30-1.30pm  
Cost: \$65

### Bannockburn Classes

Call 52 861 348 for details

#### INTRO TO HAIR DRESSING

Dates: Thur. Feb. 16th–Mar. 22nd  
Time: 6-9pm  
Cost: \$125 for 6 weeks

#### INTRO TO SCRAPBOOKING

Date: Wed. Mar. 8th  
Time: 7–9pm  
Cost: \$25 incl materials  
Venue: Bannockburn TBA

#### COMPUTERS BY NIGHT

Date: Tue. Feb 14th-Mar. 20th  
Time: 7-9.30pm  
Cost: \$55  
Venue: Bannockburn Family Service Centre

#### FLEXI PATCH-QUICK QUILTS

Date: Thur. Mar. 22nd  
Time: 10– 3pm  
Cost: \$35 Collect materials list  
Venue: Bannockburn TBA

**Bookings  
for classes  
essential.**



### CRAFT

#### PAINTING– TUTORING

Date: Sat Feb 25th  
Time: 12:30-3:00pm  
Cost: \$25 per session

#### PAINTING-TUTORING

Date: Sat Mar 24th  
Time: 12:30-3:00pm  
Cost: \$25 per session

#### DRAWING & PEN & INK WASH

##### 2 session WORKSHOP

Date: Sat. Feb. 25th / Mar. 24th  
Time: 9.30-12pm  
Cost: \$60 incl materials

#### CREATIVE PAINTING

Date: Fri. Feb. 10th-Mar. 30th  
Time: 9.30-11:30am  
Cost: \$10 per class

#### FABULOUS FABRICS WORKSHOP

Date: Sat. Mar 3rd  
Time: 12.30-4.30pm  
Cost: \$50 incl materials

#### MAKING KIDS CLOTHES 2 WEEKS

Date: Wed. Mar 8th/15th  
Time: 10-2pm  
Cost: \$60 Collect materials list

#### PAPERCRAFT QUILLING/TEABAG FOLDING

Dates: Tue. Feb. 28th  
Time: 7-9pm  
Dates: Tue. Mar. 13th  
Time: 10-12pm  
Cost: \$15

#### BEGINNERS GUIDE TO CAKE

##### DECORATING -2WEEKS

Date: Thur. Mar 15th/22nd  
Time: 11-2.30pm  
Cost: \$30 incl materials

### BUS TRIPS

#### VICTORIA MARKET

Date: Thur. Feb. 23rd  
Time: 8.30-5pm  
Cost: \$25 BYO lunch

### \*\*NEW\*NEW\*NEW\*\*

#### CHEESE MAKING–BLUE, SOUR CREAM

Dates: Sun. Mar. 25th  
Time: 10-3pm  
Cost: \$105

#### INTRO TO DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY

Dates: Tue. Feb. 28th  
Time: 7- 8.30pm  
Cost: \$20

#### GET THAT JOB

Date: Thur. Mar. 1st & 8th  
Time: 9.30—12.30pm  
Cost: \$25

#### GOURMET FETA, YOGURT

(BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND)

Date: Sun. Mar. 18th  
Time: 10-4pm  
Cost: \$105

#### THAI COOKING

Date: Wed. Mar. 7th  
Time: 7-9.30pm  
Cost: \$20

#### JEWELLERY MAKING

Date: Sat. Mar. 17th  
Time: 12.30-3pm  
Cost: \$35 incl materials

#### BASIC CAR MAINTENANCE

Date: Wed. Mar.7th  
Time: 7—9pm  
Cost: \$10

### HEALTH & WELLBEING

#### PILATES

Date: Fri. Feb.10th-Mar.30th  
Time: 3-4pm  
Cost: \$80 for 8 weeks

#### CIRCUIT TRAINING W-PIZZAZZ

Date: Fri. Feb.10th– Mar.30th  
Time: 1.45—2.45pm  
Cost: \$64 for 8 weeks

#### YOGA

Date: Mon. Feb.13th–Mar. 26th  
Time: 7.30—8.45pm  
Cost: \$75 for 6 weeks

#### TAI CHI

Please contact the Centre for information regarding Tai Chi Classes for this term.



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## Going Home to Merbein

Marg Cooper

Pam and Bill Crow are heading home. They moved to Meredith in 1995, buying a house in Creamery Road where, over the years, they have created a quiet paradise.

The garden is full of colour and interest and includes a fruit orchard, a hot house full of tomato plants, a frog pond with a bridge over it, a small exclusive gazebo where Pam often sat to spin wool while she watched the birds etc and some lovely trees both native and exotic.

The garden has been created and maintained over many very dry years by planting "not water hungry" plants, diverting the grey water to the garden via a hose and sending the overflow of the tanks to the frog pond.

Pam is known for her white VW, "Albert" which they bought in 1975, just run in. The mileage has been 5 times around the clock and lots of offers have been made to them to buy the car, but he is not for sale. Pam tells that he is a pet not a car!

Pam has been a valuable and talented teacher and participant in sewing and patchwork classes at the Community House and has also served on the Community House Committee.

They are moving home to Merbein where they "have millions of relatives" and, as Bill tells, they are at the gateway to the outback.

Bill wants to do some more travelling in their caravan, to meet people and to see more of Australia.

Good luck and Goodbye Pam and Bill.



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## A Lesson from History

Jim Elvey

We were interested to read recently about the need in 1988 for the Meredith Primary School Council to confront the then Shire of Bannockburn over material it submitted for attachment to the community newsletter which was then produced under the auspice of the School. Inclusion of Shire material, usually a collection of articles around Council activities, was a regular practice, but on this occasion the 'President's column' extolled the "dangers" of returning the incumbent government at the forthcoming State elections.

The Primary School, an instrument of the state government like the Shire Council, was expressly forbidden from any political partisanship, and sought an apology from the Council and an assurance that future attachments would not contain any such material. It was a protracted affair with the Shire denied access to the Meredith Newsletter's readership for several months as it refused to either apologise or guarantee no subsequent breaches of protocol in the pages of its appended report.

It's pleasing to note the newsletter long ago brought such a measure of integrity to its practices, something we hope to maintain through our present day publication guidelines.

*Left: Bill and Pam Crow enjoying their last days in their "Backyard Eden" before moving back to Merbein.*

## Important Information

This summer, electricity businesses will be modifying their powerline safety settings to reduce the risk of bushfires. This may delay restoring power if a fault occurs. Consider your need for back-up power if you are highly reliant on electricity. Remember power outages can also affect phones, radios and water pumps.

- Have a battery-powered radio and spare batteries or a wind-up radio available to hear alerts and warnings in case power fails;
- Have a landline with a cord, a fully charged mobile phone as backup and a spare battery and;
- Have a non-electric pump available that can be operated from an alternative water supply such as a swimming pool, concrete or metal tank, or dam.

If you lose power, contact your electricity distribution business on the "Faults and Emergencies" number on your most recent electricity bill.

Be prepared. For more information go to [www.esv.vic.gov.au](http://www.esv.vic.gov.au)

**PREPARE. ACT. SURVIVE.**  
**FireReady**

## Hello Dolly

Marg Cooper

Joanne Primmer was walking to the State School on a Friday in November, at 8.15 am when her phone rang. It was Bay FM Radio Station asking her if she wanted to take part in their Dolly Parton competition.

She was asked to sing a Dolly Parton song on air. Joanne sang "Jolene". The hosts Paula and Haddon spun the spinning wheel to determine her prize and "WOW" she won 2 Gold passes to the Dolly Parton concert!!

Her daughter Kim had entered Joanne's name in the competition and had photocopied the words of some Dolly Parton songs which Joanne had in her pocket, just in case the radio station rang.

Joanne had seen Dolly Parton perform with Kenny Rogers 25 years ago and had promised Kim that if she could she would take her.

Joanne and Kim were excited, jumped up and down, "Oh my God", yelling and screaming!

They went to the concert at the Melbourne Tennis Centre on December 1 and sat with the other 6 winners of tickets from Bay FM.

Joanne tells that the concert was fantastic, superb, awesome!

Joanne loves Dolly's country singing, the distinctive "twang" in her voice and that Dolly is so genuine and down to earth and that she always sings and talks about her family and where she came from.

Dolly Parton told the audience that when she was a child she visited the city with her father and grandfather who was a roving preacher.

She saw a woman dressed up in sparkly clothes, with blonde curly hair, lots of makeup and red nails.

She told her grandfather that when she grew up she wanted to be just like that lady.

Her grandfather was horrified and said that she was a "Lady of the Night". Well, Dolly did grow up to wear sparkles, blonde curly hair, makeup and red nails! She also grew up to sing and to entertain!

## Christmas Sheep

Marg Cooper

Thank you to all the people who contributed time and effort and their artistic skills to the Christmas display in Meredith.



About 30 new sheep were added to the flock for Christmas 2011 and many of them were displayed in the front yard of Parkinsons garage with lambs, a dog and trees. They have been herded together and taken back to the farm until next year.

Thank you also to Margaret and Kevin Parkinson for the display space and to Dutchy for making the tent pegs and drilling the holes in the supports, so all the items would stand up.

If you have any bright ideas for the display for Christmas 2012 please let us know!

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## Police Paddocks' Big Year

Jim Elvey

What is expected to be a big year for the Meredith Police Paddocks, begun with Golden Plains Shire constructing a short extension to Champion Street and a car parking area for the reserve. This considerably improves vehicle access to the site and makes it a lot easier for residents to get to the pathways meandering through this attractive landscape on the very edge of town.

Local volunteers were also successful last month in getting a grant of \$4,100 from the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal and is hoping for funding from other sources to make a start on what is expected to be a \$25,000 project constructing the first stages of a network of all weather walking tracks, drainage, signage and seating.

Most of the work to date has been undertaken by volunteers and the Ballarat Environment Network (BEN) which is responsible for management of the reserve, and has been focussed on revegetation and weed control.

In the coming year BEN and its local support group will also extend the pathway into the creek flats and across the creek, undertake planting bees in March and August as well as establish a small wildflower reserve.

Residents are urged to have a look at the works that have been done to date and enjoy a stroll around the paths which can be joined at the bottom of Nuttall Street or from Champion Street. There's even a Sunday morning social walking group. Anyone interested in joining the growing band of locals taking part in this rewarding project can contact me on 5286 1273.

*Above - access to the attractive landscape of the Meredith Police Paddocks along the Coolebarghurk Creek has been much improved by road works and a new car park. Below - Local resident and experienced grader driver with Golden Plains Shire, Ron Shell, makes short work of the Police Paddocks' car park construction last month.*



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## Meredith's Sweet Spot

Marg Cooper

The Grand Opening of "Synot's Sweets Meredith" in Staughton Street in December, saw the shop filled with customers all day. They were delighted to have a new shop in Meredith, to have a sweets shop and to visit a building that had once been a busy shop owned by the Synot family.

New owners, Dave and Rick, fell in love with the house and shop as soon as they walked through its double doors. They decided to retain the name "Synot's" for the shop and thought that the name suggested boiled lollies, candy, confectionary, sweets etc. They also wanted to leave the shop as original as possible and customers can still see the original bins, shelves, wall boards, some floorboards and the counter from the original Synot's shop.

Dave and Rick found lots of old bottles and tobacco tins when they renewed the floor in the rooms behind the shop and they are endeavouring to identify what the bottles contained and where they were made.

Their shop is stocked with a large collection of mouth watering delights including lolly pops and ice creams, greeting cards made by Kathy Boer, knitware made by Joan Simpson and jams, chutneys, pickles etc made by Meredith Pantry.

Delighted with the response from Meredith people, the new owners have had lots of visitors to see the shop, including those who remember the old shop and even some related to the Synots! Dave and Rick are delighted with the town's response to their venture!



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Draw what you like best about SYNOT'S SWEETS

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PRIZES for 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place.

**A BIG THANK-YOU TO EVERYONE THAT CAME  
TO SYNOT'S SWEETS  
GRAND OPENING**





## VALE – Lance Noble Wray



Lance was born in Geelong in 1915. He attended Geelong College where at the age of 16 he held the title of the College's champion swimmer. Still at the age of 16 and in his final year at Geelong College, he left to become a jackaroo at Marnoo.

Lance returned to Geelong and enrolled at the Gordon Technical School to become a wool classer. He worked for Denney's Lascelles in Geelong being paid junior wages to do a senior's job. It was here that his interest in wool

became deeper.

He became a wool and skin buyer and purchased a property at Durdiwarrah. When WWII broke out Lance went to enlist in the Army, but due to being a farmer was rejected, so he leased his property and joined up again. He served in North Africa with the Australian Army and the British 8<sup>th</sup> Army. He was in the battle of El Alamein.

After the war he returned to his farm at Durdiwarrah. He then purchased a portion of Moreep Estate called "The Eclipse Run", although classified for a veterans block, Lance wanted to own property on his own terms.

He met Marjorie in Drumcondra, Geelong; little did they know they were neighbours. They became engaged and together renamed the property to "Clipswood Park". They married and settled in the cabin on the property with no power and no running water, whilst their home was being built.

Lance set about establishing a super fine Merino wool stud. He was the first man to fly over pure Saxon ewes from Tasmania to the mainland.

Lance and Marjorie had three daughters (Gail, Jan & Mabel), who Lance referred to as "his boys". When about to start a farming job he would turn to his daughters and say "ready to go boys". Once a shearers remarked to Lance saying "it's not an all girls shed is it", and Lance replied to this shearers saying "not only will my girls do the job in this shed, but they'll be better than any other bloke". Lance always encouraged his daughters to fulfil their dreams, with no gender barrier in the careers they pursued.

Lance built a super fine Merino stud, holding an average micron of 17.3 and kept his farm in an eco environment, enjoying natural bush and never subjecting this to the tearing down of his bush property for cropping. He bred a special ram called "Lucky", who ranked second best in the Australian Sire Evaluation Scheme and Lucky's progeny was rated best ram in Victoria.

Lance was a member of the Morrison CFA, Hall Committee, Cemetery Trust, Tennis Club, on the board of the Meredith School Committee and R.S.L. member. Lance was grandfather to Simon & Sylvia, Lanon & Sarah, Bindy, Melanie & Gemma and recently became a great grandfather to baby Harryson Parker Brown.

Lance's farewell service was held at Clipswood in his woolshed, amongst his prized wool ribbons, WWII medals, woollen fleece, gum leaves and roses with his immediate family. As was fitting for Lance and his love of the land.

*Gail, Jan, and Mabel*

## Meredith Senior Citizens Christmas Party

Jim Hynds

The big day arrived!

The hall had been prepared and the tables were decorated.

The final touches were done by Heather Banks, Betty Hayes and Neil Cooper and the room looked an absolute treat.

We got underway with a fabulous Christmas dinner prepared by the ladies from the Golf Club.

Well done ladies!

Entertainment followed. Helen Peppard thrilled us with her wonderful piano playing and the local song birds, Pip Hucker, Mary Foster and Wendy Maddigan sang some Christmas Carols and the seniors sang along.

By early afternoon the party was in full swing with everybody enjoying themselves.

The raffles were drawn and the prizes and hampers given out to the delighted recipients.

Speaking of the hampers: what a fabulous job was done by our Dianne Stevenson and Joe Primmer in collecting and wrapping the baskets of goodies, platters of fruit etc. A real credit to them! The members and the guests wish to thank the local business's and friends for all the wonderful donations that made the raffles such a great success: Batesford Global Greening, Meredith Nursery, Meredith Corner Store, Woolabrai, Mortimer's Service Station, Morrows Hotel, Henry's Corner Hotel, Cameron's Meredith Dairy, Heather and Rob Spiers, Hope Hodge, Frank Parnell and Foxy's Take-Away and Gifts.

The Senior Citizens and guests, some 38 in all thank you all for your generous donations.

All too soon the partying and singalongs drew to a close with much applause for the singers and the pianist.

Then afternoon tea of cakes prepared by the members was served.

Hugs and good wishes followed as the seniors went their separate ways.

A big Thank You to all our members for making this day such a great success.



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## Bush-wackers Weekend in Meredith

*Pam Snelling*

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> December, the "Bush-wackers Motor Home" group arrived in Meredith to set-up camp for the weekend in Pioneer Park. As motor-homers, the idea is to explore the country towns and the bushes in our self contained vehicles. Each year the group travels to a country town to celebrate our Birthday in August and in December and Meredith is a town that offers great hospitality to celebrate Christmas and to conduct our AGM – thanks to the Memorial Hall.

This year the group were very appreciative of Barry & Sandra Pearce's support to assist with arrangements to enable us to stay in Meredith and to enjoy the wonderful sights and to taste the variety of local food.

We were delighted to visit the "Path of the Ibis" and to see the friendly decorated sheep situated around the township bringing in the Season of Christmas. Many thanks to those people who dropped-in to the Park to make us feel welcome. This has been our second visit to Meredith and it won't be our last!

Thank- you, the people of Meredith.

Cheers – Pam Snelling Secretary  
Bushwackers Group  
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# Mollie's

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## Summer Holiday

I really do love the beach. Every year, as soon as the days heat up, I pile in to a car with my friends, crank up the air conditioning if we're lucky enough to have any, and head for the coast. Crowded in with our beach towels and crumpled straw hats, we crawl along the cliff edges, spending half a scorching day bumper to bumper with a thousand other cars full of hot and cranky people. When we finally reach our destination and spill out on to the sticky asphalt, stretching our sweaty limbs, I realise that one little fact I manage to forget as soon as the temperature rises. I really do love the beach, until I get there.

The gorgeous surf coast might look like a picture from a travel brochure, all smooth sand and sparkling water with the sun shining down innocently, but don't be fooled. No matter how conscientiously I slip, slop, slap, the blazing sun slaps me right back. My milky skin just wasn't designed for stretching out on the hot sand, and while my deeper-hued friends are prancing around in bikinis I'm meticulously slathering every inch of pale flesh in half a bottle of sunscreen. While most beach goers tend to prefer sprawling on top of their towel, I hastily scramble under mine before the cruel sun gets a chance to fry me a particularly unflattering shade of scarlet. It's a slightly ridiculous yet surprisingly effective strategy – passing children might mistake me for an oddly lumpy, empty towel and drag their sandy boogie boards over my legs, but I manage to avoid being burnt to a crisp. It can get awfully hot under metres of brightly coloured velour, though, and then it's time to face the next deadly peril of a day on an Australian beach: the ocean.

It's not the icy temperature of the water fizzing around my ankles that makes me nervous as I plunge bravely out in to the treacherous sea (well, as treacherous as it gets between the flags). I even sort of like the crashing waves that threaten to knock me off my feet and dump me unceremoniously on the sand before while rolling away merrily with my bathers. It's when a harmless clump of seaweed gets caught up in the glassy unbroken waves rolling toward me that I find myself stifling a scream of terror. There's always one horrifying moment when a mysterious dark shape in a wave might be seaweed – or might be a giant shark cruising in to bite my legs off.

When we finally make it back to the car, sandy and hot but with legs thankfully intact, I heave a secret sigh of relief that it's all over. When we're eventually packed up and crowded in, hot seats stinging, wet bathers dripping and scratchy hats poking sunburnt skin, we set off back along the cliffs. In the unbearably hot car full of irritable people, I gaze down at the beautiful beach. The sky is cloudless, the waves are gentle, the sun twinkles away benignly...I'll be back next week.

After all, I really do love the beach. Especially when we're driving home.

## Last Mass at Lethbridge

Marg Cooper

### *The End of an Era- The Last Mass at St. Mary's Lethbridge*

The Catholic Community of St. Mary's Lethbridge celebrated their heritage and history of 153 years at the final Mass in the present church on Sunday January 22<sup>nd</sup> 2012 at 4 pm Bishop Vincent Long, Regional Bishop of the western region and Father Herman Licayan Administrator of the Meredith Parish of which Lethbridge is part, celebrated the Mass with a large crowd of former parishioners, present parishioners and locals.

Raymond Kelly, a lifetime parishioner and avid historian related the history of the Lethbridge Catholic community and its two churches with a powerpoint presentation and an historical display.

Raymond told the congregation that Bishop Goold (the first Bishop of Melbourne) with his horse rested at Lethbridge when travelling from Geelong to Ballarat on the afternoon of Sunday, September 16, 1853.

Until the late 1850's Lethbridge and the district of Meredith was in the Parish of St Mary's, Geelong as the first mission station of St. Mary's. In fact the chalice used at the last Lethbridge Mass was inscribed "Meredith Mission".

It is believed that the Catholic Church was built and dedicated before 1860 as the first Catholic School classes are said to be held in the church building in January 1860. A total of 39 children were baptized at Lethbridge in 1860.

On Monday, October 23, 1876 Bishop Goold visited Lethbridge to administer confirmation to 175 children

In 1914 the weatherboard church (the first church) was moved to Lal Lal and the building of the present church commenced. The new church was blessed and opened by the Coadjutor Archbishop of Melbourne {the Most Rev. Dr Mannix} on Sunday October 27, 1914.

In his homily Bishop Long told the congregation that "God writes straight on crooked lines" meaning that we don't always agree or understand how events unfold but we must accept change. Father Herman told the parishioners that the church building is to be sold but that the true church is the faith that people have and that the present parishioners must appreciate their grandparents and their parents' wonderful heritage.

Prayers were said for many people including the pioneers of Lethbridge who had the foresight and determination to build a church, the Priests who have served the Parish and the people who have helped to maintain the church over the years and for the young who are the future.

Rousing hymns were sung with gusto and parishioners were left feeling uplifted in the fact that their heritage and contribution had been so valued.

A bookmark containing images of the two churches and the first one being moved was given out to commemorate the occasion inscribed "We have experienced changes but the memories deep in our heart will always remain." Afternoon tea was served and the congregation socialised at St Mary's Lethbridge for the last time.



## Vale Douglas William Millar

*Marg Cooper*

The funeral service for Douglas Millar was held at Tuckers Funeral Chapel Geelong West on Tuesday November 22, 2011. Doug passed away at his home on Wednesday November 16, aged 81 years. Chaplain Neil Galbraith conducted the service at the chapel and at the committal service at the graveside in the Lethbridge Cemetery.

Doug was appointed a member of the Lethbridge Cemetery Trust on May 16, 1979 and became President of the Trust at a meeting held on June 7, 1983, holding that position continuously up until the time of his death. During his time on the Trust he worked tirelessly for the betterment of the Cemetery.

Doug was born to James and Jessie Millar (Laird) in 1930 and attended Lethbridge State School. After leaving school he cut wood before working as a farmhand on Moranghurk. His father James Millar, his grandfather Bill Millar and his Uncle Don Millar also worked on Moranghurk. Doug then managed Mr Cameron's farm for 40 years. Doug rarely missed attending the Monday stock sales at the Geelong Saleyards and he would have few peers when it came to his knowledge of sheep.

Doug married Joan Lynch in 1953. As their romance blossomed he ventured across the railway line on his bicycle to visit Joan at her parent's home. Distance would not have been a problem for a young fit Doug but getting across the railway line at Lethbridge presented its challenges during the steam era with trains often blocking the only crossing point in the town for up to 45 minutes at a time, while the locomotive was serviced in preparation for the long uphill grade to Meredith.

With no street lighting Doug would have had to be

careful moving around Lethbridge at night. Doug and Joan made their home in Lethbridge and had 3 children, Ian, Cheryl and Murray. They have 8 grandchildren 22 great grandchildren. Doug and Joan sold their home in Lethbridge and moved into a new home which they built on their farm on the outskirts of Lethbridge, in 1976.

Doug gave extraordinary service to local organizations including the Football Club, the State School, the Cemetery Trust and the Lethbridge Fire Brigade who presented him with a Long Service Medal for 45 years service. A Great Community Man.

## How They celebrated!

*Marg Cooper*

Margaret Parkinson celebrated her birthday on December 2, June Heard on December 3 and Fay McFarlane on December 8.

**Margaret** celebrated with a casual back yard family orientated gathering... with a crowd of about 100 including 27 children (and only 3 children were over 7 years old!)

Margaret grew up at Myrniong, went to school at Myrniong, then St Bernard's in Bacchus Marsh and then to Mary's Mount as a boarder in Ballarat.

She married Kevin Parkinson in 1962 and they bought the garage in Meredith in December 1966. They retired in 1996 to travel and to look after grandchildren.

**Fay** celebrated with dinner at the local hotel. Fay grew up in Steiglitz and went to school at She Oaks and Maude. She married Doug McFarlane and they have lived in Meredith for almost 49 years.

Fay obtained her degree as a mature aged student, has had her own business as a psychologist and has driven buses for McFarlane Bus Lines.

Fay retired from her psychology business in 2010 and Doug and Fay sold the buses in 2011.

**June** celebrated by going out to Sunday lunch with her family.

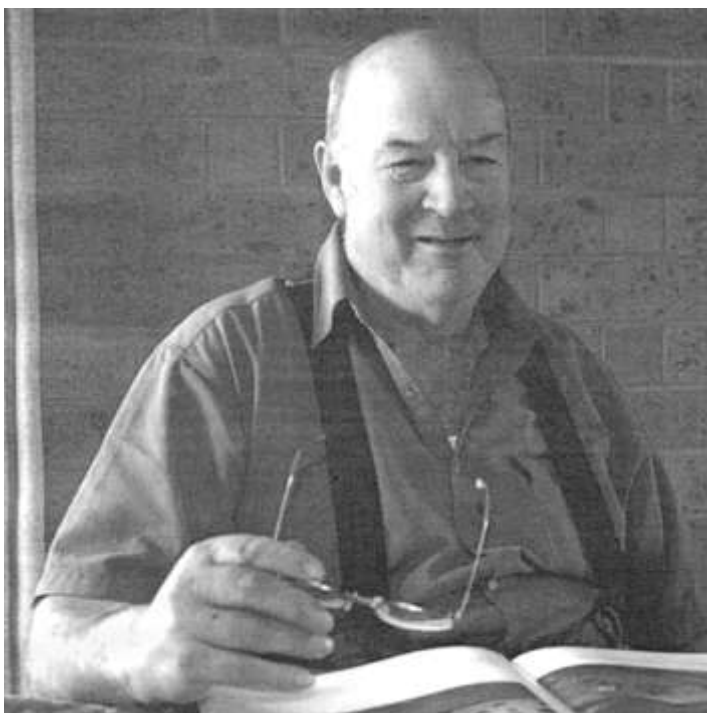
She grew up in Gorokey and after marrying Max Heard, lived on the Heard family farm at "Riverside" near Horsham.

In 1981 the family moved to a farm in Shelford Road.

June worked for Telstra for over 32 years, first in Horsham and then in Geelong.

June and Max have semi-retired to travel and to tend the garden at their new house.

They had a trip to Darwin to celebrate Christmas with their daughter Shendele and her family. The trip was given to June and Max by their children for both their birthdays.



### Want to be a Social Walker?



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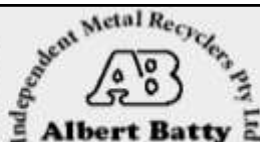
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## Meredith History Interest Group

Marg Cooper

### Railway Line 150<sup>th</sup> Celebrations

The first train ran on the Geelong/Ballarat line on April 10, 1862 and carried dignitaries from a ceremony in Geelong to a ceremony in Ballarat.

The Governor and City Mayors have been invited to re-enact this event on April 10 but the main celebrations at towns along the line will be on the weekend of April 14 & 15.

If you have any ideas or would like to help, come to the next meeting at Meredith Community House on Monday, February 6 at 7 pm.

### Thankyou

Thanks to Steve and Kathy Morrow for the donation of a sign to MHIG.

### Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting will be held on Sunday, February 26 at 1.30 pm at the Masonic Centre. The meeting will be followed by a Talk Fest on Dinkum Dunnies.

If you know where a dinkum dunny is or if you have a dunny story that's clean, please come along and share your information.

An entertaining booklet will be available on the day featuring details and photos of about 40 dinkum dunnies of Meredith.



### George Croft

Lorraine and her niece Kara and grand nephew Cooper came to Meredith recently to further research her great grandfather George Croft. Lorraine has already done a lot of research and presented MHIG with some interesting information and with lots of questions to try to answer. George Croft played the violin at dances, did contract work for the Meredith Shire, lived on the north side of Sutherland Street and in 1943 wrote a few pages on Meredith history. He died in 1944. If you know anything about George Croft please let us know.

*You are invited to help catalogue the collection on the last Thursday of each month at the Masonic Centre from 9 am. You are invited to visit, to research or to come along and talk history. We are ready to start cataloguing on the computers. If you have computer skills, we need you!!*



## It's History

The School Committee met in the school on Monday evening. There were present: Mr H. J. Griffiths (chairman), S. H. Mayo (correspondent), and Messrs Douglas and S. R. Bell. The correspondent intimated that the Public Works Department had been instructed to supply a new 600 gallon tank for the teacher's residence. The Rev. J. H. Mitchell applied for permission to give Bible lessons in the school. It was decided to inform Mr Mitchell that he could give the lessons on any afternoon from 3.15 to 3.45.

*The Ballarat Courier Friday 5 June 1914*  
Jan, McDonald, *Meredith History Interest Group*

## New Faces for Community Planning

Golden Plains Shire Council has appointed Axford Olszewski Strategies (AOS) as Community Planning Facilitators for the next two years.

Christine Wallis and Steven Axford from AOS, who will facilitate the Shire's Community Planning Program, are equally passionate about the built environment and the activities, events, social and cultural issues to develop communities. The AOS team will be introduced to community planning groups, including the Meredith Group early in the year. For further information contact Damian Waight on 5220 7159

## Want to do Business with Council?

Golden Plains Shire Council is encouraging local businesses to learn more about doing business with Council by hosting two information sessions about how to tender and quote for the provision of Council's requirements.

The information session will be held at Bannockburn from 7.00pm to 8.30pm on **Wednesday 29th February** and will communicate Council's new procurement practices and provide contractors and local businesses with the opportunity to discuss the tendering process. To register intention to attend a session contact Customer Service on 5220 7111 or 1300 363 036

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## Kinder Steps

Jim Elvey

A new Kinder facility is a step closer after Golden Plains Shire's adoption last year of the Shire wide "Early Years Infrastructure Report", which included the following recommendation or Meredith:



1. Capital works funding is required - initial cost estimate is approximately \$1,500,000 (following discussions with Golden Plains Shire Council Works Department). This estimate is based on the establishment of a new facility.
2. Undertake a feasibility study to formally consider capital works options.

Of course the next step could be quite a leap, depending on the outcome to part 2 of the recommendation. Clearly, State and Federal funding will be required to bring the project to fruition.

It is one of four priority projects identified across the shire, and envisages the establishment of a 'mini-hub' providing a range of complementary services, such as supported playgroups and occasional care as well as pre-school.

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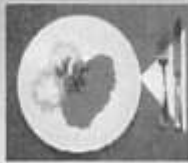
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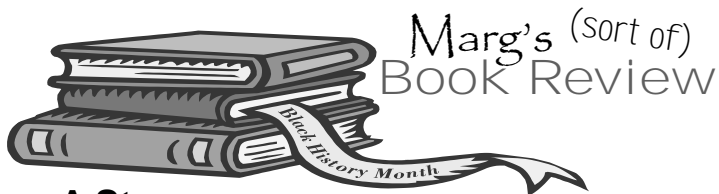
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## A Story

I was reading "Charles Kingsford Smith and Those Magnificent Men" by Peter Fitzsimons while I was writing the Bamganie Soldiers Book.

I selected some marvellous descriptive pieces about World War I from the book by Peter Fitzsimons to put on the 15 title pages for each soldier.

I wrote to Peter Fitzsimons 3 times for permission to use the words from his book. I didn't receive a reply so had to replace the quotes with other material.

After the Re-dedication Ceremony I heard that Peter Fitzsimons was coming to Queenscliff on November 15 to talk about his books.

Off I went to Queenscliff!!

Peter Fitzsimons is an ex Rugby player, a journalist with the Sydney Morning Herald and a writer of many excellent books. He talked about his writing and then he signed copies of his books that people had bought.

I ventured up to him with my newly purchased copy of "Mawson and the Ice Men of the Heroic Age: Scott, Shackleton and Amundsen" and told him my story.

He was very interested and very obliging and not only signed my book but wrote his permission for me to use "anything I like".

Then he asked for a kiss on his cheek which I readily supplied!

I recommend that you read his books.

His books such as "Tobruk", "Kokoda" "Charles Kingsford Smith" "Batavia" and "Mawson" bring history alive.

He has written over 20 books including biographies of Nancy Wake, Les Darcy and Steve Waugh.

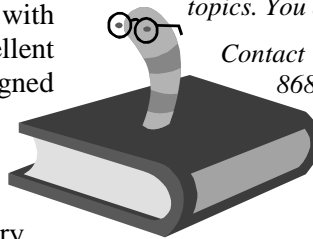
*Bookclub meets on the third Thursday night of each month. Books are supplied by Council of Adult Education in Melbourne.*

*Members pay a yearly fee for this service and select which books the group will read..*

*We have a month to read each book and then members attend the next monthly meeting to discuss that book and receive the new book for discussion .*

*The discussions are fun, friendly and often digress to associated topics. You are welcome to join us!*

Contact any member or ring Marg Cooper: 52 868201.



*The book for discussion in February is "The Guernsey Literary & Potato Pie Society" by Mary Ann Shaffer.*

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Shaun Bubb

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## **Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter**

**Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett**

6 High Street  
Bannockburn VIC 3331  
Phone: 5281 1519

### **Welcome to 2012!!**

With this being our first newsletter for 2012 I would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year! I hope that everyone had a very enjoyable Christmas and a safe New Year Year. For those of you who have made your new years resolution and are still following it a big congratulations. For those of you who may have already found it too difficult to continue, why not start again? On average if you change your habits for 40 days you won't revert back to your old ways. If you new years resolution was to quit smoking, lose weight, or just improve your health and lifestyle by making healthier decisions in life then we have a lot of products and services available at the Pharmacy to assist you with your resolution. If you would like any assistance or have any questions please do not hesitate to ask Scott or one of the girls.

### **New Giftware**

Last month we had a large clearance sale for a lot of our older gifts where took 70% off the marked retail price. There were lots of customers walking away with a great bargain. One of the main reasons for conducting a large clearance sale like this was to make room for brand new gifts. We have already started to receive some of these new lines with a new range of handbags, wallets and travel accessories now in-store. During the middle of February Scott will be visiting Salt & Pepper to buy from their new range of products which will start arriving very soon. Also at the end of February we will be flying up to Sydney to visit the Sydney Gift Fair where will be buying a lot of new gifts for the Pharmacy. So while we may be a little light on for gifts at the beginning of this month please be assured there will be lots of exciting new gift lines arriving throughout the month. Also don't forget that if you are a member of our FREE Gift Club you receive 20% off all the marked price of all our gifts which are already below the recommended retail price.

### **Welcome Patricia**

In our December newsletter you will have read that Julia left us to move to Cambodia to work in an orphanage. Since then we have had Patricia Szulc start working at the Pharmacy full time. Patricia joins us from a Pharmacy in Geelong and has fitted in very well with our Pharmacy team and if you haven't already met Patricia please feel free to make yourself know to Patricia the next time you are in the Pharmacy.

### **New Homy Ped Autumn/Winter range**

If you are after a new pair of shoes then now is a great time as we have started to get our new Autumn/Winter range in Homy Ped Shoes at the Pharmacy. Catalogues will be distributed soon advertising what shoes are available. If you don't receive our catalogues in the mail either go online to visit the Homy Ped website or call into the Pharmacy to collect a copy of the catalogue. Don't forget we still have a number of sizes available in discontinued shoes from Homy Ped where we are discounting them down by 70% or more! There are limited sizes and styles available but if we have your size then a great bargain is to be made. Don't forget to you can use your Chemmart Rewards Card when making a Homy Ped purchase as this will give you 5 cents Chemmart cash for every \$1 you spend on your Homy Ped shoes.

### **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!**

# MEREDITH CORNER STORE

Open 7 Days

Monday - Wednesday 6am - 7pm

Thursday - Saturday 6am - 8pm

Sunday 8am - 7pm

Check out our full range of take away food

- Flake
- Crab Sticks
- Calamari Rings
- Fish Cakes
- Spring Rolls
- Chiko Rolls
- Saus in Batter
- Moka Dogs
- Bonza Burgers
- Potato Cakes
- Dim Sims
- Hamburgers
- Chicken Schnitzels
- Steak Sandwiches
- Fish Burgers
- Veggie Burgers
- Chicken Wraps
- Chips & Gravy
- Chicken Wings
- Chicken Strips
- Chicken Garlic Balls
- Chicken Dim Sims



- Newsagency
- Dvd Hire
- Fishing Licence
- Bus tickets
- Ice
- Private Post Boxes
- Phone credit



## FAMILY FISH PACK

- 4 FLAKE
- 4 POT CAKES
- MIN CHIPS
- 1.25Ltr DRINK

\$20

## BURGER PACK

- 4 PLN BURGERS
- MIN CHIPS
- 1.25Ltr DRINK

\$20

## LUNCH PACK

- CHICK SNITZ BURGER
- BUCKET OF CHIPS
- CAN OF COKE

\$10

52 861 210  
Phone orders  
welcome

