

Meredith & district Newsletter



June 2012

Our Community Newsletter since 1972

Distributed FREE to district residents

Good News for the Birds

Jim Elvey

A willing group of volunteers last month planted out nearly 300 trees along a section of creek flats in the Meredith Police Paddocks. This is the seventh planting bee over the last six years; a project that is already having a noticeable effect to the attractive reserve on the edge of the township.

The Ballarat Environment Network (BEN), which manages the 20ha reserve, and the local volunteer support group, have been successful in winning grant funds from Golden Plains Shire and the Foundation for Regional and Rural Development which will allow, in the second half of this year, construction of a first stage of a gravel walking path, signage, and some seating.

It is already a very accessible and beautiful place to warm

Happy planters, Tilli, Kristin and Jovita display the spoils of another successful planting bee.

PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE PUBLICATION

up with a winter walk though, with entry points from Campion Street (with a car park) and Nuttall Street.

Another two planting bees are planned for the year, one on July 1st and the other on August 26th. Both start at 10.00 am from the Campion Street car park.

Contact Jim Elvey to receive regular updates of development at the "Paddocks" on 5286 1273

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea at Meredith

Marg Cooper

It was more like a big tea party on Wednesday May 30th at St Joseph's Parish Centre.

A warm snug room, many small round tables covered with pretty tablecloths, flowers, pretty serviettes on pretty plates, tea cups and saucers.

There were boxes of different varieties of teas to choose from, coffee and hot chocolate and food.

Sandwiches and cakes of every description, muffins, log cake, fruit cake, cup cakes with bright icing and there was Jessie's ginger fluff. Oh so delicious!

The huge variety of raffle prizes covered a whole table and tables of people tried to solve the mind bending quizzes.

Nearly everyone brought a favourite or special cup and saucer or teapot which were displayed on a table.

Some of the items had quite a history!

The crowd of over 30 women and men enjoyed the friendship, the prizes and the morning tea.

Meredith's version was organized by Diane Ritchie, Mary Foster and Jessie Osborne.

The funds raised at Meredith will be added to all the other funds raised across the country and donated to the Cancer Council.

in this issue....

- Parish Olympics
- Elaine Tennis Club Recognised
- Marg and Kevin celebrate a Golden Wedding
- Janet Turns 90

... 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

14th & 28th June 12th & 26th July

Geelong Regional Library Van

At the Meredith Community Centre

1-3pm 15th, 29th June 13th & 27th July

www.geelonglibraries.vic.gov.au

Senior Citizens

Meet at the Meredith Memorial Hall

Ph. Jim 52868 232

4th June-Hall Social 18th June bus trip

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. 27th June 2012

Earlier submissions appreciated & necessary when our input is required.



Community Contacts

Community Centre-Joan 5286 1348

Primary School-Doug 5286 1313

Kindergarten-Ruth 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



"A sure cure for seasickness is to sit under a tree."

Spike Milligan

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.

Meredith Kindergarten

Ruth Schofield-Smith



The children focused on Mothers' Day and autumn recently. They are now busy removing clay from an empty garden bed using metal spades and wheel barrows. The wheel barrows prove a balancing challenge. We shall put the clay into water this week and 'discover' change.

The children have also 'discovered' buried items in their digging and wonder what they are...how did they get there. Musical games, rhymes and great literature are being enjoyed by all.

Registration#: A0018003Y
31 Staughton Street Meredith VIC 3333
Ph: (03) 52 861227

Teesdale Primary School cordially invites you to come and Join us for High Tea.

Sunday 17th June, 2012 at Teesdale Hall from 2pm

Tickets \$25 each

Guest Speakers, Raffle, Stalls to browse and Tea from 'The Daintree'

Bookings essential.

Please contact Sue at the School office on 52815218.

The Bus that Didn't

Jim Hynds

Unfortunately the planned trip to Daylesford had to be cancelled because a volunteer bus driver could not be provided by the Shire.

Some 24 calls had to be made to members to tell them of the cancellation. Many expressed disappointment however a luncheon was hastily organised to replace the trip. Margaret Hearne made enquiries and Steve and Cath at the Top Pub (Morrows) came to our aid at very short notice. About 20 members enjoyed a fantastic 2 course meal and a roaring open fire at the Pub. Disappointment gave way to a happy mood with laughter and chatter heard throughout the afternoon.

The Golden Plains Shire is trying to recruit additional volunteer bus drivers, so if you have spare time, suitable qualifications and would enjoy a fun time with community groups such as the Meredith Senior Citizens please do not hesitate to contact the Shire. Bus trips are a vital and most enjoyable part of the Senior Citizens social calendar.



What's on in Meredith?

Advance Meredith

The "What's On" sign has been well used, is highly visible and keeps everyone travelling the Midland Highway informed of every function that is going to be held in Meredith and district.

From the start of June 2012, please contact Karen Pritchard to have your event advertised on the sign.

Please leave a note with details of the event in her mailbox in McLeod Street, hand the information to her or ring her on 52 861365 or 0400152869.

If you haven't already used the sign to advertise your event you are invited to use this free facility.

Conditions do apply.

Letters

Thank You

Thank you to all our friends for your kind expressions of sympathy on the sad and sudden loss of Barry. Barry and I enjoyed our years at Meredith and had fond memories of our time spent there.

Ronda Hyland.

Anzac Day Crowd

I refer to the photograph on the front page of the May 2012 edition of the Meredith & District Newsletter and the caption accompanying it.

I believe a caption should be a word, phrase or sentence describing the contents of the photograph to which it pertains. My pedantic nature therefore is troubled by the caption which states "A large crowd of locals braved a chilly Autumn day to observe Anzac Day in Meredith. Story p.11"

All I can see at the memorial in front of the decommissioned RSL Hall are the four members of the Catafalque party (none of whom are locals), the president of the local RSL branch, Mr. David Jones, and two of the district's veterans of the Vietnam War, Mr. John Parkinson and Mr. Tim Wood, a total of three locals.

However, out of the view of the photographer's lens, there was the largest crowd of attendees at an Anzac Day service in Meredith that I have seen in my twenty years of attending these services, and most of them were locals. Even more encouraging was the fact that this was on a day when the forecast was for a cold and miserable morning, so to have had, at my guess, between 350 and 400 people in attendance was a fitting tribute to the Anzac spirit.

Anonymous

We are extremely grateful to our regular correspondent, anonymous who, once he (surely this could only be the work of a male) overcame his pedantry, furnishes a good report of the Anzac Day ceremony. - Ed.



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 Playgroup

Come & visit us every Thursday @
Meredith Community Centre from
10am until 12 noon.

Mums, Dads, Grandparents & Carers all
welcome.

\$2 per family a week.

Play, craft, organized

For more info all Jo 0418 125 250

Meredith Community Centre, Inc.

4 Russell Street Meredith 3333

PH 5286 1348 Fax 52861 563

"Working for our community"



COURSES AT A GLANCE...in June

ABC OPEN STORY PHOTO WORKSHOPS

Wed. June 13th 11:30-2pm Free

FLEXI PATCH-QUICK QUILTS

Thurs. June 21st 10-3pm \$35 Collect mat.

OLIVE OIL MAKING

Wed. June 27th 7-9pm \$10

ALSO.....in term 3 we have our regular classes, Including: Computers on Mondays, Fitness class on Fridays, Beginners Tai Chi on Tuesdays, Meredith sew and sews on Mondays, and lots more.

Remember that early bookings are essential for all classes, so get in early.

What's News?

The past month has been a busy one with our AGM and being part of the open day at the new Bannockburn Cultural Hub, in addition to our term classes and activities. 13 community members were elected at the AGM to the Committee of Management for 2012/13. We especially welcome Johanna Klein who is the newest member of our Committee. Our guest speaker for the evening was Mary Nolan who spoke of her own personal journey and the power of the human spirit that has helped her through this journey. She also focused the importance of having had the care and concern of local community members to be there for her along the way. The Committee of Management together with the staff and volunteers of the Community Centre look forward to the coming year and appreciate suggestions and input from community members regarding classes and activities that we are able to provide for future programs.

We recently received a grant from Vicnet and the State Library of Victoria to provide training on Tablets and I pads for the Senior members of our community. Our project looks to introduce this new source of computer technology to those 55+ who may find it easier to handle as well as use for things such Internet searching, Skype, emailing, reading books, games and other applications. Let us know if you are interested in being part of these classes which will be held in a number of locations in our region.

The Community Centre was also represented at the recent Open Day held at the new Bannockburn Cultural Hub. It was good to be part of this exciting new community facility and we look forward to being able to provide courses and activities at the Hub similar to those offered at our Meredith location. We will be looking to start offering classes during the Winter term and are now looking for ideas as well as community members who are interested in offering hobby or special interest classes. There are many community members looking to continue their lifelong learning journey in our region and would appreciate being able to venture into new hobbies or interests. Please contact the Meredith Community Centre if you feel you can assist us as a tutor or volunteer.

meredithPolice**news**

Leading Senior Constable Greg Kitchen

In the May addition of the Meredith & District Newsletter, I reported the theft of a large brand new garage which had been stolen from a rural property in Duggan Road, Meredith shortly after it was delivered from the manufacturer.

On Friday the 18th May and following information and extensive investigation, I executed a Search Warrant at an address in River Drive, Teesdale where I located the garage in its complete form together with a stolen tandem trailer. As a result, two males have been formally charged with offences including Theft of the Garage, Handling Stolen Goods and Possessing the Proceeds of Crime. A 42 year old male from Teesdale and a 43 year old male from North Geelong have both been formally charged and bailed to appear at the Geelong Magistrates Court Wednesday the 27th June, 2012.

The stolen property will be returned to a very grateful owner in due course.

On Saturday the 28th April a Burglary was committed at a house in Meredith Shelford Road, Bamganie where a rifle was stolen. The victim observed two older male offenders leaving the house in a black coloured Holden utility which is believed to be a late model vehicle.

The utility is believed to have substantial damage to the driver's side from the fuel filler cap forward to the door and was described by the victims as being 'hotted up'. This vehicle left the house and travelled towards Teesdale along the Shelford Meredith Road. If this vehicle is sighted, please do not approach it or any of its occupants however if a registration number can be obtained it may be of significant value.

Again, I urge people although living in the country to be mindful of firearm security and also home security.

Regards again

Greg Kitchen. Leading Senior Constable,
Meredith Police Station.

BLUG LIGHT DISCO

The Meredith Blue Light disco was run on Friday the 1st of June (details Next edition) and a second will be scheduled for the next school term. Details will be available at the Meredith Store and the Meredith Primary School.

I hope to see as many primary school kids from Meredith, Elaine and the surrounding areas as possible at the 'Blue Light'.

WANTED MENTORS

Can you remember a positive role model in your life when you were growing up, someone outside of your family who was a great supportive person to talk to?

Are you looking to give something back and make your community even stronger?

Would you like to positively support a local young person to develop to their full potential for just 2 hours a month? Then why not get involved with the mates Mentoring Program!

Programs are starting up and we are recruiting now in Ballarat (Mt. Clear Secondary College). Such programs have been implemented in schools across the Southern Mallee and Wimmera region with outstanding success. If you would like assistance in starting a program in your area, please contact us.

For more information and to get a Mentor Application pack sent out to you, please contact Daniel Smart on 03 5336 5021 or 0419 535 326 or email dsmart@highlandsllen.org

This program exists due to the strong volunteer support of the local community.

A Kitchen Renovation

Joan Brick

The Meredith Community Centre is in the midst of renovating the kitchen area thanks to funding received from successful grants from the Department of Human Services and Golden Plains Shire. Over the years the Community Centre has outgrown our "cosy little kitchen" and the need was for a practical area to conduct cooking classes. With our new upgraded kitchen we look to provide an area that will meet the needs of the community with regard to classes and future catering for various events. We will look to have a open day when renovations are completed with all community welcome to join in our celebrations!



Frosty at the window and Jimmy (Luke Skywalker - in between inter-galactic missions?) beginning the renovations of the Meredith Community Centre kitchen.



Moorabool Valley Masters F.C.

Chris Hart

Crushing Crocs feed on Crays

In early May the Crocs headed off to Wodonga intent on reversing the outcome of their road trip to the Murray Crays last year.



With only 16 players, most of whom came out the over 47s team, the prospects of victory seemed unlikely. The Crays' run and share with handball, coupled with the Crocs wastefulness, especially around goal, was setting up what appeared to be a one sided no contest.

The insertion of Doopa and Springer into the midfield were inspired coaching moves and gradually the Crocs were able to restrict the influence of the opposition onballers.

Sandy Cameron was closing down the Murray forwards while Sammy Saya and Phil Unsworth had taken control of the wings and were passing the ball precisely into the forward line to the inaccurate Scott Cowie. By the end of the third stanza the Crocs had worked their way back into the contest and were carrying the momentum into the final quarter. Pedo and Trof had shut down the Cray's half forward line allowing Sid to continue driving the ball inside 50. Cowie (3.8) finally got his kicking boots on the right feet and the Crocs were able to sneak away to win by 16 points- 11.12 to 10.2. Also among the better contributors were the five players lent to the Crocs by the Crays all of whom seemed equally keen to celebrate a victory over their team mates.

The Murray Masters provided an outstanding meal for the players, then followed an evening of celebrating that drained the last of the energy reserves from the weary combatants.

In round 4 the Crocs hosted the Gippsland Tigers which marked the successful home debut of the clubs over 47s side. The travelling Tigers proved no match for the Crocs in either match with resounding victories recorded by both the over 35s side and the over 47s; results which were enthusiastically appreciated by the good sized crowd.

In the main game the Crocs struggled to shake off a tenacious Tiger outfit for the majority of the first half. With scores level at the first break and small lead at the main interval it looked as if the home side was in for a stern test. The junior Crocs broke the game open in the second half as their opponents began to tire. The relentless efforts of Michael Dagg, Paul Simpson and Aaron Newel eventually suffocated the tigers resolve

and the Crocs kicked away to record a comprehensive 54 point victory 15.6:96 to 6.6:42. Ashley (Grippa) Perkins was best on ground- his four goal return a just reward for his four quarter effort in the midfield. Doopa reinforced his leadership credentials with another lead from the front display in the centre. Damian Priddle, Steve Mileto and Tim Booley were also amongst the better contributors in an even performance against a team that has recently posed problems for the Moorabool Valley side.

The early game found the senior Crocs rarely troubled by score board pressure but such was not the case on the field. The Gippsland Tigers strong attack on the ball and precise clearance work at the stoppages, helped to reduce the ruck dominance of Wayne Tyquin who was also exerting his aerial superiority around the ground. Sandy Cameron and Col Mullane were regularly turning defense into attack from the full back line as the visitors frequently pushed forward to no avail. The Moorabool Valley onballers were dominating around the ground. With Tyquin, Sid and Gary Polglaze driving the ball forward to a rampant Cowie, the margin on the scoreboard growing steadily throughout the game. Peter Blacklock moved forward late in the game and contributed 3 majors but it was Cowie with 8 goals and numerous assists who was the irresistible force in front of the sticks. All 23 players contributing to ensure a winning margin just shy of the century- 19.14:128 to 5.4:34

There is still plenty of room in both teams for additional players. Anybody interested in a game is invited to join in training at the Rec Reserve from 6.00 on Wednesdays.

The Crocs will also be celebrating "a decade of dominance" with a 10 year reunion at Capri Receptions in North Geelong on July 20th. All past players, their partners, officials and supporters are invited to attend (details available from the club).

GO CROCS

Meredith Golf Club

Ladies

1.05.12 Ladies Foursome

Winner: B Perry, M Diffy 57-12

Runner up T Mitchell, N O'Brien 54- 12 3/8

08.05.12 9 hole Stableford

Winner: N O'Brien 18 pts

Runner up K Rosch 16 pts

15.05.12 Ambrose Event

Winner: M Diffey, C Powles, 46-9 1/2-36 1/2

Runner up K Rosch, N O'Brien 46-7 3/8-38 5/8

22.05.12 1st Rnd Championships

sports

Winner : M Diffy 118-43-75
 Runner up C Powles 116-34-82
 Putts C Powles 31 NTP 2nd-C Powles 10th-K Rosch
29.05.12 2nd Rnd Championships
 Winner : C Powles 110-34-76
 Runner up M Diffy 127-43-76
 NTP 9th K Rosch

Mens

05.05.12/06.05.12 Stableford

Winner: D Gear 40 pts Runner up S Wilson 40 pts
 Runner up M Macri 39pts
 NTP 14th M Colvin
 12.05.12

Winner: A Slocombe 33 pts

Runner up C Osborne 32 pts

19.05.12 Club Championships

A Grade S Wilson 78, B Moritz 86

B Grade G Sedgeman 86 D Gear 99

C Grade M Macri 112 C Osborne 122

Putting comp

Winner B Moritz 21 putts

Winner G Sedgeman 86-21-65 nett

State Recognition for Club



Tennis Victoria has advised the Elaine Tennis Club it has been shortlisted as a finalist in the Most Outstanding Club, Centre, Association or School award category of the 2012 Victorian Tennis Awards.

This is a remarkable achievement and well earned recognition of the fine job Shane Dunne and others have carried out in recent times in resurrecting a long lapsed club to a vibrant and successful group of junior and senior teams. The Club will be represented at a gala presentation dinner later this month in the MCC Members Dining Room

It also happens to coincide with the 25th anniversary of Pat Cash's Wimbledon victory which will be celebrated with a video link up with the man himself.

Tennis Victoria's advice of the nomination stated "...there are so many wonderful things happening in tennis that picking finalists was an extremely tough job." All the more credit to Elaine and we extend a hearty congratulations to the Club.

Meredith Parish Olympics

Diane Ritchie

St Joseph's Catholic Parish of Meredith held its own version of the Olympics on Sunday May 6th at Lawson Park, Inverleigh.

The competing teams were Meredith, Anakie, Bannockburn and Winchelsea. The day commenced at 11 am with an outdoor Mass, followed by a picnic or barbeque lunch enjoyed in the lovely surroundings.

At 1.30 pm after the March Past of the four Teams behind their banners, Father Herman announced, "Let The Games Begin".

The competition was fierce in the running events, the throwing events and the team events. The tunnel ball and the paper plane throwing were hits and the finale was the Tug of War, which had to be rescheduled when the rope being used snapped in the middle. After a very large knot was tied in the rope, the winners were Winchelsea. Gold, silver and bronze medals were awarded along with copious amounts of lollies.

After the closing March Past the overall trophy winners were announced as Winchelsea, equal second were Meredith, Anakie and Bannockburn.

A great day was had by all with calls for a repeat in 2013. (They can't wait for another 4 years!)



Mother and Daughter Celebration

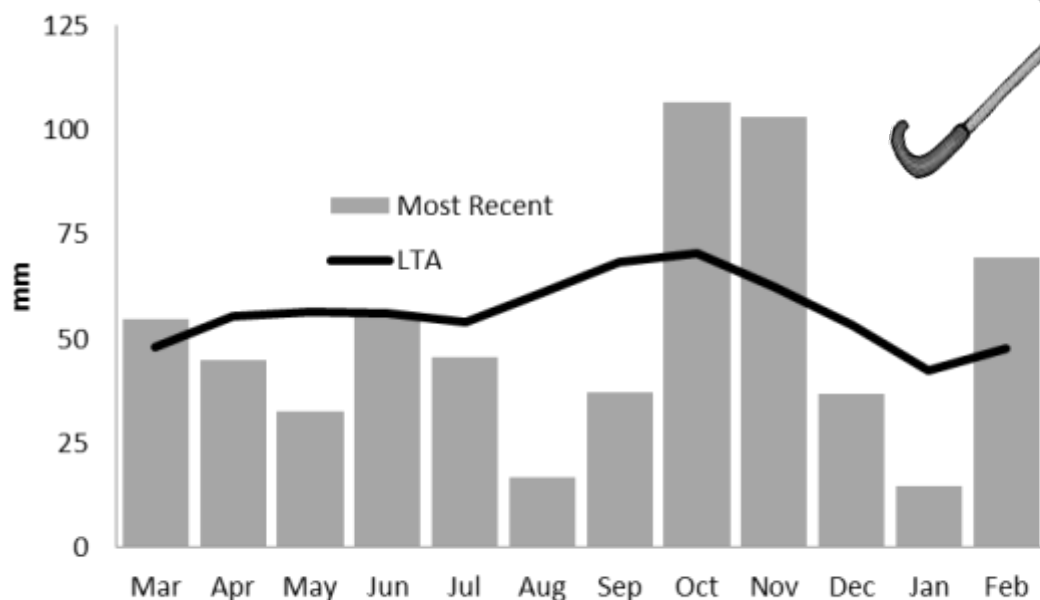
On the eve of Mother's Day, St Joseph's Parish brought mothers, daughters, grand mothers, grand daughters, nieces and aunts together, from all over the parish from Meredith to Winchelsea for a celebration of motherhood with an afternoon out at Amaz'n games at Wallington.

After a barbeque lunch, cakes and coffee, family groups tried their hand and eye at the great mini golf course, the fun maze and giant chess as well as lots of fun indoor games.

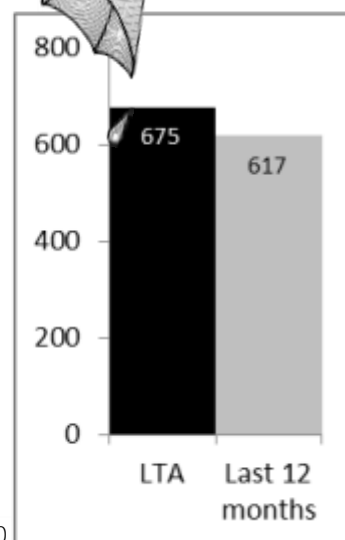
Squeals of laughter rang out as 2 year olds decided to play in the water trap instead of hitting the pink golf ball with a 30 cm golf stick and many sighs of frustration were heard as scores of 16+ were recorded on a par 3 hole. It was a very special afternoon and the Mums were given a long stemmed red rose to thank them for just being a "Mum" as the families packed up for home, ready to celebrate again the next day, which was Mother's day.

Autumn Breaks

Well, it was hardly an Autumn 'break', given summer broke first, but it was a good season for anyone (or thing) depending on rain. The season's 121mm was 84% of the long term average (LTA) and, as the side chart shows, the past year is not far off that same benchmark.



Based on BOM data. The long term average (LTA) is calculated from 1875 to 2010



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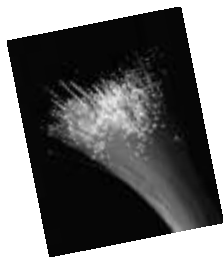
ADDRESS:.....

PHONE:

ABN:..... ENCLOSED:.....

Send to Treasurer: Phil Rendell, 85 Glenetive Rd. Bamganie 3333





It is Coming

Jim Elvey

It is galling that most in our readership district can only access what is called "ADSL1" services or worse, and these are offered at the same or higher price than the much faster "ADSL2" services that have been around for larger towns for some time. Most can also access "ADSL2+" or other, even faster variants if not cable services.

By way of comparison, ADSL in our area seems to have a maximum capacity for data delivery of 1.5 million "bits" per second (Mbps). (A test of the connection where I am writing this, indicates a 'line speed' - capacity - of 1.2 Mbps and an actual performance of .6 Mbps.) One regional provider's web site states network tests indicate "...50% of users obtain speeds of 12Mbps or above" for their ADSL2 customers.

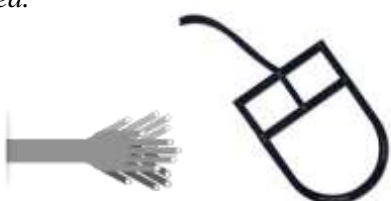
So, the coming National Broadband Network (NBN) is of particular interest to district residents and businesses who regularly use an internet connection.

But finding out about *what* and *when*, is wrought with difficulties, as there are a myriad of variables. As much as we have been able to glean, the NBN roll out should be substantially completed by 2015 and, for our district, will offer a "fixed wireless" service which will transmit data from a local tower to a personal antenna. If distance or topography inhibits transmission, a "satellite broadband" service will be provided. There is already an "interim satellite service" which is available to those who can't get a reasonable commercial service where they live.

One reference from the sprawling NBN web site says "peak speeds" up to 12 Mbps can be provided by these technologies, but it is unclear if that applies to both. Nothing like the staggering 1 gigabit per second (that's 1,024 Mbps) cable service to be eventually offered to towns with a population over 1,000 people, but a big improvement nonetheless.

Federal MP Darren Cheeseman's office told us the next round of announcements regarding the fixed wireless roll-out will be in the last quarter of this year and 'hopefully' Meredith will be included. Typically, construction starts around 12 months after the announcement and completed within three months.

If you want to find out more, visit nbn.gov.au or, for an indication of current services available to your address, go to <http://bcoms.dbcde.gov.au/NBNBSL>. And let us know your experiences of, and expectations for broadband to this area.



Tell us if you have any
Community News,
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See info panel on page 2
for contact details.

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- thinking outside the square and
- are we the backbone of the country?



Mark has been a very successful farmer in New Zealand and has been travelling around Australia helping property owners.

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*All prices include GST and are subject to change and availability. **Delivery day will be set by Elaine Farm Supplies and will be limited to 50km radius.

Janet Cooke Celebrates her 90th

Marg Cooper

Janet is the daughter of Robert and Catherine Deans and grew up at "Kylloe", their farm on Deans Road.

She has an older brother Keith and a younger brother Robert.

After finishing State School Janet travelled to Geelong by train to learn millinery, dressmaking and needlework at the Gordon Technical School.

She tells that she rode her bike into Meredith to catch the ¼ to 8 o'clock train to Geelong in the mornings and rode her bike home after arriving at Meredith on the late afternoon train.

She left her bike at the home of the Assistant Station Master, Mr Judd. She only attended in 1st and 3rd terms as it would have been impossible to ride the bike to and from the station in the winter in the dark. She still has her mother's Singer Treadle Sewing Machine that she learnt to sew on.

After completing the course she made garments for Meredith ladies on that same machine.

She started playing golf when she was 15 years old.

Mrs Kay Cameron and Jill Bolte would pick her up at the end of Deans Road.

Sometimes it was a tight fit in the single seater car with 3 people in the front.

Janet tells that she played a lot of golf.

She held all offices at the Meredith Golf Club, very capably and had been a member for over 30 years when she was awarded a Life Membership of the club.

She is the only woman to be honoured with a Life Membership of the Meredith Golf Club. Janet remembers that she was Ladies President when the Golf Club ran a huge garden party at the home of Sir Henry and Dame Edith Bolte. Over \$3,000 was raised to build the septic toilets at the new golf house.

Janet married Lloyd Cooke in 1945. She tells that her kitchen tea was held in the Shire Hall about the time that PEACE was declared.

Janet was a dedicated member of Meredith CWA. She especially enjoyed the craft and even after she moved to Geelong in 1989 Mavis Griffiths and a group of ladies met at her home to learn new crafts.

She played tennis in Meredith in her younger days and later took up bowls. She played firstly at Bannockburn where she won the Club Championship 3 times, then played at Geelong West for 1 year where she was in the winning B Grade Pennant Team and won the B Grade Championship, then played at Geelong where she was in a team that was runner-up in the Victorian State Fours and she won the Club Championship in 1990-91.

Janet went out for lunch to Geelong Football Club with her family on April 13th, the day of her 90th birthday.

A party was held on Saturday April 21st at All Saints Parish Hall in Noble Street for her family and friends.

She tells that ½ of the people of Meredith were there, that her son Robert and his wife Wendy and their family did a great deal of work to organize the party and that she was delighted when 2 of her great grand daughters sat by her for afternoon tea.

Janet tells that she doesn't feel 90 years of age and that if you have your health, age doesn't come into it!

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For your gardening delight: herb aficionado:

Penny Woodward

Saturday July 7th

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Meredith Community Centre

Tickets \$20



Penny will be talking us through the ease and delight of growing herbs and using them to create natural and effective garden remedies.

Penny is an established garden writer and photographer who has written seven popular books about herbs, vegetables and other useful plants. These include *Herbs for Australian Gardens* and *Growing Easy Herbs for Beauty, Fragrance and Flavour*. Penny writes freelance articles on gardening and plants, especially for Organic Gardener magazine, and takes all the photos for her books and articles. She is part of the panel for the 3CR gardening show. To learn more about Penny

visit <http://www.pennywoodward.com.au/>

For all queries and bookings please contact Jo Klein on
0438828042 or email: jokleincoaching@hotmail.com

Upcoming Workshops:

Relationships: Take time out from the hectic pace of life to reflect deeply on your relationships. Where are they at? How could they improve and move towards soul depth and greater intimacy? June 17th 11am-4.30pm. 1 Oberon Dve, Belmont. \$95 per person. Includes lunch.

Why Diets Don't Work! Emotional Eating and Self Soothing: Change your relationship with food and eating by exploring the deeper unconscious emotional reasons and belief systems causing you to overeat. July 1st, 11am-4.30pm, 1 Oberon Dve, Belmont. \$95 per person. Includes lunch.

Penny Woodward: herbal guru and gardening author speaking about the ease of growing herbs at home and using them for natural garden remedies. July 7th Meredith 10am and Geelong 2pm. \$20 per person. See ad this issue.

Stress & Anxiety: A deep exploration of the signs, symptoms of Stress & Anxiety, how to find relief from suffering and most importantly how to prevent falling into these thought patterns. July 15th, 1 Oberon Dve, Belmont. \$95 per person. Includes lunch.

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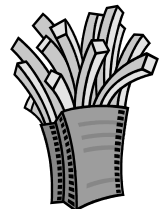
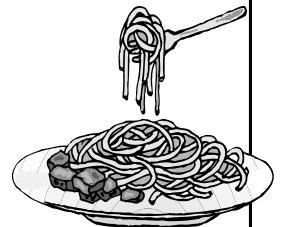
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50 Years Married*Marg Cooper*

Margaret and Kevin Parkinson celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on Saturday May 5.

The couple were married at Our Lady Help of Christians, Korobeit Catholic Church on 5/5/1962.

The bridesmaids were Peggy Parkinson and Tricia Shanahan and the groomsmen were Arnaud Hall and Des Shanahan.

Their reception was held in the Myrniong Hall and they honeymooned in Mt Gambier for a week.

Margaret grew up at Myrniong and Kevin was known for his quick trips from Morrison to Myrniong to court the young Miss Shanahan.

After their marriage they lived in Ballan and ran the service station on the corner of Daylesford Road.

Margaret and Kevin celebrated with a lunch at their home in Staughton Street with their children, grandchildren and their own brothers and sisters and their partners.

About 40 people gathered to congratulate them and to wish them many more years together.

They also had a few days away and toured to Apollo Bay and along the coast to Port Fairy.

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Rotary Bowelscan Kits (now available)

Rotary Bowelscan Kits are now available for just \$10.00. As mentioned in last months newsletter they are normally available in May each year but this year they have had to delay them until June.

It is strongly recommended that ALL men and women over the age of 40 to have a Bowelscan EVERY YEAR.

So if you would like to undertake this screening then please come and buy a Bowelscan kit from the Pharmacy for just \$10.00 and then, once completed, you simply return it to the Pharmacy for private collection.

Weight Management

Don't you want to try and keep the weight off this Winter? Then let us help you. At our Kate Morgan Weight Loss Centre our fully qualified staff can sit down with you and explain the benefits of the Kate Morgan Weight Loss program and how it can assist you to lose those extra kilos. It is a very affordable and easy program to follow and most importantly there is a lot of variety within the program so you don't get bored. No appointment is necessary so if you would like to know more then please call in and ask to speak to one of our Kate Morgan consultants.

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We have demonstration model at the Pharmacy which you can borrow for up to a week to try for yourself with no commitment to buy. Plus from the 3rd June until 14th July Actegy Health is offering customers a **\$50 cash back** when they purchase the Revitive Circulation Booster.

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 Sunday: Closed
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Welcome to

MEREDITH PRIMARY SCHOOL

May and June see the start of a range of sporting events happening around the district. We have had a number of students running at various cross country events with 7 students making it through to the Corio Districts event which is a great achievement. Three of these students, **Amy Canavan, Steph Ferry and Bronwyn Peters** qualified for the Division Cross Country held at the Eastern Gardens. Amy (1st), and Steph (8th) will now compete at the region cross country. Bronwyn ran a terrific race and just missed out on going to the next stage.

We also had a number of students selected in the Moorabool Valley (Anakie, Inverleigh, Lethbridge, Meredith, Shelford & Teesdale schools) combined Netball and Football teams. In very trying conditions they took part in a lightning premierships competition. The netball team just missed out on the finals while for the second year running the football team won the title.

Students & parents at Geelong Grammar for the district cross country

We've also been featured in the recent edition of the department's "**Inspire**" magazine. Ben Gallagher has been doing some very innovative work with technology and has been running "student conferences" online. These involve linking up with other children around the world presenting on topics they are passionate about. Ben will be heading to the United States of America later this term on a study tour and will be presenting at a technology conference while there. It's terrific to see our students being exposed to these types of opportunities and well done again to Ben who was also named the education department's technology "Innovator of the Month" for June.

PHOTOS OMITTED FROM
ONLINE PUBLICATION

Ben and students

Mother's Day also gave our students a chance to be creative and thank their mums for the terrific things they do with great cards and gifts. A huge thank you to all the mums and nans from Grade4—6 who braved a chilly night to participate in a night of pampering organised by the year 4to 6 students. The children had been busy throughout the day preparing cupcakes and surprises for the event. After light supper and cuppa, served up by the children, photos were taken and mums were whisked away to enjoy a peaceful hand pampering session while the children created lovely cards using their photos and adding personal decorations and messages of appreciation. Mums also had the opportunity to chat and meet other mums throughout the evening while being served refreshments by the children. Special thanks to teachers Fairlie Pritchard and Simone Edmiston for coming up with the idea and running the night.

Mums' Pampering Night



It's History

DESTRUCTIVE FIRE AT STEIGLITZ. STEIGLITZ, SUNDAY.

A block of buildings - embracing Gill's Coffee Palace, Dr. Scott's residence, and M'Clellan's grocery store - was totally destroyed by fire about 4 o'clock this morning. The cause is not known, but the fire originated in the billiard-room of the coffee palace, a large wooden building of 25 rooms. Ellis's drapery shop opposite was saved with difficulty. The whole of the buildings are owned by Mr. Eyre, of Melbourne, and are insured in the South Australian Company for £1,000. Mr. Gill's stock and furniture were insured for £600 in the Northern and Sun, Mr. M'Clellan's for £80 in the Northern, but Dr. Scott was uninsured. Very little was saved, there being no water supply, and the inmates only escaped with difficulty. The estimated total loss is £2,000.

From The Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1956) Monday 9 September 1895 Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group

Saturday Night in Steiglitz.

Part 1 of a very descriptive report in The Steiglitz Miner August 1, 1894 written by "Fossicker"

Steiglitz is at its best on a Saturday night, but the lamps of Regent and Clow Street are not particularly bright and their gleams are reflected fitfully on the slippery footpaths and the muddy roadways.

But despite of darkness and cold, steep streets and slippery paths, there is a vigorous life in Steiglitz to which most country towns in Victoria are at present strangers.

The life is, of course, the life of a new goldfield, and the life to be seen is that of men unrefined by much feminine companionship.

Regent Street officially commences at the Coffee Palace. Above that is all void and blackness. At the Coffee Palace the lights are bright and the bar is well-filled.

For the coffee palace is also a wine saloon. And the wine consumed there would be quite abnormal for a town to say nothing of a goldfield. The wine is good, however, and possibly that may account for it.

A glass of hot spiced gives a man a comfortable glow on nights like these in this thin air.

From the interior come the sounds of music and sing-song and merrymaking. It is not pleasant to leave the fireside for the whistling, marrow freezing wind outside.

Around us, indistinct and vague there rises up the monotonous undertone of the stampers, an unconscious source and accompaniment of all this life in Steiglitz.

Towards the south there is only darkness and the abandonment of the day. There are no people there. The lovers, who seek a little solitude and seclusion, are behind fire-lit curtains somewhere. I saw their shadows on one or two as I passed.

The shops on either side as we come down are little oasis of light; in one are men selecting duds: in another more men reading from a slip of papers their week's list of groceries.

The Post and Telegraph office is just closing, opposite a few figures pass between us and the open doorway of the Free Library.

The Geelong coach has drawn in under the high archway of Cobb's stable : and opposite Ward's horses are champing in their stalls, freed for one whole day from the labour of the Meredith Road.

Hairdressers with hotel-keepers are busy to-night; in both streets the knights of the razor are hard at work reaping the stubble off chins that must at least be smooth for Sunday.

Having had a shave the next thing to be done, of course, is to go and have a drink. First at one hotel and then at the other. A bar full of men: 50 voices speaking at once, a babel of sound in an infinite variety of tones, flying bartenders and clattering silver.

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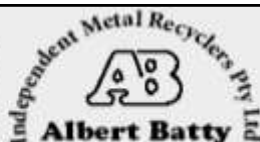
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Advance Meredith

Marg Cooper

The Advance Meredith met on Saturday 26th May at the Parish Centre. Discussions included the upgrading of the signs depicting the historical sites on the Meredith walk, many of the current ones having become so degraded as to be illegible, and a new interpretive sign to be placed at the start of the Middleton Walk.

Some heritage style street signs have been purchased awaiting installation, as well as a seat which is proposed it be placed near the playground at Pioneer Park. We are awaiting more tree guards for trees for the highway.

A fitness circuit, which is also a proposal from the Community Coordinators, was discussed and with input from Tim Woods, a qualified fitness instructor, a 9 station plan was put forward as the most appropriate. The proposal is that it be installed near the Recreation Reserve/ Pioneer Park so that it can be used by the various sporting clubs as well as the School and individuals. The total cost of the project will be \$25,000. Already available is seed funding of \$5,000 from the current Community Plan, and \$5000 from the Meredith Music Festival. A further grant and donations will make up the remainder. Any enquiries should be directed to Damian Waight at the Golden Plains Shire, ph. 5227011.

New Community Plan A new Community Plan is due to be formulated this year. Please give your input as to what you would like to see for Meredith in the next 2 years. Suggestion boxes will be placed at various business locations in the town for you to place your ideas for projects that will benefit the town to continue make it an attractive, liveable happy community.

Next meeting: Saturday 30th June at 1pm at the St. Joseph's Parish Centre. Everyone is very welcome to attend.



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Meredith History Interest Group

Marg Cooper

Steam Trains through Meredith

An article in the Geelong Advertiser on Saturday May 12 reported that the Geelong, Golden Plains, Moorabool and Ballarat Councils have all shown a strong interest in pursuing the idea of supporting heritage trains on the Geelong to Ballarat line after the huge success of the 150 year celebrations. Geelong Council has allocated \$10,000 for a feasibility study for a tourist operation. Councillor John Doull said that the \$10,000 would be used to develop a business plan for a heritage railway service between Geelong and Ballarat.

It also comes as the State Government continues to investigate the possibility of a return of passenger services on the line and beyond to Bendigo via Meredith, Maryborough and Castlemaine.

Cr Doull said that the Geelong to Ballarat line was a unique piece of infrastructure with high quality engineering and design elements. It is of great state and national significance and has the potential to grow into an international tourism opportunity.

Imagine trips on steam trains and tourists coming to the town!!

Have You Got a Photo?

Leo Schefferle was born at Dettingen, Switzerland in 1842. He arrived in Geelong at the age of 18 years and became one of the earliest vigneron in the Maude/Darriwell area.

He did a considerable trade with Geelong and also supplied Steiglitz.

After the destruction of the vineyards he engaged in mixed farming and dairying.

He married Pauline Wilhelmina Baensch in 1867 and they had 11 children. She died in 1895.

He married Sarah Parker in 1896 and they had 2 sons, Ernest Llewellyn b. 1898 and Edward Arnold b. 1900.

Sandra Crockett is researching her family tree and would like a photo of Ernie and Arnie Schefferle who lived most of their lives in Wallace Street Meredith.

Masonic Lodge

Because the Masonic Lodge is for sale and MHIG may have to evacuate the premises at any time and because the heaters were removed, it is impossible to schedule any events in there, at least during the winter. We invite you to call in to the Masonic Centre on the last Thursday of the month after 9 am to help catalogue, to look at the collection or to talk history.

We have a few small heaters that will keep a few of us warm if we meet in the kitchen with the doors shut.

Grant Applications

MHIG has recently applied for 2 grants. If we are successful with our applications the first grant would let us document all the houses and land in Meredith and the second grant would let us honour the "Moranghurk" Soldier Settlers.

We would welcome help with these projects

If you can start the day without
caffeine,

If you can always be cheerful,
ignoring aches and pains,

If you can resist complaining
and boring people with your
troubles,

If you can eat the same food
every day and be grateful for it,

If you can understand when your
loved ones are too busy to give you
any time,

If you can take criticism and blame
without resentment ,

If you can conquer tension without
medical help,

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Wish You Were Here!

After a long and frosty week of waiting by the mailbox, I had to come to a rather sad conclusion. Not only had the Floods flown off to sunny Queensland on a family holiday with only half the family on board, but they were having too much fun to send me a postcard!

As grumpy as I was to be left at home with my uni books, I could understand why only Mum, Dad and the younger Floods were off to enjoy the sun, sea and delights of Dreamworld. To be fair, the last time I accompanied my family to Queensland I came down with a miserable case of the flu the very second the old silver Tarago turned off Bamganie Road. As I'm sure you can imagine, I was an absolutely charming car companion for the entire long, long drive. Alternating between whimpering, grumbling and weeping pathetically into my box of cold and flu tablets, when we finally reached our beautiful destination I sniffled and shuffled along the beach for a bit before gratefully catching a plane home by myself. Since then, oddly enough, family holiday

invites have been a bit thin on the ground.

When you think about it, family holidays don't only give us sunburn and squabbles, but a fascinating insight into human development. As children grow in to surly adolescents, they no longer shriek with glee and run off to find their boogie board when family holidays are mentioned. If they are dragged along against their will, favourite holiday activities include sulking, sleeping and glowering at everybody. When gloomy teenagers grow in to penniless young adults they jump at the chance of a cheap holiday, seemingly immune to the perpetual embarrassment

formerly brought on by the existence of parents. Eventually, these young adults might settle down, have children of their own, and promptly book tickets to Queensland. It's the

circle of family holiday life.

When I remember the best moments of my family holidays, Jetstar and tropical resorts don't feature highly. Instead, I remember my family and the families of my best friends packing up and driving to Port Fairy in convoy, taking over a good sized portion of the caravan park and needing kilos of fish and chips to feed us all. I remember the time a substantial number of the population of Meredith were swept out to sea at Bawley Point, and how we dripped and cried and hugged when we all made it back to shore.

I remember camping out at Morrisons in a crowd of tents, our clothes and hair smelling of wood smoke and wedge-tailed eagles circling lazily high up in the sky when we ate our barbecued bacon and eggs in the morning. I remember having the time and space and freedom to run and laugh and swim and generally muck around with the people I love best. It was even more fun than Movie World.



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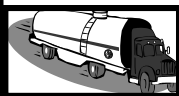
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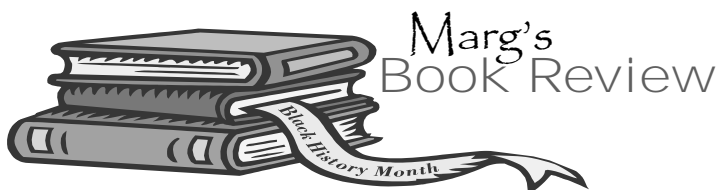
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"Shadowboxing" by Tony Birch

Tony Birch was born in inner-city Melbourne, into a large family of Aboriginal, West Indian and Irish descent. His upbringing was challenging and difficult and much of this is captured in this book, the semi-autobiographical Shadowboxing.

He was altar boy and exceptional student at his local primary Catholic School but he went off the rails as a teenager and was expelled from two schools for fighting. Although somewhat adrift following his expulsions he remained a voracious reader.

When he returned to night school to complete his studies he met his mentor, Anne Misson who told him, "You'll be great, but only if you work your arse off". He continues to live by that credo.

Through his Outreach work he visits many schools to speak to students and takes particular pleasure in returning to the two schools that expelled him, as both of his previous books are on the syllabus.

Shadowboxing consists of 10 stories or chapters dealing with the life of Michael Byrne as he grows from adolescence to maturity in inner Melbourne and his difficult and turbulent relationship with his father. The writing is spare in that there are many jumps in the stories and revelations are often made only briefly and in passing but overall the scene of hardship is drawn.

Various chapters tell of the family moving back to the city to a rented house from Clunes, Michael's father teaching him to box against his wishes, of men bashing their wives after drinking bouts and the locals turning a blind eye, of the abortionist in their suburb, of looking forward to the return of Father Christmas on the Woolworth's building in the city, of stealing cars and joyriding, of the death of his mate, of visiting the Cemetery, of finding his father after many years and their reunion etc.

One of the most poignant chapters tells of systematic demolition of large parts of Fitzroy to make way for huge housing commission flats. The Byrne family become victims of this process and lose their community.

A Review of Tony Birch's latest book "Blood" tells that it is a compelling gothic odyssey that explores landscape, place and the "ties that bind". The book for discussion in June is "About a Boy" by Nick Hornby.



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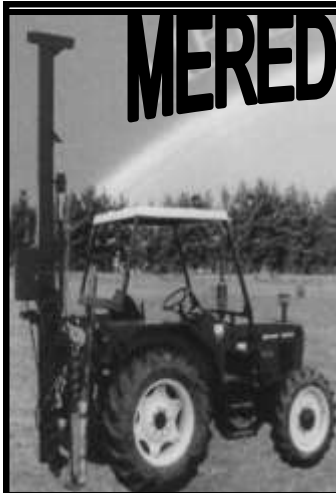
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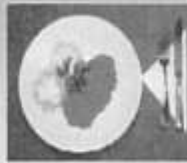
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