

Meredith & district Newsletter



May 2013

Our Community Newsletter since 1972

Distributed FREE to district residents



Anzac Service Meredith 2013

David Jones

The annual ANZAC Service was conducted at the Meredith Memorial Hall and despite a few technical hitches with the audio system, was a resounding success.

Over 200 people attended and all were impressed by the location of the Cenotaph which had only recently been relocated from the old RSL Hall. The Order of Service was similar to previous years and the Guest Speaker was local identity Tim Wood who spoke with emotion about the trials and tribulations of being a Defence Force Member and the effects on other family members. He outlined the dark days of the Gallipoli campaign and recalled how he was involved as an extra in the making of the movie 'ANZACS'.

At the conclusion of the ceremony the traditional march was led by three members carrying flags of the Navy, Army and Air Force with marching music provided by Donna Murrell. After the laying of wreaths at the Cenotaph all enjoyed morning tea and refreshments provided by the Meredith Primary School PFA.

Above, part of the large Meredith crowd marching on Anzac Day this year, and below, the ceremony at the cenotaph's new site.



in this issue....

- Visitors' Centre wants your stuff
- Roy Trotter's Advice: "Don't Worry"
- The Corindhap Sculptures
- Amy's No. 1
- Another "Shady" Dog Story

... and the usual more!

e: news@meredithnews.com.au

w: www.meredithnews.com.au

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PAGES



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

news@meredithnews.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 \$25.00 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: news@meredithnews.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.



connect

There are lots of special interest groups in the district. Make a call and **connect** - *you'll be glad you did.* (And let us have any corrections or additions.)

ADVANCE MEREDITH

☎5286 1291

ANGLING CLUB

☎5354 3879

BLUE LIGHT DISCO

☎5286 1222

BOOK CLUB

☎5286 8201

CFA (000 for fire calls)

Elaine

☎0417 533516

Meredith

☎5286 1502

CHILDCARE

☎5286 1348

COMMUNITY CENTRE

☎5286 1348

CRICKET

Elaine

☎0428 264103

Meredith

☎5286 1434

Junior

☎0400 078752

CUBS & SCOUTS

Anakie

☎5281 9497

CWA

☎5286 1559

FILM GROUP

☎5286 1274

FOOTBALL

(seniors)

☎0408 545246

(juniors)

☎0430 587674

GOLF CLUB

☎5341 5748

HISTORY GROUP

☎5286 8201

LANDCARE

☎5286 1250

LIFE DRAWING

☎0430 318322

MEMORIAL HALL

☎5286 1545

MOTOR CYCLE CLUB

☎0437 009250

PLAYGROUP

☎5286 1348

POLICE

PADDOCKS

☎5286 1273

RED CROSS

☎5286 8222

RSL

☎52861 452

SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB

☎5286 8232

TENNIS

Elaine

☎0448 291074

Meredith

☎5286 1211

SEW 'N' SEWS

☎5286 1348

emergency

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

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

services

CEMETERY TRUST

☎5286 1550

HALL HIRE

Meredith Memorial

☎5286 1545

Elaine Mechanics

☎5241 5596

Elaine Rec Res

☎5341 5703

LIBRARY VAN

☎5272 6010

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

☎5220 7230

PRE-SCHOOL

☎5286 1227

PRIMARY SCHOOL

☎5286 1313

RECREATION RESERVE

☎0429 841399



"If death meant just leaving the stage long enough to change costume and come back as a new character... would you slow down? Or speed up?"

Chuck Palahniuk

...or start something.



If you have a special interest you would like to share with like minded people, let us know and we will help you get it started.



Community

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Di Richie

You are invited to join us to help raise funds for the important work of fighting cancer.

This year is the 20th year of this important event. It is to be held on Thursday May 23rd. at 10 a.m. at Meredith Community Centre. Join us for fun, games and competitions- bring your favourite tea cup and saucer, teapot and this year your tea cosy!!!

This year we have a guest speaker for the first time: Bill Weeks from Coco Monkey is a very inspiring speaker and he will speak on the topic "**Laughter is the Best Medicine**".

Entry is by Gold Coin Donation but there will be lots of raffles and silent auctions so we aim to raise as much money as possible for this fight against cancer. Please bring all your friends and a small plate of morning tea.

Meredith Cemetery Trust

The Meredith Cemetery Trust is seeking expressions of interest from suitably qualified members of the community who would be interested in serving on the trust.

Cemetery Trust members are appointed by the Governor in Council and are responsible to the Minister for Health for the proper and efficient management of public cemeteries under the control of the trust.

The appointment to the Meredith Cemetery Trust is honorary and will be for a term of up to 5 years. Current and previous cemetery trust members may apply for reappointment as part of a competitive selection process.

To register your interest, please contact the Secretary by writing to:

The Secretary, Meredith Cemetery Trust, PO Box 22, Meredith Vic 3333 within two weeks of the date of this advertisement.

The Victorian Government is committed to ensuring that government boards and committees reflect the composition of the Victorian community. This includes appropriate representation of women, regional Victorians, Aboriginal people, young Victorians, Victoria's culturally diverse community and Victorians with disability.

Meredith Senior Citizens

Jim Hynds

We gathered at the Memorial Hall on April 22, 2013 for a social meeting and lunch.

Our next bus trip will be to the goldfields town of

Castlemaine. Plans were discussed with a suggestion to travel on the steam train to Maldon for lunch and a wander around this old town. Final details of this trip will be advertised.

After the meeting the seniors settled down to a game of Bingo and then afternoon tea.

On a serious note, Lila East, a long standing member is on her way to recovery after a nasty car accident and we all wish her well.

Shire Collects \$570K in Grants

from media release

Golden Plains Shire has received four grants totaling \$570,000 which will fund, among other things, upgrades to six halls across the Shire and a viewing platform at Maude. None of the funded projects is in Meredith.

And we still haven't heard what has become of the Meredith Main Streets Project which was to exhibited for public comment "somewhere" in the town during April as well as "in the local media" and on the Shire's and the project's web sites. (It wasn't.) We asked for an update but, at the time of going to print, had no response.

Tell us if you have any
Community News,

...and we'll tell the
Community!

See info panel opposite for contact details.

Wanted

Wanted

House to rent. Elaine area. Preferably quiet. Doesn't have to be perfect. Just a reasonable, serviceable home with at least one bedroom, bathroom, kitchen etc.

Phone: 0478 401 913

Classifieds

For sale

Black pony saddle 15 inch bought new used 3 times. Pony saddle blanket used 3 times. New clogs with saddle. New pony head stall. Pony lead bridle.

\$210 o.n.o the lot. Call M Clune 52 861 367



Church News

ST JOHNS ANGLICAN CHURCH

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 Combined Holy Communion services.

2nd Sunday, 11am at Meredith Uniting Church

4th Sunday at 11am at Meredith Anglican Church

1st & 3rd Sunday at 9.45 at Buninyong Uniting Church

(9.30 pre-service singing) Enquires Doug McFarlane 52861283.

Rev. Lindell Gibson 53413 200

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

Mass Times for May: Winchelsea every Saturday @ 6 p.m.

Bannockburn every Sunday @ 9 a.m.

Meredith Sunday May 5th/ 19th @ 11 a.m.

Anakie Sunday May 12th/ 26th @ 11 a.m.

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

St. Joseph's Catholic Parish Meredith

Mother & Daughter Pamper afternoon Saturday May 11th from 1 p.m. - 4 p.m.

All those who are mothers or daughters are warmly invited to celebrate Mothers' Day by joining in our Pamper afternoon at Bannockburn Children's Services Centre which is adjacent to the Shire offices in Bannockburn. There will be lots of pampering activities for mums and children and a lovely afternoon is assured. Reply to Parish office 52861230. Coming Events: Car Rally and picnic in June and Healing Mass and Luncheon in July. First Communion for those children who are preparing will be on Sunday June 2nd at Bannockburn.

Meredith Playgroup Term 2

9th May – Playgroups Plus (strategies for fussy eating - all welcome, childcare provided)

16th May – Paper plate craft

23rd May – Excursion @ Fun For Kids, Level 1, 57 Church Street, Geelong West

30th May – Box day, B.Y.O. box! Come make a cubby, a car or a robot – it's up to your imagination

6th June - Winter Day

13th June – Make a mask

20th June – Kids collage day

27th June – Music / Dance / Nursery rhymes

Meredith Community Centre, Inc.

4 Russell Street Meredith 3333

PH 5286 1348 Fax 52861 563

"Working for our community"



Centre News

Welcome to Term 2. We are looking forward to a busy time starting new classes this term.

We have plenty of great classes coming up this Term, many are filling up quickly. We have already filled 1 bread making class with just a couple of places left in the second get in quick so you don't miss out.

Just a note about the iPad class, it is listed in the brochure for Seniors, BUT it is not limited to seniors. Our tutor for this class has lots of experience using the iPad for business and pleasure. It promises to be a fun and informative class.

Don't forget many of our Technology classes are free for eligible Digital Enterprise participants.

We pleased that our ever popular Tai Chi classes are now taking off in Bannockburn with the addition of an evening class.

If you are interested in a class which has already started give us a call anyway, we may be able to slot you in or start a waiting list for the next one.

We are looking forward to hosting The Biggest Morning Tea on May 23rd. We will be having silent auctions for lots of lovely goodies and bring along your favourite tea cosy. We will have prizes for the most unusual, most loved and oldest tea cosies.

We would love to get to 100 likes on our Facebook page, make sure you like us before the end of May to be in the draw for a great prize which will be announced on our page. You can find our Term brochure and more info about our program on our website.

See you at the Centre this month.

Pam Ridd, Coordinator.

Tutors Needed

The Meredith Community Centre is looking for a Tutor to deliver some of our computer classes. If you have skills in Microsoft and or Open Office applications or other areas of general computer knowledge and would be interested in teaching these skills to others we would love to hear from you. If you have a skill that you think others would be interested to learn we would love to expand the variety of classes we run at the Centre in Meredith and also in Bannockburn.

Please call us to talk about it.

Call our Coordinator Pam Ridd on 5286 1348
(office hours) or 0432 909 156



meredithPoliceNews

Leading Senior Constable Greg Kitchen

Found

I have had a Malvern Star bicycle found and handed to me. If you are the owner of this bicycle please come and see me at the police station, or contact me on 52 861 222.

Regards
Greg Kitchen

Golden Youth Awards

Marg Cooper

Eliza Emmlin of Meredith was nominated for the inaugural Golden Plains Youth Awards.

The awards were held to recognize the positive contribution that young people make within their communities.

The award ceremony was held at the Bannockburn Hall Complex on Friday, April 12 during National Youth Week.



Eliza Emmlin receiving her certificate from Mayor, Cr. Jenny Blake

People aged from 10 to 25 years were nominated and celebrated for their commitment to the Arts, Sport, Health and Wellbeing and Community Involvement.

Eliza was one of the 12 finalists and was nominated for her keen interest and passion for the development of the Meredith District Community, her membership of "Advance Meredith" and for helping with the street decorations at Christmas.

Chelsea Landy was awarded the Art Award, Ricky Howling was awarded the Sport Award, Amelia Kaiser was awarded the Health and Wellbeing Award and Jaymee-Lin Ellis was awarded the Community Involvement Award.

Congratulations to all the finalists. It is astounding what these young people are contributing to their communities. Not all youngsters watch television and computers all the time!

Kinder News

Jodie, Sue

We all had a great Easter break and now Term two is well underway with both groups back into the routines and happy to see all their friends again.



The Meredith Harvest market on Easter Saturday was a great success and we thank all those who supported us and made it a fun day for everyone.

Thank you to our Kinder committee, parent helpers and a special thank you to Kelly Murfitt our fundraising coordinator who did a fantastic job.

Autumn is such a lovely season, so many beautiful trees & leaves to see around the town. We are using all the colours of Autumn in our art works and collage to make some beautiful pictures and paintings. Both of our groups are planning an Autumn walk in May around the community to collect some leaves and see all the different trees. We are learning new songs about the seasons at group times and a new counting song called 4 golden autumn leaves.

Our parent helper days have begun in the 4 year old group, we are hoping to encourage mums & dads to come in and have a play and see all the fun we have at Kinder. We have also introduced Helpers for the 4 year old group so the children take turns each day to do special jobs with the teachers.

Next week we have a student called Emily from Mt Clear College coming in for the week to do a placement with us. Mothers day is coming up next so the children will be making something very sweet & special for their mummies soon!!

More fun to come in the colder months ahead with the Roo Keepers booked in & Safety with Dogs in May

...and ThankYou

Rachael Buchanan

The Meredith Kindergarten would like to thank Murf and Jenny Emond, Ren and Corrie of Maude and Wendy Cook for donating the hardy plants for the new kindy garden bed. The Good Dirt Co for the donation of compost, and Foxy's Garden Ornaments for the donation of pavers for the children's path.

We greatly appreciate the community support.

Elaine CFA

Scrap metal collection
as a fundraiser

Ph David 0418993239



sports



Moorabool Valley Masters F.C.

Chris Hart



TOUGH TIMES ON THE ROAD.

The Moorabool Valley Crocs have kicked off their 2013 Superules season with a resounding win followed by a number of uncharacteristic poor results.

Round 1 saw the Crocs away at traditional rival Geelong. The over 45s side were the first to take the field and quickly reinforced their previous dominance over the Cats. The Seniors were never in trouble as they increased their lead at every break to run out comfortable winners by around 100 pts- a fitting way to celebrate Shaun Keys 50th game for the club. Wayne Tyquin and Phil Unsworth were clear winners all around the ground as was "Sid" Jones before going down with a potentially serious knee injury. Col Mullane and David Flood repelled all the Geelong forward thrusts while Gazza Polglaze and Sammy Saya provide drive through the wings.

The Juniors were in for a much tougher assignment as the Geelong over 35s proved a formidable opponent all game. Little separated the two sides with the margin never more than a couple of kicks either way with the result determined by a monster goal after the siren to Geelong. Mick Daggs continued where he left off from last year- with another best afield performance. Troy Kollegger, returning after missing last year through injury- was outstanding as was Matt Lewis. Former Colac Panther Paul Kerr impressed in his new colours- the Crocs looking forward to the contributions of a number of former Colac players as they turn out for their new club.

Round 2 provided the daunting prospect of back to back games at Echuca and Kerang in a much anticipated return trip up the Murray.

The Saturday game was a tight affair with the Echuca Eagles steadily inching away from the visitors. Poor ball use and an inability to convert early weight of possession ultimately came back to haunt the Crocs as Echuca broke the game open in the last stanza converting their four goal three quarter time lead into an eight goal rout. Keysey and Springer worked tirelessly through the midfield while Steve Trofin threw himself into every contest. Scott Cowie continues to be the target up forward but even he was unable to turn the tables with limited supply. The boys set about their recovery in numerous local taverns mindful of the need to be fully hydrated for Kerang the following day. 10 of the lads doubled up from the previous match while a handful made the day trip to Kerang and back on the Sunday. The match was a sustained arm wrestle from start to finish with the hosts prevailing by seven points in a low scoring affair with the Crocs unable to hang onto a slender lead at the last break. Sandy Cameron clearly enjoyed the

commute to Kerang with a solid performance at full back- pushing up the ground to instigate a number of attacks. Damien Priddle owned the club room wing with Maurie Parsons and Scott Crighton driving the ball through he midfield to the forwards- a fine effort by all three to double up from the Echuca game.

In all 25 players were able to get away and represent the club over the weekend- with a special thanks to those player who pushed themselves to play the two games.

Rounds 3 and 4 are a pair of home game double headers for the Crocs at the MCG. Moorabool Valley will host the Gisborne over 45s and Ballarat over 35s on Sunday May 5th from noon at the Rec Reserve; followed by two age group matches against Melton on the 19th.

Training continues most Wednesday nights from around 6.00 with the main session being the Wednesday prior to a game. Any potential new players are most welcome to come along and join in.

Meredith Golf Club

13.04.13

Men played Strike Comp

Winner M Colvin 95-25-70

Runner up C Osborne on C/B From D Gear 113-35-78

Pennant 07.04.13 at Hepburn Springs

Midlands def Meredith 6/1

16.04.13

Ladies played Stableford comp.

Winner C Powles

Runner up M Diffey

NTP K Rosch

D.A & M.L Harbour
Fertilizer, Super, Lime, Gypsum, Urea and Manure

Ph: David 0409 579 178 Ph: Len 0439 749 286

Visitor Centre Call for Display Material

media release

Council is pleased to report the Meredith Visitor Centre is reaching the final phase of construction and the internal fit out will commence soon. The internal fit out will occur in partnership with the community with residents invited to submit pieces of local history for display purposes in the building.

If you have any pieces significant to local history that could be displayed, we would love to know about them. You can submit them permanently or for exhibition at certain times. All items for display will be selected by Golden Plains Shire Council in partnership with the Meredith Community Planning Group. Items of interest sought include: photographs, news articles and heritage items of local significance.

The expression of interest period to consider items for display closes 3 May. To submit an item for consideration, email a photograph to dwaight@gplains.vic.gov.au and up to 250 words on why the item is significant to local history. This infrastructure project has been initiated by the Meredith community through the Golden Plains Shire Community Planning Program, to promote Meredith as a great place to visit and live.

Consultation for the project considered over 150 suggestions from the community which included a desire to incorporate rustic materials in the project construction. Exposed timber posts, polished concrete, corrugated iron materials deliver a building in keeping with these suggestions. The facility includes a volunteer-managed enclosed space for tourist information, local and historic displays including Cobb and Co., Sir Henry Bolte and more recently the Meredith Music Festival. It will also showcase local events, identify areas of significance and promote local businesses. It is expected the enclosed space in the facility will be open at peak visitation times such as weekends and around special events.

For further information please contact Damian Waight, Community Development Team Leader on 5220 7159 or dwaight@gplains.vic.gov.au

G21 Transport Forum

from media release

A series of workshop-style forums and a website are part of a comprehensive community consultation process planned to help develop a new public transport strategy for the G21 region.

Five forums will be held across the region during May, and registration is essential if you want to take part. One will be held on 15th May, at 6.30 pm at the Bannockburn Cultural Centre. You can register to attend, find out more about the plan, provide feedback, participate in an on-line forum and complete a survey at G21Transport.com.au between 15 April and 31 May.

The Fun and Follies of Teaching

George Ray

I taught at Woodburn State School in terms 2 and 3 in 1956.

This was only my 2nd school after completing teacher training as an "adult" at Toorak Teachers College in 1955.

I was a very raw young teacher and I can see now what a privilege it was to have been in charge of this school that was small in numbers of students but rich in talent.

I stayed at the Royal Hotel in Meredith, escaping often at weekends either to drive miles to visit my fiancée who was teaching at Wangaratta or home to Horsham.

I was the proud owner of a little green Ford 10.

When I dreamed up the possibility of building a land yacht that could be sailed along the gravel road in front of the school I probably had something rather grander than the pretty poor effort that resulted from my scrounging for old pram wheels and pieces of wood, plus a single bed sheet for the make-shift sail.

It was simply a very poorly designed and executed billy cart with a "mast" at the front, designed to accommodate one intrepid student at a time.

That it worked at all was rather a surprise to me but a delight to those students who "had a go" before the whole project was abandoned.

It was not the fault of the wind that we wound the project down but rather the inadequacies of the vehicle.

Any modern health and safety officer would have had to ban our land yacht before it was even wheeled out on the road.

Several students had exciting rides up and down the track, for the wind was blowing across the road.

Finally Marjorie Cooper headed off with a good gust of wind; her skirt became caught up in the left back wheel and got almost ripped off.

Needless to say we had to terminate what looked as though it might become a great lunchtime occupation for the older grades.

O well, back to "Sheep, sheep, come home!"

Recently George met some ex students and parents of Woodburn students and recounted the building and adventures with the land yacht.



Amy is Australia's No.1

On Sat 23 March 2013, Amy Canavan competed in the 1500m race walk at the Victorian State Championships. It was a hard race with plenty of competition from the other girls, but Amy triumphed and won the Victorian State gold in 7 min 39 sec.

Race Walking Australia have recently released the Australia wide results of all state competitions and the Australian rankings have been decided. Amy Canavan is number one in Australia for 1500m race walk for under 12 girls. This is actually the second year running that Amy has been able to achieve such an awesome performance and be ranked number 1 in Australia for race walking.

Amy is a member of Ballarat race walking club and this achievement is possible through the coaching she received from Daryl Biggins.

We also know that Amy is admired for her sporting and supportive approach to fellow competitors. Well done on both counts Amy. Ed.

PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE VERSION



Race Walking has been an Olympic sport since 1908

Help the environment and your finances

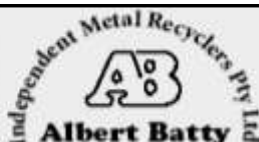
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Roy Trotter, 92

Marg Cooper

Roy settled on his block in Steiglitz after a life time of hard work. He lived in a caravan and was quite content until his neighbours kindly supplied a small building in which he now lives. He has no modern conveniences and the loo is way down the back but Roy thrives on the simple life in the bush.

He is not afraid of anything and doesn't worry. His pleasures are a beer and a bet. He admits to getting "tiddly-widdly" now and again and likes to tell of the time he broke the TAB in Meredith because he backed so many winners in one afternoon.

Roy is the 7th son of Harry and Margaret Trotter and grew up in Steiglitz. His father died in 1932 when Roy was 9½ years old, Les was 7 and Hazel was 4 years old. His mother had 4 cows, chooks, geese, sold butter and milk and the boys rabbitied to help keep the family. Roy tells that some of the eldest boys were working but times were tough for Margaret and her 9 children.

Roy left Steiglitz State School with a certificate and started work at Myrniong, milking about 90 cows before he was 14 years old. He sacked himself from that job and milked cows south of Ballan and then he worked for a man on Mt Steiglitz at Ballan who had cows and also carted cream from around the district to Myrniong Butter Factory.

Roy cut wood in the Blakeville bush, worked at "Ballark", milking the cows, splitting the wood and cleaning the shoes before he went to the Western District with Chris Mooney's shearing team. The cook didn't turn up so Roy became the cook for the

shearers.

Roy picked fruit at Red Cliffs and was stripping wattlebark at Bannockburn just before he enlisted in the Army during WWII. When Darwin was bombed the troops that had been digging trenches along the south coast were immediately trained north to Alice Springs and trucked to camps out of Darwin. Roy wanted to be sent to New Guinea but he was classified "B Class" because of a previous injury to his leg and spent a lot of time as a cook in the Army. His speciality was pastry!

After the war he cut wood for his brother at Steiglitz, cut wood with his brother-in-law near Daylesford and other places, picked fruit, rabbitied and worked on the railways for a number of years.

He has an amazing geographical knowledge and the man who has been everywhere! If he can't immediately recall the name of a place he looks it up in the Postcode booklet.

He tells that he can shoot a rabbit on the run with a pea rifle, he knows the bush backwards, has rabbitied on all the land around, investigated every mine shaft and fossicked for gold everywhere and remembers the characters and buildings of Steiglitz before it became a ghost town.

In all his travels Roy has always come home to Steiglitz and at 92 is alert, fiercely independent and content.

His advice for a long life is "Don't Worry".





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Images of War

The Corindhap Avenue of Honour was planted with Cypress and Radiata pine trees back in 1917. Over the last few years some of these majestic trees have reached the end of their life but rather than chopping them down for firewood, the Corindhap community decided to keep the lower trunks intact and commissioned local artist Viktor Cebergs to fashion sculptures that would reflect the commemorative spirit of the site. The result is that the old trees have been transformed into sculptures depicting imagery of war.

Source: artingeelong.com

Two of Victor Ceberg's stunning memorial sculptures at Cogindhap. The Wounded Light Horseman below and, right, a soldier standing to attention. When photographer Trudy Mitchell visited recently, an unopened can of beer was next to the old digger.



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Term two – here we go again!

As part of the *Police Paddocks Project*, last term *Jim Elvey* organized for our senior students to take part in the construction of nesting boxes that will be placed in the area. *Ballarat arborist, Rob Amor* ran a session about the various local birdlife and how the nesting boxes will assist them. The students then put together a number of nesting boxes. Rob then returned early this term to complete them and we will now organize another session to install the boxes in the habitat. The students have really **enjoyed this “hands on” experience and it’s great to have the school involved in community projects.** Thanks to Jim and Rob for providing us with such a worthwhile opportunity.

PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE
VERSION

Left: Rob and students hard at work

Our year 3 to 6 students headed off to Bannockburn for the first *winter sport session* with the other Moorabool Valley schools first week back. As our sports association has grown due to an increase in **numbers at various schools, we’ve had to split the association in half to compete at the next level.** This means more of our students will have an opportunity to compete at a higher level in each of

the interschool sport areas that includes athletics, cross country, winter sports (netball and football) and some of the summer sports. On the last day of term we ran our *school cross country* and was great to see the high participation rate and effort that was put in by all of our **year 3 to 6 students. We now have approximately 2/3’s** of the year 3 to 6 students heading off to compete at the *Moorabool Valley Cross Country at Teesdale* on Friday April 26th which is an outstanding effort.

Our year 3 to 6 students are beginning a new project to brighten up the yard. *Mr Ben Gallagher* was hard at work over the break and has made some **“giant pencils”** that **will eventually go into the yard.** Other “giant” items to be made include an eraser, glu stick, blackboard and another “special” item. **They are also renewing one of the Meredith school signs.** This project is part of the senior students “iLearning program” that runs each morning. In this program students work individually or in groups to complete activities that cover a range of different areas that include The Arts, science, history and geography. A lot of these activities are “hands on” and require the students to think creatively and make their own decisions.

PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE VERSION

The giant pencils taking shape

Shade Gets a Sunny Response

When Moonambel resident Noreen McAdam stopped off at Meredith last month, she was delighted to read in the MaD News, Trudy Mitchell's story of 20 year old Shade, the family's beloved blue heeler. Here is her response.

Having lived from the 1980s to 2002 in Teesdale, we are well acquainted with Meredith and the Golden Plains district. So of course whenever on a coffee-stop, we pick up the *Meredith Newsletter*. How vibrant Meredith seems now. Even a Visitor Centre planned!

Being heeler dog-lovers forever-and-a-day, we were charmed by 'Shade's story' in the April issue. Our current blue heeler, George, is only 13. Shade's reminiscences mirror our 'George's' - especially having a quick juvenile bounce - until remembering his senior-cit status, wired jaw, steel leg-plate and arthritic hip-replacement.

Unfortunately - unfortunate for us humans, that is - heelers are not only 'superbly loyal'; but also mind-blowingly intelligent. They never stop learning - and that's even without the aid of sudoku.

After a terminal diagnosis of 'paralysis of the vocal chords' (which entails loss of his voice and an inability to cool himself), George has discovered the yogic joy of a chanting semitone bark - and so promptly rips into his newly learnt semi-tonal shout at 6.30 am e.v.e.r.y morning. The dash to the urinal is imperative, he considers. Yelled through an open bedroom window, it is a paralytic wakeup alarm. Daylight Saving mealtimes, considered late, are treated in the same peremptory manner!

Our previous red heeler 'Perel [- and *perilous* by nature to any ute trespassers] and companion Kelly, our Alpine Dingo, reached 16. But 20 years! Shade ought to be given a *Message from the Queen's Corgies!*

Yogic chants are not George's only tools; he has long practised Shavasana or 'corpse pose' and continues to surprise the unwary visitor stepping out the back door.

But I was so moved by Shade's story that I am really writing to suggest that in her honour the *Meredith News* should consider running a monthly *Shady-dog Story Corner!* A column where all shaggy, shady and yoga-chanting pets can become a celebrity and shimmy down the catwalk to find their moment in the sun.


George's diagnosis was in June last year. But nobody told him! He is still bringing love, light and joy to all - except perhaps to the kangaroos who must get mind-numbingly



Above: Quiet please...George is doing his yoga routine.

cranky by the flea-bite on the hill with the idiotic semi-tonal shout.


We love Noreen's suggestion, so how about sharing your funny, delightful or amazing pet stories - with a photo if you like - Ed..



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As an added bonus **with every gift purchased** for Mother's Day, you will **receive a voucher for a Complimentary Facial & Makeover valued at \$30!!!** So pamper mum this Mother's Day.

Naturopath

Last month we were excited to announce that we had a Naturopath working in the Pharmacy. Unfortunately Leiset is no longer with us as she is moving to South America with her partner. We really enjoyed having Leiset, although for a very short time, but she has decided to follow her partner overseas. We wish Leiset all the best and she was very apologetic for only being here for a short period of time. We will be looking for another Naturopath and once we find someone we will notify everyone.

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

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MOLLIE'S COLUMN

Mama Mia!

Legend has it that Mark Twain once famously said, 'When I was a boy of 14, my father was so ignorant I could hardly stand to have the old man around. But when I got to be 21, I was astonished at how much the old man had learned in seven years'.

When I was 14, 15, even when I was 18, I felt just the same about both my parents, but especially, unfairly, my Mum. She didn't understand anything! Why was she trying to ruin my life? Why wouldn't she let me do whatever my friends were doing? Why was she so mean and cruel and horrible? Why wouldn't she let me get my belly button pierced when everyone else did? Trust me, now I'm 25, I get it.

I don't think, by today's standards, I was a particularly badly behaved teenager. I did well at school, didn't smoke or hang out in malls, and I followed the rules my parents set for me (well, for the most part). Behind my surly, sulky facade, I respected and loved them. I think I knew, even when I was furious with them, that they always had my best interests at heart and only wanted what was right for

me. But the fact that they always knew what was right for me, usually long before I did, drove me crazy. I spent four years in a terrible temper, and every day was a new battle. My poor Mum saying 'good morning', daring to ask a question or, god forbid, come in to my room, was all the provocation I needed to launch in to an argument. I'll never know how Mum made it through my stormy adolescence without throwing me out of the house, or at least giving me a good kick.

Somehow we both made it through, weary and battle-scarred but loving each other through it all. Perhaps I don't tell her enough, but I'll always be grateful to her for sticking to her guns, fighting the good fight, and dragging me up from a rampaging savage to a decent adult. I needed the rules, the structure, the safety net she and Dad provided. Not all of my friends were lucky enough to have a Mum like mine. Some of them had mothers that wanted to be 'cool', or wanted to be their friend, and weren't there to provide the parenting their kids sometimes desperately needed. Even at 16, when I acted like I hated all their stupid rules, I secretly felt how lucky I was to have parents who cared about where I went and what I did.

This Mother's Day, I'll give my Mum an extra hug for all those times she pulled me in to line when I needed it. All those times she called a friend's parents when I wanted to stay somewhere overnight (so embarrassing!). All those times she checked up on me when she knew something wasn't quite right. All those times she loved me when I was at impossible to love. I can't imagine a better, wiser, stronger Mum.

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Managing Difficulties at Work

Problems at work are common from time to time. However, if difficulties are not addressed and resolved in a timely manner it can lead to a variety of illnesses.

Work place stressors, such as, unrealistic job load demands, expectations to work back late or overtime, personality problems with fellow staff or management and bullying issues can create unhealthy work place environments.

Unfortunately, many of us continue to work in such stressful conditions because we need the job. This makes it very difficult for us to speak up if we are experiencing ongoing problems at work. In fact, most people do not address workplace issues until they either get sick or 'burn out'. Nearly all work related matters can be dealt with and resolved in a timely manner if we take action. There is no need to suffer in silence.

Here are a few suggestions to help manage difficulties at work;

- talk to your boss or higher management about your concerns, writing a letter is particularly useful if you find it difficult to converse face to face
- if the matter remains unresolved you may wish to consult with either Fair Work Australia or Work Safe. They both have advice lines and provide guidance on how to manage work place problems
- leave work at work, this is really important we need to avoid taking work home. Aiming to finish work on time each day gives us space to enjoy other areas in our life
- establish a work life balance, 'work to live' rather than 'live to work'. Working well over 40 hours a week over a long period of time is not a healthy balance. Remember, apart from the impact on your health, no amount of money will replace time away from home, family/ children or having fun participating in leisure activities
- create a number of outlets in your life outside of work, such as, exercise, relaxation activities, socialising and engaging in recreational interests or taking regular holidays

Prioritising 'life' outside of work helps us to build resilience when dealing with employment stressors. It also creates the healthy balance between 'work, rest and play'.

Resources: Fair Work Australia 13 13 94 or Work Safe 1800 136 089 provide information and advice concerning work place disputes and bullying.

spot.pcc.edu/~rjacobs/career/resolving_workplace_problems.htm
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Latter Family Return to Morrisons

Marg Cooper

The districts of Morrisons and Elaine were hosts to 150 descendants of Benjamin and Elizabeth Latter on March 24, 2013. Members of the family who came from all over Victoria and interstate met at the Elaine Hall to meet other descendants of the extended family, learn more about mutual ancestors, to share memorabilia and to examine the family tree document compiled by Rex Baker who now lives in China. John Parkinson gave a talk on gold mining at Morrisons between 1850's and 1900's and how families survived.

Members of the 3rd to 7th generations were present with Joyce Connell (Latter) the senior member of the family.

Joyce is the youngest daughter of the late Richard Latter who was the youngest son of Benjamin and Elizabeth Latter. She is the only remaining member of the 3rd generation (in Australia) of the Latter family. Joyce's late husband Bob Connell grew up in Meredith.

In May 1857 Benjamin Alfred Smart Latter and his wife Elizabeth (Smith) and their daughter Louisa left Kent for Australia, travelling on the ship "Talbot", arriving in Geelong three months later. From Geelong they travelled to and settled in the newly discovered Dolly's Creek gold mining field near Morrisons where Benjamin had hoped to strike it rich. They had three sons: Benjamin, Horace and Richard.

In the late 1800's Benjamin and Elizabeth built a small

house on a piece of land they had been allocated near Morrisons.

After they died, Richard and his wife Alice took over the property in the early 1900's. They extended the house to accommodate their eight children, who attended the Morrisons school. After Richard died in 1959, ownership of the property was transferred to their youngest son, Cliff Latter, who sold it in 1965.

After lunch the descendants travelled to the Morrisons Cemetery to view the three graves, restored last year, of Benjamin and Elizabeth Latter, Richard and Alice Latter and Constance Latter, daughter of Richard and Alice. A short dedication service was conducted by Rev Glen Wesley from the Ballan Anglican Church.

The party moved on to the original property and old home built by Benjamin and Elizabeth in the late 1800's. The old home which hasn't been changed and is in good condition was the highlight for many. The current owner Mr Norm Ralston surprised all, by inviting Joyce Connell to plant a tree of remembrance near the house. On leaving the house about 50 travelled to Dolly's Creek where John Parkinson explained where the mining sites were, the sluicing and water channels and where the community lived. The reunion wound up with afternoon tea and farewells back at the Elaine Hall, with plans for another reunion in two years.

The descendants were very thankful to Alby Smith for tidying up the Morrisons Cemetery for the reunion.



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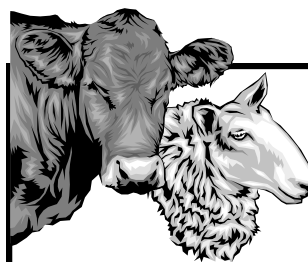
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in my garden

Monthly musings from the happy gardener

For this happy gardener, spring and autumn are by far the best seasons. Spring brings renewed enthusiasm, warm sunshine joy, and great pleasure that arises from the sight of a garden full of colour, perfect blossom, unblemished new green leaves and an abundance of emerging plant gifts (self-seeded plants). Autumn is the season when one can breathe a sigh of relief as the endless grind of summer comes to an end. The pace of gardening slows a little as the dry conditions give way to more moist conditions. There is time to enjoy the sight of the beautiful autumn colours and the final flourish of many plants. Autumn is also that time when I complete the score card for the garden plants.

In a nutshell, plants are either classified as either garden stars or garden duds. It goes without saying that the garden stars are assured of a long life, but the garden duds face an uncertain future and possibly sudden removal to the compost heap.

The stars in my garden, to name just a few, include the callistemons; the Manchurian pears; the viburnums with the exception of the large leafed variety which is prone to sunburn; the crab apples; the banksia roses; the conifers; lupins; cosmos; foxgloves; granny's bonnets (aquilegia); some of the hebes including the variegated form; liquid amber, claret ash and agonis trees; some of the eucalypts (not all, as some are the repeated target of the ugliest caterpillars and suffer terribly as a result); the almond, apricot and plum trees. The citrus are also doing well but all are container grown in sheltered areas protected from frosts, and the orange tree lives in the green house.

My score card shows that the very worst 'garden duds' include: many grevilleas (need perfect drainage), the Japanese maples, crepe myrtles, flowering cherries; plane trees (all have had their leaves burnt in the extreme heat conditions and have looked awful since January); nectarine and peach trees (afflicted badly by leaf curl despite treatment during the winter).

In considering the future prospects of the 'duds' the most important consideration, for me, is the price I paid for the plant. Not surprisingly, I have adopted an 'easy come, easy go' approach to any plant that I have propagated myself. However, for any plant that has been purchased from a nursery and cost me dearly, I am much more inclined to be considerably

more tolerant of its weaknesses, and to provide additional care and nurturing, provided that it has not already decided its own fate and is showing terminal signs.

Having said that, the hybrid tea roses are a waste of garden space: they are prone to black spot which is difficult to control, even with regular treatment. Their often straggly appearance accentuated by an almost complete lack of leaves is not sufficiently compensated by lovely flowers. Their future is sealed. Just as soon as I have sufficient bush roses to replace them they will be gone!

The most positive assessment possible of the flowering cherries is that they provide two weeks annually of the most stunning blossom, followed by a few weeks of perfect bright green foliage, then, it is all downhill. However, I am likely to be forever forgiving and search out new ways of protecting them from the hostile environment provided by a savage summer. Already, I have in mind, protective coats made from shade cloth for the flowering cherries. I also plan to protect the Japanese Maples by planting hardier evergreens nearby (possibly Agonis) until such time that the Japanese Maples will be sufficiently mature to protect themselves.

Many of my garden interventions are characterized by a trial and error approach: if I am lucky some will work. Others won't. Whatever the result, I will be up early each morning eager to check on the progress of my garden endeavours.

Happy gardening. Robyn



Callistemon, one of Robyn's "garden stars" - it gets to stay.



“Charles Dickens A Life” by Claire Tomalin

The flyer in the front of the book tells that Charles Dickens was a phenomenon, that he created characters who live immortally in the English imagination, that he was a demonically hard working journalist, father of ten children, indefatigable walker and traveller and that he was tireless in his support of liberal social causes.

At the age of twelve he was sent by his affectionate but feckless parents to work in a blacking factory.

By the time of his death in 1870 he drew adoring crowds to his public appearances, had met princes, presidents and most writers of his time and had amassed a fortune.

When he died the world mourned and he was buried against his wishes in Westminster Abbey.

The energy and brilliance concealed a complex and divided character. The book tells the reader of his virtues as a writer and a human being while also observing his failings.

In his writings he was sentimental about families but he cast his wife aside after taking up with a young actress, he was generous with his time and money and helped many

people in need but he cut off his most impecunious children and siblings.

He was often ill but pushed himself to perform readings because he seemed to continually need the adoration of the crowds.

The author has written a detailed account of his life using information from letters, records, books etc and recounts his energy, boldness, imagination, showmanship and enjoyment of fame.

Charles Dickens wrote most of his books in serial form and episodes were printed in newspapers and were often illustrated. He owned and edited newspapers and produced a “Christmas Special” each year which were extremely popular. We learn of his process of writing, that he kept his characters alive in his imagination for all of his life and that he sometimes got himself “into a state” about his characters.

Imagine writing with pen and ink, correcting and editing by hand, delivering copy by horse and cart or on foot, the assembling of the letters at the printing office and the dispersal of newspapers and books around the country!

Dickens, in his writings has left a detailed picture of England, both of the rich and poor, of his time.

Although the book was a big read, book club members enjoyed learning about Dicken’s life.

The book for discussion in April is “Truth” by Peter Temple.

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pic of the month



HOW MANY "F"s in the following passage? (Feel free to read it twice.)

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THE EXPERIENCE OF YEARS.....

There are six! Allegedly, the brain doesn't process trailing 's', such as those in the word "of" as well.

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Vale William F Stephen

Fay MacFarlane

Bill with his wife May and children, Jan, Jim, and Donna, arrived in Meredith as Soldier Settlers on the Moranghurk Estate in 1953. They came from working a dairy farm in Gippsland. Tony was born after they settled at Meredith. They called their farm Will-A-Mar. Bill was very interested in pasture improvement, which he carried out with great success on the unimproved pasture of Moranghurk. This led him to begin seed harvesting, which was the beginnings of the 'Stephen Pasture Seed' business, which he later moved to Ballarat. From humble beginnings in Meredith to interstate recognition.



The Stephen family supported the community. Bill was a member of the Golf Club, Fire Brigade, RSL, Meredith Branch of the Liberal Party and a member of the Hall Committee for many years, being President between 1956 and 1960. Under his leadership, extensive renovations and extensions took place. Bill was a tireless worker and the driving force behind this project, a testament to his efforts is that the improvements are still being enjoyed today.

Bill was always interested in politics and became Liberal MLA for Ballarat South, during the reign of the Bolte government, a seat he held for many years.

Bill was buried at a private funeral on 8th April, at the age of 92 years. A Memorial Mass to celebrate his life was held at Our Lady of Mount Carmel Church in Middle Park on 12th April 2013. The Mass was well attended by family, friends, including friends from Meredith, and parliamentary colleagues. At the service the family described Bill as a man of "great integrity, honesty, dignity, with a strong sense of duty and service to others. Mourners shared refreshments with the family at the Beach Hotel in Albert Park, where memories were reminisced.



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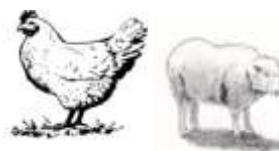
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Meredith PS teacher, Fairlie Pritchard, has collected up some of the most groan-worthy jokes her class can muster. Here's one of them.

home GROAN



My big sister went on a boat cruise to Vanuatu, and lost all her clothes.

How did she do that?

She shoved them all out the round glass door.

You mean the porthole?

Yep, she thought it was a washing machine.

Karen, Grade 4



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MORRISONS TRAGEDY INQUEST ON THE VICTIMS. FINDING OF MURDER AND SUICIDE. GEELONG,

Thursday. At Morrison today Mr. W. R. Anderson, J.P., Deputy Coroner, conducted a magisterial enquiry into the triple tragedy on Tuesday morning at Thomas Morrison's household, where the bodies of Mrs. Morrison and her brother, Daniel M'Intosh, were found horribly charred in the ruins of the burned building, and Eric Morrison, aged 13, was found dead in a detached kitchen with a gunshot wound in his right temple. The ruins were first viewed, and it seemed unaccountable that such horrible deeds could have been perpetrated in spot overlooking one of the most delightful valley views in Victoria.

The unfortunate husband, still very weak, had returned from medical treatment at Ballarat, and there was a pathetic scene when he viewed the bodies at M'Gillivray's hotel, where the inquest was held. Supt Dwyer assisted the Coroner. The evidence of Thomas Morrison showed that the relations in the household were of the happiest. He went to Ballarat easy in mind with the thought that M'Intosh was there as a protector for his wife and son, both of whom he worshipped. M'Intosh was a mild-tempered man, who would do his worst enemy a good turn. He was living apart from his wife through domestic differences, but this fact did not seem to affect his mind. A brother committed suicide in the Saltwater River 15 years ago through melancholia after a bad accident. The gun, carving knife, and sharpening stone found in the bedroom were always kept in other parts of the house, and it was not usual for the kerosene tin to be in the dining-room. The trigger-guard of the gun was not bent when the witness left home. In reply to the Coroner, witness said his only theory was that M'Intosh went wrong and committed the deed.

He still thought as much of him as ever. He had never been strange in his manner. Joseph Hutchins described the finding of the bodies. Under Mrs. Morrison's body was the stock of a gun. The barrel was near M'Intosh, close to the bed on which, alongside his body, were the knife and stone. Albert Parkinson said he had noticed a strange look in M'Intosh's eyes, and Claude Morrison said M'Intosh had said to him they would all starve this winter, but he did not take the remark seriously..... The Coroner remarked on the confidence shown by the husband in M'Intosh, but it was his opinion that the man became suddenly demented, and committed the deeds. Much of it was theory, but there were strong suspicions.

He found that Eric Morrison died of a gun-shot wound wilfully inflicted by Daniel M'Intosh, who was guilty of wilful murder; that Mrs. Morrison died of injuries wilfully inflicted by Daniel M'Intosh, probably with the gun used as a club, and afterwards found damaged, and that M'Intosh was guilty of wilful murder; and that Daniel M'Intosh died from injuries caused by cutting his throat while in a demented state, after he had wilfully set fire to the house. The Coroner complimented Consts. Searle and Brand on the preparation of the case, and Supt Dwyer endorsed his remark.

*The Ballarat Courier Friday 21 May 1915
Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group*

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it's History

Morrison Walk & Talk

It was magnificent to stand on the top of the hill at Morrison, to view the valleys and to view the hills that slope to the creek and river, one after the other, far into the distance.

A Bird's Eye View!

At the first vantage spot on our Morrison Walk and Talk last March, Alan Parkinson pointed out the engravings on a rock, where the Golden River Mine was, where the water race ran, where Borhoneyghurk battery was, the track where the boiler descended to the valley, where water was piped down the hill and up the other side, where a Chinaman had a market garden and hut and where the Presbyterian Church was.

At this point the wind blew fiercer and it rained a bit so some people sensibly headed for shelter. The others walked past where an underground bakery was believed to have been and past the site of the original Parkinson home at Morrison.

A stopover to see the Church of England Church and to hear about its history before venturing through a gate along the road to another vantage point on the hill

overlooking the old town.

At this spot Alan and John Parkinson pointed out many sites including the Morrison Hall. The last function at the Hall was a welcome home to John Parkinson from the Vietnam War.

Joyce Stanley tells that she ran down one of the bridle tracks when she was a girl. Her father delivered groceries to Morrison. She would get out on the top of the hill and run down to her grandparent's house. Her father would finish his deliveries on the tableland and drive down the hill and along the river to deliver more groceries and to pick her up.

Children used the bridle tracks to climb to the tableland to go to school No 2086.

The sites of various hotels and other mines were pointed out; the Swing Bridge, Sugarloaf and Bald Hill and the history of the dredge was told.

The weather had improved considerably and the crowd returned to the Morrison Fire Shed for afternoon tea.

Who Lived in My House?

The official launch of this exciting project took place on Sunday, April 21. Some former residents of Staughton

Below: This Royal Hotel was built in 1854 and burnt down in 1913.



Street including Jack Connell, Marj Ward, Vicki Bastow and Joan and Gwenda Shell (maiden names) were invited to lead a walk of discovery in Staughton Street.

They told that when they lived in the street it was a busy place with regular trains at the Railway Station, dances and balls at the Hall, billiards at the Billiard Room, the PMG, Lands Department, Police, Hotels and many shops such as Wards Lolly shop, Synots General Store, Mrs Fraser's Store, the Post Office, Lownes Butcher Shop, Bootmakers, Blacksmiths and Newspapers.

They also spoke of the characters of Meredith: Boxer Bell who offered to give children a "slobber", Mudgee Moran the blacksmith, Beat Moran who walked long distances to fish, the brothers who, while cleaning out the underground tank at the Shire Hall, got Jack and Dodger Connell to bring bottles of beer to them from the Royal Hotel.

They had much difficulty in getting out!

Because this project is HUGE, it was decided that Staughton Street would be the focus for the beginning of this project.

The project aims to record both the building and social history of the town through the sharing of photos, stories and documents.

If you can help with this project in any way, with photos, stories or documents or if you have time to collect or collate, please let MHIG know.

"Moranghurk" Soldier Settlement

A grant was received to erect a plaque showing the blocks or farms and the names of the "Moranghurk" Soldier Settlers. A book is being written about the settlers and associated topics and will be launched at the unveiling of the plaque later in the year.

Catalogue Thursdays.

Last month we re-accessed the computer program for cataloguing and discussed the "Who Lived in My House" project. We continue to catalogue using cards which are filed alphabetically. We catalogue on the third Thursday of each month in the Anglican Church.

You are invited to come and talk history or to help.

Glenetive:

Marg Cooper

On April 2, 1934 Robert A Bailey agreed to purchase the property called "Glenetive" from Mr Adrian Vanrenen, containing 2172 acres more or less, together with all improvements and tanks, including sheep and cattle, plant and hay for the price of £13,575, based on £6/5/0 per acre for the land, stock etc. Vacant possession was to be given and stock and plant was to be delivered on or before May 1, 1934. A cash deposit of £1,000 was required.

The number of sheep to be delivered was to be not less than 1980, aged 1 to 4 years, including 10 rams. The cattle were 7 pure jersey cows and 1 pure jersey bull. The adjoining 500 acres of land that was leased was taken over at a rent of £100 per year. The large list of plant included a portable forge, smiths' bellows, a grindstone and 1000 split posts and strainers.

It appears that some "Extras" were purchased in May for a total price of £232/18/2. They included surplus sheep, poultry including fowls and turkeys, some outside items and what was in the house. The furniture in the Spare Room, Best Bedroom, Bedroom 3, Bedroom 4, Sitting Room, Breakfast Room and Kitchen were itemised as was a considerable list of "Odd Articles". It seems that Adrian Vanrenen and his wife walked out and took their clothes and Robert Bailey walked in!

There were 3 pages of the listed items including beds, carpets, mattresses, curtains, chairs, tables, dressers, a jam cupboard, kitchen canisters and 24 dozen preserved eggs.

The "Odd Articles" included crockery, cutlery, blankets, lamps, a shaving cupboard and a Big Ben Alarm Clock.

After they sold "Glenetive" Adrian Vanrenen and his wife Edith went to Geelong to live.

After Edie died in 1956 Uncle Aidie, as he was known by the family, went to the Vanrenen property at St Arnaud, "Avoca Forest" to live until he died in 1963.



Adrian and Edith Vanrenen in 1924.



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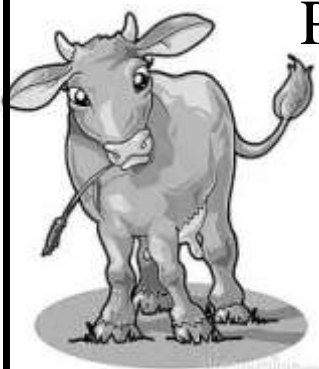
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