



Locals in Grand Final Win

Marg Cooper

The Central Highlands League's grand finals last month featured Buninyong teams in both the Under 14½ and Under 17½ competitions. Three Meredith boys played in the younger group: Joel Hart, (captain) who also kicked a goal in the match, Lachie Emmlin, and Mitch Emmlin (2 goals). Locals, Margaret and Tim Wells' grandson Jack Jones and Sandra and Ian Watson's grandson Jack Parker were also in the team.

The team is also coached by Meredith's Terry Hart.

In the grand final, they played Hepburn at Eureka Stadium in a close fought match. Both teams show flashes of brilliance with many lead changes until the final siren when both teams were even.

At the end of two five minute quarters, Buninyong were in the lead by seven points and declared the winners. Each player mounted the dais to be congratulated and receive a Grand Final cap and medal.

The final score was Buninyong 7.9.51 to Hepburn 5.14.44. Well played Buninyong under 14.5's.

Terry has been coaching the team for 3 years and recalls the first year they lost nearly every match - badly!! There are still 12 members of that team playing this year, in a team that has improved dramatically; winning nearly every match in 2013 and, most importantly, the GRAND FINAL...

According to the grand final program, Joel Hart -18 matches d 44 goals. Lachie Emmlin -16 matches 1 goal. Mitch Emmlin -17 matches 23 goals.

The under 17.5's weren't as lucky, just missing the Grand Final win with a score line of Buninyong 8.5.53 to Daylesford 9.10.64.

Here too, locals played a part, with Aaron Hart and Matt Fox trying their best. And yet another local, Michael Mitchell, was involved as assistant coach. The players all received a runners-up medal.

PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE VERSION

A jubilant father and son, as captain Joel Hart and coach Terry Hart hold the premiership shield aloft.



in this issue....

- Vale Des Erwin
- Dedication of War Memorial
- Amy the Ambassador
- In Our Nature
- Pasture Workshop for Local Farmers
- Soldiers Settlers Commemorated

... and the usual more

**in our biggest
issue ever!**

44
PAGES

e: news@meredithnews.com.au

w: www.meredithnews.com.au

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, Trudy Mitchell, Stefania Parkinson and Ian Penna

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

ONLINE PHOTOS

We do not publish children's photos online. If you would like any other photo that you appear in withheld from the web edition, let us know in writing by the second Thursday of the month of publication.

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

Junior

Under 14

☎0418535713

Meredith

☎5286 1434

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

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LIFE DRAWING

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MEMORIAL HALL

☎5286 1545

MOTOR CYCLE CLUB

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PLAYGROUP

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POLICE

PADDOCKS

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RED CROSS

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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

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Elaine Mechanics

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Elaine Rec Res

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MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

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PRE-SCHOOL

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PRIMARY SCHOOL

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"When you are courting a nice girl an hour seems like a second. When you sit on a red-hot cinder a second seems like an hour. That's relativity."

Albert Einstein

...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

Brisbane Rangers Wildflower Show

Carol Bartholomew

A one-day opportunity to see a showcase of Victoria's local wildflowers and plants of the Brisbane Ranges National Park only one hour from Melbourne - at **Anakie on Sunday 13 October**.

There are 612 native plant species including more than 100 terrestrial orchids in this area.

The wildflower show will have many of these plants on display in the Anakie Hall. Along with the very popular guided bus tours around the park at 10.00am and 1.30pm, free workshops on Pea (Fabaceae) plant and Orchid Identification, a photographic display, indigenous plants and more for sale – it will be a full day for visitors to the Wildflower Show.

The Friends of Brisbane Ranges volunteer members organise and host the Brisbane Ranges Wildflower Show every two years with a growing attendance from all parts of Melbourne as well as the local areas.

The event is \$5 for adults, children under 16 free. Family friendly but pet free event. Disabled parking and access at the Hall. Online bookings for guided bus tours and entry - see website for more details. www.fobr.org.au/wildflowershow

Calling all Quilting Stall Holders

We, the Back to Steiglitz Association, would love you to have a stall at our upcoming Airing of the Quilts, on October 13th.

It's only \$20, with proceeds going towards our latest project – saving the derelict historic Steiglitz Schoolhouse.

It's a fabulously quirky day the whole family can enjoy!

Ring me, 52819390 or go to our website back2steiglitz@hotmail.com

Thanks, Lindy Allinson.

Red Cross AGM Meeting

The Red Cross Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, 31st October at John and Rosemary Hart's house, 1050 Shelford-Meredith Road commencing at 12 noon.

Please bring a contribution towards lunch.

All interested persons are very welcome.



OPEN GARDENS Open Hearts

Four Bannockburn gardens will be open to the public from 10am to 4pm on **Saturday 2nd November**

31 High St; 30 Range Rd;

15 Clyde Hill Rd and 79 Lowndes Rd.

With Guest speakers at Lowndes Rd at 1.30, 2.15 and 3.00 pm

\$20 entry (children free) with all proceeds to the Melanie Jewson Foundation to support the Vila Central Hospital, Port Vila, Vanuatu.

Contact Bettine on 0408 322126 or 5281 9216

Lunch & Pamper Fundraiser

To support Access Ministries provide CRE at Meredith Primary School & fund chaplains in Ballarat & Geelong

ENJOY A LIGHT LUNCH FOLLOWED BY A MAKEUP DEMONSTRATION & HAND MASSAGE BROUGHT TO YOU BY MARY KAY CONSULTANT CARA MILLS

*To be held at the Community Centre Meredith
Tues October 15th at 12 noon \$10 incl. door prize*

Skincare products available for sale/ Orders taken

Join us for a girls afternoon and some TLC and book with

Mary: 52861459/0424037542 or

Gill : 52819229/0408408403

THE MEREDITH KINDERGARTEN AGM & 2014 INFORMATION EVENING

will be held at the
Meredith Kindergarten, 31 Staughton Street,
Meredith on Thur 14th Nov 2013 at 7pm.

Supper and refreshments provided.

All welcome.

For more information please call 5286 1227.



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

10.00am 1st, 3rd Sundays Holy Communion

10.00am 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

Winchelsea: Every Saturday night at 6.00 pm

Bannockburn: Every Sunday at 9.00 am

Anakie: October 13/27th at 11.00 am

Meredith: October 6/20th at 11.00 am

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

October - Month of The Rosary. Rosary Campaign throughout the Parish of Meredith.

Sun 20th Oct from 2 pm Youth Activity at Meredith "Great Pizza & Muffin Bake Off" followed by Youth Mass.

Change of Focus at Paddocks

Jim Elvey

A meeting of the Meredith Police Paddocks Support Group last month, adopted a Revegetation Plan that will see a move to planting grasses and wildflowers. To this point, the focus has been on upper and mid-story vegetation and, in time, more will be planted along the western side of the site. But in the next few years, as sites are prepared, grasses and wildflowers will be planted along the pathway.

The meeting also heard that the CFA will carry out a narrow strip burn along the western boundary, south of Nuttall Street, ahead of an autumn burn from there to the constructed pathway. Ballarat Environment Network officer, Hedley Thomson, also outlined plans for continued weed management over the coming six months.

Meredith Community Centre, Inc.

4 Russell Street Meredith 3333

PH 5286 1348 Fax 52861 563

learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au

"Working for our community"

Another Term completed and the Centre has been buzzing with activity. We had a great open day with a great speaker providing valuable information on personal safety. Many thanks to everyone who helped and participated on the day.

Now that the cold weather is almost left us we are feeling invigorated and ready for the last Term for 2013. We have plans for lots of activities for Christmas and the coming summer season. If you want to get organised for Christmas you can come and learn to make some great sweet goodies you to create, make your own cards and make a gorgeous patchwork stocking.

On a more serious note if you want some information on preparing for the fire season we have the CFA presenting an information session in October.

Because I spend a lot of life on the computer people often ask me for tips so I thought it might be helpful to start a little tips segment here in our column.

computer tips

Adding a new page in MS word

Most of us will keep pressing the enter key to move to a new page. I am a great believer in keyboard shortcuts. Next time you want to make a new page use CTL + enter keys and *voila*, you will be ready to keep typing in a flash.



If you want more help using your computer, check our course guide for classes coming up next term.

Bye for now

Pam Ridd

Childcare Assistant

We are an established Centre in the rural town of Meredith, seeking a responsible, enthusiastic person to join our team.

Successful applicants will require:

- Relevant childcare experience
- WWC /Police check
- First Aid /Anaphylaxis certificates
- Verbal and written skills

positive attitude in working with children, parents and other staff members.

Award Rates offered in great working conditions.

For a Position Description and any further information please ring Pam Ridd on 0432 909156

Applications close on Friday, October 11th



meredithPolicenews

Leading Senior Constable Greg Kitchen

Well as we close on Christmas, it is pleasing to report that there has only been very few isolated reports of crime within our area. It is very disappointing for me to report that a lady residing on the Meredith Shelford Road had a substantial quantity of red gum fire wood stolen between the 19th and the 22nd August. Although I have some lines of Investigation with this theft, I would greatly appreciate any information from anyone who may be able to assist me further.

In recent months, I have been seeking assistance from any person who may have had or known someone who had knives and scabbards stolen within the past 20 years. It gives me great pleasure to be able to say that the owner of these items has been identified from a burglary which was committed 7 years ago. These items have now been returned to the owner and I sincerely appreciate this information from my article being passed to the lawful owner.

In a recent article of the Meredith News letter, I made a point of thanking the efforts of the Meredith CFA and Bannockburn SES for their assistance and great work at a very serious motor vehicle collision on the Midland Highway, Meredith on the 1st July, 2013. Unfortunately in my haste, I neglected to acknowledge the outstanding efforts of the Meredith CERT who were, as always, acting in a highly professional manner that the whole Meredith community can be greatly proud of. My

sincere thanks to you for your efforts at the collision and for your on going support that you have extended to me.

It is anticipated that police will be utilizing the Automated Number Plate Recognition vehicle again in and around Meredith during October. This technology has the ability to detect offences and identify matters relating to the sheriffs office and has the ability to identify unregistered vehicles together with unlicensed or suspended drivers.

Kindest Regards

Greg KITCHEN - Leading Senior Constable
Meredith Police Station.



Funeral Planning Free Info Session

A free information session is being held to provide information, options and advice about planning ahead for a funeral.

Monday, 11th November 2013

**2.00pm – 3.30pm at the
Bannockburn Cultural Centre, Moorabool Room**

Topics discussed will include;

- Steps to planning ahead
- Financial Information about Funeral Plan
- Funeral Insurance
- How to create a memorable farewell
- Funeral Options

Light refreshments provided and information will be available to take home on the day. For more information phone Alyson at Tuckers on 5221 4788.



2014 ENROLMENTS

EXPLORE CREATE LEARN

Meredith Kindergarten is currently accepting new enrolments for 2014.

Our enthusiastic and dedicated staff; provide an excellent program to cater for the needs and interests of all children. Our classroom and large outdoor playspace provide an exciting and fun learning environment for your child.

**To arrange a tour or to enrol your child, please contact the
Meredith Kindergarten.**

Enrolments Officer: (03) 53 414 655
Kindergarten: (03) 52 861 227

Meredith Kindergarten is provided by Golden Plains Shire Council in partnership with Meredith Kindergarten Inc.

sports



Meredith Cricket Club

The 2013/14 season is now well under way with the boys having more than 4 weeks of indoor training already completed. We are now training every Thursday night at Meredith from 5.00 and would love to see some new faces around the club.. The first game of the season is fast approaching on SATURDAY OCTOBER 5th, so if you are considering playing for the Rams this season come along to training or contact one of the club officials as we need to finalise teams for the upcoming season.

The new executive for the 2013/14 season are as follows-

- President- Terry Hart
- Vice President- Brendan Wild / Damien Brunt
- Secretary /Treasurer- Shane Grinter

JUNIOR CRICKET - The Meredith Cricket Club has committed to fielding THREE junior teams this year- in conjunction with the Elaine Cricket Club we will be fielding an UNDER 14 team, and in a joint venture with the Lethbridge Cricket Club we will field an UNDER 15 and UNDER 17 side.

Any juniors interested in playing in one of these age groups please contact Terry Hart on 0418 178513

SENIOR CRICKET - At senior level, last year's coach Andy "Fodda" Foster will continue in the role after a very successful season, taking the 1st eleven into the Grand Final and narrowly missing out on that elusive Premiership. Hopefully the Rams can go one better in 2013/14. Former coach and cricket legend Ty Watts will once again be at the club assisting the leadership group in a coaching and playing role.

Players of any age or ability are more than welcome to be part of the Rampage in 2013/14, come along and enjoy being part of a strong and successful local club.

Terry Hart (President)- 0418 178 513

Andrew Foster (Coach)- 0419 576 291

2013/14 MAJOR SPONSOR-

ROYAL HOTEL MEREDITH

Elaine Cricket Club Inc

Elaine/Meredith U'14 cricket training every Wednesday 5pm. Phone Daryl Wells (coach) 0418535713 for details.

Old and new players welcome.

Milo Cricket at Elaine Recreation Reserve

Ages 4 to 10 for boys and girls

Starts October Friday 25th at 5.30pm

10 week program More at www.in2cricket.com.au



Good First Year for Golden Plains Hockey

Jo Peters

The inaugural year of the Golden Plains Hockey Club (aka The Navigators) was a great success with four teams taking to the field.

Both a men's and women's senior team competed with the women's team making it to the Division 2 finals. An under 11 and an under 13 team gave kids from across the shire the opportunity to take up the sport. The under 13 team finished second on the ladder after the home and away season and although they were unsuccessful in the finals, the young team will continue to grow in strength for the 2014 season.

The success of the club was recognised last week when they were awarded the Geelong Hockey Association's (GHA) President's Award. Alan Climpson, President of GHA, presented the award and praised the Golden Plains Hockey Club for their contribution to hockey in Geelong.

The Golden Plains Hockey Club has been delighted with the enthusiasm of their teams and the families that support them. "We have been very fortunate to have achieved so much in our first year," commented club president Steve Dickson, "not only have we managed to build a strong local hockey club, we have established a fun, family friendly atmosphere that is great to be a part of. The on field success was just icing on the cake."

Steve also gratefully acknowledged the local support the club has received, "the Golden Plains Shire, Bendigo Bank, Landmark and Ray White Bannockburn were incredibly supportive, it was so great to see local business and organisations helping their local community. They made it all possible."

Congratulations to senior players Harry Sim, Mick Breen, Marita Seaton and Bronwyn Burrell for taking out the 2014 Best and Fairest and Coach's Awards. Congratulations also to Callum Seaton, Fletcher Adams, Alexandra Adams and Chris Gamble who were this year's junior winners. For more information about the Golden Plains Hockey Club contact the club at goldenplainshockey@gmail.com

Elaine Tennis Club Inc

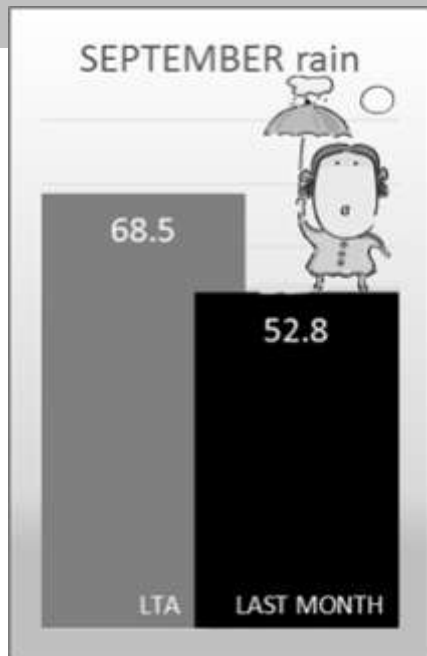
Tennis training every Tuesday at 4.30pm.

New and old players welcome. Phone Russell Ford for further details 0418383931

YOU SUGGESTED...

"...we report rainfall every month."

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Rainfall to 9.00 am 28/09/2013

Bannockburn Surgery

16 High Street, Bannockburn, 3331

Tel: (03) 5281 1481 Fax: (03) 5281 1978

Monday to Wednesday: 8.30 am – 7.30 pm

Thursday & Friday: 8.30 am – 5.30 pm

Saturday: (No Appts) Emergency Session 10.00 am

Dr Cameron Profitt: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday

Dr Andrew Bell: Monday, Thursday, Friday

Dr John Henderson: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

Dr Margaret Somerville: Wednesday

Dr Liz Barker: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday

Dr Amir Rahimi: Monday – Friday

We are a teaching practice with Victorian Metropolitan Alliance (VMA). The following qualified Doctors are with us for 6 – 12 months or more, gaining experience in a rural practice.

Dr Dheeraj Pawar

Dr Ben Fry

Dr Miriam Ferres

For an appointment please phone 5281 1481

Every effort will be made to accommodate your preferred time and preferred doctor. Fees are payable at the time of consultation by cash, eftpos or cheque.

Bookings are available and we are accepting new patients from the Golden Plains Shire.



Rural Safety Expo



Raising awareness of health & safety issues in regional and rural communities.

Thursday 10 October

10am-3pm


Showcasing an array of safety, health and wellbeing information, products and services, including OH&S information booths, training providers, safety demos, presentations and much more.

Rokewood Memorial Hall
66 Ferrars Street, Rokewood

Contact Rayen Molina
Project Officer
e: rmolina@gplains.vic.gov.au
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Tuesday Night is
PARMA night

Kitchen closed
Mondays

Meals available
Tuesday lunch -
BOOKINGS ONLY
(12-2)

Vale Desmond Erwin

Marg Cooper

Des was the youngest son of nine children and grew up at "Highview" near Winchelsea. His father ran mainly sheep on unimproved pasture to grow fine wool! Des had to milk 5 or 6 cows before walking 2 miles to school at Wensleydale.

He told that during the depression they ate a lot of "underground mutton" and lots of bread and dripping. Des worked with his father, ploughing with horses, walking "millions of miles" behind the harrows, making stooked hay, thrashing the sheaves and feeding the horses that his father loved. Des told that life changed on the farm when his father bought a tractor in 1943 for £400. Des was not paid a wage, he worked for pocket money but his father helped to set his sons up on the land.

In 1942 Alison came to board with the Erwin family as she was the new school teacher at the local school. Romance blossomed between the handsome country boy and the city girl and they married in 1946.

In 1968 they took over "Highview", milked cows and bought the coalmine property next door for the water that the mine held so they could irrigate pasture.

Des was an inaugural member of the Wurdale Fire Brigade, an inaugural member of Geelong Artificial Breeders Association, a member of the Winchelsea Herd Testing Association and showed his cattle at local shows. He was on the Winchelsea School Committee, Group Leader of Scouts, a staunch member

of the Liberal Party and his brother Dudley was federal Member for Ballarat in the 1960's.

Their family of Ross, Susan, Ian and Robert were growing up and weren't keen on milking cows for 7 days each week so Des and Alison sold the farm in 1976 and moved to Highton.

Alison had resumed teaching in 1963 in Geelong and Des got a job driving buses for Cooks Bus Lines. They bought a house and land that had belonged to Norm Lowne, south of Meredith township in 1987. Des had bought a bus and a contract from Trans Otway Bus Lines to transport Meredith children to schools in Geelong, and they wanted to live where the daily trip started.

On their 50 acres Des was a farmer again! He ran some sheep and cattle but it was obvious that his real love was pigs.

He told that he bought his first sow when he was still going to school. He sold the offspring for £1 per head and he thought that he was made! Des converted the shearing shed into pig styes and was often seen heading to the pig market in Ballarat with a ute load of young fat pigs. He also had turkeys, ducks, hens.

When Des turned 70 years in November 1995 he had to stop driving the bus. He couldn't even drive until the end of the school year.

Des and Alison retired to a new unit in Winchelsea. They commented that it was like going home. A Memorial Service was held on Friday August 30 at St Thomas's Anglican Church, Winchelsea conducted by Rev Wendy Gravin.



Children's Week 2013



Come and join the Maternal and Child Health Nurses and Child and Family Services Team to celebrate Children's Week 2013 with Bannockburn's biggest pram stroll.

We invite you to pack a picnic and join us, at Bannockburn Lions Park, for lunch after the pram stroll.

This is a wonderful opportunity for families to come together and enjoy some light exercise in a positive, fun, social setting.

RSVP and further details contact Nicole McIntosh, Children's Services Development Officer, on email: nmcintosh@gplains.vic.gov.au or 5220 7230.

When: Wednesday 23 October 2013

Time: 11am - 12noon

Where: Meet at the Bannockburn Lions Park



To celebrate the fun and enjoyment of photography, we publish a selected photo each month. If you have a funny, beautiful or interesting photo, send it in. See page 2 for contact details.

pic of the
month



Creating your own parking bay! - Stefania Parkinson



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 - Insurance work
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- Plans & Permits obtained



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MOLLIE'S COLUMN



Digby

The benefits of owning a pet are pretty well-known: they lower blood pressure, teach children care and responsibility, and make going for walks a whole lot more fun. I grew up with lots of pets, particularly after we moved to our bit of land in Bamganie and had plenty of room for all kinds of animals, from goats to guinea pigs. I've cuddled calves, been kicked by a bad-tempered Shetland pony, fed orphaned lambs in the middle of the night, and laughed myself stupid at the spotted pig who liked to chase cars and bark like his canine pals.

Having seven other people and a handful of furred and feathered friends to love and be loved by was a fantastic way to grow up, and since moving in to town I've been surprised by how much I've missed having pets around. When I head home on Sunday evenings for family dinner, being bowled over by Archie the giant dog, giving Ginger the cat a scratch behind the ears, and wandering down the paddock to give the donkeys an apple, are things I look forward to almost as much as catching up on the family news, giving Tom and Tilly a big hug and enjoying Mum's cooking.

Some nights after dinner, when driving back to my little house in the suburbs, I dream about moving back to the country and having the space and time for a couple of dogs, a dozen chooks and an alpaca or two. I've been very happy living in Ballarat - I share my house with my best friend, have plenty of pals to socialise with, and the occasional neighbourhood cat hangs out on our front porch. But still something's been missing, and I think that something might have been Digby.

Digby is an eight-week old lop-eared rabbit with a particularly positive outlook on life. When I entered the pet supplies store and walked up to the rabbit cage, his litter mates cuddled together in their shredded paper and trembled. Digby, however, hopped on up to the front of the cage and popped his little paws up on the wire. He was the bunny for us.

Apart from the occasional gleeful dash around the fenced-off lounge room floor, he's a restful kind of pet. I chat to him while I work on my never ending thesis, and he occasionally glances up from his food bowl or toys to check on what I'm up to. He's only been here a few days, but I'm feeling the benefits of having a pet already. I'm sure he lowers the blood pressure, and he'd probably make going for walks a whole lot more interesting.



Dedication of Meredith War Memorial

David Jones

The dedication of the War Memorial at Meredith has been effected. On Sunday 8th September 2013 a small crowd gathered to attend the dedication of the War Memorial. As readers may recall, the memorial was moved from a position in front of the old RSL Hall on the Midland Highway to a new location at the Meredith Memorial Hall. The move was the inspiration of Ex-Vietnam Veteran and RSL member Barry Pearce who undertook the challenge to seek a government grant and manage the relocation. Sadly, Barry did not survive to see the project completed but his efforts will be recorded on the installation plaque. Additional work remains to be completed including a metal facade with representative cut-outs.

The dedication service was addressed by local identity Tim Wood who outlined the history of the memorial. The memorial was initially located on the corner where the estate agent office now sits early in the 1920's before being moved to the RSL Hall during 1998. The memorial's present location is seen as being more appropriate as the Memorial Hall does contain Honour Boards listing local participants in the various wars and policing actions undertaken by the Australian Defence Force. The Mayor of Golden Plains Shire, Cr Jenny Blake, also addressed the gathering relating how she, too, had a close relationship with the Australian Defence Force as her father had been involved in World War 2 and she had been raised on a Soldier Settlement farm.

Prior to the actual dedication of the memorial by Sandra Pearce (Barry's widow) and Ross Pearce (Barry's brother), Alan Frisby (Geelong RSL President) explained the role of the RSL in our community. Wreaths were placed on the memorial, the Last Post was played, then one minute's silence before the reveille was heard echoing a new beginning. The Service was concluded with students from Meredith Primary School singing 'We Are Australian' and the 'National Anthem'. A truly memorable day. Afternoon Tea was provided in the Supper Room of the Hall by the Meredith Primary PFA.

Although the relocation of the Memorial has not yet been completed, this opportunity is taken to give thanks to the people involved with the move. Firstly, Barry Pearce. Barry recognised the desirability of moving the memorial and although he was well aware that he may not be present at the end he involved himself totally with the task. He consulted with Tim Wood on the practicality and costs associated with a move and obtained the necessary grant. The grant was managed by the committee of the Meredith Memorial Hall, especially Sandra (Secretary) and Heather Kent (Treasurer) and overseen by Doug MacFarlane (President). A special thanks to Tim Wood who put in much more than could be expected by a contractor. Also, thanks to Meredith Primary School, especially Headmaster Doug Cations. All in all, a special and rewarding experience for all involved. The War Memorial has a new and more appropriate home and, when the installation is completed, will be a significant and inspirational feature in the township of Meredith.



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Date: Wed Oct 23rd-Dec 4th
 Time: **12.30pm-3pm 7 weeks**

*BOOKKEEPING FOR HOME BUSINESS

Date: Wed Oct 23rd-Dec 4th
 Time: 6-8.30pm- 7 weeks **OR**
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 Time: 10.30am-1pm 7 weeks
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 Time: 10-12.30pm
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Dates: Thur Oct 24th
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*IPADS NEXT STEP

Date: Thur Oct 31st-Dec 5th
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CREATE A WEB SITE

Date: Thurs Nov 7th
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Left: We see a bit of Amy in these pages, but usually in a track suit. But here she is with Golden Plains Shire Mayor, Cr Jenny Blake, accepting a framed certificate of **recognition for sporting achievements** at state and national level and for being a fine **ambassador for the Golden Plains Shire**. The ceremony was conducted last month at the council chambers in Bannockburn. Well done Amy!

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in my garden

September is a wonderful month in my garden. New life abounds and all is perfect. There is little evidence, if any, of the ravages of last summer. The trees and shrubs, that looked as though they might not survive, are again a picture of lush loveliness. My garden is at its peak during early to mid-Spring with an array of shrubs, trees, perennials and bulbs blooming in succession. The lawn is lush, the birds are busy and the frogs croak contentedly in the background. My enthusiasm for the garden is refreshed and each morning I wake with the excited anticipation of another day in the garden. The hours pass quickly as a variety of garden activities are completed. Such satisfaction comes from renovating a garden bed with new plants, potting up cuttings that have developed strong roots, or sowing summer vegetable seeds into punnets so that they will be advanced and ready for planting out after the last frost. Yes, the snails are out in force, but are predictable in their habits and can be easily collected from paths and the lawn as they emerge in the cool of the early night to feed. I collected some three hundred snails one evening very recently, making a reasonable dent in the population. This has already made a discernable difference to the survival rate of the recently planted Cosmos, and the look of the Princess Lilies and Clivias.

While doing this I have reflected on how fortunate I am to have this well developed interest in the garden. This line of thought was prompted by a recent reading of the Golden Plains Shire Draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013-17, and a dose of the daily warnings in the print and TV media that we are suffering from an obesity epidemic and a range of chronic diseases related to a sedentary lifestyle. People of all ages are advised to include in their daily schedule some sort of moderate physical activity on most days of the week. Not infrequently walking or working out in a gymnasium is advised. To my way of thinking I can think of nothing more boring than either of these two options. While I do not see myself as a model of perfection when it comes to body shape, I do regard myself as being a healthy and happy middle aged person, and my garden is central to this state of wellbeing.

I am certain that my garden promotes my physical health. Gardening for me involves a

range of activities of differing intensity. A conservative estimate of my gardening activity would have to conclude that it provides for all the activity required, and more for active ageing. Typical weekly garden activity during the Spring involves weeding by hand or hoe, mulching, planting, topdressing, lawn mowing and propagation. This requires a range of body movement: bending, stretching, and walking significant distances often with a load - barrow, lawn mower or weeding hoe in hand. As previously stated, it is not hard to spend many hours in the garden each day.

The garden also promotes my mental health, as it provides an ever-present positive focus which even in the bleakest of times provides a source of joy and satisfaction. It is always a very good reason to get out of bed in the morning. I am sure that it is an antidote to depression and anxiety. I have found that gardeners are optimistic people who, on the whole, are inclined to look on the bright side of any situation. But whether gardeners are naturally optimistic, or have learned to be optimistic because their positive gardening experiences, I cannot say.

There is no doubt in my mind. I am a very fortunate soul to have first discovered, and then been able to pursue a love of gardening. I have not had to pay for a boring gym membership, and have been able to engage in something that I love in order to achieve reasonable level of fitness in both mind and body. Until next month, happy gardening and exercising. Robyn

Post script: In relation to the biggest pumpkin competition, any variety of pumpkin that is used for culinary purposes will be eligible for entry.

Happy gardening.

Robyn





We are delighted to introduce a new regular column. Each month, local resident Wendy Cook will write about something going on at the time in nature, often focussing on a particular plant, animal, bird or fungus. And Wendy is well qualified for the task. As well as holding a Bachelor degree in Biological Sciences, she has an active interest in native plants. Wendy was a volunteer and employee at La Trobe University Wildlife Reserve for several years, worked for an environmental company, and has, for many years, volunteered at the National Herbarium of Victoria (Royal Botanic Gardens Melbourne) working on projects to do with Victorian plants, then on the "Fungimap" project. Wendy has also been a member of "Friends of Brisbane Ranges" for about ten years. In her first column, Wendy points out the many delights in a springtime native bushland.

Blue fingers, hoods of green, sticky traps, bearded flowers and echidna diggings are among the things to be seen in the bush at the moment. Many people drive through the bush, or along roads with native vegetation, and may have noticed that Spring has arrived there as well as in the gardens. From your car, you can see the golden flowers of wattles and pea bushes, hakeas with curly white flowers, and grevilleas with golden-brown blooms. When you leave your car and start looking at the ground, there are many more fascinating things to be found. The picnic ground at Steiglitz is a good place to start, or anywhere in the Brisbane Ranges National Park. You'll see fewer flowers near creeks, but they will be different to the ones on slopes and ridges.

Now is a great time to look for orchids. Our native ones are small and often well camouflaged. Among the first you may see are purple waxlip orchids, which are quite large for natives, with five purple petals and a white centre. There may be yellow leopard orchids with brown spots, or purple or yellow sun orchids, which are more likely to open on sunny days. Among the most common at the moment are pink fingers, small orchids with petals resembling five pink fingers. You may also find white fingers or blue fingers. Greenhoods are harder to see. Some are large and obvious, and some are tiny. They have hoods of green which may have white stripes, touches of brown, or appear to have horns sticking up in the air. One of the most common, often growing in large patches, is the nodding greenhood, with its hood facing towards the ground. There are spider orchids with long green 'legs', and amongst the hardest to find, tiny brown gnat orchids.

There are many other flowers to be seen, including Victoria's floral emblem, common heath, with pink or white flowers. There are other heaths as well, including

beard heaths, which have tiny white hairy flowers. In a month or two there will be other bearded flowers, including bearded greenhoods, which have a narrow hairy yellow tongue, and beard orchids, which are plain and green with a long triangular purple or brown beard!

Among the more unusual plants in the bush are the sundews. Some have leaves flat on the ground, and some grow up. They all have sticky hairs covering their leaves. You can feel the stickiness if you touch them. The plants, looking for extra nutrients, have created traps, and any insect which lands on a leaf will stick to it. The leaf curls up and the insect is digested. Most sundews have white or pale pink flowers on the tops of their stalks, opening in the sunshine.

Harder to see are the birds and animals. Unless it is very windy, you will hear the birds, but they can be small and hard to spot among the leaves of the trees. Crimson rosellas are more obvious with their red and blue feathers. So are white-winged choughs, which feed on the ground in family groups. They are large and black with whistling calls. When disturbed, their calls are harsher, and you'll see the white on their wings as they fly up into the trees.

Many of the animals, such as the possums, antechinuses, brush-tailed phascogales and bats, are unlikely to be found as they are nocturnal, but you may see a koala sleeping in the fork of a tree, or a group of eastern grey kangaroos, or a solitary swamp wallaby, or hear their thumping as they hop through the bush. Another animal you could see is an echidna. Even if you don't, it's easy to tell they are around. If they have been busy digging for their food, you will see the oval shaped holes. And if you look carefully, you may see a point at the end, made by their long nose seeking ants.

There are even smaller things to be seen if you look very carefully (children are particularly good at this) including insects, lichens, mosses and fungi. As Spring and Summer progress, there will be different flowers to be found in the bush, so it's always worth going back to a favourite spot.

Enjoy Spring in the bush, as well as in your garden!

Wendy

Brisbane Ranges Wildflower Show 2013

13 Oct 2013 9:30am-4:00pm

Victoria's diversity of wildflowers on display in the Anakie Hall and in the park. Guided bus tours, local plants for sale, photographic displays and free workshops. Location - Anakie Hall, Staughton Vale Road Anakie - only 1 hour from Melbourne city between Geelong and Bacchus Marsh. \$5 entry.

Pasture Updates for Meredith District Farmers

Pasture updates at Meredith and Winchelsea in October will provide farmers and landholders with information to help them improve growth and production. The events follow the theme '*Shear Growth – Meeting the Demand*' and will feature a range of expert speakers on topics to drive pasture growth, improve grazing technology, achieve the most out of crops, and improve lamb nutrition and health.

They are part of a series of pasture updates being presented by the Grassland Society of Southern Australia in conjunction with Meat and Livestock Australia (MLA). The Meredith update will be on October 22 at the Memorial Hall while the Winchelsea program will be on October 23 at the recreation reserve, both running from 9.00am - 3.30pm. The programs will feature Graeme Sandral from New South Wales Department of Primary Industry on perennial legumes, including new research and options to successfully establish them.

How and why lamb fatalities happen will be discussed by Natarsha Williams from the Victorian Department of Environment and Primary Industries, while her colleague Peter Bailey will speak about ewe and lamb nutrition and early weaning strategies. Jeff House from Auswest will outline strategies for finishing livestock and hitting critical joining targets, Lee Menhenett from Incitic Pivot Fertilisers will speak about phosphorous levels for driving legumes for greater total pasture production, and James Whale from Mike Stephens and Associates will look at farm budgeting. A local case study and an MLA tools session will also feature on the program. Grassland Society past president Stuart Kemp said the updates would raise awareness of research outputs from MLA and partners, showcase producers who have made successful on-farm changes and highlight improved pasture technologies. Mr Kemp said the speakers and topics would be relevant to local areas. "The underlying driver is to improve pasture production systems which will result in more growth and more meat for producers," he added. To register or for more information contact the Grassland Society of Southern Australia on 1300 137 550 or email office@grasslands.org.au. It will cost \$15 for non-members of the Grassland Society of Southern Australia and \$10 for members.

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Swine flu isn't a problem for pigs,
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Issues with gambling

It is important at this time of the year to talk about gambling issues. Particularly, when the festivities and media attention associated with the Spring Racing Carnival is so enticing. It is a season which provides excitement, glamour, social and corporate celebrations and of course we all know that the whole nation stops to watch the Melbourne Cup. But for some the fun ends in a state of emotional and financial distress.

Every year following the Spring Carnival, Gambler's Help Services become inundated with people seeking assistance after spending more money and time gambling than they intended. Awareness and vigilance throughout the racing season can greatly minimise the risk of problematic gambling.

The following responsible gambling strategies can be helpful during the Racing Carnival;

- decide on a budget and stick to it
- bet for fun rather than to make money
- only bet with money you can afford to lose
- leave ATM, Credit cards at home
- consider reducing your daily ATM withdrawal limit, including internet banking
- avoid chasing your losses as this usually results in further debt
- be mindful that drugs and alcohol increase the risk of gambling more than you intended
- ask your mates to help you to stick to your budget and support each other to be responsible
- prevent developing a preoccupation with gambling by spending a good amount of time participating in other activities as well, and
- avoid gambling alone as it puts you at risk of losing larger amounts of money and withdrawing from family and friends

If you find yourself struggling to stay in control of your gambling during the racing carnival it is important to seek help and learn how to get back on track.

Gambler's Help services are free and offer face to face support to those with a gambling issue as well as family members. They also have financial counsellors available to assist with managing debts derived from gambling.

Another fantastic service is Gambling Help Online which offers online counselling, information and support 24/7. Both programs offer confidential assistance with qualified practitioners and Gambler's Help counselling services are located in Geelong and Ballarat.

Please get help if yourself or someone you care about has an issue with gambling by contacting the **Gambler's Helpline** 24/7 on 1800 858 858 or www.gamblinghelponline.org.au

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CELEBRATE OUR LOCAL ACHIEVERS - Nominate someone great today!

Nominate an outstanding Golden Plains Shire Citizen for the AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS 2014
Do you know an outstanding citizen? Someone who has made a special contribution to our community?

The Australia Day Awards are a wonderful way to acknowledge worthy people or events that have made an extraordinary contribution to our community.

Golden Plains Shire Council is inviting nominations for Council's 2014 Australia Day Awards. Nominations are invited under the following categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Senior Citizen of the Year
- Community Event of the Year

Nominations are to be made on the official nomination form available at both the Linton and Bannockburn Customer Service Centres, by telephoning 1300 363 036 or by visiting Council's website goldenplains.vic.gov.au to download a form and guidelines.

A one page written evaluation of the person or event being nominated for the award must accompany the form. For more information, contact Council's Events and Information Officer, Georgie Fuller, on 5220 7245.
Nominations close 4pm, Tuesday 26 November 2013.



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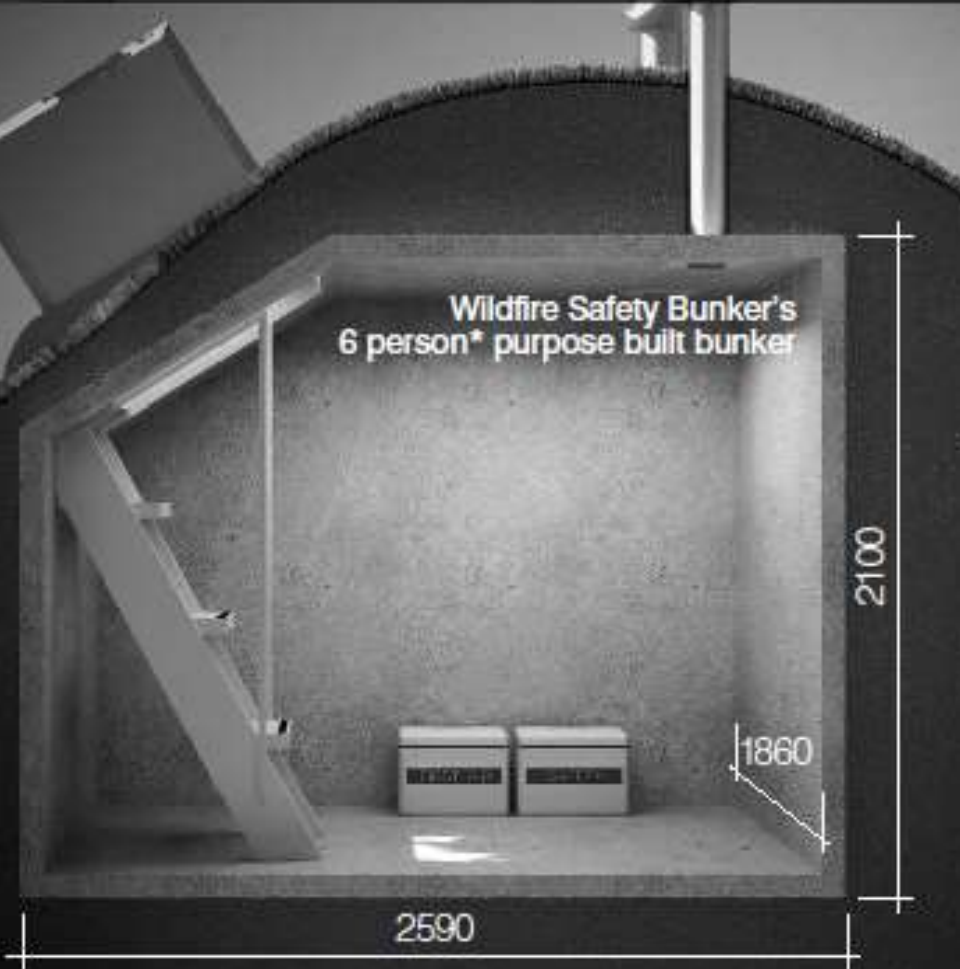
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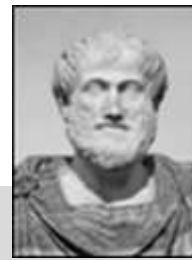
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Marg's Book Review

“Mermaid Singing” & “Peel Me a Lotus”

by Charmain Clift

Charmain Clift and her husband George Johnston chose to leave the rat race behind to lead a simpler life and to have time to write.

George had worked on the treadmill of Fleet Street, they had a nice flat and car in London, good schools for their two children, the first class tickets to the Continent for yearly holidays, the rounds of theatres and concerts and good food and wine.

They chose firstly to live on the primitive sponge diving Greek island of Kalymnos and later they bought a house on the more cosmopolitan island of Hydra.

The two books are Charmain's accounts of the family's life during this time in the 1950's. They intended to stay “a year or so” but ended up staying nearly ten years.

In “Mermaid Singing” she records the family's adaption to the island of Kalymnos, describes the island and its people beautifully and their easy going lifestyle but she also describes the difficulty and distress of the sponge diving work.

The family become part of the local community which revolves around the seasons, ancient myths, religious practices and the sea.

Charmain and George often had money problems but their two children seem to thrive on the free life in the sun.

In “Peel Me a Lotus” she records how they bought a house on the island of Hydra in the middle of the summer tourist trail.

The blurb on the book tells that Charmain Clift's writing was undervalued at the time of first publication in 1956 because she wrote from a woman's point of view and recorded details of daily life. This is exactly the appeal of her book “Mermaid Singing” in particular.

The reader gets a real feel of the island and its people because she tells that the island women continually walk through her house, the plumbing doesn't often work, fresh water has to be carted to the house and food is only available in season and is sometimes very limited.

Charmain accepted the alternative life she had chosen and lived it to the full.

In the 1960's she wrote weekly newspaper columns in Australia. She died in 1969.

The book for discussion in September is “The Second Bridegroom” by Rodney Hall.

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



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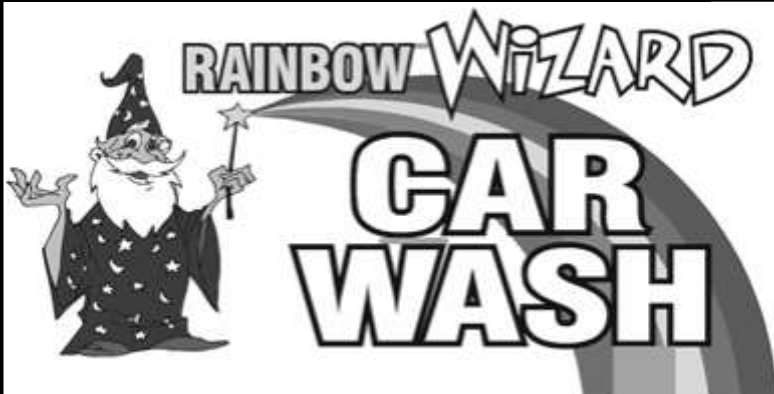
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A Little Education Can Never Hurt

Colin Cook

And a little education area can hold a few surprises. The Meredith Education Area, on the Steiglitz Rd, was formed in 1977 following recommendations of the then Land Conservation Council. The council felt that environmental education is a fundamental step in the conservation of natural resources and believed that areas of land should be set aside specifically for educational purposes. They recommended 15 locations as education areas across the state, ranging from 45 to 756 ha. While the idea was (and still is) progressive, the development of the idea into on-ground actions never really took off and the education areas were never fully utilised for their intended purpose. Many have been renamed or absorbed into other parks, with less than 10 remaining today.

One thing that has always fascinated me about these sorts of areas is their potential to be important little pockets of biodiversity. Because they are often under-managed (if managed at all), not visited very often and generally left to their own devices, nature just carries on and sometimes some interesting things can turn up. This has happened before with old country cemeteries and racecourse tracks, so it's always interesting to poke around in these areas. I joined forces with some members of the Geelong Field Naturalists Club recently to carry out a mammal survey in the Meredith Education Area. We set out 8 camera traps for a week and 50 small Elliott traps over

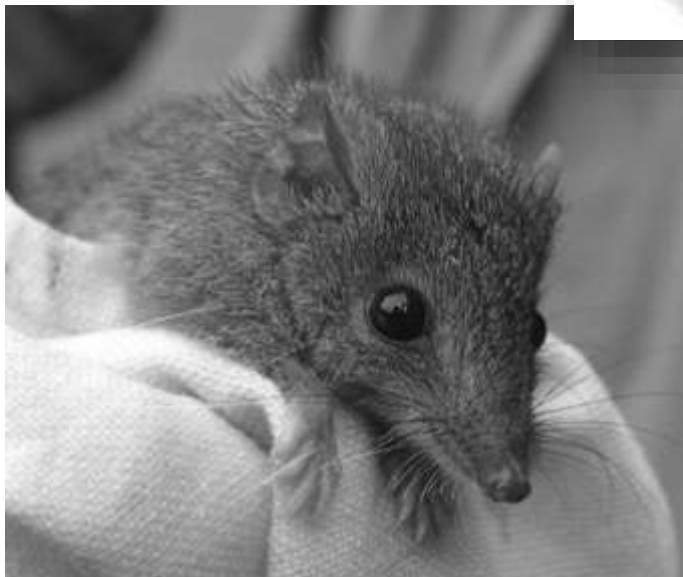
3 days. Elliott traps are small metal box traps designed to safely trap and shelter small animals so they can be identified. All trapping was conducted under DEPI research permits and animal welfare committee approval.

At the end of it all, we had a mammal list for the area which, while not comprehensive, shows the variety of fauna that call the Meredith Education Area home. We photographed and/or trapped Eastern Grey Kangaroos, Swamp Wallabies, Common Brushtail Possum, Echidnas, Black Rats and Agile Antechinus.

Agile Antechinus look similar to but are larger than a House Mouse, with a body length of 80-120mm compared to 60-90mm for a mouse. The eyes have a distinctive bulging appearance and the tail is lightly furred, whereas the mouse has a naked tail. They mostly eat beetles, spiders and cockroaches, but can also eat small lizards and soft berries. They are very active hunters, with swift movements and an acrobatic climbing ability. They will gather together in communal nests, except during lactation when females are solitary. There is a short, two week mating season, followed by the death of all adult males. It is abundant over its range, but it relies heavily on logs and fallen trees for shelter and hunting opportunities.



An Agile Antechinus, one of several species found in the Meredith Education Area natural forest reserve.



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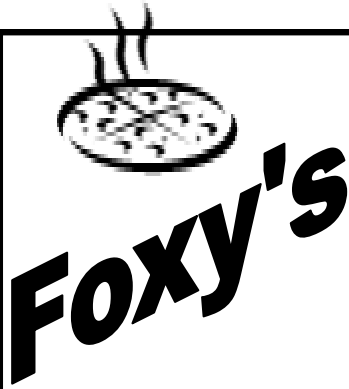
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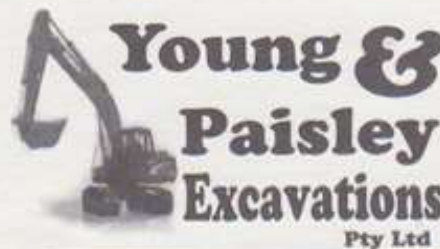
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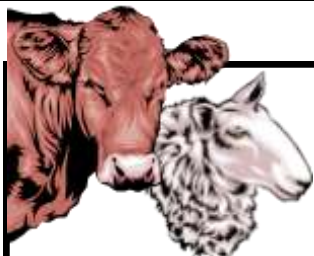


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A Double Double Winner

Marg Cooper

Ted Farmer won the 2013 Football Tipping Competitions at both the Royal Hotel and Morrows Hotel. (He also won the 2012 Football Tipping Competition at the Royal Hotel.) He has suggested to the proprietor of the Royal Hotel that if anyone beats him in 2014 they should get their entry fee money back! Ted won \$750 for his win at the Royal and \$550 for his win at Morrows and says that it will help pay the rates on his house.

In 2012, after he entered his tips at the Royal, he'd have a few drinks then proceed to Morrows to enter his tips, but he'd change his mind about a few selections on the way!

Ted stayed firm with his selections this year and entered the same tips at both hotels. It paid off!

Denise Hardy was equal leader with a couple of rounds to go but won second place and \$250. The four people who shared third place and \$125 were Paul Ryan, Darren Carr, Ruby Hart and Danny Laroux.

Ted has a keen interest in Football. He played for East Fremantle in the Western Australian League, and coached West Perth Reserves for seven years. For three of those years he "propped up" or was Assistant Coach to Denis Cometti (who will call the grand final tomorrow for

Channel 7). And he coached South Fremantle Reserves to a Premiership.

His son is an umpire in the AFL but does not offer any inside information to his father.

Ted follows the Sydney Swans but tells that when tipping one must divorce oneself from any allegiances. He studies hard, reading the sporting pages in the newspapers and watching as much television commentary and as many football games as he can. Still, he says, luck still plays a part.

There were forty five tipsters at the Royal Hotel who paid \$25 each to enter. Every tipster who came to the hotel on Friday to put their tips on received a free beer. Carlton and United is a sponsor of the AFL and to promote local interest they give a keg to hotels to serve to customers for something to do with AFL Football. The presentation to the winners was on Friday, September 6 and the proprietor Damian Kelly tells that it was a big night at the pub!

Wonder if Ted can make it three in a row!



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it's History

submitted by Meredith History Interest Group

Moranghurk Soldier Settlement Commemoration

On the sunny Sunday afternoon of September 15 a crowd gathered on the roadside adjacent to Moranghurk gate to honour and commemorate the Soldier Settlers on Moranghurk Estate, JF Payne, LSG Frankel, GM Lloyd, WF Stephen, AJ Concannon, HB Cooke, FM Phillips, FJ Williams, PC Lamb, CB Renew, EK Supple, WH Saffin, KA Kilsby, A Hall, CM Harrold, V Scanlon, KA Black, HR Helwig, HM Mohr, EJ Tansley, OJ Cook, D Woolstencroft, JV Bird, LW Tipper, G McFarlane, DMR Hughan.

The four surviving settlers were invited to come, to tell of their experiences and to unveil the plaque. Unfortunately Harold Cooke could not attend but Sandy Concannon, Keith Black and Owen Cook did attend.

Sandy Concannon was allocated Block 4 in the first Portion, Keith Black was allocated Block 17 in the Second Portion and Owen Cook was allocated Block 21 in the Third Portion of Moranghurk Estate.

Marg Cooper welcomed everyone and then told about the acquisition and division of Moranghurk into 26 blocks by the Soldier Settlement Commission before Doug McFarlane related some history of the Soldier Settlement Scheme. The three settlers each addressed the crowd after an introduction which briefly outlined their war service. It is interesting that Sandy, Keith and Owen were all in the RAAF and were all involved in many dangerous bombing flights. Sandy, Keith and Owen were invited to each hold and lift a corner of the Australian Flag and Owen's wife Faye and Gay Tansley, the wife of Ted Tansley (dec) were invited to hold and lift the 4th corner in recognition of the contribution of the women to the settlement. The plaque secured to a large rock was revealed to show an impressive, clear but detailed map of all the blocks in the three portions and the names of all the settlers.

Cr. Jenny Blake, Mayor of Golden Plains Shire, who herself is a daughter of a Soldier Settler and who went to school in Geelong with children of Moranghurk settlers gave a stirring talk about the need to commemorate and to record this history.

Simon Ramsay, MLC for Western Victoria representing Hugh Delahunty Minister of Veteran Affairs endorsed Jenny's remarks and was then kind enough to retrieve a reduced sized front cover of the book from a small quadcopter that was flown to land in front of the proceedings. The pilot was Marg's grandson Myles.

Simon Ramsay then declared that indeed the book had been launched!

An original song about the Moranghurk Soldier Settlers that had been composed and recorded by Kim Ivory was played.

Jan Phillips (Woolstencroft), daughter of Dave Woolstencroft who was allocated Block 22 in the Third Portion of the Moranghurk Estate told the crowd of her memories of being a settler's daughter.

"We all came to Meredith and breathed life into a sleepy little back water and probably changed it forever."

We wouldn't have missed the experience for the world and are sorry that our parents are not here to witness this special day and to be acknowledged for all their endeavours.

I remember an almost treeless piece of land, the Coolebarghurk creek wandering through the back section, the beautiful dry stone wall, the howling wind blowing under the house and making the lino float, picking up rocks and Dad getting his explosive licence to blast the huge boulders, Church, Sunday School and Youth Group, Gymkhanas, swaggies, chip heater in the bathroom, Mum learning to drive in the paddock, poor years when sheep sold for 5 shillings, steam trains, Guy Fawkes night, Dad gaining his pilot's licence, the arrival of our baby brother, neighbouring girls coming to play, Brownies with Rosemary Stark as Leader and travelling to school. The neighbours took it in turns to take the ten settler children from south of Meredith on the Midland Highway to school.

Dad only had a truck so he obtained a plywood Ford box, tipped it in its side, secured it to the back of his truck, added a rough seat and thus could transport the ten children with ease.

Our parents taught us to work hard and to persevere; the value of money and to be resourceful; to be involved in the local community; to be givers and not takers and to help others."

Meredith History Interest Group considered that it was time to commemorate the Soldier Settlement of Moranghurk Estate so obtained grants from Veteran Affairs, Holsworth Local Heritage Trust and Golden Plains Shire and organised the day to unveil the plaque and to launch the book that Marg Cooper has written about the settlers "This is their Story" and what was going on in the community at that time "Associated Topics".

One book in two volumes!

Meredith History Interest Group would like to sincerely thank all the people who helped to make this commemoration day such a great event including Liz and Ross Wilkie of Moranghurk who insisted that the afternoon tea after the ceremony be held in their beautiful garden. What a delightful setting for a delicious afternoon tea!

John Davies died at "Spring Vale" in November 1910. About six weeks before he died he decided to return to his old home "Spring Vale".

He had previously handed over the place to his son John, in the meantime residing privately in Meredith. At the time of his removal back to "Spring Vale" it was known that he no hope of recovery but the wish to die in the home that he had built was paramount with him.

He was in his 83rd year and was born in Herefordshire in England. He came to Australia in the 1850's and has been a resident of this district for over 50 years.

The residence in which he passed his last days was built by him in 1863 and he gradually extended his possession until at last he was able to give his sons sufficient land for them to become prosperous farmers or graziers.

He leaves four sons and two daughters to mourn his loss.

the Meredith Advertiser November 25, 1910.

If you know anything about John Davies, or his family, or where "Spring Vale" was please let us know.

Meredith History Interest Group

Recently we have been adding information to the "Who Lived in My House" folders.

You are invited to visit and help or to talk history on the last Thursday of the month at the Anglican Church from 9 am.



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it's History

Joseph Rice & the Devil's Hotel

The Golden Fleece Hotel, often referred to as "Watson's", was a lively establishment located on the north-east corner of the Steiglitz Road crossing of the Coolebarghurk Creek. It was a popular staging point for the many thousands travelling between Geelong and the Ballarat diggings. Here's an early account of one traveller's experience.

"Burrows in the morning had a fearful tale to tell about his night's lodging. He sat up till one o'clock, among, as he called it, the drunk, blasphemous crowd": when it appeared to be somewhat quiet, he turned in to get a little sleep. Next to him on the table, a man had been sleeping and snoring, like a pig, in his drunken sleep for some time. "Just as I had dropped into a doze", Burrows said, "the fellow put his arm around me and hugged and pulled me about, calling me his dear Jenny and protested how he loved me and tried to kiss me. As soon as I could get free of the brute, disgusted, I sprang off the table, dragging my blankets with me. I rolled them up and left the wretched den. They call it the Devil's Hotel don't they?" "Yes", I said, "that's what it is called." "Rightly named too", he replied, "I hope, please God, I will never enter such a house again".

1852 Account by Henry Mundy

At the time of this incident the hotel was owned by Joseph Rice. He took over the Golden Fleece Inn as a Pastoral Run Licence in January 1851, from James Ritchie, and held the licence until at least 9th November, 1852, when a tragic incident occurred....

"9/11/1852. Rice's Public House

Three diggers from Eureka were returning to Geelong, camping at Rice's public house. One of them, a man named Baker, was taking a fowling-piece* from under the dray when it caught in the canvas and accidentally fired. Baker was hit in the head and died from injuries."

**an early form of shotgun*

Joseph Rice claims to have arrived in "The Colony" on 17th August, 1840, possibly as ship's crew. He probably came from London, as he said that he served his apprenticeship as a Licenced Victualler there. He worked as steward/chief steward on the steamships "Vesta" and possibly "Aphrasia", plying between Melbourne and Geelong. He was associated with the Geelong Steam Navigation Company and worked as a steward on the Lady Bird between Launceston and Geelong. In 1855 he bought the Black Bull Hotel in Malop Street, Geelong, which he held until just before his death in 1877. The Black Bull building (which had a real stuffed bull on top) still stands, much altered, as shops around 30 Malop Street, Geelong.

Written by Hazel (Cherie) Burton, great-granddaughter of Joseph Rice.©

With thanks to the people of Meredith, especially Margaret Cooper, Susie, and Mandy, and to the staff at the Geelong Heritage Centre.

Watson's Golden Fleece Hotel was on the eastern side of the Coolebarghurk Creek 30 miles from Geelong on the Buninyong Road. He had it for sale on 14/2/1846.

Henry Lawler, a late master of the "Aphrasia" procured the licence on 11/3/1846. He advertised it for sale on 4/4/1846. William Ritchy had the hotel from 17/4/1849 until 25/1/1850. Andrew Ritchy took over on 4/4/1850.

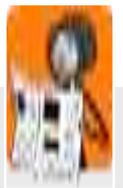
Joseph Rice took over Ritchy's Inn on 2/1/1852. But the days of Watson's Hotel were numbered. A road from Geelong to Ballarat was then being surveyed leaving Watson's a quarter of a mile to the right and the nucleus of the township of Meredith was formed half a mile from Watson's.

Richard Gosling

Tell us if you have any
Community News,

...and we'll tell the
Community!

See info panel on p. 2 for contact details.



Henry Lawler

Henry Lawler was born in Portsmouth, England. In 1819-1820 he was on a ship bringing convicts to Australia.

He and his wife Elizabeth and son Henry migrated to Sydney in 1838. He captained many boats around the coast and particularly to Tasmania and Port Phillip from Sydney. He supervised the building of the "Aphrasia" at Clarence Town in NSW and Mrs Lawler named her at the launching. The "Aphrasia" became the first steam boat into Port Phillip Bay and went into service as a ferry between Geelong and Melbourne.

Captain Lawler was the pioneer of Steam Navigation in Port Phillip. The family lived in Newtown in Geelong, off Aphrasia Street. They were early settlers there amongst the vineyards.

In 1846 he was running the Golden Fleece Hotel at Meredith and Lawler Street is named after him. Eventually the family moved to Williamstown. Henry Lawler died there aged 65 years in 1863.

Based on excerpts from "Captain Henry Lawler-My Ancestor" by Carol Stals (Lawler).

brain
gym



4	9	2
3	5	7
?	?	?

Complete the square, so that all columns, rows and diagonals add to the same number.

By using the numbers 8, 1 and 6, all the numbers 1 to 9 are used, and all columns, rows and diagonals add to 15.

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Dr Alexandra Pearce BVSc (Hons), MPhil has worked in both mixed and equine practices in Victoria and as an Intern in Equine Medicine and Surgery at the Equine Centre in Werribee. Alexandra is an authorised Australian Stud Book veterinarian.

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Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

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Bannockburn VIC 3331
Phone: 5281 1519

Exciting changes starting this month!!!

Pharmacist's

To further increase our service levels at the Pharmacy we are excited to announce that customers will now have increased access to a Pharmacist. In October we will have Cindy working 4 days per week, then in November she will be working 5 days per week. This means that when Scott and Cindy are both working there will always be a Pharmacist working on the floor to help customers and answer any questions with regards to your medications or any health related enquiries. You will also be able to clearly notice Scott & Cindy as they will be wearing the White Pharmacist Jackets.

Do your medicines need a Check Up?

As part of our increased services we are excited to announce that we will be offering **FREE MedsChecks** to customers.

A MedsCheck is a service funded by the Australian Government and involves 1-on-1 time with Scott or Cindy, in the pharmacy to discuss all your medicines. There is no cost to you to receive a MedsCheck service.

A MedsCheck will help you better manage your medicines. It will help you:

- Increase your knowledge about your medicines.
- Increase your confidence in using your medicines.
- Reduce your risk of an avoidable trip to hospital.

A MedsCheck takes between 20-30 minutes to complete and you will be provided with an up to date Medication List to take home with you.

If you would like to make a time to have a FREE MedsCheck done in the Pharmacy **please call Scott or Cindy** at the Pharmacy on **5281 1519**.

Healthpoint

During October we will have a new health information computer installed in the Pharmacy. Healthpoint is a touch screen computer which has over 3,500 fully referenced & accredited health topics. There are also 19 health assessments from major health associations. Plus all topics can be printed in the pharmacy or emailed to you at home. This machine is very easy to use and is a fantastic way to access health information without having to search the internet. Our Pharmacists will also have an iPad with this program on it that they can use when assisting you with any questions about your medications or health related enquiries.

20% off Bag Sale

From **Thursday 10th to Saturday 12th October** we have our 20% off Bag Sale on again. If you normally receive our catalogues in your letter box you will receive a promotional bag for this sale. If not please call in and collect one from the Pharmacy. See bag for terms of conditions of sale.

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Saturday: 8:30am - 1:00pm
Sunday: Closed
Public Holiday's: Closed

Christmas Shopping Night: Thursday 21st November (6:30pm – 9:00pm)