

# Meredith & district Newsletter



September 2013

Our Community Newsletter since 1972

Distributed FREE to district residents

PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE VERSION

## Grants Announced

Golden Plains Shire last month announced its distribution of Community Grants for 2013/14 in a ceremony held at Rokewood. 35 community groups will share in nearly \$85,000 in grants that will help fund around \$275,000 worth of works. This brings the total allocations since the program began in 1996, to over over \$2.1 million.

Local projects among the allocations were:

- Refurbishment of Toilets at RSL Hall in Meredith Stage 2- \$5000 (Meredith Angling Club)
- Meredith Visitor Centre - Bolte Display - \$5000 (Meredith Community Coordinators)
- New Goal Posts for Meredith Recreation Reserve Oval - \$2000 (Meredith Crocs Junior Football Club)
- Trailer and Moveable Equipment - \$1163 (Meredith Kindergarten)
- Continued Maintenance and Refurbishment - \$2200 (Meredith Memorial Hall)

Golden Plains Shire Council's annual community grants program is advertised each year and provides funding on a dollar for dollar basis to community projects that meet Council's assessment criteria, while encouraging the development of community spirit and teamwork.



The Meredith Junior Crocs celebrate their Grand Final win with a salvo of party poppers.

*Full story on page 6.*



## in this issue....

- Dedication of War Memorial
- Readers' Survey - What You Think!
- Tia Chi Team back to China
- Working in Sri Lanka
- Water Watch Report
- Vale Beb Cameron

... and the usual more!

**e:** [news@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:news@meredithnews.com.au)

**w:** [www.meredithnews.com.au](http://www.meredithnews.com.au)



40  
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, 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](mailto: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	<b>FREE**</b>

\*\*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](mailto: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](http://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

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

### 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



"The whole aim of practical politics is to keep the populace alarmed (and hence clamorous to be led to safety) by menacing it with an endless series of hobgoblins, all of them imaginary.."

H. L. Mencken

### ...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

### Comments Sought on Health & Wellbeing Plan

(from media release)

GPS Council is seeking community feedback on its new draft Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan 2013/2017, which identifies actions to address community needs. The Plan will also guide future health and wellbeing planning and includes the following Key Priorities:

- Connected Communities
- Healthy Active Communities
- Healthy Built Environments
- Access to Local Community Health and Community Services
- Access to Transport
- Access to Local Education and Employment Opportunities
- Public Health

'Healthy People Healthy Places' provides the overarching framework for all policies and partnerships that must be in place if people in Golden Plains Shire are to enjoy good physical and mental health.

The draft plan is available at [goldenplains.vic.gov.au](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au) for public comment until Tuesday 10 September 2013.

Written submissions can be addressed to Golden Plains Shire Council, PO Box 111 Bannockburn VIC 3331, or [enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au) by 3pm, 10 September 2013. Further information is available from Rebecca Hickey, Health and Wellbeing Team Leader on 5220 7111.

### Dedication of War Memorial

David Jones

A dedication service for the relocated war memorial will be held at the Meredith Memorial Hall on **Sunday 8th September, starting at 2.00 pm.**

The memorial was originally located in the centre of town, on the corner of the Midland Highway and Staughton Street. Because of congestion at that site, it was moved some 15 years ago to the nearby RSL Hall on the highway.

The recent move to the Memorial Hall was instigated by Vietnam Veteran and RSL member, Barry Pearce, who recognised that, as the RSL was no longer being used by the RSL sub-branch, the memorial would be more suitably located at the Memorial Hall. (The RSL Hall was donated to Golden Plains Shire and is currently occupied by the Meredith Angling Club.)

The relocation was funded by a grant from the "Restoring Community War Memorial Grants Program." Sadly, Barry died before the project was completed.

Members of the public are invited to attend this important ceremony.

### Meredith Senior Citizens

Jim Hynds.

Our Annual General meeting was held on July 15, 2013.

The results of the election of office bearers was: President Mr Jim Hynds, Vice President, Mrs Joanne Primmer, Secretary, Mrs Robyn Gallichio, Treasurer, Mrs Sandra Pearce, Luncheon Organizer, Mrs Joanne Primmer. Dianne Stevenson the retiring Treasurer has decided to take a well earned rest. She worked tirelessly for the group and we wish to thank her from the seniors and the committee.

Sandra Pearce gracefully accepted the nomination for Treasurer and the committee are looking forward to working with her. Our planned bus trip to Geelong Wool Store on July 27 ran into trouble! At 7am the bus driver rang to inform us that he had taken ill and that he would be unable to drive the bus on that day. A mad scramble by Joanne Primmer followed, to ring members to inform them of the cancellation of the trip. (A great job, Jo.) Some of the members decided to car pool and headed to the Geelong Wool Museum and for lunch. I was informed that they all had a great day. Some of our members have been on the sick list. Lila East is making a great recovery, Linda Hynds has had a foot and hip operation and Betty Hayes, a long standing member will spend some time in hospital after an accident with a car in Meredith recently. We wish them all well and a speedy recovery.

### Country Emporium Garage Sale

Marg Cooper

Andrew and Robert advertised that they had a large quantity of eccentric goods to sell. They offered to contribute the proceeds to a local charity.

Locals also contributed goods for the sale and Heather, Betty and Margaret worked tirelessly to display and sell, from early morning until mid afternoon. And so the biggest GARAGE SALE in Meredith took place on Saturday July 27 on the footpath and road side in Staughton Street. It was a great success!

Cupboards got cleaned out, buyers snapped up bargains galore, locals and travellers mingled, talked and traded and Izy and Brad kept them well fed by cooking sausages on the barbeque. Andrew and Robert were delighted with the day but they have more eccentric goods to sell. They propose to have another Garage Sale in Spring. Watch for the date!

Maybe you can contribute goods and come along to enjoy the party atmosphere in Staughton Street and help a local charity.

### Classifieds

#### For Sale

Cymbidium Orchids. Various colors, sizes and prices.  
Ph 52 861 393



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

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

#### Bannockburn

10.00am 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays Holy Communion

10.00am 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday Family Service

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

#### Inverleigh

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

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

11.00am 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday Holy Communion

Parish Office, Byron St. Bannockburn. Open Wed; call in for cuppa & chat. Enquiries, Parish Secretary, Fay McFarlane; Office 52812553, Home, 52861283; Mob 0407502794.

### MORRISONS ANGLICAN CHURCH

Contact: 5368 1342. 9am every 2nd & 4th Sunday and a combined service at one of our three churches on the 5th Sunday in the month.

**UNITING CHURCH** Monthly 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:** September 1/15/29th at 11.00 am

**Meredith:** September 8/22nd at 11.00 am

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

## Come Planting

A planting bee will be held at the Police Paddocks on **Sunday 15th September**, starting at 10.00 am from the Campion Street Car Park. The aim will be to plant around 150 trees and shrubs along the pathway and carry out any tidy up work. Why not bring your gloves and garden trowel or weeder for a social outing in this beautiful environment?

And if you are interested in what's going on at the Paddocks, you could join the short meeting to follow at 11.00 am at the Community Centre to discuss various initiatives including the planned burning off arrangements.

To find out more, call Jim Elvey on 5286 1273.



## Meredith Community Centre, Inc.

4 Russell Street Meredith 3333

PH 5286 1348 Fax 52861 563

"Working for our community"



Hi all. The Centre has been busy with lots of activity happening over the last few weeks. We have had the wonderful aromas of coffee scrolls and been spoiled to be able to sample the produce of the cheese makers, yum. Learners are bringing themselves up to date with the latest technologies with our iPad classes and creating websites. We have been working with the Golden Plains Shire on an Art in the Digital World project. The project was successfully launched at the dual venues of Bannockburn Cultural Centre and the Haddon and District Community House on 18 July. The Google Hang Out spaces at each location was a highlight enabling both venues to experience each other's event. Meredith Community Centre and the Haddon Centre are providing training in computer skills to help the artists take their work and business into the digital world culminating in a workshop in October to create video and online marketing for the artists.

### Open day

To tie in with Adult Learners week we will be running an open day at the Centre on September 12<sup>th</sup> where you will be able to come and see and try some of our many activities and get a discount on next term's classes if you enrol on the day. See our full page for more detail.

We are busy planning for our classes next term with a distinctly Christmas theme, from making your own cards and gifts to cooking Christmas treats, or making a gorgeous Christmas stocking, which is bound to become a family heirloom. We welcome your suggestions for classes or skills you might want to learn.

We will be closed during the school holidays and looking forward to seeing you in October for the final term of the year.

For details of all this and more go to our website [meredithcc.com.au](http://meredithcc.com.au) and follow us on Facebook

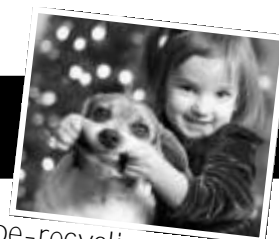
<https://www.facebook.com/MeredithCommunityCentre>

Looking forward to seeing you here.

Pam Ridd

## Go on...smile!

I used to work in a shoe-recycling shop.  
It was sole-destroying. - Alex Horne



# So *That's* What You Think?

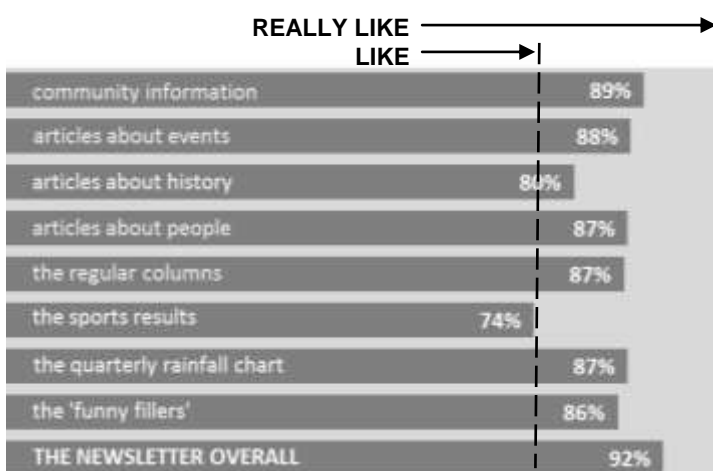


meredithPolicenews

Leading Senior Constable Greg Kitchen

Our readers' survey over the last couple of months gave us some useful information (and some readers a free coffee). Firstly, a genuine THANK YOU to those who took the trouble to let us know what they thought and especially those who offered suggestions for improvement.

The graph below, which converts the average of responses to a percentage, gives a good indication of what our readers like about the newsletter's content. Everything really, although some more than others.



We also learned ...

- All respondents used the newsletter to locate a business during the last 12 months,
- They kept the newsletter, on average, for 19 days.
- Each copy, on average, was shared among 2¼ readers
- Only 50% also read the *Geelong Advertiser*, 36% the *Ballarat Courier* and 61% the *Golden Plains Miner*.

We got a lot of suggestions too, and this is where opportunities for further improvement may be found. (The Newsletter Committee has already identified five actions to take in response to your suggestions.) We will assess and share these with you over coming issues.

For example...

## Ballark & District Gun Club

Location: Ballark Ballan - Meredith Rd

Next shoot: Sunday 13th October

Proceeds to: **Meredith Primary School**

Nominations from 10.30am

Shoot Starts 11.00am sharp

Good food, refreshments and Prizes.

Come along and support your school

Enquiries: Brian Smith 0428 608 238

Marc Canavan 0432 237 389

## YOU SUGGESTED...

"...we add colour to the newsletter."



This is a great suggestion and one we have explored twice in the last three years - and as recent as this year. We do put a full colour cover on our December edition each year, but can't meet the cost of doing that for every issue. We even looked at cheaper options like different coloured paper or ink for the covers. Unfortunately, they all present technical problems or are cost prohibitive. But we will continue to explore colour printing as, we too, think it is a great idea.



## sports



## Meredith Junior Football Club Report

*Campbell Mavity*



Well, what a year we have had. It is all finished other than the grudge match of the Parents vs kids. We will have had our Presentation night by the time this has gone to print so I will submit the results in next month's issue. The Crocs lost two of the last three matches in the Home and Away season beaten by Lethbridge and Inverleigh. They weren't hungry for the ball, but they saved the best to last. Meredith hosted the Round Robin this year so the Recreation Reserve had a spruce up before the event. Willy donated two hours of his time fixing the driveway with his bobcat. We also mowed the oval with a triplet of ride on lawn mowers to get that MCG look ( according to Ed Molesworth). Thanks to Barra and John Baker for bringing their machines in and also to doing the surrounds, showing we take pride in the place. Thanks to Nudie, Ed and family for marking out the lines. It was also good to see a small contingent of locals come out and watch the Junior Crocs, as we only get to host the event once every four years.

The Round Robin was played on Sunday the 18<sup>th</sup> of August in very cold, windy, damp conditions. They were brave players, to run out in shorts onto the field each time, and high praise for our three umpires for staying out all day in it. We were fortunate to have the Geelong Football Umpires Chairman, Brendan Beveridge umpire for the Moorabool Valley Little League again. He brought with him a young umpire in training, Thomas, who is twelve years old who did a magnificent job.

Meredith defeated Lethbridge in the first match. Our coach had problems with his maths, and how many players to have on the ground, but the matter was settled throughout the day. The next match was against Teesdale which I think were the side that improved the most through the year. But the Crocs were victorious again with the still cold wind howling across the ground. The next match was against Inverleigh with the Crocs victors again. They were now assured of a place in the Grand final of the round Robin and it was a matter of waiting to see who would play the Crocs in the last match. I have no idea of the other scores throughout the day from the other matches as I was running around like a headless chook. It turned out that Lethbridge played the Crocs in the Final at the Round Robin. As they are only a side with sixteen players, it is a huge effort for the side to come as far as they have. The Final was played on pure grit from both sides as they had been chasing a bit of leather all day. The Crocs kicked with the wind in the first half and managed a score of fifteen points. With the scores that had been kicked all day, it seemed not to be enough to win. But with credit to the Crocs they shut down Lethbridge who only managed to kick one point for the next half and win the game.

This is only the third time in around thirty years that Meredith has won the Grand Final. Unfortunately, there is no written history of the Moorabool Valley Little League and two Trophies have been lost. After the match we had presentation. The Best and Fairest of the League was awarded to Ako Warakea from Lethbridge. If I have ever seen a natural athlete, it is Ako, and

apparently he can turn his hand to anything. The runner-up for the Best and Fairest award was Jasper George from Inverleigh with the count being close among a handful of players.

I also have to thank Karen for her time to organize the food for the day. Hot food was a very welcome on a cold day. And thanks to the parents who took their turn staffing the canteen throughout the day. Also I have to thank Ian for manning the score board all day. We are a very small committee this year but without support the Club will not survive.

## Elaine Cricket Club Inc.

Elaine/Meredith U14 cricket team starts training at Meredith oval at 5pm Wednesday 18th September. All old and new players welcome. ph Daryl Wells (U14 coach) for further enquiries 0418535713. Beginners welcome.

On Ballarat Cricket Association website Elaine Cricket Club has a webpage for all U14 players and senior players to find updates of all current news and photos will be added there also. Parents and players are encouraged to take a look

## Elaine Tennis Club Inc.

Tennis training starts Tuesday 1st October at Elaine Recreation Reserve. Free Coaching available for members. All enquiries ph Russell Ford President 0418383931. Beginners welcome.

## Meredith Girls Shine

Amy Canavan and Stephanie Ferry have achieved wonderful results at the recent State Schools Cross Country Titles held in Melbourne in July, with Amy placing 2nd in the state. Representing Meredith Primary School in the 11 year girls, Amy was 2nd by the very narrow margin of 0.6sec over a hard 3km course. Also from Meredith was Stephanie Ferry who is now ranked as the 33rd fastest 11year girl in the state and is getting faster in each event.

The pathway to achieve this is School, Association, District, Division and then Regional cross country carnivals, with a placing in the top five in each just to progress to the next level. Both Amy and Stephanie should be congratulated for these achievements and also for the wonderful way they have represented our district.

Amy and Steph also competed in the Victorian Little Athletics State cross country titles in early August with Amy finishing 3rd and Steph a very good 15th. Both Amy and Steph were part of the Ballarat 11yr girls team who won gold. A great achievement girls.

As the number two ranked girl in the state, Amy was in the Victorian Team competing in the National Cross Country Titles held in Tasmania in late August. Here she was placed 15th in the country and her team earned a bronze for their combined performances. On day two, she was part of Victoria's 4 x 1500m relay team which was placed third, winning Amy her third national medal.

Asked if she was happy, she replied: "I'm part of team Victoria at a national championship, how could I not" *That's the spirit, Amy!*

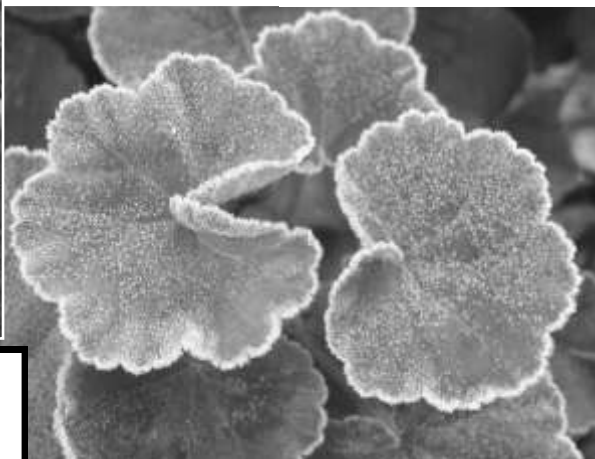
*And thanks to Marc Canavan for passing on this information.*

*Right, one of Jenny Talbot's photos and below, the winning entries from Kerry Thomson and Trudy Mitchell.*



## Local Success in Lal Lal

Lethbridge resident Jenny Talbot's mystical photograph of three arches bridge was chosen as the "Best in Show" at this year's Lal Lal Photographic Exhibition, held last month. She also won second and third places in the Novice Landscape section. Second place in the Novice Nature section was taken out by Trudy Mitchell (She Oaks) with beautifully captured frost on plant leaves. In the Open Landscape category Kerry Thomson (She Oaks) earned third place with a picture of sunrise on Mt Arapiles (near Horsham). With more than 300 entries overall this was a fantastic result. Local residents are encouraged to start snapping in preparation for "having a go" next year.



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Frank Schaefer  
P.O Box 352W Ballarat 3350

## Meredith CFA training

David Jones

Tuesday 20 August was a cold, windy and miserable night. That was the night the Meredith CFA members were invited to attend a road accident and rescue information evening provided by the Geelong Central CFA Rescue Team. 14 members attended and they were instructed on road accident and rescue protocols, such as positioning vehicles, providing back-up to rescue teams in the event of a fire and controlling traffic.

The Geelong Rescue Team demonstrated the capabilities of the extensive equipment on their large rescue vehicle. These included power cutters and spreaders, high visibility lights and various pieces of equipment for ground, height and trench rescue. They related how they had practised in the new light towers at the Cats footy ground and were a bit concerned they may be called upon to lower a patient from the top to the ground.

The evening concluded with a tour of the new Geelong CFA Station followed by tea and biscuits in their warm kitchen. The visit was enjoyed by all Meredith members and they now have a better understanding of road accident and rescue procedures.

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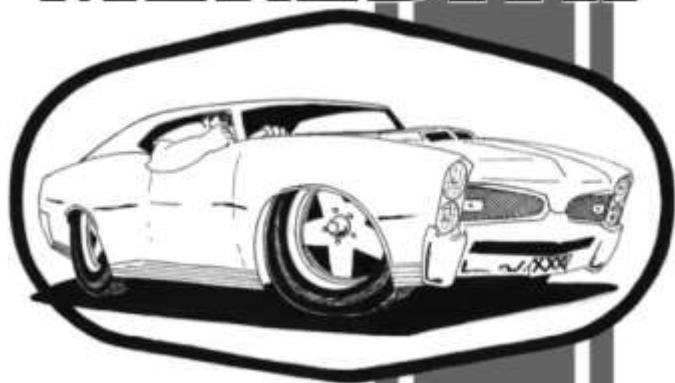


**Mob: 0437 358 307**

## OLD SKOOL STREET CARS GEELONG

PRESENTS

## MEREDITH



## STREET CAR BBQ & FAMILY DAY

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 3RD, 2013**

**10AM - 4PM**

**CONTACTS:**  
**DAVID 0409 919 200**  
**LEON 0407 871 151**

**KIDS ENTERTAINMENT**  
\$10 per car - Pres 1990 only

## Celebrate the 2013 Seniors Festival in Golden Plains Shire 6 October – 13 October

**Come try, taste and see a range of FREE activities  
across the Shire to celebrate Seniors Week. Activities Include:**

- Tai Chi
- Edible Gardening Presentation
- Mini Arts Tour
- 'Let's Talk Tea' Presentation
- Introduction to iPads
- Active in the Park Exercise Session
- Bush Ballads, Songs and Yarns in partnership with Bannockburn Library
- Teas and Tatter Tales in partnership with Bannockburn Library
- Soft Tennis.



**Bookings Essential  
for all events.  
Numbers are strictly  
limited.**

**For further information:** [gplains.vic.gov.au](http://gplains.vic.gov.au) or 5321 1500.

**To book:** The Well, Smythesdale Business Health and Community Hub 5321 1500.

**For events held at the Bannockburn Library,** book online, go to website [grlc.vic.gov.au](http://grlc.vic.gov.au)

**In person** – go to your local library and staff will book on your behalf.

**By phone** – 5272 6010 or Bannockburn Library 5281 2367.



## Tai Chi for Well Being

*Sandra Pearce and Desma Blow*

A form of moving meditation used by people in China since the 16<sup>th</sup> century. This low impact, stress reducing physical exercise helps you maintain health and harmony in mind and body and also promotes mental alertness. Continuous flowing movement is performed in slow motion and coordinated with deep diaphragmatic breathing. Visually Tai Chi resembles an effortless dance, but in reality each movement is precise and performed with internal strength.

Each class is structured to allow people of all ages and abilities to participate so why not give it a go? You will start each lesson with a simple warm-up, then move into easy body movements that require concentration, and co-ordination of hands, feet and breathing. All of the movements enhance inner health and well-being.

We currently hold classes in Bannockburn on Thursday morning and Tuesday evening and Meredith on Tuesday morning.



## Locals Back to China

*Sandra Pearce and Desma Blow*

September this year, eight students from the Lilac Moon Tai Chi School, including Desma Blow and Sandra Pearce have been invited back to attend the International Biennial Tai Chi Conference in Bei Dai He, China.

Sandra and Desma first attended this conference in 2011, thoroughly enjoying the Chinese Culture and expanding their experience of Tai Chi.

As this will be the last conference organised by Grand Master Lv for the Chinese government, it is a privilege for us to be part of this historical gathering.

We are training, training, training; preparing to hold our own in such an esteemed gathering of international enthusiasts.

Our plans for this trip are to be tourists in Beijing, we then venture across to Bei Dai He on the coast for a week's training, before returning home, to share our acquired teachings with our local friends from Meredith and Bannockburn.

Class enquiries; contact Sandra 52 861 545 or Desma 0414 944 926

can you do

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If you enjoy writing, you might like to join our team of local writers who regularly contribute articles about people, places, events, life's experiences and anything else that might inform, amuse or intrigue our readers.

And we NEED writers! One of our great successes over recent years has been the growth in advertising support as more and more businesses find the benefits of communicating directly with a local audience. To keep a balance, we have recruited new contributors, whose columns and articles ensure every issue is a good read.

But we need MORE. And if you think you have nothing to write about, we can help there too. You might be the one to turn someone else's ideas and stories into the written word.

So, if you think you could produce a regular (or occasional) poem, movie review, recipe, observation, commentary, interview or any other form of general interest writing, or just want to know more, PLEASE, call Jim on 5286 1273.

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## Brisbane Ranges Wildflower Show

Caz Bartholomew

A one-day opportunity to see a showcase of Victoria's local wildflowers and plants of the Brisbane Ranges National Park at



Anakie on Sunday 13 October. Get to know some of the locals - 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 basics - The event is \$5 for adults, children under 16 free. Family friendly but pet free event. Disabled parking and access at the Hall. More Information - The Brisbane Ranges National Park is our local national park ... only one hour west of Melbourne and is known for its diversity. This year the

Wildflower Show theme and promotion features the rare Golden Grevillea (*Grevillea chrysophaea*) which is endemic to Victoria and only found in the Brisbane Ranges and parts of Gippsland.

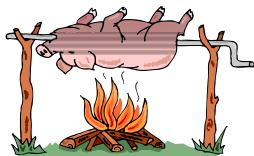
Along with our own Brisbane Ranges Grevillea (*Grevillea steiglitziana*) a rare shrub endemic to this area only, these are just a sample of about 612 native plant species in the area, including more than 100 terrestrial orchid species.

If you would like any further information please contact us at [friends\\_br@yahoo.com.au](mailto:friends_br@yahoo.com.au) or on 0438 945 399.

*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.*



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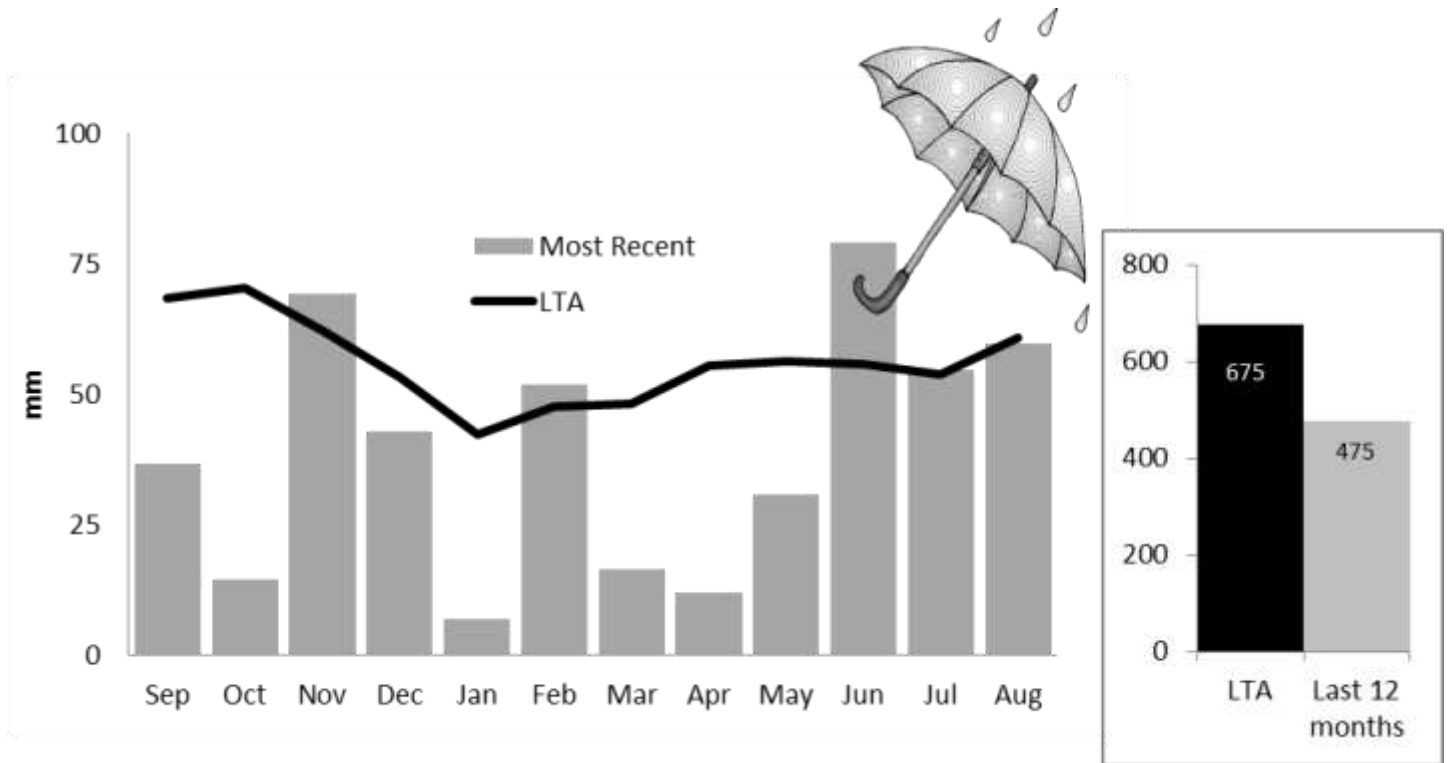
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# Was That Wet Enough for You?

Now that's what we call a winter! Apart from the sunny flourish of the last few days, you could have been on a too long, off-peak holiday in Scotland. But the cold and wind did bring plenty of rain, with 194 mm for the season,

compared to the long term average (LTA) of 171 mm. It wasn't enough to overcome the extremely dry start to the year though, and the last 12 month's falls are still only 70% of the yearly LTA.



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## **Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter**

**Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett**

6 High Street  
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Phone: 5281 1519

### **Thank you for your support**

#### **Pharmacies under threat**

I would like to thank everyone for their support in signing our petition over the past few weeks. For those of you who haven't visited the Pharmacy or heard what the Federal Government (Labor) has done I will explain now the reason for the nationwide petition.

Just 2 days before the election was called, the Federal Government announced major changes to the Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) with no consultation.

These changes will seriously hurt our Pharmacy, and other Pharmacies around Australia, putting jobs at risk and reducing our ability to provide the care and services you deserve and expect.

The Federal Government's Pharmaceutical Benefits Scheme (PBS) subsidises prescription medicines so that essential drugs are affordable and available at over 5,000 pharmacies across Australia. Pharmacists know that Australians need affordable medicines and have supported the Government as it has reduced medicine costs which has delivered billions of dollars in savings.

We also need viable local pharmacy businesses so that you can get your medicines when and where you need them.

#### **The Facts.....**

- Pharmacies are paid for their professional dispensing services
- Recent Government changes have drastically reduced the amount of money pharmacies receive to provide these services.
- As a result, pharmacies will have little choice but to reduce services & opening hours, and may even have to close.
- Pharmacies and their staff were not consulted.
- Local jobs are at risk. Services to YOU are at risk.

We hope that with all of the petitions in Pharmacies around Australia that the new Federal Government reverses their decision. If you would like to know more information please ask us.

#### **New Giftware in store!**

Last month we visited the Melbourne Gift Fair and since then we have had a large amount of brand new gifts arrive in our Pharmacy. We have an extensive range of gifts for all ages plus don't forget if you join our Gift Club you receive 20% off our already low prices for Gifts plus we offer free gift wrapping! Christmas is now only 3 months away so start planning now and see what we have to offer or take advantage and layby your gift purchases. Don't forget we will be holding our annual Christmas Shopping Night on Thursday 21st November. Mark your diaries!

#### **Glasshouse Candles**

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## in my garden

### The happy gardener

The first signs have emerged that Spring must be just around the corner. When vegetable gardeners, of the male genre, turn their thinking to growing the best (the largest) vegetables, this is reliable evidence it is time to prepare the garden for the planting of Spring sown vegetables.

I have been asked by two very experienced gentlemen gardeners to announce the Meredith largest (heaviest) pumpkin growing competition which of course will be judged sometime after the first frost of 2014. The only rule, as I understand it, is that the pumpkins entered into the competition must be of the usual eating type such as Queensland Blue. It goes without saying that the pumpkin must have been grown in the Meredith locale. The winner will be rewarded with the acclaim and reverence that growers of large vegetables seem to attract. As the time for judging draws nigh, details will be provided.

What is it about men and large vegetables? The pride with which one particular vegetable grower held his one metre long parsnip is permanently etched in my mind. I personally am not impressed by large pumpkins, marrows, zucchinis, tomatoes, potatoes, broad beans, beetroot, radish, bananas and so on. In fact, I cannot think of any vegetable or even fruit that is improved by being bigger. With horror, I was transfixed by the sight of strawberries the size of grapefruit, displayed for sale in a Seattle market. (Coincidentally, Seattle oysters are the size of saucers.) Surely, this is unnatural and not in the best interests of fine dining.

I have firm childhood memories of my father, a farmer and nurseryman, instructing me along with my brother and sister, to fill potato bags (sack bags) with smaller sized potatoes and to keep the large potatoes for the top of the bag. The idea was to have a competitive edge: that is, the sale of the best

potatoes - large potatoes. When the bag was opened and revealed large potatoes, it would be preferred above bags of potatoes that contained smaller potatoes. I am not at all sure that my mother would have agreed with this assessment of the best potatoes, as big potatoes are, at best, a real bother to peel.

When I stumble across a 24-inch zucchini in my garden, I do not feel pride at a job well done, but rather annoyance that somehow I did not see the zucchini several pickings ago. A 24-inch zucchini is really only good for chook food. Any dill can end up with a large zucchini. Some vegetables are almost unrecognisable if allowed to grow on. I harvested what looked like a large black skinned turnip, but what I now know to be a black Russian radish that went unnoticed for many weeks. It took many days to work out just what it was because it was virtually unrecognisable.

My own measure of 'best' is all about taste and colour. These characteristics seem to be at their very peak when the vegetables are small and young. Tiny beetroot are much sweeter than their large counterparts. Baby peas are at their sweetest. Small broad-beans will convert non broad bean eaters to become fans. Baby or new potatoes are simply delicious. Lady finger bananas are far superior to any variety of large bananas. Very young leafy green vegetables are prized above their older versions. Of course, fruit that is to be eaten fresh needs to grow on until ripe, but fruit that is to be cooked is often better if somewhat under-ripe.

Anyway, having said all that, I had better get to and prepare an area to grow a prize winning pumpkin.

Happy gardening.

Robyn

## Kindred matters



Judith Emond, Family Therapist

### Assisting a loved one when drinking or drugs are a problem

Families can be distressed and at a loss when it comes to seeking help for members who are struggling with an addiction. The hardest part of all is finding a way to get their partner, son or daughter to recognise that a problem exists. This is due to the fact that the person with the problem is trying their very best to manage it themselves. It is common for them to deny that the problem with alcohol or other drugs exists and they push concerned family members away. So, what is the best way to help?

The first step is to understand the following;

- good people develop these problems and it is never their intention to hurt others,
- it is habitual behaviour which stems initially from recreational use and pleasant experiences. So, when faced with distressing life events the brain recalls these pleasant experiences and seeks them out to provide relief to the pain and suffering,
- be very mindful that there is a fine line between recreational and problematic use and anyone who drinks or uses other drugs occasionally is also at risk of developing addiction,
- shame and stigma are major barriers to seeking help; denial is common and for many people the addiction is a lonely relentless internal struggle,
- it can't be stopped easily, it may take a number of attempts to break the habitual behaviour and don't be disheartened if lapses occur.

The second step is to do some research on the topic. As they say knowledge is power and it is crucial to become more aware in order to help a loved one. More importantly, talk to professionals as well as others in the same situation. Many family support groups exist and counselling is now available for family members to help them to support those they love to overcome the addiction.

The final step is to instil hope and belief that change and recovery are possible. Often the person with the addiction has tried very hard to cut back or quit, and when they can't do it they become extremely disheartened and can loathe themselves. It is almost impossible to conquer any addiction alone so families play an important inspirational role.

Pick the most appropriate time to discuss the problem with your loved one: usually when they are least alcohol or drug affected. Avoid yelling or blaming; instead speak in a calm supportive manner and express your love and concern. You may wish to tell your loved one that together you will find a way to work through the problem and you will not give up on them.

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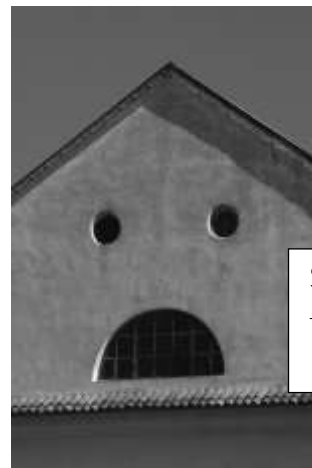
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Caring for yourself is really important when you are helping your loved one to overcome the problem. It is an extremely emotionally difficult task and you need time out to recharge. Attending counselling for yourself will support you to get through it. However, there are also other ways to seek out professional support if face to face counselling is not for you, such as, telephone help lines, online help and support groups. The Family Drug Help service has all the information about help available throughout Victoria. Family Drug Helpline 1300 660 068 or [www.familydrughelp.org.au](http://www.familydrughelp.org.au)

*Judy*



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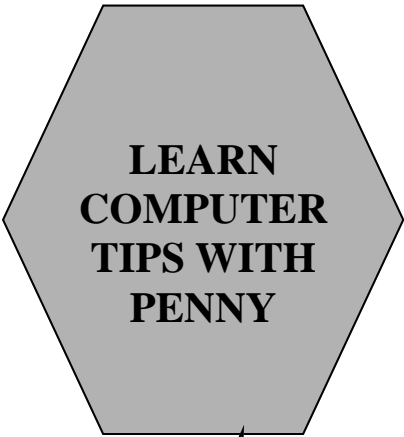
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## Where's Mollie




The grieving started early: our proof readers were rattled by the absence of "Mollie's Column" But all's well. She has just taken the month off, to focus on an Honours thesis, (some people's priorities!!!) and will be back next month.


## Bob Katter at Elaine

Locals believe that it is a long time, if ever, that a Federal MP has come to the Elaine Hall to electioneer. But there was Bob Katter, Leader of Katter's Australian Party, at Elaine at 8.30am on a cold August morning, to support local candidate Shane Dunne.

Bob Katter especially enjoyed the locally produced lamb sausages and was delighted to be given a pure wool blanket made by Meredith Wool Company. Locals, Moorabool Shire representatives and lots of media attended including Win News, The Courier and ABC.



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## Biodiversity and Productivity

Peter Baird

*Meredith residents Stephen Oakes and Ian Penna recently travelled to Sri Lanka to record how a program called "Regenerative Agriculture" is changing the lives of low income rural dwellers.*

A locally-based, sustainable-forestry project is building links with similar projects in Sri Lanka and Stephen is working on two films that promote wider interest in, and application of their shared principles.

Film maker, Stephen Oakes and Ian Penna, of the Ballarat Region Treegrowers, (BRT) spent two weeks filming 'Regenerative Agriculture' projects in Sri Lanka for a BRT film promoting landscape restoration and an educational video for the Secretariat for International Landcare (SILC).

The common theme of the local and international projects is that agricultural practices that focus on expanding biodiversity are not just good for the environment and species preservation, they also boost productivity.

The local project is based on the regeneration of a demonstration site comprising 10ha of degraded former forest land in the Lal Lal area, part of it cleared and part quarried for clay. First plantings took place in 2010.

It is managed by Ballarat Tree Growers, working in conjunction with nine partners including Imerys Minerals, the University of Ballarat, Australian Forest Growers (AFG), catchment management and water authorities, and the Commonwealth's Caring for Country program. They expect that the long-term research program will show that social, economic and environmental benefits are simultaneously achievable with thoughtful planning and management.

The 'biorich plantation' program is following revegetation design principles set out by Teesdale ecologist Stephen Murphy in his book, *Recreating the Country*, and will be filmed at regular intervals, both as part of the monitoring process and as a demonstration for education purposes.

While the local project and those in Sri Lanka have much in common in their principles, the impact of Regenerative Agriculture in impoverished rural areas in countries like Sri Lanka on community health and livelihoods is dramatic and life-changing.

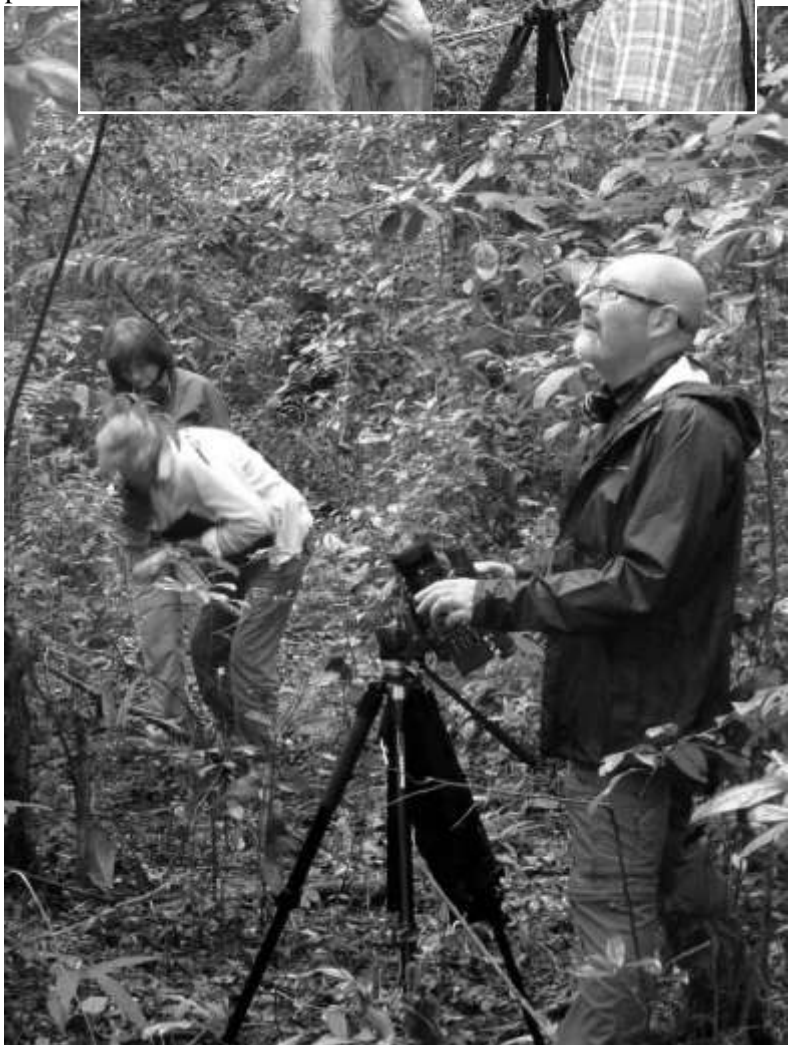
Stephen and Ian saw first-hand the bounty of cooperative farms that were applying these principles, standing in stark contrast alongside the weed-choked and degraded land of minimal productivity of those farms that were not.

Regenerative Agriculture is essentially an integrated system in which expanding biodiversity incrementally builds the health of the land and the range and richness of its productive capacity. Where movement toward monoculture has degraded the land and water

systems and forced reliance on fertilisers, herbicides and pesticides, Regenerative Agriculture moves production to diversity, returning to traditional vegetable crops, combined with spices, medicines and beverages, as well as timber, fruit and nut trees.

In his conversations with farmers, Stephen was struck by their knowledge and their pride in what they had achieved. One he spoke to had given up his city job as a security guard to return to the area, a trend confirmed by SILC reports of rising self-sufficiency and incomes of those applying the model.

*Information on the Lal Lal reforestation site and the film project can be found at: [biorichplantations.com](http://biorichplantations.com). Information about the work done by SILC and the use of Regenerative Agriculture in Sri Lanka is at: [silc.com.au](http://silc.com.au)*



*Stephen Oakes filming remnant rainforest used as a model in "Regenerative Agriculture" and top, filming an interview with a Sri Lankan farmer. (Photos: Victoria Mack and Ian Penna)*

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## Rural Safety

### Council Seeks Stallholders for Expo.

Golden Plains Shire Council will present a Rural Safety Expo in Rokewood from 10am to 3pm on Thursday 10 October 2013.

In an effort to raise awareness of health and safety issues in regional and rural communities the event will feature various safety industry representatives showcasing an array of information, products and services.

These features will include OH&S information booths, training providers, safety demos and presentations and much more.

Council is currently seeking safety, health and wellbeing stallholders to attend the event. Please note places are limited. Hot food stallholders are also being sought.

There are no site or registration fees to exhibit at the expo.

*For more information about the Rural Safety Expo or to register as a stallholder, please contact Rayen Molina on 5344 6444 or [rmolina@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:rmolina@gplains.vic.gov.au).*

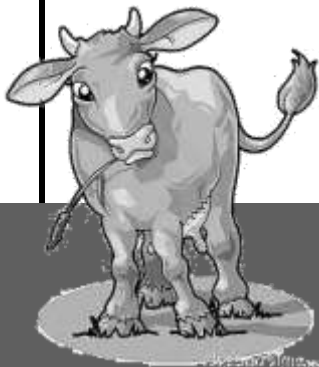
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# Watching Water

*With the help of the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority (CMA) and Waterwatch local volunteers, we plan to periodically report river water quality. Salt content derived from electricity conductivity tests conducted on samples taken from the Moorabool River at the Slate Quarry Road bridge crossing, will be our measure of water quality and we get things started with a background briefing that puts this important activity into perspective.*

## Does it Matter?

A few years ago, Meredith township residents got a taste (literally) of degraded river water when high salt concentrations were experienced at the pumping station on the Moorabool River, where the town's water supply was extracted. Caused by prolonged drought and inadequate flushing flows from the Bungal Dam, it prompted Barwon Water to invest in connecting Meredith to the She Oaks treatment plant.

But that was no remedy for the farms that utilise river water for stock, crop or domestic use. And no remedy for life in its many forms that is found in a healthy river system. At the time, the Moorabool was considered one of Victoria's most stressed rivers and a Fish Survey conducted for the CMA in 2008, found native fish had persisted in the middle reaches, where Black Fish had survived in remnant pools. They were, however, much reduced in number compared to a 1998 survey. Several other native species, some migratory, were not found in the latest survey. Not surprisingly, downstream from Maude the river is in particularly poor condition. So, it IS water worth watching.

Waterwatch, with its volunteer support base, provides an

## WHO?

In the middle of the Moorabool catchment, James Hay, Peter Slater, Janice Cumming, Colin Cook, Ian Penna and Barbara Baird all visit their monitoring site monthly to sample the water and monitor the health of the river.

Their findings are collected and monitored by CMA.

affordable and effective way of monitoring changes in water quality. And changes are inevitable. CMA Waterwatch Coordinator, Deirdre Murphy, explains that there are primary (natural) and secondary (human) causes for salinity. Geological leaching and water temperature changes can effect salt levels, as can fertilisers, vegetation removal, runoff from high salinity land and polluted inflows.

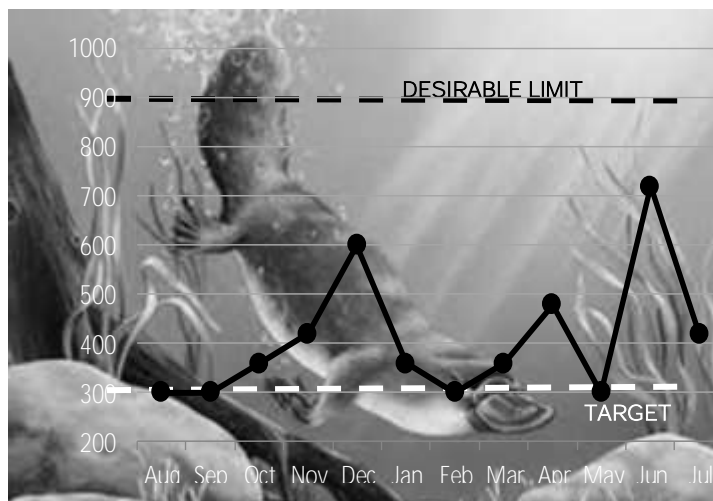
## It's Not Just Salt

The EC/Salinity test is an important one, and one we can all readily grasp. But Waterwatch volunteers also collect data for four other water quality measures: pH, turbidity, phosphorus, and oxygen. We will elaborate on these in coming issues.

The Waterwatch program was initiated in 1993 to enable the community to become involved in the monitoring and management of waterways in their catchment. Waterwatch aims to raise knowledge in the community about water issues and to encourage water quality monitoring groups to undertake constructive action.



Waterwatch volunteer, Barb Baird, tests quality of water samples taken at Coopers Bridge.



Derived from readings taken at the Moorabool Bridge, Slate Quarry Road

## What's Acceptable?

Depends on your species. If you were a chook, your limit would be 3,500 mg/L. For horses and dairy cows it's 6,000, for beef cattle it's 10,000 and a yabbie will die if it exceeds 25,000 mg/L.

If you are reading this however, you would ideally want your water to have salt content of 300mg/L and no more than 900mg/L. And that's about how fish like it too. (Platypus can handle even brackish water for short periods, but are healthiest in low salt conditions.)

The CMA aims for nine out of 12 sequential monthly readings of 500mg/L or less. Each quarter, we will plot the readings for the preceding 12 months.

If you would like to learn more about Waterwatch or river quality, visit [www.vic.waterwatch.org.au](http://www.vic.waterwatch.org.au)



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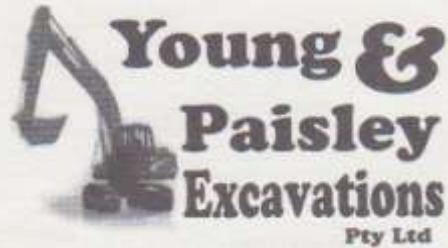
Providing information and practical advice, Alyson Burchell is available for a free appointment at the Bannockburn Family Services Centre on the last Wednesday of each month.

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# pic of the month

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.



Mist rising from the forests of Borobudur Temple, Indonesia - Matthew Elvey



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## Beb Cameron

13<sup>th</sup> April 1925 to 8<sup>th</sup> July 2013

*June Cameron*

Beverley Cameron, (Beb, or Bebbie) was born on the 13<sup>th</sup>. April 1925 the eldest of four children of Harold and Maud Pearson. They lived on the family orchard at Ringwood, then a country area, and she started her schooling at a little school called Winton Grammar. Later Beb and her twin sisters Joan and Judith went as boarders to Ruyton Girls School in Kew where Beb excelled in sport especially tennis and hockey. After matriculation she returned to Ruyton as a sports mistress while she studied chemistry, a prerequisite for her chosen career to study to become a physiotherapist. After graduation she worked at Heidelberg Repatriation Hospital working with returned servicemen.

Beb was part of the extended Hiscock family which had a large house "Nee Morna," at Sorrento where the many cousins congregated over summer for tennis parties, horse riding, swimming, (she had a smooth, flowing stroke) fishing and sailing. The Cameron boys, John and Neil also spent their summer holidays at Sorrento, at Pine Cottage which had been bought by their grandfather (John Browne) in 1911. Neil and John had a Cadet Dinghy called Royal which had a large "R" on the mainsail, which they used to sail around to the bay where the Hiscock family, including the Pearsons, used to congregate. The Pearson girls had a smaller yacht, the Amelia Ann, and one day it appeared round the corner with a large "AH" hastily sewn on its mainsail. When John bought his Jubilee yacht in 1950, Beb spent many summers sailing in Manana, including the year just before her wedding when she squashed her foot between the boat and the jetty, and which became a source of great pain, as was predicted, in her old age.

It was not long before a romance developed between Beb and John, and she became a frequent visitor to the Cameron family farm, "Glenspean" near Meredith. On her first visit, she recalled that John and Neil's father, also Neil, handed her a tin of Fumoflake (cyanide!) and one to John and sent them in opposite directions at Bungle Gully at Bamganie to treat the numerous rabbit warrens.

She and John married in February 1952 and went to live at Glenspean until their home at Mt Mercer, Camberley was built. Soon after the wedding, John's parents went on an extended world trip and sadly Neil snr. died in New Zealand on the final stage of their trip. Beb not only had her mother in law living at home but also Neil, who had just come home after completing his Agricultural Science Degree at Melbourne University. She had some trying times to endure, including Neil labelling her fruit loaves made in an oblong tin, "Beb's Bricks." Sometimes he would write that before they went in the oven, and there was one occasion when he took one which had been left in the oven too long to a party at the Bolte's. She loved the farm activities, and Dorothy Grant, who as Dorothy Mitchell, a member of a worker's family living at Glenspean, recalled going riding, mustering sheep and cattle with Beb.

Beb became involved in many of the activities in Meredith. She was secretary of the Local Association of the Girl Guides when there was a Brownie Pack, and years later when Brownies and Guides reopened in Meredith she served as the District Commissioner. She was involved with CWA and Red Cross, including a Service Company in Ballarat.

Eventually her beloved Camberley was built on the Cattle Gully

paddock on the west part of Glenspean overlooking the Leigh River, near Mt. Mercer. She and John moved in when Peter was a baby. The family expanded to include Andy, Margaret, (Dargy) and Helen (Dinny) and not forgetting Tammy her black Labrador, and Honey her horse, later joined by Honey's foals Sugar and Spice, and the "naughty little thing" Sparky the Shetland pony, and Marcus for whom she gathered grass to feed him as he became old and infirm.. There was also Gingernut, Jersey and Tigger the cats and Talkie the budgie. Periodically there would be lambs to revive beside the ever busy Rayburn Wood Stove. Beb loved her garden, and she constructed a large garden of trees and vegetable and flower beds. She was even given a hand crafted pick made by Jack Collins the well known Ballarat blacksmith, which she wielded to good effect, though her garden fork was the preferred tool. She loved roses, but unfortunately the local possums also loved them. One of the delights of her move to their home at Grenville was the established rose bushes and no possums. She loved the farm and all its activities. When her arthritis first began to worry her, she bought a quad bike to extend her range. In 1968 during a drought, she and John bought a property at Yowrie near Bega in NSW. The family spent many holidays there working on the farm, and Beb had some adventures spraying blackberries from the back of a ute.

Beb became very involved with activities at Grenville especially at the one teacher Grenville School which the children attended, including teaching swimming. She was very involved with the establishment of the local Grenville Hall, a real community effort, and where many community social functions were held. She had been instrumental in the establishment of Brownies at Grenville when Jenny Colvin, known to generations of Meredith Kindergarten families, was Brown Owl. She was an excellent tennis player and played for the Grenville tennis team, until eventually arthritis started to curtail her physical activities. She was also for many years a member of the Ladies Committee of the Ballarat Agricultural Show Society. One of her other sporting activities was skiing which took her and John each winter to Buller. It was here that they met Maija a Finnish girl who stayed on and worked at Camberley at just about everything you could think of, from clearing a paddock of rocks, to sewing, cooking and child minding. They have remained friends and John and Beb went to stay with her where she lived near the Arctic Circle, in summer when John was able to sail with the Arctic Circle Yacht Club. Maija was only one of the many international friendships which she made. Early on there were visitors from many of the countries which John's mother had met through her Associated Country Women of the World, but later there were people staying from the United Kingdom, Switzerland and Brazil, some of whom she stayed with in return.

At weekends there was usually a bush barbecue with neighbours and numerous children, which included the Cameron nephews and nieces.

As she became more physically limited she read widely and tackled numerous crosswords. She made friends with the numerous birds which came to visit her. She reared some wild ducks which brought their offspring to visit for a number of seasons, and always had a collection of wrens visiting every day at Grenville, magpies at Sorrento and lorikeets at Magnetic Island where she and John had a house where they stayed every winter for over 30 years..

In February last year, John and Beb celebrated their 60<sup>th</sup>. Wedding Anniversary. It was a very happy occasion, and notable that the entire wedding party was present, including the flower girl, now senior herself. As a firm Royalist Beb was delighted

that amongst the cards sent from various dignitaries was a large one from Queen Elizabeth. Of course the Australian Flag was flying in celebration too.

Beb was always cheerful and positive in her outlook. She was very hospitable and interested in her many friends, neighbours and relatives both locally and overseas with whom she kept in touch by phone or mail. She adored her 11 grandchildren and they returned her affection. She had a magic touch with infants and young children and they responded to her interest.

Beb died after a short illness in Townsville on July 8<sup>th</sup>. this year. She was cremated at a small family ceremony in Townsville and a celebration of her life was held at the Buninyong Golf Club on the 26<sup>th</sup> July. As Beb had wanted, it was a happy celebration and to the strains of "Let's Go Fly a Kite" from Mary Poppins 11 balloons, one for each grand child were released, and last seen heading south towards Camberley. Her oldest Grandchild who lives in America, sent a photo of her and her fiancé having a picnic in Central Park in New York consisting of Beb's well known specials, egg and bacon pie, chocolate log and her "Chewy Biscuits".

Beb's final resting place is at a spot specially chosen as it can be viewed from the windows of Camberley looking up the Leigh River, and where Beb had many years ago planted an oak tree grown from an acorn taken from the oak tree at her family home Hillcrest at Ringwood, which, itself, Beb had planted as an acorn as a very small child. She will be missed by many and always remembered as being always hospitable, positive and cheerful despite of her painful disability.

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## it's History

*submitted by Meredith History Interest Group*

### Commemoration of Moranghurk Soldier Settlement

*Marg Cooper*

The unveiling of a plaque and the launch of a book to commemorate the Soldier Settlement of Moranghurk will take place adjacent to Moranghurk gate on the Midland Highway on Sunday, September 15 at 2 pm. You are welcome to attend but please ring Fay McFarlane on 52 861283 or Marg Cooper on 52 868201 for catering purposes.

After WWII the Soldier Settlement Commission (SSC) acquired about 17,000 acres of the Moranghurk Estate that had been owned by John Lee Matheson. This acquisition ended 97 years of ownership of Moranghurk by the Matheson family. The SSC divided the land into 26 farms that were allocated to returned WWII servicemen in 3 portions.

The first portion of Moranghurk Estate was settled in 1953. The settlers were: JF Payne, LSG Frankel, GM Lloyd, AJ Concannon, WF Stephen, HB Cooke, FM Phillips, FJ Williams, PC Lamb. The second portion of Moranghurk Estate was settled in 1954. The settlers were: CB Renew, EK Supple, WH Saffin, KA Kilsby, A Hall, CM Harrold, V Scanlon, KW Black, HR Helwig. The third portion of Moranghurk Estate was settled in 1955. The settlers were: HM Mohr, EJ Tansley, OJ Cook, D Woolstencroft, JV Bird, LW Tipper, G McFarlane, DMR Hughan.

Twenty nine men were allocated the twenty six farms: Alan George Mohr died and the farm was re-allocated. Charles Alexander Pratt decided to leave the farm and it was re-allocated. Mervyn Sadler Holgate did not take up the offer and it was re-allocated. The Soldier Settlement changed Meredith town and the district around Meredith, dramatically!

### Lawler Street

On 11/3/1846 Henry Lawler procured the licence of the Golden Fleece Hotel in Meredith. He 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 Henry 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. Lawler Street is named after him. Eventually they moved to Williamstown. Henry Lawler died there aged 65 years in 1863. Excerpts from "Captain Henry Lawler-My Ancestor" by Carol Stals (Lawler). The article tells that she is the great great grand daughter of Henry Lawler on her paternal side.

### "Spring Vale"

Does anyone know where "Spring Vale" was? Does anyone know anything about John Davies and his family?

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 had no hope of recovery but the wish to die in the home that he had built was paramount with him. He was in his 83<sup>rd</sup> 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.

*Meredith Advertiser, November 25, 1910.*

*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*

### "Glenetive"

The Dean family sold the property to Rod and Shirley McKenzie in 1956. Their son Neil was enrolled at Meredith State School in 1961 and their son Charles was enrolled in 1962. The Department of Agriculture trialled different grasses like cocksfoot, rye grass and phalaris for pastures on his property. The phalaris pasture is still well established today. Farm workers lived in the old house on the property. He sold about 600 acres to Percy Musgrove who also bought about 300 acres from Abby Trotter to add to about 500 acres he owned off Coopers Road to make the property he called "Paringa".

Rod McKenzie sold the homestead and 1,566 acres of land in 1964 to Len Crowe and family who came from Goroke.

Len had sold his property at Goroke and bought about double the acreage at Meredith. Len and Philomena Crowe had seven surviving children: Monica, Ambrose, Austin, Maureen, John, Geraldine and Steven. The Crowe family decorated a tree guard in Wilson Street. It features nine crows on the top of the tree guard!

Ambrose and Austin Crowe worked on the farm with their father and feature in football photos at Meredith in 1965 and 1966.

Ambrose was called up, spent two years in the Army and some time at war in Vietnam. He tells that he could not settle after this experience. He spent about 10 years in "the wilderness", travelling the world. Len Crowe leased the property to Brian Corridas hoping that his sons would take it over. But when Ambrose came home he decided that farming was not for him. Austin was also overseas and John had joined the RAAF and became a pilot. Len sold the homestead and 320 acres to Barry Shaw in 1979. Some of the property was sold to McColls and Bakers before this date. Len and Phil retired to Drysdale. Len died in 2002 and Phil died in 2004.

Barry Shaw bought "Glenetive" homestead and land in 1979. After 34 years there Barry and Henretta sold the homestead and land in January 2013.





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## Marg's Book Review

### "Tiger's Eye" by Inga Clendinnen

Inga Clendinnen was born in Geelong in 1934.

She graduated from Melbourne University in 1955, wrote several books and lectured at University until in her early fifties she fell ill with acute liver disease and had to have a liver transplant.

She described it as like falling down Alice's rabbit hole into a world which operates on different principles. She joined the society of the unwell.

"You are granted the dubious privilege of being a child again in a place that sometimes resembles a child's nightmare and at other times a well run nursery."

Waiting for the mysterious interventions of medical science, Clendinnen becomes fascinated with her new existence in the sealed world of the hospital and she writes to aid in her physical and mental recovery. She adopts the vision of the tiger.

The title comes from her determination to emulate a zoo tiger she admired because he refused to acknowledge his imprisonment.

The tiger also emancipated her from the terror of a shrivelling death by the beauty and the completeness of his natural being.

She begins to write about her childhood, her parents and her own history. She recovers half forgotten stories, invents new ones, records her hallucination and writes some historical prose about Tasmanian Aborigine Protector Mr Robinson.

At the back of the book in a section called "Now." She tells that late in the year of her transplant she and her husband built a house on an island in far north Queensland. This was partly to escape Melbourne winters and partly to mark a break with the past.

The bookclub members mostly enjoyed the book. The concept that she took control of her mind in a space where she was not in control is admirable. Many of her stories are insightful and moving but the pages of Clendinnen's post operative hallucinations are interesting only to the dreamer and some of the short stories seem to have no reason. She does quote that the disabling of the body can liberate the imagination!

*The volume for discussion in September is written by Charmain Clift. It contains two of her books, "Mermaid Singing" and "Peel Me a Lotus".*

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## Kindergarten News

*Jodie, Sue, Sharlene, Kylie*



Hello from Kinder, we have been keeping warm in the old blue-stone building by rugging up, wearing slippers and keeping active during these freezing cold winter days. The 4 year old group had a snuggly PJ movie day for their last day of term and the 3 year old group are looking forward to having one at the end of this term. Thanks to Doug again for setting up the projector!! We are getting outdoors for a short while before lunch, we feel it's important for the children to have opportunities to play, run, use their gross motor skills & be able to use their really loud voices outside!! The children are soon warm from running and engaging in physical activity, it's the educators who feel the cold and have to keep moving!! Of course when there is rain, there are puddles and every child enjoys a splash in those so we encourage them to bring in their gumboots and a change of clothes too. Some of our children just love to "cook" using the sand and the water makes the mix so they eagerly seek out the pots with rain water in them before someone else finds it !

The 3 year old group have been doing Winter time pastings and collages that are displayed around the room, they are now doing the story "where's the green sheep". The 4 year old group have gone crazy for collage and have used up all the boxes within a week so time to collect more. We have started a show & share time & library for the 4 year olds , the kindergarten has a great library resource thanks to Mrs Cooke and the book club over the years. We have also introduced some technology, the IPAD, with the children able to access some learning and kindergarten Apps, we have a timer to make sure it's fair and to give each child a turn. We are having a couple of incursions over the coming weeks with the road safety Thingle Tooddle and the Meredith Policeman Greg Kitchen visiting the 4 year old group this time. Next week both groups are having a Special Person's Day, the children invite someone to come in and play and have morning tea, it's very exciting for the children to share some Kinder time with someone special to them.. School transitions are starting and we have a teacher from the primary school coming to spend a little time with us each week, later in term 4 we do more of this. The kindergarten received their notice of Rating & Assessment from the DEECD this term, the QIP is being reviewed and we will most likely be assessed in Term 4. On the last day of term 3 the four year olds are having a Pirate day because its national talk like a pirate day on September the 19th.. ahha me hearties!!

*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



Where do knights learn to kill dragons?  
At knight school.

- Tai





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