

# Meredith & district News



August 2014

Our Community Newsletter since 1972

Distributed FREE to district residents

## Meredith Farewells a Principal Character

Popular Meredith Primary School principal, Doug Cations, retires this month after 12 years in the role. He has become very much part of the community: as a founding member of the CERT, a past member of the Crocs footy team, an organiser at the Meredith Music Festivals, a member of the community consultative committee and a willing helper at numerous other events and activities.

His outstanding contribution to the community though, has been his leadership at the primary school. Under Doug, it has developed as an innovative and enjoyable learning centre. This is in large part the result of his ability to unite and motivate a team of talented teachers.

Early this month, representatives of the community hosted Doug at a farewell function to pay tribute to his valuable contribution.



*Doug and Carol Cations at the community farewell function earlier this month.*



**Come and watch the big man fly (away)** at the annual school footy day. It's Doug's last day on duty and past parents, students and all community members are invited along. Activities between 11.30 am and 1.00pm (including a hot dog lunch) but the school is open all day.

## inside

- Back to Steiglitz
- Lions come to Meredith
- ... *plus the usual much more*

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

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

#### 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

#### FILM GROUP

☎5286 1274

# emergency

Police, Ambulance, Fire (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	1800 551 800
24hr 5-18yo	1300 363 036
Golden Plains Shire A.H. emergencies	0408 508 635
Ranger	5220 7111 or 0409 830 223
Bannockburn Vet	5281 1221
Injured Wildlife	13000 wildlife
Pets and Horses 24/7	0421 617 238

### 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



### ...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 .



"The path to true happiness leads away from civilisation."

- unknown



## Community

### WHERE DO YOU STAND ON INCREASING COUNCIL RATES?

**GOLDEN PLAINS RATEPAYERS ASSOCIATION  
INAUGURATION & PUBLIC MEETING**

**"Our objective is audit council's policies, procedures and budget with the goal to  
formulate policy that results in a more efficient and cost effective shire"**

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE ISSUES FACING  
GOLDEN PLAINS RATEPAYERS AND HOW  
WE CAN INFLUENCE THE DECISION  
MAKERS IN OUR COUNCIL.**

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND**

Monday 11th August  
7:00pm  
Bannockburn Cultural  
Centre Hall

For more info, contact: David Evans denova\_de@hotmail.com Mobile:



**Meredith & District Community  
Emergency Response Team Inc**

**AGM to be held at the Meredith  
Community Centre.**

**Tuesday 26<sup>th</sup> August at 7:30pm**

**All welcome – please come along, meet the  
team and get involved.**

**We look forward to seeing you there!**

Enquiries to:

[martin.peters@ambulance.vic.gov.au](mailto:martin.peters@ambulance.vic.gov.au)  
(03) 5286-1112

## Meredith Senior Citizens

Jim Hynds

A large group of Meredith Seniors met for a luncheon at the Royal Hotel on July 14. Although the weather has been bleak of late, it was great to see smiling faces all around. A varied two course meal was provided by our hosts Damian and Claire and by all accounts was well received by all our members. The afternoon was occupied with friendly chatter and the proverbial raffles.

Members are reminded that the Annual General Meeting is on July 28 at 11 am and we hope for a big roll up.

If you would like to join us please don't hesitate to make contact with our group. You will be given a warm welcome and be assured of a good time.

MP Promotes School Signs  
*from media release*

Federal member for Corangamite, Sarah Henderson was in Meredith last month, repeating her call for electronic school zone speed signs on the Midland Highway.

The matter is for state government determination.

## The HUB

The Meredith Community Hub will go to tender early this month with building anticipated to commence early fourth quarter 2014. The building stage will take approximately nine months. To find out more, contact Terry Fraser at Golden Plains Shire.(5271 1111)



## Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

**For Sale** Border Collie x Koolie Pups. 10 Weeks old, make great family pet, parents great workers. M/C 900012001057854, 1057872, 1058035 \$300 each. Call Ian 0427676976.

**For Sale** Iron frame Piano, very heavy. Stool and music included. \$100 ono. Ph Mary Foster 52 861 459.

**Wanted to rent** Storage space for 3 large commercial ovens. Would need forklift/flat access for delivery and ideally lockable but accessible to enable me to restore them to working order. Access to 3 phase power (just for testing) helpful. Willing to pay a fair monthly rent. Phone 0419 137 815.

## BALLARK & DISTRICT GUN CLUB

Next Shoot: Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> August 2014

Location: "BALLARK"

Ballan – Meredith Rd

Proceeds to: Ballan Rec Reserve

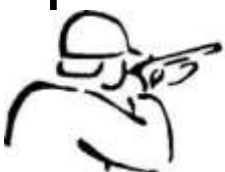
Nominations: 10.30am

Event Start: 11.00am sharp

Enquiries: Brian Smith 0428 608 238

Marc Canavan 0432 237 389

Prizes, Refreshments, all money raised goes back into  
our community.



## Church News



### ANGLICAN

Weekly Services, baptisms, weddings, funerals, pastoral care, bible studies.

Contact: Rev. Elizabeth Bufton, 5281 2224; 0437524864  
Church Office, Byron St. Bannockburn 5281 2553  
Service Times;

### Church of Epiphany Meredith.

11.00am 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday each month, Holy Communion at Anglican Church

11.00am 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of month, Holy Communion at Uniting Church

### Morrison

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 : 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

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, pastoral care

Father Herman Licayan 52861230

### MASS TIMES FOR JULY/AUGUST

Winchelsea every Saturday @ 6p.m.

Bannockburn every Sunday @ 9 a.m.

Anakie : Mass @11am Sunday August 3rd/17th/31st

September 14th/28th

Meredith Mass@11am Sunday August 10th/24th

September 7th/21st

Family Mass @ Bannockburn every 1st Sunday of the month @ 9am

Mass at Bannockburn Aged Care 1st Friday of each month @ 11 a.m.

### St. Joey's OP SHOP

Open Wednesdays and Fridays 10 a.m.- 4 p.m.

Lots of treasures/ goods wanted

July special- denim jeans all sizes \$1 per pair.

Bring the children after school for a browse

Rear of St. Joey's hall

**Red Cross film night**  
**Last Thursday of the Month 7.30pm**  
**Come along and see**  
**"Strange Bedfellows"**

At the Meredith Community Centre  
in the Studio  
Donation Appreciated.



Even though it is cold outside we have lots of things coming up this month to get you out of the house. We have some great classes including bee keeping which has been very popular and beer making as well a great range of computer classes to help you get on top of technology.

Plans are well in hand for our Health and wellbeing festival please see our advert for details. Don't miss out there is something for everyone including activities for the kids so parents can check out all the other activities.

### Learn Drumming

We have the opportunity to offer drumming classes. Our tutor has a background in music performance and sound production and has been playing since 2006. If this is something you would like to try please give us a call.

### Food Safety online

I am pleased to announce that we can now offer Food Safety training online through a partnership with CFT. The self-paced basic and supervisor courses are available in all areas including Hospitality and Retail, Community Services and Childcare and the Food processing industry. You enrol and pay your course fee to us and then CFT will provide you with the link and assistance to commence your course online. You can come in and use our computers if it doesn't suit you to do it at home.

### Course guide distribution expression of interest.

Due to changes in our distribution through Australia Post we are seeking expressions of interest from local people to deliver our course guide in the Meredith, Elaine, Lethbridge areas. We are also thinking of limited distribution in Bannockburn. We have 4 distributions per year during school holidays. You would need to have access to a car to deliver outside of the built up areas. If you are interested please give us a call. 52861348.

Bye for now... *Pam Ridd*

*P.S. Wendy, the Be 'Appy columnist, is conducting iPad and eReader classes this term.*

4 Russell Street Meredith 3333

Ph 5286 1348 Fax 52861 563

[learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au](mailto:learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au)

"Working for our community"

When tempted to fight fire with fire,  
remember that the Fire Brigade  
usually uses water.







## meredithPolicenews

Leading Senior Constable Greg Kitchen

Since the last Meredith and District News letter I can report that I have arrested and charged a male offender from Whittington with the theft of plant machinery worth in excess of \$40,000. That near new item of plant has now been returned to its owner and the 31 year old male offender has been bailed to appear at the Geelong Magistrates Court for hearing on the 7th of August.

On a note much closer to home I was recently called to a reported Burglary at the Meredith Primary School. On Thursday the 3rd of July at approximately 11.00 p.m., I arrived at the school where I arrested a 36 year old female offender who was inside the school building and in possession of lap top computers and other items belonging to the school. This local woman was interviewed by me following her arrest. She will be charged on summons with burglary and Theft.

Within the past month I have seen an unfortunate spike in crime in and around the Bamganie area. A burglary was committed on two sheds in Deans Road, while two lots of fuel were stolen from another property on the Shelford Meredith Road. This adds to a growing list of very similar thefts from the same immediate area which have been committed over the past 18 months. I am in absolutely no doubt we have a local criminal living in the immediate area who will take opportunity to steal from farms whenever possible.

I am currently exploring various avenues of enquiry as a result of recent information which I have received however I continue to encourage anyone who sees anything suspicious at unusual hours to record vehicle registration details, descriptions of vehicles and or persons and to please either let me know at the Meredith Police Station on 52 861222 or to contact Crime Stoppers direct on 1300 333 000.

On a positive note, I am pleased to be able to report very few motor vehicle related issues within the last month. There have been no major collisions of note and driver behaviour on the Midland Highway and other major roads in and around Meredith from what I can see has been good.

Kindest Regards, Greg KITCHEN  
Officer In Charge – Meredith Police Station

## A Message from the Mayor

Cr Jen Blake

Mr David O'Brien, Member for Western Victoria, announced the State Government is funding an extension to the incredibly successful Smythesdale Business, Health and Community Hub – The Well. The Government's \$500,000 commitment will enable three new business rooms, multipurpose area and extra amenities to be added to the current building. The upgrade, identified in the Central Highlands Small Towns Planning, will be of real benefit to the local community and it will encourage more business activity at the centre and create opportunities for new business in the township.

Looking at the future of the wider region, the G21 priority project, The Pier, is extremely important to the long term success of doing business in Golden Plains. If we get it right, the large cruise ships that will berth in Geelong will be provided with the wonderful produce of our Shire; the beef, lamb and chicken, the eggs, goats' milk and marvellous wines and cheeses could all be utilised and enjoyed by visitors docking at The Pier. We will continue to keep Golden Plains in the discussions and lobby to secure this priority project.

I am really sad to hear that an old friend of mine, and experienced bike rider, has become a paraplegic due to a bad road accident. I want to use this terrible news to remind people to be very careful riding on roads, especially on regional roads. Golden Plains' two major highways do not have designated bike lanes and many of the smaller country roads are less than conducive to riders, particularly riding two abreast. As Spring approaches and more people are out and about I urge drivers and riders alike to be extra vigilant.

I attended a Suicide Prevention training session and urge people to look out for their neighbours, friends and family. Be alert, if someone is not quite their usual self or seems to have changed, be supportive and just check if they're okay. Checking in on a friend can make all the difference.

## GP Shire CEO Re-Signs\*

Golden Plains Shire, Council has reappointed its long term Chief Executive Officer, Mr Rod Nicholls, for a further three years.

Mr Nicholls was initially appointed as interim Chief Executive of the municipality, originally named Southern Rural Shire, in May 1994 (which in October that year was gazetted as Golden Plains Shire Council).



In December 1994 he was appointed Chief Executive Officer. Mr Nicholls said he is looking forward with enthusiasm to meeting the challenges our organisation will face over the next three years.

*\* Now there's a hyphen that makes a difference -Ed.*



# sports



## Meredith Golf Club –Men

### 12 July 1st Round Club Championships

A Grade: D Jury 81 B Grade: D Gear 100

Winner of Daily Round D Jury 81-13-68

Least putts: S Wilson & J Cooper 24

### 19 July 2nd Round Club Championships

A Grade: S Wilson 82, J Cooper 83, D Jury 92

B Grade: D Gear 92, M Colvin 92

The Gordon Clancy Plate

Best nett 2nd Round score M Colvin 67 by count back

26 July Stroke round

Winner D Gear 96-19-77.

Rup M Colvin 103-25-78

NTP 14th 2nd shot M Colvin

## Meredith Golf Club-Ladies

### 29 July 18 hole Stroke. 1st Rnd Open Championships and monthly medal.

Winner monthly medal K. Rosch

Winner K Rosch, Rup M Diffey

Least putts S Parkinson



**Open Day**  
Sunday 10th Aug  
from 10 am

Come & join us for a  
fun day of Social Tennis  
Activities & a BBQ

Learn about Tennis Coaching  
Register to play  
in Summer Competition  
(Registration closes 18th Aug)

RSVP/Questions please contact  
Tracey 0414 227896

## Elaine Cricket Club Inc.

Annual General Meeting

Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> August 2pm.

Elaine Recreation Reserve

## U14 Assistant Coach wanted.

Former playing or coaching experience preferred to assist our current coach Daryl Wells. The team trains at Meredith and plays at Elaine and is playing in the U14 Red competition in the Ballarat Cricket Association. The grade entered caters for boys and girls from 9 to 14 years of age. Interested persons please contact Vice President and U14 coach Daryl Wells. PH 0418535713 All Welcome

## Elaine Cricket Club

U14 cricketers boys/girls wanted for season 2014/15 Training commences at Meredith cricket ground in September No experience necessary Old and new players welcome Enquiries

Coach Daryl Wells

ph 0418535713



We are a Good Sports club

## Elaine Tennis Club

Open Day for families on Sunday 24th August 2014 11am at Elaine Recreation Reserve. BBQ and free give ways from Tennis Victoria for all children. Radar gun and small nets and racquets will be available for any children wanting a hit. Registration day also for any old and new players. Contact President Debbie Mair on 53415589 for more details

## Elaine Tennis Club

### Office bearers for 2014/15

President: Debbie Mair, Vice President: Russell Ford

Secretary: Shane Dunne, Treasurer: Ian Farhall

Committee members: Ron Read, Phillip Mair, David Wells

Bannockburn & District Men's Shed Inc  
and Meredith Community Centre  
bring you

A SPECIAL PRESENTATION  
BEYOND BLUE BETTER LIVING

We welcome you to join us to  
hear from our Beyond Blue ambassador  
Tony McManus about the effects of depression and anxiety in  
the community and how to help our friends and family who  
are suffering from these debilitating conditions

TUESDAY OCTOBER 7<sup>TH</sup> 2014  
from 7.00pm

Bannockburn Cultural Centre  
27 High St Bannockburn 3331

For more information please  
Contact Paul Dakin 0434-331-049

or

Pam Ridd at Meredith Community Centre  
Find out more about Tony at <http://www.beyondblue.org.au/connect-with-others/ambassadors/ambassador-profile/tony-mcmanus>



## Lions come to Meredith

**Are you a person who would like to see your town and district get better facilities and resources for your families and loved ones? Reading this article will have a lot of benefits to you and your Family?**

On Monday April 28 2014 at the Meredith Memorial Hall and again on July 23 2014 at the Royal Hotel, a group of Meredith and district residents attended a meeting with Lions Club International representatives to find out what the advantages would be of having a Lions Club formed in the town.

Advantages for Meredith and district having a Lions Club in town would supply a Community Service Organization above the Local Government, similar to other communities around the district to obtain services and facilities that are not supplied by the Government or local Council.

Advantages for all residents in the town and district forming a not-for-profit Club are many.

The Lions Clubs International Organisation operates under the MOTTO "WE SERVE".

Many projects already supported by many Lions Clubs include:

- Assisting children with Cerebral Palsy

- Supplying Hearing dogs to people who are deaf

- Sending children to a Lions Camp at Licola where all children, handicapped, disadvantaged and children who needed a holiday through some problem at home.

- Providing a Community Park similar to the Lions one in Bannockburn that is now used for many functions and meeting point within the town developed from a dusty area.

- Supplying walls for the ashes of the departed residents in some of the local cemeteries as Inverleigh and District.

- Providing scholarships at local schools to deserving students.

On **Thursday August 28** 2014, it is anticipated that there will be members of the Lions Clubs International available at the **Health and Wellbeing Festival at Meredith Community Centre**, for members of the public to ask questions and to fact-find about the benefits to your town and district about having such a family orientated organisation working for the Community's welfare.

A further meeting of interested members of the Meredith and district community will be held on **Wednesday October 8th at the Royal Hotel on 7.30 pm** with a view of establishing a Lions Club in the local area.

Information on the benefits to a community from having a Lions Club in their Town and district can be found on: <http://lionsclubs.org.au/> which holds an array of benefits on starting a Lions club in your Town and the surrounding District.

People interested in learning more on the formation of a Lions Club in Meredith can contact Lion Les Cropley on mobile 0428 466 446 or send him a message on: [safet1@netspace.net.au](mailto:safet1@netspace.net.au).

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

*...and we'll tell the Community!*

**See info panel on page 2 for contact details.**

## L2P LEARNER DRIVER MENTOR PROGRAM

You can help change a young person's life. Become a volunteer supervising driver for the Golden Plains Shire L2P program.

Volunteer drivers are matched with disadvantaged young people who want to learn to drive. Driver/mentors are required to commit a minimum of 1 hour per week. Both mentor training and car are provided.

"This is a wonderful program designed to help our young residents achieve the 120 hours they need to gain a driver's licence. They learn and gain experience alongside caring and experienced drivers from their own communities," said Cr Jenny Blake, Mayor, Golden Plains Shire Council.

The L2P Program is funded by Vicroads and is coordinated and delivered by Ballarat United Way.

For more information or to register your interest as a volunteer supervising driver, contact Caroline Jordan, Council's Volunteer Coordinator, on 5220 7216 or [caroline.jordan@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:caroline.jordan@gplains.vic.gov.au).



CREATORS &  
CRAFT MARKET  
BANNOCKBURN

### EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

are being sought after, by artists and creative people, that are individuals or group based, to be part of an exciting and new "Creators & Craft" Market. This market will take place at the end of November, 2014. If you are interested in being a Stall holder please contact, Noeline on 0427 923 934 or email me

[ccbanno@bigpond.com](mailto:ccbanno@bigpond.com)

Applications will close by the end of September, 2014.



**FREEZA  
PUSH START  
BAND COMP**  
FUNDED THROUGH THE FREEZA PROGRAM  
A VICTORIAN GOVERNMENT INITIATIVE

**the push**  
25 YEARS

2014 FREEZA PUSH START

# BATTLE OF THE BANDS

**FRIDAY 8TH AUGUST 2014**  
**MEREDITH MEMORIAL HALL 7:30PM-10:30PM**

*Featuring*

*Imogen Brough*

*Plus*

**FOUR LOCAL YOUNG BANDS BATTLE OUT FOR A SPOT  
AT THE PUSH OVER ALL AGES MUSIC FESTIVAL**

*Plus*

**GREAT PRIZES AND GIVEAWAYS**  
**FREE SHUTTLE BUS ON REQUEST. CONTACT THE FREEZA WORKER**

**DOORS  
OPEN AT  
7:15PM**

**GOLD  
COIN ENTRY  
DONATION**

**f** **LIKE US GPSFREEZA**

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY



**FULLY SUPERVISED, DRUG, ALCOHOL & SMOKE FREE EVENT. NO PASSOUT.**

For more information please contact Freeza Worker Sarah Dalton on (03) 5220 7177 or email [sdalton@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:sdalton@gplains.vic.gov.au)

[www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au/youth](http://www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au/youth)



## Vale to Harold Boardman Cooke

Marg Cooper

**Harold Boardman Cooke** was an indomitable character, with a fierce fighting spirit and an irascible nature. Born in the year after the end of the Great War he grew up on a bush farm near Meredith in country Victoria with his parents Andrew James and Hilda Annie (Boardman) Cooke and one brother.

Harold was educated at Meredith State School, Geelong Grammar and the Geelong Technical School. He did not have a long formal education, but being an avid reader all his life he informed himself on many topics. He was a man of strong opinions who loved a good argument, but rarely admitted he was wrong. He worked on the family farm "Pioneer" before he enlisted in the Army in 1940. Harold joined the Australian Imperial Force, becoming a Gunner with the 27<sup>th</sup> battery of the 2<sup>nd</sup>/14<sup>th</sup> Field Regiment, 8<sup>th</sup> Division which was raised in Melbourne on 17<sup>th</sup> October 1940. In July 1941 the Regiment moved to Darwin. Initially intended as a temporary move to "acclimatize" themselves to the tropics prior to being sent to garrison the islands to Australia's north, in reality the regiment spent 18 months in Darwin helping to defend the city against the 64 bombing raids by the Japanese. Later in the war, Harold served in Finschhafen, Lae and New Britain. He contracted malaria and was sent back to Sydney to recuperate and it was in Bonnie Brae Convalescent Home in Wahroonga that he met a young Red Cross nurse's aide. Cath Granger and Harold Cooke were married at St John's Anglican Church in Young on 26 October 1946.

In the early years of their marriage, Harold worked as a manager of properties in the region of Young, NSW and later at Bogalara near Yass. However the Soldier Settlement Act saw returned servicemen offered parcels of land to farm in their home states and so, in 1952, Harold, Cath and their children, Gowan and Joan, moved to a two-roomed, corrugated iron shed on an unfenced, unimproved property just across the railway line from the small town of Meredith. The family lived in what would later become 'the garage' while the 3-bedroom, weatherboard house was being built in the style of all such dwellings. Together they worked tirelessly to establish a productive property and raise a flock of fine-wool merino sheep.

Throughout his life Harold was active in both community and sporting pursuits. With John Payne he instigated a school bus service to convey secondary school students to Geelong, where previously they had gone by train. In 1962 he was elected to the Bannockburn Shire Council and retained that position for 23 years and served 2 separated terms as President. He was member of the Bannockburn Water Board for 19 years and was one of the "drivers" in creating town water through Bannockburn Shire from Meredith to Gheringhap and then to Shelford and Teesdale. Harold was one of the 2 Bannockburn Shire representatives on the Geelong Regional Planning Authority when in the early 1960's the Geelong Ring Road was planned. Over 40 years later, with only a few minor changes to the original plans, it was opened and Harold had great pleasure in being driven along the first two sections in 2008.

Harold joined the Royal Geelong Yacht Club and bought his first yacht in the 1970's. He won the Thunderbird Class Championship in 1977-78. In 1982 he sold the Thunderbird and purchased an ocean going yacht. He continued to enjoy club racing and also took part in the Melbourne to Devonport race on one occasion. Harold also sailed as crew on other yachts and through this was able to take part in more ocean

going races; including the Melbourne to Hobart via the west Coast of Tasmania and Sydney to Noumea.

Harold's greatest sporting passion became golf, which he was still playing 3-times per week into his 90s. Though taking up the game later in life, he got his handicap down into single figures and at the age of 90 he was once written up in the local paper as having 'broken his age' in 18-holes of golf! During his time at Meredith Harold, was Club Captain, played in Pennant Teams and was Club Champion in 1973.



In 1982 Harold and Cath sold "Wahroonga" to their nephew Robert Cooke and retired to Geelong where they continued to lead busy and active lives along with enjoying winter travels in their caravan. In 1997 they moved to Woolgoolga needing a warmer climate for health reasons. On Harold and Cath's rare visits south, time was always found to revisit their former home. He was always interested in what was going on and happy to take up the opportunity to visit the shearing shed. This year in February Harold celebrated his 95<sup>th</sup> birthday. He continued to drive his car and up until 18 months ago was out playing golf 3 or 4 times a week.

Harold Cooke died on June 14, 2014. A funeral service celebrating his life was held at the Woolgoolga Anglican Church on June 24. Harold made a huge contribution of service to the Meredith Community during the time that he lived here.

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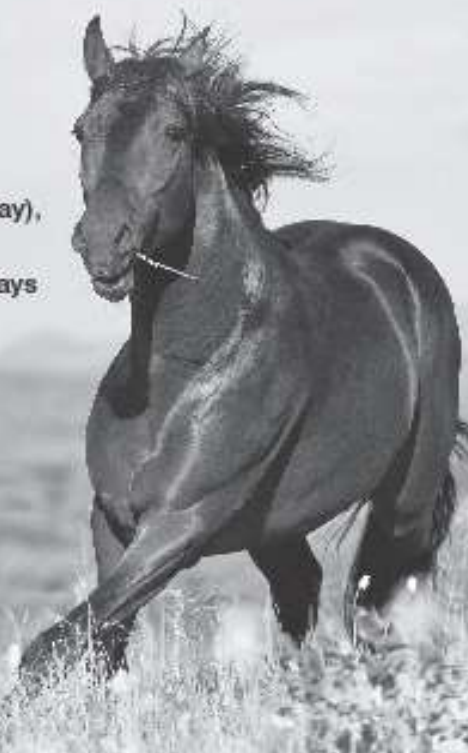
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*- Carol Simpson*

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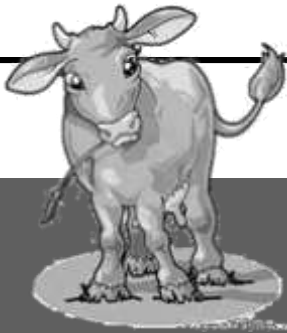
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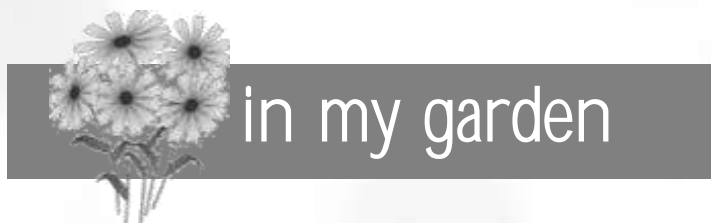
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The major activity in the garden at this time of the year is pruning and tidying garden beds. This activity gives rise to my most challenging garden dilemma: composting the clippings.

I would love to meet someone, anyone, who is a successful composter. We all know what compost looks like because you can purchase it in bags from nurseries. This product is a far cry from anything that I have ever produced. I have tried numerous methods of composting and they have all proved to be unsuccessful from one point of view or another.

Worm farms are only suited to the disposal of kitchen waste, in my opinion, and if you have chooks you don't need a worm farm. Worm farms produce such small amounts of compost and worm tea (liquid fertiliser) that overall it is not worth the effort.

Keeping chickens is a much more effective way of managing waste from both the kitchen and the vegetable garden. Approximately twice a year I harvest several barrow loads of composted material from the floor of the chicken coop which is full of worms and other beneficial things. This is spread directly onto the garden. However, chickens are not interested or even capable of eating general garden prunings.

Before I had chickens and a worm farm, my kitchen waste was buried in holes dug in the garden. The waste disappears over a relatively small period of time and I would happily go back to this method if I did not have chickens. Again, this method is unsuitable for dealing with the large volumes of garden waste.

The real problem is dealing with the barrow loads of prunings from shrubs and trees. Lawn clippings are mulched by the lawn mower and are returned directly to the lawn, and leaves are raked directly onto garden beds. What remains are prunings, large and small, hard and soft. The sheer volume of this material means that methods such as barrels and bins with lids are

unsuitable.

Recommended by professional gardeners, as seen on TV gardening programs, is the three, open-bin method. It is clear that each bin is intended to be the size of a small vegetable garden but from that point the confusion begins. I think that the idea is to dump garden waste in one bin, then sort it to another bin. The third bin is for storing the compost from bin two. Bin two, we are told, is to contain carefully proportioned layers of brown and green waste. However, this may not be correct because it is not clear to me when the turning of the compost heap occurs, a critical activity in successful composting.

The really big issues for me are with bin two: getting the original materials into small enough pieces to permit composting and the turning of the composting heap. Of course, it is out of the question to try and cut up all prunings into tiny pieces by hand. The only reasonable alternative is to have at hand a decent sized chipper cum mulch maker. The chipper in my garden shed is for smallish jobs only and does not help. Large chippers are worth a small fortune to purchase and I will never have one. The second big barrier is turning the heap regularly. Just how does one do this armed with only a shovel or fork without having the musculature of a body builder. It is not going to happen. Proper composting is clearly an industrial process aided by significant labour saving devices such as large wood chippers and front end loaders.

Needless to say, my one bin method is never successful. Even non-woody prunings remain intact for at least 12-months or so, and after that period of time, when I need to make space in the bin for more clippings, I empty the bin by attacking it with my lawn mower. I am sure that you get the picture. The resulting 'mulch', caught in the catcher, is spread directly onto the garden. Woody prunings bypass the composting system entirely and go directly to the bonfire heap. A good bonfire is very satisfying and I am impatiently waiting for the bonfire heap to dry out sufficiently so that I can throw in a match.

Yes, gardening in the winter is such a joy. Thank God for the greenhouse.

Robyn



Is that all?

*Well no, it's not. It rained quite a bit on the last day of the month, but our rain man calls it a day at 9.00 am! - Ed.*

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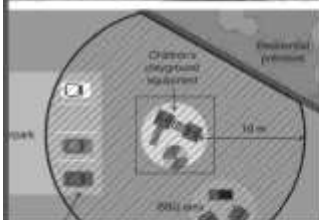


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The end of winter is approaching. In the northern hemisphere in this season, many trees are bare. These trees behave in the same manner in our gardens and beside our streets, even though our winters are not as cold, and we rarely have snow. Many conifers, such as pines, are also from parts of the world with very cold winters, but don't lose their leaves. Neither do the native plants of Victoria. Even snow gums living at the tree line in the mountains, where there is snow every winter, keep their leaves. So why are some trees deciduous and some evergreen?

To understand this, we need to understand how plants make food. They take carbon dioxide from the air, water from the soil, and sunlight. Using a green pigment in their leaves called chlorophyll and energy from sunlight, they turn carbon dioxide and water into sugars and oxygen. They use the sugars to grow. They don't need the oxygen, so they release it into the air, through pores in their leaves. This process is called photosynthesis.

In winter, in cold climates, there is less sunlight, and water in the ground freezes. The trees cannot get water to make food, and the cold would damage their leaves. The weight of snow gathering on large leaves could break branches, so, like hibernating animals, they shut down for the winter. They prepare before the water freezes. As the days become shorter and colder, they withdraw nutrients from the leaves, saving them in other parts of the tree, ready for growing new leaves in spring. They stop making green chlorophyll, and other pigments in the leaves become visible – yellow, orange, brown, red and purple, giving us the beautiful colours of autumn. Then the trees drop their leaves and shut down for winter. Even though winters are less harsh in Victoria, the trees receive the same signals of shorter days and colder temperatures and lose their leaves.

Some conifers live further north than deciduous trees. The days become shorter sooner, and water freezes earlier. The part of the year in which these trees can grow is short. They cannot afford the time to grow new leaves, so they protect the ones they have. One thing that can damage leaves is losing too much water through their pores. Instead of large flat leaves, conifers have thick narrow needles with a waxy coating that helps prevent water loss. They also have special chemicals in the leaves to prevent them from freezing.

Snow gums also have thick waxy leaves. As snow builds up on them, the branches bend until they are pointing downwards. Snow slides off the leaves and branches, so they don't break.

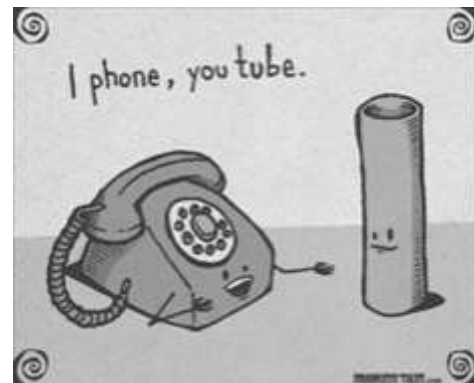
Plants are experts at adapting to their environments. Soon, as the days become warmer and longer, the deciduous trees will start using the nutrients they stored in autumn to

grow new green leaves, so they can make food and start growing again.

## MP Promotes School Signs

*from media release*

Federal member for Corangamite, Sarah Henderson was in Meredith last month, repeating her call for electronic school zone speed signs on the Midland Highway. The matter is for state government determination.



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## The BACK To STEIGLITZ FESTIVAL – A Community Celebration

Lindy Allinson

Be sure to keep Sunday October 12th free. It's the day of the Back to Steiglitz Festival....and your chance to take the entire family back in time...to days when life was not only quieter, cheaper, but oh-so-simple.

As aptly quirky as the little town itself, there's something to delight every family member. Free entry and old fashioned prices to start with. Then, as the last town in Victoria without electricity, the only noise pollution you'll find is either from roving musicians or kids gleeful laughter. Sounding good so far?

Once here you can give gold-panning a go, stroll the stalls and various historical displays, watch lace-making, enter competitions & raffles, book in for a historic walking tour, enjoy stalls, musicians, olden day kids games and delicious country baking. There's also the famous Scout-run Steiglitz Billy Cart Race...always exciting! Heaps more too. Though perhaps you'd simply like to catch up with old friends, get involved in the 'reunion' side of this event, sit quietly and enjoy the beauty of this peaceful town. The choice is yours.

Though this Festival is more than just a fundraiser, or a reunion....it's a real coming together of our large, and diverse, community. A celebration of all that makes this such a great place to live. And our chance to support not just local groups, but individuals too.

For it's the Maude CFA who benefit from the BBQ. Anakie PFA running the Devonshire Tea stall. Peppercorn Place Café is the dream of a wonderfully, hardworking woman. Both the Steiglitz Historical Museum & Courthouse are kept alive by terrifically energetic

volunteers. Stalls reflect the passions of neighbours 'having a go.' And the delicious home baking found at Sugg's Blacksmith's cottage enables volunteers of the Back to Steiglitz Association to do what we do best – save the town's historic buildings from tumbling down and disappearing forever.

Sounds great doesn't it? We think so.

If you'd like to not only support, but participate, then just google Back to Steiglitz Festival...it's where you'll find info., forms for both the stalls and billy cart race. Or send us an email on [back2steiglitz@hotmail.com](mailto:back2steiglitz@hotmail.com) Though if computers aren't your thing, ring me on 52 819390.

This day is part of a long standing tradition, carried on by the Back to Steiglitz Association. We've been around for ages. Although we help keep Steiglitz alive, that's not all we do. We also offer one another support, friendship, respect, laughter, learning new skills, and above all the chance to have lots of fun.

So if you think you'd like to join us in some great adventures, could possibly work a 2 hour shift, or simply want to be a part of something very different, then you'll find yourself a welcome member of this award winning association!

Either way, we hope you now mark October 12th on your calendar as 'busy.'

Big smiles,

*Cambria, Wendy & Lauren, sharing a cuppa with some of 'the girls'.*



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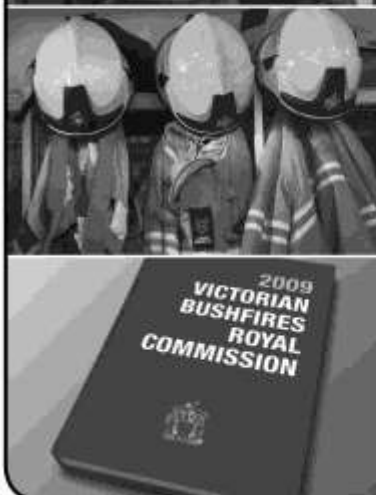
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## littleGEMS

### Goodbye, Winter

With one month of winter left (queue celebratory sun dance), I felt it was time to reflect upon these few chilly months.

As the warmer weather starts to grace us with its presence, you will think none too fondly about how the alarm would go off at some ridiculously cold hour where you would be greeted, not with a beautiful sunrise, but with such a darkness that you are led into sleep confusion. For a few blissful seconds you think 'my alarm clock has malfunctioned and woken me up at midnight. Seven more hours of sleep! Woohoo!' before realising with sudden clarity that no, there hasn't been some forgivable mistake by your ancient clock, it is actually time to grudgingly arise.

You drag yourself into the freezing depths of reality and run to the fire heater in hopes that it is still very much alive. Running stiffly up the hallway, you notice that there is no welcoming red glow bouncing around the living room, and as you enter your fears are realised. The fire has gone out and nothing but cold, grey ash greets you from inside the glass door. Disappointment has found a new level of intensity.

After this disappointment will come a point where you are forced to get out of your pyjamas and into some socially presentable clothes. As you dress you're not fully convinced that it will be enough to guard against the outside chill. When you are finally semi-satisfied, you will present yourself at the front door wearing more layers than an onion but still find yourself gritting your teeth against the morning's frosty breath.

Heading towards your car you see that the windscreen and all of the windows have a white sheet of frost clinging to them. You splash the windscreen with a bucket of water (your red fingers found it difficult to turn the tap) and now you discover that your shoes are not as waterproof as you once thought.

Once the car is in motion, all occupants are now required to wind down the windows and then wind them up, hoping that the ice will be wiped away. If that is not the case, you then must endure a few long minutes of open windows in order to safely enter the intersection.

Once your long day of work/errand running is complete, it's time to come home and light the fire. With a few instances of swearing and a rather copious amount of smoke inhalation, the kindling finally catches alight. Everybody looks longingly toward the fireplace, praying for it to turn red hot so that the time for jostling for prime position can commence.

By the time the house starts becoming toasty it is time for bed. You stock up the fire and go to the bedroom. A good five minutes are spent trying to get up the nerve to climb between the cold sheets before the cycle begins again tomorrow.

Oh, winter...how we'll miss you!

Gemma

I intend to live forever. So far, so good.



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# **Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter**

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## **New look to our Pharmacy**

### **New carpet**

Finishing early this month we will have brand new carpet throughout the Pharmacy! We are undergoing some small changes to improve the look and layout of the Pharmacy and this is the first to be completed. There will be some minor disruptions during this time but we will be working as quickly as possible to have this completed.

### **New layout in store**

As part of our updated look in store during August we will also be moving our main sales counter up towards the front of the Pharmacy (next to the Homy Peds). This will open up the Pharmacy more and allow easier access to our Cough & Cold, Pain Relief and Children's Health sections.

We will also be installing a brand new Natures Own vitamin wall which will help customers find the products they are looking for by simply pressing a button on the vitamin wall. We anticipate this will be installed during this month.

### **Open Extended Hours**

Don't forget we are **open until 6:30pm** Monday to Friday to help service the community better. If you have a late Doctors appointment or if you are travelling back home from work we are open longer.

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

It has come to that time of the year again where we are going to Melbourne to buy new gifts for the Pharmacy. While Christmas is still 4 months away we are already in preparation.

Last month we went to Melbourne to the Salt & Pepper showroom where we have bought a lot of new gifts for the Pharmacy. Many of these new products have started arriving already and more will arrive in the coming months leading up to Christmas. Our prices are still below the recommended retail price you will pay at other leading retail stores, plus not to mention you also receive a further 16% if you are member of our FREE Gift Club! So come in and compare our prices and range before shopping in Geelong or elsewhere.

### **Glasshouse Limited Edition Candle**

Available now is the limited edition Le Caberet (violet & patchouli) candle. Discover the secrets of Paris, rich with passion and excess, a silhouette of gold against the darkened city.

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### **Opening Hours:**

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 Thursday: 8:30am - **6:30pm**  
 Friday: 8:30am - **6:30pm**  
 Saturday: 8:30am - 1:00pm  
 Sunday: Closed  
 Public Holiday's: Closed

**Don't forget we are open weekdays until 6:30pm**





## Marg's Book Review

### "That Deadman Dance" by Kim Scott

Kim Scott grew up on the south coast of Western Australia and is a descendant of those who first created human society along the edge of the ocean there and is proud to be among those who call themselves Noongar. The book tells of the collision between colonisation and indigenous life on the south coast of Western Australia in the area of Albany. The experiences in the novel are related not from a descendant of the intruders but from a child of the true owners of the land.

Kim Scott said that the novel was inspired by history and that he wanted to build a story that included the characteristics of Noongar individuals: their confidence, their inclusiveness and sense of play and their readiness to appropriate new cultural forms-language and songs, guns and boats-as soon as they became available. Believing themselves manifestations of a spirit of a place impossible to conquer, they appreciated reciprocity and the nuances of cross cultural exchange.

Bobby Wabalanginy never learned fear: at least not until he was pretty well a grown man. He accepted and helped the early colonists, learned their language and their ways and the early colonists appreciated him and his people. But as the colony grew and other colonists took over who wanted more land and more control Bobby and his people were misunderstood, captured and punished or killed.

The Noongar men formed some 40 per cent of the 19<sup>th</sup> Century shore-based workforce along the south coast of Western Australia. They composed a song cycle around the novel cultural experience of rowing a boat out to a whale, spearing it and being taken for a "Nantucket sleigh ride". Bobby grew up doing the "Deadman Dance"-those stiff movements, those jerking limbs-as if he'd learned it from their own selves, but with him it was a dance of life, a lively dance for people to do together, each man dancing same as his brothers except for the one man on his own, leading them. It was a dance from way past the ocean's horizon and those people give it to our old people."

The chapters are arranged in blocks of years ie. 1833-1835, 1826-1830, 1836-1838, 1841-1844. The writing is extremely poetic. The language itself is musical, sometimes wistful. The voice is calm and often deeply reflective. Stories are told in a mixture of narrative perspectives and Bobby is prone to be a first, second or third person narrator.

The wider story is one initially of hope and friendship but becomes a story of loss and betrayal. The notes suggest that Bobby Wabalanginy could be one of the best ambassadors for real reconciliation in this country.

**The book for discussion in August is "The Sound of One Hand Clapping" by Richard Flanagan.**

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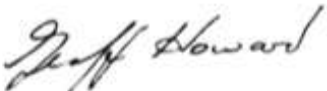
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# Wildflowers

Jim Elvey



If you visit the Meredith Police Paddocks during spring or early summer, you will find, among the heavy infestations of exotic grasses, some native grasses and wildflowers. In fact, dozens of species have been identified. The Meredith Police Paddocks Support group is giving them a hand by preparing small wildflower beds and planting them with indigenous species.

The first of the patches was planted last month when a site close to the walking track with an existing population of *Milky Beautyheads*, was supplemented with Common Beautyheads and *Wahlenbergia*, a blue bell.

It is hoped these concentrated populations will help spread the presence of wildflowers and suppress invasive species. Not a lot of work has been done in this area, so it is all a bit experimental. We do know maintenance will be more labour intensive than trees, but it is an important aspect of reestablishment of the pre-settlement condition of this woody grassland.

*If you would like to know more, contact Jim Elvey on 5286 1273.*

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### Cauliflower & Parmesan Soup with Crispy Bacon

Serves 4

#### Ingredients

¼ cup olive oil plus extra to drizzle  
1 celery stalk, thinly sliced  
1 onion, finely chopped  
2 garlic cloves, finely chopped  
2 potatoes (about 400g), chopped  
1.5L (6 cups) chicken stock  
1 bay leaf  
1 large (about 1kg) cauliflower, cut into florets  
½ cup (125 ml) thickened cream  
1 cup (80g) finely grated parmesan  
3 bacon rashers, chopped  
4 bread rolls  
Grated nutmeg and finely chopped flat-leaf parsley, to serve

#### Method

Preheat oven to 200C. Line 2 baking trays with foil.

Heat 2 tablespoons of oil in a large saucepan over medium heat. Add celery, onion and garlic, then cook, stirring, for 3-4 minutes until softened. Add the potato, chicken stock, bay leaf and three quarters of the cauliflower, bring to the boil, then reduce the heat to medium low and simmer for 12-15 minutes or until cauliflower and potato are tender.

Remove from heat, cool slightly, then transfer to a blender and blend until smooth. Stir through the cream and ½ cup (40g) parmesan. Season to taste.

Meanwhile, place the bacon and remaining cauliflower on one of the lined trays. Season with pepper, then drizzle with remaining 1 tablespoon of oil and sprinkle with 2 tablespoons of parmesan. Roast for 12-15 minutes or until crisp. Put the bread rolls on a separate tray, sprinkle with remaining 1/3 cup parmesan and bake for 2 minutes or until golden.

Divide soup among 4 bowls, then top with crispy cauliflower and bacon. Sprinkle with nutmeg and parsley, drizzle with oil and serve with bread rolls.

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## pic of the month

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



Mother & Son - photo by Ian Murell



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Online version

## Local Girls on their Toes

*Craig Trickett*

On the 9th of July, two local Meredith girls represented Cari's School of Dance, at the Warrnambool Eisteddfod. Holly Munday and Harmony Trickett were two of the seven girls making up Cari's under 13's troupe. The team was ecstatic to be awarded 2nd place, as this was their first competition. Cari's under 17 girls also took home 2nd place. Congratulations to Cari and all the girls for such a great start to the eisteddfods. Good luck in Geelong and Ballarat.

*Cari's dance school operated in Meredith for 2 years as well as Lethbridge and Teesdale. It now operates from Teesdale only.*



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Welcome to Wendy Abraham's App alert for iOS devices. Android users should check the Play Store anyway - many of these apps are there too.

## Games part 2

There are thousands of games available for your iPad, but to simplify, we will group them into a few basic types.

### 1. Match 3 games

Even if you have never played it yourself, you probably know someone who plays Candy Crush, a typical match 3 game. These games require you to move elements on the screen to form lines of three, which then disappear. The basic idea is very simple, but there are many variations on game play. I really like Montezuma - there are three versions available and all allow you to gradually work up the difficult levels without the frustration of the Candy Crush limitation on numbers of moves.

### 2. Hidden Object games

Just as they sound, these games require you to search for specified objects in a scene. I enjoy best the ones that include an adventure storyline that you progress through. Most of these games allow a free introduction, often one hour of game play, then if you want to continue you need to buy the game. Try Empress of the Deep or Romance of Rome to get the idea. Many of these games have a mystery to solve as well, such as Crystal Portal or Tuscan Skies, which are also very pretty to look at.

### 3. Build a World games

If you want to control the world, try one of these games, which allow you to start from a small and simple environment and to build into something huge. Typically, these actions take up real time, so you will have to wait or come back later to see progress such as crops ripening or people learning new skills. Tiny Towers is a very simple example with new floors added to provide living and working space for your tiny inhabitants. Farmville is probably the best known farming game, while Here Be Monsters or Tribes let you grow a whole civilisation while completing quests.

Remember that while most of these games can be played without spending cash, often extra options are available if you are willing to make actual purchases. Use your usual common sense to decide if this is what you want to do.

Wendy

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## Have You Heard This One?



A crime boss finds out that his bookkeeper, Guido, has cheated him out of \$1,000,000. His bookkeeper is deaf. That was the reason he got the job in the first place. It was assumed that Guido would hear nothing so he would never have to testify in court.

When the boss goes to confront Guido about his missing \$1 million, he takes along his bank manager who knows sign language. The boss tells the bank manager, "Ask him where's the money?"

The banker, using sign language, asks Guido where's the money?.

Guido signs back, "I don't know what you are talking about."

The banker tells the Godfather, "He says he doesn't know what you're talking about."

The Godfather pulls out a pistol, puts it to Guido's temple and says, "Ask him again!"

The banker signs to Guido, "He'll kill you if you don't tell him.."

Guido signs back, "OK! You win ! The money is in a brown briefcase, buried behind the shed at my cousin Bruno's house."

The Godfather asks the banker, "What did he say?"

The banker replies, " He says you don't have the guts to pull the trigger."

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## it's History

### Meredith History Interest Group

#### Caroline Chisholm School Camp Visit

On Sunday July 13 the sun shone, the wind abated and the rain stopped when MHIG members visited the Caroline Chisholm School Camp at 355 Pioneer Ridge Road. In a room warmed by a big wood heater we heard about Pioneer Ridge from various speakers and then ventured outside to look at the camp and the views.

Roy Taylor told how he came to live at "Glenairlee" with his family in 1947. The property consisted of 1669 acres which included at least 700 acres that is now Pioneer Ridge. They bought the property from Mr McPhee, who had hotels, on a "walk in walk out" agreement. The Taylors only had to bring food. Roy cut wood and carted it over Deadman's Gully on a trailer pulled by a tractor and cleared some of the land and sowed crops which were promptly eaten by kangaroos. He said that Colcloughs had owned "Glenairlee" in the early 1900's and Phil Champion had owned the property in the 1940's. Roy sold 400 acres which had been zoned "Rural Landscaping" to Heaths in 1974 and this was the first land developed at Pioneer Ridge.

Casper Von Diebitsch related how he and his wife bought Block 9 which was "the best block on Pioneer Ridge" and built three buildings there in 1978. He loved it. They had their own beach, lots of wildlife, could walk along the river and through the bush and they weren't hemmed in! He recalled that half the technical division at Shell (where he worked) often came to erect fences and to have a bbq.

Jack Boardman informed the group about the river, how the weir on the Moorabool River was constructed in 1972, the gravel pits in the area and the crossing that was built across the river to get building material into the very inaccessible area, to build the weir. Construction of a 75 L/Psec Pump station at the disinfection site in 2008 was carried out to supply the distribution system from Medina Road, north of the Lethbridge township to reduce the demand on the Meredith WTP.

Alan Caddy explained how the school camp itself was run, the activities that the children take part in and how good it is for city children and how much the camp is enjoyed by the children from Melbourne. Alan has been caretaker at the camp for about six years and has made many improvements including garden beds and artistic seats and gates. It is obvious that he enjoys his job and loves the area.

*MHIG members meet at the Anglican Hall on the last Thursday of the month from 9 am to catalogue and to talk history.*

#### When Lethbridge got a New Church

*Marg Cooper*

Rev Vernon Cohen was the Vicar of the Inverleigh Parish, which included Lethbridge and Meredith, when the new St John's Church at Lethbridge was dedicated in August 1955 by the Archdeacon of the Geelong the Very Rev Bishop Donald Baker. The ceremony was performed before a crowd of about 300 people and was reported to be the climax to a fine community effort as the building was largely erected by voluntary labour, part of which was provided by students and

teachers of Geelong Grammar School. During the afternoon, one of the church wardens made a presentation to Mr Roy White of the Geelong Grammar School in appreciation of his services during building operations. Acting Headmaster of Geelong Grammar School Mr Jeffrey stressed that such undertakings by the staff and boys of the school were a great pleasure and gave satisfaction to both.

The new church was of modern design in vertical hardwood boards, and replaced the old building which had served as a place of worship since the days of the gold diggings.

In the Parish Paper in June 1955 Vernon Cohen expressed his thanks to Dr Darling, Mr White, masters and boys from Geelong Grammar, for their keen interest and practical help in the building of the new church.

When St John's Lethbridge closed, their building was offered to Meredith and was gratefully accepted as a hall and home for the weekly Sunday School. In 1988 when the Church of Epiphany History booklet was published there were 24 children on the roll. The hall also hosted an ecumenical meal prior to a service shared with Uniting and Catholic friends.

The Anglican Church Hall has been used for various functions but in 2013 became home to Meredith History Interest Group.

"The Ballarat Trapshooter WB Wilkinson, displaying remarkably consistent form, outpointed a strong field of 30 shooters representative of four states and New Zealand to win the Commonwealth Pigeon Championship yesterday at the Melbourne Gun Club's Tottenham grounds. Wilkinson missed only one bird, his 10<sup>th</sup>, and scored 20-21.

The Tasmanian "Charlie" FA Tubb and "Tommy" (Meredith) tied for second place 19-21. Wilkinson was at one time a resident of NSW where he won 6 championships in succession. Successful recently in Victorian provincial championships, yesterday's win was Wilkinson's second Commonwealth Pigeon Championship, his previous success having been gained in 1911.

*The Argus Saturday July 13, 1935.  
WB Wilkinson lived in Meredith in his later years and worked in mining as a cyanide expert.*

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## it's History (cont.)

### Golden Gate Mine

Marg Cooper

Kath McKenzie and her sister Nola Stevens remember the Golden Gate Gold Mine at Elaine in the early 1950's. It was over the road from where they grew up and down a lane. They remember that there were numerous dwellings there: mostly houses of wood and canvas and lots of children who would come and play. The miners worked shift work and Kath says that they were hard working families. There wasn't a crook family amongst them! They had quite a few vehicles and would travel to Elaine and to Buninyong or Ballarat to shop. Mr McKenzie had a large vegetable garden and sometimes sold vegetables to the families. Some of their children attended Elaine State School with Kath and Nola including children of the "Long" family. At that time there were up to 40 children at the local school.

Kath believes that a lot of gold was obtained from the mine but that they needed plenty of water to wash the gold out. In the end the mine flooded and was closed down. In later years their dog fell into the mine. Nola's husband went down to rescue the dog but was met by a big snake.

In 1873 a newspaper listed 21 claims at Elaine which employed about 126 miners. (The Golden Gate was not mentioned.) Gold had been found from within a few inches of the surface to a depth of 120 feet beyond which it was impossible to proceed without the aid of machinery to pump out the water.

Records show that in 1874, 54 tons of quartz was crushed from the Golden Gate for an average yield of 1 oz 3 dwt (*a "dwt" is a "pennyweight" or about 1.5 grams - Ed.*) per ton and a total yield of 64 ounces. In 1878 the total yield was 30 ounces 7 dwt and in 1880, it was of 23 ounces.

A newspaper in July 1893 reported that "The old workings of the Royal Charlie and the Golden Gate are to be in full swing shortly." In April 1895 a report said that "The Golden Gate Company had completed the sinking of their shaft to a depth of 200 feet". They reported a return of 81 ounces 4 dwt from 28 tons of stone.

In 1896 a father and son named Dower were engaged in opening out some of the old workings at the Golden Gate Mine when they were buried beneath a quantity of earth which fell from the roof of the drive. When dug out one of them was dead and the other died almost immediately after being extricated. In 1896 the mine was bought by Mr Edmund Pearson and party of the New Victoria mine. The Geelong Advertiser writer hoped that they would be as successful with the Gate as they have been in the New Victoria and he remembered that the Golden Gate had given previously as high as 9 ounces to the ton, if not more. In August 1913 Mr J Sutherland Jun applied for the lease of the Golden Gate Mine.

In 1936 Golden Gate Amalgamated was formed with a nominated capital of £32,500 (figure may be wrong as print is hard to discern) and a hold on two leases at Elaine. Mr Lawrie, formerly of Bendigo Mines Ltd, was appointed mine manager.

Locals say that it was the last mine to be worked at Elaine, that it was mined during the depression and that it has taken 3 lives.

## Kindred matters



Judith Emond, Family Therapist

### Redundancy and Job Seeking

The recent cut backs and closure of large companies such as Alcoa and Ford's has greatly impacted on several individuals and families within our community. Losing a job ranks as one of the highest stress causing life events. It is especially traumatic for men as so much pressure is placed on them by society to be 'good providers'. There is much grief involved with such a major loss as one copes with the loss of job status, confidence and self worth, work mates, routine and financial security. It can even cause depression for some.

There is a lot to adjust to and seeking further employment is often a difficult process. As a result we are seeing the rise of Job Training services and some larger companies even provide redundancy- re-employment programs for staff.

Indeed current technology leads to a whole new job seeking experience as many positions only accept online applications. Updating a resume or CV is also a task if it has never been done before. Some positions even require current Police Checks and Working with Children Checks. Thus, there is a great deal to learn, many forms to complete and new skills required to gain future employment. Not to mention the treacherous process of registering with Centrelink for benefits if you are eligible.

The following steps may be of some guidance;

- **All is not lost** take some time out to rest, re charge and review where to next? Do you want to up skill or have a career change?
- **Update your CV** or if assembling one for the first time, seek assistance from your kids or a friend. Most computer programs like Microsoft Windows have Resume templates. Otherwise you may wish to get one professionally made.
- **Apply** for a Police Check and Working with Children's Check. Forms can be obtained from a Post Office or online. Both require photo ID and charge fees.
- **Register** with Professional Recruitment agencies such as Skilled and Toll as well as online job vacancy sites. Let people know you are looking for work and use social media sites like Facebook and LinkedIn to advertise yourself.
- **Remain positive** it may take several months before successfully gaining employment. Expect to attend several interviews and get knock backs. Ask for feedback and polish up on your interview skills. And don't give up.
- **In between jobs** maintain a good daily routine. Focus on the things you can control. Get busy tending to those jobs around the house that need doing. Consider volunteering and most importantly take good care of yourself. Seek out mates or family for ongoing support when things get really tough.

Here are two good websites with advice on how to handle losing your job-

[www.helpguide.org/life/unemployment-job-loss-coping-tips](http://www.helpguide.org/life/unemployment-job-loss-coping-tips)  
[au.askmen.com/money/career-100/113-career.html](http://au.askmen.com/money/career-100/113-career.html)

Judy

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