

# Meredith & district News

DECEMBER 2014



*We Wish All Our Readers  
a Joyous Festive Season  
& a Safe Summer*



inside



We interview Mia Dyson, & it's **CHEERS!** for Peta & Claire



**MORTIMER  
PETROLEUM**

trading as

**MEREDITH  
ROADHOUSE**

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SATURDAY: 7am - 7pm

SUNDAY: 8am - 7pm

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requirements.

- 45kg gas bottles now \$99 rent free and free delivery
- 9 kg Swap & Go bottles only \$25
- 15kg fork lift bottles \$27.50 available for pick-up or delivery. (Ute or trailer required for pick-up)

Don't forget bulk fuel available  
Phone David Mortimer on 0418 524219

- HAMBURGERS
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- FRESH SANDWICHES
- COFFEE
- MILK
- ICE
- EFTPOS



- UNLEADED
- DIESEL
- PREMIUM UNLEADED
- LPG





# Meredith & 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:

B&W colour

Business Card	\$14.00		
Quarter page	\$25.00		
Half page		\$40.00	\$100
Full page	\$80.00	\$180	

Note: Colour not available for all issues, and a \$20 loading applies for preferred position. Classifieds are **FREE** for small, personal notices from residents. Otherwise \$7.50 or \$5.00 if paid on lodgement.

Community Groups can have a 1/4 page ad for free or a \$25.00 discount on larger ads. (conditions apply)

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you are outside our delivery area you can subscribe for \$25.00 p.a. (11 issues) and get the Meredith and District News posted to you anywhere in Australia.

## CONTACT US

Post: Contact Office, Meredith, 3333

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

Ph: (BH ONLY please) General: Jim 5286 1273 or Accounts: 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 online 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.

**THANK YOU** - to Trudy Mitchell who edited this issue

# CONNECT

There are lots of special interest groups in the district. Make a call and **connect** - *you'll be glad you did.*

## ADVANCE MEREDITH

☎5286 1291

## ANGLING CLUB

☎0419 423 960

## BLUE LIGHT DISCO

☎5286 1222

## BOOK CLUB

☎5286 8201

## CFA

(000 for fire calls)

Elaine

☎0417 533516

Meredith

☎5286 1502

Morrison's

☎0417 770 765

## 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

## FRIENDS OF THE BRISBANE RANGES

☎5286 1252

## LIONS DISTRICT

CONTACT

☎52 815391

# EMERGENCY

Police, Ambulance, Fire (from mobile phone)	<b>000</b>
Meredith Police Station	<b>000 or 112</b>
Power Failure	5286 1222
Nurse-On-Call	132 412
Mental Health Advice	1300 606024
Poisons Information	1300 280 737
Barwon Water	13 11 26
SES flood & storm help:	1300 656 007
24 Hour Helpline	132 500
24 Hour Drug & Alcohol	1800 629 572
Kids Help Line	1800 888 236
24hr 5-18yo	1800 551 800

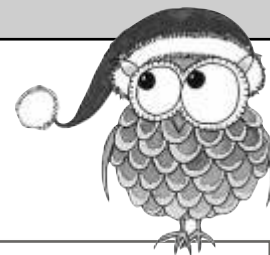
Golden Plains Shire	1300 363 036
A.H.: all services	5220 7111
Bannockburn Vet	5281 1221
Injured Wildlife	13000 wildlife
Pets and Horses 24/7	0421 617 238

## 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	MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH
☎5286 1550	☎5220 7230
HALL HIRE	PRE-SCHOOL
Meredith Memorial	☎5286 1227
☎5286 1545	PRIMARY SCHOOL
Elaine Mechanics	☎5286 1313
☎5241 5596	RECREATION RESERVE
Elaine Rec Res	☎0429 841399
☎5341 5703	
LIBRARY VAN	
☎5272 6010	



"Santa Claus has the right idea - visit people only once a year."  
- Victor Borge

...or start  
something.

We can help you find others who share your special interest



**Cover Photo** - The Mount Mercer wind farm consists of 64 wind turbines capable of producing 131 megawatts of electricity; enough to power the City of Ballarat.

Source: [mtmercervindfarm.com.au](http://mtmercervindfarm.com.au)



# COMMUNITY



This is the final report for 2014. It has been an interesting year at the Centre with us having to relocate during the new Integrated Hub building process. We have settled well into number 4 Russell St, just across the road, so we can see the build process happening.

With the end of the year approaching most of our Courses are finishing in December. We have had some great courses running this year with the most popular being our technology programs. With the rate of change in this area it is great to be able to provide the opportunity for both newbies and more experience users to expand their skills. We have lots of participants in our Tai Chi class who tell us what a difference it makes to their health and feelings of wellbeing.

We continue to provide a venue for user groups including Red Cross, CERT, Golden Plains Art Group and many others.

Occasional care has gone from strength to strength this year under the wonderful management of Jo Vermeend. It has been a huge upheaval to relocate to the school during building as well. Jo is really fantastic with the children and really cares about making the experience enriching for the children. We have been running sessions on 4 days a week and hope to continue that next year provided we have sufficient enrolments.

I would like to publicly thank my wonderful staff who have gone above and beyond this year. Trudy Mitchell has taken on the role of bookkeeper as well and admin and program planning and is always available to fill the gaps while I am away. Jo Vermeend who manages Occasional care and Rebecca Love her assistant does a great job with childcare. We also have many other people who work in occasional care as well as our teachers at the Centre without whom we could not function. Thank you to you all.

Finally the Staff and Committee of Management would like to wish everyone a very happy and safe Christmas and prosperous New Year.

We hope you will come and see what we have to offer you in programs in 2015.

*Pam*

5 Russell Street Meredith 3333  
Ph 5286 1348 Fax 52861 563  
learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au  
"Working for our community"

## ANZAC Centenary Poppy Project

*Sandra Pearce*

Your support is needed!

Next year, the Meredith RSL Branch, the Meredith Primary School and the Memorial Hall Committee are organizing the 2015 Anzac Centenary Service to commemorate the local men and women who served in WW1.

Across the nation, many towns and cities have begun acknowledging the sacrifice and the service these young men and women made during 1914 – 1918 for their country.

In Meredith, our aim is to pay homage in a small but significant way to our local men, and to the women who either supported their men at home or who served as a nurse in the war.

If you would like to support this project, your knitting and crocheting skills are very much needed to assist us to make as many poppies as possible to create a display on Anzac Day in memory of your great, grand father or mother, along with the nation's men and women who served in WW1.

Please contact the Community Centre 5286 1348 and ask about the Poppy Project. Limited wool and patterns are available free of cost. The Craft group meet on Mondays 1.30 -3.30pm and would welcome "Poppy Learners".

Enquiries contact Sandra Pearce 5286 1545.

## Santa's coming to ELAINE in a fire truck!!!!

Saturday 20th December at 11.30am at Elaine  
Recreation Reserve!

Rain hail or shine! Parents if your bringing  
your child reply asap ph 0448291074.



**Christmas Service**  
Wednesday 24th December  
10.00 PM  
Combined Uniting/Anglican  
at St Andrews Uniting Church Meredith.  
All most Welcome

## Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

## Free

Caravan needs work. Take away. Two good gas cylinders  
Phone Margaret Clune 52 861 367

## 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 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday and a combined service at one of our three churches on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday in the month.

### UNITING CHURCH

Monthly Combined Holy Communion services.

2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday, 11am at Meredith Uniting Church

4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 11am at Meredith Anglican Church

1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

-St. Joseph's Mass times

### Christmas Masses 2014

Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup> @ 5p.m. Inverleigh

### Christmas Eve

Bannockburn 6 p.m. Anakie 8 p.m. Meredith 10 p.m.

### Christmas Day

Winchelsea 9 a.m. Bannockburn 10 a.m.

### Mass Times for December/ January

Winchelsea every Saturday @ 6 p.m.

Bannockburn every Sunday @ 9a.m.

( Family Mass December 7<sup>th</sup>/ December 28<sup>th</sup>)

Anakie @ 11 a.m. Sunday December 7<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> January 4<sup>th</sup>/18<sup>th</sup>

Meredith @ 11 a.m. Sunday December 14<sup>th</sup>/28<sup>th</sup> Jan 11<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>



### St.Joev's Op Shop

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

( Closed January)

Rear of St. Joseph's Hall Lawler Street.

Great Bargains.. Baby furniture, bric-a- brac, Books 50c etc.

## FIRE RESTRICTIONS NOW IN FORCE

Fire restrictions came into effect at 12am on Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> November 2014. All burning during this period must be accompanied by a written burn permit which can be arranged via the Golden Plains Shire.

Victoria Police are running a ZERO tolerance approach towards burns that are conducted without a permit or burns that breach the conditions of a permit.

Any member of the community planning to conduct a burn must notify the relevant contacts and comply with all conditions on their permit.

## Christmas Carols in Meredith 2014

SUNDAY DECEMBER 21<sup>ST</sup> AT 8 P.M.

This year the Carols will be held outside the new Meredith Interpretive Centre @ 8 p.m.

Please come along, bring your own chair, candle and a plate of supper to share and join with other Meredith residents to celebrate Christmas together.



Your are invited to the  
**Meredith Community Centre**  
(The Studio 5 Russell Street )

## For a Christmas Breakup

Wednesday 17<sup>th</sup> December 12pm-2pm

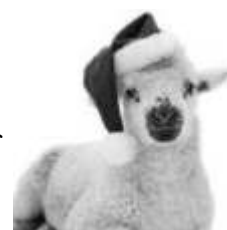
Join the staff and committee to share lunch to celebrate our year

Please bring a plate to share

RSVP Monday 15<sup>th</sup> December Ph 52 861 348

## Christmas Sheep

Bring them out of the shed and display them for Christmas. PLEASE. Look for the new scene on the corner of Staughton and Wallace Streets.



## Christmas Lights Competition

Once again there will be prizes for the Best Decorated House and the Best Decorated Business.

If you have decorated and live outside the town please notify Diane on 52 861291 so your building can be included in the judging. Advance Meredith wishes everyone a Happy Christmas and Happy Decorating!

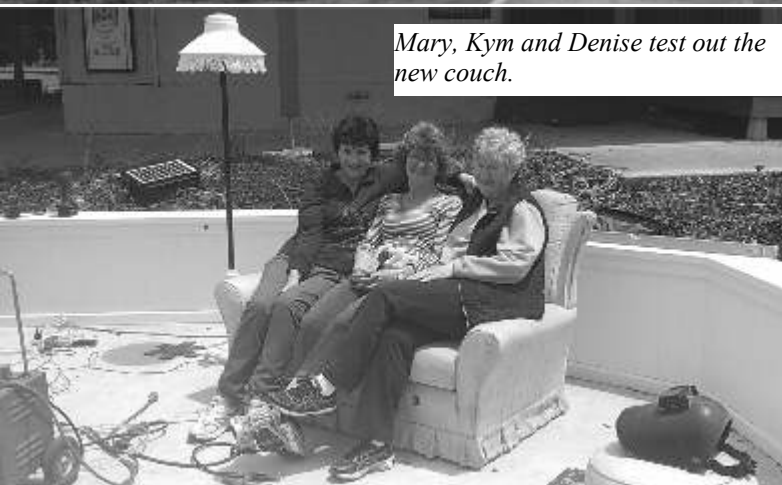


## Finishing touches to the Community Streetscapes Project in Meredith, arrived in time for the Meredith Music Festival.

*The couch being delivered by a crane*



*Mary, Kym and Denise test out the new couch.*



*Cathie, Jenny, Trudy, Joyce and Kerry say "we love it".*



# Merry Christmas

## A Message from the Mayor

*Cr Des Phelan*

*Mayor, Golden Plains Shire Council*

At the October Special Meeting of Council, my fellow Councillors elected me to represent and serve the Golden Plains community as Mayor. I appreciate their confidence in me and commit to do the best I can as Mayor for our community and Council.

I would like to congratulate Cr Jenny Blake on her two terms as Mayor and the way she has led Council over that time. She has shown strong leadership and has never wavered in her dedication to serving the people of Golden Plains Shire. On behalf of Council and the community I thank her for her efforts.

For those of you who are yet to meet me, I have lived and worked in Golden Plains Shire all my life. I live, and farm, in Springdallah in the centre of the Shire and I am strongly committed to my local community. And while I have been on Council before (first elected in Golden Plains in 1996) I know that times have certainly changed and the task today presents many unique challenges specific to our rural and regional Golden Plains communities.

The year ahead also has many uncertainties; the State Election results will be learned as this goes to print and there will likely be implications for local government. We could also be facing another drought period and as a predominantly farming region this could impact heavily on our community.

With the dry season also comes fire danger. As a Group Officer with the CFA and sitting on the Municipal Fire Management Planning Committee I am all too aware of the dangers of being underprepared for fire. There are many resources available to make yourself fire ready, please visit [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au) for advice, resources and support and be prepared for the season ahead. *(You will also find some helpful information in this issue. - Ed.)*

Very good news for residents has been the number of State and Federal Government announcements over the past six weeks. Funding has been secured for the Dereel Hall Upgrade, the Woody Yaloak BMX Track, the Dereel Skate Park Upgrade, the Bannockburn Soccer Pavilion and Nets for the Inverleigh Cricket Club – a grand total of \$586,550 invested into our region.

On that cheerful note, I would like to wish everyone a merry Christmas and a safe and happy festive season.

### HESED COTTAGE

(St John's Op Shop Bannockburn)



We currently have lots of Christmas bargains in store. Christmas trees, decorations, and gifts for all the family.

Open Tuesday-Friday 10am-4pm Sat. 10am-1pm

To give our hard working volunteers a well earned break the last trading day for 2014 will be: **Saturday 20 December.** Reopen **Tuesday 13th Jan 2015.**

Thank you to all who have supported our shop this year, may you have a blessed & joyous Christmas.

Your friendly staff at Hesed Cottage

# Recreation



## Meredith Golf Club

*Vin Drew Club Captain*

### 15/11/14 Stableford

Winner V Drew 35pts R/up C Osborne 33pts  
NTP 2nd L Drew, 9th J Cooper, 14th V Drew  
Matchplay C Osborne 4 skins

### 22/11/14 Stableford

Winner D Jury 37pts  
R/up D Gear 34pts NTP magpie 14th D Jury

PHOTO OMITTED FROM  
ONLINE EDITION

## Ballarat Cheerleading Number 1

Local girl Peta Vermeend is making her mark in Ballarat and beyond as a member of the new Ballarat cheerleading team formed earlier this year.

Peta joined the team in July and recently travelled to Wantirna to compete with her team mates at the world cup cheer and dance championships. Their routine saw our cheerleaders stunt, climb, tumble and dance their way into first place, out dancing all other teams.

Well done girls and well done Peta!

PHOTO OMITTED FROM  
ONLINE EDITION

PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE EDITION

## Elaine Cricket Club

Pictured above: Congratulations to Seamus Dunne and Nicholas Pantzidis on making the BCA U13 team. They took on Geelong Cricket Association on 16<sup>th</sup> November 2014 in Geelong.

### Cricket at Kardinia Park

Pictured right: Fergus, Mr Colbert, Lachlan, Angus, Nicholas, Josh, Aaron, Daniel, James, Tom and Seamus. Seven Elaine Cricket Club players played at Kardinia Park in Geelong, representing Meredith Primary School at T20.

## Healthy **easy** and **delish**

selected by Stefania Parkinson



### Really Easy Plum Pudding

- Prep time approx. 20 mins
- Cooking time 2 hours

#### Ingredients

1 cup skim milk  
 ½ teaspoon bi-carb soda  
 2 small ripe bananas mashed  
 120g fresh wholemeal or white breadcrumbs  
 140g sultanas  
 140g raisins  
 ½ teaspoon mixed spice (optional)

#### Method

Dissolve bi-carb in milk, stir in mashed bananas, breadcrumbs, raisins and sultanas until well combined.

Place mixture into a well greased pudding steamer and steam for approximately 2 hours.

*I know it seems too easy to be delicious, but it's beautiful and not as heavy as a traditional pudding. Give it a go, I'm sure you will be pleasantly surprised.*

*Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.*

Recipe From: Winifred A Parkinson  
 (AKA Mother-in-Law)

COLLECT ME

## Cr Des Phelan Elected Mayor for Golden Plains

Media Release

Golden Plains Shire's Mayoral election was held at Council's Special Meeting today with Cr Phelan elected as Mayor. Cr Phelan was nominated as Mayor Elect at the October Council Meeting. Cr Phelan makes a return to the Mayoral role after first representing Golden Plains Shire as a Councillor between 1996 and 1999 and was the inaugural Mayor. He has served a total of 23 years with Golden Plains Shire Council and former Grenville Shire Council, including five terms as Mayor.

Cr Phelan said he is honoured to be leading Council for this term and thanked his colleagues for their expression of confidence.

In his acceptance address, Cr Phelan spoke of the challenges facing the municipality in the year to come, stating that Council will continue to face difficult decisions and looked forward to Council working as a team to meet the challenges head on. We know that as the expectation of our communities continues to grow, combined with our continued financial pressures, we will be required to be innovative in our approach to managing the affairs of Council in the years to come," said Cr Phelan.

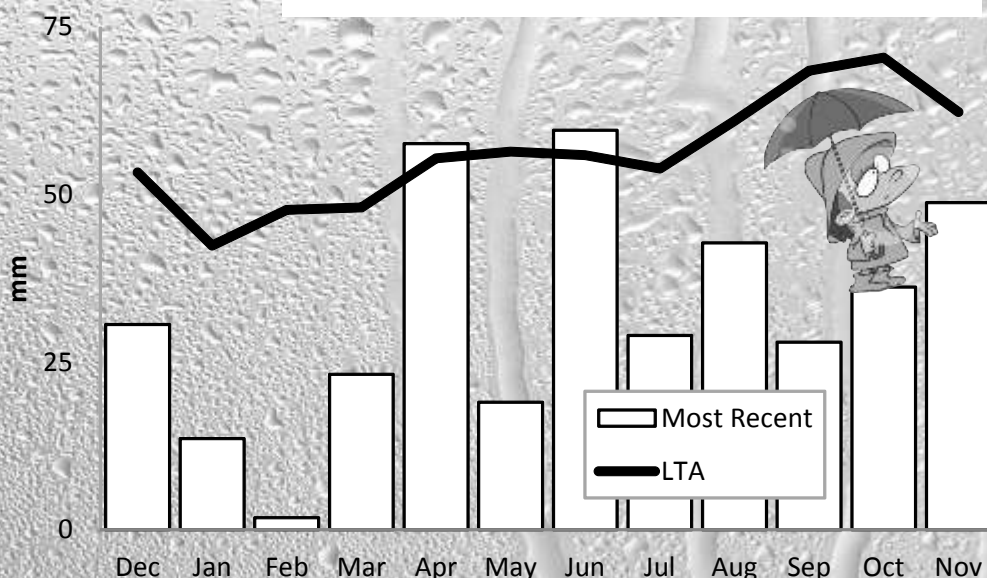
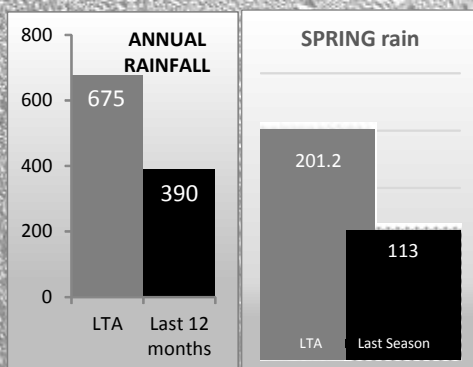
"We remain one of the fastest growing regional Council's in Victoria, and this continues to place our existing services under pressure; we need to meet the demands of growth within a responsible financial strategy," said Cr Phelan.

Cr Phelan has lived and worked in Golden Plains Shire all his life. He currently resides in Springdallah in the centre of the Shire where he owns and operates a farm. He has had a strong association with organisations and communities within the Shire.

"The task ahead for local government presents many opportunities too and I consider it a privilege to be Mayor of Golden Plains," Cr Phelan concluded.

## the Spring RAIN REPORT

Another poor season, with spring registering only 113mm of rain, or just over half the season's long term average.





## In my GARDEN



Spring is almost done, and as summer approaches the level of this gardener's anxiety rises. Although the garden is passed its spring best now, it remains green and lush with the roses, fuchsias and callistemon adding bursts of colour and the masses of hydrangea blooms beginning to show their potential. The trees and shrubs have tons of new growth and all is well. One very windy and hot day can change all this and, while inevitable, it would be nice if the first of these days came after Christmas.

I love to have a beautiful garden for Christmas Day and super effort is required to protect the garden should conditions turn nasty prior to this. Heat is the big enemy of the gardener, especially if extreme conditions present early in summer, or even worse, in late spring. Tender new plant growth has not had a chance to harden to the conditions, and will burn crisp in a minute in hot and windy conditions. Protecting the plants becomes a priority and old sheets are at the ready to cover all tender plants including the tomatoes and lettuces that will be exposed to direct sunlight sometime during the hot day. The greenhouse, potted plants and vegetables will be watered at least twice. It becomes a battle between gardener and the elements with the aim of saving plants and minimising the damage. Fortunately, the gardener always recovers after a good night's sleep but sadly the same cannot always be said of the plants.

Managing the garden in hot weather is a daily commitment and to the non-gardener it may seem that the gardener is quite obsessed and unbalanced, even mad. Unavoidably, that daily commitment means that it is simply impossible to consider leaving the garden for a few days, for any reason, from mid spring through to mid autumn. Holidays, interstate weddings, jury service and hospitalisation are completely out of the question. The temperature in a greenhouse can rise in just a few minutes, when the sun comes out, and one needs to be on hand to open doors and vents to prevent overheating. Ensuring adequate water to all parts of the garden during warm to hot weather is nearly a full-time job. I cannot see the point in planting anything, whether it is a crop of vegetables, a fruit tree or any other plant, only to allow them to languish through lack of water and protection.

A reliable water supply is also cause for increasing anxiety as it heats up, and disaster is never far away. In fact, for this gardener, disaster is only ever a broken bore pump away and it can take days before a pump can be repaired depending on demand elsewhere for pump repairs. Relying on tank and town water is a very short-term solution available for use on only the most vulnerable of plants. I remain very thankful that, given a functioning pump, I have a bountiful supply of water. The bore water is also essential for flushing out, and topping up the frog - fish - duck pond. During the hot weather the growth of algae is considerable and can choke the water making life difficult for the normal water inhabitants if the algae are not controlled. Regular replacement of about one-quarter of the pond water assists in keeping the algae growth within healthy pond limits.

The above anxieties aside, the warmer days and nights have been welcome. Summer vegetables thrive in the warmth and it is wonderful to see just how much pumpkin, zucchini and cucumber vines have grown as the temperature rises. The tomatoes have also put on a growth spurt and especially so when accompanied by good rains. Hand watering is always a poor substitute for a good downpour. Birds of all kinds are still busy nest building and laying eggs. My ducks are sitting on two dozen eggs. I hope the drake rose

to the occasion, before egg laying commenced in earnest, to ensure that eggs will be fertilised and ducklings will result. The comet gold fish continue to frolic in the pond and I will be the happiest person on the planet if I spot any tiny gold fish. I couldn't receive a better Christmas present.

Until next time, happy gardening.

Robyn

### MEREDITH CONSTRUCTIONS

GEOFF L. HARDY D.B.U 15273

#### Registered Building Practitioner For

New Homes

Renovations

Additions

Ground Floor

2nd. Storey

Bathrooms

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Tiling

Plans etc.

Pergolas

All aspects of concreting

Phone 0409 850 611 8am - 5pm

scanamol

Peter Scanlon

Tall Tree Road  
Lethbridge

Tel/Fax: 5281 7284

Mobile: 0414 665 130

Email: scanamol@bigpond.com

Spreading  
FERTILIZERS  
LIME  
GYPSUM  
MANURE  
GRAIN CARTAGE

Incitec Pivot

### Lions Club for Meredith

Would you like to be a charter member of the Meredith Lions Club?

Would you like to be part of an international family friendly organization that raises funds for projects that benefit a) your own community b) children and adults with special needs and disabilities and c) recognised international needs.

Then come along to a meeting on Tuesday February 10th at 7.30 p.m. At the Royal Hotel Meredith to have a chat about Lions and register your interest.

Coffee and cake provided.

# FOUR OUT OF FIVE

**BUSHFIRE DEATHS  
HAPPEN CLOSE  
TO HOME.**

**IT'S YOUR RESPONSIBILITY  
LEAVE EARLY**

Check Fire Danger Ratings and warnings regularly.

**LEAVE AND LIVE.**

visit [emergency.vic.gov.au](https://emergency.vic.gov.au)

call 1800 240 667

download the FireReady app

**FireReady**  **Victoria**

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne



## IN OUR NATURE

Wendy COOK

The old gum tree stands alone in the paddock. It started its life as a seedling in a forest, long before Europeans arrived. Most of the forest was cleared for building material, fence posts, mine supports, firewood and to create grazing lands. This is one of the few survivors. Its spreading branches and massive trunk provide shade to the farmer's sheep in summer and shelter from storms and frost. Its roots, reaching far underground, help to hold the soil in place, preventing erosion by wind or water. They convey nutrients from deep in the soil, to its leaves, which eventually fall, releasing the nutrients into the topsoil. The roots suck water from deep below, preventing the water table from rising and bringing salts closer to the surface where they can kill pasture plants.

A deep mound of sticks in a fork of two huge branches is an occasionally used nest for wedge-tailed eagles, who feed themselves and their chicks mostly on rabbits, sighted from high above. Magpies roost in the tree at night, and spend much of their day eating insect pests. Smaller birds hop among the branches, seeking insects or nectar for food, and a resting place on their travels. They peck some of the munching caterpillars off the tree's leaves. Too many caterpillars can defoliate the tree, leading to a slow decline and death. A hawk, perched on a high dead stick looks out for mice and lizards in the grass. A trail of ants climbs from their nest near the base of the tree high into the branches seeking nectar and other insects to feed their colony. A passing echidna presses its nose to the ground. When it detects the ants it uses its strong claws to tear open the nest and its long tongue to lick up ants.

A fallen branch provides shelter for a blue tongue lizard. It creeps out slowly in the morning to bask on top of the branch in the sun, warming up for a day of activity, but remaining close enough to its home to crawl inside if it detects danger. Above, the broken off branch reveals a hollow. A pair of colourful eastern rosellas are preparing a nest, making a soft bed of rotting wood for their eggs. In another hollow, small bats sleep, hanging upside down, wings folded around their bodies. At dusk they awake, stretch their wings and fly out. Their high-pitched echolocation calls detect the insects they hunt around the tree's canopy. Under the bark, spiders and moths spend their day, waiting for darkness.

A koala arrived last night, digging its sharp claws into the trunk as it climbed to a high tree fork. It is sleeping. Later, it will wake and browse on nearby leaves. It may stay a few days, then reverse down the trunk, and walk across the paddock to another tree or a distant patch of bush.

The well-pollinated tree drops many seeds. Some of them germinate to become seedlings, but the sheep eat them. The tree is ancient, but there are no young trees nearby to replace it. When it dies, it will still provide homes for many creatures, but it will no longer provide shelter or nectar or look after the soil. While it is still alive, seeds could be collected to germinate in a nursery and be planted with care to grow into new paddock trees, or a fenced off area near the tree would give seedlings a chance to survive.

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## Fire Dangers this Summer

*Chris Jones, Captain, Meredith Rural Fire Brigade*

**Each of you as members of this community need to be aware of the impending fire danger we face this season. The conditions we face this year are more serious than in recent years. Fuel levels around the district are higher, warmer weather has come along earlier than usual which has dried fuel levels in the bush and grasslands and the forecast for the fire danger period is for a long, hot and dry period.**

While it is the responsibility of each individual and home owner to be prepared should you be faced with the threat of fire, I would like to outline a few very important tips that may help you be better prepared.

- A written fire plan may save your life. Would you remember a plan that's just in your head if you're surrounded by smoke, heat, flame and noise?
- Know where you'll go and what you'll do on a hot, dry, windy day. Have multiple options and routes. Practise packing and travelling the routes, especially if you live in bushland like Pioneer Ridge or Bamganie.
- Don't wait for a warning to be sent to your phone or a knock on your door, leaving early is the key.
- Check the Fire Danger Rating and Total Fire Ban for your district every day over summer, Meredith and surrounding districts comes under the Central District.
- Keep your property clean and tidy from dry combustible materials.
- STAY INFORMED. There are lots of ways to stay informed and it's important to have access to more than one source of information. Stay up-to-date by tuning into ABC local radio, commercial and designated community radio stations, SKY News TV, phone the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667, visit: [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au), CFA's website, Facebook or Twitter accounts, and by downloading the FireReady app. Check [firecommissioner.vic.gov.au](http://firecommissioner.vic.gov.au) for a full list of emergency broadcasters.
- Most important of all is to call triple zero (000) to report a fire. The earlier you call 000, the faster the fire trucks arrive to put out the fire. In some cases early reporting is the most important tool a fire brigade can have.

Members of the community can find out more information by visiting the Country Fire Authority website at: [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au). There you will find helpful hints and tips to better prepare yourself for this coming fire season.

*Right: The controlled burn of a large section of the Meredith Police Paddocks late last month will bring a number of benefits.*

## ELECTRICAL SAFETY

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On-site or off-site testing. Reasonable rates.  
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## Police Paddocks Burnt

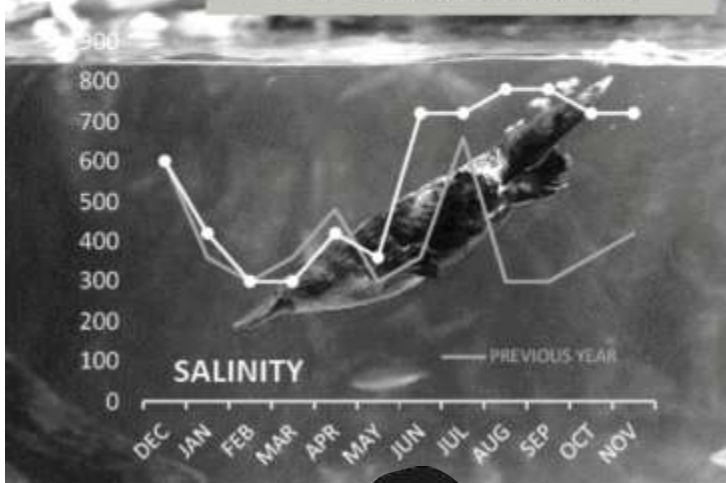
On a Sunday morning late last month the Meredith Rural Fire Brigade conducted a controlled burn in the Police Paddock Reserve. The burn was undertaken to reduce the fuel levels in the paddock that had been increasing over many years. Starting at 9:30am it was very smoky for a short time, but everything went according to plan, and the goal was achieved. All Brigade members did an outstanding job.

The burn has multiple benefits, as well as reducing the fire hazard for neighbouring properties, it takes an enormous weight off the shoulders of the brigade by removing a large part of the hazard that the paddock posed. There is also a considerable environmental benefit, as the removal of the large mass of exotic grass, creates an opportunity for residual native grasses to re-establish.





Every quarter, we report water quality of the Moorabool River at Slate Quarry Road, using a measure of salinity. While this is a good overall indicator, Waterwatch volunteers also measure turbidity, pH, phosphorus, and oxygen to gain a more complete picture of river health. You can read more about each of these elements at [meredithnews.com.au/online/extras](http://meredithnews.com.au/online/extras)



## 'Tis the Season

So it's that time of year again. When red and green decorations cover every shop window and Christmas carols play piercingly through every supermarket and shopping centre you dare walk into. The festive cheer begins to infect the happiest of those around us and the excitement of a visit from Santa Claus sends children into a hyperactive frenzy.

December is THAT time of year.

Or is it? It no longer limits itself to the first 25 days of December. The end of November doesn't seem too much of a stretch to begin the festivities does it? However apparently that is not early enough anymore. Santa made his Westfield debut for the year on the first Saturday of November, waltzing in like a rock star to the screams of what seemed like hundreds of children who, no doubt, have since been restlessly awaiting the night when the man in red will shimmy his way down our fireplace flues and deposit little bundles of wrapped joy under the brightly decorated tree.

But it didn't stop there. Or begin there, I should say.

It was mid-October when I first heard an utterance of a Christmas carol weasel its way out of a local shop's speakers. In horror I quickly exited the shop. A few days later, decorations started appearing in the CBD and I realised with a jolt of disbelief that yes, the festive season had begun nearly two months earlier than it should have.

At first I was reluctant to accept the merriment that is meant to accompany 'this time of year'. I refused to acknowledge that it was time to start thinking about shopping lists, recipes and decorations. I refused to start buying presents, start writing cards and sending season's greetings. And shame on you if you ended a conversation with 'if I don't see you before, then have a merry Christmas!' No, no it is too early for that! But lo and behold! Here we are with just mere weeks to go and I find myself totally unprepared.

All of the signs that I mistook for shops shamelessly trying to make money were actually warnings shouting: 'Gemma! Don't do what you did last year and leave everything to the last minute!'

It's time to get into full-on merry mode and I still haven't bought a single present or organised tacky Christmas accessories to adorn my work uniform.

Maybe they should start rolling out the season in September?

Have a Merry Christmas!

Gemma



## The Meredith Seniors

*Jim Hynds*

On November 17<sup>th</sup>, 2014 the Meredith Seniors had their final bus trip for the year. They travelled to Daylesford and had a stop at the Mill Market for a wander around and morning tea. These markets are very popular with the group and some purchases were made. They then travelled on to the Daylesford Hotel for lunch. Reports indicate that the seniors were made very welcome and were supplied with impressive meals at great prices. The next stop was the Timber Benders in Camoora. On arrival the group were given a demonstration of wood bending. The machine which originally came from Echuca uses steam and pressure to bend timber to all shapes. It is still going strong although it was first built in the 1800's. All our members were most impressed by the demonstration and the afternoon tea that was supplied by the owner's wife, Sue who had made Anzac biscuits especially for the group. Thanks to the Royal Hotel for the donations for the raffles, to Arthur, our bus driver for another great job, and to Jo Primmer for organizing the trip. On a sadder note our Golf Ladies who have catered for senior's lunches for some 40 years have decided to hang up their aprons and retire. You will be sadly missed. Thanks for a fantastic job from one and all.

Our Christmas dinner is on December 15. Festivities will begin at 11 am. Anyone who would like to attend please contact Jo Primmer or Jim Hynds. The cost will be \$12 which includes Christmas Dinner, a Live Band and raffles. All are welcome.

Written by Jim Hynds who did not go on the last bus trip because he had the flu. He heard about the trip from other members but wished he could have gone because they enjoyed the day so much.

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***Please be advised that Woolabrai will close at 4pm  
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re-open at 8am on Monday the 5<sup>th</sup> of January 2015.***

***Thank-You for your continued support and we look  
forward to an even more productive 2015!***

***From Pat, Helen, Ken, Mark, Lucy, Dan, and Nevaeh!***



## Golden Plains Shire Residents Asked to Speak Up!

*Media Release*

Development of Shire's New Events, Marketing and Communication and Community Development and Engagement Strategies Commenced

Golden Plains Shire Council has commenced the process of developing its new Events, Marketing and Communication and Community Development and Engagement Strategies, with the community invited to participate in the combined consultation phase.

Chief Executive Officer, Rod Nicholls, said the contribution of residents, community groups and businesses was crucial to the project's success.

"This project will culminate in the delivery of three strategies to maximise the quality and effectiveness of current event, marketing and communication activities, of community development and engagement. The work will create solutions to current issues, generate new ideas and identify future opportunities through to 2018," Mr Nicholls said.

"Community input is a crucial first step toward developing innovative and contemporary strategies and action plans to meet the events, marketing and communications and community development and engagement needs of Golden Plains Shire and the residents and businesses it represents."

Interested persons are invited to complete a survey via the following methods:

- **Council website:** simply visit the homepage at [www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au](http://www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au) and click the "Speak Up" button to locate and complete the survey online
- **Direct access:** simple visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/goldenplains>
- **Hardcopy survey:** copies will be available at the Shire's Customer Service Centres located in Bannockburn and Linton

The survey closes at 5pm on 11 January 2015.

At the conclusion of the survey, Council will invite various community and business groups, as well as event planners, to participate in a range of workshops, aiming to build on the survey findings.

Mr Nicholls said Council was strengthening its focus on community consultation and engagement. In the previous annual state wide customer satisfaction surveys, Golden Plains Shire rated higher for its community consultation activities than other councils in Victoria.

## UGLY bartender of the year

*Damian Kelly*


Over the last couple of months, local publican Claire Kelly from The Royal Hotel, in conjunction with the Leukaemia Foundation, embarked on a fund raising campaign to assist families dealing with this horrible disease. Claire had set a target of \$5000, which after last year's campaign achieving just over \$2000, seemed pretty ambitious. She is very pleased to announce that the target was reached raising just over \$5,100. This result placed Claire in 4<sup>th</sup> place, as the highest fund raiser within the state of Victoria. This is a great result which could not have been achieved without the support of many people. To help with the fundraising Claire made a great personal sacrifice having her head shaved.

She would love to thank everyone for their generous contributions but in particular wants to highlight the contributions made by Angus Bigmore & Madelyn Thompson both from Meredith Primary School & Dave Evans Jnr.

UGLY is an acronym for Unbelievable, Generous, Likeable, You. This is a Leukaemia fundraising organisation supported by the Australian Hotels Association in running the UGLY Bartender of the year competition.



*Claire, before and after her brave, and very successful fund raising snip.*



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**WESTAG**

## The Austin 7 Club

*Marg Cooper*

On time on Sunday, November 2 about 25 small, cute, Austin 7 cars roared into Meredith and parked at the Interpretative Centre to have their morning tea. It was a cool morning and everyone was warmly dressed especially the people in the open topped cars.

The club members had met in Ballarat on Friday, stayed at Ballarat Lodge, travelled to Lake Goldsmith to the Steam Rally on Saturday, travelled to Meredith, Maude and Steiglitz on Sunday and intended to travel to Creswick on Monday and visit the Eureka Stockade on Tuesday. After morning tea at Meredith they were booked to view the "Moranghurk" garden, have lunch at Maude supplied by the CFA ladies, discover Steiglitz and travel back to Ballarat.

John McMillan told that the club has 350 members, they have motor races including at Historic Winton this year being the 38th annual event, they have a Hill Climb at Myrniong, Wings and Wheels event at Maryborough and that members could be out every second weekend with their cars if they wanted to be.

School friends Graham and Russell have been members of the Austin 7 Club since they were 17 years old. They learnt to drive in Austins around the back lanes of East Malvern and have owned Austins because they were cheap cars to buy in years gone by, they were easy to work on and they were economical to run.

Fay and Ken were driving a Sports Special, a very sporty car. They own about ten vintage cars including a Daimler that Edward V111 had as his State Limousine. It was recently featured on Chanel 9 News and was displayed in the Exhibition Buildings.

Did you know that an Austin 7 won the first Australian Grand Prix in 1928. The last Austin 7 cars were made in 1937.

## Shelford Primary School

### ENERGY BREAKTHROUGH

Last week 10 students and 6 parents from our school travelled to Maryborough for the RACV Energy Breakthrough event. This is a huge event with over 100 schools and more than 1,000 students taking part.

The children built the billy cart with help from a community member, and all students from Prep to Grade 6 joined in. Despite being a small school we competed in every event and our students learnt a lot about doing their best, competing fairly, working as a team, and taking up new challenges.

I would like to thank David Trevaskis for all his help with building the billy cart, Kurt, Marianne, Ali, Leeanne and Damian for coming as parent helpers, and of course the children for the fantastic way they represent our school.

*Design and Construction judging*

PHOTO OMITTED FROM  
ONLINE EDITION

## Moo's Life Presents

### SHAVE THE POSTIES HEAD!

Tanya our local postie is looking for sponsors and donations to shave and paint her head, to help raise funds to help Mandy fight cancer.



### Tanya needs your help!

Please make donations at the Meredith General Store or directly to Tanya Postie herself.

Face painting by gold coin donation for the kids.  
Donations also accepted on the day.

Moo's Life rainbow wristbands also available at the Meredith Corner Store, Meredith Community Centre and also on the day. \$5 each

**SATURDAY 13<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2014 at 3PM**  
**The Beer Garden, Royal Hotel, Meredith**

For more info, please leave your details at the post office and you will be contacted.



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Jan 2<sup>nd</sup> 9am – 6pm

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

## Built in Apps (Part 2)

The Apple Store is a giant Department Store with lots of different shop fronts. Here are just a few of them:

#Note that if you haven't yet downloaded the latest software upgrade IOS 8.1, some of these may look and behave a little different to the way they are described below.

### Music

When you open Music you will find yourself in the Radio section. Have a look through the free stations that are available. Whatever your tastes, you can find a station to enjoy, advertisement free. You are not actually buying the music, just listening to whatever they play, but do remember that you can chew up quite a bit of download if you have it on for hours.

To get to the shop, select Songs from the options at the bottom of screen. This takes you to your own music if you have any loaded. In the top left of screen, touch Store. There is a search engine in the top left so you can type in a performer, a song title, a genre, even a decade, such as the seventies and see what comes up. Individual songs usually cost between \$1.50 and \$2.50, or whole albums are around \$15 to \$20. At the bottom of the screen you will see that you can also browse Movies, TV Shows and Audiobooks, so there is plenty to keep you entertained.

### iBooks

iBooks is now linked directly to the Store, so when you open it you see your own bookshelf, then options across the bottom of the screen for Featured, Top Charts and Top Authors. Just as in the Music Storefront, there is a search icon in the top right. The Featured section changes regularly and shows new releases, top sellers, etc. it is a good place to start if you are not sure what you are looking for. Tap the Categories button top left to see all sorts of options from Crime Thrillers, to Humour, to Romance. Choose a particular book to get a detailed description and reviews from other readers. The Sample button lets you download the first 10% free so you can decide if you want the book.

### App Store

The App Store is set out the same way with a front page showing new and recommended Apps, then have a look at Explore to see Apps organised into categories for easy browsing. Do you have a little red number showing on the App store icon? That means that there is an update waiting for one or more of your Apps. You can download each one separately or Upgrade All with one touch. Again, there is a search engine in the top right corner, and additional info about each App to help you choose.

Once you have explored one section of the Apple Store, the format becomes familiar and it is easy to find your way around new sections. You don't need to spend lots of cash to find enjoyable and informative content to add to your iPad. Have fun!

Wendy

## Barry Pearce Peace Memorial Award

Sandra Pearce

The Inaugural recipient Hannah Pearson has accepted the Corps of Commissionaires Association, Barry Pearce Peace Memorial Award. This year's Remembrance Eve Dinner was held at Lyndon Grove, Geelong with family, friends and supporters of the Veteran community. This year, the Geelong and District Sub-branch of the Vietnam Veterans' Association of Australia chose Hannah Pearson of Geelong. Hannah is the daughter of Sandy & Colin Pearson, a local Vietnam Veteran. Hannah has become known to the Geelong Veteran community particularly in her role of singing the National Anthem and other songs at the annual Vietnam Veterans Day Service. She has demonstrated and fulfilled the requirements in the following areas. Hannah's ability and spiritual convictions were displayed by;

- \* Personal initiative in contributing to numerous communities
- \* Creative thinking and acting, either in the arts or in putting ideas into action
- \* Highly motivated to trust humane values, and courage to stand in the unknown for any aspect of social justice
- \* Passion and commitment to support and advocate for those who lack the skills, the voice or energy to over-come adversity, and to show
- \* Respect for political, racial, economic or religious difference and a willingness to work with others of good will for the common good.

It was a very humbling experience to be in the company of a young woman who has stood out in her community with aspirations and commitments to serve others as she stayed true to her own spiritual convictions.

Congratulations Hannah.

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## Mini Foxies at Elaine

Christine Crawford

Hon. Secretary Mini Foxie Club of Australia Inc. (MFCA)

**Records were broken** at the Dog Show held by the Mini Foxie Club of Australia (MFCA) on Sunday 9th November 2014 at the Elaine Recreation Reserve.

There were 129 entries of dogs owned by club members who travelled from all over Victoria and from interstate ... and the pleasant sunny weather was an added bonus.

Best in Show went to "Tullyard Lapis Lazuli" from Newcastle, NSW but the Victorian dogs did well too. Best of Breed in the Advanced Division was from Victoria, "Davmac Yolanda" and local dog "Calamity Park Aria" from Morrisons took out the best De-Sexed Dog in Show. The Best Child Handler was Alyssa Sutton, who travelled from Mt Martha. "Mungarra Panda" owned by Mrs Doreen Thompson of Meredith was Best Veteran and also Runner-Up to Best of Breed in the Advanced Division and has now achieved his 100 points Championship.

An enthralling performance was given by the winner of the Best Trick Dog event - "Davmac Preston" from Ararat who demonstrated how to tidy up his toys by placing a toy in a basket and then carrying the basket to his owner. Clever dog!

In addition to registering the pedigrees of Australia's Miniature Fox Terrier and keeping records of the breed, local MFCA members say this is what their dog club is all about - great people, great little dogs, and owners having a great time with their dogs. They are looking forward to next year's show.

More details of the Mini Foxie Club can be found on [www.minifoxie.org](http://www.minifoxie.org)

Doreen Thompson exhibited six dogs at the dog show. She was ably assisted by Janice Robertson and Joy Fox. This year Margaret Hearn recorded all the wins by taking photos on her ipad. She was very busy as Doreen's dogs were awarded many ribbons, rosettes and sashes.

Well done Doreen.



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# Meredith Primary School

## Grade 5/6 Bake Sale Day

Finally the day arrived! Our big Bake Sale – the culmination of 5 weeks work. The Learning Space was transformed into a Market Place for the morning with stalls decorated with homemade bunting, Christmas trees, fairy lights and cake stands. It was very crowded as our customers went on a purchasing frenzy, with many taking a plate full of goodies home to share. Thank you to all the parents who came in to assist the children with their baking during the project, and to everyone who came to the Bake Sale. It was much appreciated! The children made a profit of just over \$400, which will be put towards the Adopt-a-Family Christmas Appeal and will purchase something new for our learning space.

## Passion Projects

Our Grade 3/4s have been busy working on their Passion Projects.

We have had a wonderful term visiting the 4 year old group at kinder each week.

Mrs Gargan along with some Prep and Grade 5 students have enjoyed playing with the children in their outdoor learning area. For many of our students who went to the Meredith Kindergarten, it is a delightful time to revisit a place full of happy memories. Jodie, Kylie and parents have brought the kinder children to school for a play on the playground and in our new sandpit. We have also welcomed the children to school to take part in some school activities in preparation for next year. The Kinder and school children love to see each other and we are really looking forward to being closer together when the new kinder is built on the school grounds.

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# my Favourite Book

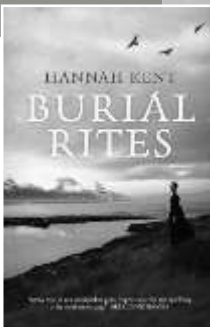
We asked members of the Meredith Book Club which book they enjoyed most of all this year, and why.

Jan McDonald

## Burial Rites - Hannah Kent

One of my favourite reads this year was "Burial Rites" by Hannah Kent. Set in Iceland in the 1820s, it is the story of Agnes Magnúsdóttir, the last woman executed in this country. While her execution date is being determined she is sent to live with a family of "reluctant" minders.

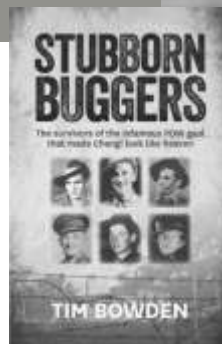
I enjoyed this book because of the magnificent descriptions of the harsh but beautiful countryside, and the way it depicted the emotional turmoil in different people as Agnes, the murderer, evolved as an individual rather than a "monster."



Jenny Colvin

## Stubborn Buggers Tim Bowden

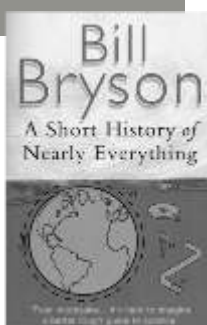
The survivors of the infamous gaol that made Changi look like heaven'. (A quote from one of the survivors). Outram Road Gaol in Singapore was taken over by the Japanese military police to house anyone who had committed a grave offence, including about 70 Australians. The book tells the story of several of these soldiers who survived. Despite the horror, torture and brutality they endured, the stories show the men's amazing spirit, the Aussie irreverent humour, and their determination to survive, and if possible, to escape. This is a truly inspirational collection of stories, showing courage and determination against all the odds.



Marg Cooper

## A Short History of Nearly Everything Bill Bryson

This is an extraordinary book. As the blurb says, truckloads of information, amazing stories and extraordinary personalities. It is a record of everything that has happened from the beginning of time until now or from nothing to us. It is a science book written in an amusingly gossipy tone. The amount of ground covered is amazing and comprehensive. The author tells that if the 4500 million years of earth's history was compressed into one day the age of mammals began at twenty one minutes to midnight and humans emerge one minute seventeen seconds before midnight. Everyone should read this book about "nature's mystique".



Heather Kent

## The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks Rebecca Skloot

At first glimpse this true story seems a bit too scientific but is one of the most compelling books I have read. The story is of the research and development of the use of DNA. We are taken through the painstaking research and scientific studies but also shown the human behind the extracted cells, Henrietta Lacks, a poor black woman, a mother with young children, a sister, and a woman with a fatal cancer, living on the bottom rung of society. The cells removed by doctors from her body have helped scientists in amazing discoveries and sixty years after her death are still multiplying and creating opportunities for further developments in modern medicine.

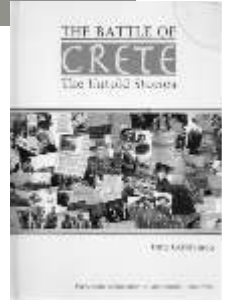


Rosemary Hart

## The Battle of Crete - The Untold Stories

edited by  
Dina Gerolymou

Published this year by The Pancretan Association of Melbourne, it is a compilation of 80 stories with photographs. The stories are unique to the individual, highlighting the ingenuity and diversity of the Veterans experiences. They cover the injured, escapees, including serial escapees, POW's and the extraordinary risks undertaken by the Cretan population to hide, feed and clothe escapees at horrendous cost to themselves.



# Q&A

with Santa

Q: What did Santa say to the smoker?

A: Please don't smoke, it's bad for my elf!

Q: What do they sing at a snowman's birthday party?

A: Freeze a jolly good fellow

Q: What do Santa's little helpers learn at school??

A: The elf-abet!

Q: Did Rudolph go to school?

A: No. He was Elf-taught!

Q: Who hides in the bakery at Christmas?

A: A mince spy!



## pic of the month



Peyre-France Photo by Jenny Talbot

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 3 for contact details.

## Meredith Dairy News

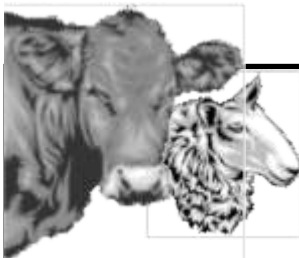
Julie Cameron



At the opening of the Meredith Visitors Centre it was proudly announced that Meredith Dairy has been granted several million dollars towards developing the business. We wish, in fact the State Government has promised a \$200,000 grant, conditional on Meredith Dairy investing \$3 million dollars towards increasing manufacturing capacity and facilitating expansion.

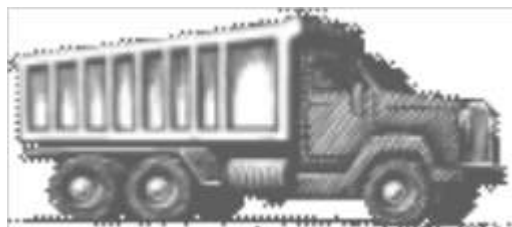
Meredith Dairy is indeed investing a lot into the business. Some of the investment is obvious- a new dairy on the Mt Mercer Rd, and other investment less so (research into vaccine development and genetic improvement).. We now milk on four different dairies scattered across the farm- about 1,200 ewes and 3,500 goats are milked twice a day. This milk, along with that from the goat farm at Bannockburn, and another at Ross Creek is processed daily, mainly into fresh cheese. We have 80 or so people keeping the whole show ticking over, including several who are constantly building something or other. We have sales staff in Sydney and Melbourne. About half our cheese is sold in Melbourne, 5% exported (mainly to NZ and USA) and the rest across Australia. We now sell direct to Coles (only to about a quarter of their stores) and via a distributor we sell in about 120 Woolworths stores).

Our aim is not just to grow the business just for the sake of it. The Cameron family only ever intended to replace their city incomes (which as a scientist and a nurse were pretty modest) when they went farming in 1990. But there seems plenty of demand for the cheese and yoghurt, and plenty of keen helpers, so provided we continue to be supported by so many in the community we will continue to develop at a reasonable pace, hopefully in an environmentally and socially responsible way

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## Anzac Centenary

Mal Johns President Inverleigh RSL Sub - Branch

### The Battle of Cocos

The Australian Navy was involved in various conflicts prior to our troops arriving at Gallipoli, with the Australian Cruiser HMAS Sydney being dispatched from escort duty of the first convoy of Australian and New Zealand Soldiers, sailing for Egypt from Albany in Western Australia.

Sydney was responding to a reported attack on a communications station at Direction Island by the German light Cruiser SMS Emden, under the Command of Karl Von Muller with a crew of 316 personnel. During a two month period the German Cruiser captured or sank 25 civilian vessels, shelled Madras, and destroyed two Allied warships at Penang.

Early November 1914 the Emden arrived of the Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Karl Von Muller decided to attack the communication station at Direction Island and hamper communications and frustrate the search for his ship.

Around this time the first convoy was leaving Albany and HMAS Sydney, under the command of Captain John Glossop and a crew of 434 personnel, was dispatched to investigate a distress call from the communication station.

Emden arrived at the islands during the night of 8<sup>th</sup>-9<sup>th</sup> November and sent a shore party to disable the communication station. During the attack the station was able to transmit a distress call before it was shut down.

Emden opened fire on Sydney at 0940 hrs scoring hits but was unable to inflict disabling damage to the Australian Cruiser, before Sydney opened fire with her powerful main guns. At 1120hrs Von Muller ordered that the Emden beach on North Keeling Island. The Australian warship broke away to pursue the collier Buresk which was with the Emden. This vessel was scuttled by its crew, Sydney then returned to North Keeling Island at 1600hrs, at this point the Emden's Battle Ensign was still flying, and after no response to instructions to lower the ensign, Captain Glossop ordered two salvos shot into the beached cruiser. Sydney had orders to ascertain the status of the transmission station, but returned the next day to provide medical assistance to the Germans.

Of the Emden's crew, 134 were killed and 69 wounded, Sydney suffered 4 killed and 16 wounded. The German survivors were taken aboard the Sydney and then transferred to the auxiliary cruiser Empress of Russia on the 12<sup>th</sup> November. Sydney rejoined the ANZAC convoy in Colombo then spent the rest of the war assigned to the North America and West Indies Station and then the British Grand Fleet. Von Muller and some of his officers were imprisoned in Malta and the rest of the German personnel were sent to POW camps in Australia. Source Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

## Poppies for our Anzacs

The Inverleigh RSL Sub-Branch has various groups of ladies knitting poppies to place at the monuments in the townships of Inverleigh, Bannockburn, Teesdale and Shelford in remembrance of the servicemen and women who gave the ultimate sacrifice in all areas of conflict, these poppies will be placed progressively at the monuments in the lead up to the Centenary of the ANZAC landing at Gallipoli on ANZAC day 2015. If other Sub Branches were to support this project in their areas where there are monuments we could see splashes of red in many townships throughout the Golden Plains Shire



## Meredith Cemetery Thankyou

John Diffey

Meredith Cemetery Trust would like to express their appreciation for the help that members of the community have given in regards to the upkeep of the cemetery. Meredith Cemetery is a vital part of the history of the community; and garden maintenance is a constant requirement to maintain the appearance. Any community member is welcome at any time to join in our voluntary maintenance schedule. For further details please contact Doug McFarlane on 52861283 or John Diffey 52861550

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## Kinder News

*Jodie Trevaskis & Kylie Vanderkley*

As we begin to wind down for the year ,if that is possible!! The children are enjoying their last few weeks of Term busily making Christmas gifts for their families and playing with their friends. We are putting up the enormous Christmas tree and the children are making sparkly decorations and all sorts of things to hang on it! The glitter has come out and our room is beginning to look a lot like Christmas. We are having our Christmas concert on the last day of Kinder and we will all enjoy a little celebration afterwards before we say our goodbyes.

Our AGM was held a couple of weeks ago which went off well, it was nice to meet some of our new families who will be joining us next year and we are looking forward to meeting our new group of children early next year on Orientation day. Congratulations to our new committee for 2015 and thank you to those who are leaving us, for giving your time over the year or years (Rachel) and energies, we value your input. Congratulations to Jo Kemp who will be the new Kinder President. Transition days have been happening for many children at different schools and we thank Rosemary Gargan for organising the regular days Meredith Primary School children come over to visit us. It's a lovely informal way for the kinder children to meet some of the big kids from school and interact with them in a familiar environment. We went on two excursions to the primary school in November and thank you to our parent helpers who came along and held the children's hands. Mrs Cooke is always available to come along too and be our Lollypop lady to hold the stop sign so we can cross the road safely!

The Meredith Music festival is happening soon and I'm looking forward to working again in the tucker tent along with our volunteers, it should be a fun day and great music to enjoy afterwards. The committee will be having a sausage sizzle out the front of Kinder on the Festival Friday morning from 6am so we will be using the back gate for our drop off and pick up due to the road being so busy with traffic going to the festival.

Goodbye and Good Luck to all our lovely children and their families who are leaving to go onto prep next year, it's been wonderful to spend this year with you and a real pleasure playing a little part in your child's learning journey. Have a very happy Christmas time and lots of fun over the holidays, we will see you again in the New Year.

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## Kindred Matters

Judith emond FAMILY THERAPIST

### Christmas Cheer or Fear?

As Christmas day approaches some of us will be excited and full of cheer yet others may be overwhelmed with dread or fear. I am often told that Christmas is a time for pleasing others and feeling pressured or obligated to endure family festivities without '*having a say*'. Likewise, I know of some people who clearly state '*I don't do Christmas*'. Regardless of how Christmas makes you feel it can offer us all benefits if we use the time to reflect, review and recharge. Here are several suggestions on how you can gain the most out of the Christmas holiday season;

**1. Resist conforming-** there are no rules or laws in place telling us how we should spend our time over the Christmas period. We commonly see more and more people moving away from excessive and expensive celebrations as they engage in more traditional and restful activities. It is OK to say NO to family pressures and spend the time as you please. The idea of down scaling celebrations or '*not doing Christmas*' is worth a try particularly if you are tired and in need of rest.

**2. Reflect-** use the time to pause, stop and consider your circumstances and lifestyle. Is there something missing or something you would like to be different? Also take note of the '*good stuff*' in your life, celebrate achievements and all of the things you are proud of. This is just as important as considering areas for improvement.

**3. Review-** consider the New Year and what you hope it will bring. Start planning for holidays, up skilling or study, join an interest group or whatever it is you are seeking. The changes you desire in life will only come about by planning and taking action. It can also be quite an exciting process plotting at setting goals for the New Year.

**4. Recharge-** traditionally this was considered to be one of the essential elements of Christmas holidays. Many factories and work places still close over the Christmas and New Year period in order to give us time to celebrate and rest. These days it is often overlooked and many of us run ourselves ragged over this time rather than taking time out to STOP and relax. Try your best to make room for plenty of relaxation and rest time to ensure that your mind, body and soul can recharge.

**5. Manage triggers well-** this is critical for those who dread or fear the festive season. It is well known that this time of the year can trigger strong grief emotions and distress. If this resonates with you then the significance of Christmas is likely to leave you drained and emotionally exhausted. Very often the lead up to the day feels worse than the actual day itself. Planning, accepting support from friends or loved ones, ensuring that you get plenty of rest and by taking good care of yourself will help.

**6. Lastly Laugh and have fun-** as already expressed what you do during the Christmas period is very much your choice and you do indeed have control over how much fun you

experience. I always recommend to people that if family time at Christmas is too stressful then share it with friends instead. Our friends are usually much more fun anyway! Or perhaps if you prefer your own company then participate in the activities you enjoy the most. We all know that laughter is the best medicine.

The views expressed in this column are purely my own suggestions based on my own lived experience and drawing from the work I do with children, teenagers and families.

Wishing each and every one of you all the best for Christmas and the New Year

Judy

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## Mia Dyson in Meredith at MMF

Interviewed by Gemma Hanan

Meredith Music Festival is the highlight of the summer festival season. Multitudes of music lovers flock to the Meredith Supernatural Amphitheatre every year to experience three days and two nights of endless musical madness in this unique event. This year marks the 24<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the festival and the line-up is certainly spectacular with magnificent acts from overseas and home-grown talent gracing the stage. One such Aussie artist is ARIA award winner, Mia Dyson, who took some time out from her busy schedule to talk about her recent tour, new album and, of course, the looming Meredith Music Festival.

After taking a camping trip to unwind from her latest tour of the US and Australia, Mia is back and ready to play to fans old and new at Meredith, playing tracks from her latest album.

Having moved to Los Angeles to live and work, her fifth album, *Idyllwild*, is inspired by her experiences and observations. *'Seeing the rampant homelessness and poverty in the US, being present at the decline and death of a close family friend, (and) my own challenges in living in a new*

*country and starting again'* have all been drawn upon to create her latest record.

And reviews that have suggested she's moved away from her blues roots? 'I'm a fan of soulful music, whatever the genre, and on this latest album I really enjoyed allowing some of my 80s childhood influences to come through.'



As the MMF fast approaches, Mia explains that festivals are a great way to expose audiences to different music and genres and that playing to people that have not heard her music before is an exciting part of performing at such events. *'Trying to win people over as opposed to playing to fans who know the songs...it can be challenging but definitely a thrill.'*

*'Our set at Meredith will be pretty rocking and dynamic,'* she says before explaining that the act she's looking forward to seeing is The War on Drugs.

So if you're heading to the Meredith Music Festival do yourself a favour and check her out, and make sure you keep an ear out for her title track *Idyllwild* which is her personal favourite because of its frenetic mood and *'it's so much fun to play.'*

And to any first time festival goers, her general advice is to *'get amongst it down the front!'*



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## Meredith Music Festival TRAFFIC CONDITIONS

The Meredith Music Festival is scheduled to occur on Friday 12 December – Sunday 14 December, 2014.

A summary of the traffic management plan is outlined here.

- We will implement one-way traffic on Mount Mercer Road from Bamganie Road to Cameron's Road from approximately 4am on Friday 12 December to approximately 7pm. Traffic within the one-way zone travelling to Meredith will be diverted down Cameron's Road.
- We will implement a speed reduction on Mount Mercer Road and Cameron's Road from Thursday 11 December – Saturday 12 December.
- We have assigned traffic controllers to the corner of Staughton Street and Midland Highway on Sunday 14 December to assist vehicles turning left or right onto Midland Highway.
- We will install a no-parking zone along Mount Mercer Road and some surrounding roads.

If you have any questions or concerns please contact us on 0430 091 120.

*Once again, thank you for your support.  
Festival Planning Team*

## iVan the Terrific

Young people in the Golden Plains Shire are celebrating the official opening of the Golden Plains Youth Connection project. They now have access to public transport, information regarding community programs, health and wellbeing resources and a mobile youth friendly space.

A 2011 forum of young people in Geelong found some regional towns had limited public transport options, preventing young people from getting involved in community and sporting events.

A mini bus between Inverleigh and Geelong was trialled over five consecutive Saturdays during school holidays with encouraging results. The current project extends the service to Golden Plains Shire.

Known as iVan, the vehicle has been fitted with a television, PlayStation and Wii console, sound system, in-built table, reversed seating and lighting. The vehicle is used at many local community festivals, and school holiday programs to promote services and programs available for young people.

It is also used as a mobile meeting space for the Golden Plains Shire's youth committees and provides small groups of young people with a viable transport option.

The project has increased awareness of how young people can become involved in their local communities, which has decreased the likelihood of them feeling a sense of isolation.

It has also provided access to information regarding health and wellbeing.

The project was funded by the state government (\$75,000) and \$15,000 of in-kind support from Golden Plains Shire Council.

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- Investment Update with Morgan Stanley – 2nd December
- Xero for Beginners – 4th December
- Is your business 'sellable'? How to prepare your business for sale and maximise the value – February 2015
- The Aged Care Challenge – TBC - After harvest
- Future Farming. Start Preparing – TBC – After harvest

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## it's History

Let us go on a journey through history, back 100 years to April 1914:

The Meredith Progress Association is going strong, last month the Anglican Church of Epiphany dedicated their beautiful new building, built by the Smith Brothers, the Bush Fire Brigade is three years old, but still don't have a fire cart, and the grand three storey Royal Hotel on the corner of Staughton and Wallace streets, has just celebrated its 60th birthday.

The licensee, James Bourke, 10 days ago employed a new Cook, 48 yr old, Katherine Leahy. Katherine was recommended by the employment registry in Ballarat, she arrived with all her possessions in a tin trunk. We don't know much about her, we don't even know if she had a family.

Its Saturday night, it has been a busy day, lots of meals prepared, lots of beers pulled, & lots of 'yarning'. At 11 pm James Bourke, calls "last drinks gentlemen". At 11.30 pm as the last man staggers out of the Bar, James locks up for the night, securing all the doors and windows. Katherine the new Cook & the children have already gone to bed.

James checks that the fires in the grates are all out, extinguishes all the lamps and candles, and James and his wife climb the stairs and retire to bed. It's been a busy night satisfying the thirsts of the men of Meredith.

All is quiet at the Royal, all sleeping soundly.

Now it's 2 am. A neighbour living opposite awakes, he sees a red glow on his bedroom window, he gets up to see the Royal Hotel in flames. About this same time James Bourke awakes to the smell of something burning and as he steps out into the passage he realises the hotel is on fire, and it seems to be coming from the kitchen area, downstairs.

James quickly arouses all his family, runs to Katherine's room, knocks on her door yelling "fire" "fire". He returns to help his family to safety. The passage on the second floor where they sleep, is filled with smoke. James lights a couple of candles to guide them to the stairway, but the smoke is so dense that they can't see anything, so they all hold onto each other and grope their way along the wall, they find the stairs, and escape out into the street through the front door.

By the time the family have reached safety, several neighbours have seen the reflection of the flames lighting up the night sky, and have gathered to help, they endeavour to save some of their belongings. They break down the Bar door and get the iron safe out, at least the takings are safe. Then they realise that Katherine is not with them, some men enter the burning building in an attempt to reach her, but are driven back by the intensity of the heat.

Within half an hour the roof has collapsed and only the chimneys are left standing. All that is left is a pile of ash. All the contents are destroyed, including two pianos. Sadly Katherine's charred body is found among the ashes. She is buried in an unmarked grave in the Meredith Cemetery.

The surrounding buildings somehow managed to escape any damage. Meredith's Mounted Constable Loughron investigated this fatal fire, and his findings were, that he is satisfied that the fire was accidental.

It was reported that the building was underinsured, but by September of the same year, a new single story Hotel has risen from the ashes, the building that continues to serve the community of Meredith and district today, 100 years on.

*Contributed by the Meredith History Interest Group*

## One Hundred Years at the Royal Hotel

Nostalgia filled the air at the Royal Hotel on Sunday, November 9 when MHIG held a "birthday bash" to celebrate 100 years of the hotel building.

In the beer garden behind the hotel building, on a balmy Sunday afternoon, surrounded by the historic billiard room, the shed which would have housed horses, the morgue and the underground tank we listened to people tell stories about the hotel.

Les Smith related how his family built the new hotel building in 1914 which they later owned. Les' mother was one of the seven daughters of Mr and Mrs Gardiner who had the Railway Hotel in Meredith and the family are in the process of restoring graves of their relatives.

Doreen Vanstan recalled how the hotel ledger book recorded that the whole Mooney family and others stayed at the Royal on Christmas Eve in 1939.

According to Rita Beggs, the morgue was part of the outside shed and that the door was always locked. She also told of the cupboard that drinks were served from .... After hours.

Lois Hoad remembered how they served a record 250 plus meals one night. She said they always cooked the steaks on the top of the wood stove and the chips were made at the hotel. Peter would peel potatoes when he was behind the bar.

Jack Connell laughed as he told how Ma Mooney supplied a bottle of whisky each week for the footballers but Uke Kerger, the trainer, often drank it before half time.

Brendan O'Loughlin remembered how Chris Mooney spoiled his nephews and nieces with chocolates and lemonade.

Although her family lived next door in the CRB house, Pat McCormack explained how she lived at the hotel when she worked for Ma Mooney.

As a child Denis Ryan was not allowed into the kitchen but the kids climbed up to the loft and had to look through a window into the kitchen.

Kelvin Pitcher reported that Dr Pern had a room at the hotel and saw patients weekly.

Geoff Hardy told how Ron Barker, an ex Bank Manager, kept meticulous records when he owned the Royal.

John Stevens explained how Chris Mooney was a great sportsman and how he and his wife Kit supported sport, especially Country Week Tennis.

With photographs to show everyone, Bernard Ryan told how his parents had their wedding breakfast in the dining room.

Damian Kelly, the licensee welcomed the crowd to the hotel and conducted a tour of the building. We sang Happy Birthday and Les Smith and Rita Beggs, representing two families who were associated with the hotel for many years, blew out the candle and cut the cake before afternoon tea was served.

"In 1893 Louis De Grandi sold at Royal Saleyards, Meredith a Saddlers shop and dwelling house. "His property situated in the township of Meredith comprised a saddler's shop, dwelling house and one acre of land. There is a very nice garden at the rear of the house and the whole property is well fenced with a good picket fence. The shop now occupied by Mr Young has a frontage to the main street and is in the most central position in the township to command all the business."

*Geelong Advertiser, Wednesday February 15, 1893.*  
Do YOU know where his business was?

*MHIG Catalogue Day is the last Thursday of the month at the Anglican Hall from 9 am*

## Have Caravans will Travel

*Marg Cooper*

The Watts family of Kevin and Melva and two of their sons, Vern and Ron shifted to Meredith from Geelong in 1974-75. Kevin had come to Meredith to work for Jack Bird and they firstly lived on Bird's farm in a worker's cottage. They moved to the Presbyterian Manse before the house they had moved to Mooney Street was ready for occupation in 1981. They had seen the house advertised for sale in the Weekly Times and it came from down Lismore way. Kevin went back to driving trucks for JC Taylors, builders in Geelong. Melva Watts died soon after they shifted to Mooney Street. After he retired Kevin worked at the Meredith Golf Club keeping the course in excellent condition.

Bob Watts, a brother of Vern and Ron and his wife Kay had the Meredith Corner Store for three or four years in the early 1980's. Vern worked for Corio Whiskey before working at Darnum Engineering for 25 years and Ron worked at the Phosphate Company before he was retrenched. Now they like to travel but they travel separately! That way there are no arguments!

Vern has a car and a small pop-top caravan and Ron has a twin cab ute and a bigger pop-top caravan.

During the Christmas holiday period they both go to Port Fairy and park next to each other. They describe how they grew up there and know many of the locals. Last year Ron left for Western Australia in April and travelled for about 12 weeks. This year he went to NSW and Queensland in May, has been back to Echuca a couple of times, has been to the Barossa Valley and may go to Port Fairy soon. He plans to go to Western Australia next year to see the areas that he missed last year.

Ron loves travelling to see new country and says it's surprising who you meet and there is always someone to talk to. Most meals he cooks in his van and always has a supply of tin food on hand but buys fresh food as needed. He has an excellent knowledge of the geography of Australia and knows how and when to travel to avoid heavy traffic and trouble.

Happy Motoring Vern and Ron.

## Ford family plaque unveiled

*G. L. Welford*

Descendants of Charles and Frances Ford gathered at the Morrisons Cemetery to unveil this plaque that commemorates one of the five original families who settled in the area over 150 years ago.

To escape the potato famine and in search of gold or at least the chance of a better life, Charles and Frances travelled from Ireland and arrived in Geelong before moving up the Moorabool River to take up land at Morrisons.

Their son Robert Alexander Ford married Alice Caroline Brawn, the granddaughter of James Brawn and Sarah Pearce who had emigrated from England to live in Creswick. Their son Edward, Alice's father, was responsible for the discovery of what was considered one of 'the richest alluvial gold mines in the world' at Broomfield.

Both the Brawn and Ford families were actively involved in local affairs and governance. Robert and Alice continued to farm at "Rockvale" where they raised five boys and two girls, all of whom went on to have successful careers - their youngest son, Lindsay, would have turned ninety on this day.

Many of these descendants then adjourned for one of their regular reunions to view a Family History Book, started by members of the last generation and carried on by the next, which is being assembled for printing. As well as the book, there is a Web site designed for the next generation to add their own stories, plus a slide show covering six generations, that will be available on DVD.



*Descendants of Charles and Frances Ford gathered at the Morrisons Cemetery to unveil this plaque that commemorates one of the five original families who settled in the area over 150 years ago.*





# **Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter**

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## **Shop locally & save 21% on your Christmas Gifts**

It's hard to believe another year is coming to a close and Christmas isn't many sleeps away now. Firstly we would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very safe and Merry Christmas. We thank you for all your support in 2014 and we look forward to 2015!

### **We have all your Christmas Gifts covered**

Before you drive into Geelong or down to Melbourne where all the Christmas shopping crowds are, take the time to come in and see what gifts we have to offer this year in a more relaxed environment. We have an extensive range of high quality gifts at affordable prices for all ages.

Some of the companies & extensive giftware ranges we stock are:

- **Glasshouse** candles, diffusers, hand crème's, soap bars & handwashes
- **Salt & Pepper** homewares
- Fragrances (men's & women's)
- Handbags & wallets
- Men's wallets & men's gifts
- Photo frames
- Jewellery
- Cosmetic Bags
- Children's Toys
- Watches

Don't forget if you are a member of our **FREE Gift Club** throughout December you will receive a **21% discount off all Gifts** plus 5% of your purchase goes on your Chemmart Rewards card as Chemmart Cash! We also offer free Christmas Gift Wrapping.

### **Christmas Shopping Night**

We would like to thank everyone who attended our Christmas Shopping Night last month. We had a great turnout this year with everyone grabbing some great Christmas gifts with 30% off all giftware on the night! Everyone enjoyed the drinks and nibbles available not to mention the \$3,000 worth of lucky door prizes given away on the night! There were many happy people on the night winning some fantastic prizes. Again thank you to everyone who attended this night and helped make it a very enjoyable one. We will be running it again next year so we look forward to another great night then!

### **Chemmart Gift Cards**

If you can't decide what to buy someone whether it is for a birthday, Christmas or just to say "thank you" then why not buy someone a Chemmart gift card. The Chemmart Gift Cards have the same appearance as EFTPOS card and there is no minimum amount that you have to load onto the card. Gift cards are valid for 12 months and you don't have to spend the entire amount in one transaction. You can use some now and more at a later time. Also a Chemmart Gift card can be used at any Chemmart store. The only item that cannot be purchased using your gift card are prescriptions. So if you are stuck what to buy someone come in and let us show you our Chemmart Gift cards.

### **2015 Calendars**

Our 2015 Chemmart calendars are now available. These are FREE so please come in and grab one to put up at home so you can start planning next year.

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Thankyou for your ongoing support*



**OPEN** Wednesday – Sunday 9am – 5pm  
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**CLOSED** from Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December – Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> January





*We hope you enjoyed your  
community news in 2014 & on  
your behalf, we thank the many  
volunteers who contributed to it.  
They write, they check spelling, they  
look after the books and they deliver!*



*We'll be back in February 2015!* (Copy deadline: 29<sup>th</sup> January)