



YOUR FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER SINCE 1972

Up the Creek

Jim Elvey

The idea of developing the Coolebarghurk Creek environment through Meredith, has gathered a little more momentum. The local residents who met last month are considering a broad plan for the section between Russell Street and Stieglitz Road that could incorporate:

- Renovation of the pergola and sculptures
- Improving the health of the stream by removing the rampant vegetation from the creek bed

Howzat?

Last month the Elaine Cricket Club added to its two senior team premierships when the juniors won the Ballarat Cricket Association U13's premiership. A mighty effort from the country kids! *Read the full story on page 7.*

- Creating ornamental ponds and crossing fords
- Realignment and landscaping the existing path and creating a new path along the east side
- Installing signage and more sculptures to celebrate the creek's role and history

These are big ideas and will require a lot more planning, staging and funding, but it is an exciting start toward improving on what is already a precious asset for the town.

If you would like to contribute some ideas of your own, or otherwise take part in this project, contact Di Ritchie on 5286 1291 or come along to the group's next meeting at 5.30 pm on Tuesday 14th April, at the Meredith Information Centre. *(A concept map appears on page 5.)*

PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE VERSION

inside

- Get to Know the Bunjil Lookout
- At the Rec Reserve
- On the Arts Trail
- Farewell Mrs Cations
- Our **NEW** Gardening Column



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 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 personal notices up to 25 words 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. (Cond. 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 Office, Meredith, 3333

(BH ONLY please)

Editorial: Trudy 0429 430646

Advertising: Ian 0409 016815

Accounts: Dawn 0428 861274

WEB

You can check back copies and lodge comments at meredithnews.com.au

ONLINE PHOTOS

We do not publish children's photos online. If you would like any other photo that you appear in withheld from the 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.

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
☎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	000
(from mobile phone)	000 or 112
Meredith Police Station	5286 1222
Power Failure	132 412
Nurse-On-Call	1300 606024
Mental Health Advice	1300 280 737
Poisons Information	13 11 26
Barwon Water	1300 656 007
SES flood & storm help:	132 500
24 Hour Helpline	1800 629 572
24 Hour Drug & Alcohol	1800 888 236
Kids Help Line	
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 ☎5286 1550	MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH ☎5220 7230
HALL HIRE Meredith Memorial ☎5286 1545	PRE-SCHOOL ☎5286 1227
Elaine Mechanics ☎5241 5596	PRIMARY SCHOOL ☎5286 1313
Elaine Rec Res ☎5341 5703	RECREATION RESERVE ☎0429 841399
LIBRARY VAN ☎5272 6010	



"The advantage of growing up with siblings, is that you become very good at fractions."

- Robert Brault

COVER PHOTO - Back (L to R): Daryl Wells (coach Vice President), Lachlan Baker, Hamish Macdonald, Angus Hogarth, Kenneth Medlyn, Murray Ansell (Sec/Treasurer), Ben McPherson, Kyle Etteridge, Aaron Miller, Fergus Macdonald, Shane Dunne (team manager), Ron Read (committee)

Front: Tom Flood, Toby Bilston, Seamus Dunne, Nicholas Pantzidis, Kade Wells, Trent Miller, Seth Ludowyk, Brody Wells (mascot), Dylan Lyons



COMMUNITY

Rainbow Day

Karen Prichard

In last month's newsletter, I put in a *Thank You* to everyone that donated goods and volunteered for Rainbow Day but, I missed thanking a couple of people.

Firstly to Cliffy for his donation of items for the spinning wheel and most important of all, a very big Thank You to Aaron Hart for volunteering (well sort of) to have his head shaved. It went to auction with the winning bid getting to cut and shave his hair. Because we had so many people wanting to have the honours, it was shared between his very very happy Dad, Julie Panzidis and Damian & Claire Kelly all being the shared winning bidders. Thanks Az, great effort mate.

Meredith Seniors

Jim Hynds

Members met at the Royal Hotel for lunch on March 23rd. Some 23 members enjoyed a two course meal and an afternoon of catch-up and chit-chat. Members also received a most welcome report on our planned bus trip on April 27. Trish from the Golden Plains Shire Aged and Disability Support Service was able to secure a hire bus and a volunteer driver for our planned trip. On the day we will visit the Geelong Botanic Gardens (weather permitting), the Geelong Wool Museum and have lunch at the renovated Fyansford Hotel. Many thanks to Trish, we certainly appreciate your help.

Meredith Community Centre
AGM

Wednesday 13th May 2015 at 9.30am
At The Meredith Community Centre (Studio)



Golden Plains Mobile Library

Is at the Meredith Primary
School every
Thursday from
9am to 10.30am



ANZAC DAY 25th April 2015 Starting at 9.45am

A Special service will be held this year to commemorate the ANZAC Centenary. ANZAC Day will be observed with our usual Service at the Memorial Hall Meredith followed by a march to the Cenotaph for the laying of wreaths.

Please bring a plate of food to share for morning tea. It will be very appreciated.



Poppy Project

Sandra Pearce

To the women who have made poppies for this years Anzac Day Service, if you would like to dedicate your poppies to a loved one who served in WW1, WW2 or served in the Armed Forces Australia please contact Sandra Pearce on 52 861 545.

Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

For Rent

Self-contained cedar cabin Steiglitz within fenced enclosure on residential property. 8m X 3.75m 30 sq m. with under cover area surrounding the building of the same area. Outdoor table seating. Kitchen facilities & cupboards. Open plan interior. Water supplied. Power to be negotiated – low usage solar. Two toilets including disabled access. Previous café use – Peppercorn Place. Suitable for business use- roadside frontage & public carpark. ENQUIRIES: Phil & Gill Dickson 52819229/ 0408408403

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 4th Sunday each month, Holy Communion at Anglican Church. 11.00am 2nd 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

St. Joseph's Parish of Meredith/ Bannockburn/Anakie/

Inverleigh/Winchelsea Mass Times for March

Winchelsea every Saturday @ 6 p.m.

Bannockburn every Sunday @ 9 a.m.

Mass Times for April

Winchelsea every Saturday @ 6 p.m. (except Easter Saturday)

Bannockburn every Sunday @ 9 a.m. Meredith @ 11 a.m. April

12th/26th Anakie @ 11 a.m. April 5th/19th

Mass times for May

Winchelsea every Saturday @ 6 p.m. Bannockburn every Sunday

@ 9 a.m. Meredith @ 11 a.m. Sunday May 10th/24th Anakie @

11 a.m. Sunday May 3rd/17th.

Family Mass every first Sunday of the month @ 9 a.m. at Bannockburn followed by a Music workshop.

Kids Corner after 9 a.m. Mass at Bannockburn every 3rd Sunday of the month.

Mother & Daughter Breakfast Saturday May 9th @ 9a.m. at Mirepoix Staughton St. All welcome Bookings essential.

Easter Ceremonies

Holy Thursday Bannockburn 6 p.m., Meredith 8 p.m., Winchelsea 7.30 p.m. Good Friday Ecumenical Way of the Cross commences from St. Joseph's Meredith at 10 a.m.

Solemn Good Friday Liturgy Bannockburn 3 p.m., Winchelsea 3

p.m. Holy Saturday Bannockburn 6 p.m., Winchelsea 7.30 p.m.,

Meredith 8 p.m.

Easter Sunday Bannockburn 9 a.m., Anakie 11 a.m.

GOOD FRIDAY ECUMENICAL WAY OF THE CROSS

Friday April 3rd. Commencing with Hot Cross Buns at 10 a.m. at St. Joseph's Meredith followed by the Way of the Cross around Meredith.



Meredith Community Centre
working for our community

Hi Everyone,

This newsletter sees the commencement of our first break for the year in line with the school holidays and Easter imminent. We have had a great start to the year with lots of programs underway and some important planning for the rest of this year. I am pleased to say that our next term course guide is at the printers as I write so watch out for it in your mailbox soon. You will see the return of many of our popular courses and some new ones as well.

Neighbourhood House Week.

We are planning a busy program for for Neighbourhood House week, May 11th to 15th. There is information in our Term Brochure and more detail in the next newsletter.

Drugs Forum

One very important event we are holding is another drugs forum focusing on tackling "ice" and other drugs on May 11th. The people who came last year told us it was a very informative evening with really important information provided. I encourage you to come along.

The new building

For those of you who come into Russell Street you will notice the rapid development of the new hub building. We are told it is all going to schedule and we expect to be moving in sometime in the middle of the year. The groups involved have been working on the outdoor areas over the past few weeks as well. We hope it will all fall into place ready for the children in both kinder and our occasional care.

Website changes

Our website is changing. A new look and new address. The new web address (URL) is www.meredithcommunitycentre.com.au Our website and Facebook page are great places to find out what is happening around the Centre. We do our best to keep an update in the news section of the website.

Occasional care

Occasional Care continues to go from strength to strength. We have some places available next term so give us a call if you would like a break from your little ones for a few hours. Jo and Rebecca are very committed to providing an enriching program for the children.

Please feel free to call in for a chat and a cuppa to find out what we have happening at the Centre.

Till next month.

Pam



Your own website

Many individuals and small businesses shy away from having a website because they think it is all too hard. There are

some great options available to create a simple site which looks great and showcases the business or interest for your followers or customers.

Next term we are running a Wordpress course which is a flexible and easy application to use. We are running it as an evening class to open it up to a wider group of people. Please give us a call if you are interested.

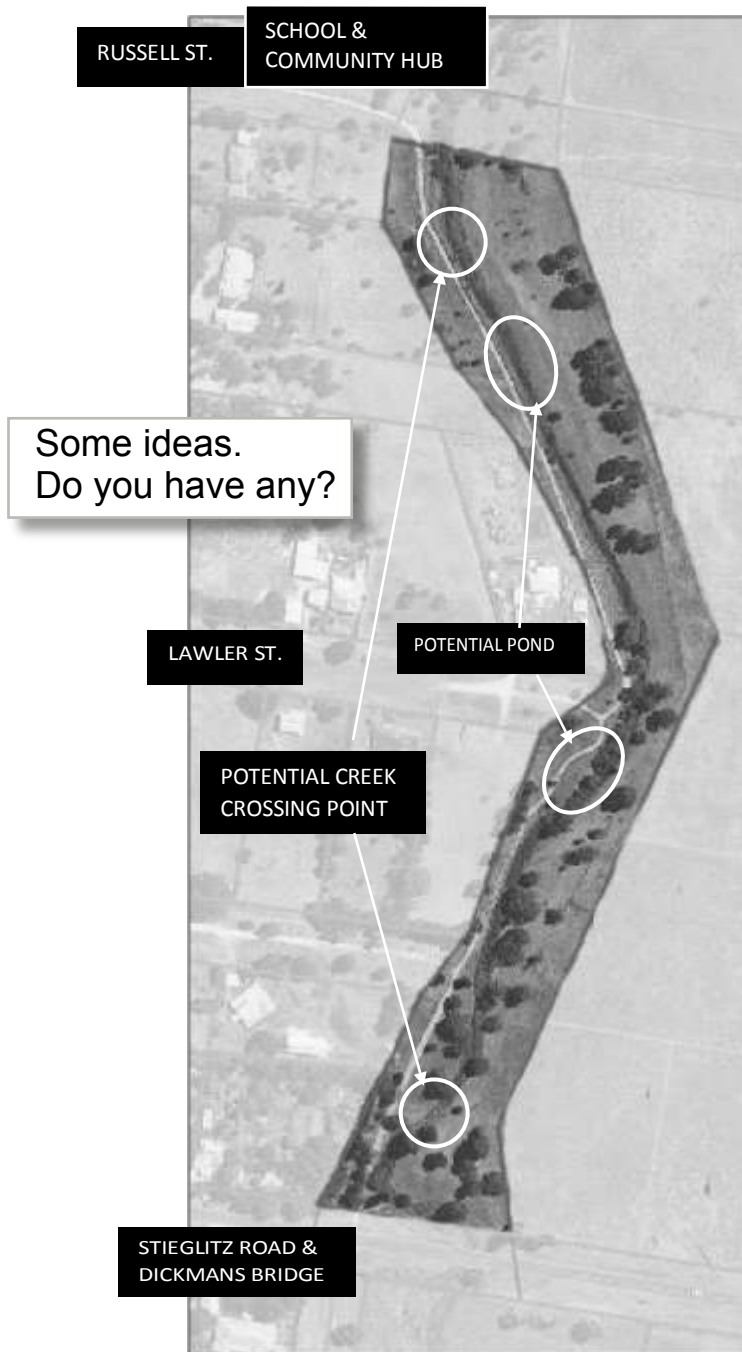
5 Russell Street Meredith 3333

Ph 5286 1348

learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au

Open: Mon, Wed, Thurs 9.00-3.00 Fri 9-12.30

The Creek Project *(from page 1)*



St. Joey's OP SHOP -

Rear of St. Joey's Hall

Open Wednesdays and Fridays 10 am- 4 pm

Great stock, Baby strollers, children's play equipment,
good quality clothing
Come and have a browse.

Volunteers very welcome - Ring 5286 1230

RED CROSS FILM NIGHT

Last Thursday of the Month 7.30pm

Come along and see our next movie:

"Belle"

at the Meredith Community Centre in the Studio
(Donation Appreciated).



Message from the Mayor

Cr Des Phelan Golden Plains Shire Mayor

On 18 and 19 March CEO Rod Nicholls and I joined the G21 board in Canberra to meet with 18 key ministers, shadow ministers and advisers, including:

- The Prime Minister, the Hon Tony Abbott, MP
- The Deputy Prime Minister, Minister for Infrastructure and Regional Development, the Hon Warren Truss MP
- Minister for Industry, the Hon Ian Macfarlane MP
- Minister for Environment, the Hon Greg Hunt MP
- The Leader of the Opposition, the Hon Bill Shorten MP
- Shadow Minister for Defence, Senator the Hon Stephen Conroy
- Shadow Minister for Infrastructure and Transport, Shadow Minister for Tourism, the Hon Anthony Albanese MP
- Shadow Minister for Families, Payments and Disability Reform, the Hon Jenny Macklin MP

Along with Golden Plains' representatives, the G21 delegation included mayors, councillors and CEOs of our neighbouring municipalities (Greater Geelong, Colac Otway, Surf Coast and Queenscliffe) and G21 directors and the G21 CEO Elaine Carbine.

The trip was very successful as we were able to discuss the key priorities for Golden Plains and the G21 region. Local issues included the Federal Government's freeze on Financial Assistance Grants, mobile blackspots, funding for infrastructure for our region such as roads and bridges, NBN and projects such as the Bannockburn Civic Heart Precinct and the Golden Plains Food Production Precinct. A list of the G21 priority projects is available at www.g21.com.au.

The delegation was not aiming to necessarily gain commitments on various projects while in Canberra; rather the aim was to ensure the region's needs are top-of-mind as future decisions are made and budgets are developed.

It's a strategy that has paid dividends for the region in the past and we are confident it will again over the coming months and years.



Meredith Playgroup

Meredith Playgroup meets every Thursday from 10am.

Enjoy new activities every week

All welcome

Contact Community Centre for details 52 861 348

Recreation



Meredith Golf

10.03.15

Ladies Pinehurst

Winner C Powles and K Rosch

Runner up E Edmiston and M Diffey

17.03.15

Ladies- Played Stableford and Stroke

Winner C Powles

Runner up M Diffey

24.03.15

Ladies- Played Stroke round (monthly medal)

Winner C Powles

Runner up M Diffey



Meredith AUSKICK

Starts Wed April 15 Meredith recreation Reserve 4pm
Register online at aflauskick.com.au/register/ All welcome

Youth Get Air

From media release

Local youth were the driving force behind two recent skate park events which attracted over 300 people to the Golden Plains community. The 2nd annual Barwon South West Skate Park Competition held in Bannockburn, and the inaugural Skate Park Competition held in Smythesdale brought young skaters, BMX and scooter riders from all over the State. The events provided significant developmental opportunities for local young people with a whole day workshop, delivered by the YMCA Action Sports Team, designed to provide these young people with the skills to manage and plan skate park events in their local area. Skills gained included event and risk management, budgeting, film/photography, judging, emceeing, and promotion/marketing.

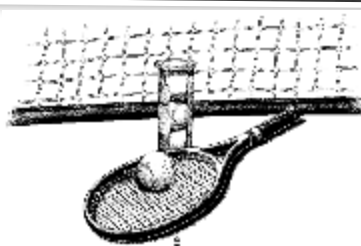
Following the success of these skate park events, other local young people have put their hand up to assist with the planning of National Youth Week activities, including the 3rd annual Golden Youth Awards. The awards ceremony will be held on Friday 17 April in Bannockburn where young people will be recognised for their positive contribution to the Golden Plains community. For more event details or information on how to get involved in your local community contact the Golden Plains Youth Activities Officer, Sarah Dalton (o3) 5220 7177 or email sdalton@gplains.vic.gov.au

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VERSION



The Meredith C5 tennis team made it through to the Grand final for C5 section in the Buninyong & District Tennis Association. Go Meredith

They are (L to R): David Tasken, Eliza Baker, Angus Bigmore, Renae Young and Tilly Flood.



Howzat?

Shane Dunne

ECC has completed the trifecta with the juniors winning the Ballarat Cricket Association U13's premiership. The senior team won back to back flags in 2012/13 and 2013/14. Milo cricket was introduced at Elaine in 2011/12 which attracted 35 children and set the seeds in place for a cricket revival. What started out as a pipe dream to field a junior cricket team between the towns of Elaine and Meredith 3 years ago, with the 1st training session at Meredith attracting as few as 5 kids has turned into a roaring success story. The boys from the bush towelled the best the city teams from Ballarat could muster and they took home the silverware on the 22nd March.

The fielding in the grand final was brilliant with two run outs with direct hits from 20 metres out from Kyle Etteridge and Lachlan Baker. Grandfinals are won and lost in those moments. After a batting collapse early and the mums and dads biting their finger nails, Seamus Dunne and Kyle Etteridge steadied the ship. Nicholas Pantzidis was catching everything and Angus Hogarth took the catch of the year and Aaron Miller clean bowled wicket number 10 to bring home the bacon. A big thanks to Daryl Wells for coaching the boys in his 2nd year as coach. The club couldn't recruit an assistant coach this year but Dazza didn't need one. He took the boys to the top single handedly. The talent in this side has to be seen to be believed. ECC will field 2 junior teams next season. An U14 team and an U16 team in the BCA. Brilliant season lads. You've done yourselves and your community proud.

Thanks to Ian Macdonald for scoring all year, David Flood for umpiring, Julie and Billie Pantzidis for catering for the club Thursday nights after training, Ron Read for being groundsman, Jo and Kym Primmer for helping in the kitchen and Karen Pritchard for making a wonderful premiership cake and organizing salads and desserts for the presentation day on Sunday."

Champion clubs produce champions. At last month's BCA Junior presentations in the u13 age group, Nicholas Pantzidis won the most valuable player award and took out the award for the most runs (277). Aaron Miller took out the award for the most wickets(17) at an astonishing average of 3.79

BCA most
valuable player
Nicolas Pantzidis

BCA bowling
award winner,
Aaron Miller

PHOTOS OMITTED FROM ONLINE VERSION



**CREATORS &
CRAFT MARKET
BANNOCKBURN**

**SUNDAY 3RD
MAY, 2015**

FROM: 10.00AM - 2.00PM
(FARMERS MARKET SITE)

**STALL HOLDER ENQUIRIES CONTACT
NOELINE ON:**

0427 923 934 or  ccbanno@bigpond.com






IN OUR NATURE

wendy cook

Walking through the small bush reserve, I heard a rustle. A short-beaked echidna was approaching. I stood silently, watching it. With its poor eyesight, it couldn't see me. It sat with its hindquarters on the ground and nose pointed up in the air, sniffing, relying on its good sense of smell to tell if there was danger nearby. After a few minutes, it decided it was safe, and continued on its way, towards me. It regularly pressed its nose to the ground or to sticks, searching for ants and termites. The echidna may have been using its sense of smell, but it can use another sense for locating food. In the tip of its snout are electroreceptors which can detect the weak electrical fields which all animals create. The snout is always wet which may help. So does wet earth after rain. It may also press its snout into the ground searching for food, leaving oval-shaped holes which taper to a point. When an echidna has located food it uses its strong claws to tear open the ant nest. It pokes its snout into the ants' tunnels, and uses its long tongue covered in sticky saliva to lick up the ants, along with dirt from the walls. Echidnas have no teeth, but have tough areas at the back of their tongue and on their palate, which they use to crush the ants.

The echidna I was watching, continued towards me as I stood motionless. When it was about one metre away, it became uncertain again. It stopped and sniffed, but this time decided that something wasn't right. It waddled away from me, stopping at the base of a tree a few metres away. Its hearing was far better than its sight. When I moved, it heard me and started to dig into the ground. This is one of the echidna's means of defence. It can curl into a ball of prickly spines. It can also hide in a hollow log or a crevice, and extend its legs and spines, wedging itself in securely. Adult echidnas have few predators, although dingoes may be one, and they are at risk from cars. Their defences prevent adults being successfully attacked by cats or foxes. The young are more likely to be eaten by these animals as well as by snakes and goannas.

For most of the year echidnas lead a solitary life. In winter and early spring, they form mating trains with up to ten males following one female, sometimes for weeks. Eventually she mates with one of them. About three weeks later she lays an egg. Although nobody has seen this, it is believed that she can lay it directly into her backwards facing pouch. About 10 days later, the baby, called a puggle, hatches. It is 1.5cm long, bald and poorly developed, but has tiny claws on its front legs. It uses them to cling to its mother's fur and move to her milk patches, which have numerous pores which secrete milk. The puggle grows very fast. By the time it is two months old it has grown spines among dark fur and is out of the pouch. It

is then left in a nest lined with leaves and grass inside a short nursery burrow. The mother blocks the entrance and returns every three to ten days to give it a large feed of her rich milk. The baby is weaned at seven months old, but may stay with its mother until it is one year old.

Echidnas are very adaptable animals and can be found anywhere from sea level to lower alpine areas but not in rainforest or large areas of farmland. They need a constant supply of ants and shelter, and can use dense vegetation, hollow logs or caves. They can also burrow and escape fires by staying underground. In cold areas they hibernate in winter, waking every two or three weeks for a few hours. They are usually active during the day, except in hot weather, when they prefer to be out in the cool of night.

Our local short-beaked echidnas belong to the small group of egg-laying mammals known as monotremes. The others are the platypus and three more species of echidnas in New Guinea. They are always interesting to watch, so if you see one, stay still and silent, and it may come close enough for you to have a very good look at it.



Free Lenses

(Worth \$90.00)

**With Any Frame Purchased
In Our Kids and Students
Range.**

**Please ask our friendly staff for
more details.**



Bannockburn
ph: 5281 2848
2/7 High St.
Bannockburn

winks
eyecare

The Hay Family

Amy Wells

If you were driving down the Midland Highway last year, you may have noticed some hay bale people in our paddock. I made those along with my dad, David and younger brother, Lucas. We received so many great comments from everyone that we decided to build something using our hay bales again this year.

My whole family thought of the ideas and then, Dad, Lucas and I put everything together. With hay bales we made a girl, a boy and a sheep which represent me, Lucas and our pet lamb Ashley. We also recycled fence posts and old signs to make four colourful flowers to brighten up your day. We hope that you enjoy our hay bales as much as we do!

WHY NOT?

...send us your photos, stories, jokes, family absurdities.

We promise we won't laugh!



Family Day Care - Now Recruiting Educators

Golden Plains Shire Council invites members of the community who are interested in full time or part time work in children's services, to consider Family Day Care.

- Are you passionate about providing quality care and education for children?
- Do you want to work from home?
- Family Day Care could be what you are looking for!

Family Day Care offers you a chance to join an energetic and positive network of individuals who provide education and care in their homes for other people's children.

Family Day Care provides flexible hours from home and income caring for children.

Educators are required to hold a Certificate III in Children's Services, or approved equivalent qualification. The Family Day Care service is operated by Golden Plains Shire Council and contracted educators are supported by a coordination unit that provides support, training and resources.

More information about Family Day Care, contact Cheryl Jenkins at Bannockburn Family Services Centre: 5220 7230.





You'd like this...

Over the course of the years, I have become increasingly more aware of a phrase that people who should know me well use.

Family and friends telling me that 'you'd like this' has become a bit of a pet peeve of mine. A sometimes humorous, sometimes enlightening statement that tells me so much about who they think I am.

If you were to ask my father, you would think that I was a fan of science fiction films such as *Sphere* and *The Moon* just because I happen to have a certain proclivity for the new Doctor Who series'. Now this continues to astound me because a) not only do I not enjoy science fiction but b) I have never ever watched a film that he has ensured me I'd like and ended up liking it.

If you were to ask my close friend, she'd tell you that I like trashy teen TV shows and vegetarian lasagne made out of pumpkin. I can only assume this is because I love one certain series involving a teenage private detective—which I ensure you is both intelligent and witty—and that I am a pescetarian (who hates a majority of the pumpkin family).

I'm sure I'm not alone in my annoyance of the phrase 'you'd like this'. With close family and friends you can laugh it off as a quirky little misjudgement of your personality. It's almost okay coming from these people because hey, they've got the rest of your life to learn otherwise. But if you're a new acquaintance, so help me if you try to predict what I'd like! (Insert booming, authoritative voice here).

Being told what you would like sort of brings out the reverse psychology in us all, 'oh, you think I'd like this? Well let me prove you wrong!' It's almost like a challenge. A challenge that I usually dismiss because I could think of nothing worse than watching *Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy* while eating layers of mushy pumpkin.

However, sometimes you just have to give in because, most of the time, the people suggesting things you'd like are the people who want to share the things **they** like and have it in common.

Over time I have learnt that sucking it up and buying a ticket to a movie you'd rather not see (cough cough, *The Hobbit*) and pretending that you didn't fall asleep during the last half is the best way to please them. In doing this, of course, you start the whole vicious cycle all over again because 'liking' this movie leads to the suggestion that 'you'd like this other movie'. But we'll cross that bridge when we come to it.



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Say Cheese



The Meredith Dairy's products were well represented among the awards at last month's Sydney Show. This prestigious competition is a highly competitive national event, so any award is a commendable effort. So a hearty congratulations is in order to the local company. It not only had one of its products – the Chevre goat cheese with fresh dill – selected for the "Ultimate Cheeseboard", but also took out two gold and five silver awards in the Goats' and Sheep's milk categories. Well done everyone at Meredith Dairy.



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Mains gas is no longer cheaper: Australia is exporting gas to countries where the price is 2 to 3 times what it is here ... our price will float up to meet those higher global prices.

Consider these points:

- We can build 9 to 10 Star Houses that require no heating or cooling. People rarely believe me when I say this, exclaiming "Maybe elsewhere, but not around Ballarat!" I reply that I have been in a super-insulated Straw Bale House in Buninyong that never gets colder than 18 Degrees in winter nor hotter than 25 Degrees in summer with no heating or cooling. Now existing housing stock built to lower standards does require heating - but this can be done more sustainably and economically using electricity to run Reverse-Cycle Air-Conditioners on Heating Mode or Heat Pump Hot Water Systems to provide Hydronic Heating. Or using a Wood-fire you fuel yourself.
- Solar Hot Water can provide up to 75% of your Domestic Hot Water needs. It requires some boosting in winter, and that could be gas, but it could also be electricity. A Heat Pump Hot Water System is all electric (but 3 times as efficient as an old style tank with an electric element). No need for gas.
- Many people prefer gas cooktops because they respond quickly when the heat is turned up or down, but now Electric Induction Cooktops (as opposed to typical electric resistance models) have a response time as fast as gas ... and use only 70% as much power as resistance models.

So mains gas is no longer something to celebrate: it is a polluting fossil fuel, it is not cheaper, it does nothing electricity cannot do, and requires that you pay a Daily Service to Property Charge (or a bottle rental) for a second unnecessary energy utility. Why would you want to pay twice?

And finally: electric appliances can be run using wind or solar power that you generate on site giving you (not the

power company) control of the price. Not convinced? Visit the websites of Australian non-profit organizations Beyond Zero Emissions (BZE) (www.bze.org.au) and the Alternative Technology Association (ATA) (www.ata.org.au) to read about their independent research into the economics of gas.

Send your queries to simon@breaze.org.au or visit breaze.org.au

Meredith Monster Auction & clearing Sale

Di Richie

Yes it's on again this year ---at St.Joseph's Church Grounds on Sunday April 19th starting at 10am.This year the Lions Clubs of the District will be assisting in lots of ways-providing man and woman power to help our community.And they want you to help them form a Lions Club in Meredith which will be such a great advantage to our District.Look out for their Information tent at the Auction.

Some great activities for the children this year are a Giant Jumping Castle, Pony Rides, fake tattoos, Medieval games , sandpit and much much more. The usual tempting barbeques will be manned by the Bannockburn Lions and of course the favourite fluffy scones with jam and cream complete the afternoon .Last year's very popular addition -the Asian Food stall will be back.

But of course without your goods to sell, the Auction wouldnt be the success it always is.

So don't forget to mark your diaries for a fun community day and a chance to get that elusive bargain.

Proceeds will go towards updating the children's playground at Pioneer Park and continued renovation of St. Joseph's Hall.

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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.

Perhaps the best known social networking site is Facebook, so here are some suggestions for getting the most out of your Facebook experience.

1. Your home page, i.e. Your timeline, contains the things that you have posted - your status updates, photos, things that you have seen and reposted from other places. You can post to here from practically anywhere: Pinterest, Twitter, Internet sites, Wikipedia - just look for the blue Facebook "f" symbol, or an arrow that shows sharing options. Things that you post on your timeline will appear on the Newsfeed of your Facebook friends.

2. Check that your security settings are set to "Friends" otherwise your site will be public to everyone. Only add friends that you actually know and whom you are happy to see your posts. While you are checking that, turn off your notifications to avoid irritating pop up messages appearing all the time. Ask for help if you are not sure how to do this.

3. Your Newsfeed shows the items that have been posted by friends and groups that you are linked to. Not everything on these pages will appear here and the more people, pages and groups that you are linked to, the fewer items will appear from each. Liking and sharing items increases the likelihood that you will see further posts from that site or person.

4. Almost anything that you are interested in will have a Facebook page or group. Sailing, knitting, rock climbing, any TV show, performer or celebrity, business, social issue; whatever you want to hear more about, use the search bar at the top of the Newsfeed to look for suggestions. If the site looks interesting, tick Like and you will start to see items from there in your Newsfeed.

5. If you are unhappy about items that are appearing in your Newsfeed, you can easily remove either that specific item or all posts from that source. Just tap the tiny arrow in the top right corner of the item and a drop down menu will offer you some choices. If someone is posting really offensive material, you can also report it and Facebook will deal with it.

6. This is a matter of personal taste, but I try to keep to positive and fun things on my Facebook page, though occasionally some issues get some space. This isn't the place to write about that neighbour who annoys you or the way your boss is getting on your case. Remember that everyone on your Friends list will see what you post, so use the space to keep in touch and to share the joy.

For lots of other tips and tricks for your iPad, sign up for the term two iPad classes at Meredith Community House or the Bannockburn Library, and have fun!

...WENDY

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Maude's Bunjil Lookout.

Murray Satchell

(Community Coordinator Maude Community Planning Group)

The eagle has landed and the district has a new tourist destination. On Friday 27th Feb there was an official opening ceremony at the Maude Recreation Reserve (the site of the former school) of the Bunjil Lookout which is in reality a viewing platform, an art piece in its own right and a significant monument to the district's Wathaurung Community's history.

The proceedings were started by Wathaurung Elder, Uncle Bryon, who performed a moving smoking ceremony and then spoke about the significance of this ceremony and the importance of the area to his people.

Speeches from Shire Mayor, Des Phelan and the Hon Gail Tierney M L C, both congratulated the local community for its initiative and the Government and the Shire for their financial support. The importance of such projects in invigorating smaller communities was highlighted and the end result has been the development of another, must place to visit in the shire.

The final speaker was Dr Fiona Gray, who was, along with another local Catherine Schurmann, joint designer of the project. Fiona spoke about the Community and its history. She thanked the Community Planning Group individually for their efforts and congratulated them on the initiative. It was initially intended to be a small elevated platform but following a comment that it would be great if it could become a bit more and finish up as impressive as Teesdale's wonderful turtle, the project grew in stature. The architects linked the project to the eagles that soar the valley and this led to the Bunjil story. She paid tribute to Uncle Bryon for his advice and support, shire officers David Miocic and Shannon Fielder for their work and local builder Adam East who built the structure.

The finished building provides a spectacular view across the Moorabool Valley as well as a 360 degree view which encompasses the Brisbane Ranges, the Sutherland's Creek Valley and the Barrabool Hills. This complements the existing BBQ area and the playground.

Seven of the poles that support the structure have carvings depicting the main characters in the Bunjil Creation Story and when you enter via the steps and step onto the platform the imposing figure of Bunjil looms above you. These impressive carvings are the work of artist, Viktor Cebergs, as is the paving.

The Community Planning Group and the Recreation Reserve Committee were pleased at the support from the community as over 70 people made the effort to attend and witness the opening. The Bunjil Creation Story, as told by Uncle Bryon, the creator of the Kulin land and its people was the work of the Great Creator ancestor Spirit, Bunjil, The Wedge-tailed Eagle.

Bunjil summoned six men to assist him in the creation of the land, the people and all living things and to pass on his teachings and knowledge to all men and women.

The six men were

- Djurt-Djurt - The Nankeen Kestrel
- Thara - The Black-shouldered Kite
- Dantun - The Blue Mountain Parrot
- Tadjeri - The Bush-tailed Phascogale
- Turnun - The Feather-tailed Glider
- Yukope – The Great Parakeet.

All were capable of mighty deeds in the name of Bunjil.

After he made the country and all the living things in it, he taught the people how to use their tools and the rules of social behaviour.

When he had finished, Bunjil gathered his wives (one of whom was Ganawarra, the Black Swan) and his children (one of whom was Binbeal, the Rainbow) and instructed Belin-Belin (the Musk Crow) who was in charge of the winds. "Belin-Belin, open your bag and let out some wind."

Bellin-Bellin opened his bag and released a wind so strong that it carried big trees into the air, roots and all.

Bunjil wanted more wind, so Bellin-Bellin opened all his bags and released a wind so great that it carried Bunjil and his family to Tharangalk-Bek (the Heavens).

Bunjil and his family now live in the Heavens and are stars looking down on the world.

You can see them in the night sky:

- Bunjil is the star Altair in the Eagle Constellation
- The two stars beside Bunjil are Gannawarra and her spirit
- Bunjil's brother is the star Antares in the Scorpion Constellation
- Turnung is Venus
- Tadjeri is the star Achernar, in the Eridanus Constellation
- Yukope is the star Alpha Crucis, in the Southern Cross
- Dantun is the star Beta Crucis, in the Southern Cross
- Djurt-Djurt is the star Beta Centauri, one of the pointers
- Thara is the star Alpha Centauri, the other pointer.



An Anzac Recalled

Jan Crump

Thomas Augustus Orr, the grandfather of Peter Crump of Steiglitz Rd enlisted with his 3 brothers in early 1915. He embarked on the troop ship "Euripedes" with the 21st Battalion and arrived in Egypt, in June. Following training near Cairo and preparing for the great adventure, the battalion boarded the troop ship "Southland", bound for Gallipoli. But the ship was torpedoed near Lemnos in Greece. Official records state that "casualties were slight and the troops left the sinking ship in a calm and orderly manner"

Thomas finally arrived at Gallipoli in early September and was involved in fighting around Monash Gully and Quinn's Post.

By Dec, plans were well under way for the secret evacuation of the troops but Thomas was badly wounded in the leg by shrapnel a few days before the withdrawal began. He was taken to the 1st General Hospital in Heliopolis where he stayed for the next 4 months.

Following discharge from hospital Thomas (and his leg) was transferred to Pay Corps in London where he stayed until the end of the war.

Of his 3 brothers, Vincent served with the 23rd Battalion at Gallipoli He then went to the Western Front and fought in the Battle of the Somme. He was wounded at the Battle of Pozieres where the 23rd suffered nearly 90% casualties. He re-joined his unit and was killed at the "Second Battle of Bullecourt" in May 1917 Vincent was killed just after his 22nd birthday and has no known grave.

Langley served with the 2nd Signal Coy. He was wounded in France and returned home in 1920. Francis embarked for overseas on the "Orantes" in 1916 and served with the 8th Support Battalion in London until 1919.

Like so many veterans, Thomas rarely mentioned his war experiences and returned home to his family and a position in the Victorian public service. He rose through the ranks and was the Registrar of Births, Deaths and Marriages for many years. He died suddenly shortly after his retirement.

His only mention of his war was when he displayed a large piece of metal that he claimed was a piece of the torpedo that sent the "Southland" the bottom of the Med.



Thomas Orr above and on left in group in Egypt.

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Recipe Request

Meredith Kindergarten is proud to announce that we are producing a beautiful, Community Cookbook to be published to commemorate the relocation of the Kinder from the 'Old Shire Building' to the new Community hub. The proceeds from this book will go towards the creation of the outdoor play space.

We would like your most loved recipes, your signature dish and that recipe that never fails which everyone loves or asks for. We need recipes from as many families as possible. Please feel free to submit as many recipes as you like.

All that we ask is you let us know where the recipe came from even if it's from a much loved recipe book or magazine. Feel free to add a comment on why this recipe is special to you and your tips about the recipe.

Please go to www.createacookbook.com.au and submit one or more recipes.

Alternatively, you can submit a hand written copy, by dropping it in the box labelled Meredith Kindergarten Community Cookbook at the Community House. Please make sure you include the recipe title, comments, serving size, ingredients, method and your name. Please ensure that all recipes are submitted no later than **15th August 2014**.

Local businesses if you are looking for cost effective advertising or wish to sponsor this project please contact Pip McLane on 52861238 for details on how to be included in our Local Advertising Directory (from \$50).

Kind regards The Committee

Murry River Curly Coated Retriever

In November 2007 a litter of Murray River Curly Coated Retrievers were born in Meredith. The Murray has recently been accepted onto the Sporting Register, which means the breed is now officially recognised by DOGS Victoria as a Sporting Dog. For this reason the Murray River Curly Coated Retriever Association Inc is trying to contact as many past and present breeders so we can then add those dogs to our records.

Here is a photo of one of the dogs from that litter. Contact:

Dianne Hughes at Teesdale
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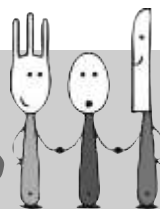
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The second last **Friday**
LUNCH club



The Pig & Goose ★★★★★

Easy to find in Warrenheip Street, the Pig and Goose is Buninyong's newest café/restaurant. First impression is good, with a clean, modern décor, and small but varied menu and wine list. Food was good, with mostly generous serves for both entrees and mains. (We never got to desserts.) The wine list, although quite small, should cater for all tastes. Too many restaurants nowadays are trying to outdo Dan Murphy with their wine range, surely to their detriment.

Fussy foodies will notice the service is not quite there – we had to ask for water on a quiet day – and the coffee maker is no barista. It would be noisy on a busy day, but that may add to the atmosphere. Mains around \$25 to \$30.

We would love to hear about your eating out experiences too. Nothing unduly derogative of course, but an honest appraisal of your dining adventure would be most welcome. - Ed.

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ANZAC Biscuits

- Prep time 15 minutes
- Cooking time 25 minutes

Makes approx. 36

Ingredients

- 1 cup rolled oats
- 1 cup plain flour
- 1 cup castor sugar
- 1 cup desiccated coconut
- 125g butter, chopped
- 1 tablespoon golden syrup
- 2 tablespoons boiling water
- 1 teaspoon bicarbonate of soda

Method

1. Preheat oven to moderately slow, 160C and lightly grease trays.
2. In a medium bowl, combine oats, flour, sugar and coconut.
3. In a small pan, combine butter and golden syrup. Stir over low heat until melted.
4. In a small jug, combine water and bi carbonate of soda. Stir into butter mixture. Pour into dry ingredients and mix well.
5. Roll walnut sized pieces of mixture into balls. Arrange onto prepare trays, leaving a 4cm space between each biscuit to allow for spreading. Press lightly to flatten.
6. Bake for 15-20 minutes until golden. Allow to stand for 5 minutes before transferring to a wire rack to cool.

TIP: These biscuits will harden on cooling. Store in an airtight container.

Recipe From: Woman's Day

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Geoff Howard

Geoff Howard MP
State Member for Buninyong



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Meredith Cemetery Trust

An unveiling of a memorial plaque to honour the WWI servicemen who are interred in the Meredith Cemetery, will be held on Sunday 26th April - 2.00pm. All welcome.

Doug McFarlane
Chair, Meredith Cemetery Trust.

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A Holiday of Contrasts

Local couple, Helmut and Sue Woerner, are back from an extraordinary holiday that took them to South America and Antarctica. We wish we had more space for photos, but here's a taste.

We flew into Lima and joined a cruise of the mighty Amazon River, the largest river in the world starting in the Andes mountain range and travelling 7200kms finishing in the Atlantic Ocean in Brazil. We saw the rare pink river dolphins, local monkeys, birds, bats, sloths, Caiman Lizards, piranhas and a huge anaconda. We then visited Cuzco, the Sacred Valley and onto Machu Picchu, the lost city of the Incas. When you think the Inca civilization existed from the 13th century, their degree of workmanship and knowledge of agriculture was amazing. Every stone block fitting perfectly in place. They terraced the mountain to give more area for farming and supplied irrigation water through stone channels. The Spanish conquered the last Inca stronghold in 1572.

Then we transferred to a 10 night cruise of the Antarctica. The crossing of the Drakes Passage wasn't too bad but the return trip with winds of 120 knots and gusting to 180 knots and swells of 8 to 10 mts created some interesting times.

Our first expedition with the guides and naturalist using inflatable Zodiacs was Whalers Bay in Deception Bay, which was a collapsed, but still active volcano. From Deception Bay we travelled further south to the Palmer Archipelago and Port Lockroy, which is the worlds most southern and operational post office. We continued south and crossed the Antarctic Circle and enjoyed a campaign on a large section of floating sea ice whilst watching a couple of Crabeater seals playing with a group of Chip Strap penguins. We spent a morning whale watching, seeing many humpbacks, fin and minke whales - a magnificent sight as they came up for air, giving a last wave with their large tail fin before the mammal descended again into the deep, cold ocean. I don't know how anyone could hunt and kill these beautiful defenseless mammals.

The wildlife and natural, unspoilt beauty of Antarctica is awe-inspiring and the shutters on the cameras were smoking trying to capture the serenity. Then we spent a few days in Rio De Janiero before flying home. Rio, a busy, lively city, is dwarfed by mountain ranges on two sides and the Atlantic sea on the other.

A holiday of contrasts: the remnants of the amazing Inca village, Machu Picchu, (left) and floating ice in Antarctica.



Kindergarten News

Jodie Trevaskis

Happy Easter to all our families at Kinder and we hope you have fun over the school holidays and enjoy a few chocolate treats. The children have been enjoying Easter activities along with an egg hunt and learning new songs and hand rhymes. 5 little ducks, thumbkin and Peter rabbit are popular right now. Both our groups have had a wonderful first term of kinder with plenty of activity, learning and making new friends. We have enjoyed our sunny days in the yard finding insects, role playing Policeman, digging in the sandpits, making mud cakes, water play, swinging high and running free! Next term we hope for some sunny autumn days so the children can keep on exploring and have quality time to play outdoors. Our new kinder hub is coming along nicely and we are getting a little excited about eventually moving over there.

It will be a big change and a very busy time moving and setting up but I'm sure we will have all hands on deck to help make it a smooth transition. The Golden Plains festival was a fabulous weekend of music and fun and again perfect weather for camping, thanks to Christine for organizing the kinder shift at the tucker tent and thank you to our volunteers for helping on the day. Mrs Cooke is back again this year organizing the scholastic book club at Kinder, we are receiving many orders from families which is fantastic as we can add to our growing library again this year. I had a little visit this week to Meredith Primary to catch up with Rosemary and to say hello to the preps, how lovely it was to see how happy they all are and knowing they are enjoying their school days.

Kara, Trish, Kylie and I are looking forward to seeing you all back at kinder ready to laugh, play and continue on the learning journey with us in term two.

Happy Easter



The Meredith Recreation Reserve

Julie Cameron

The Meredith Recreation Reserve is a great facility and is there for the community to enjoy. The committee of management for the Meredith Recreation Reserve includes volunteer members from the local sporting clubs and user groups. The reserve is public land and has been set aside for the benefit of the community. The Committee's principal objectives are to ensure the facilities at the reserve, both natural and infrastructural, are maintained in a way which promotes enjoyment, sport, health and fitness; all of which facilitates the physical and mental wellbeing of our community.

Sporting club members both past and present have been instrumental in building and maintaining this fantastic facility. Playing sport at other recreation reserves during the home & away sport season, illustrates just how privileged the Meredith community is to have such fantastic sports grounds.



The Golden Plains Shire promotes all sporting facilities, playgrounds & halls within the shire for all residents but does not necessarily manage them. The Shire gives support and guidance to maintain the assets via community grants but mostly, the Reserve is maintained by the user groups.

Latest News & Events

- Meredith Mancave Madness; A Swap Meet will be held at the Meredith Recreation Reserve on April 12th. This event is fund raising for Prostate Cancer and Cardiac Arrhythmias research.
- Summer sport. Both Cricket and Tennis seasons are coming to a spectacular finale. The Meredith "Rams" cricket team and 2 of our Meredith tennis teams are in Grand finals. Best of luck to our Meredith teams.

Caravans in Pioneer Park

The Department of Environment and Primary Industry, provides governance to our Management Committee, insurance for users and promotes activities on crown land including caravan and camping. Our committee met recently to discuss camping in Pioneer Park. This activity fits with the Rec reserves "Mission Statement" i.e. promotes enjoyment, health and fitness. Any visitation to our town is also good for the businesses in Meredith and promotes Meredith as a place to see. This issue will be investigated further with the Shire and after a document review of local bylaws, and "Best Practice and guide lines for Caravans & Camping on crown land".

Dogs on our Reserve

Responsible dog ownership includes managing dogs in parks and public spaces. Walking the dog can be a very enjoyable activity and this fits with our mission statement, however dog owners must be respectful to other users of the reserve. Dogs should be on a lease when other people are around and please pick up any dog poo. This would be greatly appreciated by the footballers who play on our oval.

So please enjoy your Recreation Reserve. For further information

Contact a committee of management member from any of the Reserve's user groups or call Julie Cameron on 0352861211 or Julie@meredithdairy.com

Arts Trail at Meredith

Marg Cooper

Louise Corral and other Art Group members exhibited their latest artwork at the Community Centre studio on the weekend of March 21 and 22. Louise concentrates on oils, pastels and water colours and has a free and easy style. She shows expertise in painting portraits and exhibited portraits of herself, her daughter and son in law's wedding and her parents. Meredith Cornell had an eclectic display of watercolour and ink pieces, many of local scenes. She produces detailed works that require incredible attention to detail and patience. Marg Cooper has embraced "doodling" to produce shoes and boots, chooks in the garden and abstract works that are lots of fun.

Several artists exhibited at the Royal Hotel over the weekend. Vicki-Ann White showed a bright happy collection of art journals and cards that she had created and demonstrated Gelli printing. She was excited about some recent recognitions of her talent by on line companies. Karen Murrell has studied art subjects for seven years and is multi-talented producing prints, etchings, lino cuts and jewellery. For about eighteen months she has visited the You Yangs and has used watercolour, ink and charcoal to capture the scenery on paper. Margaret Daniel showed some large impressionist canvases and some books for children that included poems that she had written and illustrated with pictures that children could colour in. The hotel was also the place to be to enjoy the chainsaw artist on Saturday and music on Sunday.

Meredith Occasional Care

Jo Vermeend

We would like to extend a warm (and very late) welcome to all our new and existing families for 2015. We sincerely hope you are all enjoying everything that our occasional care service has to offer.

The children have been enjoying a range of activities designed for learning language. Home corner has created opportunities for children to interact with their dolls and each other, meeting for coffee, going to the shops or arriving home for tea at the end of the day. Games and sing alongs, including '5 fat sausages', 'Ring around the Roses', 'Bobs and Statues', 'what's the time Mr. Wolf?', And more recently, 'Take you riding in my car' have introduced children to the world of rhyming, turn taking and rules.

We are exploring the similarities and differences of heavy machinery and Dinosaurs through our book "Colossal Machines" and extending on this through play with trucks, diggers and dinosaurs in the sand. It will be exciting to see where the new term takes us.

Occasional Care is available for pre 4 year old kinder children at the Community Centre during the school terms.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday 9:15-12:15pm

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- Sara Pascoe

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Managing Psychological and Physical Abuse

The topic of partner abuse and family violence is being talked about more and more, especially by the media. Our 2015 Australian of the Year was awarded to Rosie Batty in recognition for her work as a family violence campaigner. Her son Luke Batty was murdered by his father last year in public viewing whilst Luke was attending cricket practice. It is an unpleasant topic to talk about, but the impact of domestic violence has become a very serious social problem that needs to be addressed.

Family violence has shocking effects on men, women and children. The impact ranges from emotional abuse, trauma, mental illness, injury and death. It weighs heavily on police resources, crisis services and on our states health, welfare and legal system. Thankfully earlier this year it was announced by the Governor of Victoria there will be a Royal Commission into Family Violence. I believe that the relentless campaign work of Luke's mum Rosie Batty has contributed to this social problem being addressed not only by the state but by the wider community as well.

Given that evidence from Victoria Police (2011/12) states that although it can happen to anyone, in the majority of cases acts of domestic and family violence are perpetrated by men against women. It is known that women can also be perpetrators and that family violence occurs in same sex attracted couples. However, due to the high prevalence of male violence against women in our community it is considered not only the responsibility of the abuser but also the responsibility of society to turn this problem around.

We need to challenge our attitudes and belief systems that make it difficult for women and children to gain help and support. For example, here is a list of societal attitudes that do not help, they have been highlighted by the *No to Violence* organisation;

- Blaming the woman for the violence
- Putting the 'family' before the safety of women and children
- Tolerating the use of violence
- Privileging men over women and children's needs
- Treating domestic violence as a private matter
- Posing excuses for the violence – such as alcohol and drug abuse, deflecting responsibility from themselves and putting the blame on the woman for the violence

It is fortunate that organisations such as *No to Violence* and the work of Rosie Batty can help us all to gain more awareness about the issue of family violence and clearly from the list above we can all do our bit by working towards changing such attitudes.

I deal with many cases of family violence issues and I am often surprised that people do not realise that domestic violence is **NOT** just about the occurrence of physical assault in relationships; it also involves emotional and psychological abuse, as well as, financial and social control. The following Quiz may help you or a loved one determine if you are at risk.

Family violence Quiz

I have selected the following questions from the Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre's website, their list is more extensive and descriptive and I encourage you to do more research if you need more information. If you answer yes to any of the following questions you are experiencing family violence problems.

1. Does your partner call you names or make you feel bad about the way you look?
2. Does your partner monitor or limit your phone calls, conversations and emails?
3. Does your partner take away your money and control how you use it?
4. Does your partner ever push, shove, slap, pinch, punch or physically hurt you?
5. Does or has your partner smashed your belongings or broken things around the house?
6. Has your partner ever done anything that really frightened you?
7. Do you feel your partner tries to control your contact with your family and friends?
8. If your partner has been aggressive, have they blamed you for their anger and violence, saying it's your fault?

If your relationship doesn't feel right and/or you are fearful, then call **Safe Steps** (see below) for confidential support and information. Call 000 if in danger. Support is available 24/7, every day of the year.

For more information including help for women and men on family violence as well as how you can help a neighbour, work colleague, friend or relative please check out the following websites or ring the crisis numbers

- Safe Steps Family Violence Response Centre 24/7 phone information and advice or crisis support **1800 015 188** or www.safesteps.org.au
- Domestic Violence Resource Centre Victoria dvrcv.org.au/help-advice/men
- Mens Referral Service **1300 766 491** or mrs.org.au
- Mensline 24/7 phone information and advice **1300 789 978**
- No To Violence ntv.org.au

If you hear or see something that makes you think violence is occurring, ring the police on 000.

Judy



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Dates: Apr 29th to June 17th (7 weeks)

Time: 10:00-12:00pm

Cost: \$65.00

BANNOCKBURN

Day: Wednesdays

Dates: April 29th to June 17th (7 weeks)

Time: 1:30-3:30pm

Cost: \$65.00

WORDPRESS WEBSITE

Day: Thursdays

Dates: April 30th to June 11th (7 weeks)

Time: 6:00-8:00pm

Cost: \$85.00

COMPUTER BYTES -Get Social

Day: Thursday

Date: June 18th

Time: 6:00- 8:00pm

Cost: \$15.00

CRAFT & HOBBY

DISAPPEARING PINWHEELS-LYN

Day: Wednesday June 10th

Dates: June 10th Time: 10:00-3:00pm

Cost: \$35.00

Collect materials list on enrolment.

BEE KEEPING- COLIN

Dates: Tuesday May 19th

Time: 7-9pm Cost:\$20

CREATIVE PAINTING—FOLK ART

Friday April 17th—June 26th

9.30-11:30am \$10 per class

TAI CHI

Tai Chi is a moving form of meditation. The movements have low impact on the body and help to maintain a healthy body and mind. Participants of varying ages and abilities are encouraged to learn at their own pace.

Classes: \$125.00 (11 weeks)

TAI CHI IN MEREDITH

Introduction to Tai Chi-Sandra

@ the studio Meredith Community Centre.

Dates: Tuesday April 14th to June 23rd

Time: 9.30-10.30am ALSO

Day: Thursdays

Dates: April 16th to June 25th

Time: 9.30-10.30

TAI CHI—Patricia

@ Meredith Memorial Hall, Meredith.

Patricia shows you advanced moves in Tai Chi

Dates: Tuesday April 14th to June 23rd

Time: 11.30-12.30pm

TAI CHI BANNOCKBURN –Desma

Note: 10 weeks @ \$115.00

@ Bannockburn family Services Centre

Dates: Tuesday April 21st to June 23rd

Time: 5-6pm (NEW Time) And

Dates: April 21st to June 23rd

Time: 6:30-7:30pm

TEESDALE TAI CHI-Desma

@ the Teesdale Hall in Teesdale.

Dates: Thursday April 23rd to June 25th

Times: 9.30am-10.30am And

Dates: Wednesday April 22nd-June 24th

Time: 7-8pm (NEW Time)

FUN FITNESS FOR OVER FIFTIES

@ the studio Meredith Community Centre.

Dates: Fri April 17th to June 26th (11 weeks)

Time: 2:00-3:00pm Cost: \$10.00 per class

YOGA/MEDIATION- JO

Dates: Thursday April 16th-June 25th

Time: 6.30 - 8pm.

Cost: \$15.00 per class (1st Class FREE)

NEW NEW NEW

RESUME WRITING/JOB TIPS

Dates: Thursday June 4th and 11th

Times: 9.30am-11.30am Cost: \$50

BASIC HOME MAINTENANCE

Dates: Wednesday May 27th

Times: 9.30am-11.30am Cost: \$25

Put this date in your diary...

Drug Awareness Evening

with a focus on ice in our community
Monday 11th May 2015

Following the success of our
previous evening

6.30pm for a free Sausage sizzle

Meeting from 7pm—9pm

For more Details contact ...

Meredith Community Centre

Ph 52 861 348

The Meredith School 52 861 313

Police station 52 861 222

Community Centre Open Day

Wednesday 13th May

Call in for a cuppa and a chat, talk to us
about what we do at the Centre, suggest
a class. We promise there will be cake.

Wednesday 13th May 9.30am

Meredith Community Centre Annual

General Meeting.

From 10.00am

A team from the Department of Justice
will be bringing along a team from:

- Consumer Affairs Victoria (CAV)
- Births Deaths and Marriages and
- The dispute settlement centre

They will be doing talks and providing
advice throughout the day.

OCCASIONAL CARE

Occasional Care is for pre 4 year old
kinder children during school terms.

Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

9:15-12:15pm

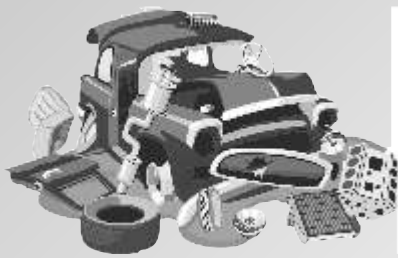
PLACES AVAILABLE

SEW N SEWS REUNION

The sew n sews group has been meeting for
more than 20 years and is holding a reunion on
Monday May the 4th. If you have been involved
at any time over those years with the group we
would love to welcome you for a cuppa and
chat to reminisce.

It is essential you call and
book your place in your
preferred class.





Meredith Mancave Madness!!!

12th April at the Meredith Oval

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Farewell Mrs C

At the end of last term, Meredith Primary School said farewell to our lovely Business Manager, Mrs Carol Cations. Carol has been a valuable and much loved member of our school staff for the past three years and we will certainly miss her. She was instrumental in getting our Out of School Hours Care facility up and running. To say farewell, the staff and students celebrated with a 'C' day which all the children enjoyed immensely. Best of luck in your retirement, Carol. You and Doug have both earned some relaxation time. We'll miss you!

PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE
VERSION

Aunty Has a Few Friends Over..



Over 10,000 people enjoyed the ninth Golden Plains Festival over the long weekend in March'

Did you Know...

A chicken crossing the road
is poultry in motion.
What's the definition of a will?
(It's a dead give away.)
If you don't pay your exorcist,
you get repossessed
With her marriage, she got a
new name and a dress.
The man who fell into an
upholstery machine is fully
recovered.

The Travelling Blue House

Marg Cooper

It's not what it used to be and it's not where it used to be!

The blue house at 9 Wallace Street Meredith has been almost rebuilt over the years since it was transported from Coopers Road to Meredith in 1947. It is believed that it was originally built by Smith Bros for Ern Cooper when he married Annie Fry. It was situated on the west side of Coopers Road, about 6 kms down the road and was surrounded by cypress trees.

The house was jacked up and loaded on a house Jinker owned by Brown from Geelong who was a house removalist. The back skillion was removed but the rest of the house was moved in one piece with the roof intact. The truck carried the house through the paddocks behind the Coopers shearing shed, through Boltes paddocks, through a paddock owned by Hendersons, out on the road before Boltes, past Tommy Grants, through the Lily dam and down Boundary Road to Meredith. The route was to avoid trees, power lines and bridges. The house was erected on wooden stumps and changed direction, it now faced west whereas at the farm it faced east.

The skillion and toilet came to Meredith on an old Austin truck owned by Annie's brothers who farmed at Balliang. They helped to put it back on to the house, helped to prepare the kitchen and put the toilet down the back.

Ern and Annie Cooper bought the half acre block of land from George Mayo. It had a boxthorn hedge in the middle and had previously had saleyards on it.

Neil Cooper, son of Ern and Annie is a diligent tradesman who has reblocked the house, replaced most of the weatherboards, replaced the wooden framed windows with aluminium windows, altered the internal layout of the house and installed a new kitchen and built many outbuildings and sheds and extended most of them. He has also repainted the house about every 18 months. He used to have a bountiful vegetable garden but these days he concentrates on the flowers in the front yard which this year have looked absolutely beautiful.

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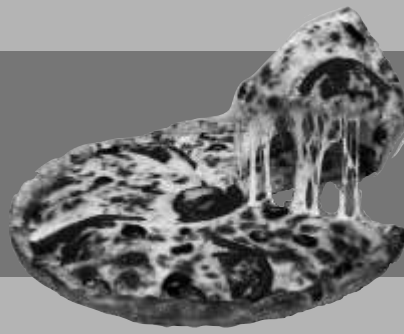
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What???

We've known for some time that there is a Meredith township in New Hampshire, USA. Which is why we recently received a news release promoting a poetry reading at a new Arts Center at 12 Main in Center Sandwich. *Center Sandwich?* We suppose is a good place to meet.



Marg's BOOK REVIEW

"Murder in Mississippi" by John Safran

The author of this book is a documentary film maker who often asks dangerous people indelicate questions and tries not to get thumped. He often asks questions about race. He has been described as "irreverent" which means that he shows a lack of respect for people or things that are generally taken seriously. He likes to 'stir the pot'! He likes to make us reassess our conceptions and beliefs.

When filming his TV series "Race Relations", which covers cross cultural, interracial and interfaith love, John Safran spent an uneasy couple of days with one of Mississippi's most notorious white supremacists. A year later, he heard that the man had been murdered and the killer was black. He flew to the US to investigate with the aim to write a book about the case. And he uncovered a fascinating story.

His detective work led him to many associates of both Richard Barrett the white supremacist and Vincent McGee the murderer who stabbed his victim sixteen times and tried to burn his house down. He ended up developing strangely close bonds with some key people, particularly the killer and towards the end of the book he has increasingly surreal conversations with him on the phone from prison.

Safran writes as if he was speaking to you and he lets the people speak for themselves. Their dialect and slang make you feel you are in the Deep South. He describes everything including how the solicitor rocks in his big leather chair as he is interviewed. He wrote about how he feels, the weather, the surroundings, the towns and the politics.

At first the murder seemed to be a race crime. But the more he talked to various people the less simple the crime and the world seemed. Maybe it was a dispute over money or most intriguingly, over sex. Could the infamous racist actually have been secretly 'gay' with a liking for black men. Could this be the story of a lifetime?

Safran takes us places most of us will never go to, he reveals a portrait of a dead man, his murderer, the place they lived and the process of trying to find out the truth about anything. He has used a direct approach to investigate the crime and has documented his findings in a very straightforward, unique way. He doesn't come to any conclusion as to why Vincent murdered Richard.

There was a mixed reaction to the book by the bookclub members and some could not finish it.

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Chris McKenzie's

Garden Notes



We are delighted to introduce our newest columnist, Chris McKenzie, who hasn't let the unforgiving shale of a former goldfield deter her from a love inherited from her mother of gardening and plants. When she joined her partner in Steiglitz a decade ago she found a heap of rubble - from which she has made a garden.



'Season of mists and mellow fruitfulness ...'

John Keats wrote these words nearly two hundred years ago on the other side of the world and still they paint a picture for us of the season in all its glory - fruit filled with 'ripeness to the core'. No mention in Keats' autumnal romance of the ubiquitous white netting that smothers our pears, apples and quince and now must be untangled and ripped away from the trees that are ready for harvesting. Here the late afternoon light falls golden across the hills and we begin to breathe more easily knowing that the possibility of bushfire is receding.

However autumn can be a tricky time in the home garden. Although the days are growing shorter and there's a chill in the early morning air it's easy to forget that we have had very little rain during this fruitful period. I am by upbringing and nature a minimalist when it comes to using water both in the house and in our garden. However when I walk around on these crisp autumn mornings and scratch around beneath the mulch I find the earth is bone dry especially in the vegetable patch. So, I will have to turn on the tap. Vegetables grow best in good soil that holds moisture. Healthy friable soil that has had plenty of organic matter dug in will not only produce delicious vegies, but will hold water without becoming waterlogged. Mulch that is too dense may prevent water from reaching the earth.

This year I have grown the old varieties of tomatoes from seed. They were slow to germinate and take off but now, after what has been a relatively kind summer with only a couple of exceedingly hot days I am able to fill a colander with red, yellow, red and green striped and dark brown tomatoes every day. I had built up the soil in my tomato bed well before planting out the seedlings in November. However long ago our patch of earth was mined for gold so you can imagine me working with acidic, skeletal soils derived from ancient sedimentary rock and no matter how much good stuff I dig in, by the end of a dry summer the soil is worn out and leached of all vitality. I'm sure some of you will be working in richer volcanic soils and you may receive greater rainfall and these struggles of mine with soil and soil moisture will not be as relevant.

We're lucky to still have some water in the dam so I am watering, a slow and deep soak once or twice a week as the

experts suggest and I push the hose nozzle underneath the mulch layer.

I'm longing for rain. I wonder if you have noticed as I have that plants seem to respond more vigorously to a good downpour from the skies than to being irrigated by a hand held hose.

Happy gardening.

Chris

The Paddocks Through Young Eyes

By Tilli and Jovita Tasic

The Police Paddocks are in a lovely location overlooking the valley of the Coolabarghurk Creek in Meredith.

The Police Paddocks has a diverse range of fauna including Black-tailed Wallabys, Black-shouldered Kites, Wedge-tailed Eagles, New Holland Honeyeaters, Fairy Wrens, Silver Eyes, Crimson Rosellas and Eastern Grey Kangaroos, as well as lots of flora including Golden Wattle, Clumped Bluebell, Chocolate Lilly, Bulbine Lilly, Swamp Gums, Sweet Bursaria and Blackwood.

The Police Paddock's entrance is at the end of Campion Road, and it has a walking path looping around the top of the valley.

The Meredith Primary School has installed nesting boxes for fauna. The school has been monitoring the boxes, and they have found rosellas, possums, and even bees using these boxes.

A devoted team of locals looks after the Police Paddocks, they are always looking for new members, if you are interested in joining the Police Paddocks working group you can contact Jim Elvey on 5286 1273

The Police Paddocks is a diverse reserve, and is full of surprises. Why don't you go out and have a walk in the Police Paddocks and see what you can find!

Tilli and Jovita enjoying the Paddocks.

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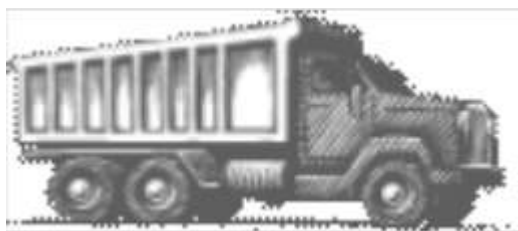


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The marriage of Mark Dunne of Elaine to Simone Pedretti took place at St Jospeh's, Meredith on Saturday 21st March.

...and, on the same day at the same church, Shane Telford married Teresa Foster



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Interest Rates ~ it's time to review

Interest rates are at record lows. For farmers and business we are seeing variable rates below 5%. How much longer will this continue? Economists have mixed views on what will happen with the variable interest rate this year. The important thing to appreciate is interest rates are at record lows and this should translate to cash savings for you. Also remember that fixed rate options can start increasing before a variable rate rise as lenders anticipate what the Reserve Bank will do in the next 6 to 12 months. It's a great time to review your loans to confirm:

1. You are saving money by accessing the lowest possible variable rate available
2. What fixed rates and terms are available
3. What component of your total debt should be fixed

Contact Neil McCahon, Matt Egan or Chris Mulcahy and we can provide a quick overview of what loan packages are available to meet your needs and discuss locking in a fixed rate before it's too late!



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We are coming to a pub near you! Be ready for our upcoming PUBtalks series. Our goal is to discuss topical farm, business and finance matters, in a relaxed environment, in your community.

Stay tuned for further details.

(PS If we don't have your email address and you want further information when the PUBtalks sessions are on, please let us know your email address at www.mulcahy.com.au or email it through.)



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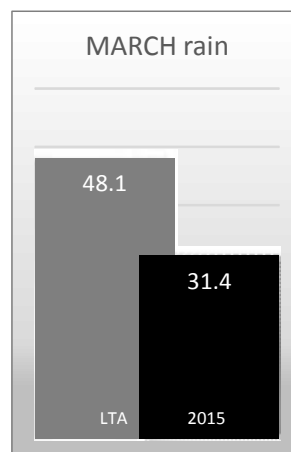


The Meredith Cooking Club has gone Greek!! Our first cooking challenge has been to create Pita bread from scratch, and tap into our inner Zorba for our Lamb and Chicken souvlakis, and Tzats not all! Our bewdiful Souvs were available to savour at the Tastes of Meredith Event where we spread the word about our fun new club. Pictures of our misadventures and cooking club information will soon be available on our local community Centre website page. Our next cooking club get together is on Wednesday 15th April at 6pm, when we will be experimenting with sugar and dairy substitutes and whipping up an delicious and healthy alternative risotto using Quinoa. Further program details are as per below. Eftychismenos Mageirema !! (Happy Cooking - excuse our Google Greek!)

Want to join in?

The Club meets at Mirepiox Café, and here are the topics for the rest of the year.

- 17th June - Viva Italiano! - Pasta and Pizza making
 - 14th July - THIS IS A TUESDAY (Bastille Day) - La Cuisine Francaise (Guest Chef)
 - 19th August - Extending our Soup Repertoire and accompanying Dampers
 - 16th September - Traditional cooking 'v' Thermomix Challenge
 - 21st October - Spun Sugar work & Croquembouche (Guest chef)
 - TBD - a Saturday in October - Full day Cheesemaking Workshop (Guest chef)
 - 18th November - Tea smoked Duck and Dumplings
- Deposits are payable in advance, so contact Jarna on 0438 102139 or Jarna.kelly@gmail.com. to find out how much, secure a place, or just to find out more.



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Surprised Again!

Marg Cooper

On Saturday, March 14 family and friends of Toni Settineri surprised her with a luncheon at her home in Boundary Road to celebrate her 60th birthday. While she baby sat for her daughter in Geelong they set up and prepared the surprise. Toni said that it “didn’t click” at all that they had lured her away the night before her birthday. She was delighted with the party and received many cards, gifts, plants, flowers and a beautiful cake which featured a Toni figure standing in her vegetable garden. They also surprised her on her 50th birthday with a party. Watch out on your 70th!

In 1970, at age 15, Toni came to Australia from Sicily with her parents and younger sister. Her uncle picked them up at the dock in his blue Torana car. It seems that she never looked back. She attended night school for four months to learn to

speak English. She and her mother both gained jobs sewing in a uniform factory. She soon met a young Tony Settineri who already owned a tip truck and they married in 1971 at St Peters Catholic Church, Clayton. They bought their own house and produced two daughters and two sons. Tony says that “she never one day work” from when they married until they bought a run down dairy farm at Deans Marsh in 1985. Toni bought an industrial sewing machine and intended to sew piece work for the uniform factory but home duties prevailed and she revealed the machine did not make one penny.

The dairy farmer helped Tony for one week and then Toni who had no previous farm experience got into gear. She helped to milk every day. They built the farm up until they milked 300 cows and had one of the top five herds in Australia. They believe the farm was good for their children. Although it was hard, consistent work and that they made a lot of money but they also had to spend a lot of money to keep improving the farm. Tony improved pastures, the farm setup and installed a rotary dairy and he recalled how people came to see his farm and copied some of his innovations. They sold the farm and moved to Boundary Road in 2004 where they now run beef cattle.

Toni enjoys her family, grandchildren and friends. She loves to cook and always has something ready if someone drops in. She loves her garden and her home and says she doesn’t need to go out because she is content. She is a bright and happy 60 year old.



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it's History

Meredith History Interest Group

Henry Bolte the Cricketer *compiled by Terry Southall*

"Lethbridge left the Leigh Cricket Association for the start of 1936/37 season to compete against Meredith North, Meredith South and Bamganie in what was known as the Bamganie Association.

Henry Bolte was a young farmer from Bamganie who volunteered to put a team together to make up four sides in the new association. Their home ground was at the Bolte property where parts of the pitch can still be seen. Bamganie was the 'ugly duckling' of the competition, always struggling to field a side but Bolte was the glue that held it together. He was an outstanding player. Forced to open the batting and bowling he carried the side for the four years. Time and again it was only able to get 8 or 9 players and if Bolte failed there was only one or two others to pick up the slack, and then only weakly.

Highlighting some of his performances gives an indication of Henry Bolte's talents. In December 1936 he made 28 of a team total of 59 and took 3/43 off 12 overs. In February 1937 he made 46 out of 84 and took 3/35 off 10 overs. But this may have been one of the greatest innings of all for any player, anywhere. Only able to field 9 players Bolte was the last man out for 90 in a team total of 100. And finally, in a landmark innings in the very last game of the Bamganie Association Bolte, opening made 208 of 332 and took 5/56 from 11 overs. This is the only known instance of an individual making a double century on the Lethbridge Ground in senior cricket dating back to 1879/80 season."

World War 1 Soldiers

World War 1 touched many families as soldiers enlisted and sailed to Gallipoli and the battlefields of France. Their stories are waiting to be told and members of the MHIG are happy to research records and document the service of those men and women. If you would like help to put the story of your relation who served in WW1 together, please contact Jan Crump on 52 861 337 or Marg Cooper on 52 868201. We hope to print some of these stories in the newsletter.

Bluestone House

You are invited to the bluestone house on Steiglitz Road on Sunday, May 3 at 1.30 pm to see where the bluestone blocks that were taken off the Catholic Presbytery in Meredith in 1889/90 went to and how they were used and to hear some history of the property. (Entrance to the property is via Taylors Road, second gate on the right)

Annual Meeting

The Annual meeting was held at the Anglican Church Hall on Sunday, March 1. After the President's Report and the Treasurer's Report the following office bearers were elected:

President - Marg Cooper. Secretary/Treasurer- Fay McFarlane. Vice President - Peter Griffiths.

Before the crowd adjourned to the Interpretative Centre to view the building and the exhibits a lovely photo of Sir Henry Bolte in the Meredith Bakery with the Miller twins, Lynette and Jennifer, being served by Mrs Jack Shell was donated by the Shell family to MHIG. Jessie, Joan and Daphne remembered when they were Girl Guides Henry Bolte would pick them up in his ute on a Saturday morning and take them to his farm where they swam in the Leigh River, helped to burn stumps in the paddocks and participated in other activities with Jill Bolte who was the Meredith Guide Leader. We intended to listen to more stories about Henry when at the Interpretative Centre but the crowd became engrossed in the displays, inside and outside, talking to each other and partaking in afternoon tea.

Catalogue: On the last Thursday of the month from 9 am we meet at the Anglican Church Hall to catalogue and to talk history. We'll put the kettle on if you wish to call in.

The Rev. Fr Thomas Considine was born in County Clare, Ireland and after ecclesiastical studies was ordained at St Patrick's College, Maynooth. He left almost immediately for the Australian mission becoming attached to the Melbourne Archdiocese. He was one of 33 Irish who arrived in Melbourne on R.M.S.



"Orpauz" ex London on June 8th, 1888. After labouring as assistant priest in several parishes he was appointed to the charge of Meredith Parish in February 1889. (He would have been just 29 years of age.) The present Meredith Church was built and opened during Father Considine's pastorate and within a year of his arriving the Catholic school reopened.

Throughout his life he suffered indifferent health. He complained that the bluestone presbytery was too cold and damp in winter so the bluestone was replaced by weatherboard. While this was taking place Fr. Considine moved into a cottage at Lethbridge owned by Mr John Gebbie, the local wheelwright and blacksmith. The parishioners were sad to see Fr. Considine depart to the Parish of Seymour in 1900. He was presented with a purse containing 70 sovereigns subscribed throughout the district. He died in May 1931 at the age of 71 years. An article in *The Advocate* reported that he and Archbishop Mannix were fellow students at Maynooth and that they continued a close friendship in Australia.

He had the reputation for being a saintly priest. "He led a life beautifully edifying in every way seeking little human companionship." A priest remarked that Fr. Considine's daily walk through the park was more eloquent than the most telling sermon.

Raymond Kelly

A Journey into Meredith

This is part of an extraordinarily detailed account Jan McDonald found of a cross country journey early last century from Bacchus Marsh to Meredith. We pick it up at the plummet into Morrisons.

A little over a mile hence we cap the much dreaded Morrisons hill, where the Moorabool creeps at our feet, and the far reaching majestic gully dwindles away into the overhang-ing hills. In our downward progress of this hill the recent regrading at its top marks a pleasurable improvement. Trending down the river we put up at jovial faced John Acheson's hostelry to bait both man and horse. Looking down stream from this point the eye is at once arrested by that huge and ungainly piece of mechanism, the Morrisons dredge. From information their efforts appear to have been attended with varying success, and although the clean up previously to this last week was 560zs., the week past has not given the same satisfactory results, as, in the middle of the river bed, although they have delved down to a depth of 30 feet, they cannot reach the gold. Obstructions, such as huge trees, even at that depth, barring the way. Their operations are not alone restricted to the river bed; isolated islands, and the bordering banks, are all swallowed up in the capacious maw of this ungainly looking machine, their revolving buckets working on the principle of the Californian pump, grasping in their rotary and endless working all that is before them. Huge boulders which are carried out of the exhaust tip show the power that is exerted in their excavation. Guyed to the river bank on either side by stout steel ropes the head of the machine can turn its attention to all available land from the roadway to the opposite foot hills, the continual forward delving answering the twofold purpose of feeding the machine and at the same time excavating a dam on whose surface the ark floats. If no other purpose were served it has widened the river bed, which should leave the township less liable to inundation by flood water, although I fear the fish with which the water in deeper pools is now well stocked are doomed to extermination. Passing down this one-street hamlet decay seems busy in its work, and amongst it that old familiar landmark, Adamson's store, has disappeared, evidently by fire, as the piled up charred timber lying promiscuously near attests. Before crossing the bridge an immense amount of excavation has been carried on, all the low lying ground having been treated to a turnover. The old bridge, as well as some chains of the road, had to give place to this innovation, but these have now been replaced with new, although some portion of this road requires fencing-in, as an ugly looking embankment skirts a goodly portion of it. From here Harvey's old homestead looms out on the south side of the river, and over on the opposing bank Mr. Cole's house, with orchard, peeps out from amidst a delightfully cool looking cluster of trees. At this latter establishment there is a curiosity in the shape of a whitethorn, which has been grafted with an apple. At my last visit here this (now a tall slim apple tree) was in full bearing, laden with apples of a sweetish bitter taste, the fruit not larger than a small marble. Mr. Cole, like many another orchardist in this and surrounding districts, is despairing over the ravages of the codlin moth, his pear and apple crop being about ruined by

their ravages. There was the consolation, however, that the cherry crop was magnificent, and the plum closely equalling it. Surmounting the hill from the bridge, parched up grass greets the eye again in our surroundings; and looking over to the S.W., Mt. Buninyong rears its elongated rounded back, always reminding one in its sombre hue and shape of some huge elephant, minus his trunk and tail. Along the five mile stretch to Meredith, wayside farmhouses dot the landscape here and there, with apparently little cultivation. Nearing Meredith that old time hostelry, the Royal Mail, an upper storey building, frowns down apparently on all its rivals, proud in its commanding height, and its career, which dates from the early diggings. What an unwritten history attaches to this pub, in the old coaching days where men in rags have sought its shelter; men with thousands helter skelter made the money fly. A stroll through the town reveals its possessing post and telegraph office, also three hotels, two blacksmiths, two general stores, saddler, Shire Council, Police station, two very creditable Institutes the C.Y.M.S. and the public hall just about completed, which Premier Bent has promised to open, and which is installed with my acetylene gas plant. There are saleyards where sales are held every first Friday in the month. As far as I saw the only houses of worship are the Catholic and Protestant. A thriving business seems to attend the efforts of those engaged in each branch of it, and if the wealth of a community may be gauged by the attention paid to the pubs, then I should say the general public are not in want. Although drink is indulged in it is in a mild and friendly form. One thing ... generation, they are all confirmed cigarette smokers. Great credit is due to the committee of the new Mechanics' Institute, of which Mr. Robt. Deans is Secretary, and Mr. George E. Mayo Treasurer, and their co-workers, in bringing about the completion of an Institute that will do credit to a much larger township than Meredith. Out of a cost of between £600 and £700 the Government aid was only £100. The most pleasing feature is the united manner in which they go to work, as on the day I left, there were farmers, graziers, store- keepers, the schoolmaster, saddlers, and publicans working away, some delving, some barrowing, some carting, and all engaged in filling in the approaches to give a fall for storm water away from the building. Truly an object lesson for all townships, and in many of them such working bees are not unknown.

The Bacchus Marsh Express 31 March 1906 (extract)



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Weekly Recycle Collection Starts in July

In the lead up to the kerbside collection changes in Golden Plains Shire the new contractor, Transpacific Cleanaway, has provided their current list of recyclable items. More items than ever before can now be recycled including old pots and pans and pet food cans.

Recycling points to remember:

- All containers must be empty
- No need to rinse, just scrape clean
- No hazardous chemical containers
- Keep recycling loose – no plastic bags.

Our thinkrecycle.com.au website has plenty of tips and tools for sorting recyclable product from waste. There is also a handy A to Z guide to quickly find out what you should place in your kerbside recycling bin.

To learn more about the change to kerbside collection services, visit Council's website goldenplains.vic.gov.au.

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✓ MIXED



✓ CARDBOARD



✓ METAL





Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

6 High Street

Bannockburn VIC 3331

Phone: 5281 1519

HealthSave Pharmacy starts 1st June

We have some very exciting news!!!

From Monday 1st June will be joining the **HealthSave** pharmacy brand.

After lots of consideration we have decided to leave the Chemmart brand as we don't believe this was the best brand for our Pharmacy moving forward.

We have had some fantastic questions about our decision to change to a HealthSave pharmacy. The 2 main questions has been: Has the pharmacy been sold and will there be new staff? The answer to both of those questions is "No". We haven't sold the Pharmacy and you will still see the same staff. We will also have the same products within our Pharmacy and the dispensary.

The main change to what we are currently doing now is we will have a brand new rewards/loyalty program. Having said that, the new system will have a different name, but the way in which it works will be exactly the same. It won't be called Chemmart Cash, it will be Loyalty One points. You can still accumulate your points for as long as you want to and you can spend them whenever you want to as well. One of the new features will be you can have a card for each family member if you choose to and they will all be linked to the one account. In our Chemmart rewards program each family member has to have a separate card and separate account. The system will still allow us to search you online so if you don't want to carry your card with you, you don't have to. While the system will be effectively the same, we are unable to copy everyone across from our current system to the new one. To make the transition easy we are offering the following between now and 1st June when the new Loyalty One program commences:

1. You can **spend** the Chemmart Cash you have on your current rewards card and then sign up to the new system from 1st June

OR

2. You can **transfer** the Chemmart Cash you have on your rewards card to the new Loyalty One program in equivalent points. We will have you in the system ready 1st June

Also between now and 1st June, so you are not disadvantaged, we will give you a 5% discount at the till for OTC items and 21% discount (extra 5%) for gifts, which is the effective discount offered now on the rewards program. Then from the 1st June we will only be using the new Loyalty One card.

I know this is a lot of information potentially to take in but I wanted to explain it as clearly as possible. We will explain more in-store.

Rest assured it is a simple transition to the new program and we can't wait to be a HealthSave Pharmacy.

Pharmacy Features:

- **Medela** (we hire Breastpumps)
- **MooGoo**
- **Natio**
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- **Sukin Organic Products**
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- **Free gift wrapping**
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- **Fragrances**

Opening Hours:

Monday:	8:30am - 6:30pm
Tuesday:	8:30am - 6:30pm
Wednesday:	8:30am - 6:30pm
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 to 6:30pm weeknights