

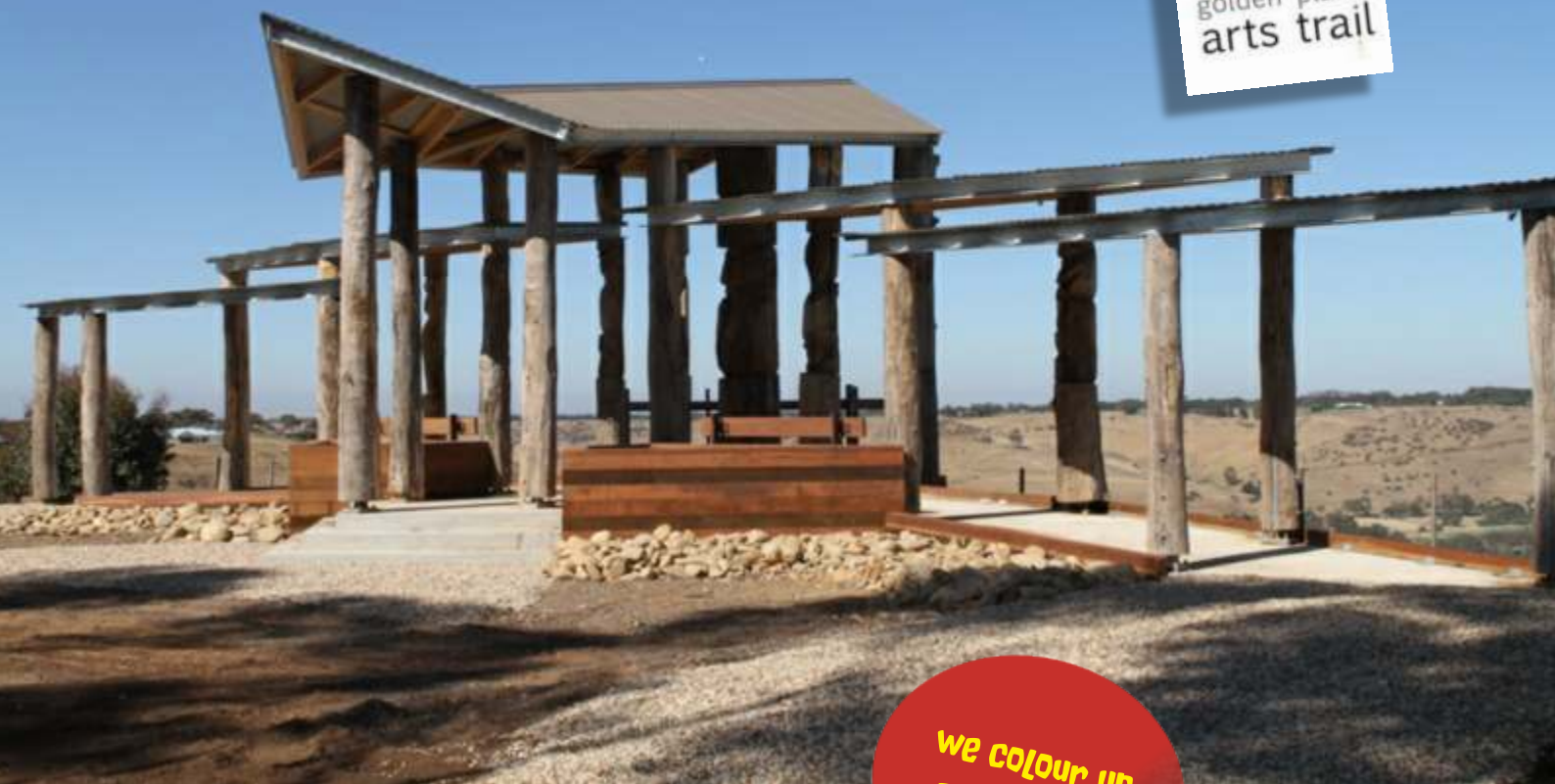
# Meredith & district News



It's autumn!

March 2015

YOUR FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER SINCE 1972



we colour up  
for autumn

inside



- Poppies in the Plains
- Rainbow Day Gets Results
- Inside the Men's Shed
- Our **NEW** Energy Column
- Vale Ian Connell and Keith Dempsey

...and the usual *much more!*

E: [news@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:news@meredithnews.com.au) W: [meredithnews.com.au](http://meredithnews.com.au)

A wonderful destination point on this month's Golden Plains Arts Trail is the stunning Maude Recreation Reserve where the newly constructed Maude Viewing Platform has been designed in the shape of Bundjil the Eagle. Artist Viktor Cebergs carved the structural poles for the platform; each one a reflection of Bundjil and his spirit brothers.

Viktor works with all kinds of materials to create outdoor installations which inhabit their environment and he has certainly achieved this in his representations of Bundjil. Viktor will be demonstrating his chainsaw sculpture techniques from 11am to midday on both days of the Trail, the 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> of March.

There is a rich and fascinating indigenous culture at Maude and if you would like to know the story of Bundjil, the Wathaurung story which inspired the design of the Maude Viewing Platform, don't miss the storytelling sessions with Uncle Bryon, Wathaurung Elder from 2pm-3pm, again on both days of the Trail. (*More Arts Trail information inside.*)





The Meredith and District News is published by a volunteer sub-committee of the Meredith Community Centre comprising: Jim Elvey, Dawn Macdonald, David Jones, Trudy Mitchell, Stefania Parkinson and Ian Penna

## NEWS & VIEWS

Subject to the conditions outlined below, contributions accompanied by the contributor's name (which will also be published) and contact details, are most welcome. Please email to

[news@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:news@meredithnews.com.au) or deliver to the Meredith Corner Shop.

## DATES AND DEADLINES

The Newsletter is distributed on the **first Thursday** of each month (except January). All advertisements and submissions must be lodged by the **last Thursday** of the preceding month, but earlier is **really** appreciated.

## ADVERTISING

Advertising in the M&D Newsletter is a great way to let district residents know about your business. Contact us for full details and lodgement forms. Rates are as follows:

	B&W	colour
Business Card	\$14.00	
Quarter page	\$25.00	
Half page	\$40.00	\$100
Full page	\$80.00	\$180

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

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

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

## CONTACT US

Post: Post Office, Meredith, 3333  
Email: [news@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:news@meredithnews.com.au)  
Ph: (BH ONLY please) General: Jim 0409163169 or Accounts: Dawn 0428 861274.

## WEB

You can check back copies and lodge comments at [meredithnews.com.au](http://meredithnews.com.au)

## ONLINE PHOTOS

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

## DISCLAIMER

The opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the publishers. The publishers may edit or reject contributions and accept no responsibility for errors or omissions.

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	HISTORY GROUP ☎5286 8201
ANGLING CLUB ☎0419 423 960	LANDCARE ☎5286 1250
BLUE LIGHT DISCO ☎5286 1222	LIFE DRAWING ☎0430 318322
BOOK CLUB ☎5286 8201	MEMORIAL HALL ☎5286 1545
CFA (000 for fire calls) Elaine ☎0417 533516 Meredith ☎5286 1502 Morrisons ☎0417 770 765	MOTOR CYCLE CLUB ☎0437 009250
CHILDCARE ☎5286 1348	PLAYGROUP ☎5286 1348
COMMUNITY CENTRE ☎5286 1348	POLICE PADDOCKS ☎5286 1273
CRICKET Elaine ☎0428 264103	RED CROSS ☎5286 8222
Junior Under 14 ☎0418535713 Meredith ☎5286 1434	RSL ☎52861 452
CUBS & SCOUTS Anakie ☎5281 9497	SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB ☎5286 8232
FOOTBALL (seniors) ☎0408 545246 (juniors) ☎0430 587674	TENNIS Elaine ☎0448 291074 Meredith ☎5286 1211
GOLF CLUB ☎5341 5748	SEW 'N' SEWS ☎5286 1348
	FILM GROUP ☎5286 1274
	FRIENDS OF THE BRISBANE RANGES ☎5286 1252
	LIONS DISTRICT CONTACT ☎52 815391

Police, Ambulance, Fire (from mobile phone)	<b>000 or 112</b>
Meredith Police Station	5286 1222
Power Failure	132 412
Nurse-On-Call	1300 606024
Mental Health Advice	1300 280 737
Poisons Information	13 11 26
Barwon Water	1300 656 007
SES flood & storm help:	132 500
24 Hour Helpline	1800 629 572
24 Hour Drug & Alcohol Kids Help Line	1800 888 236
24hr 5-18yo	1800 551 800
Golden Plains Shire	1300 363 036
A.H.: all services	5220 7111
Bannockburn Vet	5281 1221
Injured Wildlife	13000 wildlife
Pets and Horses 24/7	0421 617 238

## JUSTICES of the PEACE

Mr R Cooke Meredith	52 861 346
Mr H Woerner Meredith	52 861 402
Mrs S W Dynon Steiglitz	52 819 223
Mr G Leslie Bannockburn	52 811 854
Mr P Ryan Elaine	0409 861 296

# SERVICES

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

...or start  
something.



If you have a special interest you would like to share with like minded people, let us know and we will help you get it started.



"Autumn carries more gold in its pocket than all the other seasons."  
- Jim Bishop





# COMMUNITY

## Kinder News

*Jodie Trevaskis*

We welcome all our families to Meredith kinder and hope you enjoy being a part of the kinder community this year. We also welcome Kara & Trish who are the new 3 year old teachers, their session is held on Wednesday's 9-11.30am. We have a couple of vacancies still; if you are interested please give us a call. The committee held the Kinder BBQ last week which was fun, we had a warm night so it was perfect weather for a sausage on the barbie. It was lovely to see families there enjoying the evening and catching up with past children who were excited to be back.

Our 4 year old group is full with 18 children who have started the term off very well, a few tears were to be expected in the beginning as it's all so new! Kylie and I have been working on fostering new friendships and connections with the group to help them feel a sense of belonging and begin to feel comfortable and happy to come each day! We are nearly there...

The children are learning each other's names through play and games like Duck Duck Goose. We have kinder helpers each day who do special jobs to help around the room and at transition times. We have many boys in our group who like to play with the monster trucks and cars on the block mat, we have children exploring the Arts and Collage areas, and our Home Corner has been turned into a Cafe with children delegating roles to each other.

It's going to be another busy learning journey for everyone here and we enjoy following the children's varied and wide interests to see where it takes us. Right now the children have been discovering snails and bugs in the garden so we are learning all about insects /spiders and things that live in the natural world.

We have the wonderful Golden Plains Festival happening soon and I'm looking forward to once again experiencing the great atmosphere, the music and working in the tucker tent. If you're out there come and support us and buy some food!



## Meredith Playgroup Timetable

Term 1 2015

March 12<sup>th</sup>- Play-doh

March 19<sup>th</sup>- Autumn Craft

March 26<sup>th</sup>- Sea Creatures

April 2<sup>nd</sup>- Easter Craft & Egg Hunt

## Meredith Community Co-ordinators

*Marg Cooper*

Golden Plains Shire defines "community planning" as locality based planning which occurs through an established set of processes.

Council aims to assist and strengthen the communities in Golden Plains and help them to become more environmentally and socially sustainable. It also seeks to foster a sense of community spirit and pride and increase residents' involvement in the community.

Community planning is about enabling communities to identify, find solutions and implement projects that address social, environmental, health and wellbeing, infrastructure, cultural and economic goals, issues and opportunities.

Council believes that local communities are best at identifying and resolving local issues and that building "community capacity" is essential to developing vibrant healthy communities. The approach to community planning in Golden Plains is that planning is not done by Council for its communities but by communities themselves.

Currently Meredith Community Co-ordinators are working to install a fitness track in Pioneer Park and plans are also underway for a major revamp of Coolebarghurk Creek and its surrounds.

If you would like to contribute to your community you are welcome to come to the next meeting on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at 5 pm at the Meredith Information Centre.

Enquiries: Di Ritchie on 52 861291.

Marg Cooper on 52 868201

## Golden Plains Mobile Library

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



## Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

### For Sale

Lounge: chocolate fabric, can be made into a single bed \$80.

Needle felting sewing machine-husquarna, produces beautiful and unusual work without thread. Now \$200.00 ph 52 817 315.



## Church News



### ANGLICAN

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

Contact: Rev. Elizabeth Bufton, 5281 2224; 0437524864

Church Office, Byron St. Bannockburn 5281 2553

Service Times;

### Church of Epiphany Meredith.

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

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

### Morrison

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

### UNITING CHURCH

Monthly Combined Holy Communion services.

2nd Sunday, 11am at Meredith Uniting Church

4th Sunday at 11am at Meredith Anglican Church

1st & 3rd Sunday at 9.45 at Buninyong Uniting Church (9.30 pre-service singing) Enquires Doug McFarlane 52861283. Rev. Lindell Gibson 53413 200

**SERBIAN ORTHODOX** : Fr. Theodore—Ph. 5341 5568

Holy Liturgy 10am every Sun, Sat & Major Feast Days.

**CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA.** St. Marys House of Prayer Elaine Solemn mass Sundays 10.00am. Rosary and Vespers Saturday 5.00pm.

Confessions by appointment Fr. James Ph. 5341 5544

### ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH

Baptisms, Weddings, Funerals, pastoral care

Father Herman Licayan 52861230

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.

Meredith @ 11 a.m. Sunday March 1st/ 15th/ 29th

Anakie @ 11 a.m. Sunday March 8th/22nd

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

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. Religious Education for Sacraments commences on Wednesday March 11 th at 6 p.m. at Bannockburn Cultural centre.

Mass followed by a bbq tea.

### 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,

Even though it feels as though we have just started for this year we are already half way into our short first term and planning for the next. It feels like we are wishing our lives away sometimes.

We do still have some classes and events coming up in March. Tuckers are providing an information session on Funeral planning on March 5<sup>th</sup>. This is so important to have some prior knowledge and planning to give you and your loved ones peace of mind at a difficult time.

On a lighter note we still have our Create an online magazine class. If you want to see an example there is a link to our Term Brochure on our website on the Courses page. We are also running Create a Website and Working in the Cloud workshops we still have some places so make sure you book soon.

Speaking of our website meredithcc.com.au we now have a course calendar which shows all of the activities and courses at the centre and a calendar for the Occasional Care service. Jo will be putting in the program of what she is planning so you can see at a glance what the children will be doing in the sessions. 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 continues to go from strength to strength thanks to Jo and the wonderful staff. There are still has a few places available 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*



*Plenty of people have their own website. It is really easy with lots of free website-making services available which will allow you to create a website quickly and have it live on the web in just a few minutes. Sounds easy, and it is, but it is really important to do some planning first so that you have a clear idea of the purpose of your site and some resources ready. It is also important to get some advice about all of the enticing add ins you can use because that free site may suddenly become a more expensive option than going down a different path which requires a little extra effort to begin but may work out cheaper in the long run. So, to join in on the fun, join our class on Thursday March 12<sup>th</sup>*

5 Russell Street Meredith 3333  
Ph 5286 1348 Fax 52861 563

learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au  
"Working for our community"



## Meredith POLICE news



## Message from the Mayor

*Cr Des Phelan Golden Plains Shire Mayor*

Thank you to all residents and ratepayers who have contacted Council over the past couple of months regarding the upcoming changes to the household waste and recycle collection service.

In response to feedback, Council is investigating the provision of Green Waste Service to select areas (on a voluntary basis) and is also exploring the feasibility of a Waste and Recycling Transfer Station located within Golden Plains. A transfer station is a processing site for the temporary storage of waste and could also be equipped with materials recovery facilities where residents can take excess waste or recyclables.

A new Engagement Officer has also been appointed to improve consultation with the community and how we engage and respond to community need. Residents will be able to take part in consultation on these opportunities in coming months.

### New Kerbside Collection Contract Signed

Golden Plains Shire Council is pleased to announce that the tender for the provision of waste and recycling collection services has been awarded to Transpacific Cleanaway P/L.

Cleanaway is one of the largest waste management organisations in Australia and has expertise and experience to meet the waste and recycling collection needs of our Shire.

Cleanaway currently services Surfcoast Shire and City of Greater Geelong – allowing Golden Plains to take advantage of the already well established depots in Geelong and Ballarat and Cleanaway's back up domestic fleet based in Geelong

### Working for our Community

Council was successful in 2014 leveraging funds from State and Federal Governments enabling us to take on major projects and works; reducing the use of ratepayer funds. 2015's forecasts looks much more uncertain.

The Federal Government has frozen funding on Federal Assistance Grants, State Government is yet to confirm funding for critical programs such as the Country Roads and Bridges and will be introducing Rates Capping in 2016/17. These decisions dramatically impact on Council with an immediate loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars and a further deterioration of millions of dollars within a couple of years.

Council will be forced to scrutinise every service and program offered to residents and make cuts. Council is strongly advocating both Governments to reconsider their policies so that we may continue to provide the quality level of services our community expects and needs.

### Have Your Say about Maternal & Child Health Service

Council is seeking feedback from families with children under four years of age and their experience regarding the Maternal and Child Health Service. To complete the survey visit this link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MCHACCESS2015>

On the weekend on the 20<sup>th</sup> to the 23<sup>rd</sup> of February our local Meredith Primary school bus which at the time was parked in Russell Street, Meredith and directly in front of the Meredith Primary school was the unfortunate victim of a theft. Approximately 150 litres of diesel was siphoned from the school bus tank. The area where the bus sits in reasonably well lit at night and offenders would have spent a considerable amount of time at the location. Any information to me here at Meredith phone: 52 861222 direct to Crime Stoppers (1800) 333000.

On a positive note, on Thursday the 19<sup>th</sup> of February, I received a phone call from a local Bamganie resident who reported that he observed a very suspicious Holden Commodore station wagon enter his rural property for no apparent or legitimate reason. The caller in my opinion did an outstanding job in detailing to me an accurate description of the vehicle, its correct registration number and an excellent description of the male occupant.

As a result of that information, I was then able to make appropriate enquiries at the earliest opportunity. I located that vehicle and its occupant in Coopers Road, Bamganie sometime later. I think this is an outstanding example of country community policing. I encourage anyone who sees or hears anything suspicious to safely record as much information as possible and to report what they see.

In November 2014, Trudy and myself organised an 'ICE' awareness night which was successfully held at the Meredith Community Centre. Three detectives from the Clandestine Drug Unit in Melbourne and the Werribee Criminal Investigation Unit attended the night which provided excellent information and awareness to those in attendance. It is anticipated that we will run another similar evening in May 2015. We would encourage as many parents and children as possible to attend.

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

### St. Joey's OP SHOP - Rear of St. Joey's Hall

Open Wednesdays and Fridays 10 am- 4 pm

Lots of great bargains - tents, furniture,  
ornaments, school uniforms,  
good quality clothing, etc.

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).







in our  
wendy cook

A bushy clump of drooping olive-green leaves hangs from a branch of a gum tree. It is a mistletoe plant, which cannot grow on the ground. It makes some of its food from sunlight and sucks other nutrients and water from the tree. Too many clumps of mistletoe on a tree can kill it, but this usually happens only if the tree is old, unhealthy, or has no other trees near it. There are many types of mistletoe in different parts of the world. In southern Australia, mistletoes commonly grow on eucalypts, and have leaves which look similar to gum leaves. Other species of mistletoe grow on trees with different shaped leaves, and have evolved leaves similar to the host plant on which they grow. The reason for this is unknown, but one theory is that some herbivores prefer to eat the mistletoe, so they have evolved to look like part of the less palatable tree.

For wildlife, mistletoe can be an important source of food and shelter. Possums find the leaves of mistletoe tasty and may also shelter in the dense clump during the day. The base of the plant, where it attaches to the tree, can be a secure and well-hidden place to build a nest. Imperial white butterflies lay their eggs on mistletoe. The purple-brown caterpillars eat the leaves and pupate on the plant. They emerge as eye-catching adults with red and yellow markings on the black and white undersides of their wings. The upper surface is duller, white, grey and black, providing them with camouflage. Another less attractive butterfly, named the dull purple azure, also lays its eggs on mistletoe. Its caterpillars hide beneath the tree's bark during the day and feed on the mistletoe's leaves at night.

The long red mistletoe flowers hang down in clusters, their narrow petals curving upwards as they mature. They are visited by birds, especially honeyeaters, and insects including moths and butterflies, which enjoy the nectar the flowers provide, and in return spread its pollen to fertilise other flowers. The mistletoe continues to flower for longer than many other plants and may provide food at times when other plants do not, making it an important food source.

In autumn, the mistletoe produces little oval-shaped yellowish fruits. These attract birds, especially mistletoebirds. They are small, but the male is handsome with a glossy black head and back, red throat and breast, a black stripe down his white belly and bright red under his tail. The female is much duller with grey on her back, white below and pale red under her tail. Although the mistletoebirds will eat insects and other fruits, their favourite food is mistletoe fruits. The fruits have a sticky layer under the skin with the

seed in the middle. Sometimes the fruit sticks to the bird's beak and it wipes it off on the tree branch. More often, the bird eats the fruit, which passes through it very quickly. Several minutes after eating, the bird defecates. The seed is still very sticky.

The bird, who may now be in a different tree, rubs the seed off its feathers onto a branch, where it adheres firmly and quickly begins to grow. Initially, its leaves make all of its food, while its root grows into its host. It may take a year until it reaches the veins in the tree which conduct water and minerals from the roots to the leaves. The mistletoe forms a permanent connection with this nutrient supply, and becomes partially parasitic. Sometimes the branch beyond the clump of mistletoe will die, but the rest of the tree remains healthy, and visiting wildlife can enjoy the resources of tree and mistletoe.

## The Ballan Art Show

Council Chambers Stead Street Ballan Vic 3342



**Opening Night** - March 20th 7:00pm to 9:30pm (Preview & Presentation of Awards)

Saturday March 21st – 10am to 5pm  
Sunday March 22nd – 10am to 4pm

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**unhealthy eye**  
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2/7 High St.  
Bannockburn

**winks**  
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# MONSTER GARAGE SALE

**Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 1.00 pm**

**432 Elaine-Morrison's Road, Morrison  
(the Camel Farm)**

**ITEMS FOR SALE:** Household furniture,  
Farm equipment, DVD's and lots more...  
**PH: 5341 5669**



**REFRESHMENTS FOR SALE**







## Ritual Realisation

There are rituals in our society that call for a coming together of multiple voices to help convey certain degrees of celebration. Generally when there is cause for a group of people to come together, there is also a need to collectively chant, sing or repeat certain phrases in order to adhere to the tradition of playing out rituals such as birthdays and weddings. Over the years, I have noticed that I am developing a habit when it comes time to sing happy birthday. As everybody gathers around the cake and the candles have been lit, a general sense of merriness ignites amongst family and friends as they prepare to display their happiness and congratulations in lyrical form.

As people take in deep breathes to burst forth into the familiar lines of 'Happy Birthday to You', I will display excitement on my facial features and imitate a taking in of deep breath. I will open my mouth and utter a tiny 'hhu' sound and, after finding it to be offensive to mine own ears, will continue on to mime the rest of the song, joining back in at the end to shout 'hurray!' three times.

I realised the other day that this habit wasn't just limited to birthday celebrations. At a wedding recently, I noticed that despite my best efforts to force myself to reply to the priest's prompts and to chant along to the Lord's Prayer, I was at a loss to produce any noise.

While a rather harmless habit, I must admit that I do live in fear. This is because I know that as some of you read this, you're thinking 'I do that too!' When I pitched this article to my sister, she replied with 'doesn't everybody do that?' And this just confirmed my fear.

One day—whether it be sooner or later—we will be at a celebratory function, and as we all go to commence a 'Happy Birthday' or an 'Amen', nothing will happen. Silence will fall on our ears and suddenly you'll realise that it wasn't just you all along. That there are millions of mimes out there, each afraid of hearing their own voice shrieking out tonelessly above the others. And that is when we will have to change these very old traditions.

Perhaps we will have to change these vocal displays into another type of aural experience. We will have to add finger clicking and tongue clacking to the rituals of hand clapping and glass clinking. And while on the subject of glass clinking...how many cut hands and spilt drinks must we endure before this gesture ends?

*Gemma*



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## Festival Traffic Plans

The traffic management plans for Golden Plains Festival scheduled to occur on Saturday 7 March to Monday 9 March, 2015, are summarised below:

- We will implement one-way traffic on Mount Mercer Road from Bamganie Road to Cameron's Road from approximately 4am on Saturday 7 March to approximately 7pm. Traffic within the one-way zone traveling to Meredith will be diverted down Cameron's Road.
- We will implement a speed reduction on Mount Mercer Road and Cameron's Road from Friday 6 March – Sunday 8 March.
- We have assigned traffic controllers to the corner of Staughton Street and Midland Highway on Monday 9 March to assist vehicles turning left or right onto Midland Highway.
- We will install a no-parking zone along Mount Mercer Road and some surrounding roads.

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

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

## Water Tank Cleaning

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## Celebrating our Youth

Local young people have the opportunity to be recognised for their diverse range of personal and community contributions they have made to the Golden Plains community.

Nominations are now open for the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual Golden Youth Awards which is part of the 2015 National Youth Week celebrations. People aged 10 – 25 can be nominated and celebrated for their commitment to Arts and Music, Sport, Environment and Sustainability, Community Service and Workplace Endeavours. An adult (over 25 year age) can also be nominated for their exceptional devotion to improving the lives of young people within Golden Plains Shire. The Golden Youth Awards is supported by the Victorian and Commonwealth Government as part of the National Youth Week (NYW) celebrations. NYW is the largest celebration of young people in Australia. In 2015, NYW will be held from 10 – 19 April.

Nominations for the Golden Youth Awards close Friday 27 March at 5.00pm. Nominate and view more information online at [www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au/youth](http://www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au/youth) or contact Sarah Dalton – Youth Activities Officer (03) 5220 7177 or email [sdalton@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:sdalton@gplains.vic.gov.au)



## ELECTRICAL SAFETY

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*We are delighted to introduce this month a new column devoted to the important subject of renewable energy. Simon Reid manages a Team of Energy Consultants for BREAZE, a Ballarat based registered charity that promotes the adoption of renewable energy. It owns and runs a business to support itself in the absence of government or other funding. The renewable energy scene is changing rapidly and Simon's column will keep you in touch.*

### "Setting the Scene"

Renewable Energy: Is it Still Economically Viable? Energy costs are rising ... and people are feeling the pain. Many people who have considered Renewable Energy, such as Solar Power, for their home or business are aware that Government Incentives, such as Rebates and Feed-in Tariffs, have been cut back significantly ... and are likely to be cut back further, possible very soon.

People want to make sustainable choices but rightly have to ask themselves "Is renewable energy still economically viable? ... And can it protect me from the rising cost of energy?"

In one word "Yes" ... But the design of Solar Power, Wind Power and Solar Hot Water Systems needs to more carefully match the generation to the users demand for energy at the time that it occurs at different times of the day, days of the weeks and weeks of the year. And it needs to be combined with an overall assessment of energy use on site and Energy-Efficiency measures to reduce energy demand such as Insulation, Double-Glazing, LED Lighting and Reverse-Cycle Air-Conditioners. It also needs to consider how storing energy from intermittent sources (Sun, Wind) can be done economically now and how to prepare for the coming widespread uptake of energy storage as battery costs come down over the next 5 years.

In this column, I want to explore ways that renewable energy can stack up economically for homes and businesses, looking at specific technologies in turn.

But first let's take a step back and place renewable energy in the context of the wider energy market, starting with a statement that might surprise some people: *Unless ways are found by the Fossil Fuel Industry to reduce the cost of producing their polluting product, Renewables will be seen as the economic choice for homes and most small to medium businesses within a decade.* People will be asking "Are fossil fuels and centralized generation still economically viable?" And this will disrupt the current business model of centralized generators and distributors to such a degree that utility companies may seek to abandon whole sections of the mains electricity grid, forcing energy consumers to consider standalone off-grid renewable energy.

Not convinced?

Consider these points:

- The price of a Solar Panel fell about 80% of the 5 years from 2008 and 2013 before stabilizing somewhat in 2014
- Tesla Motors in the USA recently opened the long-anticipated "Giga-Factory" to make batteries for Electric Cars - could that be the start of battery prices undergoing the same dramatic 80% fall?
- Throughout Australia, the price of Mains Gas is predicted to double (or even triple) as export contracts come into effect and see locally-mined gas exported to countries where the price of gas is 2 to 3 times our price.
- The International Energy Agency says solar will produce 27 per cent of all electricity globally by 2050.
- By 2050, the Fraunhofer Institute in Germany predicts solar will cost as little as 2c per kWh
- Back home in South Australia, on one day in December 2014, Solar Power met 1/3 of the demand for electricity between 11.30am and 3.30pm.

Still not convinced ?

I look forward to next time when I can have another go at convincing you that centralized generation is in trouble and that you need to consider renewable energy

Send your queries to [simon@breaze.org.au](mailto:simon@breaze.org.au) or visit [breaze.org.au](http://breaze.org.au)

Go on...smile!



*I was walking along the other day, and on the road I saw a small, dead, baby ghost. Although thinking about it, it might have been a handkerchief.*

~ Milton Jones

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Authorised by S.Henderson, 3A/195 Colac Rd Waurin Ponds 3216





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.

Hello to all my iPad friends. Here are three more informative apps for you to explore:

### Storm

There are quite a few weather information apps out there, but this one is very pretty and has a few particular pluses. It is a free app with a really nice visual presentation and all the information you could ask for, both current and predictive. Most particularly, it shows radar sweeps of rain and storm activity (hence the name) so you can watch weather patterns form and shift. It was fascinating (if a little frightening) to watch the recent storm activity off Queensland for example.

### Translate

This clever little app does what it says - it translates between 92 different languages. Choose English and Swahili or any other combination. You can then type or handwrite the words or phrases you want translated and the app shows you the result. Even more clever, for 36 of the most common languages you can photograph a word, sign or other writing and it will provide an English translation. I can see lots of uses for this when travelling.

### Expense

Need help tracking your budget? Another free app, Expense lets you set goal amounts for your spending in lots of categories, from Home Repairs to Eating Out, or you can set up your own categories. You then record purchases as they happen and it will track how you are going in each category or overall. Information is presented in several forms and it can be a real eye-opener to realise just where the money goes. You can set up regular payments to be tracked automatically and the app remembers the details of previous transactions so you don't have to fill in all the details each time.

Once you have used Expense to improve your savings, perhaps you will have enough to travel to somewhere exotic to use the Translate app. You can even check the weather at your destination with Storm before leaving...sounds like a plan!

...WENDY

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## ANZAC DAY 2015

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.



## Anzac Centenary

*Mal Johns President Inverleigh RSL Sub-branch*

While the Australian troops were training at Alexandria, Egypt, the Navies of the British and French were in the process of becoming involved in conflict off the Dardanelles.

The Gallipoli campaign was conceived by the First Lord of the Admiralty, Winston Churchill, and approved by the First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir John Fisher, they elaborated a strategy in the face of failure on the Western Front.

The British Empire and its Allies needed a win. The war on the Western Front, even by late 1914, was a costly stalemate where the movement of troops and the gaining of territory from the enemy was virtually impossible. Russia needed support and supplies as much as their Allies needed a victory.

To approach Russia from behind Germany's back, through the Black Sea, made strategic sense.

The way to the Black Sea was through the Dardanelles, through the Sea of Marmara and beyond Constantinople (modern Istanbul).

The problem was that late 1914, Turkey had declared itself on the side of the Germans. Turkish forts guarded the waterway of the Dardanelles and powerful guns could be used against any ships seeking passage through those waters.

British strategic thinkers had a low regard for Turkey's military capacity, underestimating the possibility of Turkish resistance. From late 1914 onwards, British warships began shelling the Turkish forts from a considerable distance

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offshore. This bombardment achieved notable success and gave the British an unrealistic sense of the ease of their mission. Eventually the British realised they could not knock the forts out at great distance. It was decided to send the warships into the Dardanelles for direct action against the forts.

18<sup>th</sup> March 1914 the British and French assembled a mighty armada. The First Sea Lord, Admiral Sir John Fisher was reluctant to use his modern and powerful warships but he was overruled, the armada was thought to be an irresistible force.

The Turkish forces, along with the fort's guns, employed mobile artillery, and a crucial tactic to mine the sea lanes added a third line of defence. The British believed that the mines were stretched across the Dardanelles. This was true, but the Turks had also laid a stretch of mines parallel to the eastern (Asian) shoreline. British reconnaissance failed to detect this and though British minesweepers removed many of the mines the parallel mines remained undisturbed. The armada sailed in and created havoc among the forts. The British Vice Admiral John de Robeck had his ships in three lines and as the first line withdrew they turned seawards along the Asiatic coast when suddenly the French ship Bouvet struck a mine and sank within minutes, with only a small number of survivors, two other ships struck mines and were heavily damaged, De Robeck decided the Turkish forces were floating mines on the current placing his ships in great danger. He withdrew his ships and declined to engage the forts the following day. Churchill now believed it would be necessary to have troops assault the forts from behind across country if ever the warships were to reach the Black Sea. The Stage was set now for the Gallipoli Landing.

*Source—Victorian Government ANZAC Centenary 2014-2018  
Education pack (their story our journey)*



## Sellars Brothers Go to War

Marg Cooper

Two sons of Richard Baker and Edith Sellars of "3B Corner" (the corner where the Shires of Buninyong, Ballan and Bannockburn met) went to World War 1. Richard Ernest Sellars enlisted on 6/7/1915 when he was 28 years of age and his brother Robert Charles Sellars enlisted on 31/10/1916 when he was 26 years of age."

*On Monday, October 18, 1915 Privates M. Smith, W. Smith and C. Wyatt were entertained and presented with fountain pens at the Meredith Mechanics Hall before they embarked for WW1. The committee had invited six soldiers but Privates Sellars and Lowne and Sergeant Worland were unable to obtain the necessary leave."*

Richard Sellars was in the 7<sup>th</sup> Battalion but transferred to the 58<sup>th</sup> Battalion, the same battalion as his brother was in. Family tell that they met up with the three East brothers from Elaine in France.

Richard Ernest Sellars received a shrapnel wound to his chest and abdomen in France in July 1916 and a second time in October 1918. He returned to Australia per the "Wyrema" in May 1919 after 3½ years of active service. Locals say he was in a bunker when all his comrades were killed. He had plenty of guns and ammunition and continued to defend by shooting through a pop hole until he was rescued by the British Army.

In the 1920's he married Alice Craig, and had a family: Bob, Ken, Joyce, Daphne, Don and Dorothy. He mostly worked as a fencer at "Moranghurk".

Robert Charles Sellars was gassed in October 1917, rejoined his unit in June 1918 and was killed in action in July 1918 in France.

*"On July 4 near Ville sur Ancre he was killed. I did not see the casualty but was told about it from his brother who was with the battalion. He also said he was buried on the bank of the river Ancre between Ville-sur-Ancre and Dernancourt. The brothers Christian name is Richard. He is now in hospital at Rouen and I know he could give details. Pte. G. Hill"*

Another report describes him as about 5 feet 10 inches tall with a dark complexion with a dark moustache. He was killed by a high explosive shell. Death was instantaneous.

*"Mr and Mrs Sellars of Meredith were notified by the Defence Department on Wednesday that their youngest son, Pte Robert Charles Sellars, had been killed in action in France. The deceased soldier was on active service for the past 20 months and was gassed about two months ago and must have just recovered and gone back to France when he was killed. Chas. H Chalmers\* broke the news to the bereaved parents. The late Pte. Sellars was well known and liked throughout the surrounding districts and was 28 years of age. Mr and Mrs Sellars have another son, Pte. Richard Ernest Sellars still on active service."*

*Geelong Advertiser, July 20, 1918.*

*\* Chas. H. Chalmers was the Meredith Church of England Vicar from 1918-1920.R*



*Richard and Robert Sellars both went to war in WW1. Only one came home.*



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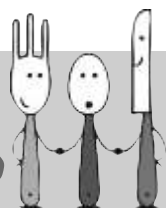


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## The second last Friday LUNCH club



*This is the most pointless cafe review you are ever likely to read. (If you choose to proceed!) Unbeknown to the lunch party, they turned up on the Cafe Peel's last day, which closed its doors soon after they left. Because we don't take ourselves too seriously, we decided to publish their review anyway. (And who knows, if you get that time machine to work, you just might be keen to know what it's like.) – Ed.*

Peel ★★★★★☆

This month's foray of the Friday Foragers on their epicurean expedition was to Zest in Main Rd Ballarat opposite Sovereign Hill. My dictionary has two definitions of Zest, firstly, the peel of an orange or lemon, and secondly, enthusiasm. We hoped that it was named after the latter and that its appeal was not just a *peel*.

You walk in what feels like a side door past the kitchen on the left, a little disconcerting, to a quite small capacity restaurant, probably only 30 patrons. The lunch menu was only one page and didn't differentiate between entrees and main courses. The wine list had a very limited offering. We waited some time for any service, although to be fair our booking was for six and only four had arrived, so they may have been holding back. Our waitress was the owner who was both pleasant and helpful, and once we explained that the remaining couple were coming later and insisted we start without them, the service was most acceptable although she had never done a wine serving course. We were not given the wine to inspect that it was as ordered, nor a tasting, simply poured at one end of the table and each glass placed in front of its recipient.

However the food was very good with approval all round. We were simply told what the two desserts available were, crème caramel and chocolate tart. Like many restaurants nowadays it was badly let down by its coffee which most of us judged to be poor.

The meal was not expensive and the food was very good.

*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.*

## 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.

## Rainbow Day

Karen Prichard

On Sunday 22nd Feb we held a Fundraising Day for Mandy Pattenden. It was a great day with a lot of fun had by all that made the effort to attend, even though it was a very hot and muggy day.

The total raised from Rainbow Day was \$6,059.55. A cheque has been given to Mandy with instructions for her to spend the money however she may please.

The day would not have been possible without all the volunteers that got donations from businesses, helped set up, man all the stalls on the day and the clean up afterwards, and also to Doug Cations. To all those volunteers, THANK YOU.

A big thank you to the following businesses that donated goods and vouchers.

Royal Hotel Meredith, Meredith Corner Store, Meredith Dairy, Woolabrai, Lucy & her Animal Farm, Meredith Meats, Hope & Don Hodge, Jessie Osborne, Mirepoix, Andy Jones, Brett's Mowing Service, Mortimers, Adrian Mohr, Foxys, Elaine Farm Supplies, Geelong Confectionary, Streets, Clyde Park Winery, B & S Stockfeeds, Grippas Bakery, Redline Raceway, Railway Hotel Bannockburn, Muddys Home Hardware Banno, J & D Mechanics, Pizzaz Hair, Lara Tyre Service, Nextra, Intersport, Skin Ski & Surf, Crystal Connection, Ferguson Plaire Bakehouse, Pancake Kitchen, Bedding Wholesalers, Wen & Ware Living, Ishka, Inhabit.

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# Heathyeasy and delish

selected by Stefania Parkinson



## Chicken with roasted cherry tomato and basil sauce

- Prep time 5 minutes
- Cooking time 25 minutes
- Serves 4

### Ingredients

500g cherry tomatoes  
5 cloves garlic, unpeeled  
2 tablespoons olive oil  
4 x 200g chicken breast fillets  
¼ cup coarsely chopped fresh basil  
¼ cup (60ml) cream

### Method

Preheat oven to 200C/180C fan forced.  
Combine tomatoes, garlic and oil in large shallow baking dish.  
Roast, uncovered for about 20 minutes or until tomatoes soften. When garlic is cool enough to handle, peel.  
Meanwhile, cook chicken on heated oiled grill plate until cooked through. Cover, stand for 5 minutes.  
Blend or process garlic and half the tomatoes until smooth.  
Place in medium saucepan with basil and cream, cook, stirring, over low heat, until heated through.  
Serve chicken topped with sauce and remaining tomatoes.

Recipe From: Women's Weekly

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*Geoff Howard*

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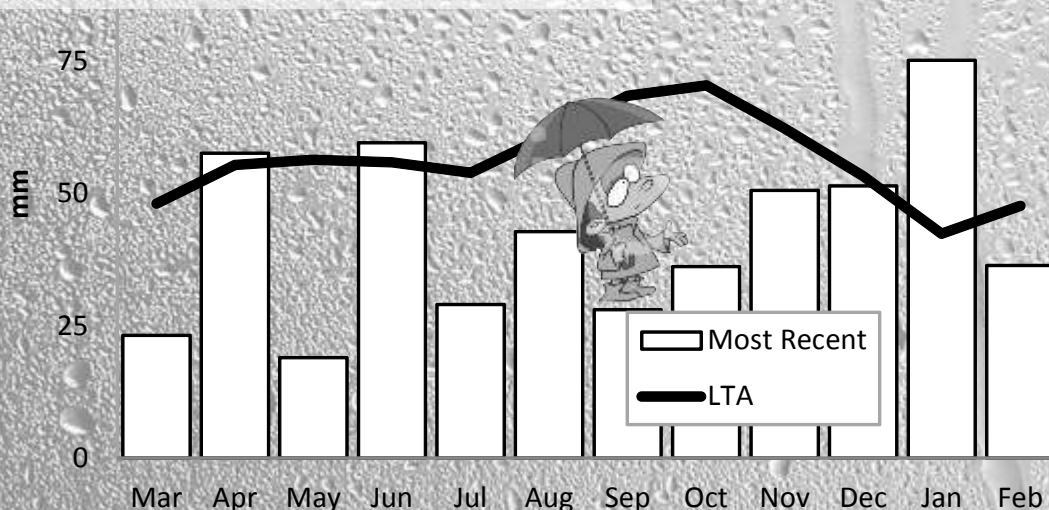
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## **the SUMMER RAIN REPORT**

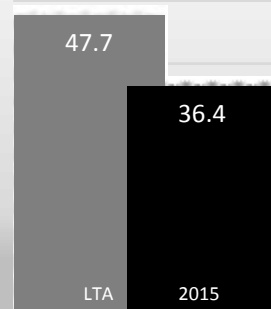
Summer rainfall was 14% over the long term average (LTA), largely due to an heroic January as the chart clearly illustrates. Although February was a mild month, and we were mostly spared those stinging hot windy days, it's rainfall was below average, and most of that - 26.6mm - fell on one glorious day.



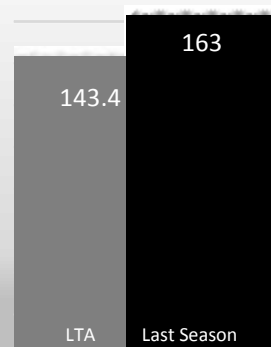
*Because our rain days end at 9.00am, Summer kindly gave 10mm of its rain to Autumn. Let's hope it doesn't need them.*



### **FEBRUARY rain**



### **SUMMER rain**





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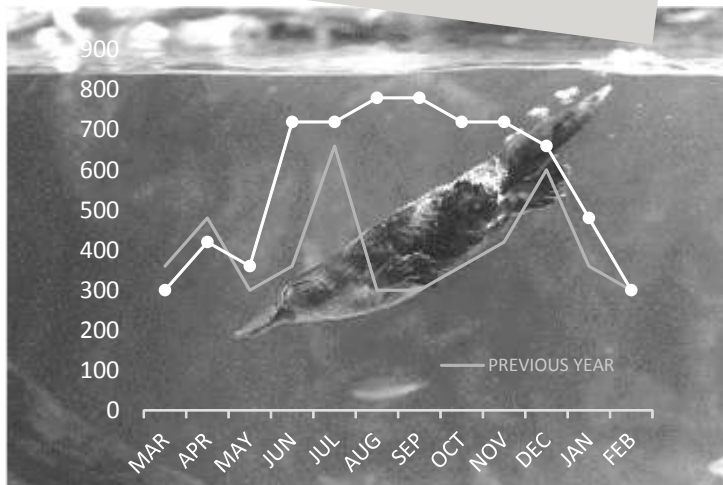
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**WATERWATCH**

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



## Marg's Book Review

### "Apricots on the Nile" by Colette Rossant

This is a delicious book which is easy to read. It is an interesting, happy memoir.

In 1937, five year old Colette Rossant arrived in Cairo from Paris with her Egyptian-Jewish father and beautiful French mother. When her father died her flighty mother abandoned the little girl to her wealthy grandparents. She soon settled into their food-orientated lifestyle. She spent afternoons in the spice filled kitchen with their chef, Ahmet, she accompanied her grandmother to the bazaar to buy food and she enjoyed feasting on delicious food at their home and when visiting her grandmother's friends and relations.

At fifteen Colette was brought back to Paris by her mother and didn't see her grandparents again. She returned to Egypt thirty years later and revisited the house where she had lived, the school and the bazaar. Her children listened to her stories and urged her to write them down. She explained how her love of the kitchen and food had developed.

This delightful book is laced with delicious recipes and includes some photos of Egypt and her family. Through her recipes Rossant evokes an Egypt lost to her, and to us, forever.

## Bannockburn Men's Shed

Paul Dakin Secretary

**The Shed has a Home** Council has approved the Old Gaol site in Victor St as the home of the Men's Shed and we now need to establish partnerships with local trades to help us get it up and running. We are looking for Concrete, Concreters, Plumbers, Electricians and other partners to complete the Shed. We ask any tradesmen who are willing to assist us to contact us on Ph: 0434331049 or [bdms@iprimus.com.au](mailto:bdms@iprimus.com.au) and we can discuss deals that benefit both parties.

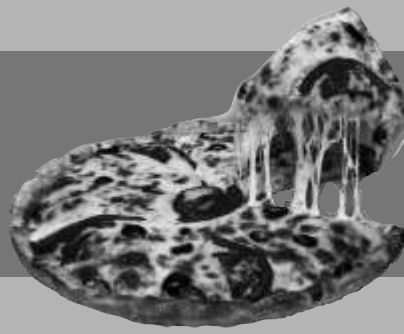
Please support us over the coming months so we can have a facility for all men regardless of age, who can have a place to work on individual and/or group projects, or somewhere you can just chill out and have a cuppa. Forums on Men's Health and other activities are also being run. Your level of participation is up to you. Membership is \$50 per year with a \$10 admin fee. Until the Shed is built, we will meet on Tuesday afternoons between 2 and 4pm, Thursday mornings between 10am and noon and the third Wednesday of the month between 7 and 9.30pm at the Bannockburn Community Church 18 Moore St Bannockburn. New Members welcome. Come along for a cuppa and a chat.

**Sausage Sizzle** Our next Sausage Sizzle will be on the 14<sup>th</sup> March outside King Broccoli. Forget breakfast and have a snag or two with us and try your luck and buy a raffle ticket.

**Odd Jobs** The Shed is willing to take on odd jobs that do not take work away from tradesman. Any odd job will be discussed to ensure we have the skills and equipment to do the job. Payment for work done is a balance of affordability to the Customer and skills needed to complete the job.



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You are invited to attend our free community talk at the  
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Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March approx. 11am  
at the Bannockburn Cultural Centre**

Maree will also be available to provide free information  
and to answer your questions

**Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> March at the  
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For more information contact Maree at Tuckers  
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## Meredith Cooking Club

*Jarna Kelly*

The inaugural meeting of the Meredith Cooking Club was held this month, on Wednesday 18th March at Mirepoix Fine Foods Café in Meredith.

The enthusiastic cooks and cooks-to-be discussed (with much humour!) their cooking misadventures, how they would like the club to run and what they would like on the program this year. Brave attendees even had a hands-on lesson on how to sharpen their knives (the gleam in their eyes prompted me to think their partners had better behave !)

It was agreed that the club cooking adventures would be a monthly event, on Wednesday evenings, from 6pm onwards. The finishing times will vary depending on the cooking program for the evening. Given the size of the kitchens to be used for the cooking events, unfortunately numbers will have to be limited and bookings for each of the events along with a deposit will be required to secure a slot. Deposit amounts will vary and be dependant on requirements of the event.

The next event is a Tastes of Meredith Cook-off on the 18th March. Call me on 5286 1264 for more information and a full program.

Come along to discover more about the great produce our Meredith region has to offer.

Local suppliers including Meredith Dairy, Clyde Park Winery, Meredith Meats, Meredith Park, Moorabool Ridge Estate, A Hidden Secret, Meredith Baking Co., Foxys, Royal Hotel and Mirepoix Fine Foods Café along with the Meredith Cooking Club, will be showcasing their produce and skills in a fun informative evening with music, food tastings and other special events. It is a gold coin donation event, with funds going towards local community projects.

### Tastes of Meredith

Friday 27th March

6 – 8pm

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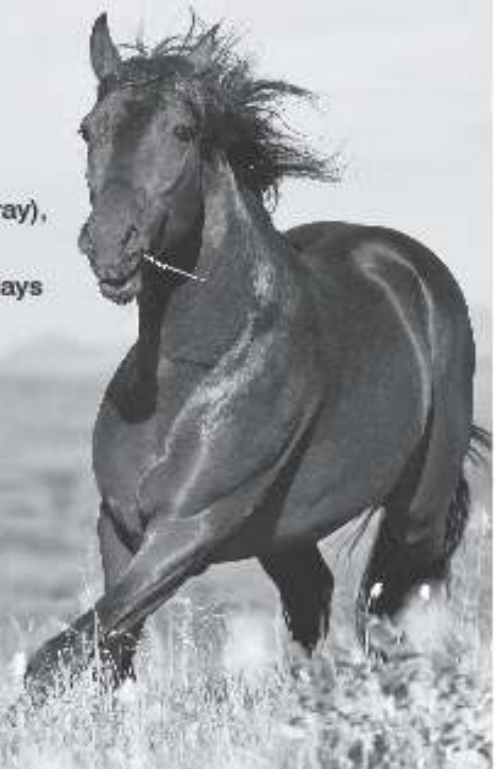
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## Golden Plains Arts Trail 2015



21<sup>st</sup> & 22<sup>nd</sup> March

**Arts Trail 2015 Shaping Up to be the Best Yet!**

**Hand weaving, chainsaw sculpture  
and everything in between!**

Golden Plains is set to throw open the doors to 31 venues from private studios and gardens to beautiful rustic town halls, vibrant pubs and cafes and sumptuous wineries with 90 artists demonstrating their talents

There is truly something for everyone at the 2015 Arts Trail with artists immersed in mediums from fine art to chainsaw sculpture. With bluegrass music to Wathaurung storytelling, the Trail promises to be a feast of art, culture, music, food and scenery. Don't miss this opportunity to experience an eclectic variety of art whilst indulging in all of the sumptuous food and wine of this beautiful region. It is a free event and offers something for everyone.

For more information go to [www.artstrail.com.au](http://www.artstrail.com.au) or call 5220 7111

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## Vale Ian (Tiger) William Connell

*Marg Cooper*



When Ian was born in 1934 his father was the manager of "Larundel" and the family lived in a house on the property they called "Gillanders". Ian started school at Cargarie aged 4½ years to keep the school going. The Connell family moved to Elaine in 1942. Ian helped his father with the stock owned by the Soldier Settlement Commission and told of droving the "Larundel" sheep to Meredith to sell in 1950. He drove a horse and cart, carried the food and supplies and picked up sheep which couldn't make the distance.

Reg East was the "expert" with Grazcos and Ian went with him to sheds in outback NSW and SA. He started by penning up for 10 shearers. Some of the sheds shored 30,000 sheep. Ian also had 11 years around Broken Hill before he went to Western Australia. Ian shored from Port Hedland to Kalgoorlie. He told stories of how, in WA, the spinifex wore the wool from the belly of the sheep so they were often "bare bellied". He had three years as a 'rousie' and presser before he became a shearer. He shored from 1950 until 2006. "Wyvern" in NSW was the biggest shed in which Ian shored. They shored 54,000 sheep on 18 stands. Ian enjoyed his time in Western Australia as the climate was good, meals were good, it was easy to live on the job and on weekends he could relax, socialise or follow some horses in which he had an interest.

Ian came back to Elaine to live in the family home with his brother Jim, 23 years ago. He continued to shear and do crutching for a few years and after he retired he continued to visit shearing sheds in the district to share a yarn. He loved to tell stories and to relive his life on the boards. He never learned to watch TV but always had the 'trannie' on, he read the newspaper from back to front, he kept up to date with politics and current affairs and he cooked for himself and Jim and loved a good pot of soup. He enjoyed a drink all his life and he always had a 'rollie' hanging out of his mouth, when he was shearing or not shearing, even if it wasn't lit.

Ian would have been 81 years old next month. He worked hard and he played hard but he lived the life he chose. He was a good honest bloke, laid back, always up for a yarn with a sense of humour. He was a real character.

A funeral service was held on Thursday, February 19 and he was buried at Clarendon Cemetery. The introductory music at the service was "I Was Born Under a Wandering Star" sung by Lee Marvin. This song summed up the life of Tiger Connell.

## Vale Keith Dempsey

*Marg Cooper*

On Saturday, January 17, 2014 a gathering of friends and family was held at Sanctuary Lakes Golf Club to honour and remember former Meredith resident, Keith who died just before Christmas. A friend of Keith and Gail's from Sanctuary Lakes spoke about their friendship, Keith's business partner Mal spoke about studying and working with Keith and the President of the Sanctuary Lakes Golf Club spoke about their golf games and Keith's notorious bad putting.

Keith and Gail bought Concannons farm in Boundary Road in the early 1980's when Keith realized his dream to become a farmer. They built a new house, built a huge "turkey nest" dam to ensure the farm always had water, renovated pastures, built cattle yards and sheds and laid miles of poly pipe. Keith was nicknamed "poly pipe" because he continually arrived home with trailer loads of poly pipe which were laid underground in a system that only Keith knew.

After Keith graduated as a pharmacist in the early 1960's he travelled to England with three friends to work and to travel. He met Gail, a Melbourne girl, and they married a month later. He bought a Lotus Super 7 car which he had to construct without a manual in the garage of a friend. On their way home to Australia they crossed America and Canada in the car. They travelled to Mexico and Acapulco by bus, after shipping the car to Australia and then they flew home.

Keith and Mal were partners in a pharmacist business in Union Road, Moonee Ponds for over 25 years. They would each work three days a week which gave Keith time to farm and to be involved in the Meredith Community. He was a member of the Fire Brigade and enjoyed playing golf. For many years a group of about 12 men, annually visited Yarrawonga for a week of golf. They all looked forward to this holiday and to the friendship of the group.

Keith and Gail lived in Boundary Road for 22 years before retiring to Sanctuary Lakes, Point Cook in 2004. The house they built overlooked the 7th hole and when they played they drove their buggies out of their garage, around the corner and they were on the course.

Keith was an individual, an original thinker who was scrupulously honest, very intelligent and who went at twice the speed of everyone else, at work, at play or in his cars.

## DID YOU KNOW?

Those who jump off a bridge in Paris are in Seine.

Dijon vu - the same mustard as before.

Does the name Pavlov ring a bell?

Reading while sunbathing makes you well red.

When two egotists meet, it's an I for an I.





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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

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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](http://www.mulcahy.com.au) or email it through.)



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## it's history

### Meredith History Interest Group

Annual Meeting: Sunday, March 1, 1.30pm at the Anglican Church Hall followed by a sojourn to the Meredith Information Centre to view the building and the exhibits. There is an exhibit about Sir Henry Bolte, a display of Jeff Hook's cartoons of Sir Henry and many images of Sir Henry shown on a television screen. Please bring a story about Sir Henry and a small plate of afternoon tea. Also bring ideas for activities, excursions and displays for 2015.

Coolebarghurk Creek quietly meanders through Meredith without being noticed for most of the time. It starts its life just before Meredith and joins the Moorabool River just after Meredith so it is unique to our town. It has a history and a presence. MHIG was asked to document the history of the creek as a prelude to asking the community how this creek can become a major feature of the town.

"The Meredith State School children have contributed to the various patriotic movements:- cash £3/1/4, 15 pair of socks, 2 pillowslips, 25 pair of bootlaces and a quantity of old linen. Subscriptions are still coming in, and the girls are busy making shorts and more socks.

Seventeen old boys have enlisted for active service. Their names are:- Fred Lowne, Geo. Lowne, T. Boyd, H. Boyd, F. McKay, C Wyatt, R.D. Sellars, Jack Randall, Wm. G. Bell, Andrew Bell, Wm. McPherson, Cliff Phillips, Reg Farrar, Eric Bird, Joe Randall, Jack Cowan and Stan Bowker. The head teacher would be glad to hear of any others whose names are omitted from this list, as it is intended to erect an Honour Board in the school."

"There was a large attendance at the Mechanics Institute on Friday night when a euchre party and dance was held in aid of funds of the State School Honour Board."

*Geelong Advertiser 31<sup>st</sup> July, 1915*

The Honour Board names forty men and women who served plus twelve men who 'made the supreme sacrifice.'

"A meeting of the electors of South Grant was held in the Shire Hall Meredith yesterday for the purpose of considering the political situation and taking steps to have their views enforced by their representatives in the Legislative Assembly. At the end of the meeting there were "three cheers for Mr Berry and three groans for Sir James McCulloch were given and the meeting terminated".

*Geelong Advertiser, Thursday, September 30, 1875*

*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.*

## My Story

*The Coolabaghurk Creek (translated by Fay McFarlane)*

Let me introduce myself, I begin life as a simple drain. My favourite times are following heavy rain, then I can run very fast which is fun, other times I just trickle. My birthplace was near a railway line between the towns of Elaine and Meredith. When I had travelled about two miles, I grew larger, and the Wathaurong tribe that wore tracks along my banks called me Kooly bar ghurk, meaning "man's track by creek". And so I became known as Coolebarghurk Creek. I happily meander many miles south to a place called She Oaks, and here I meet a much larger body of water, Moorabool River, it is much wider than I and it is more than happy for me to join in, and together we flow on to Fyansford to meet another big waterway, Barwon River. We three then become very important to a City called Geelong, and on we traverse to Barwon Heads until we eventually enter the sea.

Melville. ---- Myth or fact? Is the story that Bushranger Melville 'hung out' along my banks a myth or really true. I know the answer, you will need to discover the truth for yourself.

I am visited by many different birds and animals who value my existence. I am a bit salty, so only select fauna enjoy my hospitality, but cattle can quench their thirst. Because I am deep in some sections, humans have erected bridges, so they can travel across me. Firstly they built fords from rocks, then began building these bridges way back in the 1860's. Children used one of them to cross to school. Boys would stand on the bridges and throw stones into me and loved to hear me 'splash'. Sometimes after very heavy rain which gives me strength, I have got a bit excited and have washed these bridges away. That caused expense for the Shire to replace them. 100 years ago Joseph Ward released Carp into me, I was quite happy about that, and carried them on to share with Moorabool River. Men loved to fish for them, this made us feel very important.

Mr William Watson had a hotel on my eastern bank near the Steiglitz Road, way back around 1853. Then I was described as a "clear trickling stream, a nice creek". That made me proud. In 1910 the railways proposed forming a dam to make a reservoir for water for their engines, that would have stopped my flow, so I was very glad that didn't happen.

Many people loved me as I flowed through Meredith, past the school, on down past the police paddocks. Even now, they keep my grassy banks mown where a walking track has been established between Steiglitz road and Ballan road. Because of the many Ibis that frequent my place, the 'Walk of the Ibis' was established 1999, by artist Susan Barlow-Clifton with the help of the school children, and a picturesque rotunda was erected.

Sadly I have been a bit neglected the past few years, and lots of weeds are now choking me, and stopping my flow, and I am no longer the beauty I once was. Please help restore me to my former glory.

Signed: *Coolebarghurk Creek*

...and if you love the creek through our town, come along to a meeting at 5.00 pm on Tuesday, March 17<sup>th</sup> at the Meredith Information Centre. We want to develop a master plan for the enhancement of this area.





# **Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter**

**Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett**

6 High Street

Bannockburn VIC 3331

Phone: 5281 1519

## **Home Deliveries now available**

We are so excited to announce that we are now offering FREE daily home deliveries to Meredith from Monday to Friday! If you are unable to get into Bannockburn we can come to you. We will be delivering to Meredith at approximately 12:30pm from Monday to Friday. To book a home delivery you simply need to phone the Pharmacy before 11:30am and we can arrange to deliver your prescriptions, over-the-counter (non-prescription) products, gifts, etc.

## **Passport Photos**

Last month we upgraded to the latest technology used for taking passport photos. The system we use is the same that they use at the passport office and leading travel agencies. Key features of our new system is:

- Takes less than 2 minutes.
- Can take photos for international passports (e.g. USA, Canadian, UK, New Zealand, etc)
- No longer have to wait if someone is using our Kodak digital kiosk as the new system is separate.

Our prices have remained the same for \$13.99 for 8 Australian passport photos & No Appointment is necessary.

To save you time did you know that passport applications can be completed and printed online, but not lodged? Then you can have your photo taken at our Pharmacy and lodge it at a Australia Post outlet.

Go online to:

<https://www.passports.gov.au/Web/Forms/EntryPoint.aspx>

The same applies for a Working with Children Check, go online to:

<https://online.justice.vic.gov.au/wwccu/onlineapplication.doj>

## **School Colours Hair Accessories**

At the beginning of this year we are now stocking school colours hair accessories. We have 11 different colours to choose from and we have the colours for all of the local primary schools and there are 10 different accessories to choose from within those colours. Prices range from \$4.95 to \$7.95

## **New Giftware**

Last month we went to both Salt & Pepper to buy from their new range of products, plus we went to the Sydney Gift Fair to purchase brand new gifts. Lots of these have arrived and we will have lots more arriving this month as well. There are too many new gifts to choose from but we have gifts for everyone. Don't forget if you are a member of our FREE Gift Club you receive a 16% discount off our RRP plus we also offer FREE Gift wrapping!

## **Pharmacy Features:**

- Medela (we hire Breastpumps)
- MooGoo
- Natio
- Homy Ped shoes
- Sukin Organic Products
- Nude by Nature
- Diabetes Australia Agency
- Kate Morgan Weight Loss Centre
- Giftware for all ages
- Salt & Pepper
- Digital Photo printing
- Passport photos
- Darrell Lea Chocolates
- Baby section
- Vitamins
- Webster-paks
- Home Medicine Reviews
- Free gift wrapping
- BYS Cosmetics
- 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**



# **GOLDEN YOUTH AWARDS 2015**

**RECOGNISING YOUNG PEOPLE WITHIN  
THE GOLDEN PLAINS COMMUNITY**

**GOLDENPLAINS.VIC.GOV.AU/YOUTH**

## **NOMINATE NOW**

- Music and Arts
- Sport
- Environment and Sustainability
- Community Service
- Workplace Endeavour
- Adult (working with young people)

## **NOMINATE BY:**

**Friday 27 March**

**Nominations are open  
to people aged 10-25  
who live, work or  
play within the  
Golden Plains Shire**

## **WANT MORE INFO?**

**Sarah Dalton  
Youth Activities Officer  
(03) 5220 7177  
sdalton@gplains.vic.gov.au  
#GPSFeeZA**





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*image for illustrative purposes only*

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## Poppies in the Plains

**Our tribute of respect and remembrance.**

An overwhelming response to The 5000 Poppies Project has inspired the creation of Golden Plains' very own community tribute to coincide with the Golden Plains Shire ANZAC 100 Commemoration launch.

The 5000 Poppies Project was formed with the vision of 'planting' a field of more than 5000 poppies at Federation Square in Melbourne as a tribute to Australian service men and women. The poppies would mark more than a century of service in all wars, conflicts and peacekeeping operations. The 5000 Poppies Project invited crafters to participate by making and donating handcrafted poppies for the display during 2015 ANZAC commemorations.

Golden Plains community members are now invited to donate handcrafted poppies to form a display at the Bannockburn Cultural Centre throughout the month of April.

Contributors can make one or more poppies, which can be crocheted, knitted, felted, sewn or crafted from any materials. Poppies will then be put together to form a stunning handcrafted floral tribute.

For poppies to be included in the display they must be received by Monday 23 March 2015.

Poppies can be personally delivered to:

- Bannockburn Cultural Centre
- Bannockburn Library
- Linton Customer Service Centre
- The Well, Smythesdale
- Northern Community Centre, Haddon
- Dereel Community Centre

Poppies can also be sent to: Poppies in the Plains, PO Box 111, Bannockburn Vic 3331

Contributors are asked to include a completed submission form with their poppies. Submission Forms are available at collection Centres or download at [goldenplains.vic.gov.au](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au)

Poppy making workshops will be held at the Bannockburn Cultural Centre, Rokewood Memorial Hall, The Well Smythesdale and Northern Community Centre during March.

For further information, or to register for a workshop, contact Centre Coordinator, Nateesha Thomassen on 5220 7260 or email [BCC@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:BCC@gplains.vic.gov.au).





# Poppies in the Plains

*Our tribute of respect and remembrance*



## ***Can you help your community commemorate the ANZAC Centenary?***

Donations of handcrafted poppies are needed to create a display at the Bannockburn Cultural Centre during April 2015. Poppies can be crocheted, knitted, felted, sewn or crafted from any materials.



### **Poppies can be delivered to**

- Bannockburn Cultural Centre
- Bannockburn Library
- Linton Customer Service Centre
- The Well, Smythesdale
- Northern Community Centre, Haddon
- Dereel Community Centre

Or post to: Poppies in the Plains, PO Box 111, Bannockburn Vic 3331

Submission forms are available at collection points or download at [goldenplains.vic.gov.au](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au).

**Poppies must be received by Monday 23 March 2015**

For further information or to register for a workshop contact  
Nateesha Thomassen on 5220 7260 or [BCC@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:BCC@gplains.vic.gov.au)







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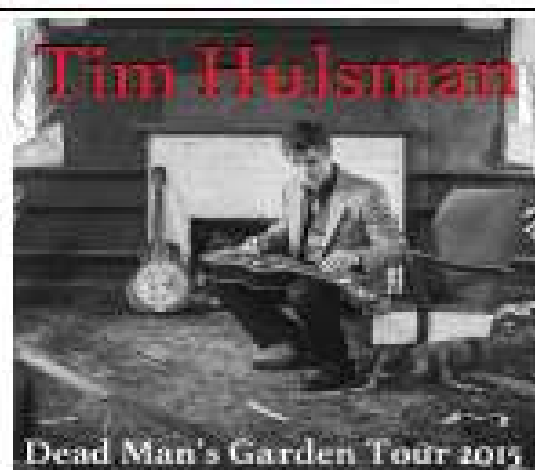
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17<sup>th</sup> March. Book Now**



## **GOLDEN PLAINS ARTS TRAIL**



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Dead Man's Garden Tour 2015

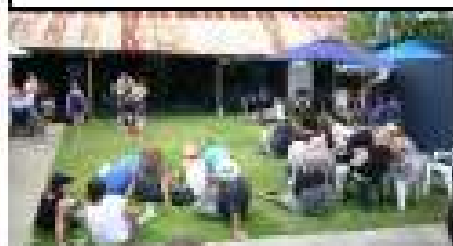
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