

Meredith & district News

May 2015



YOUR FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER SINCE 1972

Meredith ANZAC Service 2015

David Jones, President, Meredith RSL

The weather forecast was not promising but the rain held off until after the 2015 Meredith ANZAC Service and the annual march around the block. The Service was enhanced by the involvement of the students from Meredith Primary, some of whom read prayers at the Service and others who related stories about the World War 1 ANZACS from Meredith district who did not return from that conflict. This was in response to a challenge last year by the Golden Plains Shire Mayor (Jenny Blake) to research the background of the names on our War Memorial. Jenny returned this year to hear the results of that challenge and also to be the Guest Speaker.

After the Service in the Hall, many of the 400+ crowd marched (followed) the Army Catafalque Squad, RSL

Members, Scouts, Cubs and Venturers for the traditional march around the block. The marching music was provided once again by Donna Murrell on pipes and her son, Mathew, playing drums. A wonderful sound synonymous with special

(Cont. on page 3)



inside

- More ANZAC stories
- Cricket Club Awards
- Our Industrial (& Industrious) Artist
- Mancave and Auction Reports
- Tasty Meredith

...PLUS the usual MORE!

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
Elaine Rec Res
☎5341 5703

PRIMARY SCHOOL
☎5286 1313

LIBRARY VAN
☎5272 6010

RECREATION RESERVE
☎0429 841399



"Each generation imagines itself to be more intelligent than the one that went before it, and wiser than the one that comes after it."

George Orwell



COMMUNITY

Please Note

The Ice/Drug meeting to be held in May at the Meredith Community Centre has been cancelled due to unforeseen circumstances. We hope to present this evening at a later date.

Food Handling

Due to increased demand in the topic and a request to conduct a session during the day, Golden Plains Shire Council is putting on another ‘**Food Safety Handling Basic**’ workshop in Bannockburn as outlined below:

‘Food Safety Handling Basic’

Dates and Locations:

Monday 18th May at the Bannockburn Family Services Centre, Multi-purpose Room, 2 Pope St, Bannockburn
Time: 10.00am – 11.30am (Morning Tea provided)

Cost: FREE

Learn about basic hygiene, food business classification and registration, updates on food legislation and further food safety training resources.

To register: Contact Caroline Jordan on 5220 7216 or caroline.jordan@gplains.vic.gov.au by Wed 13th May

Australia's Biggest Morning Tea

Thursday May 21st at 10 a.m.



St. Joseph's Hall, Lawler Street, Meredith
 Please bring your friends to this great morning and help this most important cause to raise funds for the Cancer Council of Victoria.

Lots of fun activities, raffles and competitions .
 Please bring a plate of morning tea and your favourite or quirkiest coffee/ tea mug for display.

Lions Club for Meredith

Di Richie

Now we have seen what Lions can do for our district you might like to think about becoming an inaugural member of a new Lions club to be formed in Meredith. This is a personal invitation to you to join one of the most highly respected service organizations in the world.

On Wednesday May 20th, please come along to a get together at the Royal Hotel at 7.30 p.m. to hopefully form a new club.

Please contact Clare Kelly at the Royal hotel 52861100 or Jarna Kelly at Mirepoix if you would like more information.

Roadside Collection Update

Golden Plains Shire Council is introducing a new waste and recyclables collection service on 1 July 2015.

The new service, to be delivered by Cleanaway P/L, will provide residents with weekly collection of their recyclables bin and fortnightly collection of their waste bin.

To provide residents with as much support as possible during this process all households in the Shire will receive a pack of information in the weeks prior to the change of service.

The pack will be mailed to households and will include a General Waste Service booklet, a collection calendar specific to your collection area, a fridge magnet and sticker outlining all the items that can be recycled. There will also be a letter from Mayor Phelan outlining how the change of service will take place and how it will be managed to provide as smooth a transition as possible for all residents.

If you have any questions about the change of service you can visit Council's website www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au or call Council's Customer Service Centre on 5220 7111.

Meredith ANZAC Service (from Page1)

military occasions. At the conclusion of the march wreaths were laid at the Memorial then everyone adjourned to the Memorial Hall for morning tea.

Special mention to school principal, Christian Brown, and past principal, Doug Cations, for their assistance and input for the occasion which, together, almost guaranteed a successful day. Also, thanks to all who assisted and all who attended to help make the special ANZAC Service so memorable.



Below: The plaque unveiled last month, commemorating the WWI servicemen buried in the Meredith cemetery.

Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

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

Mass times for the Meredith parish for May/June

Winchelsea every Saturday @ 6 p.m.

Bannockburn every Sunday @9a.m. Family Mass, Morning Tea

and Music Workshop every 1st Sunday of the month

Anakie @ 11 a.m. Sunday May 2nd/16th/30th

Sunday June 13th/27th

Meredith @ 11 a.m. Sunday May 9th/23rd

Sunday June 6th/20th.

Mother& Daughter Breakfast Saturday May 9th at Mirepoix Meredith at 9a.m.



Meredith Community Centre
working for our community

Hi everyone,

We have a busy time this term with Neighbourhood House Week activities as well as many of our usual classes. By now you should have received our Term 2 Course guide in your mailbox which has a great array of courses to help you make the most of this colourful season with learning experiences at Meredith, Bannockburn and Teesdale.

During Neighbourhood House Week, May 11th to 15th we are celebrating with the theme: Get to know your Neighbour House. We have activities to help you get involved at the Centre an open day where you can come in and meet us over a cuppa. We also have staff from the department of Justice, which covers a whole range of areas including consumer affairs births deaths and marriages dispute resolution and more to provide you with advice and information. Not forgetting the children, our playgroup and the Golden Plains Shire are hosting a bush walk with lots of activities for kids and parents to join in. So make sure you join us in getting to know your neighbours and your Community Centre.

We are holding our AGM on **13th May at 9.30am**. It will be a short meeting to present the annual report and confirm the Committee for the next year. We are seeking new committee members and if you would like to join us please contact me even if you can't make it to the meeting.

Jo and Rebecca have been really busy with occasional childcare. They offer a great program for the children; this is clearly appreciated by our parents and shows by the demand for places. Playgroup has also been very busy last term and welcomes any new participants on Thursday mornings.

If you want more information make sure you visit our new website meredithcommunitycentre.com.au and if you want to know how you can build your own website just like it Pam our web developer will be teaching creating a wordpress website this term.

Bye till next month.

Pam

Helpful
Tips

Be Organised

I once worked with a lady who was a high end personal assistant who had every document she had ever created in one file so when she wanted to find something she had to scroll through thousands in the list. Not very productive.

Think about your files in the same way as you would if you were using a filing cabinet because that is what you are doing. You wouldn't open your filing cabinet drawer and have one folder with your bills letters and everything else in it. If you are new to a computer use the default file manager which in Windows is "my documents, my pictures etc" which you can then create folders which are relevant to you. In your pictures folder for example you might create a folder for each year and then have folders for each event within that folder.

Just remember even though it looks confusing to start out with, if you keep the filing cabinet in mind and make the system relevant to you will make it much easier. Of course if you share a computer you need to make sure others understand your system too. One of the things we cover in our Computers for the Terrified class is file management. So if you want to learn more give us a call at the Community Centre

St. Joey's OP SHOP -

Lawler Street, Meredith

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

Lots of winter clothes, some good furniture, great baby's clothes, toys and furniture and great prices.

Coming soon- a reading room where you can browse hundreds of books at your leisure .

Volunteers very welcome - Ring 5286 1230

Meredith Community Centre
5 Russell Street Meredith 3333
Ph 5286 1348

learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au

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

Meredith POLICE news



Since my last article in the February edition of the Meredith and District news local police members and myself have been kept extremely busy with ongoing crime issues and serious and fatal traffic collisions.

Firstly the Golden Plains Music festival in March saw a variety of incidents which required police intervention. Many of these incidents clearly resulted from the use of illicit drugs where one male was conveyed to the Ballarat Base Hospital where he was monitored and later released. Other offenders were interviewed in relation to possessing illicit drugs.

On the increase is crime occurring in and around the Bamganie area. On Tuesday the 21st April a burglary occurred in Deans Road where a colour bond shed was entered after a window was forced. Offenders stole a variety of farm equipment including a petrol generator, tools, fuel drums and even an axe. Offenders caused substantial damage to a truck located within the shed. Offenders stole a 6 X 4 trailer which they used to convey the stolen property to a location north of the victims address. At that point the trailer was abandoned.

In Late March offenders have stolen a large petrol tanker from a work site in Drysdale. After manipulating the vehicles electrics offenders started the truck and crashed through gates at the work site before driving the truck to a location in Steiglitz. Offenders there have decanted fuel from the tanker. This matter is currently under investigation by Detectives from the Moorabool CIU.

This is just a brief snapshot of crime within the area which has occurred over the past 6 weeks. I need to stress always that if you see something suspicious please don't hesitate to report it. Make every safe effort to record information including descriptions of suspects and registration and descriptions of vehicles. Any information to me here at Meredith phone: 52 861222 or alternatively direct to Crime Stoppers (1800) 333000.

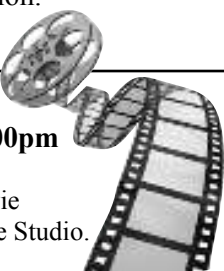
On an extremely sad note, Sunday morning the 26th April saw a fatal motor vehicle collision on the Steiglitz Road at Maude where two people lost their lives. It is a very timely reminder to always take extreme care while on the roads.

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

RED CROSS FILM NIGHT

Last Thursday of the Month 800pm

Come along and see our next movie
at the Meredith Community Centre in the Studio.
(Donation Appreciated).



Message from the Mayor

Cr Des Phelan Golden Plains Shire Mayor

On Council Meeting Day, Tuesday 28 April, Council resolved to provide the Draft 2015-16 Budget for public inspection along with 2013-17 Council Plan (which incorporates the Strategic Resource Plan).

The draft budget for 2015-16 represents a genuine 'tightening of the belt' while continuing to provide key infrastructure and services for our growing communities.

Council delivers many programs and services including family, aged and disability services, maintaining over 1,800 kilometres of road network, developing community access and connectedness through linking paths and trails and also maintaining an excellent standard of recreation facilities and public spaces. Land use and environmental planning safeguard the character of our Shire and preserve land for agriculture. Economic Development provides support for investment and business growth.

Council acknowledges that our strong population growth over the past decade will continue into the future but through careful planning believes that it can meet the demands of future infrastructure and community servicing without compromising the current level of service.

Councillors examine the budget in depth each year and are always considerate of the impact rate rises have on rate payers. This year councillors identified areas to limit the increase of revenue to 5.26%. This budget supports the vibrant and connected communities that make Golden Plains a great place to live but delivers on financial constraint.

Council will continue to expect and lobby for State and Federal Government funds to support our region. However, the reliability of State and Federal Government grants is not certain. The discontinuation of the State funded Country Roads and Bridges Program and the 'freezing' of Federal Assistance Grants will have a significant impact on Council's ability to afford vital community infrastructure. During 2015-16 the State Government will also respond to the Essential Services Commission enquiry into 'a fairer rates system'. This has the potential to further deplete Council's future resources to deliver infrastructure and programs for the community.

You can view Council's Draft 2015/16 Budget at www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au in Latest News from 4 May until 1 June, 2015.

Golden Plains Mobile Library

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



Recreation



Meredith Golf

Results of the Men's Competitions for April
5/4/2015: Stableford, Winner Jeff Cooper 35 points, on count back from Mitch Emmlin 35 points.

Nearest the Pins, 2nd, Danny Jury, 14th Denis Gear
12/4/2015: Stroke, Winner Denis Gear 72 nett, Runner up, Jeff Cooper 74 nett.

Nearest the Pins, 2nd, Danny Jury, 14th Jeff Cooper
19/4/2015: Washed Out!

26/4/2015: Par, Winner, Denis Gear -2, Runner up Danny Jury -4.

Nearest the Pin, 2nd Danny Jury, 14th Denis Gear, 9th Danny Jury.

"It is rumoured that a golf club is to be formed at Woodburn. Nothing definite has transpired."

Extract from Geelong Advertiser, Wednesday June 10, 1914.

Elaine Tennis Club

Elaine Tennis Club will this year have two new blue acrylic surfaces on our courts. Tennis Australia has granted us a rebate and together with club funds our club will have state of the art facilities.



Meredith AUSKICK

Wednesday at 4pm at the Meredith Recreation Reserve
Register online at aflauskick.com.au/register/
All welcome

Footy Season Launch and Sponsors Lunch

Damien Kelly

Sunday the 3rd of May sees footy return to Meredith, with the Mighty Moorabool Crocs taking on Geelong in 2 games of footy with both over 35s & 45s teams playing.

First game kicks off at 12 noon, come along & support the team & the town.

Being our first home game we are also hosting a sponsors lunch, any businesses or individuals who would like to inquire about sponsorship opportunities, please contact club President Damien Kelly on 0412 647 013.

Sunday May 17th sees the Crocs take on Maryborough & Bendigo again with both 35s & 45s teams playing.

VOICE & ACTION G.P.S.INC. A0061755V

(representing ratepayers & residents of GPS)

Voice & Action G.P.S.INC. was incorporated in September 2014.

This group came about after a Public Meeting was held in Bannockburn May 2014 in response to the sustained concern over our ever increasing rates at projected unsustainable levels for ratepayers. What do we receive for the high rates and service billings?

Wages are one of the biggest expenses in our Shire – with a reduced garbage service, reducing condition of roads and reduced financial assistance grants from governments – are you satisfied as a ratepayer in the Golden Plains Shire?

We would like to hear back from you ... on this issue or any other.

Email sec@vagps.org

If you would like to become a Member, please request that a membership form be sent to you.

Like us on [f Voice-Action-GPS-Inc](https://www.facebook.com/Voice-Action-GPS-Inc) or visit www.vagps.org.

WISEY MUSTER 2015

COME AND HAVE A
GREAT NIGHT
OF CATCHING UP
WITH MATES
- OLD AND NEW -

ANDREW LOVE
CANCER CENTRE
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A Special Offer from the Sawyers Arms

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Over \$102,000 donated to the
Andrew Love Cancer Centre in 7 years



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info@wiseymuster.com.au

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Burt 0418 522 914 | Stevy 0418 591 120 | Andy 0408 999 350 | Jacq 0410 479 747 | Mel 0408 888 706

Meredith Cricket Club

Terry Hart

Another successful season for the Rams concluded on Friday night the 10th of April with our Presentation Night being held at the Royal Hotel. The night was extremely well attended with the award winners as follows-

A grade-

Batting- Jason Murray, Bowling- Jason Murray, All Rounder- Jason Murray, T20 Player of the Year- Ty Watts, Fielding Award- Aaron Hart, Captains Award- Troy Bott

B Grade-

Batting- Terry Hart. Bowling- Russ Baddely, All Rounder- Russ Baddeley, Fielding Award- Sam Wight, Captains Award- Craig Whitehand.

C Grade-

Batting- Gerry Gotch, Bowling- Gerry Gotch, All Rounder- Gerry Gotch, Fielding Award- Alex Hart, Captains Award- Nathan Gladman

Club Awards-

Club Champion- Jason Murray, Coaches Award- Nathan Gladman, Best Clubman- Damien Brunt

As mentioned this was another extremely successful season for the club even though premiership success just eluded us. Our A grade side once again made it through to the grand final (3rd in 4 years) but just fell short going down to Teesedale. Well done to Ty and all the boys on a magnificent season. Both the B and C

Ty Watts, Nathan Gladman Shane Grinter



grade teams just missed out on a finals berth but were competitive all season, well done to Damo and Gotchy for their leadership and to every player that represented the club this season.

Special thanks to our major sponsors- Kell and Claire at The Royal Hotel, Dennis and Judy at Lara Taxation, Jaffa at Prime Plastering, Damien and Claire at New Age Cabinets and Totally Workwear Geelong and Hoppers Crossing.

Bigger and better things await us with some exciting news to come about our junior programme and coaching appointments for next season.



Back: Russell Baddeley, Joel Hart, Nathan Gladman, Craig (Dougie) Whitehand, Terry Hart, Aaron Hart, Sam Wight, John Brockway. Front: Ty Watts, Jason Murray, Damien Brunt.

Golden Plains Shire ANZAC 100 Project Launch

Mike Barrow

Over 100 community members including ex-service men and women and descendants of Australian soldiers attended the launch of Golden Plains Shire's ANZAC 100 Project, coinciding with Australia's national commemoration of the ANZAC Centenary.

The event introduced the community to Golden Plains Shire's program of remembrance projects, services and activities and commemorated the service and sacrifice of all Australians involved in war, conflict and peacekeeping operations over the past 100 years.

Guests were welcomed by Councillor Des Phelan, Mayor to the Bannockburn Cultural Centre, where they were greeted with an impressive exhibition of 40 oil paintings and biographies of Australian Victoria Cross Winners, by artist, Joe Zapp. Also on display was an assortment of WWI photographs, memorabilia items and clever caricatures from the Australian Cartoon Exhibitions, depicting various servicemen.

President of the Inverleigh RSL, Malcolm Johns explained that Mr Zapp, who was in attendance, would— during the evening— paint a portrait of Bannockburn WW2 veteran, Keith Kelly, who was also in attendance. Mr Johns outlined the impressive service history of Mr Kelly, who grew up in Colac and joined the Air Force as a young man; becoming a wireless operator in the 37th Squadron and flying more than 40 missions over the Middle East and Europe before being sent to Egypt as a Morse code instructor. Mr Kelly presented himself in great health and even greater spirits, and as Mr Zapp conducted his live painting of the fascinating veteran, guests were treated to a most unique and memorable experience.

The event also celebrated the launch of Meredith historian, Marg Cooper's new book, 'Soldiers of Meredith'. Mrs Cooper presented her beautiful publication that traces the service history of soldiers from Meredith and surrounds who volunteered during WW1. Marg brought a special touch to the history with her amusing and touching anecdotes that she had gathered during her research. This fantastic printed tribute was supported by a grant facilitated by

Golden Plains Shire through the Department of Veterans Affairs.

The event concluded with an auction of Mr Zapp's remarkable – and fresh— portrait of Mr Kelly. The Inverleigh RSL had the winning bid and also purchased a portrait of, Albert Jacka, the first Australian to be decorated with the VC during the First World War for his actions during the Gallipoli Campaign.

The launch event was just the beginning of Golden Plains Shire's Anzac 100 Project, with activities in commemoration of the Centenary, set to continue throughout the Shire through to 2018. This program provides residents and visitors of all ages with various opportunities to pay their respects and come to a greater understanding of the region's role in service to Australia.

Anzac Grant

Marg Cooper

On Thursday, April 23 the Federal Member for Corangamite, Sarah Henderson announced a \$2,053 Anzac Centenary Local Grant for Meredith through the Meredith Memorial Hall. She came to Meredith for morning tea, was welcomed by many locals and announced the grant in the supper room at the hall.

Across Australia \$125,000 has been made available to each Federal Electorate to be divided up and spent on commemorative programs. It is planned that the grant be used to help provide additional permanent seating around the War Memorial, to help with the production of the book, "Meredith World War 1 Soldiers" by Marg Cooper and to help offset the costs of the Anzac Day at Meredith in 2015.



The Hon. Sarah Henderson, MP (third from left) with David Jones, Sandra Pearce and Marg Cooper.



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 - Refills BBQ and Camping Cylinders
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To arrange your next Direct Gas LPG delivery

Elaine General Store

Contact Paul Ryan:

Ph: 53 415 572 or 0409 861 296



Chris McKenzie's

Garden Notes

Recently a friend told me that a person who writes about gardening is not a gardener. Well, I want you to know that I've just dragged myself in from some hard digging to sit at the writing machine, and I still have dirt under my fingernails. That said I do not consider myself an expert in anything so in these garden notes I will not offer advice or pretend to have deep knowledge of matters horticultural.

A scarlet robin perched on the fence post today as I was preparing a new bed for the garlic and last week we saw the yellow-breasted robin popping around in the kitchen garden. I've always thought of robins as the harbingers of spring, however here they seem to come out of the bush and onto our open land when the days turn cold. Winter is drawing closer and we have had rain, with the promise of more to come. A farmer neighbour mentioned to me that rain after Anzac Day is best for crops, so the rain falling now and the sighting of the robins may be the good news we've been waiting for after the dry months of late.

I have been growing garlic for several years here and it does well in this climate as long as we receive enough rainfall in spring during the growing period when the cloves are swelling. It doesn't mind the frosty winter months and the hot dry summer days are ideal for drying the bulbs prior to the curing process. I've been building up a nice long bed for this year's crop. Garlic does not need to be highly fertilised but do add in some good organic materials and compost into well-drained soil. I plant mine in raised beds. After many years I now produce enough garlic to replant my own cloves each year, but if you buy Australian grown bulbs with good sized cloves then these will grow perfectly well. Push your cloves into the prepared beds about a knuckle deep and a hand's length apart and cover with a light mulch. The main requirement is to keep the garlic plot weeded through the growing season. Garlic does not compete well with weeds. Later in the year I'll talk about the curing process, which is all-important.

I wonder if like me you're contemplating your tomato bushes now and thinking of green tomato chutney as the days grow cooler. An alternative: last year I pulled my few plants still bearing fruit, hung them upside down by their roots under cover and the tomatoes did keep ripening.

Happy gardening.

Chris



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Rotary Ride for Research \$\$\$\$

Marg Cooper

We recently ran a story about local rider John Farrugia's long distance riding exploits. Well, he's back in the saddle.

Since 1986 Rotary has organized bicycle rides to raise awareness and money for mental health which has been used for research, scholarships and grants. After the 2015 Victorian Rotary Conference which was held at Federation University in Ballarat the 28th Annual Ride for Research, the Western Ride started. John Farrugia rode around Australia in 2008 in the Rotary Great Australian Bike Ride but had hung up his bike until he was invited to their 2015 ride around Western Victoria. He dusted his bike off, got his riding gear out of the cupboard and rode approximately 1000 kms indoors and outdoors to prepare for the ride.

About 55 riders set off from Federation University on Sunday March 15 and rode 86 kms to Ararat, then on Monday rode 129 kms to Horsham, on Tuesday rode 145 kms to Hamilton, on Wednesday rode 117 kms to Warnambool, on Thursday rode 116 kms to Colac and on Friday rode the 120 kms back to Ballarat. On most days their lunch was supplied by Rotary Clubs but at Port Campbell they enjoyed fish and chips near the sea. They were accommodated in motels each night which John described as pure luxury. The riders were divided into four groups (based on their various riding abilities), which departed each day at different times. Sometimes the Red Group started some kms down the road as they had had the least experience. A team of ten volunteers accompanied the riders and drove Lead Cars or towed bike trailers.

John was pleased with his performance. Although they encountered a lot of wind he rode all the hills, all the kms and felt

comfortable at all times. He had no falls, no injuries and only one flat tyre. John described how the 2015 Western Victoria Ride was a great success with no mishaps. The weather was challenging at times, including lightning strikes. The ride was extremely successful in regard to fund raising with John's fund raising contributing \$1495. On behalf of the Rotary Ride for Research John wishes to thank the residents of Meredith, his family and in particular Meredith Cheese, Clyde Park Vineyard and SAF Holland, Melton. "Many, many thanks," he says.

John said that if you would like to Ride for Rotary to help raise funds register an interest with them. Anyone and everyone is welcome. John enthuses about riding outdoors being exhilarating and good for your health!



John Farrugia readies for his latest ride

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Surgeon of the First World War

WILLIAM GEORGE DISMORE UPJOHN MD. MS, FRCS FRACS. (1888-1979)

June Cameron

Much has been written about the soldiers who served in WW1 at both Gallipoli and the Western Front and, to a lesser extent, in Palestine where they were mostly light horsemen and artillery. Recent television documentaries investigated nurses who went to war and the problems which they faced. Australian nurses were often regarded as inferior by the British, under whose command they worked, even to the extent that at Gallipoli they did not receive the same amount or variety of food as the English nurses who were considered to be part of the British army.

Much has been written about the poor planning and execution of the Gallipoli campaign, but little about the poor planning for the treatment of casualties and provision of means for evacuating the injured to hospital either to either Lemnos or Egypt. "Gallipoli, The Medical War" by Michael Tarquin documents the lack of planning and resources. There was a lack of trained staff on the ships, sometimes orderlies with only a few weeks training and in one instance the only trained person was a Vet. The soldiers on the Gallipoli Peninsula often had insufficient food and the hard biscuits which were a staple of their diet could not be chewed by many because they had very poor teeth, and there were no dentists in the medical service there. Water was severely rationed and the ration was for drinking as well as for hygiene. One soldier wrote of his time at Lone Pine and the evacuation, describing how they were given "a water bottle full, but generally we were half rations, and sometimes quarter rations." Those who could, took the opportunity to go down to the sea for a swim, but eventually most had to put up with the lice. Dysentery was a major problem. (Those of you who are familiar with the story of the Anzac Nurses (which is also recorded by Susanna De Vries in her book about various nurses who served at both Lemnos and the Western Front) will recall how the incidence of dysentery in the hospital at Lemnos was less than the English one because of the insistence on a hand washing regime).

My father, William Upjohn, was one of the Australian Surgeons who served with distinction in both Egypt and the Western Front. He graduated in medicine in 1909 and in surgery 1910, and in 1912 he obtained a Doctorate of Medicine and in 1913 a Master of Surgery. (This was very unusual to have higher qualifications to be both a Physician and a Surgeon.) He served in the Militia, and his first posting was to The Fort in Port Phillip Bay which was the artificial fortification built in the 1880s to be the third fort to protect the entrance to Port Phillip Bay. (My father told me that this strategy was originally put in place to prevent invasion by Russia who was active in the Pacific area in the late 19th Century.) There were around 100 personnel stationed there until about 1916, mainly artillery men and engineers. William was a member of the Militia and was appointed as Captain in the Militia in July 1912. He

embarked on the Mooltan from Melbourne in May 1915 having been appointed a Major in the Australian Army Medical Corps, Australian Imperial Force. He served as a pathologist to the Third Australian General Hospital at Lemnos, which was the rather bleak Greek island to where some of the casualties from Gallipoli were evacuated. Under the leadership of Sir Charles Martin of the Lister Institute of Preventive Medicine he investigated the dysentery epidemic which ravaged the troops and which eventually caused him to be evacuated to hospital at Alexandria in Egypt.

In April 1916 he was sent to France as Senior Surgeon with the 2nd Australian General Hospital and six months later he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. He served in various places: senior surgeon at Marseilles and Wimereux 2nd AGH and later, near Poperinge at 3rd Australian Casualty Clearing Station at 9 Elms, and at 2 Australian General Hospital at Poperinge (not far from Ypres) until October 1918.

In 2011 our son visited 9 Elms. There was no sign of the hospital but there is a small war cemetery. At nearby Poperinge, in the same year, I was able to walk up the same narrow street, a postcard of which my father had sent to his mother. The street looked very much the same except that the cobble stones were only visible at the sides of the now sealed road. The buildings, including a hospital at which he had worked (now a residence for elderly) and the buildings which had been a rest and recreation facility for Officers and a nearby Toc H facility for the soldiers were both still there.

The Australian Medical Service, like the Australian Military Forces, was under the command of the British Army. Prior to the development of antibiotics, infections causing gas gangrene were terrible consequences of trauma. My father received an order from the British to say that he was not to amputate limbs because of this condition. My father sent back a message that he sent home live men with one limb, not dead men with two. He was twice 'Mentioned in Despatches', by Sir Douglas Haig, both signed by Winston Churchill, for "conspicuous services rendered" by which time he had been promoted to Lieutenant Colonel. In 1919 he was awarded an OBE in the Military Division for "the valuable services rendered in Connection with Military operations in France and Flanders."

After the war he remained in England and studied for his qualification as a Fellow of the Royal College of Surgeons. It was a turbulent time in England with strikes and the influenza epidemic which was responsible worldwide for more deaths than the war casualties. Whilst in England he attended the weddings of two of his close friends from medical school (later colleagues in Melbourne); Sir Alan Newton and Sir Victor Hurley who were both studying for their FRCS. In a letter to his mother and sister he told them not to worry he was not following suit. He married my mother, Norma Withers, in March 1927. (She with the red hair he had always admired!)

My father returned to Melbourne in 1920 and was appointed to surgical positions at the children's hospital and the royal Melbourne hospital. He had a long association with that

institution having been a student at the original hospital in Swanston St, and later moving to the present site in Grattan St. After World War 2, during which time it was an American army hospital. He lectured in anatomy at the Melbourne university medical school and was an examiner there for many years. He was an honorary surgeon at the Melbourne hospital before the days of paid appointments. He later became president of the hospital board, and he was also Chancellor of Melbourne University during a fairly turbulent time with anti- Vietnam War protests. The University conferred an LL.D. (honoris causa) in 1962.

During the second war he was chairman of the Central Medical Co-ordination Committee in Victoria which controlled the allocation of medical manpower to meet military and civilian needs. He was still a Lieutenant Colonel and once a week he went to Heidelberg in uniform as visiting surgeon to 115th Australian general hospital. (I remember as a child going to the local shops with him in the evening of his hospital day still in his uniform, and him returning the salutes of the soldiers who were also out.) He chaired Victoria's Consultative Committee on Poliomyelitis before the advent of inoculations for this dreaded disease, and also the Advisory Committee to the Hospitals and Charities Commission.

In 1958 he was honoured in the New Year's honours by becoming a knight bachelor for his services to the community. He was probably one of the last of the general surgeons, though in his early days he did much orthopaedic work. The specialties in thoracic, cardiac, vascular neuro surgery for example were just emerging, and anaesthetics were becoming much improved towards the end of his career. He no longer came home smelling of ether!

My father never spoke to me about the war, and I never asked him. He did talk to my brother sometimes, and I noted when I looked up his war service records that when he enlisted his religion was Wesleyan Methodist, and by the end of the war he was Agnostic. One of the few things I do remember him remarking to me one Anzac Day when it was a very solemn day, no football or any entertainment, that "the diggers I knew wouldn't have been as quiet and solemn as this all day.



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At the Paddocks

BEN Meets Meredith

The Ballarat Environment Network (BEN) Committee travelled to Meredith last month where it undertook a guided tour of the Police Paddocks before conducting its monthly meeting at the Community Centre. This provided committee members an opportunity to view a number of projects underway or planned for the immediate future as well as assess ongoing weed management at the site. Committee President, Gavin Cerini, said Committee member were greatly impressed with the natural asset Meredith has in the 20 hectare Police Paddocks.

History Workshop

The Meredith Police Paddocks Support Group will be holding a "History Workshop" at 1.00 pm on **Sunday 31st May** in the Community Centre Studio to collectively scrutinise the historical material collected by several members of the Group. It is expected the workshop will clarify current understanding about the previous use of the Paddocks and possibly enable publication of an account of its history. Members of the public are very welcome, especially if they any information or recollections related to the Paddocks. Alternatively, you can contact Jim Elvey on 5286 1273.

Archaeologist's Visit

Ballarat Archaeologist, Sarah Hibberd, will visit the Meredith Police Paddocks this month to inspect what are believed to be the sites of buildings constructed for police and mounted troopers in the middle of the 19th century. Support Group members have also collected remnants of glass, pottery, slate and brick to help identify buildings and their use.



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Register your interest:
toconnell@highlandsonline.org

CHANGEITUP

Change it Up regional Victoria is a partnership between the Victorian Government and the Foundation for Young Australians that supports young people to lead and inspire others to make positive changes in their community.

Below: Members of Ballarat Environment Network Committee on a tour of the Meredith Police Paddocks last month. (Even the dog is intrigued!)





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Judith Emond FAMILY THERAPIST

Family Therapy

I am often asked what 'family therapy' is and how is it different to other psychological based treatments?

I like to describe it as 'every day life therapy' as family therapy encompasses all aspects of living. It is a philosophy which recognises that we are all connected to a family whether we are estranged or not. We all have a mother and father and although not all of us maintain close relationships with our birth family members we are greatly influenced by our family's presence or absence in our lives. Basically, we all desire to be wanted, loved, protected and secure. More importantly it defines family as that depicted by each individual. For example, many of us consider close friends and pets as family members. Many of us who are separated from birth family members tend to re-create our own 'adopted' family, this is especially true for anyone who lives interstate, overseas or is isolated from their own family.

Family therapy focuses on how our relationships with others can help us to fair better in life. It places emphasis on the healing potential of relationships, and family/friendship involvement in optimizing outcomes. Whereby, family members or friends are viewed as the motivators of change, our sources of strength, support, belief in recovery and the resolution of problems. It helps us to identify our own internal resources, our supports within existing relationships and how we adapt to life changes or difficulties.

In order to do this a family therapist will include and invite family members or supportive friends into counselling sessions. They often see couples, parents and children or whole family groups sometimes even grandparents. I think it is fair to say that this fosters a clear message that 'a problem shared is a problem solved'. It also models that despite the pressure and expectations we place on an individual to resolve their own problems, they can achieve even greater outcomes and are more likely to succeed if they have help and the load is shared.

This type of therapy works very well for resolving couple relationship troubles, conflict between family members, in particular children/teens and parents, as well as managing family separation, mental health issues and grief. The benefits speak for themselves and there is now much more recognition for family therapy based interventions within our health and welfare systems. A lot of services are now including family members in treatment for mental illness, child and adolescent problems, eating disorders, addictions and bereavement. I like to think of it as a very similar approach to how a community responds to incidents of disaster. Everyone rallies together and contributes towards

restoring community life and they help each other to overcome adversity.

Family therapy practice is very much inclusive of family/friends and our support systems in counselling and resolving difficulties rather than other interventions which focus purely on individual problems.

For more information about family therapy try the following links;

Australian Association of Family Therapy aافت.asn.au

Williams Road Family Therapy Centre williamsroad.vic.edu.au

Bouverie Family Therapy Centre bouverie.org.au

Judy

Heathyeasy and delish

selected by Stefania Parkinson



Pumpkin Loaf

- Prep time/ Cooking time 70 minutes
- Serves 10

Ingredients

- 650g butternut pumpkin, peeled
- 100g butter, softened
- 1 ½ cups brown sugar
- 2 eggs
- 2 cups self-raising flour
- ½ teaspoon bicarbonate of soda
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- ½ teaspoon ground nutmeg
- ½ teaspoon ground ginger
- ¼ teaspoon ground cloves

Method

1. Preheat oven to 180C. Grease base and sides of a loaf pan. Line with baking paper, allowing a 2cm overhang at both long ends.
2. Wash and cut pumpkin into 4cm pieces. Steam or microwave until just tender. Drain and set aside to cool. Place cooled pumpkin in a food processor and process until smooth.
3. Using an electric mixer, cream butter and sugar until pale and fluffy. Add eggs and beat until well combined. Stir in pumpkin.
4. Sift flour, bicarb soda, cinnamon, nutmeg, ginger and cloves over pumpkin mixture. Stir gently to combine. Spoon into prepared pan. Smooth surface.
5. Bake for 50 – 55 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean. Stand in pan for 10 minutes. Lift onto wire rack. Serve warm or cold.

Recipe From: Taste.com

Meredith ManCave Madness!!!

Marg Cooper

It was a man's dream to display over 250 cars on the Meredith oval and to have car parts for sale, to have delicious food and a garage sale around the oval.

Karl Hardy had the dream and enthused his father Geoff and friend Rob to help. And the event surpassed their wildest dreams with more cars than they had hoped for attending from clubs including The Old Schoolers, Mustang Car Club, Geelong Classic Car Club and Western District Car Club. An enthusiastic and supportive crowd also attended.

Karl has cardiomyopathy and recently had surgery for arrhythmias. He is grateful for the wonderful treatment he has received and wished to raise money for "Paceline" (curing cardiac arrhythmias) and to also raise money for prostate cancer which affects many men. So, based on their love of cars they organized a Mancave Madness Day which would put Meredith on the map, allow them to donate all the profit to charity and raise awareness about cardiac arrhythmia.

On April 12 the show took place. There were prizes for cars in 14 categories, a prize for a child every quarter of an hour if they answered a question correctly and many prizes in the raffle. There was a coffee van and lots of food including souvlaki, pizzas, baked potatoes and there were many stalls selling interesting items.

The organizers will thank their many sponsors individually but must say that the oval looked lush and green for the event and was mowed to perfection and that Jenny and Mark did a great job on the barbeque. Some funds raised will go to the Moorabool Valley Masters Football Club and Meredith Football Club. Because everyone involved was so enthusiastic it was decided to make it an annual event. It is proposed to hold the ManCave Madness on the Sunday after Easter in 2016.

Next year come and see the three unrestored utilities complete with articles of the same era and owners or drivers dressed appropriately. Two of the utilities just starred in the movie "The Dressmaker".

Two of the old timers on display at last month's very successful "Meredith Mancave Madness"



Youth Development

Media Release

Council seeks community input on local youth development

Golden Plains Shire Council is developing a plan for young people across the Shire and is seeking feedback from the community to help develop this plan. The plan will help guide the direction of effective youth development over the next four years.

Four surveys have been developed as part of the consultation program. Community members are invited to participate to help Council understand the needs of young people in the Shire.

Council would like to hear from people aged 12 – 25. Parents and people involved in community organisations (sporting clubs, community groups and local businesses) are also welcome to participate. Your feedback can help build a great future for the young people of Golden Plains Shire. Participants will go in the draw to win one of ten JB-HIFI vouchers.

To have your say on youth development in Golden Plains Shire, visit goldenplainsdigital.com.au/consultation.

For more information, contact Golden Plains Shire Council's Youth Activities Officer, 5220 7111 or email sdalton@gplains.vic.gov.au.

Go on...smile!



"There are very few people these days doing Roman-numeral jokes. I is one."
- Chris Turner

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Bannockburn VIC 3331

Phone: 5281 1519

HealthSave Pharmacy starts next month!

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

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

For the rest of this month, 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. So it is important that if you haven't already done one of the above 2 options to visit us in-store before the end of May.

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.

MooGoo Skincare

Don't forget that we are now stocking MooGoo skincare products for adults and infants!

MooGoo is an Australian company with an entire range of natural and safe products that are made with effective ingredients designed for people with skin and scalp problems.

You will find within the Pharmacy that we have a stand with the MooGoo products on them plus a section in our Mother & Child section in the Pharmacy.

All of our prices are below the RRP plus don't forget you can use your Chemmart Rewards Card when making a MooGoo purchase.

For further information, please call in to see the range of products available.

Pharmacy Features:

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- **MooGoo**
- **Natio**
- **Homy Ped shoes**
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- **Kate Morgan Weight Loss Centre**
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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

ROTARY Bowel Scan kits available throughout May

Meredith Auction and Clearing Sale a Success

Di Richie

Once again local farmers, local residents and many many people from Melbourne, Ballarat, Werribee, Colac and towns in between converged on Meredith in search of that elusive treasure at the Meredith Auction. The rain and wind which chilled neighbouring towns seemed to bypass Meredith and made for a good morning of selling. Eventually we had to endure some rain and the ensuing cold winds at about 4 p.m. when the sale had finished, sent us all home early. Over 260 buyers registered for many hundreds of lots and Colin Beel and his offsider Patrick from H.F. Richardson's were kept very busy auctioning the items for eager buyers.

The food was delicious and warming- egg and bacon sandwiches, sausages and onions, Meredith Pork sausages, hamburgers and coleslaw, Asian noodles, fried rice and vegetable spring rolls was quickly sold out and then everyone needed a cup of tea or coffee and those delicious scones with jam and cream. The children were kept very busy with activities sponsored by the Bannockburn Lions Club for which we are very grateful. Pony rides, jumping castle, fake tattoos, and military re-enactment were some of the activities available.

The accounts are not yet finalized but at this stage profit is higher than last year. Proceeds will be shared between St.

Joseph's for renovation of the historic hall/ former school and a new playground which will be built in Pioneer Park to replace the very tired one that is already there.

A big thank you to the Lions Clubs of the District who helped in so many ways- booking in and security on the day, setting up the tents, running the barbeques and cleaning up the next day. We are so very grateful for your assistance and it shows exactly what a Lions Club in the town would be able to achieve if we had one. The teamwork between clubs is fantastic.

Thank you to our sponsors- Royal Hotel, Woolabrai, Mirepoix, Happy Hens, Cliff Beggs for the wood raffle and Meredith Pork. A big thank you to all the faithful helpers who help in any way big or small- in the setting up and the cleanup, working on the day to run the office, the accounts, the booking in and the pencilling and the food stalls.

Congratulations on a job well done.!



Some scenes from last month's Auction and Clearance Sale



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BOOK REVIEW*****The People Smuggler*** by Robin De Crespigny

To understand why people act in certain ways we need to understand who they are and where they have been. This book allows us to see the world from the point of view of Ali Al Jenabi. He was born in 1970, grew up in Iraq under the regime of Saddam Hussein, was arrested, jailed for some years, tortured and was forced to flee from Iraq and leave his family behind. He worked for the resistance with an aim to kill Saddam Hussein before he embarked on an incredible international odyssey through the shadowy world of fake passports, corruption, crowded camps, illegal border crossings and living each day "on the edge" with uncertainty about what the next day would bring.

In Indonesia he became a people smuggler, gathering desperate people together and organizing boats and captains. He described how he tried to help people, only charged them what they could afford and that his aim was to make enough money to rescue his family from Iraq. The Australian Government coined the phrase "the people smuggler's business model". Ali said that people smuggling is an amorphous rag-tag network run by word of mouth and mobile phones. There are no records or bank accounts, no spreadsheets or business plans. The smugglers pop up wherever people are trying to escape.

After being arrested in Thailand and tried in a Darwin Court he was sentenced and served time in detention as an asylum seeker. He rated this period as being worse than jail because there is hopelessness and despair brought on by not knowing how long you will be locked up. With the help of solicitors and journalists he was freed from detention but was not granted Australian citizenship. Ali was sustained by his fierce love of family and freedom. He wished to gain citizenship, have a wife and family of his own and to have a job like ordinary people.

The author talked to Ali for over three years. She believes the book is not so much about a people smuggler but about a man who became one. She wrote the book in the first person to enable the reader to experience Ali's life first hand or to stand in his shoes. It was certainly a difficult path he had to take to get out of an impossible situation.



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IN OUR NATURE

wendy cook

While walking with a group in the You Yangs, someone picked up a stone and showed it to me. It was quite small and roughly round with a sharp edge. She showed me which side had come from the inside of the rock it had been chipped from, and how to hold it. It fitted comfortably into my hand, and had been worn smooth by long use. It was a stone knife, used by her ancestors, the Wathaurong people, the local Aboriginal tribe. We left it where we found it, out of respect for its maker and users. It is also a legal requirement that Aboriginal artefacts be left where they are found, for cultural reasons and to aid research into the lives of these people.

The Wathaurong tribe was made up of twenty-five clans, spread over the Geelong and Ballarat areas, from the Werribee River, along the coast to Aireys Inlet, and beyond Beaufort and Skipton. They were part of the Kulin Nation, an alliance of five tribes in central Victoria. They hunted animals and gathered plants for their food, moving regularly so as not to deplete all the resources in an area. They would return when the supply of food was renewed. They slept in caves or built windbreaks or shelters of wood, bark and leaves. Their lifestyle was simple compared to ours, but it was sustainable. Unlike Europeans, they left few signs of their presence.

Stone tools are one of those signs. They were made by using a hammerstone to knock flakes off a larger rock. If the rock was particularly hard a flake could be ground to create a sharp edge. These tools were used as knives, scrapers and chisels. A handle could be added to a carefully crafted blade to form an axe or a spear. River stones made good axes, and could be attached to a wooden handle using glue made from resin of a plant such as a grass tree and string made from fibrous plant leaves. Stone tools may indicate places where people camped or they may be lost during travel. Flakes, used and unused, can be found at a place where the tools were made. Aborigines had extensive trade networks throughout the continent. Stone tools were among the items which could be traded over very long distances.

Aborigines had other uses for rocks. They had grinding stones for food preparation. The Wathaurong used seeds

from a range of plants including grasses, sedges and wattles to grind into flour. It was mixed with water and cooked in the coals of a fire to make damper. A grinding stone had a dip in it and could be made of a stone with a rough texture, such as sandstone. A hard smooth stone, such as one from a river could be used to grind seeds on the larger stone. If the larger stone became smooth, it was roughened. Large grinding stones were left at campsites, ready for when the clan returned, but smaller grinding stones could be carried on their travels.

In areas lacking permanent water, such as the You Yangs, natural hollows in rocks were enlarged to form wells, catching rainwater. These wells could hold water even in dry seasons, allowing the people to live in the area for a time, using its other resources.

There are other signs of occupation. There is a record from the late 1800s of cooking mounds on the banks of the Cargerie and Woodbourne Creeks. Middens of shells from long ago meals exist in the Brisbane Ranges, and ancient trees may carry scars where bark was removed to make canoes, shields and containers to carry food. Signs of Wathaurong occupation are not obvious, but they are there for those who take the time and know what to seek.

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On the Geelong to Ballarat Railway

Raymond Kelly

On Thursday April 10, 1862 the Geelong to Ballarat railway was officially opened by his Excellency the Governor Sir Henry Barkly at a ceremony in Ballarat. The railway was opened for public traffic the next day on Friday, April 11, 1862 with a passenger train service of four trains each way, Mondays to Sunday. The trains were made up of fixed wheel carriages which remained in use into the early 1900's, gradually being replaced as larger bogie stock became available. In mid-1931 a petrol electric rail motor took over the service Tuesday to Saturday with a steam hauled service on Monday to enable the pick-up of livestock wagons loaded with livestock destined for the North Geelong saleyards. The railmotor only lasted a short time before the service reverted back to a steam hauled passenger train.

On Monday July 18, 1949 a Walker Diesel Rail Car replaced the steam hauled passenger train. The passenger service was withdrawn in November 1978 and a replacement road coach introduced.

Three of the fixed wheel carriages similar to those first used on the line have been retained and are now located at Castlemaine. Once accreditation is given it is intended to run them on the Castlemaine to Maldon railway line. R M

number 22, a 153 HP Walker rail car which operated the last service on the Geelong to Ballarat railway has been restored by the Yarra Valley Tourist Railway and operates out of Healesville Railway Station towards Yarra Glen every Sunday.

Three other types of motor trains that provided the passenger services on the Geelong to Ballarat line have been restored by the Daylesford Spa Country Railway and operate along a section of the line out of the Daylesford railway Station every Sunday.

- Early 1930's 220 HP petrol electric rail motor that had its petrol motor replaced by a diesel motor in 1951.
- Early 1950's 280 HP Walker diesel rail car.
- Early 1970's 600 HP Tulloch air conditioned diesel rail car.



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Getting into Hot Water

Almost everybody uses Hot Water daily. So while it can get complex, for an Energy Assessor like me to prioritize the economic benefits of Solar Power versus a more efficient heater, I can be confident that a right-sized Solar Hot Water or Heat Pump Hot Water System will deliver savings.

When compared to heating water with an Electric Element, Gas Storage or even Instant Gas, these sustainable options can reduce energy bills by 2/3 to 3/4 over a calendar year. And for a family of four, pay for themselves in 3 to 5 years.

A Solar Hot Water System uses roof-mounted collectors that convert light into heat. This provide almost all of the energy needed to heat water in the sunnier 6 months of the year, a fair bit in late Autumn and early Spring ... but will need significant boosting in the darker months of Winter with either an Electric Element, Gas or a Wood-Fire.

A Heat Pump uses a small amount of Electric Energy to extract about 3 times as much Heat Energy from the Air using the same technology found in a Refrigerator or Air-Conditioner. It uses a more constant amount of energy all year but runs longer and harder in Winter when less Heat is available. Despite earlier problems with low quality Heat Pumps that some readers might be aware of, there are now reliable and effective models on the Australian Market. And a properly installed and operating Heat Pump or Solar Hot Water Unit will not be damaged by frost.

Solar Hot Water tends to cost more upfront but have longer warranties. Heat Pumps have shorter warranties but cost less upfront, typically about 2/3 of the price of Solar Hot Water.

Solar Hot Water tends to be almost silent; a Heat Pump sounds like an Air-Conditioner - this troubles some people but not others.

Solar Hot Water requires roof real-estate; a Heat Pump does not. So if your roof is shaded or covered with Solar Electricity Panels, a Heat Pump could be the choice for you.

To me, the future looks All-Electric with Solar Power and either Solar Hot Water or a Heat Pump on every home. A Heat Pump can be run either overnight Off-Peak or during the day using your Solar Power. But if you need more of your Solar Power for other purposes, you might choose a separate Solar Hot Water system as it requires almost no electric-boosting in Summer. As an Energy Assessor, it is my job to tailor a solution to each households energy use pattern, but with Hot Water I can be confident that they will be sustainable options that reward the householder with savings ...

Cheers, *Simon*
Send your queries to simon@breaze.org.au or visit breaze.org.au

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Marg Cooper

A display about John James Graham Coleclough DCM has been set up in the display cabinet. He had a lot of connections with Meredith and he distinguished himself as a soldier. An amazing man!

Coolebarghurk Creek got a virtual makeover at a recent meeting at the Centre. Vacancies exist for more volunteers to man the centre and to meet and greet. Good heating makes it an enticing place to visit in winter.

Coming soon! An interpretation of a school in the 2030's made by the State School students in Lego.

And have you seen the red shoes? They accompany some zentangle art works by Joyce Read. Sweet faces surrounded by hair of every shape and design. Absolutely marvellous artistic talent! And don't miss the shoes. Could you dance in them?



Getting a tst of Meredith - Top: Margaret and Claire and, above, Pip with meredith cheeses

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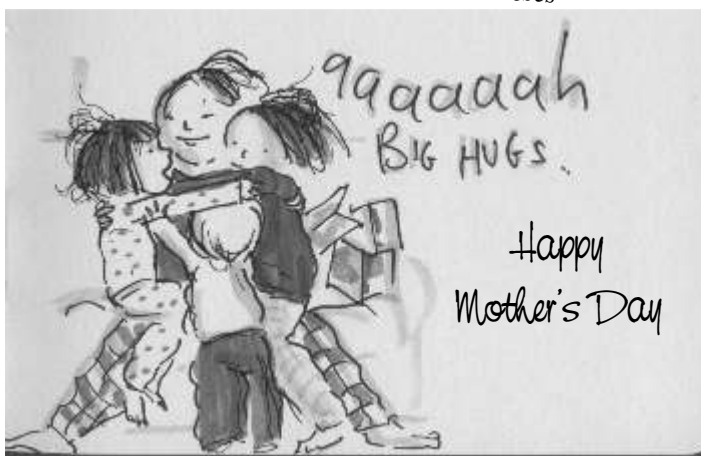
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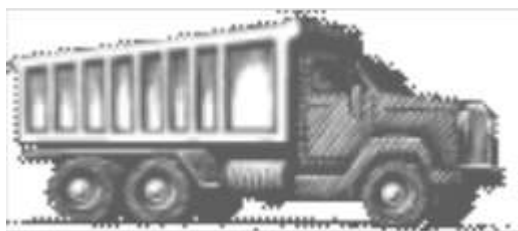


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All the Power

It seems that all too quickly we have fallen from the heights of a couple of warm summer days into the icy lows of sitting by the fire, sneakily burning your hands on the heater top when nobody is in the room to stop you.

There are three main things that I will be looking forward to however as the temperature plummets and they are: reading for hours on end wrapped in a doona that doesn't earn me a second glance, my favourite television shows returning after a long break and, lastly, regaining a sense of power that only shows its true strength around this time of year.

From previous years of experience, I know that in the weeks leading up to the returns of certain shows, I will be re-watching the previous seasons, and if there is an accompanying book, I will re-read that too.

Now, is there anything more tempting than realising that a movie/TV show has been adapted from a novel? The answer is no. For avid readers and self-sabotaging humans like me, no. And the reason that this is a self-sabotaging temptation is because my need to read will often see me flying past the point in the book that the show is up to. This results in ruining the rest of the season for me and sets the actors up for my displeasure at their portrayal that just can't match my imagination. But with this disappointment comes an even greater feeling of knowledge. And you know how the old saying goes, knowledge is power.

I have found that a certain show that has taken the world by storm and has recently returned to our screens holds the most power for me. Having read all the books that have been published so far, I now know what is most likely to happen in the current season. And that, my friends, is the fun part.

It is amazing what people will do to ensure that you don't spoil the story for them. You start getting treated like a human time-bomb that at any moment may explode and shatter the hearts of those around you unless your every whim is tended.

Your partner looks at you with fear in his eyes that yes, any misdemeanour on his part and you could destroy the whole series for him. And don't get me started on the satisfaction of an evil laugh when they suspect you just gave something away.

But the truth is it can also be a curse. The power can be too much and in an effort to feel superior you let something slip without shrouding it in a cloud of possible deniability. The looks on your victim's face brings a moment of shame and you swear you will never let it go to your head again. Until next week's episode of course.



Gemma

Back Creek Café

Marg Cooper

It has opened! The décor is delightful, the staff are friendly and the menu suggests that the food is simply appetizing. The manager, Jodie, said Meredith people have been very welcoming and that many have visited the café in their first week. She thinks that Meredith people are fantastic.

The Back Creek Café is another important extension of the Back Creek Farm Rural Programme, based at Scotsburn where Year 9 students from Christian College, Geelong spend time to experience a fully operational working commercial dairy, sheep and beef farm. The CEO thought that a café would add to the education of the students by giving them a real life understanding of how the food cycle works while also teaching them customer service, food handling, stock and merchandising, money management, hygiene and marketing. Students spend five weeks at Back Creek during Year 9 and rotate through the farm activities to gain experience in all the fields. They spend four days and three nights at Meredith at the café. They all do a food handling course before they come to the café. Jodie is an ex student of Christian College as is her sister and daughter. She has also had extensive experience in food retail. She is helped by undergraduates who help in the café and supervise the students at night. It is quite novel to include a café in a school curriculum and it is an exciting project for Meredith.

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Meredith History Interest Group

World War 1 Soldiers

The book "Meredith World War 1 Soldiers" was launched at the Golden Plains Shire Anzac 100 Project Launch on April 2 at Bannockburn. The book documents 117 soldiers and 3 nurses who were in some way associated with Meredith before the war. Of these 31 died. The book documents what was going on in Meredith at the time of the war, what association the soldiers had with Meredith, the war service of each soldier, what happened to each soldier after the war and tries to also tell the readers about the war and what conditions were like. The book is for sale for \$30 from Marg Cooper, Mirepiox Cafe or from the Meredith Interpretative Centre.

Stories of World War 1 Soldiers

On May 31st you are invited to share the story of your relation who went to WW1. Please bring a story, documents, photos and memorabilia to the Anglican Hall at 1.30 pm. Jan Dimmick is coming from Melbourne to tell us about her father John James Graham Colclough DCM and his association with Meredith.

Bluestone House

You are invited to the bluestone house on Steiglitz Road on Sunday, May 3 at 1.30pm to see where the bluestone blocks that were taken from the Catholic Presbytery in 1889/1890 went to and how they were used and to hear some history of the property. {Entrance is via Taylors Road, second gate on the right}

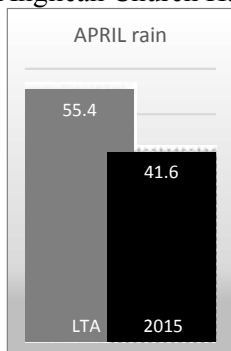
Eclipse Inn

"After passing the stations of Lal Lal, Egerton and Wallace's one arrives at the Eclipse Inn, one of the prettiest places in the colony. It is really a treat, even in this unpoetic colony for the traveller, way worn, dust stained and accustomed to the noisy bar rooms of the goldfields inns to enjoy the quiet and repose of the Eclipse and to get on a summer's evening, under its veranda and inhale the sweets of the woodbine, the jasmine, the lily and the rose."

From: The Bendigo Advertiser December 27, 1855. Eclipse Inn was a stopping place for travellers in the early days of settlement. It was on the property "Durdiwarrah".

Catalogue

We meet to catalogue on the last Thursday of the month at the Anglican Church Hall. Please join us.



"The mystery of the lost Chinaman at Morrisons," says the Geelong Advertiser of the 24th inst., "still remains a mystery. It is now pretty well known that he had upwards of £80 in addition to a finger ring worth £10, on his person when he disappeared so mysteriously. He owned two shares in a good paying claim on the Mooreep estate, and did not owe a single shilling to any one. He never drank unless he was treated. The Chinamen searched the country religiously for a fortnight without avail. They now offer £5 award for the body, and say it is time the policeman do something--they can do no more. Surely this is a case for a clever detective."

The Argus Tuesday 29 December 1874

Contributed by Jan McDonald

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