

Meredith & district News

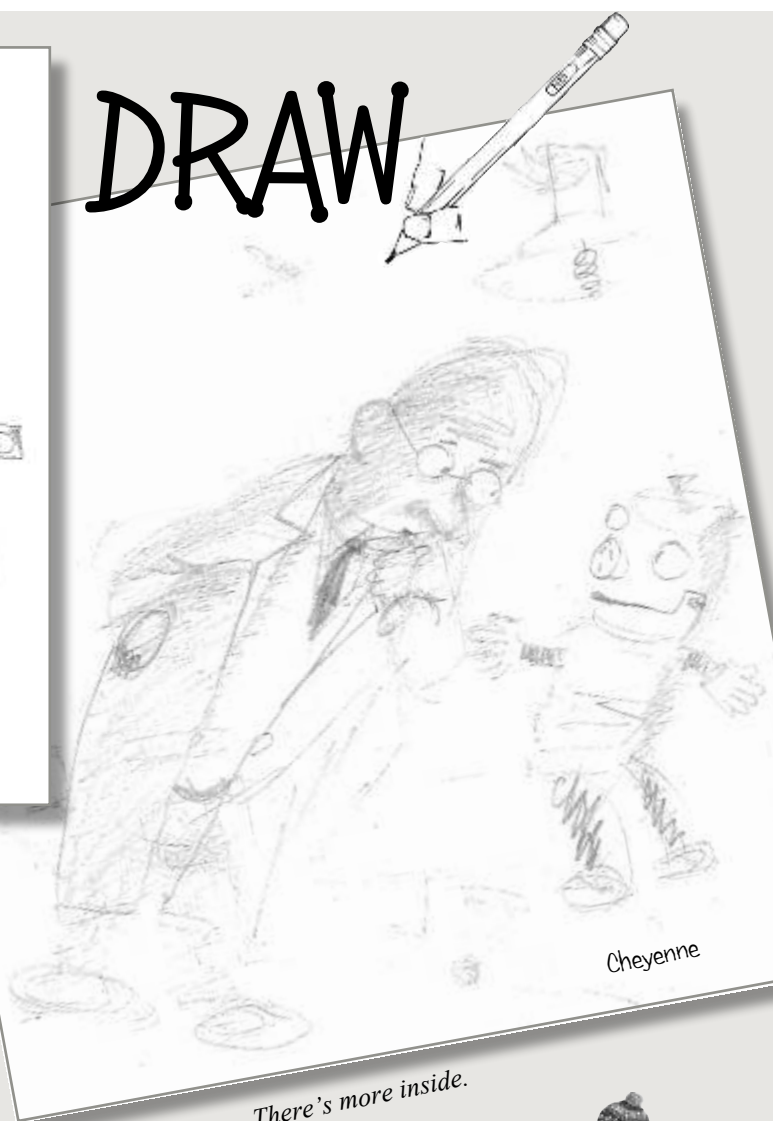


October 2015

YOUR FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER SINCE 1972



This year the Newsletter Committee kicked off what it hopes will become an annual event, when it sponsored a "Literary Day" for the children of Meredith Primary School. Renowned children's book illustrator, Craig Smith, led students through the whole creative process of illustrating a story. And they certainly got in the act: the illustrations here and inside are examples of the creative output from the day.



There's more inside.



**FREE
INSIDE**

Your new community phone directory
...with our compliments!

inside



- Men's Shed Gets Funding
 - We have Writing, Dressage, Junior CFA, Netball and Footy Champs
 - Get to Know Snakes and Stay Safe
 - Vale Bernard Dooley and Archie Bowers
- ...and the usual *much more!*

e: news@meredithnews.com.au **W:** meredithnews.com.au



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	
Quarter page	\$25	\$60
Half page	\$40	\$100
Full page	\$80	\$180

Note: Colour not available for all issues. 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 Morrisons
☎5286 1502
☎0417 770 765

CHILDCARE
☎5286 1348

COMMUNITY CENTRE
☎5286 1348

CRICKET
Elaine
☎0418 535713

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

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 Vets 5281 1221
Golden Plains Vets 5281 2226
Injured Wildlife 1300 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 P Ryan Elaine 0409 861 296

SERVICES

CEMETERY TRUST
☎5286 1550

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH
☎5220 7230

HALL HIRE
Meredith I
☎5286 1545

PRE-SCHOOL
☎5286 1227

Elaine
☎5341 5596
Elaine Rec Res
☎5341 5703

PRIMARY SCHOOL
☎5286 1313

LIBRARY VAN
☎5272 6010

RECREATION RESERVE
☎0429 841399



Horse sense is the thing a horse has which keeps it from betting on people."

- W.C. Fields



COMMUNITY

Senior Cits on the Bus

Jim Hynds

On Monday, September 21 the members set off for a tour. We travelled to Daylesford for morning tea which was followed by a walk around the town. We then ventured to the Chocolate Factory where members bought selections of the scrumptious chocolates. It is an interesting place and worth visiting. In the bus again we headed for Maldon. Our bus driver, Arthur, mapped out a very pleasant drive. Arthur also took us to a place not far from Maldon where there is a massive dredge with draglines which is almost hidden in the bush. It is a relic of days gone by, of the days of gold and would weigh hundreds of tons. Thinking of how they got the equipment there makes the mind boggle. We visited the lookout tower which sits high on top of the mountain that overlooks the town of Maldon.

The members who climbed the tower reported that the views were spectacular from up there. Hunger took over so we went to the Maldon Hotel for lunch. Members enjoyed a lovely meal before we walked around the town of Maldon to see the old shops and buildings. Many members purchased wares and gifts before we headed home. Arthur took us home via a different route and we arrived back in Meredith around 5 pm. Many thanks to Arthur who took the driving job on short notice and who made it a great day for us. Special thanks to Noel from the Aged and Disability Support Services of Golden Plains Shire for making the bus trip a reality



RED CROSS FILM NIGHT

Last Thursday of the Month 7.30pm

Come along and see our next movie at the Meredith Community Centre in the Studio.

(Donation Appreciated).



Meredith Hall Gets a Facelift

Marg Cooper

The old girl who has proudly stood at the western entrance to Meredith since 1906 has started to receive a face lift. You may have noticed a "scissor lift" that was at the hall for a week so Geoff Hardy and his son Karl could repair damage caused by a storm, birds and time on the higher parts of the building. Further external work including a new paint job, is planned when the warmer weather arrives.

The Hall Committee continually work to ensure that the hall is in good condition for community functions. Let us hope that the face lift makes the old girl feel and look better so she can continue to take pride of place in Meredith.

Meredith Information Centre

Marg Cooper

The "walking group" of Buninyong Probus Club recently came to Meredith for their weekly walk. Marg Cooper guided them from the Info Centre, past the new Hub, along Coolebarghurk Creek, through the Police Paddock, along Wallace Street, up Wilson Street and down Staughton Street to a local Café for refreshments. They enjoyed the walk and the Information Centre and were impressed by all that is happening in Meredith.

On the same day the Young at Heart Legacy Group from Ballarat also visited Meredith. They lunched locally and then visited the Info Centre. They also enjoyed their day which was organized by Sandra Pearce, a member of the Young at Heart Legacy Group.

Maybe there are other groups who would like a walk or a visit! Let us know. On Saturday morning the MG Car Club were in town, driving, walking, reading, talking, trying to answer several questions including "Who looks after Meredith?"

If you haven't seen the Meredith State School Future School in Lego and the Winter Wool display, be quick as a new display is about to be created.

Car Show

The Old School Car Show in November is not to be confused with "The Meredith Mancave Madness" Charity fund raising car show in April 2016.

Geoff and Karl.

Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

District Men's Shed Funded



The State Government announced on Monday 7 September 2015 that Bannockburn and District Men's Shed Inc. will be one of 15 recipients of a grant for Men's Sheds across Victoria; successfully securing a share of the recent \$750,000 round of Men's Shed grants.

The shed will be located in Victor Street in Bannockburn and will be used by residents of Bannockburn, Lethbridge, Teesdale, Shelford, Maude, Steiglitz, Meredith, Inverleigh, Murgheboluc, Stonehaven, Batesford and Sutherlands Creek.

The Bannockburn & District Men's Shed Inc. currently meets at the Bannockburn Community Church and has been working on plans to find a permanent home, with conversations beginning with Golden Plains Shire Council in 2014. Final project planning with Council will commence immediately.

Men's Sheds enhance men's health and wellbeing and Victorian communities as a whole by reducing social isolation and conditions like stress and depression. They also give members the opportunity just to hang out with other men; many life-long friends are made in Men's Sheds.

Mayor, Councillor Des Phelan said, "This is a great thing for the men of Bannockburn and surrounds, and these facilities will enable Bannockburn and District Men's Shed Inc. to do an even better job. promoting social inclusion and good health. Congratulations to all involved."

Paul Dakin, the Secretary of the Bannockburn Men's Shed said "This was a great day for our members and their hard work in fundraising and working towards obtaining the grant and for all men in the southern end of the Golden Plains Shire. We are looking forward to working with Council on getting the facility up and running as quickly as possible. The Victor Street site is ideal as it is close to all of Bannockburn's essential services and the Community will benefit as a result."

Minister for Families and Children Jenny Mikakos said the sheds play an important role in inclusive communities. "They are a safe and friendly space where people can learn new skills, catch up with mates and give back to the community."

For further information about the Bannockburn and District Men's Shed, please contact Paul Dakin (Secretary) on (03) 52817195 or 0434 331 049 or email pdakin@iprimus.com.au

Youth Plan

Golden Plains Shire's Draft 2015-2019 Youth Development Strategy Plan will be open for public exhibition until 5pm, 2 November, 2015.

The purpose of the Youth Strategy is to guide Golden Plains Shire Council's Youth Development team over the next four years to achieve our vision: 'Young people in the Golden Plain Shire are healthy, resilient, empowered and actively contribute to building a better world.'

The Strategy is available on the Golden Plains Council's 'Have Your Say' online consultation page <https://www.goldenplainsdigital.com.au/consultations> or alternatively, hard copies are available at the Bannockburn and Linton Customer Service Centre and The Well, Smythesdale Business Health and Community Hub.

You can provide feedback online or in writing to the Youth Development Department at PO Box 111, Bannockburn, VIC 331 until 23 October, 2015.



Young Musos Head to Turtle Bend

On Saturday 24 October from 3.30pm – 9.30pm, Teesdale Turtle Bend will host the Regional Finals of the Push Start Battle of the Bands competition for young musicians; the first time this prestigious music event has been held on Golden Plains soil.

Grunge rock band, Trick Gypsy, winner of the first round of the Push Start contest held in Meredith, will grace the stunning pavilion stage alongside several other bands from all over the State, who will battle it out for the ultimate prize: a recording contract.

The Golden Plains FReeZA Committee, a group of nine young people aged between 15 and 19 are taking the lead in organising this event, with the support of the Teesdale Turtle Bend Events Committee and Oxygen Music College.

The event is an opportunity for families to hear local and regional talent perform, and is an even more exciting opportunity for the young artists, who are able to share their passion and talent with a live audience.

The Regional Finals of the Push Start Battle of the Bands is a family-friendly, drug and alcohol-free event and families are invited to come along and support local musicians as well as all the local young people involved in making this event happen.

For more information, visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au/youth or phone Sarah Dalton, Golden Plains Shire Council's Youth Development officer on 5220 7177 or sdalton@gplains.vic.gov.au



Meredith Primary School Council
proudly presents

D O L L Y S

DISCO 7

B I N G O

Sat 31st October 2015 7.00-11.00pm
A hilarious, funky take on Bingo.
Don your afros, dust off your platform shoes!

Venue: Meredith Memorial Hall, Staughton Street Meredith
Cost: \$20/person - Full payment at time of booking.
Tickets: Call 5286 1313 or call into the office at Meredith P.S.
BYO Drinks (glass ware) and nibbles. Raffles, door prizes and more!



Kinder News

The biggest news is we have finally moved over to the new Hub and will be unpacking and setting up ready for the start of Term 4. We spent the last few weeks of Term gradually packing things up, taking pictures down and saying goodbye and thank you to the lovely old Kinder that has provided a wonderful play space for so many children from 1970 until 2015. I'm sure there are a lot of fond memories attached to this building but now it's time for a change and a new beginning in our purpose built room and building.

A huge thanks to everyone who has been involved in the process. It's taken an enormous amount of organisation, coordination and time and we appreciate the gallant efforts of staff, committee, parents and council to make it all happen. A special thanks to Kim Boyd and Lynn Symmonds who did a great packing job and to Wendy Cooke and Rosemary Gargan who helped us with the unpacking (especially all the books and puzzles) I didn't realise we had so much until the move. We filled the truck!

The room is coming together nicely plus we have some lovely new furniture (thanks Kim Boyd who has been putting it all together) and new areas to decorate. It's very exciting and we can't wait to see the delight and excitement on the children's faces on their first day here. Happy holidays everyone.

Meredith **POLICE** news



Welcome once again to all readers of the Meredith and District News Letter. Over the past 12 months I have continued to encourage readers to stay vigilant with regard to suspicious behaviour and vehicles. This message is clearly having a very positive effect throughout our community.

I can say that over the past six months I have had many reports of a suspicious white duel cab ute at various times throughout the night in the area. I am very happy to report that I have now charged the owner of that vehicle with a multitude of serious offences after I executed a search warrant at his Norlane house on the 8th September.

An extensive variety of suspected stolen property including a Yamaha 4 wheel motor bike stolen from Winchelsea, engines, firearms, prohibited weapons, a pistol, ammunition and drugs were all seized under warrant. I have charge a 41 year old male from Norlane with a multitude of serious offences relating to crimes committed at Meredith, Colac, Winchelsea and Norlane.

He has been bailed with very strict conditions and will appear at the Geelong Magistrates Court on the 13th October, 2015. This has been a very lengthy and somewhat complex investigation and I would like to sincerely thank certain members of our community for their assistance. A local community member sighted what he believed to be the suspect vehicle in North Geelong and contacted me. This was in fact the correct vehicle which led to the issuing of a search warrant and the now completion of this investigation. Great work indeed.

It is clear that this male has been involved in committing rural crime in our area for some time.

In recent weeks, I received information that a truck believed to be a Ford F 350 (Long Bonnet) style flatbed truck with a home-made style stock crate attached to the tray was sighted at 2 am on Slate Quarry Road. A witness stopped to see if the occupants were OK at which time the vehicle and two male occupants left the location. It was clear to the witness and myself that these males were stealing stock. This vehicle had no registration plates and could have been a Chevy truck or Ford with what the witness describes as a V8 high powered engine.

Also there was 4 dogs (Pugs) stolen from a Steiglitz Road, Steiglitz address in the last few days. Anyone with info can contact me at Meredith or Leading Senior Constable MALHOUSE at Bannockburn.

I encourage people in our great community to keep up the great work. Information can be given to me directly or anonymously. Alternatively contact Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Kindest Regards Greg KITCHEN

Officer In Charge – Meredith Police Station.

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

St James. Morrisons:

Contact: 0429 146 566 or 5368 2730. The Rev. Glen Wesley

1st Sunday of the month at 5pm and 3rd Sunday of the month at 9am.

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 9.30 at Buninyong Uniting Church

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 October

Winchelsea every Saturday @ 6 p.m.

Bannockburn every Sunday @ 9 a.m. 1st Sunday of the month

Family Mass and music workshop

Anakie @ 11 a.m. October 4th/18th

Meredith @ 11 a.m. October 11th/25th

St. Joey's OP SHOP -

Rear of St. Joey's Hall. Lawler St. Meredith

Wednesdays and Fridays 10am -4pm

Lots of great bargains. New bookroom now open.

Come and browse.

Volunteers very welcome - Ring 5286 1230

Want to Join the Click Clique?

We would like to establish a group of keen photographers to help us keep up a supply of quality local images for the newsletter. There's almost zero workload or commitment in this, so why not ask for our Newsletter Click Clique Plan" to find out more? Just send us an email at news@meredithnews.com.au and we'll send it out to you.



Hi Everyone,

While preparing this report I happened to go back and look at my report for the same time last year. It's amazing how much has happened in that time. We were on the move to our temporary home which after our first term in the new building seems just like a distant memory. We are still ironing out the glitches and we are really looking forward to the Kinder joining us in the new building.

We are looking forward to hosting an open day with the Kinder once they have settled in so that everyone can come along to see the new facility.

Our move has also provided us with extra places in the occasional care service so if you have been considering using the service give us a call.

We had some great programs last term. A special thanks to Ian Nash who ran the chook workshop. We had a great response with 20 people going along to Ian's Teesdale property to learn about chook care. Ian also has a beautiful garden and we are looking forward to a garden workshop early next year. Watch out on the website and facebook for updates.

By the time you read this you should already have received our Term 4 Course Guide and the short version is also in the Newsletter. Some of our new programs from last term were very successful and we are running them again this term. Pru is returning for another Saori weaving workshop this time for those who wanted a weekend class and we are going to be playing with colour in polymer clay.

On the subject of the Term brochure we have been forced this year to work with new arrangements with Australia Post and I am hearing that people who used to receive it no longer get it delivered. Our arrangements should be the entire Meredith, Elaine, Lethbridge postcodes and urban areas of Bannockburn. We would appreciate it if you could let us know if this is not your experience.

Bye for now

Pam

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

Golden Plains Mobile Library

Is at the Meredith Primary
School every
Thursday from



From the Mayor



Cr. Des Phelan

We've received lots of welcome news for Golden Plains Shire this past month. Council is delighted with the announcement that the National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS) will be extended into parts of Golden Plains Shire from January 2017;

with areas such as Bannockburn, Inverleigh and Meredith scheduled to come under the scheme. People with disabilities and their carers will be able to access a much wider range of service options and providers within the Shire, saving our residents a trip to Geelong or Ballarat.

On an education note, in addition to the new prep to year 12 secondary school in Bannockburn that is expected to commence construction mid-2016 and open for the 2018 school year, the Catholic Education Office in Melbourne has announced that Bannockburn will be also be home to a catholic primary school in 2020. Council understands how important local access to quality education is to families, and we're thrilled that these new schools will provide just that, as well as saving many children from lengthy bus rides to Geelong.

In other wonderful news, the State Government has recently announced that the Bannockburn and District Men's Shed Inc. will receive funding for a permanent home.

The new Men's Shed in Bannockburn will be used by residents of Bannockburn, Lethbridge, Teesdale, Shelford, Maude, Steiglitz, Meredith, Inverleigh, Murgheboluc, Stonehaven, Batesford and Sutherlands Creek.

We're very pleased that access to broadband internet continues to increase and improve. Telstra has recently made more ADSL internet ports available in Bannockburn – customers wanting to connect should contact their internet provider. For a Shire-wide NBN update, go to goldenplains.vic.gov.au.

I'd also like to welcome nominations for the 2016 Australia Day Awards. We'd love for you to help us formally acknowledge outstanding people and events of Golden Plains. The nomination categories are Citizen of the Year, Senior Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Community Event of the Year, and nominations close 4pm, Monday 16 November. Visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au for more information.

Tickets are now available for the 2015 Sumptuous Luncheon on Saturday 7 November. This is an opportunity to get out of the house for an afternoon of delicious food and wine and live music, set in a fabulous marquee in central Bannockburn. The event has an impressive local team: local chef (Matt Dempsey from Gladioli), local wine (Austins and Co.) and the menu is infused with local produce from the Golden Plains Farmers' Market. For tickets and enquiries, contact Lisa Shaw, Farmers Market Project Officer on 5220 7221 for more information.

ADVERTISEMENT

For Meredith, Steiglitz and district.

As your local State Member of Parliament, I am here to represent your interests in the Victorian Parliament.

I would like to hear from you about the important issues that affect our community.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if I can assist you with a State Government matter.

Geoff Howard MP
State Member for Buninyong



15 Main Road, Ballarat VIC 3350 Ph: 5331 7722

Email: geoff.howard@parliament.vic.gov.au

Authorised by Geoff Howard MP, 15 Main Road, Ballarat VIC 3350

This advertisement is funded from Parliament's Electorate Office and Communications budget

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Call Matt 0438 828 043

Recreation



Meredith Golf Club Results

23/8/2015: Par & Monthly Medal: Winner— Denis Gear, square; Runner up - Vin Drew, one down.

Nearest the Pins: 2nd Hole, Lyn Drew, 14th Hole, Danny Jury.

30/8/2015: Stableford: Winner— Jeff Cooper, 36 points. Runner up— Denis Gear, 33 points.

Nearest the Pins: 2nd Hole, Jeff Cooper, 14th Hole, Jeff Cooper.

5/9/2015 Stableford: Winner— Danny Jury, 36 points, Runner up— Jeff Cooper, 23 points.

Captain's Trophy Match: Mitchie Emmlin defeated Mike Colvin
13/9/2015: Stableford: Winner - Danny Jury, 37 points, Runner up— Denis Gear, 24 points.

Nearest the Pins: 2nd Hole, Denis Gear, 14th Hole, Danny Jury.

Elaine Cricket Club

Congratulations to David Flood on being appointed Elaine Cricket Club's U14 coach for 2015/16 season. Congratulations also to Joel 'Noddy' McArthur on being appointed Elaine Cricket Club's senior A grade one-day captain. Training is Thursday nights at 5pm at Elaine Recreation Reserve. Round 1 of the Ballarat Cricket Association starts on 10th October 2015.

Further enquiries elainecc.vic.cricket.com.au

Milo Cricket at Elaine

Elaine Cricket Club's Milo cricket registration day this year is straight after the U13's first home game at Elaine at 11am on Saturday 10th October 2015. All sessions will run straight after Elaine U13 home games. Volunteer helpers are essential. Cost is \$80 which includes a 10 week program, BBQs and a pack from Cricket Victoria. Further information www.playcricket.com.au

Mitchie and Ruby Shine

Marg Cooper

Locals, Mitchie Emmlin and Ruby Hart were in the spotlight at Buninyong Football Netball Club's Junior Presentations at the Buninyong Town Hall last month. Mitchie won the Best and Fairest for the Under 15 Football Team and Ruby Hart was Runner-up in the netball Best & Fairest. Jake Coxall from Clarendon won the Best and Fairest for the Under 18 Football Team.

The Town Hall that was packed with players, parents and friends as votes appeared on an electronic board. It was obvious early in the night that Mitchie was looking good as many times he scored 9 votes for a match. He was thrilled to receive a silver and gold statue of a football player with a plaque that reads: "Buninyong Football Netball Club, Under 15 Football, 2015 Best & Fairest, Mitchell Emmlin". He says that this statue matches the Cricket Award he won for batting for Golden Point Cricket Club two years ago. And watch out he's hitting a golf ball pretty well too!

Congratulations to both of you.

Meredith Cricket Club

Cricket in your town for 150 years

This season the Meredith Cricket Club will celebrate 155 years of cricket being played at the Meredith Cricket Ground (MCG). The first recorded game at the venue was played between Meredith and Steiglitz on the 10th of January 1861. For the record Meredith won that game by 51 runs.

Over the past 155 years such great local names as- Bolte, Grant, Cooke, Nolan, Colclough, Rayner, Armstrong, Ritchie and Parkinson (to name a few) have pulled on the whites for the Meredith Cricket Club. During this time the club has had many successful eras, the most recent being the mid-1990s which saw the A grade side win 4 premierships in 5 years, an amazing feat.



The Meredith Cricket Club is **YOUR CLUB**, playing in **YOUR TOWN**. With continued local support this iconic club will be playing at the MCG for another 150 years.

This season the club is fielding 2 senior teams, we will also have an **Under 13 junior team** playing on Friday nights in **Meredith**, so come along and support our local kids playing sport in their home town.

Any juniors interested in playing **Under 11s, Under 13, Under 15s or Under 17s** contact Terry Hart on 0418178513

The club will also be running **MILO CRICKET in Meredith** commencing mid-October. Milo Cricket is aimed at 5 to 9 year old boys and girls to come along and learn the basic skills of the game. We will be conducting an **Information/Registration evening on Monday the 5th of October at 5.30pm.** at the Rec Reserve with a free sausage sizzle.

Anyone interested in becoming involved, whether it be as a senior or junior player, sponsor or supporter of a proud and successful Meredith organisation, feel free to come along to training (Thursday night) or games and enjoy the company of locals supporting their town team.



PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE ISSUE



Our Local Champion

Tilli Tasic

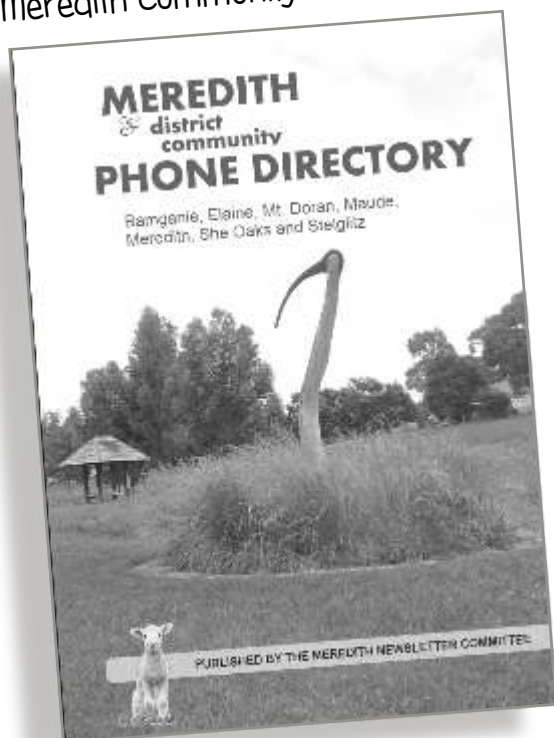
Many Meredith locals may have seen Kimbalee Slade riding her horses around the town.

Recently, Kimbalee and her horse Man, took out two first places and champion in round four of the Barwon equestrian dressage series. (BEDS)

Kimbalee and Man also won first place, third place and champion in round five of BEDS.

Well-done Kimbalee!

Your new community phone directory is inside this issue. If it's not, collect one from the Elaine or Meredith post offices or the Meredith Community Hub



PUBLIC MEETING DISSATISFACTION!

October 14th @ 7:30pm

VOICE & ACTION G.P.S.Inc. (A0061755V)

combined with

BATESFORD(GP)RATEPAYERS &

RESIDENTS ASSOC. Inc. (A0058490X)

Bannockburn Cultural Centre,

27 High Street, Bannockburn.

- Speaker presentations of various concerns with the Golden Plains Shire Council performance
- Q & A session

Contact:

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The Meredith Rural Fire Brigade is seeking expressions of interest from members of the Meredith community willing to volunteer as a fire fighter with our vital organisation.

To become a Volunteer Fire Fighter you must complete a 6 month Probation Period in which time you will gain skills such as: Combatting Grassfires and Bushfires, Safety, Teamwork, Pumping and Communications.

Upon successful completion of the Probation Period members are required to attend training up to 4 times per year. A member can offer as much or as little time on top of that as he/she likes.

Members can join from the age of 16 onwards and our organisation prides itself on equal opportunity.

If this sounds like something that may interest you then please contact the Meredith Rural Fire Brigade Recruiting Officer:

Ralph Holtz 0425719289 or Donna Murrell 0409216303.

Alternatively, members meet most Sunday mornings from 8:30am - 9:00am so drop in for a chat.



Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

6 High Street
Bannockburn VIC 3331
Phone: 5281 1519

We are here to save you money?

Christmas Shopping Night

Don't forget our annual Christmas Shopping Night will be held at the Pharmacy on **Thursday 19th November** from **6:30pm to 9:00pm**. Next month's newsletter we will provide more details on the night not to mention the huge discounts we will be offering this year on the night!

If you haven't been to our annual Christmas Shopping Night before there are lucky door prizes every 30 minutes (last year we gave away over \$3,000 worth of prizes). We also provide finger food and drinks, complimentary gift wrapping and one night only discounts. This is always an enjoyable night so mark it in your calendars.

\$1 Co-Payment Discount

You may, or may not, be aware that the 6th Pharmacy agreement has been finalized between the Government & Pharmacy Guild of Australia. There are many changes within this agreement but a significant change is the "**Optional**" **\$1 co-payment discount** that Pharmacies can pass onto customers for medicines that are fully subsidized by the Government from **1st January 2016**. Currently customers with a pension, concession, healthcare or repatriation card pay a co-payment of \$6.10 per prescription & the government pays the rest.

From the 1st January 2016, all Pharmacies will have the "**choice**" if they want to give customers a \$1 co-payment discount or not. So instead of paying \$6.10, concessional customers will only pay \$5.10 only if the Pharmacy chooses to pass on the discount. I have to stress that this is **NOT mandatory** for all Pharmacies to pass on this \$1 co-payment discount. If a Pharmacy doesn't want to give this discount to customers they don't have to.

From 1st January we **WILL** be offering this \$1 co-payment discount to our customers on fully subsidized medicines.

I hope this makes sense. If you have any questions regarding this please do not hesitate to call into the Pharmacy and have a chat with Scott who will be able to answer your questions.

Open Extended Hours

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

Christmas Shopping Night –

Thursday 19th November (6:30pm – 9:00pm)

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



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Companions in the garden

What a joy it is to have companions in the garden. A friend (sp. *hortulana*) came around the other day to work with me in the garden. Digging and pulling out weeds became a pleasant task accompanied by good conversation interspersed with occasional curses. Then of course there are the companionable birds who join me as I toil. The superb blue wrens (*Malurus splendens*) live in peril here. They perch nearby and then pop in so close to my sharp spade as the soil is turned. One of my dearest companions, the one whose return I await each spring is *Colluricincla harmonica* (grey shrike-thrush). And a harmonious family they are, flying in to their untidy nest behind our kitchen chimney where they greet us with melodic song, surely created to lift one's spirits on the lowest days. Thrushes are life-time mates and appear to practice equality with the male and female parents contributing to nest-building and repairs, feeding and caring for their young.

But really, what is any of this doing in a gardening column? Among the best companions in the garden are the plants that like each other, the ones that we grow together because their presence is mutually beneficial. As with us, there are of course plant partnerships that are detrimental. Why some plant combinations work has been shown to have a scientific basis. For example, the way in which legumes put nitrogen back into the soil through nodules on their roots and, by loosening the earth with their deep rooting system, make life easier for adjacent shallow rooting plants. It seems too that the aromas, odours and biotic compounds of certain plants affect the lives of their neighbours. This knowledge is based on years of observation and study passed on by gardeners, mostly of the organic method. I enjoy this way of planting as it means mixed plantings of herbs, flowers and vegetables, creating not only a healthy growing environment but a beautiful and aromatic one. Among the most commonly used companions in my garden are garlic (*Allium sativum*) around the roses - the garlic is said to ward off aphids; basil (*Ocimum basilicum*) keeps pests away from tomatoes - also handy as they taste so good together; borage (*Borago officinalis*) near the strawberry bed - borage is also a marvellous bee attractor.

I grow wormwood (*Artemisia absinthium*) around my chook shed and the dog kennels. This is an arrangement I have observed in many old country gardens and have simply replicated. Wormwood is known to repel fleas, flies and moths. However its powerful excretions may inhibit the growth of other plants. It is wise not to plant this herb too close to the vegie bed. Tansy (*Tanacetum vulgare*) is an old

favourite in my garden. It runs wild here even through the long dry summer. However it comes with the serious warning that it will creep via its tenacious root system all through the garden. Tansy is repellent to flies and ants and its tall stalks topped with heads of yellow gold buttons are a blessing when everything else is on its last legs. All but the vigorous roots can go into the compost heap too, as a good source of potassium.

Do not be alarmed by the use of latin names, this is my most recent strategy to keep the brain cells working.

Happy gardening

Chris

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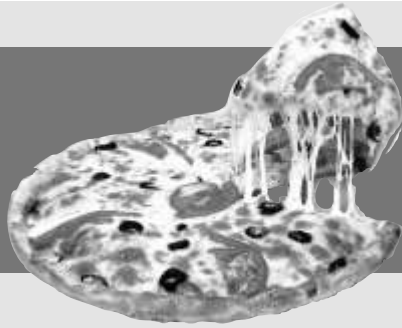
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Vale to Bernard Ortner Dooley 22/9/1919 – 6/9/2015

Marg Cooper

Bern was a railway man, born and bred. His father William Dooley came to Meredith in 1933 as Station Master with his wife Sarah and their five sons, Bill, Jack, Russell, Bern and Bryan. They had been at Hampton, Hastings, Curyo and Underbool. Bern finished Grade 8 at Meredith before leaving school at the age of 14 years. He played cricket, football and golf at every opportunity and was chuffed to have played cricket with Harry Bolte.

After leaving school Bern busied himself as an odd jobs man for the local doctor Dennington Fisher, worked full time at Errey's Garage serving petrol, then at 17 years of age he started at the local bakery, first as a driver of the delivery horse and cart and then later as a baker. He would set the dough about 4pm, come back at 7 pm to knock down the dough, bake the bread until about 1am, then be back at 6am to help load the old International bus which by that time had superseded the poor old horse. This was in the years of the Great Depression before WW11. He also tried his hand as a door to door salesman selling foot powders and ointments (similar to Rawleigh's products) before he enlisted in the army on his 21st birthday. He stayed in Australia for 15 months before he went to New Guinea with the 4th and 23rd Heavy Anti-Aircraft Battery to defend Port Moresby Airport. He recalled the scariest time was when 100 Japanese planes went over them!! Bern served for 18 months and was then

granted three weeks leave.

He had met Irene Scanlon at a dance in Meredith. He knew she was the one girl for him the moment he met her. They married on July 3, 1943 in Lethbridge and spent their wedding night in a hotel in Spencer Street, Melbourne before Bern had to report back to his unit and head back to New Guinea for another 12 months. After the war they settled in Lethbridge and had a daughter Glenyis. Bern worked at the quarry for 4 years before he joined the railways in 1949 as a track maintenance "Navvy", working his way up to ganger. His job was to travel the line checking, repairing broken rails and damaged sleepers, realigning the tracks and burning along the lines. In his early days the gangers travelled on a hand powered trolley with a shovel, fork, gauge and crowbars as tools. Bern said that it was a rough life as you were out in all weather with no shelter for a long day. Bern retired in 1979 after 30 years looking after the tracks for the thousands of trains that would have run along them in that time. Bern and Irene enjoyed many long train trips after his retirement.



After living in Corio for a number of years Bern moved to Bannockburn Aged Care about four years ago. Irene had died suddenly in 2006. It was adjacent to the railway line that he had looked after for so many years and there he could still keep an eye on the track. Bern who was almost 96 years old died, suddenly on September 6. A funeral service was held at Tuckers in Geelong West on September 14 and he was interred in the Western General Cemetery.

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Spice-baked chicken with tzatziki salad

Prep time 20 minutes

Cooking time 15 – 25 mins

Serves 4

Ingredients

- 1 teaspoon ground cumin
- ½ teaspoon dried chilli flakes
- 1 tablespoon dried thyme leaves
- 1 tablespoon shredded lemon zest
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 4 x 200g chicken breast fillets
- Tzatziki salad*
- ½ cup thick plain yoghurt
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- Sea salt
- 4 cucumbers sliced lengthways with a vegetable peeler
- 1 cup mint leaves
- ½ cup chopped dill leaves

Method

Preheat oven to 200 C. Place cumin, chilli, thyme, lemon zest and oil in a large bowl and mix to combine.

Add the chicken and toss to coat. Place the chicken in a baking dish lined with non-stick baking paper and roast for 15 – 25 minutes or until chicken is just cooked through.

While the chicken is cooking, make the tzatziki salad. Place the yoghurt, lemon juice and salt in a bowl and mix to combine.

Divide the cucumber, mint and dill between plates and spoon over the dressing. Slice the chicken and serve with the salad.

Recipe From: donna hay – simple dinners

COLLECT ME

Write a Book Competition: First Prize

Marg Cooper

A task was set for her personal development class at North Geelong Secondary College, to create a book. Emma Clarke loves to draw and paint, loves stories of romance, adventure and fantasy and wishes to be an illustrator. So she set to this task with relish!

Emma wrote a story, “The Tale of Cauldron” about Cauldron the dragon who has various adventures in the land of “Something”. The story includes some romance including a blacksmith and princess who is given a dress made from part of the rainbow, some fantasy including four Viking dwarfs, Harold the Shy, Felix the leader, Gus the hungry and Eric the lazy who like to play bingo and have some mishaps.

Emma illustrated the story on about twenty A3 pages using water colour paintings outlined with ink. She wrote parts of the story on each page in her script, which is neat but a little bit eccentric. She tells that it was easy to draw characters on several pages and to get them looking the same but in different situations. Her teacher scanned Emma’s paintings, reduced them to A4 size and bound the pages into a book.

It looked so good that her teacher suggested that she enter her book in the “Write a Book Competition” that is open to all students at the school. Her book is displayed in the school library. She won First Prize in the Picture Book Category. She received a certificate and a \$50 voucher for iTunes.

Emma is excited that her talents have been recognized and aims to write and illustrate more stories. She anticipates that her next one may be an Australian based story like the Magic Pudding!





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When: Saturday October 24th pick up Meredith Community Centre 8.30am return 4.00pm

Bookings and payment required by Oct 12th.

Minimum 13 people required.

Can pick up at Buninyong and Elaine.



CFA FIRE READY

Predictions are we can expect another year of above-average fire risk as the long-term decline in cool season rainfall combines with the strengthening El Nino in the Pacific.

BE PREPARED

The CFA Fire Ready Victoria Program is an informative session regarding bush fire safety. Find out:

- What you can expect
- How do I prepare
- Where do I go
- When do I leave

Come to the Fire Ready session on 18th November at 7.00pm. Please call to book for the session.

ART CRAFT & PERSONAL INTEREST

SAORI WEAVING WORKSHOP

Join our Saori artist Pru Simmons to create your own amazing and unique woven scarf.

Sunday 22nd November 11.00am - 3.00pm

Cost: \$65.00 plus materials (charged at 20c/gm)

Date: 4 hour workshop includes 30 minute break for lunch (BYO) Limit 5 participants

EXPLORING COLOUR

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Cost: \$ 60.00 A requirements list will be provided on registration.

Sunday 8th November. 10am to 3.00pm

PATCHWORK CLASS

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Wednesday November 4th

10am-to 3.00pm

Cost: \$ 40.00 materials list available

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Time: 6.00 to 8.30 pm Cost: Free

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Oct 8th for 8 weeks Tues & 9 weeks Thurs

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11.30-12.30pm at Meredith Memorial Hall

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BANNOCKBURN -Desma

@ Bannockburn family Services Centre

Tuesday Oct 6th to Dec 8th

5-6pm OR 6.30 to 7.30

10 weeks @ \$115.00 \$13.00 casual

TEESDALE TAI CHI-Desma

@ the Teesdale Hall

Thursday Oct 8th to Dec 10th

9.30am-10.30am

10 weeks @ \$115.00 \$13 casual

FUN & FITNESS OVER 50's

@ Community Centre.

Dates: Fri Oct 9th to Dec 11th

Time: 2.00-3.00pm

10 weeks @ \$90.00 \$10 casual

YOGA/MEDIATION- New tutor Kim

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Daytime: 10.00 - 11.00 am Nov. 9th to Dec 7th

Cost: \$10.00 per class

Personal Interest

THE STORY OF MY FAMILY

Every family has its own history; the stories that make up who we are and where we came from. This class will assist you in writing collecting and compiling the events that make your family unique, then turning the tales into a shareable publication.

Wednesday 18th Nov. to 9th Dec. 4 weeks 10.00am to 12.00pm Cost: \$20.00

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Molly to National Fire Championships

Marg Cooper

Congratulations to Molly Dunne who is one of two junior CFA members to be selected to compete in the National Fire Championships from District 15. She is one of eighteen of the state's top junior CFA members chosen from Victoria to compete in the National Championships. This year CFA will chaperone three teams of six members, aged 14 and 15 years old to compete at Myuna Bay in New South Wales from September 28 until October 1. "The junior representatives were chosen on merit and had the backing of their Junior Leader, Brigade Captain and were supported by their District Operations Manager." The teams will compete in eight events including a portable pump relay, hose and hydrant drill, station response and knapsack drill and tank and ladder challenge.

Molly has been a member of Elaine Junior CFA since she was eleven years old and that more than 100 children applied to go to the Championships from Victoria. Molly said she had to fill out an application form detailing her prior experience and commitment to volunteering and CFA and had to tick a lot of boxes. Molly is looking forward to the championships but also to the sightseeing around Sydney. The group will stay at Menzies Hotel, go to Taronga Zoo and walk over the Harbour Bridge.

The Elaine Junior CFA leaders are Joanne Adcock, Sam Lewis and Taylor Connell. The juniors train at the Recreation Reserve and at the Elaine Fire Shed, fortnightly. CFA has more than 180 junior brigades across the state with over 2,000 children of which more than one third are female. Junior CFA helps develop practical, social and leadership skills and promotes the importance of volunteers in the community. Molly says the "Midlands Cup" competition is coming up and that Elaine juniors are busy training for that competition

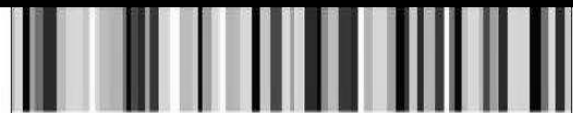




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ISSUE



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Meredith Primary School Literary Day

Sponsored by the Meredith Newsletter Committee



Last month, celebrated Australian children's author Craig Smith visited Meredith Primary School. During his stay he shared examples of work from his 40 year literary career along with various illustrative tips and techniques for our budding MPS authors.

Special thanks to the Meredith and District News for sponsoring this day. It was fantastic to receive such wonderful support from this group. Our children are grateful to have participated in such an inspiring and enjoyable literary experience.

Craig Smith has illustrated over 370 picture books, junior novels and educational readers. He grew up in South Australia and studied graphic design at the SA School of Art, graduating in 1976. He has been a freelance illustrator in Australia ever since. He currently lives in Melbourne. He has four grown-up children and four little grandchildren.

Craig's presentation to the students of Meredith Primary was about books and pictures, the role of the author, editor and, of course, the illustrator. But it is especially about making things up by DRAWING! At Meredith, each child was placed into one of four groups which Craig rotated through during the day.



Q&A

with the school captains

Q: What was your favourite book to illustrate?

A: The 'I Hate Fridays' series because the drawings are black and white

Q: How long have you've been illustrating books for?

A: Since I was 19 years old, just on 40 years now.

Q: Do you work directly with authors?

A: No, I work through the editor and if he or she has any concerns they will tell the editor and the editor will then tell me, and vice versa. The editor is a very important part of the process.

Q: What made you want to illustrate?

A: It was a way for me to express my sense of humour. And it was fun for me to work out how to make a living out of using my sense of humour.

Q: Who were your role models?

A: Karl Friedrich Waechter, Heinz Edelmann and Etienne Delessart. In Australia, I admired Shaun Tan,



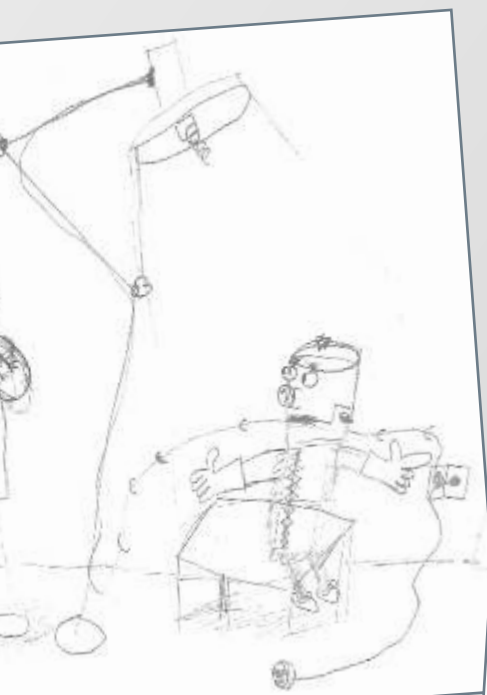
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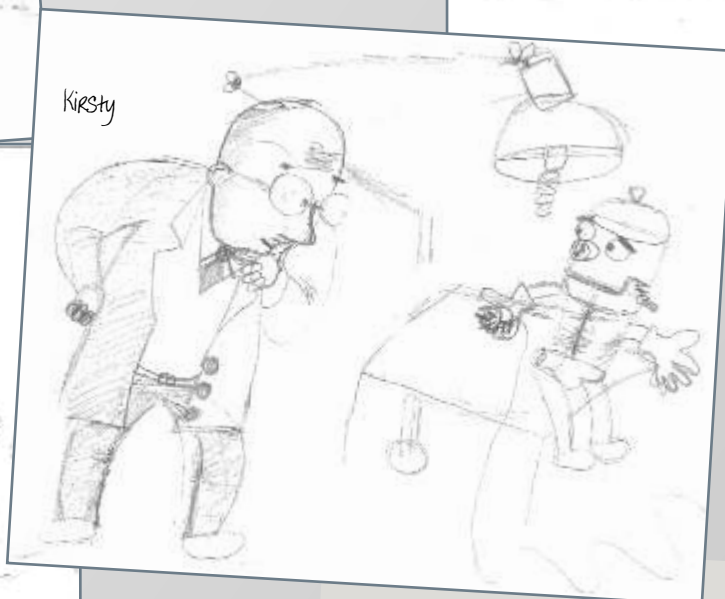
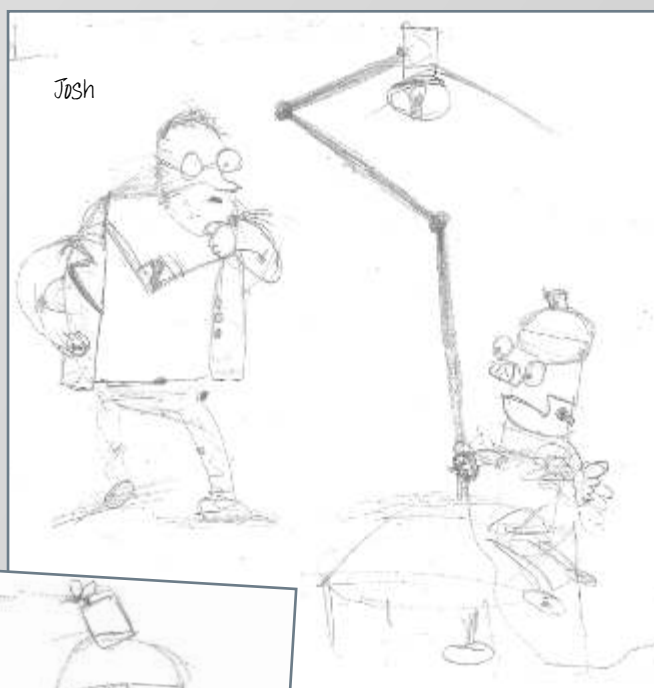


A love of reading, writing and the practice or appreciation of any form of creative expression, is a source of joy for life. Fostering such a love is a valuable gift to give to our children, and we are delighted to do that through the Literary Day.

*Jim Evey on behalf of the
Meredith Newsletter Committee*



We wish we could show you all the terrific work that came out of the day, but here's a selection of Grade 4/5 output, and one spectacular piece from Prep/1. Far left, is the Craig Smith demonstration piece which inspired most of the work you see here, and bottom left, is the master class in action.



Prep/1s: He does good pictures and he tells really good stories

1/2s: He's the best drawer in the world! We liked that he did a rough copy first like we have to do.

2/3s: He's a good drawer and he taught us how to draw properly. He taught us how to draw 'Billy the Punk'.

4/5s: He was a great drawer and teacher because he taught us that at the start it does not have to be a great drawing as long as you can fix it up, it will be fine. He showed us a funny story about killing a red back spider with a tank and he read the book using very funny voices.

6s: That he was funny the way he sketched the drawings. We liked how it could look a bit messy, but then you could see what it was meant to be because of the darker lines. His drawings were awesome!

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IN OUR NATURE

wendy cook

On a warm summer morning, my family went for a walk and picnic lunch in the bush. My son and I walked along the track through metre high bushes, including late flowering Mitchell's wattle in full bloom. My husband and daughter called from behind us. They had found something beside the track – an eastern brown snake. It was lying coiled on top of sticks and leaf litter. We had walked centimetres from it, and it was completely unconcerned. We kept our distance while my husband and daughter observed and photographed the snake, being careful to give it enough space not to feel threatened, and to stand close together, so the snake did not feel surrounded. It had plenty of choices of escape routes if it wished to leave. It didn't and stayed contentedly in its place. We left it and continued with our walk.

Although many snakes are highly venomous, they are not usually aggressive, so bites are rare. The principles we used when viewing this snake can be used for any snake. Give it plenty of space, and don't block its escape routes. If it rears up or appears upset, back away slowly so as not to startle it. If you suddenly come across a snake and are unsure what to do, stand still, be silent, and give it time to move away. Snakes' venom is used to subdue prey. They only bite larger animals or people if they are given little choice and need to defend themselves. Most people who are bitten are trying to catch or kill a snake.

Common copperheads (also called lowland or eastern copperheads) are one of our commonest snakes. They can grow up to 1.5m long, and are often active during cooler weather than other snakes. They may be seen in early Spring, especially near dams and creeks, where they catch frogs. They also eat lizards. They are quite variable in colour from pale to dark brown. They may be difficult to distinguish from other species, such as eastern brown snakes, which are also brown. Brown snakes are slender and grow up to two metres long but are more aggressive and fast-moving. They prefer drier, more open habitats, and prey on a range of vertebrates, particularly lizards, including larger ones, such as blue-tongues. The third common species around Meredith is the mainland tiger snake. They may be a uniform brown colour, but often have alternating dark and light stripes, making them easy to identify. They are shorter than the other two, and although extremely venomous, are usually only aggressive if given reason. They eat frogs and other small vertebrates.

Less common snakes include the red-bellied black snake, white-lipped snake and little whip snake. The red-bellied black snake is a large attractive snake with a shiny black back and a red belly which

is visible along its sides. It is often found near water, as it eats frogs. Its venom is less dangerous to humans, while the white-lipped snake, which has an obvious white stripe along its lip and the nocturnal little whip snake, which is brown with a black head, are not considered dangerous to people. The last two grow to half a metre long and are rarely seen.

Snakes sense their surroundings in different ways to mammals. They flick their forked tongue in and out, collecting scent particles from air, ground and water. They touch their tongue to two Jacobson's organs in the roof of their mouth, which analyse smells. It is their main way of detecting prey. They use their eyesight at close range. Many species can see motion, but may not be able to focus well. They can't close their eyes and instead of eyelids have transparent scales over their eyes. They have no external ears, but can detect sounds through the ground. They are also sensitive to vibrations in the ground and the air. Their hard skin is made up of smooth dry scales, with soft skin between, allowing movement. They have special scales on their bellies to help them grip the ground. Their outer skin is regularly shed in one piece, helping them to recover from injuries, remove mites and ticks, and possibly aiding growth. Due to their long bodies, snakes have at least two hundred vertebrae in their spine, but may

have over four hundred. Snakes mate in Spring. Most snakes in southern Victoria give birth to live young, but brown snakes lay eggs into cracks in the ground.

Snakes can't chew. They immobilise prey by injecting venom through their hollow fangs. The venom, which aids digestion, is stored in a gland in their head. The skull bones and jaw muscles are adapted to allow them to open their mouth wide enough to swallow their food whole. After a large meal, snakes become dormant, while they digest their food. They are also inactive in cold weather. They need a source of warmth to allow them to be active, and are

commonly seen sunbaking. In very hot weather, they will shelter from the sun, but may be active at night.

Snakes try to avoid encounters with large animals or people that may harm them. It's best to avoid disturbing them. An awareness of their habits and a few simple precautions, such as using a torch outside on warm nights, will help. Snakes may be attracted to buildings by rats and mice. They like to hide and can be found in wood piles and under sheets of metal or in long grass. In these places, wear sturdy boots and long pants, so if you are unlucky enough to have a snake try to bite you, it is less likely to succeed. If you pick up wood or metal, use a lever such as a crowbar to move it first and wear gloves. Keep small children and pets away. It is dangerous and illegal to attempt to kill a snake. If you have a problem with one, you can contact a licensed snake catcher, who can offer advice or relocate the snake. If you are bitten, seek medical help immediately. Most importantly, treat snakes with caution and respect, and they are likely to treat you the same way. You may even be able to watch and admire these interesting animals from a safe distance.

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Meredith Primary School News

This month we'd like to showcase the skill and talent of many of our amazing students who have created the following pieces for your enjoyment. Have a great month everyone!

Interviews with after school care kids

— What have you been doing at after school care lately?

☺ P/1 have been playing outside a lot, they have been making paper dolls.

☺ 1/2 children have been doing a lot of drawing and making earrings. They have also played with the toy horses and with the toy dragons.

☺ 2/3 after school care kids did painting activities, and drew animals. Last week was also animal's week, where we got to do lots of exciting stuff and bring in pictures of animals.

☺ 4/5 have been doing animal stuff that includes making animal paw prints. They've also been bringing their pet photos in.

☺ Thank you Sharni, Bianca and Janie for making this so fun and exciting for all of the kids that go and do after school care. We love going to after school care!!

By a grade six girl



Jokes from the Grade 6 Room

Q. Why can't you give Elsa a Balloon?
A. She will let it go

Q. How do you make a tissue dance?
A. Put a little boogie in it

Q. Why did the picture go to jail?
A. Because it was framed

Q. What do you call security guards working outside Samsung shops?
A. The guardians of the galaxy

Q. Why was the biscuit so sad?
A. Because his mum was a wafer so long.

Q. Why couldn't the tomato get up the hill?
A. Because it was out of juice.

Doctor, there's an invisible man in the waiting room
Tell him I can't see him right now

THE GREAT CRICKET QUIZ



1. What does LBW stand for?

- A. Leg behind Wicket
- B. Left before Wicket
- C. Leg before Wicket

2. What happens when the batsmen is caught over the boundary line?

- A. the Batsmen is out
- B. the Batsmen scores six runs
- C. the delivery is a dead ball

Q3. How many deliveries are in one over?

- A. 6
- B. 7
- C. 5

Q4. How can a Batsmen be safe from being stumped?

- A. if his foot is on the popping crease
- B. if his foot is behind the popping crease
- C. if his foot is in front of the popping crease

Q5. How much time does a Batsmen have to get ready before he is Timed Out?

- A. 3 minutes
- B. 1 minute
- C. 2 minutes

Q6. What happens if 10 Wickets fall?

- A. the batting team is all out
- B. the bowling team wins no matter what the score
- C. the Umpires switch positions

Q7. Where are the Slips positioned?

- A. On the Leg side boundary
- B. Next to the Square Leg Umpire
- C. Next to the Wicket Keeper

Q8. About what age do most Cricketers retire?

- A. 35
- B. 45
- C. 60

By Jayden, Grade 6 Class

ANSWERS - 1: c, 2: b, 3: a, 4: b, 5: c, 6: a, 7: c, 8: a




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Future-Proofing Energy Supply

Over recent instalments, I have outlined how our supply of electricity is moving from Centralized Generation (using Fossil Fuels) and Distribution (through a Mains Network) to Distributed Generation and Storage (using mainly Solar Power plus Batteries). And how this is driving the Mains Electricity Network Operators into a "Utility Death Spiral". The less power we use, the more they charge us for it to maintain profits... and so the less we use. Unavoidable Fixed Daily Charges are increased to force us to pay no matter how much we reduce our demand. The only way to avoid the unavoidable is to disconnect from the Mains Network completely – which will be economically attractive in no more than 5 Years when the price of batteries is right. But in the short to medium term the Network Operators are likely to use legislation and fees to force consumers who want to disconnect to stay on the Electricity Network (and possibly Mains Gas as well). Ultimately forcing the voting public to pay for too many services they don't need will become a political problem. And in the medium to long-term, legislators will be forced to come to a new understanding with the Network Operators if they want to get elected ... at which point whole sections of the Network, particularly those remote from urban centres, that have ceased to be a viable business proposition, might be shutdown completely.

What is an Energy Consumer to do to ensure access to energy at sustainable prices when faced with uncertainty about whether they will be connected to the Mains Grid or not !?!

One thing is clear: *reducing your demand for energy* makes paying higher unit prices for energy from the Mains Grid a smaller problem.

And if the Fixed Daily Charges become unbearable, it also makes it easier to go Off-Grid because less expensive equipment (particularly batteries) will be required.

The biggest uses for Energy in a typical Victorian home are:

- Space Heating/Cooling (30% - 60%)
- Hot Water (15 % - 25%)
- White Goods (15%)
- Other Appliances (10%)
- Home Entertainment (10%)
- Lighting (5% to 10%)
- Cooking (Approx 5%)

I will look at specific ways to Future Proof your home by looking at these in more detail in upcoming instalments. But I want to make the point now how significant the reductions can be. There is a Strawbale Home in Buninyong that never gets cooler than 16 Degrees in Winter nor hotter than 25 Degrees in Summer with no Heating or Cooling. And Hot Water costs can be reduced by between 66% and 75% by installing Solar Hot Water or Heat Pump Hot Water. The bottom line: Reducing your demand for energy not only reduces costs per unit of energy consumed, but could also offer bonus savings by making it easier to disconnect from the Mains Grid as it becomes more economically attractive ... or when forced to do so.

Cheers, Simon

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

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Support for SSAITGD young people and their families

In Victoria over the past 10 years we have seen a growing number of young people who identify as Same Sex Attracted, Intersex, Trans and Gender Diverse (SSAITGD); around 11% of Australians identify this way.

Research tells us that these young people experience a very distressing time as they explore their sexuality or question their gender. Disclosing this to others can be complicated and challenging. They may experience complications at home, problems at school, depression, anxiety and physical health problems. SSAITGD young people and their families need a great deal of support, compassion, understanding and acceptance from their friends, teachers, medical services and the communities in which they live. Therefore, it is important for rural communities such as ours to gain more understanding about the needs of SSAITGD young people and their families.

Many young SSAITGD people experience harassment at school from fellow students as well as teachers. The Safe Schools Coalition Victoria was founded by Gay and Lesbian Health Victoria, La Trobe University and the State Government. The Coalition directly supports the rights of SSAITGD young people and provides education and awareness programs within schools.

We also have a range of organizations, health & well being, legal and government services to support SSAITGD young people. The Greater City of Geelong Council and Ballarat Youth Services both offer counselling, information for families, activities and support groups. They also offer resources and connection to local health and community services that are SSAITGD friendly.

The most important way to support and help SSAITGD young people and their families is to become more educated and aware of the issues they face in our society.

Please check out the following information;

- GASP Geelong 52724688
www.gaspgeelong.net.au
- Zaque Ballarat 53205144
www.youthservicesballarat.com.au
- www.safeschoolscoalition.org.au
- <http://ygender.org.au>
- www.rainbownetwork.com.au
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Around the World to visit Lindsay and Sarah

Marg Cooper

In March 2014 an article in the newsletter related how Lindsay and Sarah McLane had travelled around the world to visit their son at Cargerie. Duncan McLane was managing a farm for Meredith Dairy and was living, with his wife Pip and two children, in "Glenbuckie" which is a bluestone house that is over 100 years old.

Lindsay and Sarah live on a farm in England about 20 miles north of York and they invited us to visit them. Their house is over 300 years old, a fireplace in their home is dated about 1790 and a piece of their land is on a 999 year lease from King Charles 1st. Within 8 miles of their farm is 1 stately home {Castle Howard}, 2 smaller stately homes, 2 castles, 3 abbeys, 2 National Trust properties and a white horse carved in chalk.

They took us to visit the schools where their sons were educated. St Martin's Ampleforth, the preparatory school was Gilling Castle which was originally the home of the Etton family who settled there at the end of the 12th Century. The Headmaster, who happened to be Australian, conducted us around the old buildings including the "Great Chamber" which was the inspiration for the Great Hall in the Harry Potter books. It is a remarkable example of the richness and elaboration of a late Elizabethan interior with heraldry used to decorate and glass signed by the artist in 1585.

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Dr Margaret Somerville: Wednesday

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Streamline Clinics will be offered 3 days/week to enable better access to Doctors for simple repeat scripts, simple repeat referrals or flu vaccinations. The appointments in a streamline clinic will be strictly 6 minutes or less; the appointments in the Streamline Clinic will be bulk-billed to medicare.

Bookings are available and we are accepting new patients living in the Golden Plains Shire. Every effort will be made to accommodate your preferred time and preferred doctor.

Ampleforth College, the secondary, coeducational, boarding school, opened in 1802 is run by the Benedictine monks and lay staff of Ampleforth Abbey. It is across the valley from the preparatory school and consists of very imposing buildings. The community of monks has existed for 400 years, until 1793 in France and then at Ampleforth. Their web page indicates there are 81 monks at Ampleforth and that "The school meets its aims to help pupils become mature and honourable, inspired by high ideals and capable of leadership."

So Lindsay and Sarah are surrounded by old history. They even added a Romeo and Juliet type tower to their home, which contains the staircase. But not all is old! Sarah picked us up from York in her powder blue coloured electric car and Lindsay has just installed a heating system for their house that consists of a large boiler fired by wood pellets.

It was delightful to visit people in their home and to be shown around by people who know the sights intimately.

(Dis)Satisfaction Survey Results

(From Media Release)

Results from the 2015 Community Satisfaction Survey indicate residents would like to see change in Golden Plains Shire Council's performance.

Coordinated by the State Government and conducted by Computer Assisted Telephone Interviewing technology in February and March this year, 400 randomly selected adult residents provided feedback on Council's service to the community.

Key findings indicate the areas requiring more attention are community consultation and engagement; advocacy; overall performance; and overall direction.

Mayor, Councillor Des Phelan said, "Council is concerned with the results and is taking the identified areas of improvement very seriously."

The survey results indicate a decline in community satisfaction since last year. They also join an overall downward trend in residents' satisfaction in Council's performance over the past three years. Comparatively, councils around the State are reporting similar trends.

"We are currently implementing a new Events, Communications and Marketing Strategy, which was developed with community input, as well as preparing a Community Engagement Strategy. This will improve communication with residents and increase opportunities for people to access Council information and participate in planning and decision-making processes," Councillor Phelan said.

"We have significantly increased our social media presence to help keep residents better informed and have started implementing major changes to our approach to community engagement. That said, there is still work to be done and residents can expect to see a number of changes and improvements over the next 12 months," said Councillor Phelan.

Residents can find a copy of the survey results on the Golden Plains Shire Council website.



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Readjustment

After a magnificent holiday that gained you an extra summer and a monster of a virus, how do you readjust into your everyday life? Well, as the aforementioned virus might suggest, you ask for yet more time off work of course! But in all seriousness, it can be hard and depressing to slip yourself back into your everyday life. Not because you've forgotten how to do everything or have got out of the habit of sticking to a routine, but because it is so easy just to get right back in there. It's like your holiday never existed. People ask for every details about your holiday for a couple of days and then *poof!* you're no longer the centre of attention and you find less and less of an opportunity to bring up the fact that you have seen a Swiss Alp. Or that you have struggled so hard to get out of the pristine waters of Nice beach that you had to crawl up the pebbled embankment on your hands and knees to avoid the pain of stones pressing into the arch of your foot—much to the amusement of the seasoned travellers who packed their surf shoes for such an occasion. The initial 'I'm so glad to be home!' sentiment turns into a melancholy 'I'm home' as you realise what being home actually entails. Besides the joy at being reunited with family and friends, it also means that you have to go back to work and get sucked back into the workplace drama and the customers that are never happy.

You have to actually wash your clothes because walking around in shorts that had been worn 13 other times during your holiday is no longer valid or acceptable now that you have access to a washing machine. You get a few blissful days of being left out of the cooking/washing up roster due to your virus/jet lag/lack of domestication over the last four weeks but all too soon you're right back at it.

You're washing dishes, hanging clothes on the line and cooking meals...because suddenly there is no more holiday mentality about it being ok to eat at restaurants and out of sandwich bars for every meal. There's no fresh towels and a nicely made bed waiting for you when you return home from the outside world and the reality of not being on holiday anymore hits. But hey, look at the bright side, there is no 21 hour flight home looming darkly in the back of your mind, there's no more paying to use the toilet and no more lining up for clichéd tourist attractions that you don't really care about seeing but decide that while you're there, you might as well. And, perhaps happiest of all, there is no more language barrier leaving you gaping like a fish out of water as you try to decode what the shop assistant/waiter/police officer just said to you.

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Building on some of our earlier, and near useless reviews (one café closed the day of our review, and another was changing its menu the following week) we bring you a review of a restaurant that's 16,000 km away!

Grand Cru Restaurant and Bar, Prague ★★



We have found the ideal restaurant for dining in Prague and can't believe how good the food was. It is Grand Cru Restaurant and Bar, Lodecka 4 Praha 1. We walked in and were given a bottle of French mineral water, and then the fun began.

Complimentary *hors d'ors* of magic small bites comprising pork crackling with a yummy dip, beetroot chips with a sour cream dressing, basil chips with smoked trout sauce, canapé with chicken liver pate. Next was soaked salmon with a nice sauce of horseradish (no outlay yet!!)

For entrée, one of us had red peppers stuffed with beef and a sorbet of tomato and anchovy. The other ordered lobster bisque with basil ice cream, in a crunchy casing.

For mains it was venison with baby vegetables and a side plate of split peas and coriander; and the veal *entrecôte* with green peppercorn sauce and mushroom baby cannelloni tubes.

By this time we had run out of steam so had two espresso coffees to finish. It was a real taste experience beautifully presented and probably one of the best meals either of us have had.

The bottom line all this cost 2065 crowns, or about \$120 in real money.

**We're only giving this one star. Yes, we know it reads pretty well and the cost seems reasonable, but you add the air fare and accommodation and the value proposition is outrageous! But, if you must go, ring in advance - +420 775 044 076 - you wouldn't want to turn up and find they haven't got a table!*

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

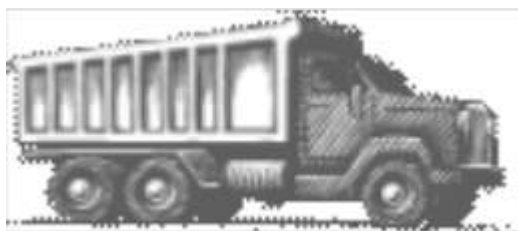


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Marg's BOOK REVIEW

"After Romulus"

by Raimond Gaita

Raimond Gaita wrote "Romulus My Father" in 1998 which was described as a vivid, complex and honest childhood memoir. He wrote about his father Romulus Gaita who fled his home in his native Yugoslavia at the age of thirteen in 1935, Romulus worked as a blacksmith's apprentice until he was seventeen, after which he moved to Germany and eventually emigrated to Australia with his young wife Christina and their infant son Raimond, soon after the end of WW11. The family were at Bonegilla Migrant Camp before Romulus was sent to work to Baringhup to help build a dam. The family later moved to a farmhouse called "Frogmore" where they lived for the next ten years and where his father made wrought iron furniture. The book is a tribute to the goodness of his father, describes the central Victorian countryside of his youth and the effect this has on the family. He describes how a compassionate and honest man taught his son to live a decent life despite many difficulties including betrayal, suicide, affliction and madness. He describes his father's attitude to life as "compassionate fatalism".

A film was made of the book in 2005 which raised various questions. Raimond Gaita attempted to answer the questions in his 2011 book "After Romulus". It is a collection of five essays; each attempting to explain a different facet of the first book. Essay 1 looks at the character of his father's best friend "Hora". Essay 2 demonstrates his father's goodness which enabled Gaita to move on without bitterness. Essay 3 tells of making the film whilst essay 4 examines the ideas of truth, love and morality. The last essay describes his mother and his longing for her.

The author became a philosopher and the book "After Romulus" contains difficult parts and he begs the reader to "read them slowly". He also admitted that much of his philosophical beliefs and writing was inspired by his father and his friend Hora. Having re-read "Romulus My Father" it was interesting, but certainly not easy, to read Gaita's feelings about the book and the film.

Note: Jenny Colvin thought that she should re-read "Romulus My Father" before reading "After Romulus". She visited a second hand bookshop in Queenscliff and asked for the book. The owner replied that he hadn't been asked for that book for five years but that he had two copies. Jenny bought the hard cover book that was still in its box. She was also excited to discover that the author had signed the copy.

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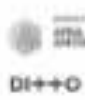
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it's History

Meredith History Interest Group

Treasure Time:

On the cold Sunday afternoon of August 30 we met at the Anglican Hall to show and tell. We tested the electricity system with heaters and kettle but the atmosphere was warm with enthusiasm for the items that were brought along which included: a decorative mantelpiece clock with a pendulum that had been a wedding present to John Henry Shell and Sarah Lowne in 1915, a Bible owned by Elizabeth Chapman from 1837, a large teapot dug up near a mine at Steiglitz, a decorated "pot" with handle to keep under the bed, a pair of leggings worn by a horseman during WW1, a section of Round's chain that was used to haul the diggings out of mines, a mirror painted with birds in a wetland scene, plaits of hair cut off over 60 years ago, a cribbage board with an advertisement for "Ballarat Bitter" on it, a hoop used to

MORRISONS.Monday.

The water which has been so anxiously expected at Morrisons for some time past has actually arrived on the Table Land. Enough has reached Dove's dam for the use of the residents for domestic purposes. This in itself is a great boon. The dam would have been full, and sufficient water would have been down for washing purposes also, had it been allowed to follow its own course, but it appears there are some persons about Dolly's Creek who also want water, so there being apparently neither supervision nor management, they intercept it and cut it off when it pleases them. Not content with taking a domestic supply, it is stated that they have commenced washing also. If the management, as it appears at present to be, is on the good old plan, "That they shall take who have the power, and they shall keep who can," there will be some rough times about the "diggings" before the summer is over. The matter is in a very mixed-up state. People generally are uncertain whether they are to get the water for nothing and take it when and where they think proper, or, whether they are expected to pay for it as they have been in the habit of doing. The Commissioner, or as the Major prefers to call them the Board of Advice, appear to be in very much the same position as the like body under the Board of Education—they have either too much or too little power. Some one must be appointed to exercise supervision, so that if the Board have not the authority, the Department should be immediately moved to that end.

*Geelong Advertiser 12 March 1879
Compiled by Jan McDonald*

transfer the "staff" between train drivers and stationmasters and a red satin ball dress worn to a Back to Ballan about 1960.

More than Gold at Steiglitz:

You are invited to discover "more than gold" at Steiglitz on Sunday, November 8th. We are to meet at the Hotel in Regent Street at 1.30 pm. Peter Sharp is then going to take us on a trip of discovery. For those who can, there is a walk, for those who can't, you can be transported. Not to be missed! Please bring a small plate of arvo tea.

We meet on the last Thursday of the month at the Anglican Hall from 9 am. Feel free to call in.

"Dear Aunt Patsy: Meredith, Sept. 8, 1914

I am again taking the pleasure of writing to you. We are having fine weather here now. It is like summer days. The Federation Ball was held here in St Josephs Hall on the 5th of August. There was a large attendance. There is going to be confirmation here soon and Fr. Vaughan is preparing some of the children for it. I was confirmed three years ago in the new church at Ballan. Fr. Vaughan is going to have a ? in a short time. Fr. Cussen is coming. The old church that was at Lethbridge was taken to Lal Lal and there is a new one being built in Lethbridge. It was the first church our aunt went to. Now Dear Aunt Patsy I will describe Meredith to you. It consists of three hotels, two blacksmiths shops, three grocers, three green grocers, one butcher, one baker, one post office, two schools, one Catholic Hall and one Mechanics Hall. We also have a railway station. The wattle trees are out in blossom now and they look very pretty. One of our schoolboys broke his leg and is Geelong Hospital for some weeks. We are going to have our school examination in a few weeks. Dear Aunt Patsy will you please send me one of the Captains ? and First Mates and also your own photo if you have one to spare. I have not much news to tell you this time so I will conclude with love to the Captain and First Mate not forgetting yourself and the little orphans. I remain your loving niece, VERA BOWMAN."

Advocate, Saturday, September 26, 1914.

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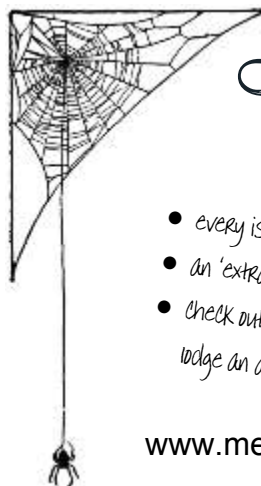
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Article 4

Vale to Archie Bowers

Marg Cooper

Archibald Thomas Henry (named after his father and grandfathers), or 'Archie' was born on 21st March 1923 in Ballarat. He was the only son of Archibald and Flora but had five sisters – Jessie, Mary, Flora, Doris and Elaine.

After morning milking he would take the cows down to 'Connell's' paddock then attend school at Elaine Primary and, on the way home, would bring the cows back for milking. With his 8th Grade Merit Certificate he left school to help on the family farm and other district farms on threshers and with shearing.

During World War 11 he was called up for the Army, serving first in Melbourne and then at Moora and Geraldton, Western Australia, before his father requested his return to the family farm.

Archie had a good memory, was quiet, reserved, private, scrupulously honest, and preferred one-on-one conversations.

He met Lorna Shearer at a WW11 woolshed fundraising dance for the Red Cross near Clarendon. They married on 24 May 1947 at Holy Trinity, Church of England in Buninyong but Archie's love for football cut their Tasmania honeymoon short so he could play the following Saturday. They lived with his parents for three years until moving into their new home on Settlement Road in 1950 – for which they paid a whole £2000!

He was proud of his three daughters and their families: Marilyn and Russell, Lorraine and Mick, and Betty and Roy and his nine grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Archie took an active interest in whatever they pursued in life and gave them strong memories of helping/working in the shearing shed, marking lambs and caring for his prized merinos.

Archie focused on farming and rural life; and he took pride in presenting wool for sale, though sport was also a passion. As a kid, he used to kick his first football along the road when bringing cows home, and he started playing with Elaine before the War. He went to Buninyong and Meredith when Elaine closed, but after Elaine revived he won the Best and Fairest player in the Elliott Football Association in 1948. He played his last game as a fill-in at 40 years of age.

He also filled-in with Elaine Cricket Club, and support for his community took him onto School Council, Progress Hall Committee and office bearer and Life Member of Elaine Fire Brigade.

Archie worked with fencing contractors erecting many miles

(kilometres) of fencing around Elaine and Districts. Everywhere he travelled he was always checking out the styles of fencing.

He also loved rabbiting, with ferrets, traps or shooting - for food and for supplementing the family income. He knew every rabbit burrow intimately over the family property 'Hillside' and 'Narmbool'. Often, after tea, he'd take the girls 'shooting' around on nearby roads when his much-loved ferrets and dogs needed food. Time-to-time, ferrets became stuck behind rabbits in the burrow or killed them and enjoyed a much-earned rest afterwards. This meant Archie going home and returning several times to try and recover them, as he never liked to lose any.

Archie was proud of his Scottish ancestry and loved Scottish and Irish music.

He was diagnosed with glaucoma in 1991, which led to deteriorating eyesight and needing to downsize from 1300 acres. In February 2013, age and deteriorating health forced Lorna and Archie to sell up, except for his small 'bush paddock', and move to Geelong.

Archie was then the oldest man in Elaine, where he had hoped to remain until his passing.

A service of thanksgiving was held at FW Barnes & Son Chapel in Sebastopol on September 3 and he was interred in the Clarendon Cemetery.

As requested by Archie, he was buried with both his Elaine and Buninyong Football jumpers and a 'Scotch Thistle' on his coffin.

Adapted from the Eulogy Notes of daughter Marilyn.

Want a Good Deal on a Compost Bin?



Council recently conducted a resident survey to gauge interest in the green waste collection. There wasn't much! What it did find however, is that 37% of respondents indicated they conducted home composting; 26% of respondents reported giving their green waste to pets and chickens; and another 26% said they shred green waste into garden mulch.

Council has decided to support these home practices by offering compost bins at cost price to interested residents; \$39 for a 220L bin and \$44 for a 400L variety.

The bins are high-quality, Australian-made items from the company, Reln and are made from 100% recycled plastics.

Residents interested in ordering a compost bin should contact Golden Plains Shire Council's Customer Service Centre on 5220 7111.

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