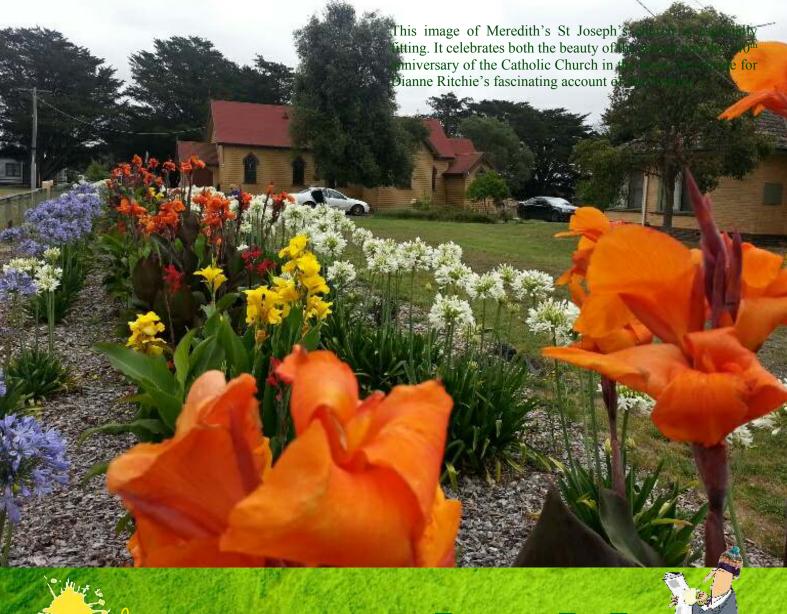
YOUR FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER SINCE 1972

A Colourful Journey



Come inspect the new Community
Phone Directory by the 17th September
and update your entry.

...and we still want to hear from all you shutterbugs out there.

(see inside for details

inside

...you will find your favourite columns, lots of articles about local life, past and present, the winter rainfall report.

...and the usual *much more!*

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







Saturday 7 November 2015, 12pm-3.30pm



You are invited to indulge in an exclusive banquet prepared by award-winning chef Matt Dempsey in a private marquee amidst the buzz and bustle of the Golden Plains Farmers' Market, Bannockburn, Victoria. The event will be hosted by The Age food writer, Richard Cornish.

PACKAGE INCLUDES:

- Gladioli banquet lunch
- Fresh ingredients direct from stallholders
- Austins & Co. wines
- Boutique beer and sparkling wine
- Free return transport from Geelong
- Live music
- Admission to the after party at Austins Winery

COMPLIMENTARY BUS TIMETABLE.

10.30am Geelong to Bannockburn Bannockburn to Austins & Co. Winery 3.30pm Austins & Co. Winery to Geelong 6.00pm

BOOKINGS & INFORMATION:

Lisa Shaw

Farmers' Market Project Officer, Golden Plains Shire lisashaw@gplains.vic.gov.au • 5220 7221

Booking form: www.goldenplainsdigital.com.au/ events/golden-plains-farmers-market-sumptuousluncheon

\$120 inc gst, all inclusive









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

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

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 EMERGENCY

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.)

HISTORY GROUP

25286 8201

25286 1250

LIFE DRAWING

20430 318322

MEMORIAL HALL

MOTOR CYCLE

20437 009250

POLICE PADDOCKS

PLAYGROUP

25286 1348

25286 1273

RED CROSS

RSL

CLUB

TENNIS

Flaine

Meredith

25286 8222

252861 452

25286 8232

SENIOR CITIZENS

20448 291074

25286 1211

SEW 'N' SEWS

25286 1348

25286 1545

CLUB

LANDCARE

ADVANCE MEREDITH

25286 1291

ANGLING CLUB 20419 423 960

BLUE LIGHT DISCO

25286 1222

BOOK CLUB 25286 8201

(000 for fire calls) Elaine

20417 533516 Meredith

25286 1502 Morrisons

2 0417 770 765

CHILDCARE

25286 1348 COMMUNITY

CENTRE 25286 1348

CRICKET Elaine

20428 264103 Junior Under 14 **2**0418535713

Meredith **2**5286 1434

CUBS & SCOUTS Anakie

25281 9497

FOOTBALL (seniors) FILM GROUP **20408 545246**

(juniors) **2**0430 587674

GOLF CLUB 5341 5748 **2**5286 1274

FRIENDS OF THE **BRISBANE RANGES 2**5286 1252

LIONS DISTRICT CONTACT **2** 52 815391

Police, Ambulance, Fire (from mobile phone) Meredith Police Station Power Failure Nurse-On-Call Mental Health Advice Poisons Information Barwon Water SES flood & storm help: 24 Hour Helpline 24 Hour Drug & Alcohol Kids Help Line 24hr 5-18yo

Golden Plains Shire A.H.: all services Bannockburn Vets

Golden Plains Vets Injured Wildlife Pets and Horses 24/7

1800 551 800

1300 363 036 5220 7111 5281 1221 5281 2226 1300 wildlife 0421 617 238

JUSTICES of the PEACE

Mr R Cooke Meredith Mr H Woerner Meredith Mrs S W Dynon Steiglitz Mr P Ryan Elaine

52 861 346 52 861 402 52.819.223 0409 861 296

CEMETERY TRUST

25286 1550

HALL HIRE Meredith Memorial **2**5286 1545 Elaine Mechanics

25241 5596 Elaine Rec Res **2**5341 5703

LIBRARY VAN **2**5272 6010

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

25220 7230

PRE-SCHOOL **2**5286 1227

PRIMARY SCHOOL **2**5286 1313

RECREATION RESERVE

20429 841399



"It may be true that the government that governs best governs least. Unfortunately, the same is also true of the government that governs worst."

- Jane Elizabeth Auer



COMMUNITY

Meredith Senior Citizens

Jim Hynds

On July 27, 2015 the Seniors left Meredith on a rather dismal morning for a bus trip to the lakes and extinct volcanos of Colac and surrounding areas. A leisurely drive soon had us at Camperdown for morning tea.

After being warmed up by tea and cappuccinos we were off again on a tour organized by our bus driver Allan. We visited many lakes including Lake Bullen Merri, Lake Gnotuk and Lake Colac. We visited some extinct volcanos which had massive craters with fantastic lookouts that afforded spectacular views. Mt Leura at Camperdown was most impressive. Throughout the tour Allan gave an informative commentary of the history of each place we visited.

Around midday we headed for Warrion, a small farming town. Readers will remember Rick and David from Meredith who set up the Ice Cream and Lolly Shop in Staughton Street. They are now the proud owners of the Ti Tree Hotel in Warrion. They made us extremely welcome with a cosy fire and fantastic meals. These guys are worth visiting if you are heading down that way. You will be made most welcome and will get a great meal.

A few hours later we said our goodbyes and we were off for more touring. Allan knew of a huge mansion being restored by a local identity. He gave us a talk about the history, past owners and the amount of money already spent on the nowhere near finished mansion.

Wearily we headed for home and arrived back at Meredith around 5 pm. Many thanks to Allan for his impressive commentary and to Rick and David of the Ti Tree Hotel at Warrion for their hospitality. It was a very impressive and enjoyable day.

Golden Plains Mobile Library

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



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).

Well Done Recyclers

The Golden Plains environment says thank you to its residents and business owners. In the first month of the new collection service there was a massive 55 tonne increase in collected recycling.

In context, in one month, the population of a small rural shire has saved the environment from 3,500 gigajoules of energy, which is the equivalent to the annual energy output of 166 households.

Mayor Councilor Des Phelan said he and Council are thrilled with the community response.

"Given how significant the change in service is, we anticipated it would take six months to a year before we would start seeing figures like this," said Councillor Phelan.

On 1 July this year, Council implemented a changed waste and recycle collection service; a key feature of which was the doubling of residents' recycling capacity.

"In the first month of the new collection service there was a massive 55 tonne increase in collected recycling."

"We saw an opportunity to reduce general waste going to landfill by giving our residents 50% more capacity to recycle," Councillor Phelan said of the change in service.

"What we didn't expect was that in just 30 days, our

residents would increase the volume of their recycling by almost 30%. It's wonderful," added Councillor Phelan.

A monthly recycling report shows that Golden Plains residents and "What we didn't expect was that in just 30 days, our residents would increase the volume of their recycling by almost 30%"

business owners recycled 188.73 tonnes in July, compared with 133.54 tonnes in June.

July's recycling intake saw almost 34 tonne more in paper and cardboard recycled than the month prior. There was also a marked increase in deposited glass, with volumes rising by over 14 tonne, and in mixed plastic, rising by 2.5 tonne from June.

"July's impressive recycling volume translates to a saving of 510 cubic metres of landfill space, 1.2 Olympic swimming pools of water, 1500 trees and 470 barrels of oil – and this is extraordinary," Councillor Phelan said.

"We look forward to working with our communities to maintain and build on this fantastic community response, and anticipate further reductions in our landfill deposits a lot sooner than expected."

School Holiday Activities

Stuck for ideas on what to do with the kids these school holidays? Once again there will be a range of activities happening throughout the Golden Plains Shire for primary and secondary school age people. Activities will cater for those interested in art and craft or for those looking for something a little more physical. Each activity has limited spaces so registrations are required. See a full list of activities and registration detail at goldenplainsdigital.com.au/youth-blog or phone (03) 5220 7111.

Fire Levy to Increase

from media release

The levy is a legislative requirement of the State Government and is applied to all properties in Victoria. Council is required to collect these funds via the Rates Notice. Council forwards all the collected levy revenue to the State Revenue Office and this assists the Country Fire Authority to deliver its essential service.

The government has increased the levy so, for a residential property in Golden Plains valued at \$320,000, there will be an increase of around \$13 from 2014-15, which translates to a charge of approximately \$150 per annum. This will be higher for higher valued properties.



Lions International is one of the largest humanitarian funds in the world, donating millions of dollars to natural disaster funds. The Australian Lions Foundation has over 1,400 clubs with over 31,000 members.

We are dedicated to making our community a better place to live, work and grow.

Over recent months a growing band of local people have been meeting and planning and are now proud to announce the formation of the Meredith & District Lions Club.

We meet on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month
Mirepoix – 32 Staughton Street, Meredith
We warmly invite you to join us and make our
community a better place to be.

ANNOUNCING MEREDITH & DISTRICT LIONS
CLUB CHARTER DINNER

Saturday 26th September, 2015 Meredith Memorial Hall 6.30 for 7.00 start \$40 pp

Bookings: Jarna – 0438102139, Andrea – 0407523575, Mary - 52861459



Hi Everyone,

Yet another month is almost at a close. Writing my report seems to come around ever more quickly and I have to think about the news and events happening at the Centre.

We are excited that we have been nominated as a Learn Local Legend for our region at the Learn Local Awards presented in early September. I dare say the Newsletter committee will be looking for a picture opportunity in the next newsletter. I imagine you are asking what is Learn Local. We are a part of Learn Local organisations across Victoria offering a range of education and training programs. We are your government registered Learn Local in your community that can help you return to study, improve your reading, writing and maths skills, gain a qualification, get a job or learn something new. Learn Locals pride themselves on being friendly and welcoming and for providing first step adult learning opportunities right here in the local community.

Although we are well into this 3rd term we still have some great classes coming up. We have had a great response to our chook workshop, we look forward to going down to Ian Nash's place at Teesdale on September 12th. The pieces the ladies made in the Saori scarf workshop were gorgeous and Pru has kindly offered to do another class. So watch out in the new Term 4 Brochure toward the end of September.

Speaking of Term 4, we have decided in our Computer classes for the last term to make them more of a come and try or learn in more detail class. So we are keen to hear from you what it is you would like to try or learn more of as far as your computer and software is concerned.

We are a little frustrated with the delay we are experiencing with our Occasional Care. Jo has the room all set up with our lovely new furniture, our children are champing at the bit to move but we are waiting on bureaucracy to allow us to move into the new facility. We feel more for the Kindergarten as well with the quagmire which is the backyard at the moment holding their move up.

Nevertheless Jo and the staff are doing a great job with the service still running at the Primary school with a great program for the children. We will have an additional 2 places (subject to age group quotas) available when we move into the new building so that will provide more families with the opportunity to use the service, especially on Fridays where we already have a waiting list.

That's all for this month. 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

Church News

ANGLICAN

Weekly Services, baptisms, weddings, funerals, pastoral care, bible studies. Contact: Rev. Elizabeth Bufton, 5281 2224; 0437524864 Church Office, Byron St. Bannockburn 5281 2553 Service Times;

Church of Epiphany Meredith.

11.00am 4^{th} Sunday each month, Holy Communion at Anglican Church. 11.00am 2^{nd} Sunday of month, Holy Communion at Uniting Church

St James. Morrisons:

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

 1^{st} Sunday of the month at 5pm and 3^{rd} 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 September/ 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. September 6th/20th October 4th/18th Meredith @ 11 a.m. September 13th/27th October 11th/25th

St. Joseph's Parish Celebrates

Di Richie

"Journey "was the theme chosen for St. Joseph's Catholic Parish Meredith to celebrate 140 years of faith and community in this area. The parish now comprises Meredith, Anakie, Bannockburn, Inverleigh and Winchelsea. But due to changing demographics over the 140 years there have been churches at Darriwil (now a chapel at Deakin University Geelong), Lal Lal, Elaine, Lethbridge, Steiglitz, Gnarwarre and Teesdale which have been sold and removed or put to other uses.

The journey for this area began with the Irish priests who came to Australia to minister to the miners and pastoralists who had come to the area with the first Mass reportedly celebrated at the home of John Campion in Campion Road Meredith by Fr. Smythe, the date was probably in the late 1840's. This home became a rest stop for the priests from Geelong who often rode on horseback to say Mass in Ballarat for the miners in the early 1850's. Father Smythe was a very important figure in the Eureka uprising, counselling Peter Lalor to use peaceful means to solve the disputes. When he failed in his attempts and violence broke

out, Father Smythe smuggled the injured Peter Lalor out of Ballarat through Taylor's Road to Maude and eventually spending a night hiding in a haystack at Lethbridge and then continuing to Geelong.

The journey continued as the Catholics in the area eventually built little churches which were sometimes also used as schools. The first church and school in Meredith was built in 1861. The catholic school closed in Meredith in 1970 although it certainly was not continuous during all that time. Sometimes the school building was moved to Elaine because there were more children there.

Many of the Catholic churches in this area were built in the late 1850's and early 1860's and Meredith was the first mission church of St. Mary's Geelong. For a short time Meredith and Elaine belonged to the Ballarat Diocese but in 1875 a separate parish was formed and Meredith became the centre of that Parish. Steiglitz at that time was by far the larger town but because of the railway and the position of Meredith on the road between Geelong and Ballarat and the fact that Steiglitz 's gold could one day run out, Meredith was chosen.

The main celebration of not only 140 years as a parish but also 125 years for the Meredith church was held on Sunday August 16th at St. Joseph's Meredith with a Mass presided over by Bishop Peter Connors, a former regional Bishop of this area as well as Father Kevin Dillon and Father Maurice Barry from Geelong, Father Mick Fitzpatrick from Manifold heights and of course Meredith's own Father Herman Licayan. Also present was the Mayor of the Golden Plains Shire, Cr. Des Phelan, Rev Lyndell Gibson Minister of the Ballarat South Uniting Church which takes in Meredith and Stephen Elder, Executive Director of the Catholic Education Office who was kind enough to launch the new Parish history book "Journey". Also present were many past and present parishioners many of whom travelled long distances to be there. Deb Barrett a former publican of the Royal Hotel now in her nineties and a resident at Rice Village in Geelong was warmly welcomed as was Mary Skelton/Pearson from Elaine. Six McDonald sisters who grew up in Steiglitz were delighted to be present. Many stories were shared about life then. One of particular interest was their relationship to St. Mary MacKillop and the fact that she most probably travelled through Steiglitz on her way to Gordon. From the McDonald family two sisters became sisters of Mercy and the only brother Hugh was ordained a priest.

Visitors enjoyed a most wonderful afternoon tea catered for by parishioners from all corners of the parish and Andrea Spiller. Bishop Connors cut the manificent birthday cake which was 140 small cakes decorated in the purple and gold theme. An excellent display of historical photos and memorabilia completed what was a wonderful celebration of more than 160 years of faith and community in this part of the world.

From the Mayor



Cr. Des Phelan

I'd like to start off by congratulating residents and business owners who responded with a massive 130 tonne decrease in waste to landfill just one month into the new kerbside collection service. Coupled with an impressive 55 tonne increase in collected recycling, it's clear the Golden Plains community is making a big effort to adapt to weekly recycling and fortnightly waste collection.

Every resident's individual effort to increase recycling helps. We understand our ratepayers have busy lives, which makes it all the more impressive that people are taking the time to look at what's going in their waste and recycling bins.

The latest data translates to a saving of 26 truckloads of waste at the one month mark of the new service, which is an excellent community achievement.

In other news, 70 community members, representing 44 local projects gathered in Rokewood on Tuesday 11 August to collect their well-earned share of Council's \$144,000 Community Grants allocation. This round of Community Grants included hall upgrades, garden beds, solar power systems and more. It was a delight to attend the evening with fellow Councillors Helena Kirby, Bill McArthur and Greg Vaughan to present cheques to such passionate and community-minded people.

On a major projects note, I'm pleased with the progress of Council's four early years infrastructure projects in Bannockburn, Meredith, Rokewood and Teesdale. Together, these important projects will increase the capacity of Council-operated early years centres by over 70 places, which is fantastic for local families. Council will have the capacity to significantly enhance its offering of quality family day care, childcare, occasional care and kindergarten services in light of these new developments and upgrade projects.

Recently on the Events Calendar, various workshops, information sessions and training opportunities have been promoted and made available to residents. Among them, the Golden Plains Food Forums, Create @ The Heart Ideas Workshop, Telstra Information Session and numerous community learning sessions covering such topics as toddler and baby sleep and women's wellbeing. Residents are encouraged to utilise the Digital Events Calendar as much as possible to learn what's on in Golden Plains: goldenplainsdigital.com.au.

For more information follow Council on facebook.com/GoldenPlainsShire or stay tuned for the next Gazette, which will be distributed in the first two weeks of October.



St. Joey's OP SHOP -

BYO Drinks (glass ware) and nibbles. Raffles, door prizes and more!

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

Can You Dig Holes?

The Meredith Police Paddocks Support Group (local volunteers who work with Ballarat Environment Network to improve the reserve) need holes dug to install signs and a post and rail fence. Right now, it needs only four holes (about 200mm x 600mm) but another thirty later on. If you can help, with this community project, please contact Jim Elvey on 5286 1273.



Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

Recreation

Having troube getting your child off the computer etc..

Why not give them a chance to play tennis in the great outdoors! No experience necessary as is available for beginners. Boys and girls more than welcome to join our club and competitive tennis in the Buninyong & Association. Younger children don't miss Tennis Australia Hot Shots program is our professional coach with small nets racquets supplied by the club.

Check out tennis.com.au/elaine/about-us for more info. Tennis season starts in October so interested junior and senior players please phone

President ASAP to finalise teams. Enquiries Deb Mair President Ph 0415969290

OR

Why not give your child a chance to try cricket? Boys and girls are welcome. Elaine Cricket Club is

entering an U13 team, an U14 team and we with other clubs to form an U16 team Ballarat Cricket Association in juniors train with our experienced senior teach the kids the necessary skills of the Jugs bowling machine will be a valuable improving the kids confidence skills. Training is Thursday nights starting in September at 5pm at the Elaine Cricket Ground.

2014/15 U13 REIGNING BCA PREMIERS

All old and new players most welcome

Like us on Facebook and visit elainecc.vic.cricket.com.au

We are a Good Sports Club

Enquiries Vice President/ junior coach Daryl Wells Ph 0418535713

Our senior team are returning to the one day competition in 2015/16 Enquiries Senior Captain Joel 'Noddy' McArthur ph 0400571788

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.



Meredith Golf Club Results

The weather has been rather cold but the fairways are very good and the scrapes are very good!

19/7/2015 Stroke Round and 1st Round of the Golf Club Championship

Winner: Danny Jury, 83-10-73 nett. Runner-up: Darren Armstrong, 82-8-74 nett

Nearest the Pins: 2nd, M. Colvin. 14th, D. Armstrong

26/7/2015 Stroke Round and 2nd Round of the Golf Club Championship

Winner: Danny Jury, 80-10-70 nett. Runner-up: Andrew Scott, 91-16-75 nett

1/8/2015 Stroke Round and 3^{rd} Round of the Golf Club Championship

Winner: Danny Jury 78-10-68 nett. Runner-up Andrew Scott 86-17-69 nett

Nearest the Pins: 2nd D. Armstrong. 14th Danny Jury.

8/8/2015 Stableford Round

Winner: Danny Jury 32 points. Runner-up Mike Colvin 29 points.

Nearest the Pins: 2nd Mike Colvin, 14th Danny Jury

Meredith Golf Club Champion: Danny Jury with an aggregate of 241. (Danny is to be congratulated on his excellent 78 gross on 1/8/2015, in winter conditions). Runner-up was Darren Armstrong with an aggregate of 250. B Grade Championship Winner was Denis Gear 281 aggregate, Runner-up was Vin Drew with 315 aggregate.



CONGRATULATIONS DANNY JURY

Pumpkin Growing Competition

Jim Hynds

The Meredith Seniors Pumpkin Growing Competition was held on August 10 at the Meredith Hall. Judge Robyn Gallichio declared Linda Hynds the winner with a massive pumpkin weighing 24 pounds and another pumpkin weighing 21 pounds. Ray Dodds was declared second place with a pumpkin that weighed 18 pounds and Joe Primmer was declared third place with a pumpkin that weighed 11 pounds. Congratulations to all those who competed in this annual event. You may like to plan to win this event next year. Save your seed now to plant before Christmas and water well!



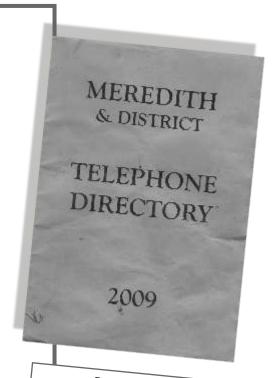
IT'S TIME

...we updated our community directory.

It's around six years since the last Community Directory was published by the Meredith Town Team, and the Newsletter team has decided it is overdue for a refresh. So, after painstakingly scanning the 2015 directories published for both the 052 and 053 districts, we have compiled an updated draft, which will be on display until **Thursday 17**th **September** at the Community Hub and both Elaine and Meredith Post Offices.

We have attempted to capture all residents within our readership area, which roughly includes Meredith, Elaine, She Oaks, Bamganie, Maude Steiglitz and Mt Doran. Mostly, we have <u>not</u> included mobile numbers, because we can't relate them to the district, but will if you ask us to. We have not included fax numbers.

So please, come and have a look and, where necessary, correct the list we plan to publish.



...and, Advertisers, with a guaranteed shelf life of at least three years, it is a great place to advertise your business or service. Contact Ian on 0409 016815 or advertising@meredithnews.com.au for details.



SUPPORT YOUR COMMUNITY

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 <u>most</u> Sunday mornings from 8:30am - 9:00am so drop in for a chat.



Another term rolls on by and the children are really busy engaging in all the planned activities as well as enjoying their social interactions with well established friendship groups now. Children are playing together more cooperatively and making up their own games and rules, basketball is the flavour of the month! We have planned winter activities throughout the room for both our groups and we are still making the most of the outdoors even though it has been cold. The 3 year old group are making steady progress with Kara planning many interesting activities, they have enjoyed a visit from the local Fireman Cookie with the fire truck, sirens and all & soon they will have pet lambs visiting to feed and pat.

We have a few staff changes this month with our 3 year old Assistant Trish leaving and the 4 year old Assistant Kylie away for a while but we have Pauline, Janine and Kara all relieving on certain days. The children don't mind the changes as all staff respond well to individual needs and engage positively with the group so connections are formed quicky and relationships are nurtured each session.

Recently we enjoyed a visit from the Responsible pet education program with Michelle and her Dalmatian dog Twiggy coming in to teach the children about how to be safe around dogs. Children also learnt what to do if faced with an angry or unknown dog in the street and how to respond to this situation to stay safe.

Both groups are celebrating Book Week with favourite stories being brought in from home to share and a character dress up day planned at the end of the week. Children are encouraged to imagine and draw their own stories to create a book of their own. Some children are making figurines out of clay to tell a story and others are using the legos to create their own story, so imaginative!!

We are all really looking forward to moving over to the new Hub but for now we wait while the outdoor space is landscaped. We have new furniture to put together and staff are excited about designing and setting up the new learning areas. The children will be taken over for a look soon and to see exactly where their new kinder will be. In the meantime we have had visits from the Prep teachers at Lethbridge and Meredith Primary schools as we start the transition preparations for our Kindergarten group.

Father's day is coming up next so both groups will be making something special for their dads to celebrate the day. Happy Fathers Day to all the wonderful Dads, Granddads, Pops & Uncles!

Thank you

Jodie



MEREDITH CONSTRUCTIONS

GEOFF L. HARDY D.B.U 15273

Registered Building Practitioner For

New Homes Renovations

Additions Ground Floor

2nd. Storey Bathrooms Kitchens Decking

Painting Tiling
Plans etc. Pergolas

All aspects of concreting Phone 0409 850 611 8am - 5pm





Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

6 High Street Bannockburn VIC 3331 Phone: 5281 1519

What's happening at the Pharmacy?

Father's Day - Sunday 6th September

Don't forget it's Father's Day on Sunday 6th September. We have lots of gifts for men to choose from and we offer complimentary gift wrapping. Plus don't forget if you are a member of FREE Loyalty Program you will receive a 16% discount as well.

We also have the Darrell Lea Dad's Bag for \$25 filled with all of the popular Darrell Lea favourites. Come in and see the wide range of gifts for your dad this Father's Day.

New Giftware in store!

Have you been into the pharmacy to see all of the new giftware that has arrived? Over the last month we have had so many new gifts arriving. Some of the new gifts that have arrived are:

- Adorne jewellery
- Handbags, wallets, backpacks & travel accessories.
- Frames
- Men's Gifts
- Children's books
- Children's creative & imaginative gifts
- draw liners
- baby gifts & teddy bears
- plus lots more!

This month we will also have a brand new range of gift wrapping paper. We offer complimentary gift wrapping for our customers and we are very excited about our new wrapping paper as the quality & finish is fantastic and we know that everyone will love it.

We are also having a clearance on our existing gift wrapping paper where you can buy 2 metres for \$2. We have lots to choose from so come in and grab some for home.

Open Extended Hours

Don't forget we are <u>open until 6:30pm</u> 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.

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"Buds tick and crack in the sun, break open Slowly in a spur of green"Robin Robertson

In late winter each year I wait for the sweet almond trees (*prunus amygdalus* var. *dulcis*) to flower, a sure sign that spring is approaching. Walking to our letterbox I pass by our two almond trees and on a warmish day, stop to watch bees hovering in the flowers. I breathe in the honey spice perfume and linger over the ballet-slipper pink blossoms, the fragile stamen with gold-tipped anthers quivering in a bee-attracting dance. The ancient almond tree in Steiglitz on the Meredith Road must be a hundred years old. Its gnarly lichen encrusted branches still burst into a brief flowering each year, even though many of its branches are dead and dying. When I look up at the tree against the sky it reminds me of Van Gogh's painting *Blossoming Almond Tree*, apparently painted on the birth of his nephew, a joyous celebration of new life - spring. So it is that the passage of the seasons moves us and the garden rewards with its new life.

Needless to say we will harvest a mere handful of almonds when the time comes. The riotously coloured crimson rosellas (*platycercus elegans*) have arrived. They cling to the branches using all manner of acrobatic skills and gouge out the embryonic fruit with their cleverly designed hooked beaks even before the flowers have dropped to the ground.

Speaking of garden pillagers, I have had to net my large garlic plot against the wood duck (*chenonetta jubata*). A large flock have been living here all year round lately, grazing in the paddock and occasionally taking a swipe at anything green and fresh that pushes up in the vegetable beds – broad beans, green peas, broccoli even – all are left battered and broken after the ducks' invasion. Now I must get under that netting and tend to the garlic which is growing well but fast being smothered by all sorts of weeds. It is time consuming work removing the weeds that are growing close to the garlic without disturbing the bulbs too much. As I do not use poisons, all this must be done carefully by hand.

Have I mentioned the comfrey plant? It is a common perennial that is lying low at the moment. Luckily I have the space to allow it to spread as it is invasive and can look untidy. I make comfrey tea by shoving bundles of the leaves into an onion net bag then soaking the lot in a water-filled plastic tub for a few weeks. The resulting brew is rich in nitrogen and potassium and it should be diluted before being watered around fruiting vegetables during their growing period. In summer and autumn before the comfrey plants die down, armfuls of the leaves go into the compost piles and contribute to a rich and friable humus.



Vale to Daphne Evelyn Tucker

30/7/1936 - 11/7/2015

Marg Cooper

Daphne was the daughter of Alice {Gertie} and Richard Sellars of Staughton Street, Meredith and sister to Bob, Joyce, Dot, Ken and Don.

She went to Primary School in Meredith and later travelled by train to attend Matthew Flinders High School in Geelong. Her first job was in the bakery at Meredith before she worked on the telephone exchange at the Post Office and at the Royal Hotel at Meredith.

Daphne was a Girl Guide at Meredith in the company led by Jill Bolte. Daphne told how lucky they were to have her as their leader as they got to go to Melbourne several times. This was a big thing for these country guides 65 years ago. Henry would often pick them up from the Corner Store on Saturday mornings and take them to his property at Bamganie for the day to picnic, to swim, to polish the silver or to burn stumps, etc. In later years Daphne regularly met these former guides to reminisce about the good old days.

Daphne met Alan Tucker at a dance at Meredith and they married on November 27, 1954. They lived at Anakie where their four children, Gary, Lorraine, Richard and Vicki were born and then they moved to Corio. Daphne was one of the women who started Mid-week Tennis at Corio and after retiring from playing tennis these women continued to meet every year for lunch on Geelong Cup Day.

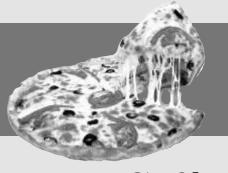
Daphne joined Elcho Park Golf Club in 1981 after some tuition on how to play golf from her sister-in-law, Nellie Tucker, on the Anakie Football Ground. She played golf until about 6 years ago, held many positions at the club including Captain, Secretary and Catering Officer and was awarded a Service award in 1997 and a Life Membership in 2005. She was also awarded a Life Membership of the Anakie Football Club.

In 1988 she was Runner-up in the first Open Heart Golf Open and after Alan had heart surgery he also played, and they were the first husband and wife team to play in such an event. They loved to travel and did much travelling after Alan retired from his job at Herds Abattoir. Her children, grandchildren and great grandchildren played a big part in their lives and Daphne was renowned for her cooking, especially the sponge cakes she whipped up. Alan and Daphne moved to a new house in Bell Park 12 years ago, they became members of the Croatia Club and often dined there and played the pokies.

A funeral Service was held at Lara Golf Club {formerly Elcho Park Golf Club} on July 16 to celebrate Daphne's achievements, to laugh at her mis-adventures, to marvel at her talents and to lament at the loss. The celebrant told that Daphne wanted to be remembered as a woman who acted according to her beliefs, who spoke her mind but who was never intentionally unkind or hurtful and who would go out of her way to help others.

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GEOCACHING

Joanne Mitchell

Several years ago whilst doing some Internet research for a blog post, I discovered a secret world which I didn't know existed. The world of geocaching. Its citizens look no different to someone you might meet on the street. They – usually – blend unseen with the everyone from families with young children, to the most intrepid rest of the community, going about their business like everyone mountain climbers or deep sea divers. It can be as simple or as else, but they have a secret knowledge of which the rest of society complex as you wish. The easiest hides can be located within is largely unaware. So what is geocaching?

Geocaching is a global treasure hunt which is happening all around you, all the time. Players or "cachers" as they are known, use a GPS-enabled device such as a smart phone or dedicated GPS unit, to locate hidden treasures known as "geocaches" or caches for short. In its simplest form, a cache is a container with a logbook inside and perhaps a few tradeable items - nothing expensive which has been hidden by another cacher for others to find. The geocache container can be as large as a drum or as small as the tip of your finger. It may be very easy to find or it may be cleverly camouflaged or concealed, making it very difficult to locate. The trick however, is to make sure no-one catches you at it – especially non-cachers or "muggles" as they are called in the business (with thanks to JK Rowling and Harry Potter).

membership fee provides extra benefits and more caches to find. Information about available caches can be found on various websites however, the largest geocaching group with over 6 million they are not up to mischief, they are just geocaching. active participants, searching on all continents - yes, even

Antarctica! - for over 2.6 million hidden caches is www.geocaching.com. This site has information about each individual cache, including a set of GPS co-ordinates, a rough idea of the cache size, the type of terrain in which the cache is hidden and perhaps a helpful hint.

Often the cache page will provide a description of the location in which the cache is hidden, perhaps some statistics, a short history of the site or an explanation of why it is a good place to visit. For this reason geocaching is hobby which can be adapted to suit moments, while more complicated hides may require the cacher to solve difficult puzzles or undertake a long hike to locate the final co-ordinates for Ground Zero (the cache's hiding place) or perhaps to visit several different locations to obtain clues to the final location.

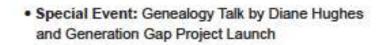
Once the cache is found, the cacher signs the logbook with their caching moniker and returns it, ready for the next finder. Once at home, cachers then log their "finds" online, thereby keeping a tally of which caches they have found. Feedback in logs describing that particular caching experience is always welcomed by the cache owners.

So, I hear you ask, are there any caches hidden in Meredith and surrounds? I think by now we know the answer to that. But you'll just have to get out there and find them! And remember, the next Anyone can play and it is free to join – although a small annual time you see someone loitering on a street corner, looking like they're waiting for you to move on, or perhaps trying surreptitiously to examine some piece of public property, perhaps

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Photo omitted from online version

Left: Characters on parade and, above, the big kids get in on the act. (See story on the insde back cover.)

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What percentage of the mat is taken up by the cat? (Think of a grid.)

The answer is on page 22.

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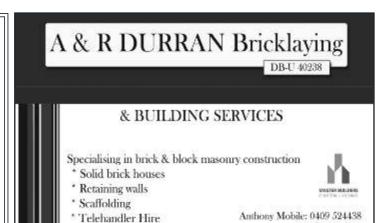
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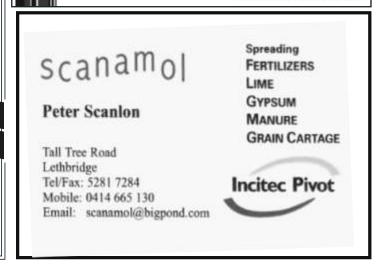




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Slow Cooker

Pork cutlets with apple & parsnip

- Prep time 15 minutes Cooking time 4 hours
- Serves 4

Ingredients

4 (about 250g each) pork loin cutlets

Olive oil spray

2 pink lady apples, cored and quartered

1 leek, pale section only, halved lengthways, cut into 4cm pieces

3 potatoes cut into 6 wedges

1 tablespoon plain flour

375ml (1 ½ cups) chicken stock

250ml (1 cup) white wine

2 garlic cloves, crushed

1 ½ tablespoons wholegrain mustard

1 bunch baby (Dutch) carrots, trimmed, peeled

3 small parsnips, peeled, quartered lengthways

Steamed beans to serve

Method

- Season pork with salt and pepper. Heat a non-stick pan over high heat. Spray with oil. Cook pork for 2-3 minutes each side till golden. Transfer to a plate. Cook the apples for 2-3 minutes each side till brown. Transfer to a plate with the pork. Cook the leek for 1-2 minutes or until light golden.
- 2. Place 2 pork cutlets in a 5ltr capacity slow cooker. Top with half the apple, half the leek and half the potato. Place the remaining pork cutlets on top. Top with remaining apple, leek and potato.
- 3. Place the flour in a jug. Add enough stock to make a smooth paste. Add remaining stock, wine, mustard and garlic. Pour over pork. Cover and cook on high for 3 hours.
- 4. Add carrot and parsnip. Cover and cook on low for a further 1 hour or until the vegetables are tender. Divide the pork, apple and vegetables among serving plates. Serve with beans.

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- A chicken crossing the road is poultry in motion.
- If you don't pay your exorcist. you get repossessed
- With her marriage, she got a new name and a dress.
- The man who fell into an upholstery machine is fully recovered.
- You feel stuck with your debt if you can't budge it.
- Local Area Network in Australia the LAN down under.

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Geelong Cycling Club Road Racing at Meredith

John Burtt GCC President

The Geelong Cycling Club has engaged with the Meredith Community and its roads many times in our one hundred and four year history and more regularly in recent years. We call the roads we use here in Meredith the Mt Mercer circuit. We leave our registration point, your Community Hall and ride West on the Mt Mercer Meredith Road then right onto Bamganie Rd, left onto Elaine Mt Mercer Rd then on to the Mt Mercer Meredith Rd repeating the left turn circuit up to five time depending on the grade of race we are conducting and depending on the finish line placement, up to 100 kilometres of racing. More usual distances are 40 to 60 kilometres with juniors considerably less.

Remarkably, to the non cyclist, many riders choose to ride to Meredith from Geelong as a pre race "warm up", race then ride home to "warm down". Last Saturday, August 15, a group of elite women riders completing a training camp in Geelong for the coming Melbourne to Warrnambool did just that covering in excess of 150 kilometres for the day. Perhaps more remarkably, the ladies loved their day, especially the "country" feel of the day and the universally welcoming reception they received.

The Geelong Cycling club returns to Meredith year after year for the quiet roads, the often challenging Winter conditions, the benign if a little puzzled reception from the locals and the warm bar and food at the recently troubled Meredith Pub where we usually hold our presentations. We remain acutely aware of the potential for our presence to cause disturbance to local residents and we make every effort to minimise this. Visits from the local Police and occasionally the Road Patrol are welcome as they check to see we are fulfilling our obligations under the Race Permits issued by local Council, Vic Roads and the Victorian Police.

As a long time member of the community GCC seeks, indeed needs positive interaction with the many areas and districts we ride and race in and so are eager for feedback to enhance the experience for all involved. (provided the feedback isn't "go somewhere else".) Equally, we encourage participation from individuals and community groups in the conduct of our events from joining the races, perhaps a "come and try" day for juniors (we can even supply bikes) to the opportunity for a local group to fund raise by filling corner Marshall roles or driving lead and follow cars.

Meredith businesses no doubt welcome coffee and Coca Cola drinking bike riders who are usually good eaters as well as often needing fuel.

Geelong Cycling Club looks forward to a long continuing relationship with the Meredith community and remains grateful for our positive reception to date.

I am happy to take calls on mobile 0419396486 or feel free to make contact through our website or our Facebook page.



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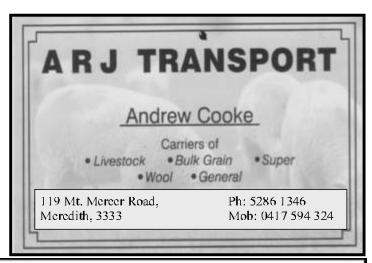
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Authorised by S.Henderson, 3A/195 Colac Rd Waurn Ponds 3216



in our wendy cook

She marches along the dirt road, black and menacing. She has excellent eyesight, and sees me approaching. She turns towards me, facing a potential danger. From painful experience, I watch her warily, but also with interest and admiration. The bull ant is one of the largest ants with long serrated jaws reaching out in front, ready to grasp any menace or prey, then attack with the sting on her abdomen. The prominent eyes on the sides of her head have three thousand facets, allowing her to see objects nearly one metre away and to use them for navigation, as well as sighting intruders and prey. Her antennae can detect air currents, vibrations and chemical messages. Behind her wide head is a long narrow knobbly thorax, with six legs, after which her body widens again into a shiny abdomen with a pointed tip, containing the retractable sting. The sting is attached to a sac of venom inside her body. She can curl her abdomen to sting a struggling insect or spider caught in her jaws. She won't eat it herself, as she feeds mainly on sugary food, such as nectar. The insect is a meal for the carnivorous white grub-like larvae which live deep in her nest. When they are old enough, the larvae pupate inside brown papery cocoons. They undergo metamorphosis, as do other insects, and emerge as mature bull ants, a little paler than the older ones. Different species of bull ants have different patterns of colours, often including black, brown, red-brown or orange.

Bull ant nests are generally a mound of soil with one or more entrances. Nests may also be found in rotting logs or under rocks. The nest, which can extend for several metres underground, contains a few hundred ants which includes the queen who lays eggs, and female workers. The smaller workers stay inside the nest and care for the larvae. Larger workers forage for food and defend the nest. Bull ants defend their nest fiercely, so few animals will attack it. I have seen an echidna digging in a bull ants' nest for eggs and larvae, suddenly jerk its head up when it was stung and retreat to hide its head in a hollow tree base a few metres away. A few birds include bull ants in their diet.

In summer, some larvae develop into new queen ants and males. In some species of bull ants they have wings, in others the wings are too small to be used or absent. When the weather is warm with a good breeze, these ants emerge from their colony. There may be twenty females and more males. If they have wings they may climb a plant before taking off. Ants from other colonies respond to the weather in the same manner, allowing queens a greater selection of partners. They can mate during flight. The males die, but the females land, shed their wings and dig a chamber in which to rear their young. The queen will forage to find food for her first brood of larvae. After they pupate into adults, they will become workers and she remains underground laying eggs. She can

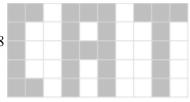
live for over ten years, while the workers can reach nearly three years old, a long life for an ant.

The ant I am watching is alone. Most species of ants seeking food leave a scented trail for other members of their colony to follow. Bull ants are different. They are solitary hunters, searching on the ground and on low vegetation, and using familiar landmarks to find their way back to their nest. Most species are active during the day, and are more active during warm weather. The bull ant watches me, waiting for a possible attack, but when I stamp my foot, she decides that I am the more dangerous of the two of us, and runs for the roadside leaf litter and safety.

Wendy

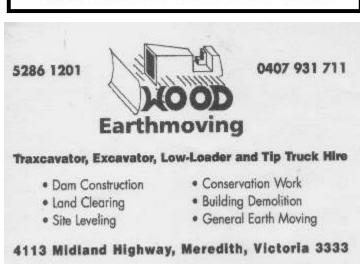
Cat on a Mat

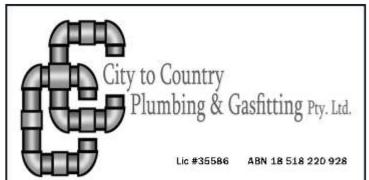
Solution to puzzle on page 18



If you divide the mat up into a grid of ten squares by five, you will find the word "CAT" occupies 26 of the 50 squares, or 52% of the whole mat.







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(Anon)



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Meredith Primary School News

Drew Petrie Cup

Congratulations to several of our Grade 3 & 4 students who represented the school and participated in the Drew Petrie Cup on Wednesday. The AFL 9s is a different format, and is designed to stimulate interest in Australian Rules Football amongst young male and female primary school students. The modified rules format seeks to minimise physical contact as a way of allowing mixed participation with a focus on enjoyment and fun. We partnered with Cape Clear Primary School for the day and our play improved progressed, highlighted by а respectable 2 goal loss to eventual winners Buninyong and a victory in our

Photo omitted from online version

final consolation game against Dana Street 'B'. Most importantly, our students displayed excellent sportsmanship on the day and demonstrated an ability to be good winners and losers. Well done kids – you did yourselves proud.

Basketball Ball rings and Dominos Giveaway

It's not often that these two items would go together, but this week they have. Thanks to Claire Downie for donating a box full of basketball rings to the community. These are full sized rings with bolts included. Also, thank you to Bannockburn Woolworths for donating lots and lots of dominos to the school after one of their promotions ended. We have plenty of dominos to give away to families, so if you would like either item please enquire at the office.

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe

We had a great time down at the Geelong Performing Art Centre recently when we saw Clonard College's presentation of C.S Lewis' classic tale. It was a very professional production, the show lasted for two hours and featured some great musical performances. Our children were excellent representatives of the school, as they listened attentively throughout and it was terrific to see them thoroughly engaged and enjoying the experience.

Student Achievement

Congratulations to Dom (Grade 6) who has been selected as one of four to represent his football club Bungaree in the Central Highlands Football League Under 12s squad. Well done on all your work at training and during the games. Your hard work has gained you this achievement and we are very proud of you.

Photo omitted from online version



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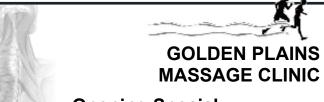
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Vale to John Hunt 21/12/1933 - 7/7/2015

The Hunts have lived at Hunts Bridge for a long time! John's grandfather Richard John Hunt was a studmaster at Ballark and looked after their stable of horses and race horses before he bought a 150 acre dairy farm at Hunts Bridge before the turn of the century. John's father Richard Major Hunt moved from on the highway at Elaine to Hunts Bridge after his mother died about 1938. They shifted their Elaine house to a position on the south of the road, on the northern bank of the Moorabool River, on the Bungal side of what is now Hunts Bridge, below the hills, in a unique position.

John went to school at Bungal where the enrolment was about seven students. Teachers were not available during WW11 so he and his sisters did correspondence at home for three or four years. John admits that he was more interested in fishing and rabbiting than school work.

He boarded at Ballarat College for two years, loved sport, was a member of the school rifle team whilst learning wool classing at night at SMB.

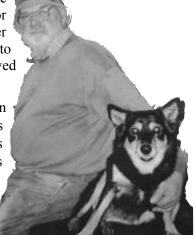
John met Gwen Parkinson when she holidayed at the home of Mavis and Bill Parkinson at Morrison. Her parents would put Gwen and her sisters on the train in Ballarat and their Aunt and Uncle would meet them at the station at Elaine. John and Gwen married in 1957 at St John Anglican Church, Soldier's Hill and built a new brick house on the Midland Highway at Elaine. They had a family of Peter, Daryl, Colin and Stephen.

John played tennis for Bungal and cricket for Elaine. (He was too slow for football!) They built a pitch with nets in their yard and wore two cars out taking their children to sport. John fished all his life from Tambo River to the Moorabool. In 1980 John, Gwen and family moved to Hunts Bridge. They sold the house and land on the Midland Highway and bought land adjoining them at Hunts Bridge. John farmed, grew peas on the chocolate soil of Green Hill and mulesed up to 20,000 lambs around the district each year. He was a member of the Fire Brigade for over 50 years and served on various other committees.

After a bypass operation in 1995 his ambition was to make 70 years of age. He did that comfortably so he then aimed for 50 years of marriage. After accomplishing that target he aimed for 80 years of age. John reached his 80th birthday on

December 21, 2013. At his birthday party he asked the crowd what he should aim for next. His granddaughter suggested a modest target: to reach 81 years! John achieved that and more.

A funeral service for John was held at St John's Anglican Church, Soldier's Hill on July 14 and he was buried at Morrison Cemetery.



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Going Off-Grid: If the Govt Lets You!

Last month, I 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 Renewables such as Solar, plus Batteries). And how this is a very real threat to the Business Model of the Mains Electricity Network Owners.

When batteries are the right price (in no more than 5 years and possibly much much sooner), many households and businesses will gladly shift off-grid to enjoy lower costs and greater certainty. And ultimately many households might be *forced* to go off-grid as it becomes unprofitable for private Network Owners to service regional areas remote from urban centres, and unviable for such services to be propped up with taxpayer's money.

In the medium-term (perhaps 5 to 10 years), being forced off-grid is a very real possibility ... but in the short-term the very opposite might occur - households who want to go off-grid could be forced to pay for a Mains Connection whether they want one or not!

A bit sensationalist? Consider this: The Energy Networks Association (ENA), the Peak Industry Body that represents the interests of Network Owners to Australian Governments, in August 2015 released a research paper entitled "Future Network Cost Recovery: Regulatory and Policy Options" in which the ENA proposes policies including:

- Higher Connection Fees for New Customers.
- Exit Fees for Existing Customers: designed to recover "the historic share of network capacity dedicated to that customer".
- Compulsory Connection Fees for All: that would operate like Council Rates or a Levy requiring payment for simply having access to connect to the Mains Grid rather than actually doing so. (I call this "paying for the privilege of looking at the poles and wires").

This is shaping up to be a massive political problem. Imagine that those who can afford to go off-grid do so in the hope of protecting themselves from rising costs ... but are then forced by a deal between the private Network Owners and Government to pay those costs anyway, possibly for both electricity *and gas*. (The residents of Avoca and Inverleigh may well rue the day that Mains Gas came to town.) Meanwhile, those who cannot afford to go off-grid, remain on-grid forming part of a smaller and smaller customer-base shouldering the burden of paying for tens of

billions of dollars of investment in the Mains Network that has been made redundant. Those least able to pay rising costs, will be least able to avoid doing so. Governments might need to assist them through the welfare system.

But will voters tolerate Governments extending corporate welfare to the private Network Owners by bailing them out or forcing consumers to pay for their services, when they arguably made a bad business decision to invest in yesterday's technology? A bad case of privatising the profits while collectivising the risks?

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

Cheers, Simon





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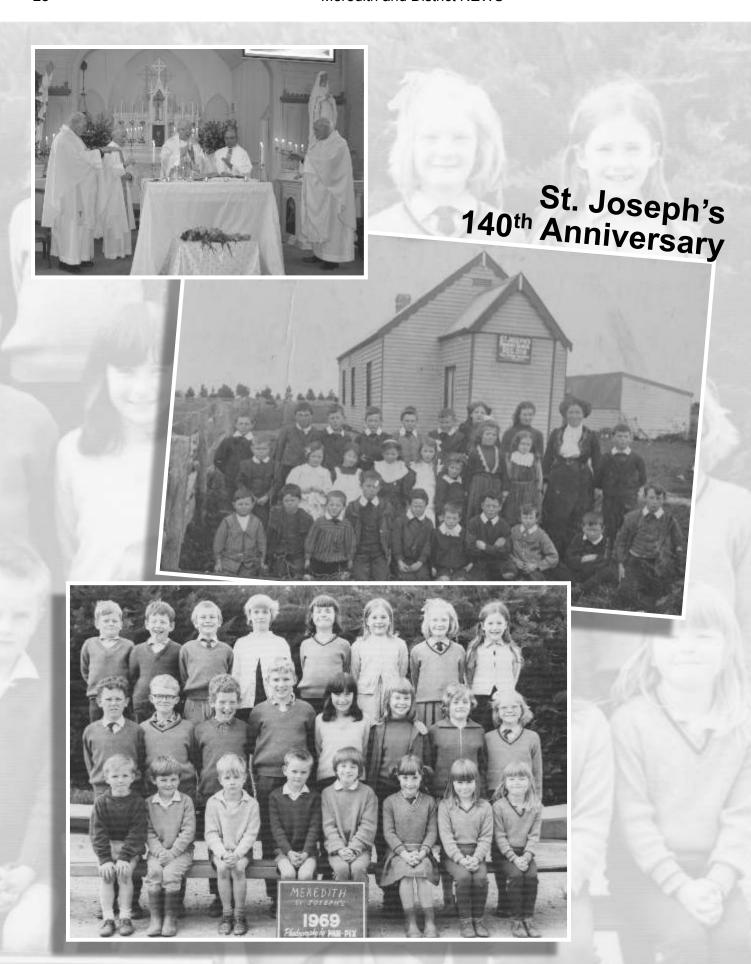
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Top: Officiating at the anniversary service, are, from L to R, Fr. Kevin Dillon, Fr. Maurice Barry, Bishop Peter Connors, Father Herman Licayan and Father Mick Fitzpatrick.

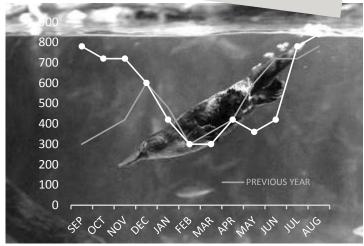
Middle: The church as it was in 1861, when it also served as the school.

Bottom: The class of 1969. The school closed its operations in 1970.











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"The Light Between Oceans"

by M.L. Stedman

The year is 1926. After four harrowing years on the Western Front, a young Tom Sherbourne takes up a posting of lighthouse keeper on remote Janus Rock off the coast of Western Australia where the Indian and the Southern oceans meet. He needed a quiet place to gather his thoughts and to calm himself after his war experiences. In the small coastal town nearby he meets Isabel. They marry and return to the island eager to begin their life. A few years later after two miscarriages and a still birth Isabel's grief is all consuming until a small boat is washed ashore; its occupants a dead man and a crying baby girl. Against the better judgement of Tom they claim the baby as their own and enjoy her immensely until they visit the mainland on annual leave when she is about 2 years old and realize that she has a mother who is devastated by the loss of her baby girl.

The book is a moving novel about what happens when good people make bad decisions. The reader is caught up in complex moral dilemmas. Who should keep the child? Who should be charged and what should they be charged with? Tom and Isabel break the rules and follow their hearts and their decision leads to distress that affects everyone around them.

The lighthouse is itself a character in the novel and Tom is a meticulous, attentive, even a loving keeper. The novel is also rich with detailed descriptions of the ocean. the sky, the wild landscape and the isolation. One can imagine the isolation, the light and the rhythm of life on Janus where you can live any story you want to tell yourself. The fictional island in the book called Janus Rock is named for Janus the Roman God of doorways, "always looking both ways, torn between two ways of seeing things".

This book was thoroughly enjoyed by all members.

The book for discussion by the Bookclub members in September is "After Romulus" by Raimond Gaita. We have previously read "Romulus, My Father" for bookclub.

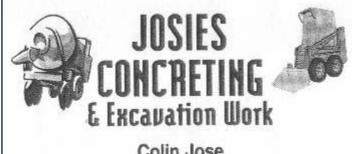


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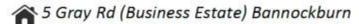
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Marg Cooper

Over the farm gate on Coopers Road, Bamganie we decided to travel to London and to tour England, Scotland and Ireland. We planned to have four days in London before embarking on two bus trips to see the country areas in England and Scotland and later in Ireland.

On the morning of July 20 we stepped out of the front door of the Strand Palace Hotel onto the Strand in London. The narrow street was full of noise and activity. There were many red double deck buses, many black London cabs, many other buses and vehicles, tooting, travelling haphazardly and weaving in and out. We were in the midst of old four or five storey buildings winding along the curving streets with red phone boxes and letter boxes and people galore. We could have been nowhere else but in London. We were in the centre of London

We walked and travelled on the Hop on, Hop off bus around the cities of London and Westminster and delighted to actually be at the places that previously we'd only seen on television or remembered from the monopoly board. The hotel was a short walk to Convent Garden where a market is held, to Trafalgar Square which contains Nelson's Column and a resident hawk to keep the pigeons away, to Charing Cross and to the Thames River. While travelling on the bus we noticed many London landmarks including Pall Mall, Big Ben, Waterloo, Oxford Street, Leicester Square, St Paul's Cathedral, the Tower of London, the Houses of Parliament and Buckingham Palace, to name a few.

And history seems to roll from the tongues of Englishmen like they were speaking about last week. Cromwell, Wellington, battles and wars, Royalty, Prime Ministers and Archbishops. And the dates they mention are extraordinary; the first St Pauls Cathedral was built and consecrated in 604 AD, the Tower of London is the oldest fortress and prison in Europe with the foundations being laid in 1078 and the Ceremony of the Keys at the Tower has been performed every night without fail for 700 years.

We were in London. It was exciting and tiring. Eliza Emmlin and Marg Cooper spent four busy days absorbing the atmosphere and the history before leaving for the country experience

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The Waiting Game

Have you ever taken the time to contemplate the act of waiting? I don't mean to scare you but if you think about it, it haunts us in just about every aspect of our day-to-day lives.

It lies in hiding, going almost unnoticed in most cases because the outcome of a waiting scenario is usually so mundane we don't even notice that we've finished the act of waiting. You do it while food is cooking, while in line for a purchase, while standing on the freezing cold pavement for the bus, and while starring at the clock for your shift to end so that you can get home and cuddle up with a warm cup of tea.

It has become habitual and something that always has a degree of anticipation. While there are the mundane, every day waiting games, there are much larger, more in-depth games that have whole rooms dedicated to them! Whole rooms filled with minor (and unsuccessful) distractions to stew your anxieties in. Recently, as I was waiting in such a room, I realised that there are only ever two mindsets that come in to play while sitting aimlessly and trying not to stare at the child picking their nose on the seat opposite you. These two categories are either: a) situations that you know will result in a happy outcome and thus leave you in excited anticipation, and b) situations that have unknown outcomes and have you obsessing over every possible negative outcome that could arise from this unknown.

Examples of scenario A, in most cases, would be waiting at the airport to take off on a wonderful holiday (unless you're trying to travel to somewhere affected by a volcanic ash cloud) and waiting at the hairdressers. Both of these promise excitement in the form of a holiday and change...which is supposedly as good as a holiday. Unless of course your



hairdresser makes you look like a long-lost Beatle. In that case though, the waiting was still pleasant because you were under the impression that you'd come out the other side looking like a celebrity with a cute pixie-cut. Scenario B offers nothing but anxiety minus the element of excitement. Dentists, doctors, hospitals, vets and job interviews all offer nothing but fear and sick humans/animals to avoid stares with. You obsess over the fact that you're going to end up having an injection shoved deep into your precious gums or be told you have a violent case of ringworm. Even if you know deep down neither of those are likely in the slightest.

While both of these waiting scenarios are very different, they have one thing in common: the minor distractions put in place such as poor reading materials and kids television shows. A lack of ability to concentrate due to the wait anxiety proves both to be useless and forces more focus on the waiting. See...it never leaves you alone.



This time we headed south to Pakington Street, Geelong West. At the southern end (number 330) among a group of cafes, is Winters, which has been something of a light dining icon for quite a few years. With young, friendly staff and a casual décor, it's a pretty relaxed place – although often busy. Knowing this, we booked a table to make sure we sat downstairs. Upstairs is quieter, if that's your preference. Parking is a pain too, so probably better to attack midweek, but not Fridays.

This is another one of our near useless reviews. (Although not as bad as our review of a restaurant on the day it closed!) Winter's is renowned for maintaining seasonal menus, and we ate there in the last week of winter! Nonetheless, their food is of a consistent standard, so there is some merit in the exercise.

Main courses are about \$10 (beer battered chips with black garlic aioli) to \$25 (pulled beef belly with parsnip soufflé and smoked onion puree and sprouts, with plenty in between.) Our sampling produced meals that were both generous and tasty.

Service was reasonably prompt given how busy they are, and the coffee is excellent.

We would love to hear about <u>your</u> 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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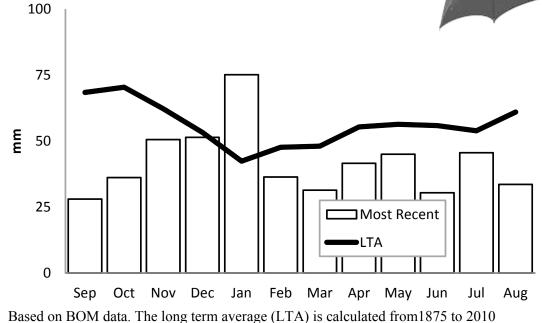


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Ballarat Country Week Premiers, 1940

Joy Osborne and Annette Quinlivan have recently donated a pennant which was presented by President C.D. Mooney to the Mooney Cup Tennis Association Team for their win at Country Week in 1940. It was owned by their Aunt Ida Burville nee Mulhlan who was a member of that winning team. Also listed as members of the team are Miss J. Le Maitre, Miss R, Stalker, Miss J. Mulhlan, Miss M. Le Maitre, Are you a collector or an artist? You may like to display your Miss G, McKay, Mrs C. Mooney, Mr C. Mooney (Captain), collection in the display cabinet after the Winter Wool display Mr R. Le Maitre, Mr H. Peterson, Mr E. Randall, Mr J. disappears come spring. You may like to display your art. Pitman, Mr H. Le Maitre and Mr L. Le Maitre. The green Please call in to discuss! pennant is made of a silky material, has red lettering, is stuck to a wooden rod and has a green cord to hang it up. For a Father Patrick Arthur Vaughan pennant that is 75 years old it is in remarkably good condition. Raymonf Kelly

Thomas Henry Mansell: Soldier WW1

When he enlisted for WW1 on 5/3/1917 his address was c/o diocese, Fr. Vaughan was transferred from St Mary's, Mr Matheson, "Moranghurk", Lethbridge and his will was Geelong in July 1913 to Meredith. During his time at lodged with him He was 22 years 9 months of age, 5 feet 5 Meredith new churches were opened at Lethbridge, Lal Lal inches tall, weighed 8 stone 9 pounds, had a fair complexion, and extensive alterations and repairs carried out at Anakie and grey eyes, brown hair, was single, Church of England and Steiglitz churches. He was transferred in 1916 to Werribee. worked as a station hand. In a Medical Report in January 1918 he declared that he had epilepsy and had had fits all his life. Before he joined up he looked after sheep, had a quiet life and had fits about once a month or two. During the few months prior to enlisting his fits had been more frequent. On 23/7/1919 he embarked at Port Said for the UK per "Tagus". Thomas had extended leave in England without pay, returning to Australia per "Ceramic" on 12/3/1920.

School Roll of Honor and the Meredith and District Roll of nearest farm-house where he gave the alarm and collapsed. Honor.

Death Notice: May 2, 1916

Numbers of her grandchildren have joined up."

We meet on the last Thursday of the month at the Anglican Church Hall from 9 am. Visit us if you can.

At the Interpretative Centre

It has been so cold that not many people have visited the Centre lately! People who are travelling run into the toilet and back to their heated cars and locals must be hibernating.

function at Kialla and remembers sitting under a tree eating presence of about 2000 people. His Grace was accompanied corned beef sandwich. Later that year the Staley's Parish The church had been built by Mr John Smith of Meredith. A

who was a columnist for the Herald Sun newspaper was a parishioner of the church and invited Jeff Hook to participate. Jeff produced a drawing of Henry and signed it. Bill Staley, Jane's father gave it to me, to ask Henry to sign it, which he did. It is interesting to note that Jane's older sister Louise is the recently elected Liberal member of State Parliament for the seat of Ripon, formerly held by Henry and Jill's nephew Stephen Elder." June Cameron, 2015

A Winter Wool display is featured at the Centre consisting of a fleece of wool, many varied wool stencils, a sheep, a combing machine, knitting methods and wool products. The attractive art works by Joyce Read are displayed near the north window and the school Lego display is worth a visit.

FR. P.A. Vaughan was ordained in Sydney on September 21, Thomsa was the son of W. Mansell of Smethwick, England. 1901. After appointment as assistant priest in the Arch-

Fr. Vaughan was appointed a collector for the Catholic college at the university. He travelled the Western District in 1917 appealing for funds for the erection of Newman College within the Melbourne University. Against the advice of several farmers an elderly parishioner, who was driving Fr. Vaughan, attempted to cross the flooded Hopkins River. In mid-stream the horse was literally swept away. Fr. Vaughan swam to the bank, took off his clothes and swam back to the Thomas H. Mansell is commemorated on the She Oaks buggy to try to save the old man. He then ran a mile to the

He was chosen by the Archbishop as his companion on an overseas trip in April 1920, also acting as the Archbishop's "Mrs Jane Hodge of Meredith died last week in her 80th year. She Secretary. Father Vaughan, as Secretary, accompanied was a colonist of 67 (?) years and was the mother of twelve Archbishop Mannix on the momentous visit overseas in 1920 children, grandmother of 79 and great grandmother of 40. during which Mr Lloyd George, Prime Minister of Britain prevented His Grace from going to Ireland to visit his over 90 year old mother. Fr. Vaughan also accompanied Archbishop Mannix on the Australian Holy Year (1925) Pilgrimage to Lourdes and Rome. Among other things he was present at the canonization of St Therese of Lisieux (the Little Flower) by Pope Pius XI. Under the pen name "Bunyip" he wrote an engaging story of that pilgrimage in the pages of "the Tribune".

A framed Henry Bolte cartoon by Jeff Hook has recently been The new St Michael's Church at Little River was blessed and donated and has been hung next to the other Jeff Hook opened on Sunday afternoon of April 2, 1922 by the Rt. Rev. cartoons. "Jane Staley came with her family to a fundraising Daniel Mannix D.D. Archbishop of Melbourne in the a sandwich when Henry came to talk to her while he ate a by Rev. Patrick Arthur Vaughan, Parish Priest of Werribee. Church, St John's East Malvern held a fete. Keith Dunstan gift from Mr Ewen McIntosh of £2300 and donations on the opening day meant that the church was opened "free of debt". A vote of thanks to Dr Mannix was moved by Councillor Shaw who referred to His Grace as the most popular man in Australia and whose greatest crime had been that he had driven peacefully through Melbourne on St Patrick's Day!

On August 9, 1925 Fr. Vaughan died at Wiesbaden while visiting Germany. Death resulted from heart failure after an operation for appendicitis. *The experience at the Hopkins River strained his heart and his health was thereafter impaired. He died at the early age of 48 years and a year before his sacerdotal silver jubilee.* His body was shipped back to Melbourne for burial. There were 170 priests at the requiem Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral.

In February 1916 Fr. M.A. (Gus) Vaughan (a brother of Fr. P.A. Vaughan) was transferred from West Melbourne to Meredith. He was transferred to Brunswick in January 1923.

Raymond has recently discovered a lot more about Fr. Vaughan than was presented in the "Parish of Meredith 1875 – 2000" book. Text in italics is what Raymond has recently discovered.

GEELONG. (from correspondent.) our own At about twenty miles from Geelong, on the eastern side of the Moorabool River, where the banks are high, in many places steep and rugged, and broken by curious gorges of sharp out-line, stands one, or rather a cluster of the most promising vineyards in the district, if not in the colony. These are situated on the property of Mr. A.C. Macdonald, of Geelong, who has made most excellent terms with his vigneron tenants; and as they seem to be perfectly satisfied with their bargain, I must presume the advantages on both sides are mutual. The estate, which comprises in all something over 800 acres, is known as Glendaruel, and is let off in farms of various sizes, and in the vineyard sites I am about to notice.

Leaving the Lethbridge Hotel*, my companions and I traversed the plain leading to the river with a piercing hot wind astern of us, and a burning and unobscured sun overhead. We had selected one of the most difficult paths to descend to the river from that side, but managed to get down without a slip. This was quite bad enough, under all the circumstances; but the pros-pect of ascending the opposite bank to reach the vine-yards with such weather almost struck terror into our hearts; and I am inclined to believe that but for the promise of Mr. Macdonald that we should have "the run" of a nice cool cellar on reaching it, one of the party would have preferred remaining by the cooling bed of the river to facing the steep, sandy, and burning bank before us. After an effort, however, we reached the first vineyard, that of Colestein Frey, and having remained in the shade outside until we felt cool enough to indulge a lounge in the cellar, and to quaff a draught of wine at a temperature under 68deg., we repaired to that "cool grotto," and having indulged in a bottle of splendid hermitage, which only whetted the appetite for more, Mr. Macdonald favoured me with the following jottings:-

His vinegrowing tenants number four - one, however, having two sites, and they have all leases of the land for twelve years... The situation of most of these vineyards maybe said to command every conceivable aspect, being situated on both



If you try to fail, and succeed, which have you done?

sides of a gorge or gully that twists about like a corkscrew, but not being close up to the edge of the table land behind they are generally pretty well sheltered from all the winds likely to injure them. The soil is mostly of a black volcanic variety... Nearly the whole of the vine cuttings were imported by Mr. Macdonald himself from the celebrated vineyards of Sir William M'Arthur, in New South Wales, and comprise the following varieties:- Shyras or hermitage, pinau blanc, pinau gris, gonais, chasselas, frontignac, sweetwater, black prince, Italian chasselas, black Hamburg, Tokay, Pedro Ximenes, carrignac, le gloire, grenache, verdeilho, and aucarot. All seem to thrive well, and the verdeilho and grenache in particular prove themselves to be in their element on the top of these high slopes, bearing immense quantities of fruit...The vines are planted in rows, running in all manner of directions, to suit the slopes of the banks, four feet between the rows and 3ft. 6in. between the vines. The whole of the land has been trenched by hand, to a depth of eighteen to twenty inches. The fruit trees seem to thrive as well as the vines on these banks....

The farm occupied by Mr. Macdonald's brother divides the two uppermost- that is, the highest up the river-vineyards from the three lowermost; we accordingly crossed this farm to the lower vineyards, and there found the vines in an equal state of vigour and health, promising a most abundant crop of fruit. All the vineyards seem to be remarkably well kept, scarcely a weed to be seen, and the fruit trees are neatly pruned and trimmed. Having surveyed these vineyards, Mr. George Macdonald invited us to a most substantial farmer's tea of eggs and bacon, which having been done ample justice to, we wended our way down the steep banks of the Moorabool once more, to face the frowning hills on the other side, on a hot sultry evening, without a breath of air stirring- the hot wind having died away and no sea-breeze succeeding it. *The Lethbridge Hotel was a substantial two-story building on the corner of Midland Hwy & Perdrisat Rd.

Argus, 16th January 1863

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Meredith Primary School teachers and students recently celebrated Book Week by dressing up as characters from their favourite books. The day started with a character parade, followed by activities related to a variety of books.

Book Week coincides with the announcement of the Children's Book of the Year awards. You can get all the details at http://cbca.org.au/winners-2015.htm

...and below: recognise anyone?

Photo omitted from online version



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