

Meredith & district News

August 2016



Our FREE Community Newsletter since 1972



inside



- CFA Juniors and all their Trophies!
- Local Community Grants
- Busy Bees at the Police Paddocks
- Why Not Listen to a Good Book?
- The Battle of Fromelles

...and the usual MUCH MORE!

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

Meredith & district NEWS



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

NEWS & VIEWS

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

news@meredithnews.com.au or deliver to the Meredith Corner Shop.

DATES AND DEADLINES

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

ADVERTISING

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

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

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

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you are outside our delivery area you can subscribe for \$35.00 p.a. (11 issues) and get the Meredith and District News posted to you anywhere in Australia.

CONTACT US

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accounts@meredithnews.com.au

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We do not publish children's photos online.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

There are lots of special interest groups in the district. Make a call and **connect** - *you'll be glad you did.* (And let us have any corrections or additions.)

ADVANCE MEREDITH

☎5286 1291

ANGLING CLUB

☎0419 423 960

BLUE LIGHT DISCO

☎5286 1222

BOOK CLUB

☎5286 8201

CFA (000 for fire calls) Elaine

☎0417 533516

Meredith

☎5286 1502

Morrison

☎0417 770 765

CHILDCARE

☎5286 0700

COMMUNITY CENTRE

☎5286 0700

CRICKET

Elaine

☎0428 264103

Junior

Under 14

☎0448 291074

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

MEMORIAL HALL

☎5286 1545

MOTOR CYCLE CLUB

☎0437 009250

PLAYGROUP

☎5286 0700

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 0700

FRIENDS OF THE BRISBANE RANGES

☎5286 1252

LIONS DISTRICT CONTACT

☎0473380552

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 Emergency - | |
| flood & storm help: | 132 500 |
| 24 Hour Helpline | 1800 629 572 |
| 24 Hour Drug & | |
| Alcohol Counselling | 1800 888 236 |
| Kids Help Line | |
| 24hr 5-18yo | 1800 551 800 |
| Golden Plains Shire | 1300 363 036 |
| A.H. emergencies | 0408 508 635 |
| Ranger | 5220 7111 or |
| | 0409 830 223 |
| Bannockburn Vet | 5281 1221 |
| Golden Plains Vet | 52812226 |
| Injured Wildlife | 13000 wildlife |
| Pets and Horses 24/7 | 0421 617 238 |
| Wildlife Rescue | 0459 379915 |

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

HALL HIRE

Meredith Memorial

☎5286 1545

Elaine Mechanics

☎5341 5596

Elaine Rec Res

☎5341 5703

LIBRARY VAN

☎5272 6010

MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH

☎5220 7230

PRE-SCHOOL

☎5286 1227

PRIMARY SCHOOL

☎5286 1313

RECREATION RESERVE

☎0429 841399



"Friendship is born at that moment when one person says to another, 'What! You too? I thought I was the only one.'"

C.S. Lewis

...or start something.

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

OUR COVER Thank you Tilly Tasic for this terrific photograph of a local resident, a Silver Eye (*Zosterops lateralis*)



Community

Local Grants

Jim Elvey (from media release)

District Community Organisations received valued financial help late last month when, at a ceremony held at the Meredith Memorial Hall, the Golden Plains Shire 2016/17 Community Grants were announced. The 47 recipients received amounts ranging from a few hundred dollars, to \$5,000, on a matching basis. Among them, were:

Meredith and District Lions Club - \$5,000 Pioneer Park playground - Construction of a nature based playground at Pioneer Park in Meredith, to replace the existing playground equipment.

Meredith History Interest Group Inc. - \$2,100 Document advancement project - Purchase of a new commercial quality printer to produce quality copies of documents, maps, photos etc.

Meredith Kindergarten Inc. - \$2,389 Road safety awareness/caring for the environment - Purchase of bikes, scooters and signs to conduct road safety awareness education. Installation of a natural barrier around the sandpit.

Meredith Police Paddocks Support Group - \$4,339 Meredith Police Paddocks entrances - The design and construction of entrance fencing, gateways and landscaping at both Campion Rd & Nuttall St entrances to present welcoming entry points to the reserve.

Meredith Recreation Reserve - \$2,000 Outdoor BBQ area - Construction of an outdoor BBQ area.

...and there's more!

On June 15th representatives from the Meredith Lions Club were presented with a \$30,000 grant from the Geelong Community Foundation to start the building of a new multi-stage playground at Pioneer Park. The playspace will eventually cater for children from pre-school through to pre-teens. The Lions Club have been working very hard with the Meredith Playgroup and Meredith Community Centre with the assistance of the Fund for Rural and Regional Renewal (F.R.R.R.) to provide an adventure playground to challenge and engage the imagination of the young people of the district, and to provide risk-taking opportunities in a safe and family oriented space.

Exciting times ahead, Watch this space!



Golden Plains Shire Mayor, Des Phelan, presents Community Grants to Meredith Lions' Jarna Kelly and Dave Underhay (left) and Meredith Kindergarten's Jennie Cromer (below.)



HOW to POSE with a STATUE



Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

Church News



ANGLICAN

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

Church of Epiphany Meredith.

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

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 Parish Meredith Mass Times for August/September

Winchelsea every Saturday at 5.30 p.m.

Inverleigh (for Bannockburn) every Sunday at 9 a.m.

First Sunday of the month is Family Mass with youth band and morning tea. Last Sunday of the month Mass is held in the foyer of the Bannockburn stadium adjacent to the school.

Anakie at 11 a.m. Sunday August 14th/28th Sept 11th/25th

Meredith at 11 a.m. Sunday August 7th/21st September 4th/18th.

Confirmation will be held on Sunday August 21st. at 2 p.m. at Holy Spirit Church Manifold Heights. This week we farewell Father Boy Galdo who is moving to the Niddrie parish and we welcome a new Parish priest to the Meredith Parish- Father Charles Balnaves.

Ordained as a Catholic Priest in June 2015 I have taken up the role as Parish Priest for the Catholic Parish of Meredith as of 27th July. My journey to this point in life is uniquely mine: English by birth, Catholic by baptism, husband to Tanya for 37 years, father to two sons, Petroleum Engineer for 30 years. Called to priesthood and sent here.

As the Parish Priest for the Catholic Parish of Meredith and Winchelsea and Bannockburn and Anakie and Inverleigh and ... (how many towns are there in the parish?) I am called to help the parish grow into the future. I don't know the area so I shall be looking for help and so don't be surprised if I ask for help when/if I meet you. I'm here! I'm ready to work with you! Ready to live and grow with you. Ready to help discern the calls Spirit makes to lead all of us into the future as a Graced presence of the Kingdom of God.

Father Charles Balnaves



Hi everyone,

We are now well into winter and we have experienced some of the white stuff in July. It was a very picturesque drive through Buninyong on the day it snowed. Most of our classes for this term are well underway and we are busy again thinking ahead for term 4.

Learn Local Family Learning Support Program

Don't forget if you want to participate in our classes we have some funding to subsidise Childcare for parents to join in one of our Learn Local learning programs at the Centre.

There are some eligibility requirements please check with the Community Centre staff for more information. Some of our classes coming up include setting up and running a home business and social media for business as well as our computer classes which all fit the criteria for funding, but if there is something you are interested in please pop into the office to discuss further with me. It must meet the requirement for assisting you with employment or training pathways.

Still to come this term starting soon is our Small Business course. We have Kerrie Kruger facilitating this course. Kerrie has experience in setting up business and has been involved in the Bannockburn Chamber of Commerce so she brings lots of expertise and practical advice for you. Also we have Maria Boncaldo returning to do another pattern drafter class. The ladies who did the last one had a great time and all said it was great value when you consider how much commercial patterns cost these days.

Don't forget the Centre also offers other services including internet access; our staff is on hand if you need some assistance. You can also get your photocopying and laminating done and we have rooms available for hire. Just call in and see us for assistance. Jo and Rebecca have been really busy with occasional childcare they offer a great program for the children; this is clearly appreciated by our parents and shows by the demand for places.

Meredith seems to be experiencing something of a baby boom with quite a few new babies and their mums at our playgroup. We welcome any new participants on Thursday mornings.

We encourage learning across all facets of life, for anyone who wants to engage not only their mind, but also with their community and expand their life experience in a welcoming friendly environment.

Bye till next month.

Pam

Meredith Community Centre
4 Russell Street Meredith 3333
Ph 5286 0700

learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au
Open: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thurs 9.00-3.00. Fri Closed



MeredithPOLICEnews



Greetings to all readers of the Meredith and district newsletter.

Firstly I would like to report that at the Geelong Magistrates Court on Thursday the 14th July Paul Mathew COOK of Norlane entered a plea of guilty on all charges relating to my arrest of him in September last year after I executed a search warrant at his Thomson Road, Norlane address.

These charges included handling stolen goods, possessing unregistered firearms and ammunition, possessing a pistol, possessing the proceeds of crime together with other drug and serious property related offences including theft of diesel from a Meredith farm.

This will be the third consecutive court appearance and subsequent conviction for COOK for crime that he has committed in and around Meredith and throughout the western region over the past twelve months. This has been a very complex and lengthy investigation and COOK will be sentenced at the Geelong Magistrates Court in August. I sincerely thank the witnesses that assisted me greatly throughout the past ten months of this investigation both locally and from other parts of the western region.

On the 14th July a report was received relating to two males driving an early model Ford Falcon ute where they stopped at a property in Settlers Valley Road, Meredith. These two males one aged in his mid 30's and the second being around 50 years of age were clearly attempting to drag the victims dog towards the ute. When the victim appeared both immediately released the German Shepard and left the area. I would ask residents in the area to be vigilant for any future incidents of this nature and to contact police in the event of a similar occurrence.

This can be done anonymously to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333000 to me at the Meredith Police Station by calling 52 861222 and leaving a voice message.

Kindest Regards Greg KITCHEN

Officer in Charge – Meredith Police Station.



Meredith Playgroup

Meredith Playgroup meets every Thursday from 9.30am

Enjoy new activities every week. All welcome

Contact Community Centre for details 52 860 700

from the Mayor



CR. Des Phelan

It certainly has been a cold winter! Late July brought an arctic blast, delivering snow to many areas of the Shire. As we enter the last month of winter, Council looks ahead to the warmer months and the important work coming up (and some we worked on during the colder months)!

Congratulations to our Community Grants Recipients

On Tuesday 28 June 2016 Council resolved to allocate Community Grants to 47 organisations, to a total value of \$144,966. From cubbies to carols, fridges to fencing, these grants empower community groups to deliver enormous value in their local area. With a return of \$2.62 for every dollar granted by Council, these projects will deliver an amazing benefit to Golden Plains' communities. Successful applicants will complete their projects over the 2016/17 year. Congratulations to all the worthy recipients! Find out more on the news section of our website.

A New Look for our Gazette and Website

Residents recently told us that the Gazette and our website are key ways they get important information about what's happening at Council. As such, we are pleased to launch our new website and new-look Gazette! A lot of work has gone into ensuring both of these provide relevant, timely information, in the way residents want to receive it. Check out our new website at goldenplainsdigital.com.au. It will sit on that site during the initial testing period, and in September the new website will replace the current website at goldenplains.vic.gov.au. Also make sure you look out for the new Gazette, hitting your mailbox from 1 August onwards. Don't forget to tell us what you think by emailing us at enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au.

Celebrating 15 years of Community Planning

Council is organising an event for the evening of Tuesday 16 August to celebrate 15 years of Community Planning in Golden Plains Shire. The event is being held to thank the many people who have contributed to the success and sustainability of the program, especially Community Coordinators. If you, or someone you know has been involved in the Community Planning Program in the past and would like to receive an invitation to the event please contact the Community Development Team Leader on 5220 7111.

Social Action in Golden Plains

In the June Council meeting, three important social actions were agreed by Council:

- Participate in 'Journey to the G': an event celebrating the remarkable achievement of Johnny Mullagh, Tom Wills and the Aboriginal Cricket Team touring party of 1866.
- Sign Age Friendly Victoria Declaration: we are one of the first municipalities in Victoria to formally sign the Age Friendly Victorian Declaration: Statement of support and partner endorsement.
- Join the Grampians 'Communities of Respect & Equality' Alliance: - a group which seeks to prevent violence against women and their children across the Golden Plains Shire.



Golden Plains

Mobile Library

At Meredith Primary School
Thursday 9am to 10.30am

Recreation



Elaine Cricket Club

Shane Dunne

2015/16 was an extremely successful year for our club with our senior A Grade one day team winning the Ballarat Cricket Association Premiership.

Not to be out classed our U14 2nd X1 team were premiers in the BCA too.

Since the club reformed in 2012 with a junior and senior team we have won 5 flags and had junior and senior players representing the association. This is quite a remarkable achievement seeing the club was in recess from the year 2000 to 2012.

Our junior program is becoming the envy of the Ballarat Cricket Association and one of the main reasons is that our juniors train with our seniors which doesn't happen often anywhere at any other club. We also rotate our older juniors through our senior side on a weekly basis giving them confidence that is beyond their years. And the meals in The Long Room after training, well they speak for themselves! A huge thank you to David Flood our junior coach for taking on the role once again for this coming 2016/17 season. We encourage all boys and girls and parents of youngsters who are 9 years old at the start of October to visit our website at www.elainecc.vic.cricket.com.au and our Facebook site. All new players are most welcome. Maybe one day our club will produce an Australian player but at the moment the kids are truly enjoying the opportunity to play with their mates and many of them have been known to sleep in their whites at night so our club must be doing something right!

Elaine Cricket Club U14 training starts Thursday 1st September 2016 at 5pm at Elaine Recreation Reserve.

Highly likely with a few more youngsters that ECC will have an U14 1st X1 and U14 2nd X1 so bring your mates along.

All old and new players most welcome. Ages 9+ recommended for hard ball competition. Phone 0448 291074 for more information or visit: www.elainecc.vic.cricket.com.au

Meredith Golf Club on Tour

Marg Cooper

A package of 4 days golf, 4 night's accommodation, 4 x \$15 meal vouchers and a cooked breakfast each morning enticed over 20 people to venture to Cobram/Barooga from June 25 until June 29, 2016 for the Meredith Golf Club Annual Trip.

The golf was played on both courses, the old and the new, with some good scores and some bad scores. The golfers played Stableford on Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. The 3 day Stableford winners were Danny Jury and Ange Galino. On Wednesday an Ambrose competition was held and was won by a team of Greg Armstrong, Darren Armstrong, Andrew Scott and Ange Galino. Their winning margin was $\frac{3}{8}$'s of a stroke.

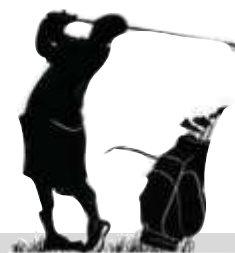
Breakfast was served in a gazebo type structure at 8 am each morning. The breakfast was delicious but on Sunday morning it was a bit chilly surrounded by a white frost. It looked like the eskimoes had come for breakfast with gloves, coats, beanies and scarves. Lyn had some "hand warmers" which she kindly shared which proved invaluable to the golfers. The meal vouchers were used at the Sports Club for dinner each night and some of the non-golfers enjoyed shopping in the surrounding towns. The group met each evening in the Captain's room for drinks and nibbles and the presentation of trophies for the day. A good time was had by all!

Golf Club Championships

The Meredith Golf Club A Grade Champion 2016, is Greg Armstrong. Runner up is Danny Jury.

The Meredith Golf Club B Grade Champion is Mike Colvin. Runner up is Vin Drew.

A putting competition run over the three weeks of championship rounds was won by Greg Armstrong by 1 putt from Danny Jury.



It was a perfect Saturday morning, and Mike was beginning his pre-shot routine, visualizing his upcoming shot when a voice came over the clubhouse speaker - "Would the gentleman on the Ladies tee please back up to the men's tee!" Mike was still deep in his routine, seemingly impervious to the interruption. Again the announcement - "Would the man on the women's tee kindly back up to the men's tee! Please!" Mike had had enough. He turned and shouted, "Would the announcer in the clubhouse kindly shut up and let me play my second shot!"



Meredith Community Centre

working for our community

4 Russell St. Meredith 3333
Ph. 5286 0700

FUN FITNESS—RUNNING ALL TERM

Each Friday 2-3pm

WEEKNIGHT WORKOUT ALL TERM

Wednesday Evenings 5-6pm

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In Meredith, Bannockburn and Teesdale

STEADY FEET IN MEREDITH

Wednesdays until 30th November \$5 per session

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6th October Seniors Week Celebration

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activities,
lunch and
more

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4 Russell Street Meredith 3333
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NATURAL SKIN CARE PRODUCTS

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CURRIES

Thursday September 15th 6.30 to 9.30pm

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**CREATORS &
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BANNOCKBURN**

SUNDAY 28th AUGUST, 2016

From 10.00 am to 2.00 pm at the Farmers Market Site
Contact Noelene 0427 923934

Elaine CFA Juniors Bring Home the Silver

Jo Adcock

The Junior Brigade will resume training at the start of Term 3 in readiness for the “Midlands Cup” upcoming competition. Elaine Juniors have been on a short hiatus while their meeting rooms were refurbished but, now that work is completed, are raring to get back into it! In April, 14 members competed at the state competition in Colac and in several regional competitions in the lead up to states. Junior Leader Jo Adcock said “Our Juniors are working really well together and developing into a very competitive team. At the competitions they earned themselves a heap of trophies by being placed in many events”.

Juniors train for the running events in regional and state competitions which involve team work, using the tanker/pumpers and other equipment to complete activities in the shortest time pos-

sible. Training for “Midlands Cup” is a little different and isn’t about speed but still is a lot about team work. We cover a range of skills that fire fighters need like managing a burn over situation, extinguishing a burning LPG bottle and drafting water from a dam.

Elaine Juniors train Monday nights at the Elaine CFA shed, 7-9 pm and get together some weekends for social outings and special training events. Anyone aged between 11—15 can join. If interested contact Junior Leader Jo Adcock via email adcock.joanna.n@icloud.com.



Tobi Bilston, Renee Young, Hannah Farhall and Megan Farhall display the Elaine CFA Junior's plunder from recent competitions.

Want to get your children off the computer?

Free BBQ!!!!!!

Elaine Tennis Club Open Day

FREE BBQ, RADAR GUN, PRIZES, SMALLER NETS FOR YOUNGER CHILDREN, RACQUETS SUPPLIED

All children of any age and families encouraged to attend.

Elaine Tennis Club has been running this open day for 6 years now and it's a wonderful family day out

When: Sunday 28th August 12pm

Where: Elaine Recreation Reserve

Two new blue acrylic courts

Enquiries: Ph Brady 0476 129 520

All current and new players encouraged to attend.

No experience necessary.

Ladies night!

A social gathering showcasing local businesses

Brought to you by the Meredith Kindergarten Committee in conjunction with Meredith Community Centre

Funds raised will go towards Meredith Lions Club for their planned redevelopment of Pioneer Park.

Friday 12th August – 7-9pm

At the Meredith Community Hub – 4 Russell Street, Meredith

Businesses on display on the night include:

- ♥ Scentsy
- ♥ Jen's Joys- handmade with love
- ♥ Phoenix Trading Cards, wrap & stationary
- ♥ Tupperware
- ♥ Golden Plains Massage Clinic
- ♥ Country Beauty Therapy
- ♥ Natures Direct
- ♥ Thermomix
- ♥ Your Inspiration At Home
- ♥ Noralee Park Farmgate
- ♥ Candles
- ♥ And more!!!!!!!!!!

Light refreshments provided. Hot and cold drinks (inc. wine) available courtesy of Cruzin' Coffee. Complimentary refreshment on arrival.

Raffles and door prize/s will be drawn on the night

See you there!





"In Praise of Weeds"

It is raining and it seems years since we had good winter rains in our district. The paddocks are green and the home garden is thick with weeds. Controlling weeds is an ongoing and never-ending task, but do consider that there are benefits to these 'unwanted' plants. By now you may be familiar with the health benefits of many 'wild' plants as they have become fashionable. A friend even noticed bunches of nettles on sale at a farmers' market recently. However weeds can be useful to incorporate into our gardening practices also. The vigorous root systems of the wild brassicas, docks, mallows and dandelions help to aerate the soil in an uncultivated area and then contribute organic matter as they break down. Hence I am going to sing the praises of weeds, so switch off now if you are offended! As I do not use any poisons in our garden I have accepted the inevitability of days spent hand weeding noting of course that a more organised person would weed before the seeds form.

Some years bring along a particular weed crop and this year stinging nettles (*Urtica dioica*) are thriving throughout my garden. A friend once told me that nettles thrive where the soil is healthy, and are an indication that the soil is high in nutrients particularly phosphorous. However when I see the thousands of tiny seeds on every single nettle plant I reckon that they are able to establish themselves far and wide no matter the soil quality. In fact the nettle adds nutrients to the earth, so I blithely throw great armfuls into the compost.

I also intend to make a nutrient rich nettle 'tea' and include here this note from Gardening Australia for Stinging Nettle Tonic.

The nettle "is high in nitrogen so it promotes good leafy growth. Roughly chop up 1.5 kgs of stinging nettle and then add 4.5 litres of water. In a week or so this mixture will have started to ferment. The liquid can then be used diluted or undiluted as a foliar spray."

The tea is a good idea when the plants have gone to seed so as not to encourage its further spread. I also chop up the plants and use them as mulch, or dig them in as green manure and the goodness is taken up by the soil as the plant matter breaks down.

Nettles have proved beneficial for humans. They contain minerals that are essential for good health - magnesium, iron and calcium - so use the leaves in soups, cook up as you would spinach and as a tea. It's good to know that the native nettle *Urtica incisa* has been spotted in our district. Naturally many other weeds abound and while many are problematic some can be put to good use once harvested. Common weeds around here are purslane - a

succulent prostrate annual used in cooking and apparently rich in the omega-3 fatty acids. We are responsible for many of the roadside escapees such as the wild brassicas including those from the mustard family. These I dig in to the vegie patch as a natural 'bio-fumigant' to prepare the soil where I will plant members of the solanaceae family such as tomatoes and potatoes.

Oh dear, so much to talk about and not enough space. I am going outside now to cover the asparagus bed in manure and compost and water it in with a tea concocted from sea grass.



Until next time, happy gardening.


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Bannockburn

When: Wednesday 7 September 2016

Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Where: Bannockburn Cultural Centre, High st, Bannockburn 3331

Smythesdale

When: Tuesday 13 September 2016

Time: 7:00pm - 8:30pm

Where: Smythesdale Well, 19 Heales st, Smythesdale 3351

MORE INFORMATION:

Contact Jacinta on
5321 1500 or
email:
[jacinta.walsh@
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Winter Cleaning

Once you start the winter clean, there is no stopping. It keeps you warm and you are on a roll, so why not? You start in the bathroom where the layers of dust get thicker by the day and there are splatters of toothpaste on the mirror like dried rain on a windscreen that you're not quite sure how someone managed to get them there. You move off into the lounge room where there are little mites of dust glistening off the floor in the wintry sunshine streaming through the windows (which you notice need a bit of a wipe). You curse the fire place for not only creating but spreading the dust while also praising it for its warming allure. A quick vacuum and all is forgiven.

Making it to your own bedroom, you discover your secret shame. There are books sprawled across every surface, magazines that stopped being relevant six months ago and pictures that you keep meaning to put in frames and hang up. On your desk there are multiple stationery items, exercise books, folders, chargers for your laptop, phone and camera, as well as a cord that you have no idea what its use is. You pick it up to throw it out and consider that perhaps it is important after all and place it in a drawer along with all the other potentially-but-not-really useful products.

You take to cleaning the surfaces, chucking out things you can bear to part with while trying to shove other items in drawers even though you know you'll never use them again. You try to donate old clothes that you never wear but instead you tell yourself 'someday' and let the drawers overflow with clothes like something out of *The Labyrinth*. You take everything that you're pretty sure doesn't belong to you and make them someone else's problem and return to your own room where you notice the cavernous expanse under your desk.

It's dark and has not seen natural light since being placed in its spot five years ago. There is an accumulation of old shoes you forgot about and mail you thought you'd thrown out. With trepidation you decide to tackle it. After all, those socks you wore once and never saw again may be under there. So armed with a rubbish bag you start pulling the stuff out. Happily, you can throw it all away; those shoes wouldn't go with anything you own anymore. You're nearing the end when you see it. Or them, rather. As you pull out the socks, you notice there is a spider running at rapid speeds away from you. You spray bug spray like your life depends on it, letting out a quiet screech, but it is gone. Now you are scared to turn off the lights in case he comes to get you, leaving you wondering why you ever thought it was a good idea to clean in the first place.

Gemma

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Dr Andrew Bell: Monday, Thursday, Friday

Dr John Henderson: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

Dr Margaret Somerville: Wednesday

Dr Dheeraj Pawar: Monday, Tuesday, Thursday

Dr Benjamin Fry: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday

Dr Amir Rahimi: Alternate Sat (bookings taken in advance)

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What is “Battery-Ready” Solar Power ? (Part 3)

In recent instalments, I have considered Grid-Connected Solar Power Systems with Batteries ... and stated that buying a “Battery Ready” Solar Power System now (or retrofitting Batteries onto Existing Solar Power Systems) needs to be done carefully in order to achieve a purchaser’s actual goals --- The Devil is in the (Technical) Detail !!!

A Grid-Connect Solar Power System uses a Grid-Connect Solar Inverter to convert the Direct Current from the Panels to the 240V AC of the Mains Grid. Charging Batteries requires adding a Battery Inverter-Charger and an Import/Export Meter.

The Solar Inverter and the Battery Inverter-Charger can be in one box (a “One Box Solution”) or separate (a “Two Box Solution”). One fundamental difference is that a “One Box Solution” is always from a single manufacturer whereas a “Two Box Solution” might use equipment from different manufacturers. In which case compatibility must be considered.

Firstly, unless there is an explicit partnership between manufacturers or an explicit statement that a Battery Inverter-Charger works with “all Solar Inverters”, it is unclear whether your Warranty will be intact and whether you will receive Technical Support from either manufacturer.

Secondly, the solar power must “go somewhere” and putting more power into Batteries that are fully-charged can damage them. In a Grid-Connect System, if the Solar Inverter produces more power than the Batteries can take, the excess automatically flows back to the Mains Grid (regardless of any explicit compatibility between manufacturers). But in an Off-Grid System, or an On-Grid System providing Backup when the Mains Grid is down, there is nowhere for excess power to go. The only way to avoid over-charging the Batteries is for the Inverter-Charger to tell the Solar Inverter to reduce the amount of power produced. That requires a compatible way of communicating and only exists in products from the same manufacturer or where manufacturers adhere to the same Standards or where another mechanism has been deliberately implemented.

Another difference is the way permission to connect a Solar Power System with Batteries to the Mains Grid is granted. In the Powercor Network (most of Western Victoria), a Maximum Amount of Power Exported back to the Mains Grid must be approved. For a “One Box Solution” this is simply the AC Output of the One Box. But in the case of a “Two Box Solution”, the combined AC Output of both the Solar Inverter and Inverter-Charger might need to be approved, which can make it harder to keep below the maximum permitted and still provide enough power on the premises.

If the total AC Output of the Solar Inverter and Inverter-Charger exceed the maximum permitted, we can still install explicitly-approved Export-limiting Inverters ... but that restricts us to more sophisticated (more expensive !!!) brands. Over coming months, I will consider the most cost-effective ways to install a Brand New Battery-Ready Solar Power System and to retrofitting an Existing Solar Power System ...

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WESTAG

15 years of Community Planning

from Media Release

To celebrate 15 years of Community Planning in the Golden Plains Shire, Council is organising an event for the evening of Tuesday 16 August to thank everyone who has contributed to the success and sustainability of the program, especially Community Coordinators.

The Golden Plains Community Planning Program has been heralded as 'perhaps the best-known example of community planning' by The Australian Centre of Excellence for Local Government, and this is a direct reflection on our many wonderful communities and worth commending.

If you, or someone you know has been involved in the Community Planning Program in the past and would like to receive an invitation to the event please contact the Community Development Team Leader on 5220 7111.

We would also love to hear from you if you are interested in becoming a Community Coordinator within your town to continue the success of the program into the future.

Gee, Thanks...



"Just wanted to say what a great newsletter the Meredith News is. With its varied content it makes for fantastic reading and is very popular in my household, both with my husband and myself, and also my parents who ... often come to stay."

Louisa

WE LOVE FEEDBACK - Good and Bad. If you really like or don't like something, or have any other suggestions for improving our community newsletter, PLEASE let us know.
(see page 2 for contact details.)



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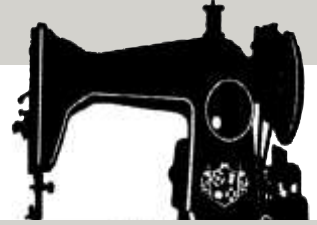
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Farewell Mandy

Marg Cooper

Mandy Brockway (Pattenden) was the daughter of Les and Cherry Pattenden who lived in Mt Evelyn. She had two sisters, Tammy and Cara. The family moved to Bayles when she was in Grade 3. Mandy went to high school in Koo Wee Rup where she developed a love of the arts, both visual and theatrical, and was voted school Captain in Year 12. She was very proud of this.

After high school Mandy studied visual arts at Dandenong TAFE where she met her first husband Ray, who was a farmer near Avoca. She gave birth to Brendan in 2001 and became involved in The Pyrenees Arts Council and the local Theatre Company.

In 2006 Mandy separated from her husband, met John Brockway and after some long distance dating Mandy proposed to John in November 2008. When her mother died from cancer in 2010 Mandy was inspired to move the family from Werribee to the country and to live the life she always wanted.

Together Mandy and John found a beautiful old property in Meredith with a shopfront. In 2012 Mandy and John moved to Meredith. Mandy was back in the country and loved every minute of it. There was a pub across the road and a lolly shop on the next corner. Mandy continued her spiritual journey, embracing crystals, practising yoga and meditation and completing a holistic counselling course. Mandy realised a life's dream by opening a holistic healing business from the shop. She offered massage, meditation, art classes and even horse whispering! In early 2014 she started her fitness and weightlifting journey and lost 30 kg.

In July 2014 Mandy was rushed to hospital with abdominal pain and over the next 2 years she endured several major operations, multiple hospital visits and chemotherapy. Mandy continued weightlifting despite her illness, competing in her first competition in December 2015. Mandy and John were married on April 10,



2016 and honeymooned on the Gold Coast. Mandy passed away at home on June 8, 2016.

Mandy was creative, enthusiastic and sincerely open and honest and stubborn as hell! She had a love of texture, incorporating many tactile items into her artwork. She loved rainbows. When asked what her favourite colour was she would reply with "rainbows, why should I have to choose?" She had a beautiful smile and a beautiful soul.

(compiled from notes provided by Mandy's husband, John.)



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Busy Bees

Jim Elvey

The Meredith Police Paddocks Support Group last month planted out nearly 170 wildflowers and grasses at the Paddocks, all at the foot of the "Beginnings" sign on the loop path around this beautiful environmental reserve. The plants, all species naturally found at the site, look like a forest of tree guards at the moment, but in time it will offer visitors a glimpse of the fauna widespread throughout the western plains grasslands before white settlement, but now rarely seen.

This is the third wildflower patch established by the Group and is an important part of the work being undertaken at the Police Paddocks to develop this valuable community asset.

Be sure to take a walk around the excellent all weather track accessible from either Campion Road (near the Wool Store) or Nuttall Street. *And if you would like to join the Support Group, or just be kept up to date on developments at the Paddocks, contact me on 5286 1273.*



This little fella, a juvenile blue tongue lizard, was sighted at the Police Paddocks during a working bee last month. The photo shows how they can flatten themselves out to appear bigger. It worked...we put him back!



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Home to Snow

Marg Cooper

Teresa and Shane Telford sold many of their possessions and headed off from Portarlington in 2011 with a camper trailer and a 4WD to see Australia. They zig-zagged up the east coast, had a few weeks holiday before looking for work, spent 2½ years in McKay, Teresa working in cafes and Shane working in construction and the mines, living in the caravan park and experiencing two cyclones before they headed for Darwin.

Teresa obtained a job within two weeks in the Speaker's Corner Café at Parliament House with Karen Sheldon Catering and Shane soon got a job with a building company. Teresa was very impressed by Karen Sheldon. Teresa described her as an amazing woman who is humble with a real passion to help people, especially the indigenous population. As well as the catering business she started the first Vocational Training and Employment Centre which offers nationally accredited and non-accredited training in mentoring, life skills, hospitality, retail and administration. With the programs and practical experience in her businesses Australia's most highly disadvantaged indigenous can and do enter the mainstream workforce. Teresa believes that it is working well!

Teresa's job as manager of the café was challenging but enjoyable. The staff included a chef and at least three trainees at a time. Teresa learnt a lot about indigenous people and became very sensitive to their culture. She recommends the Parliament House Café as the best place to be in Darwin. The building contains the Parliament and the local library and many tourists visit. The café won the Golden Plate Awards in 2013, 2014 and 2015.

Later in their stay Shane also worked for Karen Sheldon in a mentoring role. His job was to support trainees which was a big change from building.

Last Christmas when they came home to Meredith they noticed a house in Mercer Street for sale, had a look, thought it had potential and made an offer. They sorted out the finer details from Darwin and thought they may rent it out and stay in Darwin for a bit longer but home was beckoning. Teresa grew up in Meredith and is the daughter of Mary and Greg Foster. They arrived the week it snowed!

Teresa is feeling the cold especially when she plays football. While in Darwin she joined a new team called the Wanderers. The first year they were second from the bottom of the ladder, the second year they made the finals and the third year they narrowly lost the Grand Final. She was picked up by the Northern Territory State Academy and played interstate matches with them. Now she is playing with the Geelong VFL team. In Darwin football was played in summer!

Welcome back to real weather.



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Foxy's Family Restaurant and Cafe

Vale Brian Stanley

Marg Cooper

It was raining on Thursday July 7, 2016 when Brian's body was interred at Steiglitz Cemetery. He would have been happy because he knew how important rain was to farmers. Brian and his brother Bill grew onions, seed potatoes and other vegetables, for many years on their own land and leased land.

Brian, Bill and Wendy were the children of Gwen and Maurice Stanley of Steiglitz. Their mother ran the Post Office and telephone exchange in Regent Street. Brian and Bill attended Caulfield Technical School for about five years of their secondary education and stayed with their maternal grandmother while in Melbourne.

When they returned home the boys worked with their father, growing peas and onions, sawing wood and carting it to Geelong before they began growing vegetables on "Ballark" in the 1940's. This relationship with the Molesworth family continued until 2000.

Brian and Bill always worked together. They cut and sold slate from the Brisbane ranges, they worked at Meredith Engineering for Jim Cole and they worked at International Harvester in Geelong. They played football for Meredith and were in the Meredith team which were Premiers in the Ballarat District Section in 1960. Brian also played a season with Ballarat Football Club.

Brian married Elaine Osborne in 1959 and they had a daughter and a son, Karen and Daryl. They relocated a house from Box Hill to Meredith and situated it on Ballan Road. The three Stanley houses there were affectionately nicknamed "Stanleyville" because Gwen and Maurice Stanley lived in the house that had previously been the Meredith Catholic Presbytery and Bill and Joyce lived in another house that had been moved to Meredith.

Brian was a keen gardener. He joined the Pelargonium Club at the Geelong Botanical Gardens in 2003 and loved to propagate pelargoniums from cuttings. Meredith people may remember the rows of dahlias that he grew in the paddock near their house. He sold bunches of the flowers at nearby markets.

Brian suffered a stroke in 2005 and worked hard to improve his mobility. Brian and Elaine moved to a new unit in Bannockburn in 2010 and enjoyed catching up with all the Meredith people living in Bannockburn but in 2012 Brian moved to Bannockburn Aged Care and died on Tuesday, June 28, 2016.



JCB JCB

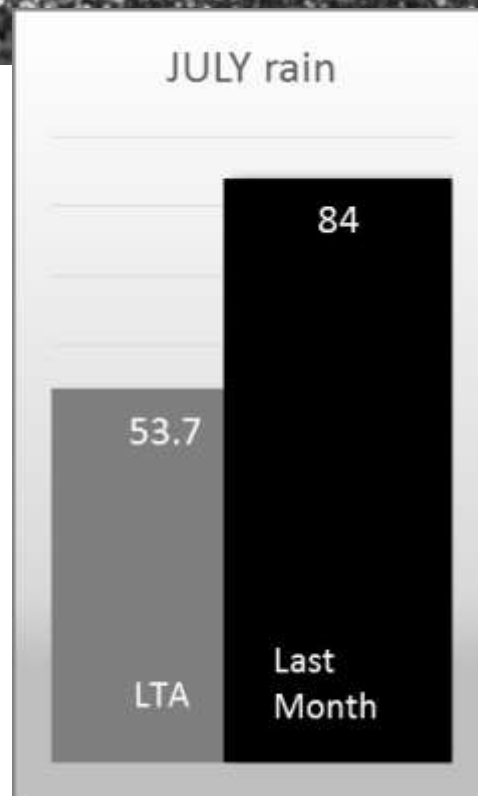
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Vale Maureen Henderson

Marg Cooper (from eulogy)

Maureen was born in Colac on March 9, 1921 to Dick and Mary Rantall. She was the fourth of their nine children. During her formative years she experienced the Roaring Twenties, the devastation of the Great Depression and then the Second World War. These were tough times for families but think of all the innovations she saw during her lifetime.

The family lived in Apollo Bay and she went to school there. After school she helped her mother at home, especially with the younger children and she enjoyed fishing with her father. Maureen met Douglas Henderson in Geelong and they married on September 10, 1942 at St David's Church, Newtown. Their honeymoon was short as Doug was on leave from the Army so they only had a couple of days together.

After the war they moved to 27 Wallace Street, Meredith where they lived for 62 years. Maureen was a "home body", she was thoroughly content in her apron at home. She would change into a clean apron or "pinny" when guests arrived. She was a great cook and there was always plenty of home baked food to eat. She loved her garden which was full of dahlias, irises, Soldier Boys" and gladiolus (the bulbs of which were given to her by her brothers and sister). As well as a beautiful flower garden Maureen and Doug had an abundant vegetable garden.

They had four children, Helen, Donald (dec.), Allan and Lorraine. They were also proud and loving grandparents to ten grandchildren and eleven great grandchildren, who Maureen affectionately called the "littlies". She was always interested in what the family was doing and always knew when their birthdays were, sending a card and a note of money.

They had a small farm at Bamganie which had previously been owned by Doug's parents, Joseph and Ellen. They would work there at weekends. Neither Maureen nor Doug were afraid of hard work and, of course, during the season Maureen catered for the shearers. She also supported Doug in his roles in the Fire Brigade, State School, Landcare and Senior Citizens.

Maureen was an active member of Meredith CWA, the Mother's Club and Meredith Senior Citizens. She particularly loved performing in sketches at CWA with Mary Brady who was a great friend of Maureen's and lived over the road from her. Mary believed that a nip of green ginger wine before a performance ensured that the cast relaxed and performed well and they did!

Due to Doug's poor health Maureen and Doug moved to a unit in Bannockburn in 2002 where Maureen took wonderful care of Doug for several years. Sadly Doug died in Bannockburn Nursing Home in 2011. He was 93 years old. Maureen stayed in the unit until 2014 when she moved into the Nursing Home herself.

Maureen was taken to hospital on Sunday, June 26 and died peacefully the next day. She was 95 years old. The family reflected on Maureen's long, healthy, beautiful life. She loved her family, had a great sense of humour, was quick witted and very much a lady.

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Carnivores eat mainly meat and need to be able to cut it with their teeth. Some of their molars and sometimes premolars are large with sharp edges, and are called carnassials. As the animal bites into meat, these teeth pass each other and slice the meat into more manageable sized pieces. Tasmanian devils have teeth of this type as did thylacines. Carnivores often have a ridge along the top of their skull and strong cheek bones. Large muscles are attached to these, giving them the biting power they need. They don't chew food. It is swallowed in chunks, so their stomachs contain much stronger acid than omnivores or herbivores, to help them to digest their meals. Brush-tailed phascogales are small marsupial carnivores which are found in our area. Although their food is similar to sugar gliders, they eat less nectar and have not been observed eating sap. A lot more of their diet is made up of live prey, including small mammals, lizards and birds. They also have large front incisors, but unlike sugar gliders, they have large canines and sharp triangular premolars and molars. There is a gap in front of their top canines, allowing space for their lower canines to fit when they close their mouth. Their teeth are useful for gripping, holding and tearing their meals.

Herbivores have incisors, but often lack canines. Their molars are large with ridges to help grind their food. They have a long jaw and strong cheek bones as anchor points for the large muscles which they need for chewing tough plants. The length of their jaw creates a long gap between their incisors and molars, and gives them room to move food around for repeated chewing and mixing with saliva, so that it is already partially digested before it reaches the stomach. Our local eastern grey kangaroos have teeth of this kind for eating grass. On each side of their mouth they have one pair of premolars and four pairs of big molars. These gradually wear out. The ones towards the front fall out and the rear teeth move forward to replace them. Koalas, with their diet of gum leaves, also have the teeth of a herbivore. On each side they have a large pair of incisors at the front for cutting, then two smaller pairs and small canines. The gap between the front and back teeth is shorter than in kangaroos, so they have a shorter face. Their

molars wear as they age and become flatter.

Another group with specialised teeth are the rodents. They have two pairs of long incisors with thick enamel at the front. The back of these teeth have little enamel and wear away, leaving a sharp point at the front. Their incisors grow continuously, so the animals have to gnaw to prevent them from becoming too long. Most rodents have a gap with no canines or premolars, but have molars for chewing. Their diets vary. Two native rodents which may be found locally are bush rats which are omnivorous, and water rats which are mainly carnivorous. Other rodents are herbivorous. Animals have teeth and bodies which are adapted to their diet. If you find a skull, have a look at its shape and teeth. They are large clues to identifying the animal and its lifestyle.

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Slow-Cooked Veal and Rosemary Casserole

Prep & Cooking Time 8 hours 35 minutes
Serves 6

Ingredients

- ¾ cup plain flour
- 1.2kg boned veal shoulder, cut coarsely
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 1 medium brown onion, chopped coarsely
- 2 garlic cloves, crushed
- ½ cup (125ml) dry red wine
- 2 medium carrots, chopped coarsely
- 2 stalks celery, trimmed, chopped coarsely
- 2 medium parsnips, chopped coarsely
- 2 ½ cups beef stock
- 3 sprigs rosemary

Method

Season flour in a large bowl, add veal, toss to coat in flour. Shake off excess. Heat half the oil in large frying pan; cook veal in batches, until browned. Transfer to 4.5-litre (18 cup) slow cooker.

Heat remaining oil in same pan; cook onion and garlic, stirring, until onion softens. Add wine, bring to the boil. Boil uncovered, until liquid reduces by half.

Stir onion mixture into slow cooker with carrot, celery, parsnip, stock and rosemary. Cook, covered, on low for 8 hours. Season to taste.

Serving Suggestion:

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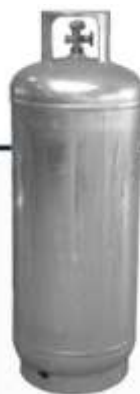
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Books that Talk

Marg Cooper

Simon Winchester has just read me his book "Krakatoa" about the volcanic island west of Java that was annihilated on August 27, 1883, the day the world exploded! The effects of this explosion were felt around the world. He has also read to me his book "The Map that Changed the World" about the exploits of geologist and map maker William Smith. What a privilege and a joy to listen to an author read his own words to me.

Evan McHugh's books "Outback Stations of Australia" and "The Shearers" were also recently read to me and were enthralling to listen to. I heard about big stations including "Adria Downs", "Wave Hill" and "Commonwealth Hill" and characters such as Nat Buchanan in the first book and about the men who went out to shear sheep armed with blades and a sense of adventure and shaped the Australian National character in the second book.

These audio books came from the Golden Plains Mobile Library which visits Meredith every Thursday from 9 am until 10.30am and parks outside Meredith Community Centre. On board are books for all ages, DVD's, CD's, magazines and audio books. Also on board is Kay who quietly records items borrowed and returned, encourages borrowing and, when her opinion is sought, recommends.

She describes how the truck has a "floating collection" - the items in the truck change all the time. An additional service is the ability to order online from the library catalogue. When your order becomes available the library will notify you and you can pick up from the truck.

Kay has been driving the present Library Truck for 17 years. When she started she drove a semi-trailer. On Thursdays she arrives at the depot in Anakie Road about 7.45 am, is in Meredith before 9 am to connect to power, open the doors and get her computer going. She then drives the truck to Rokewood, Dereel and Enfield so people can borrow from the library in those districts. She drives to other districts on other days. Kay always runs early and enjoys casting her eye over the countryside to observe the different seasons. An avid reader all her life, Kay has a real passion for her work.

A \$130,000 refurbishment of the Mobile Library is to take place soon. While the truck is off the road a van will service the country towns at the usual times and locations. The mobile library is a wonderful service available to the community. May I also recommend the audio books? Listening to them in the car makes the trip entertaining!



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The Battle of Fromelles

Marg Cooper

The Battle of Fromelles was a British Military operation on the Western Front on 19th and 20th July, 1916, during World War 1, subsidiary to the Battle of the Somme. The attack was the debut of the Australian Imperial Force on the Western Front and the Australian War Memorial describes the battle as "the worst 24 hours in Australia's entire history". Of 7,080 British Empire Force casualties, 5,533 losses were incurred by the 5th Australian Division.

Charles John Wyatt was killed on 19/7/1916. He was the son of William and Elizabeth Wyatt of Meredith. Their children included Ginerva Mary Wyatt b. 1892 at Meredith, Charles John Wyatt b. 1893 at Meredith, Thomas Edward Wyatt b. 1897 at Meredith, Robert Healey Wyatt b. 1900 at Meredith and Evelyn May Wyatt b. 1906 at Meredith. Locals recall the Wyatt family living in Read Street, Meredith and that William Wyatt was a ganger on the railways. When he enlisted Charles was 21 years of age, was 5 feet 4 inches tall, of dark complexion with curly hair, blue eyes, was single and Roman Catholic.

He enlisted on 12/7/1915. A "send off" was held on 27/10/1915 in Geelong with his embarkation on HMAT "Wiltshire" on 18/11/1915. Charles Wyatt was reported missing on 16/7/1916 and then listed as killed in action on 19/7/1916 at the Battle of Fromelles.

Mr Willetts of Geelong presented an enlarged framed photo of Pte C. Wyatt to the Meredith State School. Pte C. Wyatt was an old boy of the school and at the time of his enlistment was in Mr Willetts' employ. The Head Teacher proposed to try and have portraits of all "old" boys who had enlisted, placed in the school. On the Monday after his family received confirmation that he had been killed in action the State School flag was flown at half-mast in honour of the memory of the first of the old scholars to give his life for his country.

Charles John Wyatt has no known grave but is commemorated at VC Corner (Panel 23) at Fromelles, on the Meredith State School Roll of Honor, on the Meredith and District Roll of Honor, on the Meredith War Memorial and on Panel 171 at the Australian War Memorial.



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Marg's Book Review

"Hello Beautiful" by Hannie Rayson

Hannie Rayson is a playwright and screenwriter. Her works which include "Hotel Sorrento", "Inheritance" and "Life after George" have been performed around Australia and internationally and she has received numerous awards.

Hannie Rayson a writer, mother, daughter, sister, wife, romantic, adventuress and parking spot optimist has spent a lifetime giving voice to others in the many roles she has written for stage and screen. She explains how this can be exhausting because to be in one of her plays the characters must be volatile and emotive. The Prologue says that she has spent 30 years pretending to be other people but for reasons she cannot explain she has woken up and found herself interesting.

Hannie takes centre stage in this book. It is a collection of her stories, some of which began their lives as articles in the Age or HQ magazine. All of them have been reworked with a simple rule: everything has to be true, more or less. She filled gaps in her memory from the contents of a camphorwood box which her father gave her when she was sixteen. In it, she kept every piece of writing (including her personal diaries) she had scribbled since she was a teenager.

In the early chapters she resurrects the textures of suburban life in 1960's and 1970's Melbourne where everyone on the street knew everyone else's business. She flicks from the lurid tale of the murder victim buried under her mother's house, of the miscarriage she suffered as a young journalist in Arthur Boyd's studio, to a slapstick dinner party disaster, to giving birth during the nurse's strike in 1986. Chapters burst with witty anecdotes and intelligent insights about balding men, step families, graffiti, leaking, Billy Crystal and much more.

This book is easy to read and very entertaining with many subjects to which readers can relate. Hannie nourishes your soul and draws you into her personal and creative world. She has had "a not so ordinary life"! *The book for discussion in August is "I am Malala" by Malala Yousafzai with Christina Lamb.*

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Meredith History Interest Group

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Microfiche and Microfiche Reader

The group has recently acquired our very own set of the Victorian Births, Deaths and Marriages records. This includes the Pioneers Index, Edwardian Index, and the Great War Index.

Sadly for all those techno people, our set comes in very old fashioned microfiche, but we are delighted to have ready access to these records. The B.D.M.'s are now only available online and many groups are disposing of the hands on indexes and we were lucky to be in the right place at the right time.

Our thanks to Judith Oak and the Geelong Heritage Centre for their generous donation of the records. We would also like to thank David Steele who kindly collected the microfiche reader from the Victorian Genealogy Centre in Collins Street, Melbourne and then nursed it on his lap all the way through the city by tram. We encourage anyone who is researching their family history to pay us a visit and start looking at the indexes.

Our new acquisition may be yesterday's technology but all you need is to turn it on and start. No passwords, no data plans and best of all, IT WON'T DROP OUT.

We catalogue of the last Thursday of each month at the Anglican Church Hall. You are welcome to drop in!

Meredith Shire Council

From the Secretary of the International Exhibition, inviting the council to furnish him with 1st- a compilation of statistics; 2nd- photographs of notable public buildings &c; 3rd- an impression of the corporate seal - for exhibition at the forthcoming London Exhibition of 1873. The letter was ordered to lie on the table."

Geelong Advertiser, 27th September, 1872.

Letter to the Editor

Sir, — I wonder how many of your readers were pupils of Dolly's Creek school in the early seventies. Not many, I fear. Where are the hundred (more or less) happy boys and girls who played games and fought fights in the good old schoolboy fashion? Cricket, rounders, prisoners' bar, shinty—the latter played with ball and crooked stick, and Jove help the shins and ankles of him who failed to "shinty his own side." As I write the thrill and joy of youth returns in imagination.

The teachers, as I remember them in rotation, were Coutts, and Danaher. There were no more than a dozen families living within a mile of the school, hence the majority of pupils hailed from surrounding country— Mt. Doran, some three or four miles north, and Morrisons, a similar distance south. Notwithstanding that each of these places had a school of its own, ours was the draw card.

Some family names as I remember them were: — Horner, Gus, Tom, Jane; Eastwood, George, and sisters, Maria and Fanny; Barker, Jack, Walter, Bob; McIntosh, Ralph; McDonald, Charlie and Norman; Miles, Harry and Bill; Johnson, Edmond and George (the father a colored man, was a pugilist of no mean order, and was looked upon by us boys as champion of the countryside); Hunter, Bill; Jackson, Jim; Webster, Welbourne and Wilfred; Elmslie, George, Harry and Bill (the firstnamed well known later in Victorian politics); Hollingsworth, sisters Priscilla and Lily; Jerram, Bill, and sisters Jane, Ellen, Dorcus, Jessie, Tilly, Alice, Lizzie (Bill's boat-building business near Princes-bridge is well known); Fitzpatrick, Bob, and sister, Jenny (an elder brother known as "Snowy" had finished school at this time, and later became known in connection with the Kelly gang); Smith, Jock and Babe; Watt, Jim, Joe and Bob; Waters, Sandy, Bill and Gilbert; Monroe, Bill, Lavery and Jack; and many others whose names do not occur to me at the moment.

Should this meet the eye of any old boys or girls they will not be surprised to hear that the building has long since been demolished, and the site overgrown with timber, just as were the surroundings in our day. About two years ago I visited the place — Oh, so desolate!— not a vestige of habitation remained.

How pleasant it would be if the few old boys who are left, with perhaps some of their off-spring, could get together and have a day back to Dolly's Creek.

— Yours,

&c., A. LANGTON, 2 MacKay-street, Seddon.
The Age Tuesday 30 March 1937
Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group

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Want to be a Pharmacist?

Marg Cooper

The Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Scheme offers scholarships of \$10,000 per year for four years to thirty rural students who wish to study graduate pharmacy course. The scheme aims to encourage and enable students from rural communities to undertake undergraduate and graduate studies in pharmacy at university. The Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Scheme is supplemented by the Rural Pharmacy Scholarship Mentor Scheme and Rajesh of the Healthline Pharmacy in Staughton Street, Meredith is keen to recommend and support your application and mentor you. Raj says the scheme not only helps students financially but gives practical knowledge and experience and students learn more quickly if they have hands on training. If you received a scholarship you would be able to have practical training locally.

...or a Pharmacy Assistant?

The Healthline Pharmacy is also offering to help you to study various Certificate courses so you can build a career and work in a Pharmacy as a pharmacy assistant, a pharmacy manager at several levels by completing certificate III or IV or a Dispense Technician course who works with a pharmacist to assess, process and record prescriptions. This training is completed with a mix of online units, course work and some practical work in a pharmacy. Visit: guild.org.au/news-page/2015/10/27/applications-for-2016-rural-pharmacy-scholarships-now-open or talk to Raj.

A Grand Opening

Marg Cooper

On July 12 2016, visitors and friends and families from Meredith district attended the shop at 44 Staughton Street to officially declare open the Healthline Pharmacy in Meredith. Raj outlined the services they provide and the services they are planning. Guests enjoyed refreshments, show bags and there were three lucky winners for fabulous raffles. Residents admired the huge range of products in the shop and showered praises. The residents requested a doctor's surgery in Meredith and Raj confirmed that this service will be available soon. Your local family chemist does care beyond prescriptions!

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Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

6 High Street Bannockburn VIC 3331 Phone: 5281 1519

New Dispensing Robot – starts Monday 22nd August

Last month you would have read that we are building a brand new dispensary in the pharmacy as we are putting in an automated dispensing robot! Our renovations are well underway and there has been minimal disruption which has been a bonus. Our new automated dispensing robot will be built from Monday 15th August and will be ready to go from Monday 22nd August. This automated dispensing technology leaves the picking/selection of the medications to the robot which means our Pharmacists have more time to provide consultations and better health outcomes for our customers. The majority of the time taken to dispense a medication is taken up with selecting medication from the shelves and this new robot will do this for us, and will only take a few seconds to accurately select the product for us. A member of our dispensary team still has to dispense the prescription through our dispensing software to ensure the correct medication is prescribed, etc, but then the robot will select the medication for us and we complete the final labelling and checking process. We already pride ourselves on our efficiency but this automated dispensing robot will dramatically reduce the wait times for your prescriptions. A picture of the robot can be seen below. We will also have a TV screen set up in the Pharmacy which will allow everyone to see inside the robot and the robotic arm grabbing the medications. Kids especially (and adults) love to watch the robot



Official launch of our new Robot – Morning tea (Tuesday 30th August @ 10:30am)

On Tuesday 30th August at 10:30am we are going to have special morning tea to officially launch our brand new dispensing robot. We are having a special cake replicating our robot that Michelle from **Mini Bakes & Cakes** is making for us. We will cut the cake for everyone to share and we will provide tea & coffee as well. We would love everyone to come along so you can see the robot in action. We will also explain more about how the robot works and answer any questions about it as well.

If you after a cake for a special occasion, please check out the amazing cakes that Michelle has made from **Mini Bakes & Cakes** on her Facebook page below. <https://www.facebook.com/minibakesandcakes/>

Pharmacy Features:

- **Naturopath**
- **Cosmetic Tattooist**
- **Ear piercing**
- Medela (we hire Breastpumps)
- MooGoo
- **FREE Home Deliveries**
- Natio
- Homy Ped shoes
- Sukin Organic Products
- Nude by Nature
- Diabetes Australia Agency - NDSS
- Giftware for all ages
- Glasshouse Fragrances
- Salt & Pepper
- Digital Photo printing
- Passport photos
- Darrell Lea Chocolates
- Webster-paks
- Home Medicine Reviews
- Free gift wrapping

Trading Hours

Monday: 8:30am - 6:30pm
 Tuesday: 8:30am - 6:30pm
 Wednesday: 8:30am - 6:30pm
 Thursday: 8:30am - 6:30pm
 Friday: 8:30am - 6:30pm
 Saturday: 8:30am – 1:00pm
 Sunday: **CLOSED**

Did you know we offer FREE Weekday Home Deliveries to Meredith?