

# Meredith & district News

July 2017

your FREE Community Newsletter since 1972



## inside



- Trainspotting in the Golden Plains
- New Vision for Pioneer Park
- Retracing Lasseters Footsteps
- Meredith Primary School Kicking Goals
- Vale Nellie Tucker
- ...the usual MUCH MORE!

**e:** [news@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:news@meredithnews.com.au) **W:** [meredithnews.com.au](http://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, Jarna Kelly and Ian Penna.

Editor this issue: Jim Elvey.

## NEWS & VIEWS

Subject to the conditions outlined below, contributions accompanied by the contributor's name (which will also be published) and contact details, are most welcome. Please email to [news@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:news@meredithnews.com.au) or deliver to the Meredith Corner Shop.

## DATES AND DEADLINES

The Newsletter is distributed on the **first Thursday** of the 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: A \$20 loading applies for preferred position. Colour only available in March, June, September and December issues. Please submit in jpeg format, if available.

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

Post Office, Meredith, 3333

**Editorial:** Trudy 0429 430646

[news@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:news@meredithnews.com.au)

**Advertising:** Ian 0409 016815

[advertising@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:advertising@meredithnews.com.au)

**Accounts:** Dawn 0428 861274

[accounts@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:accounts@meredithnews.com.au)

## WEB

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

## ONLINE PHOTOS

We do not publish children's photos online.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

## DISCLAIMER

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

# connect

**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  
Morrisons  
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

**MOTORCYCLE CLUB**  
0437 009250

**PLAYGROUP**  
5286 0700

**POLICE PADDOCKS**  
5286 1273

**RED CROSS**  
5286 8222

**RSL**  
5286 1452

**SENIOR CITIZENS**  
5286 8232

**TENNIS**  
Elaine  
0448 291074  
Meredith  
5286 1211

**SEW 'N' SEWS**  
5286 0700

**FRIENDS OF THE  
BRISBANE RANGES**  
5286 1252

**MEREDITH LIONS**  
0473 380 552

**..or start something.**

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

# 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 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 5281 2226  
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  
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

Things turn out best for those who  
make the best of the way things turn  
out.

- Jack Buck.





## Community

### **Elaine Cricket Club Inc. Annual General Meeting at Elaine Cricket Ground.**

**Saturday 8th July 1pm 2017**

**All welcome.**

Ph Vice President Shane Dunne 0448291074

Elaine Cricket Club will enter an U16 team and U14/13 team in the Ballarat Cricket Association in 2017/18. There is strong interest in a senior Elaine team being entered in a two day competition in the Ballarat Cricket Association too. All old and new members welcome to attend AGM.

### **Elaine Tennis Club Inc Annual General Meeting at Elaine Tennis Clubrooms Saturday 8th July 2pm 2017**

All Welcome Ph Treasurer Ian Farhall 0427100657

Any interested senior and junior players welcome to attend our AGM. Elaine Tennis Club will enter teams in the Buninyong and District Tennis Association in 2017/18. Elaine T.C. has 2 new blue acrylic courts and has recently bought a top of the range new Lobster tennis ball machine courtesy of a grant from the Moorabool Shire and club funds. Julie Golightly is our professional tennis coach. Our club is a former finalist in the Tennis Victoria Awards. The club has come a long way from when our players in 2012 were dodging bullrushes on the old courts.

### **Bamganie/Meredith Landcare**

Bamganie/Meredith Landcare group meeting will be held Thursday 20th July, at the Meredith Community Centre. Members and non members are invited to attend.

## **Meredith Senior Citizens**

*Jim Hynds*

A full bus load of Seniors left Meredith on Monday, June 19, 2017 for a day trip to Kyneton. Our first stop was at Creswick for a surprise morning tea of hot tea or coffee, and a massive amount of cakes, slices, sandwiches. It made a great start to our trip. We then journeyed across country to the Kyneton Museum where we viewed a display of clothes, letters, paintings and photos of the noted writer, Jane Austin. The Museum also offered a fine display of period clothes which you could dress up in. Our Nancy took up the challenge and appeared in all the finery looking every part a fine lady of long ago times. Also on display were kitchens of the past, a massive amount of farm implements, bluestone stables, other old buildings, many beautiful horse drawn vehicles and much more.

The museum is a place well worth visiting. For lunch we stopped at the Kyneton RSL where we enjoyed a two course meal, tea, coffee and a flutter on the pokies for some. We had rung our lunch orders through so when we sat down our meals were served immediately. Great Service! A pleasant journey home by a different route made it a great day. The Seniors welcomed back Allan our driver with a round of applause. He certainly makes our days away very pleasant. Well done Allan. And a special mention to some of our ladies for our surprise morning tea, Dianne, Carol and Betty. Well done. We must do it again. All round a fantastic day!

### **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**

### **Tutors Wanted**

The Meredith Community Centre are looking for following tutors in:

**Floristry, Pottery and French**

If you are able to help, please contact us on 52 860 700

## **Classifieds**

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

### **Pony Club in Meredith**

If you are interested in being part of a ponyclub in Meredith please contact us at [jovitalua@hotmail.com](mailto:jovitalua@hotmail.com)

Our editorial deadline for next month is

**Thursday July 27th.**

*The Last Photo in the Camera*



## Church News



### ANGLICAN

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

Service Times;

#### Church of Epiphany - Meredith.

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

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

#### St James. - Morrisons:

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

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 5pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 July/August

Winchelsea every Saturday @ 6 p.m.

Inverleigh every Sunday @ 9 a.m. except the last Sunday of the month which is at the Stadium in Bannockburn.

Anakie @ 11 a.m. Sunday July 2<sup>nd</sup>/16<sup>th</sup>/30<sup>th</sup>. August 13<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup>

Meredith @ 11 a.m. Sunday July 9<sup>th</sup>/23<sup>rd</sup>. August 6<sup>th</sup>/20<sup>th</sup>.

Annual Healing Mass and Luncheon Saturday July 15<sup>th</sup> at Meredith.

Mass at 11 a.m. Lunch at 12 noon.

Parish Confirmation for 2017 is at Holy Spirit Manifold Heights on Sunday August 20<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.

Gala Fundraiser in aid of the New Catholic Church at Bannockburn at Clyde Park on Friday August 11 th. at 7 p.m. Tickets \$100 per person

To book [www.trybooking.com/QTAE](http://www.trybooking.com/QTAE)

### St. Joey's Op Shop

*We have a quantity of good furniture and bric a brac. cheapest prices you will ever find in an op-shop. Furniture travel goods clothes shoes children's clothes toys and books. Please no children's car seats due to regulations.*

**Open Wednesdays and Fridays 10a.m – 4 p.m.**

## Golden Plains Mobile Library



At the Meredith Primary School  
Thursday 9am to 10.30am



Meredith Community Centre  
*working for your community*

Hi everyone,

With winter well and truly on upon us we have been planning some great classes in Term 3. As well as our brochure distribution at the beginning of the Term we now advertise just the courses coming up in the next month in the Newsletter. Hopefully this will jog your memory to book in. We often have people call in or tell us after a class has happened that they wanted to attend but had forgotten.

We have listened to what people are asking for and we have managed to find some great tutors for new and repeat classes next term including Calligraphy and Social media marketing. We are still looking for tutors for beginners French and pottery. Often even when we have people who want to learn new skills we are unable to find teachers. Watch out in the brochure and newsletter for some fantastic classes from some of our amazing artistic community in the Golden Plains region.

Our knitting and crochet class this term has now morphed into a little group keen to get together and have a social gathering while creating, improving their skills and finishing off their unfinished projects. So if you would like to join them on a Wednesday morning you are very welcome.

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. We have lots of spaces available if you have a group or occasion you would like to hire a room for. Just call in and see us for assistance.

Our Occasional care has been very busy this year with us now open 5 days a week under the management of Jo Vermeend. Jo is really fantastic with the children and really cares about making the experience enriching for the children.

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 Phone 5286 0700

[learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au](mailto:learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au)

Open: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thurs 9.00-3.00.

Closed Fridays and school holidays

## Recreation



### Members Wanted

In May the Meredith Golf Club held golf clinics for anyone interested in playing golf, there was a great turnout and as a result the club signed up four new members but we still need more.

The club invites anyone interested to come along on a **Sunday morning at 10:30am**, all are welcome, **Juniors, Ladies and Men of all abilities.**

There are some **golf sets available to lend** on the day, if you do not own a set of golf clubs but would like to give it a go come along and we can help you out.

**For enquiries call**

**Denis Gear 0428289313 Secretary/Treasurer**  
**OR Paul Mitchell 0448 523 821**



### BOP into Life!

Meredith residents might have noticed some little hums of activity at the old information centre over the past few months and wondered what was brewing. We can now confirm that after many months of planning and working out details, the building has found a new lease of life as the BOP Arts Co-op headquarters.



The BOP is a supportive, cooperative group of professional and hobbyist creatives hailing from Geelong through to Ballarat. The BOP has been working to promote the rich artistic potential of the region since its inception in 2016, but given the regional focus a permanent meeting place in the middle has always been the goal. The old information centre is perfectly located. By working closely with Golden Plains shire, BOP Director and founder Samantha Thompson has managed to secure a safe place for the community to come together to create art, learn from professionals, and inspire one another.

Keep an eye out in coming months for more activity as the BOP starts work on making the space fit for purpose. Expect workshops, exhibitions, and special events. And feel free to get involved – come and say hi, pitch your creative ideas, get inspired! More information on the BOP can be found at [thebop.com.au](http://thebop.com.au), [facebook.com/theBOPArts](https://www.facebook.com/theBOPArts), or by calling Samantha on 0429 487 721.

### This Months Cover ...

Some observant locals may have seen this wonderful example of Steam from a bygone era on the line from Ballarat to Geelong on Saturday 24th June. It was a special run put on by Steamrail Victoria, and had ardent trainspotters out in droves. The train had 3 vintage steam engines (all facing backwards!) from 1903, 1915 and 1951, as well restored red and blue old rattler carriages!

*Well spotted and thanks for your amazing photo Kristina Kitchingman. You can see more of Kristinas great work on her FB page: [KKrafts Kristina K Photography](https://www.facebook.com/KKraftsKristinaKPhotography)*

### Wisey Muster

*Stewie*

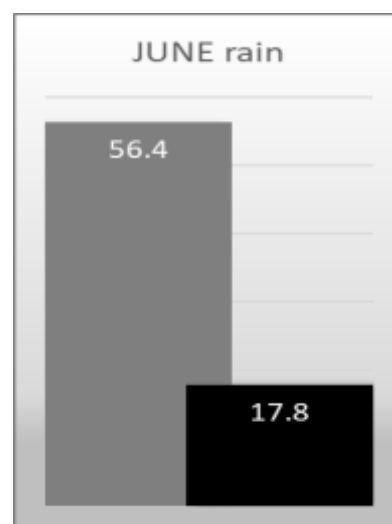
The Annual Wisey Muster was recently held at Sawyers Arms Tavern (aka Clats) in Noble Street in honour of our true blue mate, Steve Wiseman.

This year was special for more ways than one, we celebrated the tenth year of remembering Steve and also celebrated the newly renovated Clats. Steve would've loved it!

He also would have loved the turnout of all his mates – one of the main focuses of the Wisey Muster. We all used to gather there every Friday night and share each other's company, so many fond memories from all of us. Now once a year we all converge and catch up like the good old days.

The other focus of the night is to raise funds for The Andrew Love Cancer Centre (ALCC) who cared for Wisey during his illness. This year like others past we held an auction and raffle where we raised a total of \$7907.35, 100% of which goes to ALCC. We could not continue to raise these funds if it were not for the generous support of local businesses and Steve's mates and Family.

Next years Wisey Muster will be held at Sawyers Arms Tavern on May 25th – feel free to come along on the night and join us in remembering Steve.



*LTA 'V' June rainfall*





## WW2 Honour Roll, Maude and She Oaks

*Pauline Tournier*

Our Community Planning Group has a project included in our Community Plan which is to upgrade the current WW2 Honour Roll. The original wooden plaque will be conserved.

We are seeking any local knowledge of WW2 veterans from the Maude and She Oaks localities.

Are there any missing names which should be included on the upgraded honour roll?

Thank you to Jack Boardman and Fay Mc Farlane for their input so far.

The following list of names will be added to the current roll and displayed on a new board:



## IS ANYONE MISSING?

*Francis George William Bourquin*

*Frederick Albert Bourquin*

*Arthur East*

*Ivy East (Nurse)*

*Joe East*

*Thomas Reginald East*

*Vincent Patrick Lynch*

*William Stanley Lynch*

*Lewis Mervyn Parker*

*Owen Stanley Rohleder*

*Clyde William Spiller*

*John Thomas Spiller*

*Thomas William Spiller*

*Thomas George Stratton*

*Francis Joseph Henry Strong*

*Alexander John Thompson*

*Keith Robert Thompson*

*Neil Egbert Thompson*

*Gilbert James Tracey*

Enquiries: Pauline Tournier 03 5281 9270

JK ....where businesses and careers thrive



## Employment Opportunities in the Meredith Region

JK Personnel service clients in the Meredith area and are always looking for local individuals seeking work.

We are looking for multiple **Labourers** to work in the Meredith Area who are dedicated and genuinely looking for work with an excellent attitude.

### Required skills and experience:

- Ability to work as part of a team
- Reasonable level of fitness (roles can be fast paced)
- Flexibility to work a range of hours Monday – Saturday
- Commitment to the job

### Current roles include farm hands, process work, packing and stores. The roles will offer:

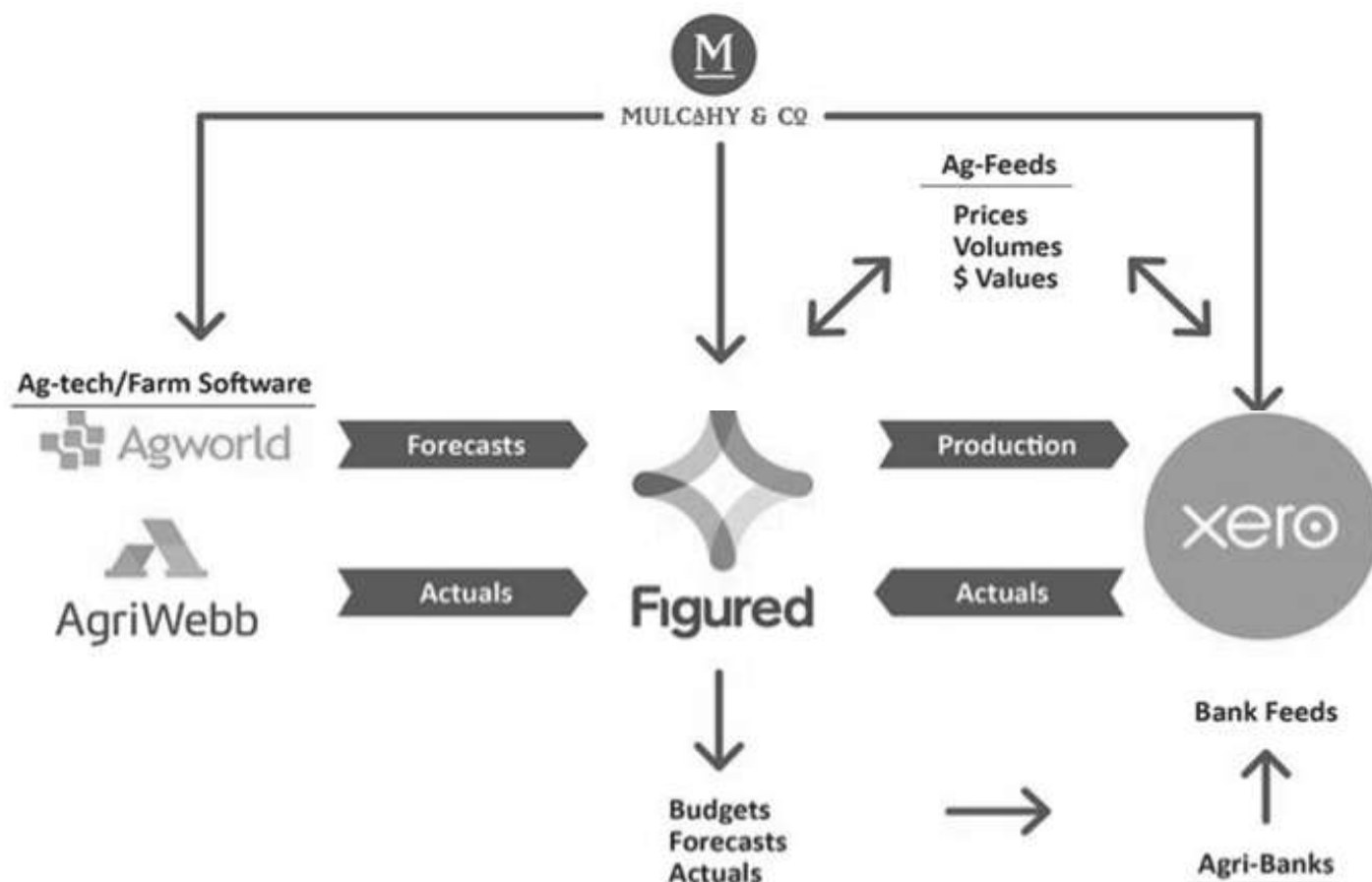
- Full time hours
- Ongoing casual employment
- Possibility of gaining a permanent position

If you have any enquiries, please call Alisha or Laura on – **5332 9955** or email [alisha@jkpersonnel.com.au](mailto:alisha@jkpersonnel.com.au) expressing your interest

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We offer a free no obligation meeting to review your situation. Call Chris Mulcahy today on 03 5330 7200 and take advantage of this valuable offer.

## Corangamite Shield

*Marg Cooper*

I found the "Corangamite Challenge Shield" in The Olde Hall Gallery at Port Campbell.

The shield is the most magnificent trophy that I have ever seen. It consists of a silver shield which is heavily embossed with writing, figures and decorations, mounted on three pieces of polished wood. It stands about five feet high and is about three feet wide on an easel type stand.

The Corangamite Challenge Shield was first awarded in 1903. It was valued at £250 and was offered for competition by Rifle Clubs throughout the Corangamite Electorate by Mr J.C. Manifold. It was to be shot for annually. Altogether 27 teams entered for the competition in 1903 and over 70 matches were fired. On the 28<sup>th</sup> August, 1903 the final match was fired on the Camperdown range by the four clubs which had survived the previous contests: these being, Colac, Bannockburn, Beeac and Moonlight Head. The conditions were 7 shots at 400, 500 & 600 yards. The shield was presented to the winner, Colac Rifle Club by Mr Manifold at a military concert which was held at Colac on October 22.

On Thursday, August 24, 1908 The Age reported that the handicaps for the seventh shoot for the Corangamite Challenge Shield had been declared: Colac 25, Noorat 30, Pomboineit 22, Irrewillipe 40, Meredith 40, Grenville 45, Camperdown 56, Bannockburn 56, Lismore 60, Terang 88, Birregurra 88, Beeac 88, Garvoc 90, Inverleigh 90, Port Campbell 90, Timboon 110, Beech Forest 112, Cobden 120.

"At a meeting of the Meredith Shire Council last week, the President Cr Tucker referred to the outcome recently achieved by the local Rifle Club in winning the Corangamite Shield. The Meredith Rifle Club was undoubtedly one of the strongest in the state and boasted about 150 members, stated Cr Tucker. It was a splendid achievement to win such a contest and it showed that they had some very competent marksmen in their midst. The Captain of the team (Mr H. Davison) had presented the council with a photograph of the winning team and on behalf of the council he had to thank that gentleman and to express the pleasure they all felt at the success of their riflemen. Cr Brown said that to win the Corangamite Shield was distinctly an honour for the club and the district. On the motion of Cr Scott and seconded by Cr Synot it was resolved that the photograph be framed and placed in the Council Chambers."

According to the Geelong Advertiser, the winning team consisted of Muhllan who got 90 points, P Woods 90, SF Grant 89, P Smith 89, Lynch 88, J Grant 86, J Campbell 81,



*Rifle Club with Corangamite Shield 1908.*

and R Deans 77 for a total of 690 plus handicap of 48 equals 738. Meredith won by one point from Camperdown on a total of 737. The photo we have also includes Captain Davison, R Grant, Joseph Brady scorer and Robert Grant marker.

An article in the Ballarat Star in March 1918 told that enthusiasm was very keen and the rifle club movement went ahead in leaps and bounds after the donation of the shield by Mr Manifold but that in 1918 most clubs had lost more than half their members while in some cases every member has gone to war.



Port Campbell and Colac Rifle Clubs combined to win the shield in 2015 and Bacchus Marsh won in 2016.

## Bannockburn Catholic Primary School

*Fr Charles Balnaves*

It is official! A Catholic primary school **will** open for the start of the school year in 2018 on the site of the present government school. The Catholic Church will be licencing/leasing the site initially while a purchase agreement is finalised with the understanding that only the fixed buildings will remain. Our intent is that current arrangements for community sharing of the basketball stadium will continue.

We have started all the work that is necessary to open a school: registration with VRQA, hiring a principal (who will hire staff), developing a logo and uniform, inspecting the premises and working out what renovations are needed to open quickly, hiring an architect to help us design the long-term future, extending the process of community engagement.

Plans for starting enrolments are underway and registration of interest and interview with Fr Charles will start as soon as possible. In the meantime, keep your eyes open for news and if you wish email your interest to the Parish at [parishofmeredith@bigpond.com](mailto:parishofmeredith@bigpond.com)

Also!!

We have received and are evaluating Expressions of Interest from architects for developing a Master Plan and design for the new church. Construction of the church is hoped to begin in 2018, a little later than hoped but now a tangible thing and I hope the church will be finished well before the end of 2018.

Fundraising has started for the church: we are short of \$250,000 so we will be seeking assistance from across the community for this important part of the heart of Bannockburn. Fundraising will formally launch with an evening at Clyde Park Winery from 7-10pm on Friday 11<sup>th</sup> August. The cost is \$100/head which sounds a lot but nearly all of this goes to the construction of the church. A fun evening out will cost about this much so please make it a priority to come along. Geelong are not playing that evening so there are no big excuses possible to stay away. There will also be opportunities during the evening to buy great things via an auction.

These are exciting times for the whole Bannockburn community and surrounds, as they are for the Catholic Parish of Meredith. Thank you for your support.



# Elaine Tennis Club open day

SUNDAY AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup> 12PM TILL 3PM

Free BBQ, Prizes and giveaways

LAUNCH OF OUR BALL THROWING MACHINE

Where: Elaine Recreation Reserve

New and old players welcome.

For more information call Shane 0448291074



PHOTO OMITTED FROM  
ONLINE PUBLICATION

from the MAYOR



## Cr Des Phelan Mayor, Golden Plains Shire

Dear Residents

At Council's June meeting the Council Plan 2017-2021 and Budget 2017-18 were considered for adoption.

The Council Plan is a great opportunity for our new Council to re-examine our priorities, and check that we are delivering services valued by our ratepayers.

Community engagement for the Council Plan 2017-2021 was the most extensive engagement with our residents ever undertaken by Council.

Over a six month period, residents had the opportunity to provide input and give feedback on key priorities prior to the development of this plan.

Residents have told us consistently that they wanted more consultation and engagement.

Findings from our consultation show that residents highly value Golden Plains' rural lifestyle, sense of community and natural environment.

Residents' priorities for Council included listening and consulting, encouraging business growth and support for local events bringing the community together.

These priorities were reflected in the four pillars of the Council Plan:

- Promoting Healthy and Connected Communities
- Enhancing Local Economies
- Managing the Natural and Built Environment
- Delivering Good Governance and Leadership

The Council Plan doesn't just sit on a shelf for four years – it's a reference document for Council and residents to check actions against progress.

It also sets financial direction by feeding into the four year Strategic Resource Plan, which informs the annual Budget.

My sincere thanks to those residents who responded to surveys and provided feedback in person. We look forward to continuing to engage meaningfully with our communities.

You can find the new Council Plan at [www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations](http://www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations)

## COUNCIL PLAN 2017-21 AND 2017-18 BUDGET ADOPTED

On Tuesday 27 June, Golden Plains Shire Council adopted the Council Plan 2017-21 and 2017-18 Budget at its Council meeting, following a comprehensive community engagement program.

### Council Plan 2017-21

The Council Plan, including the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan, is a four year plan that describes Council's mission, vision, values, strategic objectives and directions, and indicators for achievements. It includes the Strategic Resource Plan, which forecasts the financial and non-financial resources required to deliver the Council Plan objectives.

Cr Des Phelan, Mayor said, "This is the first time Golden Plains Shire Council has integrated the Municipal Public Health and Wellbeing Plan into the Council Plan".

"This means important Health and Wellbeing priorities, developed by Council with the community, are addressed across all areas of Council service delivery," added Cr Phelan.

Over the next four years, the Council Plan will guide Council across four strategic pillars:

- Promoting Healthy and Connected Communities
- Enhancing Local Economies
- Managing Built and Natural Environments
- Delivering Good Governance and Leadership.

### 2017-18 Council Budget

In line with the State Government's Fair Go Rates System, the Budget supports an average rate increase of 2.0% per assessment. It sees \$14.6M allocated to the construction and maintenance of road and street infrastructure; \$9.8M to support and develop our recreation and community spaces and groups; \$8.7M to human support services, including children services; and \$500K towards community engagement and detailed architectural and engineering designs for a redeveloped Golden Plains Community and Civic Centre.

Cr Des Phelan says both documents were developed with extensive community consultation.

"The community engagement process for the 2017-2021 Council Plan was the most thorough ever undertaken by Council," said Cr Phelan.

"Hundreds of residents contributed across Council listening posts, workshops and discussion groups across the Shire, as well as a community survey," Cr Phelan added.

"The introduction of online submissions for the Council Plan and Budget made it even easier for residents to get involved," said Cr Phelan.

*To Find out more ...*

Council Plan 2017-21: [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/residents/my-council/about-council/council-plan-and-strategic-resource-plan](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/residents/my-council/about-council/council-plan-and-strategic-resource-plan)

2017-18 Budget: [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/residents/my-council/about-council/council-budget](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/residents/my-council/about-council/council-budget)

Golden Plains Community and Civic Centre: [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/news/golden-plains-community-and-civic-centre-june-2017-update](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/news/golden-plains-community-and-civic-centre-june-2017-update)

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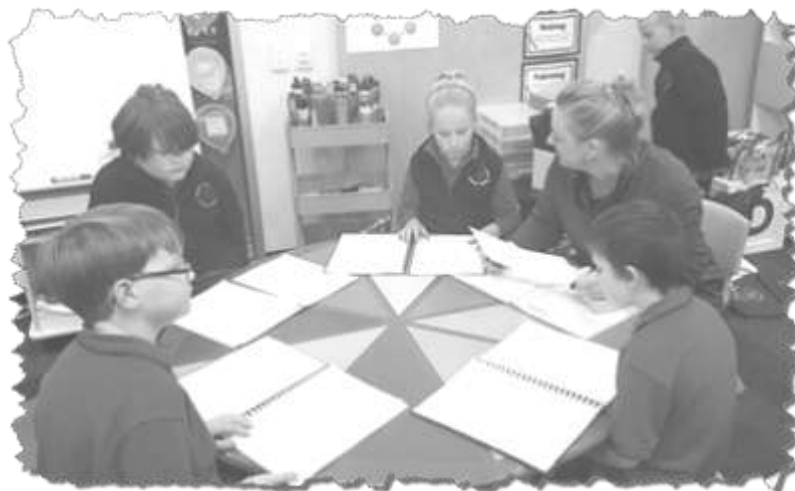


# Meredith Primary School News

## WRITING AT MEREDITH PRIMARY SCHOOL

As you may be aware, this year is our year of writing. Last month I introduced our new writing approach called 'Writers Workshop'. I also talked about how our students use a 'seed' to start their writing piece.

This term our teachers have been working hard with another key part of the writers workshop which is called "conferencing". The aim of the conference is for a teacher to sit with a group of students who take in turns to share their writing with the group. After each child has shared their writing, they will then seek feedback from the teacher and other students from the group. This is quite a structured process where the teacher will take notes and talk with each child about what they need to work on next to improve their writing. Here you can see Mrs Edmiston running a conferencing group with some of her kids. At each conference, students are required to bring their writing folders and a feedback sheet to take notes.



## The Big Game

by Brodie Wells

The team runs out to the square. We run around the square to warm up. My legs are a bit stiff and sore. We go to our positions. The first siren goes and I get the first tap out towards Samuel. He grabs the ball and kicks it out towards the forward line to Rawdon. Buninyong kicks a fantastic goal from 20 metres out. Hunter Donald kicks a drop punt back to the umpire in the centre square.

The umpire throws the ball up into the air and I jump up about 1 metre. I reach my arm up high to tap the ball out to Thomas Deans. He grabs the ball and kicks it down the line to Rawdon who reaches out his arms and takes a great mark. He lines up for a goal. He kicks the ball and it sails through the big sticks. It was a great goal.



## The First Goal

By Arabella Knight

My teeth chatter and my heart races as I close my eyes and take a deep breath. As the crowd cheers, a shiver runs down my spine. The pressure was intense. It made me feel nervous, like I had never felt before. I stepped on to the court, a ball appeared in my hands. I realised that the goals were right in front of me. I went for a shot. The ball circled the ring. The crowd went silent. You could hear a pin drop. Round and round the ball circled. I held my breath. PLOP! The ball dropped into the net. The crowd went CRAZY!! It was an unbelievable feeling.



## My First Game of Football

By Olivia Murfitt

I laced up my new football boots which were fluoro yellow and stiff. They smelled like new leather. I took off my grey jumper to see a three coloured football jersey with a rosella as our logo. As I walked out to the field my stomach felt like there were tiny little butterflies dancing around inside.

I was shivering and I rubbed my hands together because I was so nervous and cold. I walked out to the field and before you know, it the crowd was cheering. "Lethy!". They were so proud of us. I was also proud of myself.





## Chris McKenzie's Garden Notes

The shortest day has passed and slowly the days begin to lengthen. In the heart of winter the days can be gloomy, drizzly wet and for some of us this brings on a bout of melancholy. The seasonal elements of death and rebirth have been played out across many cultures and times as we know from mythology. These ancient stories are often ascribed an agricultural source as in the well-known evocation of Demeter and Persephone. Demeter goddess of the harvest is bereft when her beloved daughter Persephone descends (some say she was abducted by Hades) to the underworld. Persephone who is often represented carrying a sheaf of grain, was destined to spend several months each year in the subterranean realm, while Demeter grieved. This time corresponded with the winter months when the earth becomes barren and unproductive. Come spring Persephone is released by Hades to return to her grieving mother, thus bringing the season of fertility. After harvest time she once again retreats below the earth. The myth reflects the old wisdom that to be fully alive the reality of death must be acknowledged, just as the sequence of winter followed by spring is a necessary part of the growth cycle.

But, back to the home garden where there is always far too much to do, even during the gloomy months. This is a great time to plant asparagus. Asparagus has particular requirements, but once established you will be rewarded for years with fresh, crisp, delicious spears. You will need a dedicated plot as these plants will be producing for many many years, up to twenty! Select a couple of square metres and obtain about twenty or so 'crowns' to supply your family with fresh asparagus. Crowns are available from nurseries or perhaps from a friend who has some to spare. You can grow from seed (and it is less expensive) but these plants will take three years to develop into mature crowns ready for harvesting. Asparagus is a gross feeder and its roots travel up to a metre underground so dig the soil deeply and enrich with good compost, well-rotted manures and some lime. Dig trenches about 30 cm deep adding a thick layer of compost and then make mounds about 40 cms apart. Sit the crowns on these mounds with their delicate roots carefully gently spread out around the mound. Fill in the trench, covering the mounds with good soil or compost.

Asparagus grows naturally near the sea thriving in the salty atmosphere, so I like to spread a mulch of sea grass over the bed. Keep the bed moist and well-fed with compost. The first glimpse of an asparagus shoot pushing up through the mulch in spring is a thrilling sight and it will grow before your eyes. When the asparagus shoots are about 12 or more cms above the ground, cut them with a sharp knife below the surface of the earth. Each crown will produce many shoots during spring. After harvest the asparagus ferns will grow to a metre or so in height and as they brown off and die cut them back and leave lying on the bed as mulch. Again, keep the compost and manure up to your plants.

If all this seems like too much bother then I'll tell you about a friend's Italian father who lived in the city. He planted his asparagus crowns under part of the front lawn that he kept well fertilised. He mowed as usual then in spring allowed the spears to push up through the grass and harvested them.

If asparagus is not your thing then July is a good time to plant bare-rooted fruit trees while they are dormant. It's a great way to start fruit trees and is cheaper than buying potted trees later in the season. Make sure to prune the trees back hard when you have them in a deep, well prepared hole in the ground.

Gardening is a way of life. The constant quiet absorption that comes while cultivating, thinking and dreaming about plants and all that is involved in the life of a garden is a gift.

So, happy gardening.

Chris



## Pension changes are coming for retirees



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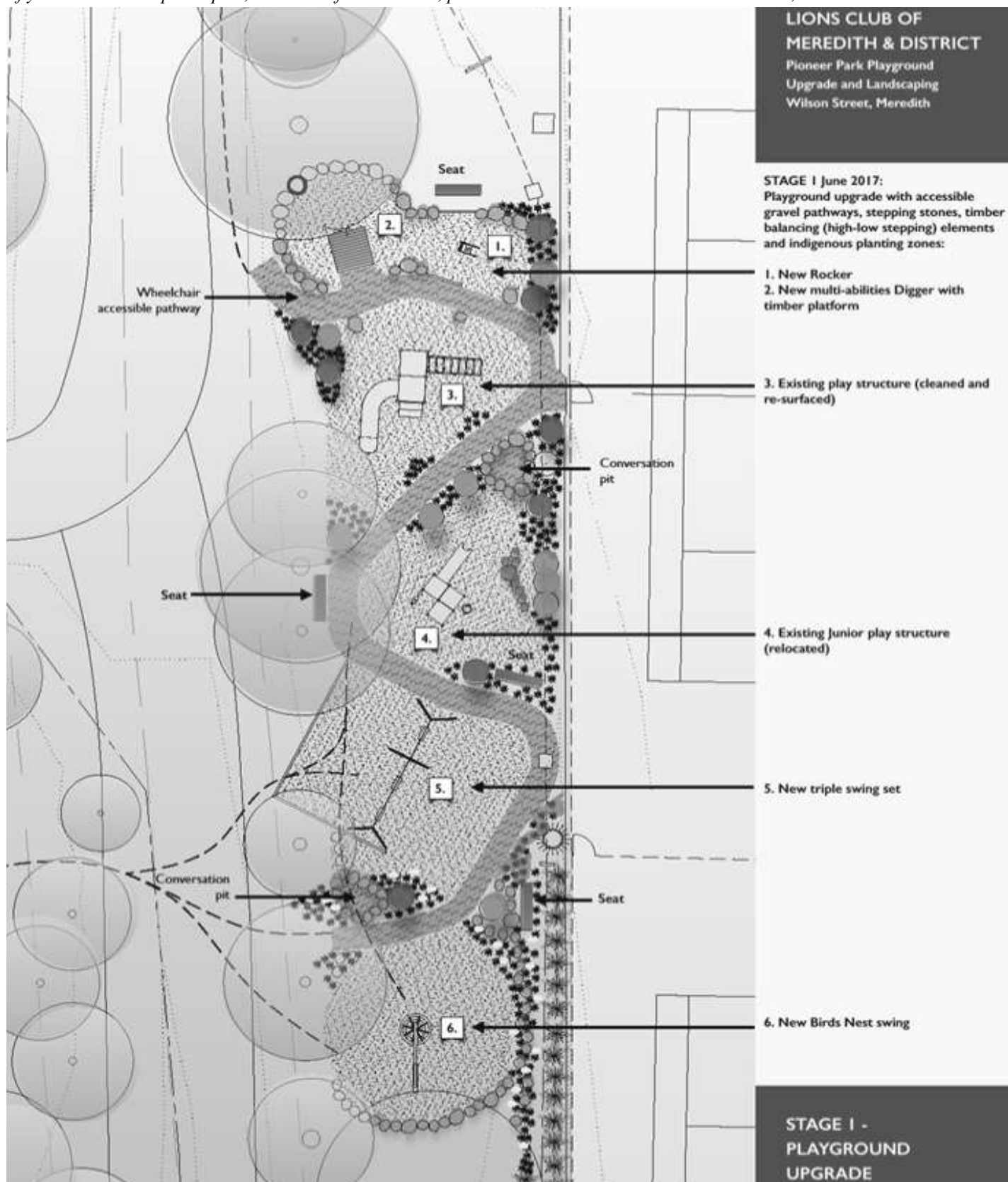
## A New Look for Pioneer Park

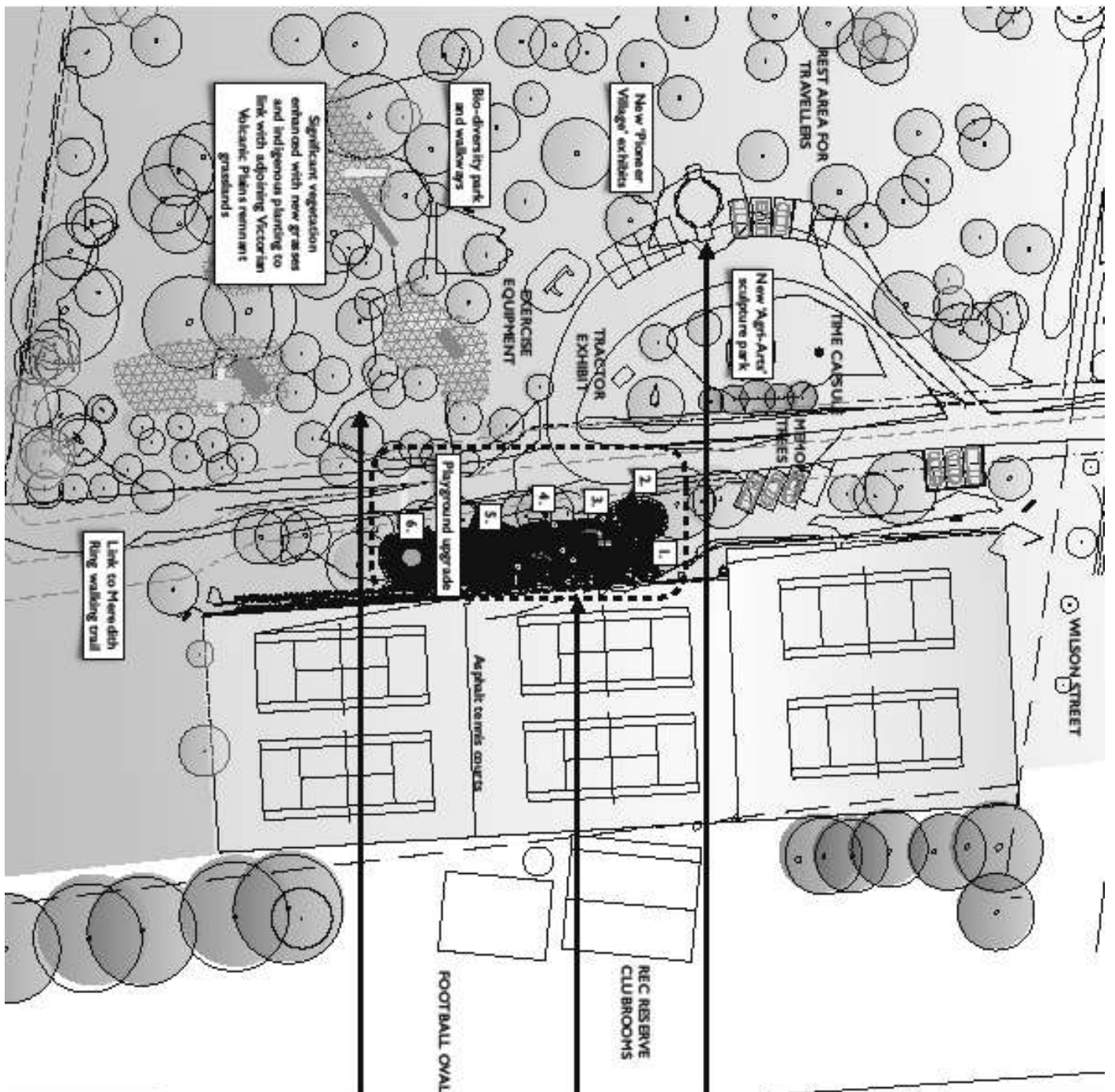
Meredith Lions Club has taken on the ambitious project of reinvigorating the Pioneer Park playground and parklands area. Plans include a re-vamp of the existing playground (Stage 1) a native bio-diversity parkland to help preserve endangered local plant species, and a further natureplay playground with rope and climbing challenges and other play elements that will link in to the Pioneer theme. The theme will also be featured with an Agri-Arts sculpture park, and a 'Pioneer' facelift for the bbq and rotunda area.

With the area being a popular spot for campers and caravaners, the club recognised the need to accommodate and encourage these visitors to the park, while still keeping the play areas safe for children. The new playground has been designed to be inclusive of children of all abilities and this will continue to be the case with the design of future stages. The first stage will be finished in August, with work starting soon after on following Stages.

This could not have been possible without the wonderful support of community members, and grants received from Golden Plains Shire and the Geelong Community Foundation, which have enabled Stage 1 to be completed.

*If you would like to participate, or want to find out more, please contact Kerrie at Meredith Lions Club, 0409 027 359.*





**PROJECT BY THE LIONS CLUB OF  
MEREDITH & DISTRICT**  
Rhoneer Park Playground Upgrade and Landscaping  
Wilson Street, Meredith

**STAGE 3:**

Future improvements to rest area amenity and car park safety/ access. Upgrades for BBQ, roundabouts and picnic tables etc (diagrammatic only - yet to be designed)

**STAGE 1 June 2017:**

Playground upgrade with accessible gravel pathways, stepping stones, timber balancing elements and indigenous planting zones:

1. New Rocker
2. New multi-abilities Digger
3. Existing play structure (re-surfaced)
4. Existing junior play structure (relocated)
5. Triple swing set
6. New Birds Nest swing

**STAGE 2:**

New playground equipment, rope climbing frames and tunnels, integrated into nature play setting with indigenous planting (diagrammatic only - yet to be designed)

**SITE PLAN**

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JUNE 2017

# MAN COOK EAT



Steve Duffy

## The Mighty Olive!

As winter settles into the vegie garden, fruit trees become dormant and the last of the olives hang heavy. Here in the Moorabool we have many olive groves as well as trees in home gardens. My olive trees are too young as yet, but I have had several kind offers of these wonderful mediterranean fruit. So what to do with this bitter but delicious harvest?

That's the first issue we have to face, and common salt is the simplest way to get rid of that bitterness. Daily changes of brine over a short time, or the more common commercial approach of soaking in brine for several months.

Homemade olive oil is very rare as the oil presses available demand commercial quantities. You Tube shows a few manual methods for pressing oil at home, but they appear to be inefficient and labour intensive. Smaller machines may be available but maybe overkill, as the yield per Kilo is relatively low. (Unless you know a commercial producer and you have a large quantity of Olives).

## Putanesca

You'll need some fresh or good quality dried pasta (tagliatelle or similar) as a foil for the sauce:

- 4 cloves Garlic, chopped and crushed with the side of a knife,
- 2 to 4 fresh hot chillis, chopped.
- 4 Tblspoons Olive oil.
- 1 cup pitted black olives, quartered.
- 1 Tblspoon Capers
- 4 Anchovy fillets, chopped
- 500g tomato salsa, or canned tomatoes.

Fry the garlic in the olive oil for just a minute, add the chilli, not cooking for more than another minute or the Chilli will lose its zing. Add the other ingredients, and simmer while you boil the pasta. Check the seasoning and serve over the "al dente" noodles. Some fresh chopped parsley will finish the dish nicely. My wife once treated me with a very HOT version of this to drive away a dose of man-flu with great success.

## MAN COOK EAT

Let's look around the district to see what some of the Pros are doing.

### Leighgrove – Inverleigh;

First plantings were in 1999. Yvonne and Grant White produce a range of Virgin Oil Flavours (including a beautiful Lemon Myrtle Infusion), Olive Salt, Soaps and other olive products. The oil is pressed on site and Grant has even invented a machine/blower to separate the leaves before pressing. Although the farm gate shop is no longer open, their varied range of products is available at Bannockburn and Aireys Inlet Farmers markets.

### BioGold – Maude;

John and Sofia Karounos began planting in 2002, their Greek heritage giving them an appetite (excuse the pun) for this venture. In the last couple of years they have twice won Silver at the Royal Melb Show. As well as Extra Virgin Oil, they produce Kalamatta Olives in 1 and 4kg buckets.

Bio Gold products are available online and in the near future will be obtainable by arrangement at the farm gate.

### Manna Hill - Mt Egerton;

Starting out in 2002, Cambell Mercer harvests many tons of olives for Oil, Infused Oils and other products, including skin balms and whole olives. He is a regular at the Ballan farmer's Market; the Elaine Farm Gate Shop and Dorothy's Kitchen in Meredith carry some of his range.

### Phoenix Olives - Smeaton;

This operation is run by Glen Billman, he started up with 1700 trees in 1999. His range includes pickled olives, pure extra virgin oil and Garlic, Lemon, Lime infused oils. You can find Phoenix at Creswick, Ballarat and the Lake Farmer's Markets. Locally, Dorothy's Kitchen carries the range.

**Note;** These producers are not the only ones in our area and we can support them all.

After pickling, the olives can be flavoured with vinegars, spices, herbs and garlic. If you use vinegar, use a "live" type like Wine or apple cider vinegar. Always remember to top your Olives with a little olive oil to seal out the air. Set them aside for a few months and you'll have a delicious nibble or a fine ingredient for some very special recipes.

Here is one such I have acquired along the way through my Italian connections. The name can be loosely translated as the Putana's or Whore's sauce, probably because of it's rich spicy and flavours.



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## 20 Million Trees Project Round 3 Grants Open

### *Media Release*

The Turnbull Government invites community groups, organisations and individuals to start their own tree planting projects by applying for grants under Grant Round Three of the 20 Million Trees Program.

The program will see 20 million trees planted across Australia by 2020

"Up to \$6 million is now available for grants between \$20,000 and \$100,000 for tree planting projects that will put back threatened bushland and support threatened species.

"Green spaces connect communities to the environment and improve the liveability of our towns and cities. I encourage interested parties to apply for projects that will provide valuable benefits to the environment and for our local community," Ms Henderson said.

Under previous 20 Million Trees funding rounds, Landcare groups and community projects across Australia have planted three million trees. With 13.4 million trees already contracted for planting, today's announcement will ensure that the 20 million trees election commitment target is met.

The 20 Million Trees Grant Guidelines: Round Three are also now available and applications close on 15 August 2017.

The 20 Million Trees initiative is an important part of the Australian Government's National Landcare Programme.



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**Dr John Henderson**

**Dr Margaret Somerville**

**Dr Benjamin Fry**

**Dr Samantha Buchholz**

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**Thursday & Friday:** 8.30 am – 5.30 pm

**Saturday:** Emergency Session from 10.00 am (no appt required) Round the clock care is offered to our regular patients, call the Surgery afterhours for further information.

We are a teaching practice, **Dr Afolake Adaji** is a fully qualified female Doctor studying to become a GP, she will be working with us until February 2018.

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Fees are payable **at the time of consultation** by cash or eftpos.

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## Kinder News



It's the end of a long Term for Kinder's teachers and children and holiday time begins on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> June, we return for Term 3 on Monday 17<sup>th</sup> July. In our last week the Kinder children went on an excursion to see a comedy show all about Recycling, the children were giggling so it was funny!! it was also very relevant as we are always teaching children about recycling and reusing things and next term we will be introducing REDCYCLE (scrunched plastics) into kinder to build on sustainability concepts with the children. Thank you to Bevan who has built and now positioned an outdoor kitchen area the pre-kinder children love using each session. They are making mud cakes and soups and having a wonderful time imagining their Master Chef recipes. Toy story has made a comeback too with this group along with an imaginative "SPACE" area to fly to the moon on the rockets.

Kinder children are always busy with their ideas of making things with Kinetix and tiny legos, they all enjoy the pretend school and shop and tracing out letters of their names. We have had parent teacher interviews and our Kinder Photos taken and now it's time for a well earned rest. A little thank you to Joy keeping the Kinder spotless as we welcome back Kylie in Term 3. Over the holidays our Committee are having a working bee on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> July for any Kinder families who can help with the gardening and a bit of a tidy up, thank you in advance.

Enjoy the holidays

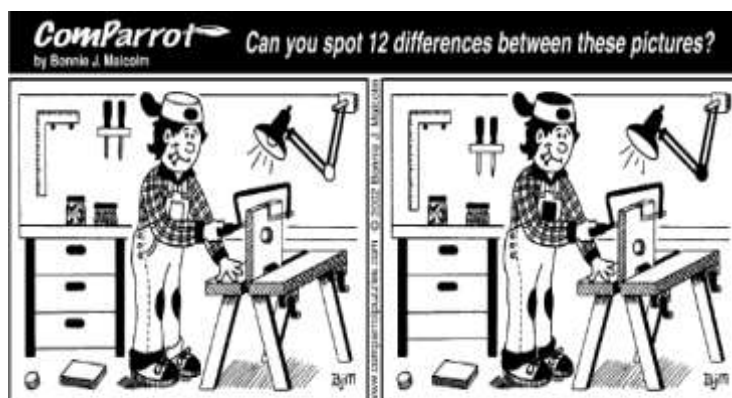
*Jodie*

## PUZZLES CORNER

8	1	9			3			4
		3	7		4			9
				9			2	
		4			6			8
	2						7	
9			5			1		
	9			8				
5			3		7	9		
7			9			4	8	5

### SUDOKU

The aim of Sudoku is to complete the entire grid using the numbers 1-9. Each number can only be used once in each row, once in each column, and once in each of the 3×3 boxes.



*Puzzle Solutions are on Page 42*

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## **Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter**

**Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett**

6 High Street

Bannockburn VIC 3331 Phone: 5281 1519

### **Do you need a Flu or Whooping Cough vaccination?**

Cindy & Tracey, two of our pharmacists, have successfully completed their PSA Vaccination course and we are now administering flu vaccinations & whooping cough vaccinations here in the Pharmacy. Our vaccination clinic is open during the following times:

- **Monday: 10:30am - 5:30pm**
- **Tuesday: 9:00am - 4:00pm**
- **Wednesday: 9:00am - 4:00pm**
- **Thursday: 10:30am - 5:30pm**

Everything is done from start to finish within the pharmacy. The vaccination only takes a maximum of 30 minutes as it is requirement for your safety that you need to rest in the pharmacy for 15 minutes after your vaccination has been administered.

#### **\* Flu vaccination cost**

- No prescription is required from your Doctor
- **\$25** (\$15 for the flu vaccination + \$10 for the administration of the vaccine by one of our accredited pharmacists)
- **FREE** flu vaccine + \$10 for the administration by one of our accredited pharmacists if you fall into one of the following categories:
  - (i) Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children aged 6 months to <5 years.
  - (ii) Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander persons aged ≥ 15 years
  - (iii) All persons ≥ 65 years
  - (iv) All persons ≥ 6 months who have certain medical conditions which increase the risk of influenza disease complications; for example, severe asthma, lung or heart disease, low immunity or diabetes
  - (v) Pregnant women

#### **\* Whooping Cough vaccination cost**

- **\$50** (\$40 for the whooping cough vaccine + \$10 for the administration of the vaccine by one of our accredited pharmacists).
- **FREE** whooping cough vaccine + \$10 for the administration by one of our accredited pharmacists, if you fall into one of the following categories:
  - (i) pregnant women from 28 weeks gestation during every pregnancy
  - (ii) partners of women who are at least 28 weeks pregnant if the partner has not received a pertussis booster in the past 10 years
  - (iii) parents/guardians of babies born on or after 1st June 2015, if their baby is under 6 months of age and they have not received a pertussis booster in the past 10 years.

To secure a time that best suits you we recommend that you make an appointment through the pharmacy. You can either phone the pharmacy on 5281 1519 or you can book online through our FaceBook page <https://www.facebook.com/bannockburnpharmacy/>

You can also just walk in but there may be a wait if someone else is already having a vaccination done.

#### **Pharmacy Features:**

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Cooking time: 15 mins

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1/3 cup castor sugar

1 tsp vanilla extract

1/4 cup plain flour

2 eggs lightly beaten

Icing sugar to dust

### Method

Preheat oven to 180c. Grease four 1/2 cup capacity pudding moulds.

Place butter and chocolate in a saucepan over low heat. Cook, stirring until smooth. Remove from heat. Stir in sugar and vanilla.

Sift flour over chocolate mixture in saucepan and stir to combine. Gradually whisk in eggs until combined.

Spoon mixture into prepared moulds (no more than 2/3 full). Place moulds on a baking tray and bake for 8-10 minutes or until edges are set and centre is still wobbly. Cool puddings before turning out onto serving plates. Dust with icing sugar and serve.

*Recipe From – ww Cook Hearty*

*Stefania*

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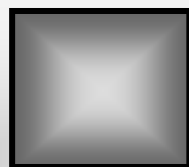
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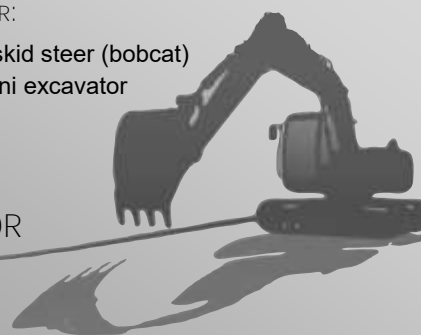
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## Wanted!! A photo from your scrapbook!

*Marg Cooper*

In 1966 or 1967 a presentation was made to Fay Grundy by the Governor of Victoria at the Meredith State School for her athletic achievements. Fay remembers that the Geelong Advertiser or the Ballarat Courier took a photo of the occasion and printed it in the newspaper. Have you got the cutting in your scrapbook? Fay would love to see it.

At the Austin Sports where all the schools in the district competed against one another once a year Fay was selected at the last moment to replace someone in a championship race. She was determined to win the race because she knew she could run fast and she knew she should have been selected initially. During the race she looked behind and was delighted to see "everyone still coming". She won the race by a mile.

Fay was fit and fast. She could jog 7 miles to Woodburn Creek State School and not be puffed. Sometimes she piggy backed her younger brother to school and at other times a sister and Fay would hold 2 stout sticks and Murray would straddle the sticks with his arms and legs and be carried to school. Their father bought a little black chubby horse and the Grundy children put it in an old milk cart to take them to school. He pulled well for a few days until a truck coming down the road startled him, he bolted and smashed the shaft going through a fence. Fay remembers that it was pouring rain and the kids in the cart were huddled under a tarp, trying to keep warm and dry.

Marilyn, Jill, Fay and Murray Grundy lived with their father on a small farm on Glenetive Road in Bamganie. Their father left to go to work in Geelong at 6 am every morning and got home late at night so the children basically fended for themselves and looked after each other. Before they went to school at Woodburn they had to milk a cow and feed and water the cattle, horses and up to 24 dogs. They carted water from the creek in buckets. They told the time by the position of the sun and tried to get to school on time.

But they didn't manage to learn much at school because they were tired, they were thinking about walking 7 miles home in the rain, the heat or the wind. They worried if they had enough hay to feed the cows, they were hungry as their father shopped once a week and they only had bread and jam for their lunch each day. They had no experience, had never had ice cream or been to the pictures, they didn't have books, they didn't go on excursions because Dad didn't pay. They often had ear infections which were untreated and they admit that they had old clothes and were not as clean as other children. The same green jumper was worn by 3 Grundy children in school photos in 3 different years.

The Grundy children cared for each other and still do. They were also very fit and Fay could run. At High School she won a 14 mile race, easily. Please help her find the photo of her and the Governor at Meredith State School where the presentation of a cup and medal was made in 1966 or 1967 for clocking the fastest time. She may still hold the record?

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## Vale Ellen (Nellie) Isabel Tucker 15/2/1929 -15/6/2017

Nellie was the second eldest child of Stella and William (Bill) Nolan of Cargarie, Meredith and had five siblings, Mary, Michael, Pat, Lucy and Martin. She attended Woodburn Creek State School which was three miles from her home. Nellie and Donny Grant sat for scholarships for Geelong High School when they were in Grade 8. Nellie and Donny and their parents caught the 10 am train from Meredith to Geelong and then caught a taxi to the school. Neither of them received the scholarship because of the science questions. Science was not really taught at country schools in those days. Nellie told family that the best bit was the cream buns her Mummy and Mrs Grant bought for them.

Because of the war old and retired teachers were brought back into action. Mr Frank Duffy taught at Woodburn. He was very old and only had one arm. Nellie remembered digging trenches 2 metres wide and 5 metres long. The teacher would blow a whistle and the kids had to run as fast as possible for the trenches.

She loved working outdoors on the farm. Martin tells that Nellie was a wonderful horse woman, the apple of their father's eye and very popular wherever she went. The round trip to Meredith to get the mail and supplies could be done in about an hour without stress to horse and rider but Nellie told that when she had a proper big horse she could do it in about 30 minutes. She went alone from the age of thirteen. Her Daddy was a member of Flemington Race Course and Nellie often went with her parents to race meets in Melbourne. Nellie and her Mummy would sit in the lounge or in the stands while Daddy was off placing bets, drinking in the bar or talking to the owners.

Nellie married Jock Tucker in 1951 at St Joseph's in Meredith and their reception was at Mooney's Royal Hotel. It was a grand affair! They travelled by Greyhound bus to Sydney for their honeymoon and stayed at a hotel at Bondi. The bus broke down at Goulburn on their way home and while most passengers went to see the town Jock stayed to help the driver fix the bus so Nellie sat in the bus for four hours, waiting. They settled in Anakie and had a family of Bill b.1953, Julie b. 1954, Stephen b. 1957 Ruth b. 1969 and John b. 1973.

Nellie played A Grade tennis and started playing golf in Meredith about 1961 when her sister Lucy lent Nellie her left handed golf sticks because Lucy was pregnant. Nellie later learned that she could play better right handed. She broke her handicap the first time she played a round of golf. Her lowest handicap was 6. She played Country Teams for Ballarat when she was a member at Meredith. She played Country Teams for Geelong when she was a member at Geelong Golf Club and played Division One Pennant. During her golfing career she won numerous trophies but the highlight was winning the prestigious Geelong Golf Club Championship in 1982 and on another

two occasions. She was Vice President of Geelong Golf Club for four years and on the Committee for ten years.

Holidays were important to the family and when Jock and Nellie bought a caravan it started another series of adventures. For many years Maryborough was the destination with their friends. The family told that she had an amazing ability to overcome and solve accommodation, meals and entertainment issues, she produced countless varieties of home cooking in her IXL wood stove and she preserved heaps of fruit, produced eggs and vegetables and with the purchase of a freezer, anything that could be was frozen.

In 1997 Jock passed away and in 2009 Nellie celebrated her 80<sup>th</sup> birthday with a surprise party at the Anakie Hall. Her general health was OK and according to Nellie, her smoking was doing her no harm. In 2012 she became a resident at Costa House, Lara and with her attitude of "getting on with life" she enjoyed her time there until she passed away on June 15.






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## To Greet or Not to Greet

Saying hello to strangers has become a bit of an iffy subject. When is it appropriate? How many people do there have to be on the street before you can deem it okay to not say anything? What if they look like their day started by stepping in something disgusting on the sidewalk and has culminated into a series of unfortunate events resulting in an extremely bad mood?

Do an internet search and you'll find an abundant array of articles telling you how saying hi to a stranger in the street will improve your life and 'give you a greater purpose'. And I'm sure it does. But I also think that it needs to happen for more selfless reasons. If you are walking towards someone on a path with very limited populace, then why not say hello? A little bit of manners never goes astray.

But what these articles fail to mention is that the world has become a stressed-out place where a simple 'hello' earns you suspicious looks and a diagnosis of mistaken identity, leaving you with a red face and swearing that you'll never do that again. Being from the Shire (Golden Plains, not Middle Earth) I grew up with the expectation that you were to be friendly to all passers-by, only to be smacked in the face with reality every time I entered into anything resembling 'The Big Smoke' where scowling, swearing and anti-social behaviour reigned supreme.

On a recent getaway to a coastal tourist hotspot I was again reminded of the questions posed at the beginning of this article. I usually walk around with a slight smile on my lips should anyone feel like shooting one back but when to actually venture out into spoken word greetings is something that seems to be a bit unclear. However, I've realised a situation in which greeting another is almost always expected and I think it is no coincidence that the further you get away from society, the more sociable people seem to be. Hiking into the mountains on this trip to find a must-see waterfall, I found that every single person would either say hello jovially or be prompted into doing it in reply every time you passed them. Heck, while watching the water cascading over the fall I even found a couple who were ready for a full-blown stranger conversation.

It seems to me that there is nothing like huffing and puffing your way up some makeshift stairs while sweating through your three jumpers and taking wannabee-artistic photographs to really create a connection with people. Nature brings out the niceties that cities have stripped away. It seems to be that the only solution for addressing this concerning 'hello'-deficiency within society is to get back to nature. Unflattering Lycra and a certain degree of unfitness a must.

*Gemma*

## National Firearms Amnesty

*Media Release*

The National Firearms Amnesty will commence from July 1. The national amnesty is an opportunity for unregistered or unwanted firearms, such as a family heirloom, to be surrendered without questions being asked. This exercise will help keep our communities safer by preventing unlawful firearms getting into the wrong hands.

This is the first nation-wide gun amnesty since 1996, when the then Government took decisive action following the devastation of the Port Arthur Massacre.

During the three month amnesty, from July 1 to 30 September, anyone with unwanted and unregistered firearms or firearm-related items can legally dispose of or register them at approved drop-off points in each state and territory. There is no cost involved with handing in firearms or related items for destruction during the amnesty, and no personal details are required.

In Australia, all firearms must be registered and outside of the amnesty period, anyone caught with an unregistered firearm could face a fine of up to \$280,000, up to 14 years in jail, and a criminal record.

Information about individual state and territory requirements, including how and where to surrender firearms, can be found at [firearmsamnesty.ag.gov.au](http://firearmsamnesty.ag.gov.au) or by calling 1800 909 826.

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## In our Nature

Wendy Cook

Inside the back cover of last month's Meredith and District News was a photograph of a large parrot in a fruit tree. Its brilliant red head and front stood out, while its dark green back blended with the leaves of the tree. Its beak was red, tipped with black. The round black pupil of its eye was surrounded by a yellow iris. Across the back of its neck was a blue collar, matching the blue of its lower back and front, visible in flight. The pale green stripe across the shoulder, and its long dark tail would also be more obvious when it flies. It was a male king parrot. The female is less bright, with a green head and upper chest, red belly, grey beak, no blue collar and a lighter shade of blue on her rump. These birds are usually found in tall wet eucalypt forest or rainforest, near Australia's east coast and inland, as well as nearby farmland and gardens. So what was he doing in a much drier place like Meredith?

Many birds migrate. As the season changes, shortening days and colder weather, or increased daylength and warmth, alert birds that it's time to move. Long distance travellers eat as much as they can, perhaps doubling their weight, giving them the necessary food reserves for their journey. Birds found wading in shallow water of southern Australian beaches may fly to the Arctic Circle to spend the northern summer dining on huge swarms of insects and rearing their chicks, before returning to the southern hemisphere to avoid the northern winter. They may navigate by the sun, stars, their ability to sense Earth's magnetic field, and sometimes, landmarks. Some of these bird species are threatened with extinction as their stopover feeding grounds in Asia are destroyed by development or pollution, and the same happens to their Australian homes. These birds are the record long distance flyers. Many birds make short autumn migrations, from southern Australia to Queensland or Papua New Guinea; or across Bass Strait from Tasmania to Victoria; or down from the mountains to lower altitudes or the coast; then back again in spring. Other birds, especially in unpredictable environments, such as inland Australia, follow rainfall or food supplies wherever they can be found. Many birds, who live in more stable environments, establish a territory and spend their whole life there.

King parrots generally live a sedentary life, remaining in one area. The exceptions are immature birds who may move around in flocks, and those that spend the spring and summer breeding season in the mountains, and moved to lower altitudes for winter. They are usually in pairs or family groups. Perhaps Meredith's visitor became separated from his group and disorientated or blown astray as he travelled from the mountains. He may have spent summer with his mate, rearing chicks inside a hollow tree. King parrots like to have an entrance high off the ground, flying in through a broken branch or the

hole in the top of an old trunk, perhaps ten metres above ground, but building their nest inside, down near the base of the tree. They line the nest with decaying wood dust, fallen or gnawed from inside the hollow, and lay about five eggs. The female sits on the nest, with the male providing her with food. They eat nuts and seeds, especially enjoying those from eucalypts and wattles, as well as fruit, berries, flowers and nectar from a wide range of plants, and insects and their larvae. Both parents feed the chicks which hatch after twenty days, and fledge after another five weeks. With deep wing beats, they fly swiftly, regularly making fast twists and turns, as they manoeuvre among the trunks of the dense forest they inhabit. With the cooling weather, perhaps the male was heading for a warmer location in the Otways or South Gippsland.

He's not the only king parrot to be seen in the area, although recorded sightings are rare. In June 1979, one or more of these birds were seen in forest north of Morrisons and at Anakie. There was one between Lal Lal and Fiskville in December 2004, another at Anakie in March 2011, and more recently, one at Stony Creek Picnic Ground in Brisbane Ranges National Park in February last year. After enjoying a meal in a fruit tree in Meredith, the visiting king parrot probably left to seek more suitable habitat in tall wet forest, possibly enjoying rest stops in other gardens he passed in his travels.

Wendy

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## it's History

Meredith History Interest Group

### Treasure Day on June 18:

Indeed there were lots of very interesting treasures. The oldest were a framed embroidery sampler made by Jenny Colvin's grandmother in 1812 of letters, numbers and a poem and a handmade baby's bonnet also made by Jenny's grandmother for her first child. The most poignant was a birth certificate, a marriage certificate and a death certificate that Mary had, signifying to officials the life of her husband John Nolan. The most ornate were a silver type of brooch dated 1865 that would have been worn as part of the regalia by T. Peters, as Grandmaster of the Masonic Lodge that Jan Crump treasures, embroidered table pieces made by Joyce Stanley for her glory box and a large intricately carved wooden surround for a mirror and photos, treasured by Marg Cooper. Most unusual was a frame and picture made out of soap treasured by Joan Carroll. Most historical to Meredith and district were a box of apostle spoons presented to Mrs Jack Shell for the aggregate in the fishing competition in 1948 and treasured by her daughter Glenda Ball, a photo of Jack Stevenson at Newmarket when his sheep were sold in Elders first sale there on 30/8/1949 and a medal won by Mr Mead for shooting at Bannockburn, treasured by George Shell. The most loved was a doll given to Wendy Cooke almost 60 years ago, a china statue of Giuseppe Garibaldi that stood on the mantelpiece when Kelvin Pitcher was growing up and a History of Britain Book written in 1897 that has been used as a reference by Nerine Backhouse for over 50 years. Christine Stevenson had a collection of Royal items including a tin money box, a book of Queen Elizabeth's trip to Australia in 1954, doll pyjamas her mother made of material featuring a royal theme and a menu from the meal the Queen enjoyed when stopped in the train near Lethbridge. The serious collectors were Bev Loveday who had a collection from Dudley Flats on Footscray Road in Melbourne where she used to dig and Joanne Mitchell who had a jar of buttons from Button Hill at The Paper Mill at Fyansford, discarded after being cut from clothes used to then produce paper. Two sporting treasures were the cricket ball Jim Connell used to bowl 8 for 34 and obtain a hat trick in January 1964 when he played for Elaine and a carbide light that Jack Boardman used to light his way when riding his push bike. Two unfound treasures were a cut glass vase given by Pam Armstrong's father to his sister on the occasion of her wedding and a knife given to Alan Caddy's father by the Dayak tribesmen in Borneo in WW11. Louise Corral kindly sent a very small cup found on their property.

Thankyou to the Meredith Golf Club for allowing us to use their clubhouse for the event.

### Taylor's Road Survey Tree

Following the Eureka Stockade in 1854, it was inevitable that the call from the diggings at Ballarat to "unlock the

land" would be heard and acted upon quickly. Township lots had been released by the Crown since the 1840's but larger lots, suitable for small scale agriculture were often part of squatting runs and new laws were needed before these could be released.

One of these subdivisions on the edge of Meredith township was surveyed in 1857 at the northern end of Taylors Road {then Pound Road}, creating 43 lots. For those interested in finding local links to the early days of Meredith, take a stroll up the road to where the tree lined section begins and look for a tree on the eastern side with a surveyor's mark, "57" blazed on it. The tree and other features along Taylors Road are listed on the Victorian Heritage Inventory.

Jan Crump told us about this tree on Treasure day and Chris Baird contributed the above information.

### Plastering and Painting

A wonderful job has been done to restore the old Shire Hall for the next chapter in its history. The walls are smooth with plaster and the fresh paint job lightens and brightens.

Thankyou to the Golden Plains Shire for their interest and for getting the job done.

### To Catalogue

We will be back at the History Centre on Thursday mornings from June 29 and hope to also open on Saturdays, in the future.

### MEREDITH.

A good fall of snow took place on Tuesday forenoon. The fall lasted about an hour, and everything was covered with a soft, carpet of while. Snowballing was indulged in while the snow lasted, but it soon melted.

The weather is bitterly cold, and there is much mortality among the young lambs.

The committee of the Meredith Elementary School, No. 1420, held the usual monthly meeting on Monday evening. A communication from the Education Department relative to Rev. Mr. Mitchell's application for permission to hold religious instruction in the school during the morning meeting was received. It was decided that the committee adhere to its previous decision to grant permission for the afternoon meeting, as it was not thought to be in the best interests of the scholars to have such instruction in the morning.

At its meeting on Saturday night the Mechanics' Institute committee deferred for a month the question of deciding what kind of lighting system should be installed in the hall. More information on the matter is to be obtained by the secretary.

*Geelong Advertiser (Vic. : 1859 - 1929) Wednesday 8 July 1914*

*Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group*



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## Busy Bee

Jim Elvey

Winter is a busy time for the Meredith Police Paddocks Support Group, as it is the best time to undertake new planting and, while the ground is soft and the conditions are cooler, to carry out maintenance work around existing plantings. Add to this, the construction of entrance fences and gates as both Campion Road and Nuttall Street, and you can see why.

Late last month our volunteers met up with Roger Thomas, Reserves Manager with Ballarat Environment Network, to plant nearly 200 trees shrubs, wildflowers and grasses. In doing this, we were pursuing specific plans to:

- Establish and extend copses along the main path to enhance the walking experience for visitors and provide "pathways" and habitat for birdlife;
- Establish clumps of native grasses along the pathway to enhance the main walking track;
- Establish wildflower patches at each of the sign points. We now have patches at six of the seven signs which will give visitors an accessible glimpse of the beauty and diversity of wildflowers naturally occurring on the reserve.

We also spread and compacted crushed concrete at the Campion Road entrance to provide a sound, pedestrian friendly entrance to the reserve.

Thank you to everyone who turned up, loaned equipment, donated plants and joined in the fun of doing something very worthwhile.

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## Jane Scanlon in the iconic photo

*Raymond Kelly.*

Jane Scanlon was photographed in front of the Royal Hotel at Meredith with eight other people about 1908.

She was the daughter of Patrick and Elizabeth Scanlon (Griffiths) who had both come from Carlow in Ireland and who married at St Marys Geelong on August 16, 1867 and had seven children: Mary b. 1868, Jim b. 1870, Jane b. 1872, Rebecca b. 1874, Catherine b. 1875, Patrick b. 1877 and John b. 1879.

Jane attended Lethbridge Catholic School until it closed. The five youngest Scanlon children were enrolled at Lethbridge State School in March 1886. Jane was 13 years 10 months old and she left school in the following September when she turned 14 years old.

Jane's sister Catherine or Kate was widowed when her husband John Tait {Tate} died in June 1899 when he was thrown into the river from the coach he was driving at Coopers Bridge on the Steiglitz/Meredith Road. Later, Kate and her sister went to Western Australia to live.

In 1904 Jane Scanlon issued a breach of Promise against John Bourke of Glen Aladale, a station in Gippsland for £500 and

won the case. In March 1905 Jane's sister Rebecca died of pleuro pneumonia. She had married Michael Walsh at St Mary's Lethbridge on May 22, 1894 and had seven children. Their son Patrick who was baptized at Lethbridge on September 1, 1901 died the next day aged three weeks and was buried at Lethbridge. Their twins Thomas and Mary died in January and March 1904. It is believed that Jane went to the Mallee to help look after Rebecca's surviving children, James 8 years, Elizabeth 7, Catherine 6, and Michael 2.

Jane lived in a house on the property owned by the Shirley family from 1934 until 1942 with her nephew "Red Jack" Scanlon. She died in 1942 and was buried at Culgoa/ Kaniera Cemetery.

"Red Jack" was a big man and an excellent sportsman. He worked for the Shirley family, played for Lethbridge Football Team, played in the Premiership Football Team for Culgoa in 1938 and at one cricket match playing with a team from Warne in 1938 in the Sea Lake/Culgoa Competition he took 6 wickets for 11 and a hat trick.

Recently the graves at the Lethbridge Cemetery of some members of the Scanlon family have been repaired and I have been inspired to research some of their history.



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That's why it's a good idea for older people to talk about their personal preferences and care options with their families or a health professional.

If you or someone you know might need support, start by visiting the My Aged Care website or by calling 1800 200 422. These provide information about services available in the local area, how to access them, costs and other information.

Services include home maintenance and modifications, help with household jobs like cleaning, assistance with transport, and nursing and personal care.

If you are finding it harder to do the things you used to do and feel you need a bit of support at home, find the help you need with My Aged Care.

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## Kelvin Pitcher a wool classer

*Marg Cooper*

Kelvin started to learn wool classing at the School of Mines in Ballarat when he was 15 years old in 1942. He tells that he went to a 2 hour class each Friday afternoon, it took 5 years to qualify and the teachers came from the Gordon Institute on the morning train from Geelong each Friday and went back on Saturday afternoon after their last class. Kelvin tells that the teachers held 2 classes on Friday afternoon, 1 class on Friday night and 2 more classes on Saturday morning. If for some reason you couldn't get to your class in the morning you could attend another class.

Kelvin's mother and father often went to Ballarat shopping on a Friday and he'd go in with them until they bought a truck. One of the first jobs Kelvin was required to do when he left school in the drought of 1942 was to cart 3 or 4 loads of water to their farm, each day, with a furphy water cart and a horse. Kelvin says that the stock would drink the load while you unloaded it. One day his father sent a load of sheep to Ballarat Sale Yards and came home with a 6 cylinder Ford truck that had been made in America for the Burma Army but the 50 trucks were diverted to Australia after the Japanese bombed Burma. Kelvin then carted 2 or 3 loads of water for themselves each day with the truck and a tank and people asked him to cart water for them, which he did. Randalls were carriers in Elaine at the time but because Pitchers had a truck they built a crate for it to cart stock for themselves and once again other farmers asked them to cart their stock.

So, Kelvin would take cattle in the truck on a Friday to the cattle market that was in Doveton Street at that time. He recalls that Crawford Dowling yards were near where Target is today and Coghlin Bows yards were near where Mid City Motel is today. He'd leave the truck parked in the street and go to wool classing and often find a note under the windscreen wiper when he came back telling him to pick up a cow and calf or some steers for someone at Elaine. Kelvin quips that, "it was the best little bloody truck".


Wool classing was taught in an old tin shed, up steep stairs looking out on to Albert Street. The 12 to 15 students started from scratch and first learnt how to sweep the floor. About May of 1942 the teachers suggested that all the students get some experience in a woolshed. As there was no shearing around Elaine at that time of the year the teacher offered to organize sheds for them.

Kelvin, Max, Kevin, Frank, Kevin and another student were contracted to go to "Yanga" in outback NSW. The house at "Yanga" was 15 miles from Balranald. Frank Bray drove them in a 1927 Rugby Tourer with a trailer. He carried 4 four gallon drums of kerosene and 2 drums of petrol. Kelvin tells that during the war there was limited supplies of petrol so Frank ran his car on kerosene except when he went through towns when he'd switch it to run on petrol. Apparently using kerosene for vehicles was illegal and in towns people may smell it.

The shearing shed at "Yanga" was adjacent to the Murrumbidgee River and wool bales traditionally had been transported to sale by barges pulled by paddle steamers, to Adelaide. Sheep went down the middle of the shed and once, 40 shearers had lined the sides to shear 140,000 sheep. When Kelvin was there 17 shearers shored for 3½ weeks and the fleeces were full of sand because of the drought. The 2 youngest rouseabouts ran the board with 8 shearers on one side and 9 shearers on the other and the older ones worked on the tables. Kelvin tells that he never had time to get tired or home-sick. The locks and bellies went into big wicker baskets that every run had to be taken right around to the presser and emptied, the fleeces had to be picked up and thrown on the tables, the floor had to be swept and now and again they had to shovel sand from under the table.

The contractor came from Geelong, the shearers came from all over including a man called Brown from Winchelsea who died on the board and several Aborigines. One of them insisted that there was "no hurry" but comfortably shored over 200 per day. The shearing quarters had tin walls, cement floors, wire framed beds, were 200 yards from the woolshed and about a chain from the cook house. In 1942 when the truck took the wool away from "Yanga" it returned with a load of wheat which was fed off the back of the truck to the sheep.

Kelvin earned £2/10/- per week. It cost him £1 for a Union Ticket, 10/- per week for his keep, £2/10/- to go up and £2/10/- to come back so he didn't make a lot of money but he considers the exercise to be the "cheapest experience" and he would have done it for nothing. He was worried "that he was losing time at home" but it taught him how to handle wool and the running of a shed. His advice for youngsters is to "get in with strangers and learn!"

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What we know about...

## ...July

Originally called Quintilis due to it being the fifth month in the earlier calendars, this month was moved to the seventh position and later renamed July after Julius Caesar. Occurring in the dead of winter, July has unusual associations with Christmas. Due to Australia's British and European roots, 'Christmas in July' has become a marketable occasion because of the supposed emulation of the weather that the northern hemisphere experiences during that time – minus the snow. Its origins are unclear but the common theory is that a group of Irish tourists kicked off the odd celebrations in the Blue Mountains in 1980 after convincing a hotel to hold a party called 'Yulefest'.

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**Dr Sharmi Sureshkumar (Female GP)** Dr Sharmi holds a Diploma in Child Health.

**Dr Jason Lee (Male GP)** Dr Lee studied medicine at the University of Notre Dame (Sydney).

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## Marg's Book Review

### The Testimony by Halina Wagowska

In the Preface the author tells that "These stories are autobiographical but I am not their main subject. Some pay homage to remarkable people I have known and loved. Some describe unusual places and events, and are a testimony. Others are commonplace: I share with the reader some of my perceptions and reflections. Bridge building across human divides is a recurring theme. I find such bridges triumphal."

The book is written as a series of autobiographical snapshots. Halina tells that she had difficulty in explaining to people the incomprehensible and didn't speak about the war unless she was asked. She didn't want to trivialise it and thought her descriptive talents were limited. She was encouraged to write about her experiences and did so when she was 81 years old, as she says "before she drops off the twig". She admitted that she lacked confidence in her ability to write a story well but took the advice of "how to" books to imagine telling the story to a friend. The book is written simply but is powerful in its message.

Halina Wagowska went from being a not very religious Jewish child in Poland to the ghetto in 1940, to Auschwitz where she had to help dispose of bodies of gassed inmates, to Stutthof where she was beaten near to death and where her mother died in her arms, and eventually to Australia in 1948 where she worked as a char woman in Collins Street, before a career in pathology and a life dedicated to supporting the less advantaged in society. She tells that speaking out on behalf of the disadvantaged is her way of justifying her existence.

She was saved by her parents who in the ghetto gave her food knowing their daughter needed to look 13 to survive, she was saved by Frieda who told her that the inmates must testify and bear witness, she was saved by Sasha a tall Russian soldier who nursed her and she was saved by coming to Australia where the remoteness and absence of visible war scars and neurosis helped her heal. Even though she has difficulty in believing how the cultured German nation found such a large army of willing perpetrators determined to remove the "scum of the species", she has faith in the goodness of humanity.

Halina tells that they slid into the hell of the prison camps gradually and acquired immunity and coping skills and mechanisms in the prisons that were useless in after camp life. They were bewildered by the demands and complexity of freedom and had survivor's guilt and they had difficulty relating to people who had spent the war outside the camps.

The testimony reaches into the rawest parts of our souls and psyches, and reveals the very best and worst of what it truly means to be human. It is the epic life story. The message is of hope and of choosing not to be a victim. Her memoir is an eyewitness testimony, humble, unshowy with eyes attuned to others.

The book for discussion in July is "The Harp in the South" by Ruth Park.

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# MMM #3

*Geoff and Karl Hardy*

Well what a day it was for this year's 'Meredith Man cave Madness' (MMM), now in its 3rd year let's just say conditions were challenging to say the least. With gale force winds, torrential rain, and seriously icy conditions the Hardy boys; Geoff and Karl decided the show must go on!

This year whilst numbers were significantly down on the past two years, the MMM was able to raise \$1,900 with all funds going directly to Tour de Cure (TDC) – Tier 1 Cancer Charity dedicated to cancer research, prevention and support projects for men women and children, now in its 11th year TDC has raised in excess of \$30M which has supported 18 world recognised cancer break throughs. Without your dedication and support for this community event we would not have been able to achieve this outcome particularly with the challenging conditions where our volunteers stood out in the rain with smiles on their faces determined to make the best day possible for all those that made the effort to come along.

The committee of the MMM wish to sincerely thank you for your contribution towards making this event possible.

The raffle was a key contributor to the funds raised with the odds of winning a prize heightened due to lower attendance – which made it even more rewarding for those that came along.

Donated vouchers formed a significant part of the prize pool for the Car show –these were all extremely well received once again this year and a true enticement to keep punters coming back again with their prized show cars year on year.

A very big thank you to our key contributors:

- Burson's Geelong
- Backcreek Café
- Super Cheap Auto – Hoppers Crossing
- Hearn's Hotel Meredith
- Mortimer Fuel – Meredith
- Muddy's Mitre 10 – Bannockburn
- Clyde Park Winery
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Very special thanks to:

- Krazy Kustom's – Troy Robinson – this year's primary sponsor who is seriously good at his craft (Spray painting and panel beating).
- Meredith Golf Club – for the use of club grounds and rooms.
- Meredith Lion's Club – For their amazing Volunteers
- Wayne Jones – for his craftsmanship of the MMM car trophies
- The band - Nightshift – for their groovy tunes.
- Bendigo Bank - Bannockburn who kindly donated \$500

for the golf competition – which was a real hit for the budding golfers that had a go!

We certainly made sure that we frequently acknowledged all contributions throughout the day via public announcements to those in attendance, and as we awarded the various prizes – this event is not only about raising funds for Tour de Cure but also to put Meredith and its local businesses on the map – so without your support and generosity this event would not have been the success it was!

Thank you once again and we hope to have your involvement and participation in some way again next year.



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## Retracing Lasseter's footsteps

Dr Chris Clark

It was only five or six years ago that I was bitten by the Lasseter bug. In my case, however, the infection resulted not in a thirst to discover the location of the wondrously rich gold reef that "Harry" Lasseter supposedly found in Central Australia, but a desire to know more about the complicated and conflicted individual that he undoubtedly was.

Initially underpinning my curiosity back then was a need to discover how Lasseter and my Swedish immigrant grandfather came to be acquainted before the expedition that famously went in search of the reef in 1930. To answer that conundrum meant closely examining Lasseter's life story, looking for places and times where the two men's paths might possibly have crossed.

That proved to be a pointless exercise once it was realised that they had never actually met, only exchanged correspondence which would ultimately prove crucial to how the 1930 drama played out. But by the time I began writing up an account of my grandfather's story in a book (*Olof's Suitcase*, published in 2015), I already had a great deal more information about Lasseter than I needed or could really use.

Still, this proved useful when people continually asked me where I thought the illusory reef really lay, and whether there was likely any truth to Lasseter's claims to have made discovery. It was then that I decided to tackle the Lasseter legend head on, and seek to pin down the central character in what has been one of the persistent mysteries of Australian folklore.

This time, I decided, I would not bother with presenting my findings in a book. Changes in copyright laws, book publishing and marketing practices in Australia mean that there is no financial benefit for independent scholars devoting effort in that direction. It seemed to me that I could have greater reach and impact by producing a home movie for the enjoyment of family and friends.

Two separate factors supported the idea that a documentary was the way to go. First, was the fact that I had moved from Canberra to Melbourne to live in 2016. This was handy really, since so much of the Lasseter story actually took place in Victoria, around Melbourne or within convenient travel time from the city.

The second was the fact that my brother Brett suddenly found himself with lots of free time on his hands, after a badly torn shoulder muscle placed him on extended sick leave from his daytime job earlier this year. Although restricted in his arm movement, he was still able to press a camera on-off button whenever we were on location.

That was what brought us to Meredith in mid-April this year, on our very first field foray to begin shooting our video. While we were in Staughton Street two delightful ladies leaving the old Shire Hall across the road approached us and asked if we needed any help. It was Marg Cooper and Jan Crump, just finishing a duty session in the Meredith History Interest Group office.

This proved to be the start of a very productive contact in which we learnt several bits of local knowledge that were not in my script. These both added new angles that we had not realised existed, while also demonstrating that the Lasseter story still has a way to go before it is fully revealed and properly understood. We were lucky that Meredith was our first point of call, because we discovered early the value of making contact with local historical societies during our quest.

The project will wrap up in a few more months—a deadline hastened by the rapid progress of Brett's recovery from his shoulder operation which means I will probably lose my cameraman and chief technical assistant sooner than anticipated. Our focus to date has been on getting all locale shooting done as quickly as possible, to avoid situations like that encountered at Tabulam, NSW, where the site of key importance to the Lasseter story is under threat from a project to replace the old bridge across the Clarence River!

Our aim is to produce the most comprehensive account of Lasseter's life and gold-seeking career, to hopefully set to rest for all time those pesky questions that continue to puzzle everyone interested in the mystery surrounding his "lost" gold reef.

[www.chrisclarkhistorian.com.au](http://www.chrisclarkhistorian.com.au)

*NB: Lewis Hubert Lasseter was born on September 27, 1880 at Bamganie near Meredith, the second son of English parents William John Lasseter, labourer and his wife Agnes {Cruickshank}. MHIG suggested to Chris and Brett that because the story of Lasseter started at Meredith it would be appropriate to have the launch of the film here, What a coup! ..Marg Cooper*



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4	7	5	6	9	8	3	2	1
3	5	4	1	7	6	2	9	8
6	2	1	8	4	9	5	7	3
9	8	7	5	3	2	1	4	6
1	9	2	4	8	5	6	3	7
5	4	8	3	6	7	9	1	2
7	3	6	9	2	1	4	8	5

### Spot the Difference

1. Carpenters side pocket missing
2. Light bulb in lamp missing
3. Drawer handle missing
4. Chest pocket is shaded
5. Top of hat is shaded
6. Lamp arm elbow is shaded
7. Pant cuff is shaded
8. Hole in board has moved down
9. Tall jar has moved
10. Screwdrivers have moved
11. Bottom drawer is narrower
12. Carpenter square is longer.



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 Emergencies: 24 hours a day

**Appointments: 5281 2226**

**2 Bruce Street, Bannockburn Vic 3331**





**44 Staughton Street,  
Meredith VIC 3333**

**24H on call 5286 1428**

**hpmeredith3333@gmail.com**

**8.00am – 1.00pm**

**17A Russell Street,  
Lethbridge VIC 3332**

**24H on call 5281 7187**

**hplethbridge@gmail.com**

**1:00pm – 6pm**

Healthline Pharmacy is a friendly family chemist, with highly trained health care professionals. We focus to deliver professional pharmaceutical services to cater the needs of our local community.

## **WE CARE BEYOND PRESCRIPTIONS**

**ALL PRESCRIPTIONS MEDICATIONS – PBS subsidised AND PRIVATE**  
(No one can beat our price, affordable healthcare for all)

### **Our plus services**

- **Free** Pharmacist advice and health checks services
- **Free** Medication review services
- **Free** Weekly medication packaging (Webster's)
- **PBS subsidised scripts at \$5.30** for all eligible pension/concession card holders
- **Maximum discount** offered for private patients and over the counter medicines.
- We will **beat** any (advertised) price

**"Come and Support your local chemist to feel the difference"**

## **WORK COVER / TAC OR STATE TRUSTEE PATIENTS WELCOME**

**NEW GIFT RANGE  
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**CORAL COLOURS  
MUSTELA BABY RANGE  
READING AND SUN GLASSES**



**We beat the price and add to your savings**

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favourite farmers.*

8.30am-12.30pm, first  
Saturday of  
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Corner High & Milton  
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