

Meredith & district News

March 2017



your FREE Community Newsletter since 1972



inside



- Milking the Cash Cow
- Kevin's 80!
- Safety in Tanks
- Get Healthy Grants

Have a Lovely Autumn



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



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Meredith's' best kept secret!!

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A Great Country Pub with Fantastic meals & Great Service
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Receive one Kids meal free with every
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LIVE MUSIC DATES FOR
MARCH!



17TH - JOHN BRAKA
31ST - JOE EASTCOTT

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Community

All that Glitters and Bleats at Christmas

Marg Cooper

We have just got the sheep rounded up and back home after their Christmas jaunt to Meredith. They are now safely restrained on the farm. What a great display! Black sheep, sheep with messages, bright sheep arrayed on verandahs, sheep at the Nativity, sheep in lane and gateways, poles and fences, and around the hall.



If you missed out on seeing them, have a look at Jo Mitchells "Barwon Blog", the quirky decorated sheep of Meredith featured in her December 2016 Christmas post.

The equal first winners of the Christmas Lights Competition were the Ross family and the Wheeler family who both decorated their properties in spectacular fashion! A Highly Commended award went to St Joseph's Catholic Church.

You may have also noticed the decorated Christmas Trees in the business hub of Meredith. A small grant enabled a dedicated band of volunteers to make the wooden trees and set them in buckets of concrete. The school, kindergarten and playgroup children then had great fun decorating them.

Did you see the tree covered with colourfully painted hands? Solar powered lights added a wonderful effect.

Thank you to all who in some way said "Happy Christmas to Everyone" by contributing to the Christmas display in Meredith.

John (Jack) Nolan



On Thursday Feb 23rd, Meredith residents heard the very sad news of the death of John Nolan in St Vincents Hospital in Melbourne, after a fall at his farm on the previous Saturday.

John was a much loved and most highly respected member of our community whose kindness, compassion and commitment to the Meredith Music Festival, his faith, the CFA, the Hall committee and so many more community groups, the last of which was the newly formed Meredith Lions Club, was almost legendary.

We will all miss his presence amongst us so very much but know that his is now at peace.

Our deepest love and sympathy goes out to Mary, Chris, James and all the wider Nolan family.

A longer tribute will follow in the next newsletter.

Vale John!

NEW - Study Group Sessions in Meredith

Are you struggling to find the time and space to concentrate on your study, or need help with studying online?

New open study group sessions are being trialled at the Meredith Community Centre from 28th Feb, on Monday and Friday mornings and Thursday evenings. Any student can participate. You can bring along your own PC and study materials, or use the centre's PCs and internet to do your study in a quiet supportive environment, without interruptions!

Contact Meredith Community Centre for more info.

What's On Board

If you would like to place a notice on the Meredith Whats On Board, please email your notice to the Meredith Primary school via the principal on this email address: sachse.shane.d@edumail.vic.gov.au as the students are caretaking the board as part of their community service.

Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

The Last Photo in the Camera



Church News



Meredith Community Centre
working for your community

ANGLICAN

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

Church of Epiphany - Meredith.

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

St James. - Morrisons:

Contact: 0429 146 566 or 5368 2730. The Rev. Glen Wesley
1st Sunday of the month at 5pm, 3rd Sunday of the month at 9am.

UNITING CHURCH

Monthly Combined Holy Communion services.
2nd Sunday, 11am at Meredith Uniting Church
4th Sunday at 11am at Meredith Anglican Church
1st & 3rd Sunday at 9.30 at Buninyong Uniting Church
Enquires Doug McFarlane 52861283.
Rev. Lindell Gibson 53413 200

SERBIAN ORTHODOX : Fr. Theodore—Ph. 5341 5568
Holy Liturgy 10am every Sun, Sat & Major Feast Days.

CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA.

St. Marys House of Prayer - Elaine

Solemn mass Sundays 10.00am.
Rosary and Vespers Saturday 5.00pm.
Confessions by appointment Fr. James Ph. 5341 5544
St Josephs—Meredith - Mass times for March/April

Winchelsea every Saturday at 6 p.m.
Inverleigh every Sunday at 9 a.m. except the last Sunday of every month which will be held in the foyer of the gymnasium at 9a.m.
Anakie @ 11a.m. March 12th/26th April 9th/16th (Easter Sunday) 23rd
Meredith @ 11 a.m. March 5th/19th April 2nd/15th (Easter Vigil)/30th.
Enrolment for children wishing to make the Sacraments of
Reconciliation (Grade 3 , First Holy Communion (Grade 4)
Confirmation (Grade 6) please ring the Parish office on 52861230.

St. Joey's Op Shop

*We have a quantity of good furniture and bric a brac.
Specials for this month are a large range of electrical
items all tagged and tested by a qualified electrician .
Great prices.*

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



Hi Everyone,

It is only the beginning of the year but we are already half way into our short first term and planning for the next.

Even though we are half way through the term we still have lots of great classes coming up in March. These include backyard chooks, mobile phone photography, bead making and multimedia classes. Pick up some advanced Microsoft word skills, get those pictures off your camera or phone and organise them or learn more about using the internet more effectively. As always our range of health and wellbeing classes including fitness circuits on Wednesday and Fridays and our Tai Chi classes in Meredith, Bannockburn and Teesdale are very popular. We are always looking for ideas and suggestions about what we can provide for you. With that in mind we also need people interested in sharing their skills and talents either in a voluntary or paid capacity. We are looking for people who can teach using android smart phones and tablets and outdoor pizza oven cooking or any other skills you think others might be interested in learning. If you or someone you know is interested please give us a call. If you want to keep up with what we have happening make sure you visit our website meredithcommunitycentre.com.au or our Facebook page.

Occasional Care continues to go from strength to strength and we are now operating every week day. The new sessions are proving very popular and we have waiting lists for some days. There are still a few places available so give us a call if you would like a break from your little ones for a few hours. Jo, Cate and Rebecca are very committed to providing an enriching program for the children.

If you have not already had the chance, please come and visit and check out the beautiful new community facility. The foyer area has tea and coffee making and is designed to be a community meeting space so you are welcome to call in sit down and have a chat anytime we are open.

Till next month.

Pam

Meredith Community Centre
4 Russell Street Meredith 3333 Phone 5286 0700
learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au
Open: Mon, Tue, Wed, Thurs 9.00-3.00.
Fri Closed

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

Recreation



A Day at the Australian Open

Matilda Flood

On the 23rd of January, the Elaine Tennis Club went for an amazing day out to the Australian Open in Melbourne. We were so lucky to see Serena Williams win her game, Roger Federer training on an outside court, and the Australian women's doubles. It was an awesome day, there were so many activities to do it was hard to choose what we wanted to do first. The venue was so big that I found myself getting lost quite a few times! As we walked around we played virtual tennis which was a lot harder than it looks. We also got a free fan (I went back a few times to get more of them). It was really hot but that didn't faze the tennis players, they still played amazingly. I think the fastest serve from Serena was about 195km/h, which would have been very scary to face! On the way home we stopped to get McDonalds, we had been waiting for it a long time! I felt sorry for the serving people because we all just swarmed in and were very loud. On the bus trip home we were all hot and tired. It was a really special experience that I will remember for years to come.

Elaine Cricket Club update

James Parkinson

On the 19th of February the Elaine Cricket Club went to Kardinia Park in Geelong to watch Sri Lanka vs Australia in a T20 match. We were sitting in the Gary Ablett Terrace. In front of us there were a group of Sri Lankan supporters, they were always standing up and from my perspective I don't think any of them ever sat down. They were clearly very passionate supporters and seemed to really like the game. One of the guys had a whistle, whenever they hit a 4 or a 6 he would make a noise with the whistle and it was very annoying.

We caught a bus from the Elaine General Store and picked people up on our way through Meredith and Bannockburn. The weather was very cold and wet. When we arrived at the stadium there was a very light shower of rain that sometimes was heavy. We couldn't get in because there was rain coming from the roof at the stadium so we couldn't go up the stairs and into our seats.

The game was a good game but Sri Lanka was outstanding compared to the Australians.

We thought that Australia would win mid-way through but the Sri Lankans played some great cricket in the last two overs and Asela Gunaratne scored 84 runs off 46 balls, a strike rate of 182. He boosted Sri Lanka to the win. If we had got him out early, I think Australia would have won. The final score was Aussies all out for 173 with our top scorer M.C. Henriques with 56 not out off 37 balls with a strike rate of 151, and Sri Lanka were 8 for 176 with top scorer Asela Gunaratne.

The bus driver was Dale and the bus that we were in was the Meredith Transit. On the way we stopped at Waurin Ponds McDonalds. Some of us had Subway and the others had Maccas. We had a very fun time at the cricket.

Thank you Shane Dunne and Julie Pantzidis for organizing this fun trip.

PHOTO OMITTED FROM
ONLINE PUBLICATION

Farm Household Allowance.

From media release

Farmers across Victoria will benefit from improvements to the delivery of the Farm Household Allowance (FHA) payment, making it easier for those experiencing hardship. Sarah Henderson MP, Federal Member for Corangamite advises that Amendments to the Farm Household Support Act 2014 have been introduced to clarify the definition of farm assets used in the running of their business, such as water assets and shares in a farming cooperative, when assessing eligibility. The amendments address the issue of such assets, necessary for the operation of the farm enterprise, falling within the definition of non-farm asset, which has stricter assets limits and can prevent some rightfully eligible farm businesses from receiving payment.

The legislation also removes the requirement to serve an Ordinary Waiting Period or Liquid Assets Waiting Period before applicants can receive payment. This will mean farmers in need across Corangamite can receive payments at the earliest possible opportunity.

The FHA is designed to help farmers meet basic household needs and provides the opportunity to take steps to improve their financial circumstances, with the assistance of a case manager. More than 7000 claims have been granted nationally since the FHA was introduced, giving farmers access to one on one case support, activity supplements and income support.

For more information on the FHA visit <http://www.agriculture.gov.au/ag-farm-food/drought/assistance/farm-household-allowance>

Still Going Strong

Raymond Kelly

Photographed passing through Meredith on Saturday 11th of February 2017 on the monthly Rail Paddle and Plate excursion from Newport via Geelong to Ballarat, 58RM was one of 10 petrol electric rail motors built in the late 1920's and early 1930's at the Victorian Railway's Newport Workshops. One of the units began running the service on the Geelong to Ballarat line in 1931 and last saw service on the line in the early 1950's. After 50 years of operation they were finally withdrawn.

The Diesel Electric Rail Motor Preservation Association Victoria, a volunteer organisation, restored and maintains the rail motor. It now travels throughout the year visiting destinations on the rail network, enabling the public to experience the joys of rail travel from a bygone era.



Golden Plains Festival Traffic Management & Contacts

The traffic management plans for Golden Plains Festival scheduled to occur on Saturday 11th March-Monday 13th March 2017 are outlined here.

- We implement a speed reduction on Mount Mercer Road and Cameron's Road from two days prior to the festival through to the day prior to the festival.
- We implement one-way traffic on Mount Mercer Road from Bamganie Road to Cameron's Road from approximately 4am the day prior to festival to approximately 7pm on the first day of the festival. Traffic within the one-way zone travelling to Meredith will be diverted down Cameron's Road.
- We assign traffic controllers to the corner of Midland Highway and Staughton Street on the final day of the festival to assist vehicles turning left or right onto Midland Highway.
- No-parking zones are installed along Mount Mercer Road and some surrounding roads.
- If you live or work along Mount Mercer Road, Bamganie Road or Cameron's Road and you would like a vehicle pass please email Auntie.

If you have any comments or ideas about any matter related to Golden Plains Festival please get in touch by phone/text 0430 091 120 or by emailing via auntym@mmf.com.au. These contacts are also operational 24 hours over the festival weekend.

The festival website is www.goldenplains.com.au and other information for locals is available at auntie.goldenplains.com.au/locals.

Thank you for your support - Festival Planning Team

Changes at Interpretive Centre?

From Meredith Community Coordinators

Advance Meredith Association, Meredith Community Coordinators and Golden Plains Shire are working together to investigate possible changes to the use of the Meredith Interpretive Centre/ Information Centre to be bring more people and business to our town as well as being a useful community resource.

An idea that is currently being considered is to utilise the centre as a significant regional Arts hub.

Ideas being discussed include support and exhibitions of local artists and artisans, workshops and classes, as well as access to the venue for other local community events.

Watch future newsletters for updates on this hot topic!

Cash Cow in Meredith

Marg Cooper

Susan Sanford has messaged the Sunrise Television Show every day for three or four years with the 'Cash Cow' code word and it finally paid off. On January 31, 2017 she messaged the code word "Chance". The next morning Sunrise rang her and because she answered the phone before three rings (actually she answered on the first ring) they announced to her that she had won \$50,000 and asked her to please step outside.

Outside was the Cash Cow (a person in a cow suit), who gave her a hug and presented her with a bunch of red roses. The television crew from Channel 7 quickly rigged her up to a microphone so they could catch her reaction and speak to her live on the show. She was so shocked that she didn't show much reaction and she couldn't say much. Susan remembers that the week before she almost gave up entering the competition.

Just before 7 am, Susan's husband John had walked around the block to begin his role bus driving local school children to Ballarat, when he noticed a Toyota car with tinted windows drive slowly around the block. When it did another lap he became suspicious that the occupants may be "up to no good" and he almost rang the police. He noted the registration! Gerry, who lives next door to Susan and John, saw the car stop next to his house and a person don the cow suit and thought that maybe his wife had won. Susan said Kenneth had seen people at the Roadhouse with Sunrise t shirts. Kenneth did not believe them when they said they were security!

John laughs as he recalls how Susan rang him when he was half way to Ballarat to tell him the good news but some of the children on the bus already knew - before he did. Their daughter had posted it on Facebook to share the good news around. Although they haven't received the money yet they are planning to put a new roof on their house, take a holiday to Tasmania later in the year and help their children.

Susan is now telling her friends to watch Sunrise, note the code word each day, message the code word plus name, address and phone number and, maybe, become a winner like Susan.

Congratulations !!



Susan Sanford cash cow winner .

Sheep Dog Trial Champion

Marg Cooper

Surrounded by a wooden fence and corrugated iron sheds that weren't built yesterday, a dusty, dry, typical country oval with its small green patch of grass along the cricket pitch, hosted the Cressy Working Sheep Dog Trials from January 26-29. About twelve caravans parked outside the oval in the Recreation Reserve and were supplied with power and water. It was quiet and peaceful as small country towns are. Once competition began each dog and his owner ambled to the starting line when they were scheduled to perform. The only noise was the odd bark, the whine or the scruff of the dogs which were tied up under the shady trees. One chap who lived between Yass and Canberra had brought twelve dogs.

One of the competitors was Roy Potticary who came down from



A smiling Roy Potticary

Oakey in Qld with his wife Raelene, five working dogs, and one pet dachshund as mascot. Additionally, Roy had just collected a pup he had ordered which had been born on the road when its owners were travelling from WA to Victoria. The dogs travel in cages on the utility behind the generator and camping gear with a caravan behind. Roy trains short haired Border Collie dogs because they are calmer, have more finesse and are more biddable than other breeds. Roy thinks kelpies have been bred to "think only of work", are harder to train and try to leave the trainer out of the equation. He also prefers male dogs because females upset the camp! He obviously loves his dogs, saying they need to be constantly with their owner and deserve shelter, good food, water and exercise every day.

He starts training dogs with simple commands like left, right, out and then adds whistles to the commands. At the trials he only uses the whistle. He carries a stick as an enforcer but he only has to "wiggle it" now and again. Competitors start with 100 points and go backwards. The dog and owner stand at one end of the oval to start and three sheep are let out of a pen at the other end of the oval. The owner sends the dog to bring the sheep to him as directly as possible, after that the owner can move and direct his dog to take the sheep to four corners of the oval to go through a gateway, over a bridge and through a race before penning them to finish. The umpire usually travels on a golf buggy because it is quiet, however at Cressy he rode a four wheeled motor bike.

Roy and Raelene were moving on to Koroit and to Port Fairy to compete and maybe at Canberra on their trip home. Last year they travelled to WA where Roy represented Qld against competitors from all Australian States. He was in the Australian team to compete against New Zealand and although NZ "flogged" Australia it was a great honour. Raelene says watching dog trials is sometimes like watching paint dry but it's very social, they make lots of good friends and travel the country. Roy grew up at Meredith and Raelene came from Lethbridge. More of that next issue.

Happy 80th Birthday Kevin Parkinson

Marg Cooper

Kevin left Central Technical School in Ballarat as soon as it was legal to leave. He was 15 years old. Reg East, of Elaine, asked him if he wanted a job in shearing sheds. He had not really worked in sheds but knew what went on. Reg was an expert and overseer for a big shearing contract firm based in Adelaide called "Stockowners Shearing". They contracted sheds in South Australia and were big around Mt Gambier and Broken Hill. Kevin remembered it as a big adventure and that he was quite apprehensive!

In June 1952, with a little suitcase and a couple of blankets tied with string, Kevin set off with Reg East, Ian Connell and Pat Hynes on the train to Adelaide. They caught a train to Port Augusta from Adelaide, then they were picked up and travelled in an American Budd car (which was the latest and greatest), to Pimba where they arrived at midnight. For the next stage they hopped onto the tray of an International truck with about half the shearing team and were driven 40 or 50 miles to the station. There were 10 shearers, about 24 in the team, Ian Connell was a rouseabout and Kevin was a board boy. They were there for two months and Kevin says he grew in body (from a skinny little runt of a kid), mind and soul!

The town of Woomera had been built on Arcoona Station and the Woomera Rocket range was next door. Kevin remembers identity checks and security and that it was in its heyday (being established in 1947). Kevin, with his wife Margaret, visited Arcoona Station over 50 years later and the only thing left was the solid stone shearer's huts. Kevin remembered how they had slept on gate beds with 'pinched' jute woolpacks or caps from the shearing shed to put over their feet at night to give extra warmth. He also recalled the shearer's cook, Dave, baking everything in a baker's oven, on weekends he walked up to 12 miles shooting kangaroos and foxes with his Browning Automatic gun which he'd carried in his little suitcase with 1000 bullets. There was no alcohol at the shed and the rouseabouts took it in turns to light the fire to heat the water while the shearers took it in turns to empty the toilet pans.

It rained heavily at their next shed at Baldwin Station at Truro in the Adelaide Hills, the shearing took seven weeks instead of three!. Everyone became cranky except the rouseabouts who were paid for wet days. Kevin came back at the end of October. He had been away for about four months.



He went to Broken Hill area in 1953, back to South Australia and NSW in 1954, was going back to Arcoona for the third time when his Dad got the contract to build sheep dips for the Soldier Settlers. Kevin helped him until 1956 when he started to shear locally. In the off seasons he did various jobs including working in garages. As well as an excellent shearer he became an excellent mechanic in Meredith.



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Meredith Primary School News

Hi everyone, it has certainly been a busy start to school for Meredith Primary this year.

PHOTO OMITTED FROM
ONLINE PUBLICATION

The weather was certainly in our favour last week as we hosted our 'Welcome back to school' family picnic. It was great to see everyone having a nice relaxing time enjoying their food with some nice company. A big thanks to Noeline Trevor from Cruzin Coffee for attending our night. I would also like to thank our staff and students for supporting the night, I look forward to spending time speaking with families again during our parent-teacher interviews

A few weeks back I had the privilege of listening to our Grade 6 students conduct their student leadership speeches in front of large student audience. What an amazing job they did! We were all extremely proud of the time and effort each of the presenters put into their speeches. Congratulations to all our Grade 6 captains!

PHOTO OMITTED FROM
ONLINE PUBLICATION

Our Community Captains have also taken on the role of updating the Meredith News Community board on the main Highway. Any interested community groups can send through notices to the school office using the following email meredith.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Shane Sachse
Acting Principal

from the MAYOR



Cr Des Phelan
Mayor, Golden Plains Shire

Greetings and best wishes for the coming month.

H30 program

Golden Plains Shire Council has been successful in their application to the H30 Challenge.

VicHealth's H30 Challenge encourages people over 18 years old to make a simple 30-day pledge to replace every sugary drink they would normally drink, with water.

Sugary drinks include sugar-sweetened soft drinks, energy drinks, fruit drinks, sports drinks, ready-to-drink iced tea, flavoured water and cordial.

Golden Plains Shire Council is one of 18 Councils VicHealth is working with this year to promote the challenge.

Almost 20% of Golden Plains residents drink soft drinks on a daily basis, which is unfortunately well above the Victorian average of 11.2%.

Switching to water can help improve dental health, maintain a healthy weight and save money.

Details on how to register are at www.h30challenge.com.au/lga/goldenplains or call the Health and Wellbeing team at Council on 5220 7111.

Midland Highway Overtaking lanes

In further good news, the locations of four overtaking lanes on the Midland Highway between Bannockburn and Meredith have been announced.

VicRoads consulted with local residents on the locations of these overtaking lanes which were funded by \$10m from the Victorian government.

Council has lobbied extensively for improvements to Midland Highway, which has a history of crashes.

VicRoads will soon appoint a contractor to complete the works, with construction expected to begin in mid-2017.

(Ed—More info re the overtaking lanes on Pg 46)

Meredith Lions Club

After a busy November and December our Lions members took a well earned break in January. Our first meeting for the year was on Tuesday evening 7th February and it was quickly back to business, planning our activities and club roles for the coming year., including our project at Pioneer Park.

Our social meeting for the month was on Wednesday evening 22nd when we had the pleasure of inducting new Meredith resident Michaela Holroyd into our club. It was a great night with a special visit from Geoff Hardy, and lots of food, fun and friendship throughout the evening!



(from L to R: Lion s Jarna Kelly, Les Cropley, Michaela Holroyd)

Thumbs up to our club members who volunteered at the Geelong All Fords Show on a cold wet Sunday morning - in February! That's enthusiasm for you, or maybe a love of cars?

If you are interested in finding out more about the Lions Club, or would like to discuss a special project or need, our contact details are:

Membership: Jarna 0473380552, or, for general enquiries: Email: meredithanddistrictlions@gmail.com

Where there is a need, there is a Lion!

ELECTRICAL SAFETY

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WEB
meredithnews.com.au

FOR THIS ISSUE...

The editor for this issue is Jarna Kelly. Jarna responded to a call for help last year and has joined the newsletter volunteers in this role. The plan is to alternate the editing role with long-time editor Jim Elvey, which will give us a more reliable and less pressured production team. Jarna has been a Meredith resident for 4 years, opened "Mirepoix Fine Foods" cafe in Staughton Street.

She now runs a social cooking club as well as being a founding member of the Meredith and District Lions club and one of our town co-ordinators. So, she is already well engaged in community life, and we warmly welcome her to the newsletter team.

(Ed Note: Thanks Jim! Big shoes to fill!)



Meredith Community Centre
working for our community

4 Russell St. Meredith
3333 Ph. 5286 0700

Check out our great classes starting in March

Find more details on our website meredithcommunitycentre.com.au or find us on facebook

Tech, Tea & Tales – Starting this week, don't miss out.

Spend one-on-one time with a friendly younger person over 6 weeks, learning new ways of using technology to enhance your daily lives, and sharing some of your interests and experiences back with the young person. If you are an older resident looking to get your technology questions answered and to connect with some inspiring local young people, get in touch with the Community Centre or Anna Donaldson on 0430 661 405 or at anna@lively.org.au.

AN INTRODUCTION TO WELDING

Do you want some skills to help you find work or continue to a course or apprenticeship? An introductory level course aimed for young people who have left school and deciding on their "next step" **Class commencing in Term 2**

COMPUTER BYTES

Day: Wednesdays **Time:** 10-12.30pm

Cost: \$25.00 per workshop or \$60.00 for all three

Microsoft Word March 15th

Getting a handle on the Internet March 22nd

Get the picture Get your photos under control. March 29th

BETTER MOBILE PHONE PHOTOS

Turn your mobile phone happy snaps into WOW photos. Capture your precious stories and experiences in this fun jargon free class. Basic phone and camera specific techniques and tips. What to photograph and how to set up your photo. **Date:** Saturday 11th March

GARDEN QUILTS

Date: Wednesday 15th March

Choose from 3 different quilts, where you can feature one fabulous floral, use a few, or use lots of different floral.

BEAUTIFUL BEADS

Date: Sunday March 27th

Explore working with polymer clay which lends itself to a wide range of effects to make your own unique jewellery

MIXED MEDIA MADNESS

Mixed Media Art for Beginners.

Create a gorgeous mixed media canvas using found objects and other art materials

This class will cover the basics and teach you how to lay out a piece, step-by-step. We will create a collage on canvas, add texture and finish your piece with gorgeous mica powders.

Date: Sunday March 20th

BACKYARD CHICKENS 101

Date: Saturday 25th March **Time:** 2pm-4pm

Cost: \$20.00 each OR \$30.00 for a family (no children under 8 years old) Maximum of 20 people

If you love the idea of raising chooks or already have your own flock, come along! Learn all about our feathery friends, how to keep them happy and healthy, and the yummy eggs they lay for us.



What we know about...

...March

Named for Mars, the Roman god of war, it is a month where many other cultures celebrate the New Year because it was originally the first month before most countries agreed to use the Gregorian calendar. Between the 19th and 21st the autumnal equinox occurs, officially marking our downward spiral into cooler weather and the leaves start to brown and you realise that it's time to start layering up those shirts. The equinox also sees March and April battle it out for host of Easter and this year saw March lose out. The birthstones of aquamarine and bloodstone both symbolise courage and seem to be fitting in line with the month's namesake.

MARCH WAS BROUGHT TO YOU BY GEMMA HANAN.

MEREDITH CONSTRUCTIONS

GEOFF L. HARDY D.B.U 15273

Registered Building Practitioner For

New Homes Renovations

Additions Ground Floor

2nd. Storey Bathrooms

Kitchens Decking

Painting Tiling

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Chris McKenzie's Garden Notes

Gardening is an occupation for optimists, sometimes foolishly so. The last time I sat at my desk to write these notes I felt that cooler days were coming and even had the daring thought that maybe we had come through another summer without a bushfire or a sequence of blazing days that cooked the earth. Today there's a fire in the district and hot gusty winds are drying out any surface moisture in the garden. So what's new? We gardeners plant out seeds, water and care for them tenderly and hope for success. And what delight when those vegetables and flowers poke their heads up above the ground, grow sturdily and then reward us with their beautiful and delicious bounty. Failure to germinate, plants that keel over for various reasons – heat, frost, lack of water, wrong pH balance - we accept these disappointments, learn something for next time and keep on gardening.

So March is upon us and it is a good time to cleanup around the garden, cut back ragged and dying growth on perennials, trim the stone fruit trees that have finished producing and prepare vegetable beds for autumn planting. The summer vegies are still going strong here – apart from the French and runner beans that I planted late and are only now setting fruit but hopefully the weather will stay warm enough for us to harvest some before the cold knocks them over. The lettuces, tomatoes, cucumbers, zucchinis keep producing and I plan to give them a feed of liquid seaweed to keep their strength up.

St Patrick's Day on the 17 March is the traditional day for getting winter vegetables in the ground so it's a good time to get seedlings going for those colder months that optimism assures us will arrive – kale, silver beet, broccoli. I have some self-seeded broccoli plants doing well and will leave them where they have sprung up as I am sure they know the best place to grow. Not all self-seeded vegies produce well of course, but the older 'heritage' varieties do stay true on the whole. I grew the purple sprouting broccoli last year and it kept on giving, sprouting new side-shoots as I cut the heads. All the brassicas mentioned above need good soil so make sure that your beds are enriched with well-decomposed animal manure and other organic matter.

Do not overlook broad beans (*Vicia faba*), especially if you have a good-sized garden. They are a marvelously easy crop to grow and prefer a spot that's not too windy. They can be planted from March until about May and will offer up those delicious and nutritious green beans by spring. Remember that nitrogen rich soil increases leaf growth, so it is a great addition for the brassicas but too much nitrogen in the broad bean patch may mean that less fruit sets. Legumes are part of the nitrogen fixing cycle in which certain bacteria on the roots convert nitrogen taken from the air into a form that can be used by other plants. So dig the spent broad bean plants back into your soil to feed the next crop.

Don't forget to enjoy your garden and all that it brings to your table and your optimistic outlook in difficult times.

Happy gardening.

Chris



Pioneer Park Project Update

Michaela Holroyd

Meredith Lions Club members have been beaver away and making progress at planning meetings and on site at Pioneer Park. The project has had a few false starts but is back on track with big plans for 2017.

The Project is for the staged enhancement and new development of new multi age and ability playgrounds as well as improvements to the existing amenities. The aim is to attract local users back to Pioneer Park as well as encourage visitors to our town to stop and enjoy the existing facilities and to make note to return as new stages are completed.

We have researched and compiled 'natural materials' playground equipment and ideas, children's games and creative park and play landscaping, surface mapping and have conducted site visits of many other playgrounds, with the objective of putting it all together in a 'nature play' style and with a 'Pioneer' theme that pays tribute to our Meredith heritage. A concept that keeps popping up is the excitement and ability to get lost in a game or on a piece of challenging or fun equipment. Children often make their own fun with the simplest materials, curiosity and an abundance of imagination. The Pioneer Park Playground Project will include a multitude of elements to climb, spin, swing, balance and ride on, play with, jump off, and investigate, for children of all abilities. Some items will also encourage children to just be, to open their eyes, ears, hearts and spirits to the lovely trees, plants, tracks and wildlife that make up Pioneer Park.

A Landscape Architectural team has been engaged to formalise the design and details. Their experience in similar community projects will bring a coherency and flow to the playground and amenities while ensuring that they comply with guidelines and regulations and the existing park theme and ambience.

Plans are in place for a community information session and a hands-on working bee and BBQ in the next few months!

For more info contact the Meredith Lions Club on 0473380552

Go on...smile!



That there is a highway to hell but only a stairway to heaven says a lot about anticipated traffic numbers !! ... Anon

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Dangers at home and work.

Paul Mitchell

The following was reported on abc news on 17/02/2017 www.abc.net.au/news/2017-02-17/poisonous-gas-detected-in-water-tank-where-three-bodies-found/8279576).

The article is in regard to the safety of the community around water tanks and confined spaces and is aimed at raising awareness about associated dangers.

Carbon monoxide poisoning is suspected as the cause of death for family members found dead at the bottom of a concrete water tank recently. They died after they each entered the tank. Police said a man was using a high-pressure water pump to clean inside the tank when he collapsed, then the man's brother, and the man's wife, jumped into the tank to try to help but also collapsed. A neighbour who heard the woman's cries for help found the three bodies and called emergency services.

"There were high levels of poisonous gas in the water tank by the time police got there." "A petrol [water] pump being used to clean the tank may have been the cause of the build up of fumes at the bottom of the tank." "Carbon monoxide poisoning is a probable cause .

Confined spaces on farms

Farming is Australia's most dangerous job – and confined spaces are the most dangerous places on farms. Incidents in confined spaces have caused serious injuries and deaths – not just to farmers, but also to their friends and families. Confined spaces are a unique health and safety problem because their dangers are usually hidden. Often people don't see the dangers until it's too late. This will help you identify the risks of confined spaces on farms and manage these risks to keep working safely.

What are confined spaces?

Confined spaces are spaces in enclosed or partly enclosed structures that: *a person may enter, are difficult to get in and out of, may contain harmful fumes, vapours or dusts, may have unsafe oxygen levels, may contain stored materials such as grain or fertiliser which could collapse and suffocate a person.*

Avoiding the dangers

Get to know where the dangers of confined spaces might be on your farm – look around at all the usual jobs, think about how you do them and all the things that could go wrong. Then, identify ways of working safely.

The easiest and most effective way to avoid the dangers associated with confined spaces is not to go into these places in the first place. Ask yourself if there is another way of doing the job without going into the space.

Another option is to contract the work to someone who is familiar with the dangers of confined spaces and has the proper training and equipment to do the job safely. If you can't avoid going into a confined space, you need to take appropriate safety precautions.

Making water tanks safe

- Avoid the need to enter the tank by covering or sealing it so that debris and animals can't enter.
- Use filters, an external pump to mix the water, or an automated self-cleaning system to avoid the build-up of sludge. Then you won't have to go into the tank to clean it.
- Think of other ways to empty the tank. For instance, a permanent pumping facility could be installed when the tank is being designed, or a tap could be installed at the bottom of the tank if it is above ground.

- Don't take petrol-driven pumps into tanks. If you have to use such a pump to empty a tank, make sure the hose is long enough to reach the bottom.
- Think of other ways of cleaning the tank. For instance, you may be able to clean the tank from the outside by using high-pressure hoses.

Remember

- Avoid the dangers by eliminating the need to go into the space.
- Restrict access to keep out people who are not meant to be there.
- Restrict the number of people who need to enter.
- Never work alone.
- Don't attempt rescue unless a proper rescue plan is in place and appropriate rescue equipment is available. Practise the rescue plan.
- If you must initiate an emergency rescue, make sure you use a buddy system and have a co-worker keep watch.
- Turn off or disconnect machinery to prevent being electrocuted and to stop machinery from being activated and contaminating the air inside the space.
- Ventilate the space before entering to remove any contaminants and ensure a safe oxygen level.
- Test the space from the outside for harmful levels of contaminants, an unsafe oxygen level, or a flammable or explosive atmosphere. This usually requires specialised equipment and skills, so ask WorkCover for help.
- Remove ignition sources where the atmosphere inside a space might be flammable or explosive.
- Don't introduce contaminants into the space – use safer methods or less toxic chemicals.
- Use appropriate protective equipment such as respirators where other safety measures don't adequately control the dangers.
- Protect against being crushed or suffocated by using safety lines or harnesses to prevent falling.

For more information on confined spaces on farms, go to: www.worksafe.vic.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0020/21629/Farmcon.pdf

CWA Native Hut Night Branch

The Bannockburn CWA branch meets 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7.30pm at Teesdale Primary School, Mudbrick Building, cnr Main Road and Sutherland Street.

Come and join us for fellowship, friendship, sharing of crafts that members are demonstrating, community service, service to members and lots more. All ages are welcome – we are not an "oldies" group, open to all women.

If you are interested in attending please contact Shirley 5281 5354

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Meredith POLICE news



Hello to all readers of the Meredith and district newsletter.

Since December last year I have been very happy to see that we have not been impacted greatly with crime in the Meredith area.

Unfortunately, this last week has seen a significant burglary and theft at a rural property in Davies Road, Meredith. Between Friday the 17th February and Monday the 20th February, offenders have forced the front door of the house in and ransacked the home and an office detached from the home and have stolen computers, cameras and personal items. Offenders also gained entry to shedding on the property where tools and associated items were stolen.

Thanks largely to the incredible diligence of two local residents, a great description and a registration were recorded of a white Toyota Hi Lux vehicle acting suspiciously in the area. This matter is currently under investigation by the Moorabool Criminal Investigation Unit.

A separate Burglary and Theft has also occurred at the Meredith Golf Club between the 22nd January and the 29th January, 2017. Offenders have stolen a small quantity of cash. If any community member has information in relation to this incident I would ask that they contact me at the Meredith Police Station on 5286 1222 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000.

I am very excited to announce the return of the Meredith Blue Light Discos. The first event is scheduled for the last day of term being Friday the 31st March 2017. I will be visiting the Meredith Primary School encouraging as many kids as possible along for the evening, which will start at 6 pm and finish at 8 pm. This will be a primary school age children only event with a \$5.00 entry. The discos have been a great success in the past and I welcome "Disco Des" back from his commitments outside Victoria Police Force to host the event.

Kindest Regards,

Greg KITCHEN

Officer in Charge – Meredith Police Station



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cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare/fire-ready-kit/

Police Paddocks' Enhancements

Jim Elvey

The Police Paddocks Support Group has held two working bees recently that have made a transformation to the reserve's entrances off Campion Road and Nuttall Street. The first, working with Tim Wood and his machinery, was to install 28 fence posts, including four gateposts. This is where Tim's machinery was most welcome, drilling through the hard summer clay. The "labourers" still had to negotiate through a bit of rock and do a bit of hole realignment, but were able to get the job done, by working through to mid-afternoon. We are very grateful to Tim Wood, who very generously donated his time and plant hire as his way of supporting the project. Thanks Tim!

The second bee installed the rails. Although there is much still to be done by way of gate construction and installation and landscaping, the work done gives a good impression of the finished project. You are encouraged to visit the Paddocks to have a look at the progress made and, while you are there, enjoy a walk through this beautiful environment. For the more adventurous, with strong shoes and ankles, there is also now a narrow path along the eastern escarpment. Walkers can access the area by crossing the creek from the paths cut at each end of the valley.

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**Golden Plains Shire Council and
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- It's FREE to participate
- You can make a small change in return for big health benefits
- Sugar-sweetened beverages are the largest source of sugars in the Australian diet



Sign up today:
h30challenge.com.au/lga/goldenplains

Registrations close Friday 28 April.

Council has received VicHealth funding to deliver this campaign.

For more information, contact Belinda, Golden Plains Shire Council on 5342 7000 or bhynes@gplains.vic.gov.au

H₃O Challenge™



an initiative of
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After enjoying the lovely holidays we have started the year off recharged and fresh. Our Kindergarten group with Jodie & Kylie is quite small in numbers and our Pre-Kindergarten group very large! We still have spaces in both groups, give us a call on 5286 0722. Family Day Care places are also available in Meredith, please phone 5220 7230 to enquire.

Our Kinder BBQ was held in February with a great turn out, thank you to all who came along and for the delicious food provided by everyone, it's nice to mix and be able to have conversations with our families and meet the siblings and partners too.

This term is a short one so we try and establish our routines and focus on getting to know the children in the group fostering good connections with each other. The Kindergarten children have been role playing cats and dogs and we have a few fans of "Paw patrol". They love the kinetic sand, Snails/Nature and the painting easel mixing colours, everything is so new to them at the beginning of

the year and their enthusiasm and sense of wonder is vibrant.

The Pre-Kindergarten group attend once a week for a 5 hour session this year with Kylie and Leanne. They are a busy group who also love the Art/Craft areas, the sand tray and playing outdoors.

The Golden Plains Music festival is coming up soon and we have many keen parent volunteers this year to work on the Tucker tent shift, I'm looking forward to enjoying another great weekend of music!

Jodie

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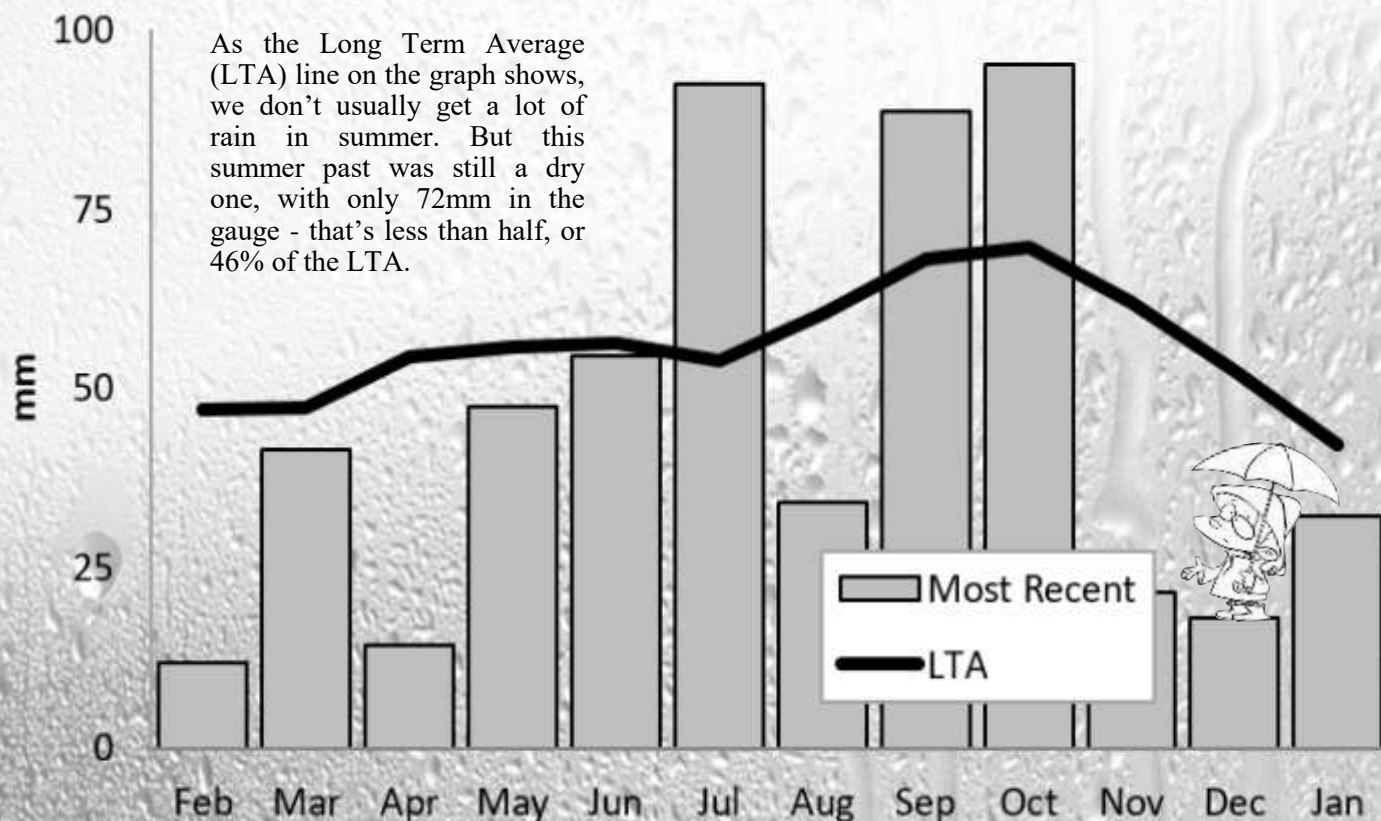
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The Summer Rain Report



Based on BOM data. The long term average (LTA) is calculated from 1875 to Jan 2017





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Plum & Apple Cobbler

Serves 4

Prep time: 30 minutes

Cooking time: 25 mins + 30mins

Ingredients

750g granny smith apples

350g ripe plums

Juice of 1 lemon

100g castor sugar

1 tbspn water

For the cobbler

100g self-raising flour

1 tps cinnamon

50g butter

50g castor sugar

4 tbs milk

1 Egg (lightly beaten)

50g walnut pieces (optional)

Method

Preheat oven to 180c or 160c fan-forced.
Grease a 1.5litre oven proof dish.

Peel, core and slice apples. De-stone and quarter the plums. Put the apples in a saucepan with the lemon juice, sugar and water. Bring to the boil, then cover and cook gently for 5 minutes. Add the plums and cook for a further 5 minutes.

Turn the fruit into the prepared dish. Sift the flour and cinnamon into a bowl, add the butter, cut into small pieces and rub in with fingertips. Stir in the sugar, then add the egg and milk and mix lightly to a soft batter (this can be done in a food processor).

Drop tablespoons of batter over the fruit, leaving gaps where the fruit peers through, then scatter over the nuts (optional). Bake for 25-30 minutes until the topping has a crisp brown crust.

Recipe From – bbcgoodfood.com

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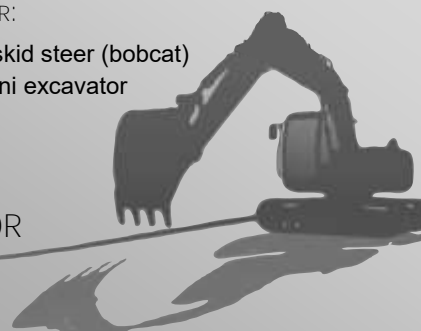
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Come along to a meeting for all community members interested in food.

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Find out about and become involved in local community projects designed to increase access to food. Current projects include the Smythesdale Well Community Garden, Food is Free Smythesdale, The Real Food Festival, the Bannockburn Primary School Community Garden and the Southern Plains Directory.

Smythesdale

When: Tuesday 14 March 2017 **Time:** 6.30pm -8:00pm

Where: Smythesdale Well, 19 Heales street, Smythesdale 3351

Bannockburn

When: Wednesday 22 March 2017 **Time:** 7:00pm -8:30pm

Where: Bannockburn Cultural Centre, High street, Bannockburn 3331

All welcome

Face Book pages

Golden Plains From Farm Gate To You

The Community Vegie Patch working towards Self-Sustainability

Food is Free Smythesdale

The Real Food Festival: A Taste of Golden Plains or www.trff.com

Dereel Community Gardening Group



More information Jacinta on 5321 1500 or jacinta.walsh@gplains.vic.gov.au



Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

6 High Street

Gingerlilly sleepwear now available!

Last month we went to the Sydney Gift Fair and we have expanded our gift range. We now have available **Gingerlilly sleepwear** for females & babies. All of our retail pricing is below that of the recommended retail plus if you are member of our FREE Loyalty Program you will also receive a 16% discount off our marked prices.

We are also very excited to announce that we have lots of brand new giftware & homeware products never seen before! Some these new products include:

- Vegan leather handbags, wallets & back packs
- Novelty gift chocolate
- Workouts in a tin
- Muslin & Jersey wraps
- Alarm clocks
- Compact mirrors
- Thermos products (new products)
- Smartphone key ring finder
- Milestone blocks
- Pram Pegs
- Canvas bags
- Jewellery boxes
- Microwavable soft toys

Plus much more!!

Don't forget if you are a member of our FREE **Loyalty Program** you receive a **16% discount** off all our Giftware plus an additional 5 cents for every \$1 you spend goes on your loyalty program to spend next time, or accumulate for as long as you would like.

We also offer complimentary luxury gift wrapping!

Come in and check out all of our new gifts.

Ear Piercing

Don't forget we now offer ear piercing in the Pharmacy. The cost is \$34.95 and this includes the ear rings & antiseptic spray to take home. We offer ear piercing for anyone **2 years or older**. Ear piercing is done by **appointment only** to ensure we have staff available, especially for children as we will have 2 staff members performing the ear piercing at once. To make a booking just come in or call us on 52811519.

Naturopath

Not sure which natural therapy is best for you? We have an experienced naturopath Karah McLaren who is available for consultations from 10:00am to 4:30pm every 2nd Thursday. Initial appointments must book a 1 hour appointment to give Karah adequate time to spend with you to find out what your treatment goals are, then follow up appointments are 30 minutes. Karah is available this month on

- Thursday 2nd March
- Thursday 16th March
- Thursday 30th March.

Appointments can be made online at www.karahmclarennaturopath.com or at the Pharmacy.

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

A Shearer

Marg Cooper

When Richard Sergent left school at 16 years of age he worked for his father on the family farm on Shelford Road and for other farmers. His father Barney, mother Norma and brother Robert came to the Soldier Settler Block in the 1950's. Rick remembers that Ron and Tojo Hearn sheared for his father.

John Mohr had a shearing run with Frank Bird and when John left, Frank invited Rick to take John's place. At 18 years of age his first shed was at Col Harrold's in July. They then sheared at Arno Hall's in August, went to Harry Mohr's, George Lloyd's, Mrs Payne's and then did a couple of sheds at Batesford and Darriwill Park. Rick says that in those days all shearing was done between June and December.

Frank Bird and a few soldier settlers for whom they had worked sold their farms, so he took a run at Shelford/Inverleigh for Cliff Everett. After three years with Cliff he retired. Following that time Rick mainly sheared by himself occasionally pairing up with a bit with a few contractors, however Rick didn't like the lifestyle.

Rick married Dawn in 1980 and they lived at Teesdale. Dawn recalls visiting Rick where he was shearing so the children could see their father. He worked seven days a week. Looking back he should have worked harder for five days and had the weekends off. They became friends with all the farmers who, from year to year, watched the kids grow up, and the kids had a ball.

In his early days he went to the chiropractor almost weekly but realises now that the back pain was only muscular and that maybe a couple of days rest would have been just as beneficial.

In the 1980's Rick and Dawn bought a small farm in Marchments Road at Meredith from Roy Ritchie. Rick gave a lot of the shearing south of Meredith away and began shearing locally. He sheared for Robert Cooke for over thirty years; for Daryl Bayard, John Parkinson, Barry Shaw and Alan Harriage for over 20 years and Mick Penna for forty years, and leased his property for a time. Rick also sheared between 1,500 and 2,000 sheep for Peter Russell Clarke at "Soho", his property at Drysdale, and for Fiona Conroy at Drysdale. Peter Russell Clarke was a television presenter and Fiona wrote for the Weekly Times Newspaper. Rick annually sheared 2,000 Corriedales at Leighview.

Rick remembers that in the late 1970's and 1980s he did a lot of shearing for Brian Corridas with Jacko McColl and Tojo Hearn. Henry Saffin managed the operation where they bought mostly wethers, sheared them and as soon as they were fat enough, sold them to go on the boats overseas, or as it was called "the boat job".

He liked shearing by himself but he was intrigued by Tiger Connell who sheared around the district after many years

shearing all over Western Australia. He was a very good shearer between smokes. Tiger would roll ten cigarettes and line them up near his combs and cutters ready for the run. He'd light one off the other!

Shearing sheds were great places to learn the local news. Rick laughs about how stories would be told and then when they left the shed they'd be embellished!

Rick would go rabbiting when he wasn't shearing. Often he made more out of rabbiting than shearing. Some weeks he supplied 500 pair to butchers in Geelong. He rabbitied on big properties including Banogil at Skipton, Golf Hill at Shelford, and other properties at Edenhope and Harrow. He used ferrets and shot the rabbits, had a couple of chillers, whilst other people also sold rabbits to him like Archie Bowers and he'd sell the skins. When he bought the farm at Meredith he phased out the rabbit business.

Rick never drank and laments that a lot of shearer's money is wasted on grog. Good meals were supplied everywhere he went but he remembers the food provided by Mrs Tom Hart of Elaine was super-excellent. In 2011 Rick had a heart attack. Did he eat too many cakes?



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Marg's Book Review

"Fortune's Rocks" by Anita Shreve

In the opening sentence of Anita Shreve's seventh novel we are introduced to her 15 years old heroine, Olympia Biddleford and her predicament: "In the time it takes for her to walk from the bathhouse at the sea wall at Fortune's Rocks, where she has left her boots and has discretely pulled off her stockings, to the waterline along which the sea continually licks the pink and silver sand, she learns desire." A tale of innocence undone is recounted in *Fortune's Rocks* and a review says "the book is pitched at an audience that believes in the notion that two souls which stir in the universe may be destined to meet and may be meant for each other".

The story is set in the town of Fortune's Rocks on the New Hampshire Coast at the turn of the 19th century. It is a summer retreat for upper crust Bostonians like Olympia's family. Her high-minded father runs a literary magazine, entertains assorted intellectuals and educates his daughter at home. Her neurotic mother hovers in the background. Olympia is attracted to one of their guests, John Haskill, a dedicated doctor and writer who is 40 years old and married with children. A tryst in a nearby hotel seals the deal with a dreamy deflowering and bold declamations. Of course such pure love cannot flourish in a tawdry world and so the story develops. Olympia's subsequent experiences as an unmarried mother are instrumental in her decision to help other young girls by setting up a home for them in the old convent at Fortune's Rocks.

It is chronologically the first novel in Shreve's tetralogy. Her books involve a large beach house that used to be a convent, the rich holiday makers at Fortune's Rocks, the beach and the sea and the mill workers at the nearby mill town. Her writing is wordy and literate like writers of the turn of the century. The author presents many issues including the division between rich and poor and especially the conditions of work and daily life of the nearby mill workers.

March book for discussion is "*The Dry*" by Jane Harper. *The Meredith Book Club* meets monthly, Ph 5286 8201

Woodburn Sculpture

Marg Cooper

Early in the morning on Australia Day, a sculpture was erected on the hill at the Woodburn Cutting {on Mt Mercer Road} to commemorate the site of the first Woodburn School. Two steel panels are set at a right angle and extend back into the hill, near a rock. The panels have laser cut outs that depict an old school building, the shelter shed, tank and trees. The first Woodburn School opened in 1876 slightly up hill and to the right from the sculpture.

The sculpture was created and erected by local resident, Daniel McDonnell.

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Kindred matters

judith emond FAMILY THERAPIST

Judith invites readers to raise life issue questions with her. This example, based on case notes, is an example of how she will deal with queries. As this demonstrates, it is an opportunity to get general, but professional advice on a matter that troubles you.

Dear Judith,

I am seeking some advice on how I can assist my partner to get help for gambling. Over the past 6 months we have really struggled financially and I'm worried that we could lose our home. Please help thanks M.

Dear M,

It sounds like your situation is serious and you have done the right thing by seeking assistance. Problematic gambling is very common in our community and good people find themselves in a vicious cycle of chasing their losses in the hope of making things right again. In fact anyone who gambles for fun is at risk of it becoming a problem, particularly if they are dealing with significant life stressors.

There is help out there for you and your partner. The first step would be for you to contact Gamblers Help services directly, or Gambling help online, to find out the best way to deal with your situation. Both services provide support to loved ones affected by problem gambling and will guide you on:

- ♦ how to help yourself
- ♦ how to talk to your partner about the gambling
- ♦ how to access financial counselling and get your finances back on track, and
- ♦ link you into your local Gamblers Help service in either Geelong or Ballarat

Please call Gambler's Help on 1800 858 858 or Gambler's Help Youthline on 1800 262 376 (from within Australia only). This service operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and is completely confidential.

www.responsiblegambling.vic.gov.au/getting-help/find-your-local-gamblers-help-service

You may also wish to check out the free online service which provides 24 hours a day, 7 days a week confidential information and counselling support

www.gamblinghelponline.org.au/helping-others

I hope that this information is useful. Please do not give up, Gamblers Help services have good results and many people succeed in getting the gambling back under control.

Judy

Got a Question for Judith?

Send your own life issue questions directly to Judith at her offices: Suite 5/84 Gheringhap St Geelong 3220. While she cannot undertake to answer all questions, those that can be dealt with in this column in a general sense, and without breaching confidentiality, may be used to provide general advice on the issue raised. You can even choose to remain anonymous.

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Dr Andrew Bell: Monday, Thursday, Friday

Dr John Henderson: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday

Dr Margaret Somerville: Wednesday

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

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



little
GEMS



Selective Memory

I absolutely love concerts. I love the live music and the crowd that's pulsating with high-octane energy from watching the pure talent of the individual or group on stage. The atmosphere, the overpriced merchandise, and of course the music leave you coming away on a high with ringing ears and there's nothing else quite like it. However, at a recent concert I realised that there were parts that I always forget in the aftermath of the excitement. Parts that I forget when I'm eagerly awaiting the train to whisk me off to another experience.

Firstly, there's the ticket purchasing process itself. Yes, I know I've taken you there before but it really is quite the stressful experience, and something that I believe has not benefited from the advancement of the digital age. Every time I have one of these encounters I think to myself 'never again - from now on I will go to the actual ticket booth like the good old days!', then I get there and see the line of people with the same idea and think that if I'm going to get testy I'd rather do it in private. This time I managed to use lightning fast clicking skills to procure tickets to said concert and the pain of my last experience washed away and gave way to months of blissfully listening to the artist's discography in anticipation.

Secondly, there is the venue and the people. I find entering the venue to be both an electrifying and anxious experience because, while excitement is buzzing through the air from musically like-minded individuals, you also realise that there is a good chance that your seats are in a rather rubbish location. At this concert however it became very clear that we were perhaps approaching the best seats we would ever sit in for a concert in our lives thus far. Fourth row from the front! Certainly not the usual occurrence for me. And yes, when the gig started people rushed to the front to be in the mosh pit but we could see over them. Grins were aplenty and I was getting pats on the back for my clearly improved ticket-buying skills. We could see fine, until out of nowhere kids were popping up onto parents' shoulders left, right and centre. What was happening? Kids weren't exactly this performer's target audience. Views were blocked and anger bubbled away, probably rather unnecessarily. Then came the inebriated woman who managed to even annoy the performer by calling the lyrics out in what were supposed to be meaningful pauses and every memory of similar experiences at concerts came back to me. Why do I do this to myself?!

But then the parents' shoulders gave out and the children disappeared back into the crowd and the woman started losing steam. Suddenly everything seemed brighter and I could go back to singing wrong lyrics loudly into my neighbour's ear; ready to forgive and forget the negatives.

Gemma

Meredith Senior Citizens

Jim Hynds

On February 13, 2017 Meredith Seniors met for the first gathering for 2017. The meeting was held at the Royal Hotel Meredith where a two course luncheon was served to us. A great roll up of some twenty eight members and guests started the year's activities. The main course and desserts were well received by everyone and our new look raffles proved to be very popular. They may even get better over the coming year.

After our meal we discussed and planned for future meetings and outings. The first trip is to Geelong Morning Melodies at the Shell Club on March 29. The show is a tribute to Elvis and friends! It should be a great day. Members are reminded that the first meeting at the Hall is on February 27.

Sadly some members are headed for the repair shop and it is hoped they make a speedy recovery and we see them soon, back at seniors well and healthy.



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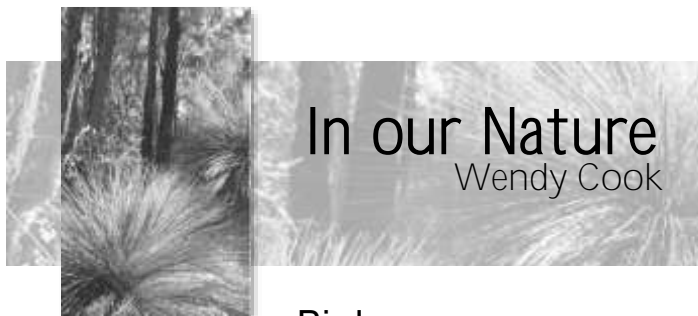
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Birds

The long narrow black feather had fallen onto the short dry grass. I picked it up and saw it shine blue in the sunlight. The tip of the feather had a rounded point and the shaft was close to one edge. Perhaps it fell from a raven's wing. When I moved the feather through the air I could feel resistance. Two wings with stiff feathers like this could really push a bird up off the ground and through the air.

With a magnifying glass I could see the barbs or hairs branching off the shaft, and the smaller barbules branching off the barbs. The barbules have even smaller branches which are hooks holding all the barbs together. This feather was a primary, one of the longest and narrowest flight feathers on the end section of the wing. They produce most of the power when the bird flaps its wings downwards. As the wing comes up, they are rotated and separated to reduce air resistance. The flight feathers closer to the bird's body are secondaries. They are shorter and broader and don't separate or rotate. They help provide lift. Most birds' tails are a fan of twelve feathers similar to the wing feathers. The feathers towards the centre are the most symmetrical. The tail helps with steering and stability during flight and with braking during landing.

Birds have other feathers which are not involved in flight. Contour feathers cover the bird's body. They are more symmetrical and overlap like roof tiles, with waterproof tips and fluffy bases. On the wings they are called coverts and shape the wings aerodynamically as well as providing some protection for the flight feathers. Beneath the contour feathers are downy feathers which are fluffy and without hooks to hold the barbs together. They provide insulation, and may also be used to line nests. Bristles are small feathers sometimes found around the eyes and beak. They have only a few barbs near the base. They may help to sense the surroundings, to trap insects close to the beak when feeding and to protect the eyes and nostrils.

Many birds use their feathers for camouflage. A young bird, its mother sitting on the nest, a nocturnal bird resting during the day, a bird feeding on the ground and a predator waiting for a meal all have reason to stay hidden. They may have dull coloured plumage which blends with the background. Markings such as stripes, spots or a mottled pattern can help the bird resemble its surroundings, or break up its outline so that it is harder to

see. At other times, birds wish to be seen. During the breeding season, males of some species sacrifice the benefits of camouflage for the advantages of being bright and showy so they can attract a mate. Specialised feathers, such as a cockatoo's crest can be used in communication. Subtle differences in colour and pattern may help birds to distinguish individuals.


Birds need to take great care of all these feathers, which they do by spending several hours each day preening. They may start with a bath to clean their feathers or a roll in the dust. Both remove parasites. Many birds have a preen gland near the base of their tail which provides oil to spread over their feathers for waterproofing, flexibility and protection. Some birds including parrots and owls have special feathers which disintegrate into powder down which is another way to protect feathers. Birds use their beak and feet to spread oil or powder, to keep the hooks holding barbs together and to place every feather correctly, to ensure the best insulation and flight.

Eventually, despite all this attention, feathers become battered and worn and don't work as well. They become looser and fall out, leaving space for a new feather to grow. Some birds moult gradually, losing matching feathers on each wing, to maintain balance while flying. These birds take weeks or months to replace a complete set of feathers. Others, such as ducks, moult quickly and may have a short time when they cannot fly. Birds also moult to change into and out of breeding plumage, and as they grow from a chick to an adult. Growing new feathers requires a lot of energy, so birds usually moult at a time when they are not breeding and there is plenty of food.

Wendy



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	7						2	5
2								1
7	8		6					
			2	4	1			
					7		3	9
6								7
4	1	7					6	
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Australia Day Picnic at Woodburn

Marg Cooper

For the ninth year a picnic was held at the Woodburn Creek School site, on the corner of Mt Mercer and Bamganie Roads.

Onwards from 6 pm on January 26 a large crowd assembled among the gum and pine trees, which had been arrayed with Australian flags, to socialise and picnic together. Much food was shared, children went on a lolly hunt, and the traditional Australia Day fruit cake, which is made each year by June Cameron, was cut by the oldest picnicker - John Cameron. Poetry was read, Janene whistled some tunes and relationships were fondly rekindled. As darkness descended we all said fond goodbyes and went home to watch the tennis.



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If you are feeling isolated or lonely, or have an abundance of spare time and are looking to fill this void in your senior years, then Probus may be what you are looking for – a club to enjoy friendship, fellowship and fun.

PROBUS can offer a great avenue of interests and new horizons..... **live life to the fullest!**

Bannockburn Club meets on the first Monday of the month in the Community Church Hall Moore Street Bannockburn for a light lunch, meeting and guest speaker and has a monthly outing.

If you are interested in Probus, or would like to join us on an outing, please contact Secretary Shirley 5281 5354,

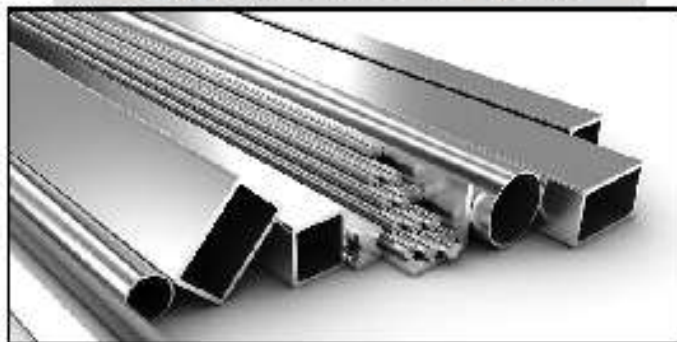
1st Guest speaker 1st June

Our first outing is 18th June, bus trip to Queenscliff Cost Approx \$45 bus leaves from the football oval.

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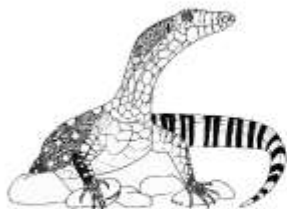


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2	5	6	3	7	8	9	4	1
7	8	5	6	3	9	1	2	4
9	6	3	2	4	1	7	8	5
1	4	2	8	5	7	6	3	9
6	2	8	4	1	3	5	9	7
4	1	7	5	9	2	8	6	3
5	3	9	7	8	6	4	1	2



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it's History

Meredith History Interest Group

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, February 26 at 1.30 pm in the old Shire Hall/Kindergarten at 31 Staughton Street. You are invited to come along and see the historic building which is now the new home for MHIG. We intend to have a quick meeting and then some speakers will relate the later history of the building. Before the meeting please think! We would like ideas for events for the year and we would like to know what MHIG can do to help you and what you can do to help MHIG.

Official Opening

We are planning a formal opening on March 26 at 2 pm. We have a photo of councillors sitting at the shire table in the Shire Hall in 1900. We hope to recreate that scene at the opening by inviting relations of the councillors to sit around the shire table that we have. Can you help? Do you know relations of: James Francis Gibney, Thomas Maud Scott, Robert Arthur Molesworth, David Grant, Frank Armytage, A.I. Campbell (Secretary/ Engineer), George McNaughton, Thomas Elliott, Matthew Gargan, William Gordon Browne and the young newspaper reporter.

Harvesting

"Harvesting in this district is almost completed. One of the largest stacks in the district was built by Mr W.J. Bowman of "Myrtle Farm", Bamganie. The stack is over 30 yards long and 11 feet wide."

"At Narmbool" on Friday evening last, the harvest hands heard a commotion in the wash-house, situated near the residence. Mr Sam Pearson went out, to find out that a cow had got inside the door and had closed it upon herself. The animal was charging about and causing a great fuss. Getting inside, Mr Pearson broke the washing board over the animal's back, but was kicked twice on the leg for his onslaught. He called for assistance and Messrs P. White, D. Brennan and D. Staker came to his help. An overcoat hanging on a peg got caught on the cow's horns, and it charged blindly through the door, which was opened, knocking White and Stalker spinning before they could clear a path. Brennan caught the overcoat and successfully wrenched it from the animal's head. Mr Pearson though a trifle lame, was none the worse for the excitement, while White and Stalker, beyond falling, were otherwise uninjured." From: Ballarat Star, Wednesday, January 24, 1923.

To Catalogue

Most Thursdays from 9 am we meet and catalogue, talk history, organise events and recently have been arranging furniture and files in the old Shire Hall. We need you if you can use Excel and catalogue onto computer. We need you if you like to create displays of photos and items. We need you if you can paste newspaper articles into scrapbooks.

We need you if you would like to tidy the yard, clean the windows or dab paint on the skirting boards.

COUNTRY NEWS. 1878

"A singular meteor was observed last Saturday afternoon at Ballarat, at about half-past 2 o'clock, says the Courier. "The sun was shining brightly, and a few clouds obscured the eastern sky, when from behind the clouds there suddenly flashed out a meteor so brilliant, its glare was distinctly seen above the daylight. It was comet shaped, the head appearing like a ball of fire, and in its passage across from south to north it left a dull streak of light behind, which quickly faded out.

"The Stawell Chronicle relates that :—"The passengers by the train which arrived at Stawell at 8 p.m. on Saturday had an opportunity of witnessing a curious and beautiful phenom-enon while the train was stopping at Elaine station. A whizzing sound caused attention to be directed upward, and a brilliant meteor was seen to fall not many yards from the line of carriages, and apparently bury itself in the earth. It appeared to be 2ft. or 3ft. in diameter, and the train of incandescent vapour which followed it reached from the spot struck to a point considerably higher than the neighbouring hotel just over which it passed.

A tree through which the meteor fell was found on subsequent inspection to be scorched and calcined on the side touched. It was early in the afternoon when the occurrence happened, and as the spot on which the aerolite fell was noted, a search will probably be made for it at once." *The Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1957) Tuesday 11 June 1878* Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group

Jan McDonald

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The Fall of Singapore

Marg Cooper

On February 15, 1942 the British Army surrendered Singapore to Japanese Forces. Singapore was the major British Military Base in South-East Asia as well as the South-West Pacific. It is believed to be the largest surrender of British-led military personnel in history. About 80,000 British, Indian and six battalions of Australian troops became prisoners of war. The British Prime Minister Winston Churchill called the ignominious fall of Singapore to the Japanese the "worst disaster" and "largest capitulation" in British Military History.

Australian troops numbered 15,000 among the 130,000 prisoners taken by the Japanese. Many of them died of disease, neglect and outright brutality in captivity.

Peter Campbell (Cam) Lamb was one of those soldiers. He entered camp on 12/6/1940 as a member of the 2nd, 9th Field Ambulance and after training at various camps in Australia, sailed on 4/2/1941 on the Queen Mary from Sydney and arrived at Singapore on 18/2/1941. His group spent almost 12 months in Malaya and Singapore, training, setting up camp and preparing for a possible invasion before they were captured on 15/2/1942.

Cam had 7 special friends in Changi who had been through training and all campaigns with him. They had birthday parties for each other and tried to keep their spirits up! They called their tent "Dunrovin" as they knew they weren't going anywhere for awhile!

Cam kept a box of memorabilia from Changi including a little book in which he recorded statistics and important details when he was a POW. Cam said he kept it in the pocket of his shirt and then quickly corrected himself, saying that "he didn't have a pocket in his shirt", "he didn't even have a shirt". He had a painting of their tent in Changi painted by a POW who lived in the barracks on the 3rd floor overlooking the tent city.

Cam came home on the "Arawa" after spending 3½ years as a POW. His weight had gone from 12 stone to 6 stone. He was discharged on 15/11/1945. On being asked if it upset him to talk about his 3½ years in Changi, Cam replied that "the story needed to be told".

Cam and his wife Nancy and children Peter and Jillian came to their 773 acre Soldier Settler Block on Shelford Road in 1952 and they called the farm "Dunrovin". Cam and his family were very involved in the Meredith Community and were great supporters of the Presbyterian Church. They retired to Geelong in 1988.

In 2016 Eliza Emmlin and Marg Cooper visited Fort Canning in Singapore. The decision to surrender Singapore was made by Lieutenant General Arthur Percival in a meeting on the morning of 15/2/1942 in the "Commander, Anti-Aircraft Defence Room" of the Battle Box under Fort Canning. The characters who were at that meeting have been recreated very realistically and sit around the table in the bunker room. We also visited the Changi Museum and read the name, Peter Campbell Lamb in the list of POW's. [A more detailed account of his internment is in "Memorable Men of Meredith" Book]

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Izy

Once upon a time a little girl sat on a chair in front of a wood heater with her grandmother. They loved to read story books every evening before their meal. The chair was in a shed because the grandparents had sold their house to her parents and were living out the back, in the machinery shed, until they built a new house.

Their favourite book was "Horton the Elephant". In the book Maisie Bird flies off to Palm Springs and leaves Horton the elephant to sit on her egg, in a nest in a tree. A little bird often flew into the shed while they were reading the story and they christened it Maisie Bird. Where she flew they didn't know but it may have been to Palm Springs, to lie in the sun.

Somehow the Grandmother started to call the little girl "Izy Bird" rather than her real name Eliza. To this day she is called Izy (she also gets Izzy and other variations) and by her grandmother she is always called Izy Bird. Izy Bird will celebrate her 21st Birthday on February 21, 2017. Congratulations Eliza Emmlin, my granddaughter.

Marg



When Failure is a Success!

Jarna Kelly

Some readers may already know of my love of animals, and that visiting my place often requires conversation with a number of my 4-legged family upon entry. Thinking that my youngest feline family member needed a little buddy (well, that was my excuse!) I recently visited a local adoption centre. A sign on the wall stated that the centre was desperately seeking more 'foster parents' especially for the regular influx of kittens due in soon. What a great way to get a cute hit of 'kitten lovin' without the ongoing responsibility, and do something to help the shelter at the same time! What could go wrong? I couldn't fill out the application quick enough!

I duly attended the mandatory info session, meet a few regular fosterers and was a bit disappointed to find them sharing knowing chuckles and grins about the 'newbies' and 'foster fails'. It seemed a bit insensitive to hint at us 'failing' when we were so passionate and committed!

Soon my first foster kitten was waiting for pickup - yay! I prepared a nice comfy crate for him and told the family to give him some space and quiet for a few days. I almost teared up on the spot when I picked up 'Pavlo', he was a wee little replica of 'Mrs Peabody' a wonderful cat I had for 21 years. Poor little Pavlo was very timid though, for the first day he hid in the back of the crate not game to move or make a sound. The second day, he finally crept out to eat and drink a little—progress! The third day, my little minx Angelica, a darling liveball of

energy and cheekiness at 12 wks old, had worked out how to get into the crate, while I was out shopping. There the two of them were, playing and tumbling about in the crate as if they had been litter mates from birth. Pavlo never went back into the crate, he and Angelica were inseparable and his confidence grew in leaps and bounds - over the table, the couch, the dog and me! That was, until the first sneeze. Poor Pavlo had picked up cat flu. Much nursing and TLC followed and somehow during it all Pavlo stole my heart, with his trusting eyes, soft tentative hugs and contented purring in my arms. How could I send him back to the centre now?

I got it, I understood - 'Foster fails' were those of us who fell in love with our fosters and couldn't face handing them back, and it wasn't a bad thing - for the centre this was success, they knew their fostered animals had found a loving home for life!

I kept Pavlo for longer than the assigned foster time, finding excuses, that he needed more socialising, needed more recovery time Finally I had to make a decision, keep him or let him go for adoption. After much soul searching I rationalised that I had signed up to give many foster 'babies' a good start like Pavlo, and I couldn't do that if I kept every one. With a heavy heart I took him in, giving volumes of instructions re the home he should have, toys and food he loved etc etc .. Two days later, I couldn't cope and drove back to the shelter to take him home - he was gone, adopted that very morning by a lovely older couple! But, if I had a moment, crying in the clinic was a tiny scared little boy, needing a foster



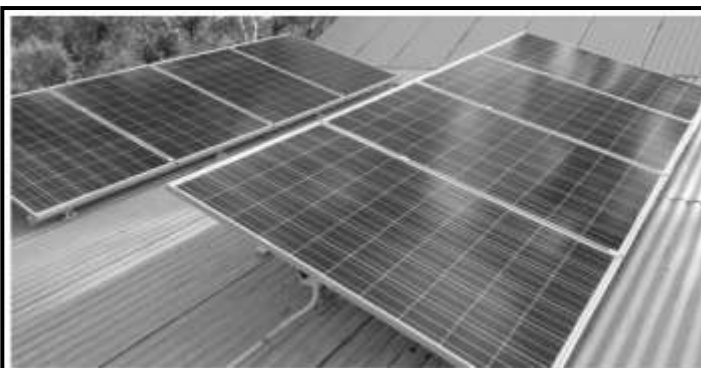
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Information Required for Leigh Cricket Association History Document

Will Rice Jnr

Work is currently underway on a history document on the now-defunct Leigh Cricket Association that operated in the local area between 1921 and 1999 (with a break between the scheduled 1941/42 and 1945/46 seasons for World War II).

Over the duration of the Association, the following clubs have played various periods of time in the Leigh Cricket Association:

Inverleigh (1921/22 to 1940/41, 1946/47 to 1998/99)
Bannockburn (1921/22, 1926/27 to 1940/41, 1946/47 to 1953/54, 1956/57 to 1998/99)
Shelford (1921/22 to 1927/28, 1933/34 to 1940/41, 1946/47 to 1958/59, 1967/68 to 1998/99)
Teesdale (1921/22 to 1940/41, 1946/47 to 1966/67, 1974/75 to 1998/99)
Meredith (1933/34 to 1935/36, 1946/47 to 1998/99)
Lethbridge (1929/30 to 1935/36, 1946/47 to 1998/99)
Rokewood (1953/54, 1956/57 to 1994/95)
Elaine (1957/58 to 1978/79)
Winchelsea (1925/26 to 1929/30)
Golf Hill (1925/26 to 1930/31)
Anakie (1977/78 to 1983/84)
Cressy (1995/96 to 1998/99)

This notice is being distributed in this publication to seek items of interest related to the Leigh Cricket Association from past players, family members of past players and local historical groups.

Items of interest for this document include the following:

- Team Photos
- Premiership Photos
- Match Photos
- Private collections of Scorebooks (both Club and Association)
- Written personal recollections/stories of the Association.
- Administration Records (e.g. Minute Books, Trophy Winners)
- Cricket Memorabilia (player caps, bats, etc. for photography)

If anything of the above can be found in things like old boxes in the garage or in a suitcase on top of a wardrobe, it will be of importance to the project and will make a difference in the final product.

Enquiries and items of interest can be directed to Will Rice Jnr (Mobile After Hours: 0417 644 775) or, Email: willrice_shelford@hotmail.com.



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VicHealth Grants to Help Victorians get Healthy & Active

Media release

Are you a community sport club looking to increase the number of people participating in your club activities?

In 2016–17, VicHealth's Active Club Grants will provide funding to increase the opportunities Victorians have to participate in community sport clubs.

The funding will prioritise two outcome areas:

- Outcome area 1: Female participation
- Outcome area 2: Participation in social and modified forms of sport

VicHealth is inviting Victoria's community sporting clubs to address these factors by either creating new sport opportunities or by implementing, within your own club, an existing program created by a State or National sporting organisation.

In 2017/18, two levels of grants - up to \$3000 or up to \$10,000 - are available for clubs establishing new activities, competitions and programs that encourage more women and girls to get involved in physical activity, or which are starting up a social or modified sport program.

Modified sports are fun and less-structured, increasing opportunities for people of all ages, abilities, skills and fitness levels. The grants will also provide more opportunities for the development of women's sports teams.

We're the sporting state, and it doesn't happen by chance. Our \$100 million *Community Sports Infrastructure Fund* is helping communities all over Victoria to upgrade tired facilities and build the great grassroots venues they deserve.

The fund includes \$10 million for Female Friendly Facilities to build or upgrade women's change rooms, meaning female players will never again have to use make-shift areas to prepare for competition and training.

This is the biggest ever investment in women's participation in sport by an Australian state government.

Recently the new *Change Our Game* campaign was unveiled to help more women and girls earn leadership roles in sport such as coaches, officials, board members and senior executives.

Applications for VicHealth's Active Club Grants close on Friday 10 March 2017.

To apply visit www.vichealth.vic.gov.au/activeclub

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Midland Highway, Geelong-Meredith - Overtaking Lanes

January 2017 Update

Extracted from VicRoads website, 26 Feb 2017

Significant residential growth has occurred in recent years in the Golden Plains Shire. The population of Bannockburn and surrounding districts increased by 39.3% between 2001 and 2006, and by 2021 it is expected to be 12,260 (Source: Bannockburn Town Centre Investment Strategy).

There have been a number of crashes on the Midland Highway in recent years; a large percentage of which have involved a vehicle crossing the centreline and crashing into an oncoming vehicle, or alternatively, rear ending other vehicles.

Local residents have helped shape the locations of the new Midland Highway overtaking lanes, with feedback directly incorporated into the decisions and designs which will soon be released to tenderers. After extensive community consultation, the lanes will be constructed at two locations, between Bannockburn and Lethbridge and between Bannockburn and Meredith.

What will be constructed?

- Two new overtaking lanes between Bannockburn and Lethbridge and two between Lethbridge and Meredith
- Wire rope safety barrier up the centre of the overtaking lanes, with openings for property access. *Community consultation has led us to review our original design and to increase the width of existing driveways to ensure that B-Double trucks can exit and re-enter the traffic lanes.*
- Sealing a three metre left turn shoulder and a three metre wide and 60 metre long right turn slip lane at Scanlons Road

Environmental impacts

Unfortunately, due to the proximity of the existing vegetation to the road, we must remove trees along the route. We will only remove trees located within the area needed to build the new road or could be a potential hazard in the future.

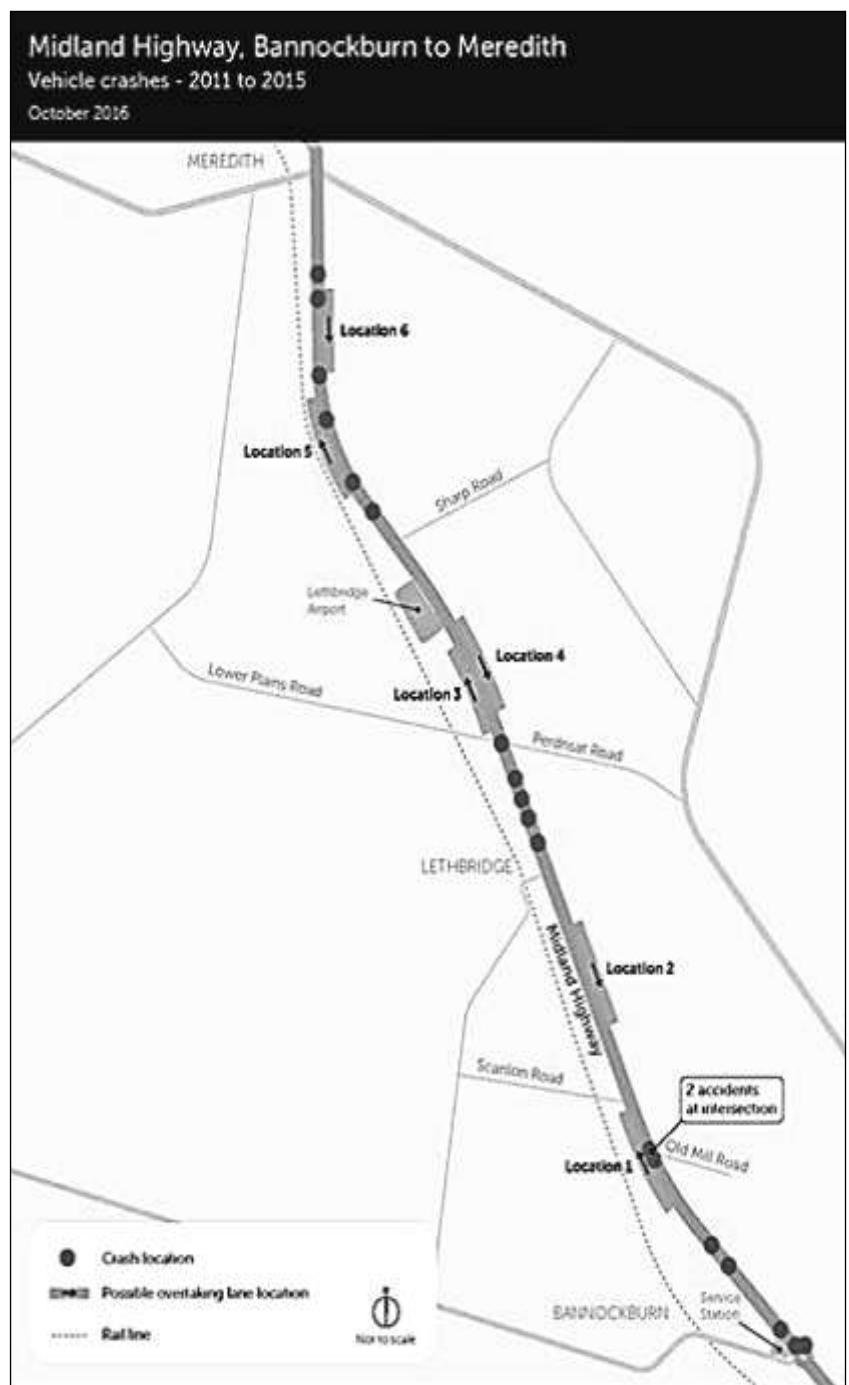
VicRoads has been working closely with Landcare, the Golden Plains Shire, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning and environmental experts to ensure that we do everything we can to preserve the natural environment.

We are committed to replanting some trees, however the number and location has not yet been finalised.

For more info or if you have any questions,

Call: 5225 2596

Email: MidlandHighway@roads.vic.gov.au



Meredith & district NEWS



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

NEWS & VIEWS

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

DATES AND DEADLINES

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

ADVERTISING

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

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Quarter page	\$25.00	
Half page	\$40.00	\$100
Full page	\$80.00	\$180

Note: Full colour is available in the March, June, September and December issues only. A \$20 loading applies for preferred positions.

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)

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news@meredithnews.com.au

Advertising: Ian 0409 016815
advertising@meredithnews.com.au

Accounts: Dawn 0428 861274
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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.

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SES Emergency - flood & storm	1800 629 572
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Ranger	5281 1221
Bannockburn Vet	5281 2226
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Robert Browning



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