

September 2017

# Meredith & district News

your FREE Community Newsletter since 1972



It's Spring!

## inside



- Chris the College Legend
- Winter in Words
- (Fast) Flights of Fancy at Lethbridge



e: [news@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:news@meredithnews.com.au) W: [meredithnews.com.au](http://meredithnews.com.au)



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Saturday of  
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Streets, Bannockburn

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# Meredith & district NEWS



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

Editor this issue: Jim Elvey.

## NEWS & VIEWS

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

## DATES AND DEADLINES

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

## ADVERTISING

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

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

Note: A \$20 loading applies for preferred position. Colour only available in March, June, September and December issues. Please submit in jpeg format, if available.

Classifieds are **FREE** for small, personal notices from residents. Otherwise \$7.50 or \$5.00 if paid on lodgement. Community Groups can have a 1/4 page ad for free or a \$25.00 discount on larger ads. (conditions apply)

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

## CONTACT US

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## WEB

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

## ONLINE PHOTOS

We do not publish children's photos online.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

## DISCLAIMER

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

# connect

**ADVANCE  
MEREDITH**  
5286 1291

**ANGLING CLUB**  
0419 423 960

**BLUE LIGHT DISCO**  
5286 1222

**BOOK CLUB**  
5286 8201

**CFA**  
000 for fire calls  
Elaine  
0417 533516  
Meredith  
5286 1502  
Morrisons  
0417 770 765

**CHILDCARE**  
5286 0700

**COMMUNITY  
CENTRE**  
5286 0700

**CRICKET**  
Elaine  
0448291074  
Junior  
(U16,U14,13)  
0448291074  
Meredith  
5286 1434

**CUBS & SCOUTS**  
Anakie 5281 9497

**FOOTBALL**  
Seniors 0408 545246  
Juniors 0430 587674

**GOLF CLUB**  
5341 5748  
**HISTORY GROUP**  
5286 8201

**LANDCARE**  
5286 1250

**MEMORIAL HALL**  
5286 1251  
0435 312 984  
**MEREDITH LIONS**  
0473 380 552

**MOTORCYCLE CLUB**  
0437 009250

**PLAYGROUP**  
5286 0700

**POLICE PADDOCKS**  
5286 1273

**RSL**  
5286 1452

**SENIOR CITIZENS**  
5286 8232

**TENNIS**  
Elaine  
0448 291074  
Meredith  
5286 1211

**SEW 'N' SEWS**  
5286 0700

**FRIENDS OF THE  
BRISBANE RANGES**  
5286 1252

**..or start something.**

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

# emergency

Police, Ambulance, Fire (from mobile phone)	<b>000 or 112</b>
Meredith Police Station	5286 1222
Power Failure	132 412
Nurse-On-Call	1300 606024
Mental Health Advice	1300 280 737
Poisons Information	13 11 26
Barwon Water	1300 656 007
SES Emergency flood & storm	132 500
24 Hour Helpline	1800 629 572
24 Hour Drug & Alcohol Counselling	1800 888 236
Kids Help Line	
24hr 5-18yo	1800 551 800
Golden Plains Shire	1300 363 036
A.H. emergencies	0408 508 635
Ranger	5220 7111 or 0409 830 223
Bannockburn Vet	5281 1221
Golden Plains Vet	5281 2226
Injured Wildlife	13000 wildlife
Pets and Horses 24/7	0421 617 238
Wildlife Rescue	0459 379915

## Justices of the Peace

Mr R Cooke Meredith	52 861 346
Mrs S W Dynon Steiglitz	52 819 223
Mr P Ryan Elaine	0409 861 296

# services

**CEMETERY  
TRUST**

5286 1550

**HALL HIRE**

Meredith Memorial

5286 1545

Elaine Mechanics

5341 5596

Elaine Rec Res

5341 5703

**LIBRARY VAN**

5272 6010

**MATERNAL  
CHILD HEALTH**

5220 7230

**PRE-SCHOOL**

5286 1227

**PRIMARY**

**SCHOOL**

5286 1313

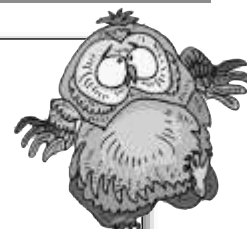
**RECREATION**

**RESERVE**

0429 841399

Every rule has an exception.  
Especially this one.

Unknown





## Community

### Meredith Senior Citizens

*Jim Hynds*

Our Annual General Meeting was held on July 24, 2017 when the election of Office Bearers was conducted according to our constitution. All positions were declared vacant before the elections took place.

The following Office Bearers were elected:

President: Mr Jim Hynds

Vice President: Mrs Wilma Webb

Secretary: Mrs Robin Gallichio

Treasurer: Mrs Carol Broadhurst

Vice Treasurer: Mrs Lila East

Luncheon Organizer: Mrs Dianne Stevenson

Bingo Organizer: Mrs Linda Hynds

Hall Organizer: Miss Heather Banks

Carol Broadhurst replaced Sandra Pearce (retired) as Treasurer. The President thanked Sandra for her contribution to the Seniors as Treasurer and for a job well done. All office bearers were elected unopposed. I would like to thank them all for their support for the committee.

Plans are underway for our next bus trip on September 18

Also discussed were plans for our Christmas Party. More on that later!

### Bamganie/Meredith Landcare

Bamganie/Meredith Landcare group meeting will be held

**Wednesday 13th September 7.30pm**

at the Meredith Community Centre.

Members and non members are invited to attend.

### Change of Secretary

*Raymond Kelly*

The Lethbridge Cemetery Trust elected Colin O'Connor as secretary of the Cemetery trust at a meeting held recently following the decision by Raymond Kelly to step down from the position.

Colin has been a Trustee of the cemetery for the past sixteen years and becomes the ninth secretary of the trust since John Murphy was appointed as the first secretary in January 1860. He was the licensee of the Munster's Arms Hotel, Lethbridge.

Keith Ackland holds the record as the longest serving secretary having been elected in 1939 and retiring in 1995 when he was succeeded by Raymond Kelly.

So, if the maths is correct, there have been two secretaries in the last 78 years: Keith Ackland served for 56 years and Raymond for 22 years. A good effort indeed!



If you drive between Meredith and Steiglitz around now, which is where and when our cover photo was taken, you will be cheered all the way by the roadside wattles waving their golden branches. These early harbingers of spring are in full flower and will lift your spirits with their mass beauty.

Also on the front cover, are three spring treats yet to come. Photographed last spring along the well named Orchid Track in the Brisbane Ranges, this beautiful trio is a small sample of the wildflowers that will proliferate this beautiful part of our region over the next few months. From left, they are the unkindly named Common Fringe Lily, the Flying Duck Orchid and the Mantis Orchid.

*All photos by Jim Elvey*

### Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

**FOR SALE** - Marantz SR 4003 7.1 Surround Receiver. Mostly working condition. Panasonic DMP BD65 Blu-ray player, excellent condition. \$20 each. Ph. 5286 1273

*The Last Photo in the Camera*



## Church News



### ST. JOSEPHS MEREDITH CATHOLIC PARISH

Mass Times for September/October

Winchelsea every Saturday at 6pm

Inverleigh every Sunday at 9am except last Sunday of the month which is held at the Bannockburn Stadium. Family Mass every 1st Sunday of the month 9a.m. at Inverleigh followed by morning tea and produce stall. Anakie at 11 a.m. Sunday September 10th/24th . October 8th/22nd Meredith at 11a.m. Sunday September 3rd/17th October 1st/15th/29th

Rosary Campaign for the month of October commences on Sunday October 1st at Meredith. Continues around the Parish . Culmination on Tuesday October 31st at Meredith.

The Gala Fundraising Launch at Clyde Park for the building of the new St. Mary MacKillop Church in Bannockburn was a huge success thanks especially to Terry and Sue of Clyde Park for their generosity and to all our donors and those who supported the night.

### ANGLICAN

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

Service Times;

#### Church of Epiphany - Meredith.

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

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

#### St James. - Morrisons:

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

1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 5pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month at 9am.

### UNITING CHURCH

Monthly Combined Holy Communion services.

2nd Sunday, 11am at Meredith Uniting Church

4th Sunday at 11am at Meredith Anglican Church

1st & 3rd Sunday at 9.30 at Buninyong Uniting Church

Enquires Doug McFarlane 52861283.

Rev. Lindell Gibson 53413 200

**SERBIAN ORTHODOX** : Fr. Theodore—Ph. 5341 5568

Holy Liturgy 10am every Sun, Sat & Major Feast Days.

### CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE OF AUSTRALIA.

#### St. Marys House of Prayer - Elaine

Solemn mass Sundays 10.00am.

Rosary and Vespers Saturday 5.00pm.

Confessions by appointment Fr. James Ph. 5341 5544

## Elaine Market Starting in November

Elaine Mechanics Hall, Pearsons Road, Elaine.

Saturday 11th November 2017

3.00pm until 8.00pm

We are pushing for a Farmers Market so if anyone would like a stall please email us at [elainetownhall@gmail.com](mailto:elainetownhall@gmail.com)

- Facebook page: Elaine Market
- Food trucks, petting zoo, live music, fully licenced bar, door and raffle prizes.
- Stall holders raffle for \$100 cash, sheep shearing demonstrations. Family friendly fun atmosphere.



Meredith Community Centre

*working for your community*

Hello,

Nope its not Pam reporting this month but me, Kerrie. I have recently been elected Chair/ President of the Community Centre Committee of Management.

I am excited to be working with the committee and staff for 2017/18.

Now here is a question for all you lovely Meredith and District residents, What goes on within that lovely new community / learning hub building?

Well it is a busy place at times:

Room hire for community groups, businesses, health services and yes parties

Occasional care for up to 3 year olds

Kindergarten

Playgroup

Maternal Health Rooms

Interest groups, Workshops and Guest Speaker covering Health & Wellbeing, Fun & Fitness, Personal Quilting, Knitting & Crocheting, Poetry, Family History, Sustainable living and Computers & Technology

Community Information Sessions

Home of the Meredith Newsletter

Did you know that we have available to you, public internet, photocopying and laminating?

We are here to help you learn a new skill, support your quest for knowledge, provide information and services and most important, a meeting place for all to become part of our vibrant community.

Please like us on FaceBook – Meredith Community Centre to keep up to date with happenings.

So come in and visit with us for a cuppa and a chat and check out what we have on offer.

Cheers Kerrie

PS Keep an eye out for our exciting new page coming next month ....

Meredith Community Centre

4 Russell Street Meredith 3333 Phone 5286 0700

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

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

Closed Fridays and school holidays

## Recreation



### A Century

*Cathie Boer*

Ruby Hart, 15, began playing with Buninyong Netball Club U13's, as a 10 year old, in 2012.

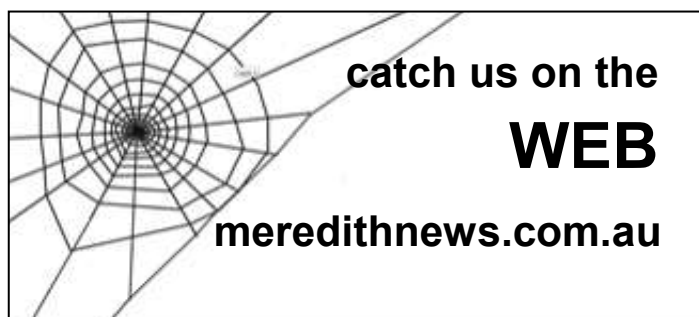
She now plays in the U15 team, and recently played her 100th game. She usually plays in the centre or wing attack, and has managed to score a lot of goals over the years.

Ruby also played in the squad for the Ballarat Netball Association this year. The top nine girls selected for this team came from the entire Ballarat region. The team played games in various locations, including Ballarat and Bendigo.

Ruby has now been selected to play in the U15 Regional state team. This competition will be held in October. The girls will be playing for the State title, against netballers from all regions across the state.

Congratulations, Ruby.

Photo omitted from  
online version



### Elaine Cricket Club

Elaine Cricket Club is entering 3 junior cricket teams in the Ballarat Cricket Association in season 2017/18.

An U16 2nds team, an U14 2nds team and an U13 team for beginners with a shortened pitch (ages 8+) Training starts on Thursday 7th September from 5pm at Elaine Cricket Ground. All old and new players encouraged to attend. Visit [www.elainecc.vic.cricket.com.au](http://www.elainecc.vic.cricket.com.au) or ph President Julie Pandzitis ph 0429 820 604 for enquiries.

### Elaine Tennis club

Elaine Tennis Club will enter 3 junior teams in the Buninyong & District Tennis Association for 2017/18 season. There are still limited spots available for new players. The season starts in October 2017 and finishes early April 2018 and every 2nd Saturday morning is played at Elaine. We have a professional coach available. Ages 8+ recommended for competition tennis. Please phone Shane on 0448 291074 if interested in coaching and playing. The club takes a bus to The Australian Open in Melbourne in January which is a highlight for parents and players alike.



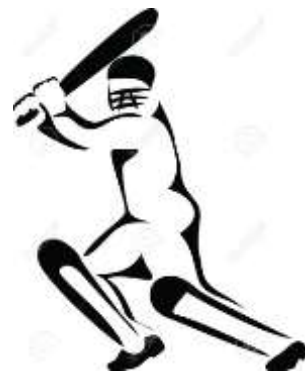
- ✓ Perfect for boys and girls aged 5-8
- ✓ For kids still learning the basic skills of the game
- ✓ Teaches basic cricket skills
- ✓ All equipment provided
- ✓ 8-12 week program
- ✓ All equipment supplied, including soft ball
- ✓ Sessions last up to 60 minutes
- ✓ Its Safe-we use plastic bats and a rubber ball inclusive of children with a disability

**Elaine Cricket Club** Milo cricket registration day is on Thursday 12th October at 5-6pm





# MEREDITH CRICKET CLUB



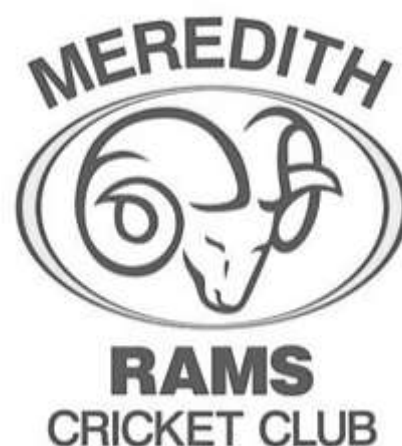
PLAYING CRICKET ON THE MCG SINCE 1861

**We are now training every Wednesday night  
at 5.30pm and every Sunday morning at  
10.00am at the Meredith Rec Reserve**

## **NEW PLAYERS- SENIOR AND JUNIOR MOST WELCOME**

For further information please contact-  
Brendan Wilde (President) – 0411 564 948  
Or Terry Hart – 0418 178 513

## **YOUR TEAM PLAYING IN YOUR TOWN**



**2016/17 GCA DIV. 1 ONE DAY PREMIERS**

**PROUDLY SPONSORED BY THE ROYAL HOTEL**



little  
GEMS



## Destroy It Yourself

I've always been a fan of DIY projects. Whether it's darning my own stockings (because apparently I live in the early 1900s) or trying to make a Peter Pan necklace out of chains from a haberdashery. Neither have ever worked out very well in the past, but that doesn't stop me trying to save my toes from strangulation via stocking hole.

The rise of the How-To video, blogging and sites like Pinterest have created a DIY boom where we can go back to the times when creating something was more exciting and meaningful than the convenience of buying. And now that sustainability and ethical trade are on most people's radar, there's no better time to start doing it yourself.

So what is it about doing things yourself that is so inviting? It's the satisfaction that comes from knowing that this project is yours and yours alone. We undertake these things with heads full of ideas and daydreams of telling your friends 'Oh that? I made it myself', all to rapturous applause and demands for a demonstration. We do it ourselves despite the fact that some of us know full well that our reverse Midas touch will result in wasted money and containers full of random materials and broken dreams shoved into dark corners to gather dust.

Sometimes it's not even about creating something from scratch. Sometimes it's about wanting the satisfaction of completing a job that you usually delegate to someone else. Something like trying to change your own motor oil after the discovery that recommended service dates aren't like conveniently forgetting the dentist; you have to do them regularly or your car suddenly turns against you.

Like most millennials, I took to the Internet to draw inspiration and a general knowledge of how this was supposed to work. I then immediately forgot it. I changed into the oldest clothes I had, tied my hair up like a 1960's garage pinup girl and roped my brother into being the overseer. I grabbed my equipment, flounced out to the shed, got down on the ground amongst the sawdust and mud and then...proceeded to watch my brother change my car's oil. This was one time that I had to admit my DIY track record was working against me and concede that now was not the time to try my hand at mechanics.

But a track record should never stop you from trying again. A statement that I'm sure strikes fear into the heart of my partner at the thought of what our wedding invites will look like. Or the décor of our house. Or what an attempted DIY floral archway in the backyard will become once I devastatingly realise no amount of online tutorials will give me the woodworking skills to pull it off. Or the green thumb for that matter. Or the jewellery making abilities. Or...

## Gemma



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& MIXED GUM  
split & delivered

- 20 Kg bags of briquettes
- 20 Kg bags of wood
- Firelighters

J C PLANT HIRE  
Call JOHN 5286 1378







# Meredith Primary School Presents



Disco Bingo, Trivia, Music Games, Raffles, Candy Bar  
Glow Sticks and Fun for the whole family  
Tickets \$30 School Families, \$10 Single Adult,  
\$5 Single Child  
Meredith Memorial Hall Staughton St Meredith  
BYO: Drinks and nibbles.



# Winter in Words

Some Meredith Primary School children have shared their impressions of winter in verse.

The wind of winter is very chilly,  
Especially when it hits you in the face.  
When the weather warms up, my friends go back to being silly,

Alex

Snowy cold blizzards  
Nothing is colder than the snow  
Old, cold snow

Matilda

Soft Winter snow,  
Nice, soft, calm snow.  
Old Winter snow,

Dalton

Winter has arrived  
Icy winter mornings make me shiver  
Nobody likes the cold winter days  
The ground is wet and there are puddles everywhere  
Everyone is sitting inside to keep warm

Bethany

Winter is here  
Icy cold mornings freeze the land  
Nobody likes the cold  
The fire warms us

Isabelle

Winter is the day for a warm toasty fire  
Icy frostbite is what you would get  
Never go swimming in winter  
The snow will fall if you're lucky

Bradley

## GP Shire CEO to Retire

Golden Plains Shire Council Chief Executive Officer, Rod Nicholls, has formally announced his retirement date after 23 years in the position, with the organisation to begin the search and recruitment process for a new leader within the next few weeks.

Mr Nicholls said that after 23 years with GPSC and over 47 years in local government, he was proud to reflect on both the achievements and challenges overcome during his tenure.

"In 1994 Golden Plains was a predominantly rural Shire with farming as its main industry, including sheep and wool, cattle, grain and poultry," said Mr Nicholls.

"Today the Shire looks very different, with significant growth in and around towns such as Bannockburn, Inverleigh, Teesdale and Smythesdale. While agriculture is still important, retail and light industry now employ many residents, with a proportion also commuting to Geelong, Ballarat and Melbourne.

"Our main population centre, Bannockburn, was a small country town then; today it is growing rapidly and is now home to over 6,000 residents.

"Those of us who work in local government understand that we have a great responsibility, with our Council providing almost 100 different services to ratepayers.

"I have had the privilege of overseeing an organisation with teams of well qualified, skilful and passionate staff who give their best efforts every day to deliver our services.

"I also acknowledge the efforts of the many Councillors who have served on Golden Plains Shire Council since amalgamation in 1994.

"We are fortunate to have had strong community leaders who have formed stable Councils led by the Mayor of the day. Although there have been many robust discussions and differing opinions, we have been able to achieve amazing outcomes.

"These outcomes include supporting 886 community projects through 21 years of the Community Grants program, attracting future industry and jobs through the Golden Plains Food Production Precinct, and providing quality daycare, maternal child health and kindergarten services to the many young families within the Shire.

"It has been incredibly rewarding to work closely with many passionate community members and groups, and together we have been able to achieve results that have significantly improved the quality of life for residents.

"I am grateful for the opportunity granted to me at Council, and I look forward to spending more time with family and pursuing other interests."

Golden Plains Shire Council will shortly commence a thorough executive search and recruitment process for the CEO role.

Mr Nicholls will finish in his position in mid-December, with his replacement expected to begin immediately following this date.



# Gorse Control

*This is an opportunity to control Gorse on your property.*

A **rebate of 50%** of control costs are available for landowners in the Bamganie Meredith Area.

Gorse (*Ulex europaeus*) also known as Furze is a Weed of National Significance and is listed as a Regionally Controlled Weed under the Victorian Catchment and Land Protection Act 1994. This means that a landowner has an obligation to prevent the growth and spread of this Noxious Weed.



Offer closes **1 November 2017** or when funding runs out.

---

Benefits of controlling Gorse are:

- |                              |                                    |
|------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| - Reclaim your grazing area  | - Reduces livestock injuries       |
| - Reduces your wildfire risk | - Reduces fox & rabbit populations |
- 

To get involved or for more information contact the Bamganie Meredith Landcare Group:

**Maddi McColl**

**TEL: 0424 754 179**

**EMAIL: [madeline\\_mccoll@hotmail.com](mailto:madeline_mccoll@hotmail.com)**

This Gorse target area incorporates properties in and around Meredith, Bamganie, Elaine and Bungal areas.



Mat Fisher – Landcare Group President  
Tel: 0409 862 326  
Email: [cullingaia@bigpond.com](mailto:cullingaia@bigpond.com)

Maddi McColl – Landcare Group Secretary  
Tel: 0424 754 179  
Email: [madeline\\_mccoll@hotmail.com](mailto:madeline_mccoll@hotmail.com)

Nick McKinley – Landcare Facilitator  
Tel: 0455 147 390  
Email: [nick@leighcatchmentgroup.org](mailto:nick@leighcatchmentgroup.org)





## Chris McKenzie's Garden Notes

I've just stepped inside after a good morning's work in the garden - weeding, raking, digging. The quiet presence of the pregnant ewes in the paddock next to me is reassuring. They move their great swollen bodies slowly, munch munch and move again. Following the frosty night it's now a soft spring day and everything is sparkling. The earth is moist and inviting after rain and you can feel the energy rising in many plants as the gentle warmth sends a message that it's time to grow again. Still, it's not warm enough yet for many plants, and no doubt there'll be late frosts even hail storms and changeable weather, especially as we approach the spring equinox. This is the time of year when day and night are of equal length and longer days are on the way.

While spring has sprung, it is not until the equinox (23 September this year) that the soil warms up enough for summer seeds and seedlings to be happily planted out. The earth is still cold to the touch, although not as icy as it was a month ago. Many seeds do not germinate well in cold soil, so if you're thinking about getting an early start on summer vegies like tomatoes, beans, zucchini, basil you will need to sow seed in trays in a warm place and under glass. I find seed germination a bit hit and miss and a good rule of thumb is to gently cover the seed with soil equivalent to the length of the seed. For those very tiny seeds like lettuces, mizunas and herbs simply sprinkle the seed on a friable seed raising medium and lightly brush with your fingers. Take care not to overwater seed beds as this can lead to 'damping off', a fungal disorder that causes seedlings to collapse. The first leaves to emerge from the soil when a plant germinates are cotyledons and are part of the seed's embryo. They provide nutrients to the seedling until its true leaves grow and begin the process of photosynthesis. Wait until these secondary leaves appear before planting out.

Now is a good time to plant out seedlings of broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower and direct sow seed of carrots, salad greens, silver beet, green peas into prepared garden plots. If you are sure that frost is not going to visit your garden then get potatoes in, under straw for extra protection.

I realise that I often talk about growing edible plants and produce is a passion. However, as I wander around the garden making mental notes about jobs to do (endless) I pick a handful of flowers to make small mixed posies. Today violets - deep mauve, pale purple, pink - heartsease, woodbine, pansies, cherry plum blossoms, heads of cherry pink yarrow and calendulas are arranged in small pots and perfume the house. Several of these flowers are edible too. So while I have not grown a flower garden as such, I do love the simple old-fashioned perennials and herbs dotted in between the vegies. Foliage is delightful in a posy. I include bronze fennel (*F. vulgare* 'Purpureum'), various sages, mints, thymes and scented pelargoniums.

Of course living in this district surrounded by bush we are blessed with the most exquisite local flowering plants. The roads are lined with late winter and early spring flowering

golden wattle (*Acacia pycnantha*), dusty miller (*Spyridium parvifolium*), Hakea decurrens, golden grevillea (*Grevillea chrysophaea*) and many flowering eucalypts and acacias. Soon the Meredith-Steiglitz Road will be a glorious sight as the pomaderris (*Pomaderris aspera* and *P. ferruginea*) burst into flower. Closer to earth the tiny treasures of our bushland - the orchids and lilies are preparing to bloom. Take some time out from the weeding and wander idly around the local bush with a magnifying glass. You will be well-rewarded.

Happy orchid hunting.

Chris



## The BOP HQ

John Thompson

The BOP Arts co-op, a supportive and co-operative artistic presence extending across Geelong, the Golden Plains Shire, Ballarat and the Bellarine Peninsula, has recently established itself as the managing entity of a modern and spacious facility located in Meredith. This is a great opportunity for the Arts community and will serve as the backbone for our collective endeavour. As the first ever space dedicated to the Arts and the Artists themselves -within the Golden Plains Shire, this idyllic and versatile blank canvas is the perfect space for workshops, events, poetry readings, Exhibitions and any other creative venture.

As a supportive and not-for-profit initiative, the space will be available for hire at a reasonable \$20 an hour for BOP members and \$30 an hour for others. Available to host all manner of events with provided facilities (Bathroom, kitchen and extensive wall space.) Room for eighty and seating for thirty. Additionally BOP run children's programs will be available for the public during school holidays.

We know that this repurposed council building will be of significant value to the community and encourage creative and innovative concepts/events befitting of the space. Consistent updates will be posted on the BOP website ([www.thebop.com.au](http://www.thebop.com.au)) and Facebook page. We welcome all correspondence and direct your inquiries to [info@thebop.com.au](mailto:info@thebop.com.au).

# A R J TRANSPORT

Andrew Cooke

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*Meet our newest columnist, Kerrie Kruger, in her own words...*

We have lived in the area ( Lethbridge & Teesdale) for 23 years , and last 3 years in Meredith.

We really enjoy living in Meredith. Myself, Peter and Nick try to live as sustainably and self reliant as we can. In the garden and in the home. I have studied Horticulture and completed Intro to Permaculture and Zero Waste Living courses. We have attended bee keeping, wicking bed and worm farm workshops.

Via our one of our businesses (the chicken feeder) we have had the privilege to run Intro to Back Yard Chicken Keeping sessions.

We have also been written up in Grass Roots magazine. We have over the years grown up to 70% of our fruit ,vegetables and herbs and learnt to eat and cook with in season produce.

We have had many success and many disasters ...every season is different. One year heaps of tomatoes next a struggle to keep them alive! Our current garden is only 1 year old and we look forward to sharing our ups and downs with you. For us it is part of how we live...enjoying fresh food, planning together as a family and the challenge of working with Mother Nature.

## A Way of Life

by KERRIE KRUGER



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### Why grow your own food ?

I know what you might be thinking, that fruit, vegetables and herbs are so cheap and easy to obtain why would I bother growing my own!

There are a number of reasons, including:

- Supplementing your household food supply
- Less environmental impact.
- Control What Goes In & On your Food.
- Health Benefits
- Freshness
- A sense of pride.

I don't have enough room in this issue to detail these compelling reasons, but I will in future columns. In doing so, I am sure I can convince you growing your own is a very worthwhile activity. I will also offer some practical advice on what, when and how to grow your own produce, as well as other healthy lifestyle tips. So, let's get started with what to plant in September/early spring.

Early spring offers a lot of planting options, but remember to grow what you like to eat and stagger your seed sowing.



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**Vegies** -Peas, English spinach, Cauliflowers, Broad beans, Potatoes, Onions

In frost free areas potatoes can be planted now. Plant into a well turned over garden bed, in pots or specially designed potato bags. As the plants grow, add compost or straw to the beds to protect developing tubers from light.

Get a jump start on mid to late spring plantings by sowing seeds in a heated propagation kit or glasshouse. (or on top of your water heater!) Plant them in a good quality seed raising mix and keep warm. Once the seeds have germinated, water with a weak liquid fertiliser and pot-on once they have formed 2-3 sets of leaves.

You can also sow seeds of beetroot, broccoli, cabbage, capsicum, carrot, cauliflower, celery, cucumber, eggplant, endive, leek, lettuce, onion, pak choi, peas, spinach, spring onion, strawberry, sweet corn, zucchini and tomato.

**Herbs** – sow basil, chives, coriander, dill, mint, oregano, parsley, sage and thyme.

Plant out once soil has warmed up.... An old fashioned but effective method is ...Can you sit comfortably bare bummed on the soil? Remember, plant something every week, what you are aiming for is continual availability not feast and famine.



## President's Run

*Bruce Kerr*

The bugle sounded as Members of Ballarat's Vintage and Classic Car Club gathered at the Clubrooms for a 9.30 start. "Follow Me" cried President Warrick as he handed out a detailed run sheet. How could we miss him, the yellow Olds stood out like a beacon in the morning light.

Up Gladstone Street, wheeling around into Barkly Street, up Bradshaw Street and down past Sovereign Hill.

The directions were very precise and unless you were on your own, as a few were, it was easy to follow – particularly with the yellow beacon up ahead.

We found some new roads as the convoy found its way to Ballan via Mt Egerton, Millbrook and Gordon. We were warned to "look out for Flying Trains" as we passed by Graeme & Val's old house.



*President, Warwick Pitcher sounding the horn*

Once in Ballan, finding a Park was the next step – and we did both, one for the car and another in which to set up morning tea.

The bugle sounded again so we mounted up and were off again. Under the low railway *viaduckyourheads* and around past that dome house which we see from the train. A few more instructions then it was follow the leader because we ran out of page and there was nothing on the reverse side. It must have been straight forward because we arrived at the Elaine Sports ground without anyone getting lost.

With the driving out of the way it was time for lunch – well nearly anyway.

Most think when we stop, we eat, so we did. Most set up under the veranda out of the light breeze.

Warrick introduced Ronnie Read from the Elaine Recreation Committee who had opened the facilities. Merv thanked him for the hospitality on our behalf. After lunch we frittered off homeward. Thank you to Warrick for a great drive around the countryside and Wendy for the yummy pumpkin soup. Warrick had found some really steep creek crossings.



## Farewell Roy Trotter

Steiglitz, indeed the district, lost somebody very special when Roy Trotter passed away on Sunday, 6<sup>th</sup> August 2017 at the age of 96. Incredibly, he lived his entire life in Steiglitz. Imagine the changes he saw. Better than imagine it, read Lindy Allinson's extensive tribute to the life and times of Roy on our website. Just visit [meredithnews.com.au](http://meredithnews.com.au) and follow the link **Online Extras**. You will find it there.



*Roy Trotter with Laura, A barmaid at his favourite local watering hole, the Royal Hotel, Meredith.*

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I am back in the untidy patch of bush at the base of the ancient manna gum. As I approached, a dark brown wallaby hopped away, head down, white-tipped tail stretched out behind. In a nearby tree, a grey fantail perches and hops, spreading its tail wide as it looks around. A plump thornbill chases another on a leafy branch, while I hear the crisp chirp of a third. The clematis have begun to open four-petalled flowers. Soon these creepers which are draped across the ground and over fallen branches, will be covered with perfumed creamy stars. A few of their seedlings sprout near the base of the old tree, emerging from the thick layer of leaf litter. Some have begun to climb towards the spider webs spun in nooks in the rough bark.

The leaf litter is comprised of brown leaves and bits of bark, twigs and gumnuts, sticks with frilly patches of grey-green lichen, wallaby dung and bird droppings. Curling brown wattle pod halves have fallen after dropping their shiny black seeds, to join the brown dust-like seeds of the manna gum in the moist bed below. A few small insects walk across the surface. I hear the cold wind in the branches above and the smacking sound of a woody piece of bark hitting the ground. I dig my fingers into the litter, through the dry layer of large pieces, a few centimetres deep, to a layer where they are breaking into smaller bits - broken leaves, shreds of bark, a beetle wing case. I find small clematis roots seeking nutrients and water below this layer in the dark soil formed from the litter and protected by the mulch above. On the other side of the tree, the litter layer is deeper and moister, and I dig nearly a hands-depth before reaching soil. I see white patches on a piece of bark - a fungus at work, breaking it down. Its white threads spread through the litter.


As I explore litter under other trees, I find the work of leaf skeletonisers, moth caterpillars that chew away the softer parts of fallen leaves, leaving a gum twig with small buds and clusters of narrow curved leaf skeletons, only the veins and a few uneaten patches of dry leaf remaining. In the litter here are white and golden-brown threads of at least two species of fungus. The moist debris they create feels pleasantly soft. A shiny black native cockroach flees my questing fingers, seeking shelter among the layers of rotting vegetation. As the weather warms, tiny eggs will hatch and there will be many more insects, spiders, grubs and others, living among the litter, some helping the fungi to break it down by eating and digesting it; others including lizards hunting these detritivores; all finding mates, breeding and creating an entire thriving community beneath our feet. When they die, they become part of the decomposing layer of litter.

Families of white-winged choughs, large black birds with red eyes and curved black beaks will hunt in the litter for invertebrates, seeds and tubers, calling to each other with high-pitched whistles, which turn to raucous cries if they are disturbed, as they fly to the treetops, showing the large white patches on their wings. Once, bandicoots would have hunted for similar foods, bettongs would have dug for fungi, and quolls would have hunted lizards, birds, beetles and small mammals. Like many of Australia's medium-sized mammals, they are threatened by foxes, cats and habitat loss and are locally extinct in many areas. Brushtail possums, brush-tailed

phascogales and agile antechinus, all of which sometimes hunt in the litter layer are still here. These mammals, as well as the choughs, turn over the litter, helping to aerate it, break it down, and turn it into soil.

Leaf litter creates a miniature world which we rarely notice, protecting the soil from erosion and providing nutrients for trees and animals. To learn more about leaf litter and life in, on and under it, see Rachel Tonkin's book 'Leaf Litter', which has beautiful detailed illustrations, and is suitable for children and adults.



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## Getting Better

The results from the annual Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey have delivered improvements in several key areas for Golden Plains Shire Council, while flagging further room for improvement in other areas.

Council's score for 'overall council direction' improved by four percent from the 2016 result, while the score for 'making community decisions' also improved by four percent.

The score for overall performance of Council remained steady from last year.

Mayor Cr Des Phelan noted the improvements revealed by the Community Satisfaction Survey.

"It's pleasing that our work to engage and consult with residents has been recognised in this way," said Cr Phelan.

"With a new 2017-2021 Council Plan to be adopted (by) Council...following extensive community consultation, we have made a commitment to Golden Plains residents to listen and engage more, and these survey results will be examined at length.

"More than half of residents also rate Council's customer service as good or very good.

"However, Council acknowledges that there remains room for improvement in some key result areas such as local

roads maintenance.

"Local roads were raised as an area requiring attention, and we know that our residents want improved maintenance on the local road network.

"This is a concern for Council as we operate with constrained resources due to rate capping, and deal with the impact of heavier freight vehicles and above-average rainfall.

"Last year was the wettest since 2011 with around 20% higher than average rainfall. This has an impact on sealed roads, as heavy rainfall can exacerbate existing damage to the road pavement.

"The reliance of our communities on arterial roads such as the Midland Highway and Hamilton Highway means that we also receive negative feedback on these roads, which are VicRoads responsibility.

"We certainly acknowledge that we need to do better on local road maintenance, and will be examining our works program to see where improvements can be made," said Cr Phelan.

Research for the Local Government Community Satisfaction Survey was conducted on behalf of Golden Plains Shire Council during the first quarter of 2017.



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# MAN COOK EAT



Steve Duffy

Spring is in the air. It's time to get out and about after the hibernation at home around the hearth. This month I would like to take you outside our district in search of some interesting and unusual food.

I have found two new restaurants that fit the bill. There are not many outlets of these cuisines in Victoria, but we have fine examples in reach. The first is Asian but with quite a distinctive flavour base. The second is from the Americas, but again not quite like anything else. Certainly more exciting than the stodge you mainly get in the states.

**Rook, Sri Lankan Fusion** is in Malop st, Geelong right in the heart of town. Yeti and Dee set up business just 12 months ago with the idea of combining traditional dishes with some more regular Café fare. The décor is smooth and modern, with some tables and booths against the wall. There is both a lunch and dinner Menu, as well as serving good coffee, snacks and great Ceylon teas, beautifully presented in cute little glass teapots.

Sri Lankan cuisine should not be confused with it's northern neighbour's. It is distinctive, but certainly spicy and rich. I have darkened their door several times and have always come away well satisfied. I have enjoyed the Hoppers, a type of rice pancake in the shape of a bowl, with a choice of curries and sides, singing of fresh ground, roasted spices such as cardamom and fenugreek. On my last visit I was delighted to try the wonderful traditional dish called Lampries: spicy chicken and coconut curry with accompaniments and all wrapped in a banana leaf. One of the sides was a sensational dried shrimp, toasted coconut and chilli sambola. This delicious combination was fantastic. This food is the real thing. My thanks go to Nirosha, the cook; she has found the key to my culinary heart.

Rook is putting on a couple of special banquets to celebrate their first year, but unfortunately they will be held in late August, before we go to print. None the less if you are looking for a great dining experience, not-so-common cuisine at very reasonable prices, check out Rook



The happy staff @Rook, Sri Lankan Fusion

There is another new spot for a night out with a difference: **Nouvelle Orleans** is a new restaurant in the foodie strip in Bakery Hill. A couple of local identities have got together, combined their talents and opened one of only a few New Orleans cuisine restaurants in Australia. Known as NOLA Style, as in New Orleans/ Louisiana Style, they combine Cajun, Creole, Spanish and French tastes. Suzi Fitzpatrick, once a co-worker of mine in Melbourne, has been cooking in and around Ballarat/ Creswick for more than a decade; while Dean Bray is a meat man, locally trained, he was head butcher at **Istra Smallgoods** in Daylesford for six years.

It is a large shopfront with some booths, a rear deck for the warmer months and an ideal music room upstairs which they hope to get jumping soon.

The menu reads well with an interesting and substantial mixed entrée to share. The mains include iconic dishes like Jambalaya, Grits and Gumbo. Dean has also included quality aged steaks.

If you are not familiar, the Jambalaya shows its Spanish ancestry, having developed from Paella but with French smoked sausage and prawns in a spicy melange. The Gumbo is more African influenced based on a dark roux, again with the warm climate spices. My two companions enjoyed the night with a decent bottle of the house red. We didn't risk tackling the 50 whiskys that are available, but maybe another time.

Good Cooking ...Steve

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## She Came and She Renovated

*Marg Cooper*

Debbie Gotch always had a dream to own and run a Tea Rooms. She was living in Ballarat when she found No 32 Staughton Street on the internet. She thought that it would be perfect, after some renovations.

Debbie and Gerry had previously lived in Melbourne, had built on at Box Hill, updated at Mitcham and repainted and re-floored at Upwey before moving to Ballarat because housing and living costs were generally more affordable than in Melbourne.

They worked for 2½ years on the renovation at No 32 which included pulling down a chimney in the kitchen, installing a commercial kitchen, new carpet, French doors, a new fire box of pressed iron, polishing some floors, painting and decorating. They weren't doing it in half measures!

It was to be the Garland Tea Rooms. Debbie who has worked in hospitality since she was 14 years old (because her parents owned motels and hotels), believes that premises need a theme which people recognize and would be attracted to. She decided on "The Wizard of Oz" story which starred Judy Garland appeals to all ages including children. Mandy, who was from 48 Staughton Street, painted a mural and cardboard cut outs of characters to hang on the walls. Debbie had collected red shoes with sequins, Hollywood pictures of Judy Garland and Wizard of Oz mugs. Deb also collected retro tea sets, had extensive signage made and bought stock to sell. She decorated with rose garlands and intended to create a rose garden out from the French doors with tables for patron and also to sell roses. To go to the Tea Rooms was going to be an experience!

Unfortunately a couple of weeks from opening Debbie became unwell and they sold the building to Jarna Kelly and it became "Mirepoix".

Deb and Gerry purchased 42 Staughton Street as an investment property with a view to it being a residence for their daughter Vanessa or perhaps set up as another business. They started the renovation on this property from the ground up. It is practically a new house! They restumped, re-floored, removed the chimney between the kitchen and dining room, replaced the windows, erected a wall between the bathroom and the laundry, installed some leadlight doors and using original Baltic lining boards, relined most rooms. At one stage the outside was painted purple and this caused many comments both favourable and non-favourable!

Debbie and Gerry lived on site in both premises for most of the time they were renovating which was sometimes quite difficult when there was no floorboards or the roof on the lean to was off. Debbie did a lot of the work as her husband worked in the mines in Western Australia and was away quite a lot. She also resourced materials, often buying on ebay or at demolition sites. She likes the renovations to be sympathetic to the building and she loved 42 because it was so quaint. She also enjoyed finding relics that suggested the previous lives of the premises.

Debbie has a fascination with Real Estate and says that she is still looking for opportunities but admits that although mentally she is ready for it, physically she is not. She is a "coffee connoisseur" and maybe she will have to be content to visit other café's and tea rooms and taste. But as the Wizard of Oz stated "You've always had the power my dear, all you have to do is click your heels together and repeat three times. There's no place like home, there's no place like home, there's no place like home."



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## Meredith POLICE news



Hello to all readers of the Meredith and district newsletter. I do need to apologise for missing a few months of late as my leave and work commitments have fallen at times for article submission.

Although crime within our area has pleasingly been very low throughout the winter months we have unfortunately seen more substantial wool thefts occur. While one of the wool thefts occurred in Shelford – Mount Mercer Road, Mount Mercer between the 18<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> of May, 2017 where wool valued at \$2000 was stolen, Meredith also saw a separate and substantial wool theft occurring between the 27<sup>th</sup> June and the 5<sup>th</sup> of July, 2017 where wool to the value of \$4000 was stolen from a property on the Midland Highway.

Although on annual leave through that period, I was contacted by detectives known to me at Torquay who were investigating similar wool thefts around Moriac and Torquay. A joint effort between those members and myself led to the execution of search warrants in the Norlane and North Geelong area and the arrest of a male offender for both thefts and a host of other similar offences in various other areas. He has been officially charged with those matters and is on bail to appear at the Geelong Magistrates Court on the 27<sup>th</sup> of September 2017. A great result.

The accused motor vehicle, a white Toyota duel cab Hi Lux was seized by police as part of that investigation.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> September last year while on mobile patrol in Meredith, I became aware of a series of violent armed robberies occurring in the Ballarat area and a short time later I became aware of a very violent aggravated burglary occurring in Elaine where the same offender was believed to be involved.

I immediately travelled towards Elaine, and while on patrol for the offender late on that afternoon I received a telephone call from a concerned farmer, who described a similar vehicle to the stolen vehicle the offender was using parked stationary near properties on the Shelford Road, Meredith. A few minutes later I arrested the 27 year old offender, Konrad Szalontai, of Ballarat on the Shelford Road, Meredith. Szalontai was sentenced in the Ballarat County Court on Friday to a term of imprisonment of two years and nine months. A very good result for the community indeed. I again sincerely thank that witness who is known to me for his efforts.

On a somewhat smaller level however still of high concern in our community is the theft of a light bar driving light from of the bull bar of a Nissan Patrol parked in Lawler street between the 26<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> August. Offenders have removed the lighting unit valued at \$500.00 and cut wires to the unit. I would be

very keen to hear from anyone who may have seen suspicious behaviour or vehicles around that time.

As always I would ask people to be vigilant with suspicious vehicles or activity around the district. I know that since I have been doing my best to get that message across I have seen amazing responses from locals which have in many cases led to arrests for various offences. I ask residents with information to continue to contact me at the Meredith Police Station on 5286 1222 or Crime Stoppers on 1800 333000.

Kindest Regards

**Greg KITCHEN**

Officer in Charge – Meredith Police Station

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## Thai Chicken Parcels

Makes 30

### Ingredients

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 2 eschalots, finely chopped
- 2 garlic cloves, finely chopped
- 1 lemongrass stem (inner core only), finely chopped
- 500g chicken mince
- 2 tbsp finely chopped coriander
- Pinch dried chilli flakes
- Puff pastry sheets, about 4-6
- 1 egg, lightly beaten

### Method

Pre-heat oven to 200 C. Line 2 large trays with baking paper.

Heat the oil in a pan over medium heat, add the eschalot, garlic and lemongrass and cook, stirring for 5 minutes or until soft. Transfer to a bowl and leave to cool.

Add the chicken, coriander and chilli flakes to the bowl and season with salt and pepper. Mix well with damp hands and shape into 30 walnut-sized balls. Flatten slightly and refrigerate until needed.

Cut pastry into 8cm x 8cm squares. Place a ball of filling in the centre of each pastry square. Brush edges with beaten egg and bring the 4 corners together over the filling to form a parcel. Gently pinch edges to seal. Brush parcels with egg and refrigerate for 10 minutes.

Place parcels on a baking tray, spaced 2-3cm apart, and bake for 25-30 minutes until golden. Cool slightly on wire rack, then serve warm.

*Recipe From – Delicious Baking*

*Stefania*

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insomnia is awful. But on the plus side – only three more sleeps till Christmas.  
...Robert Garnham

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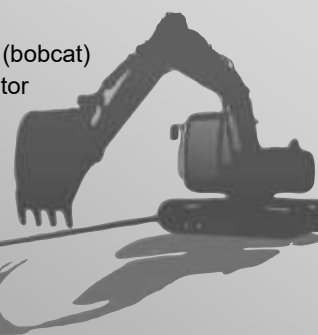
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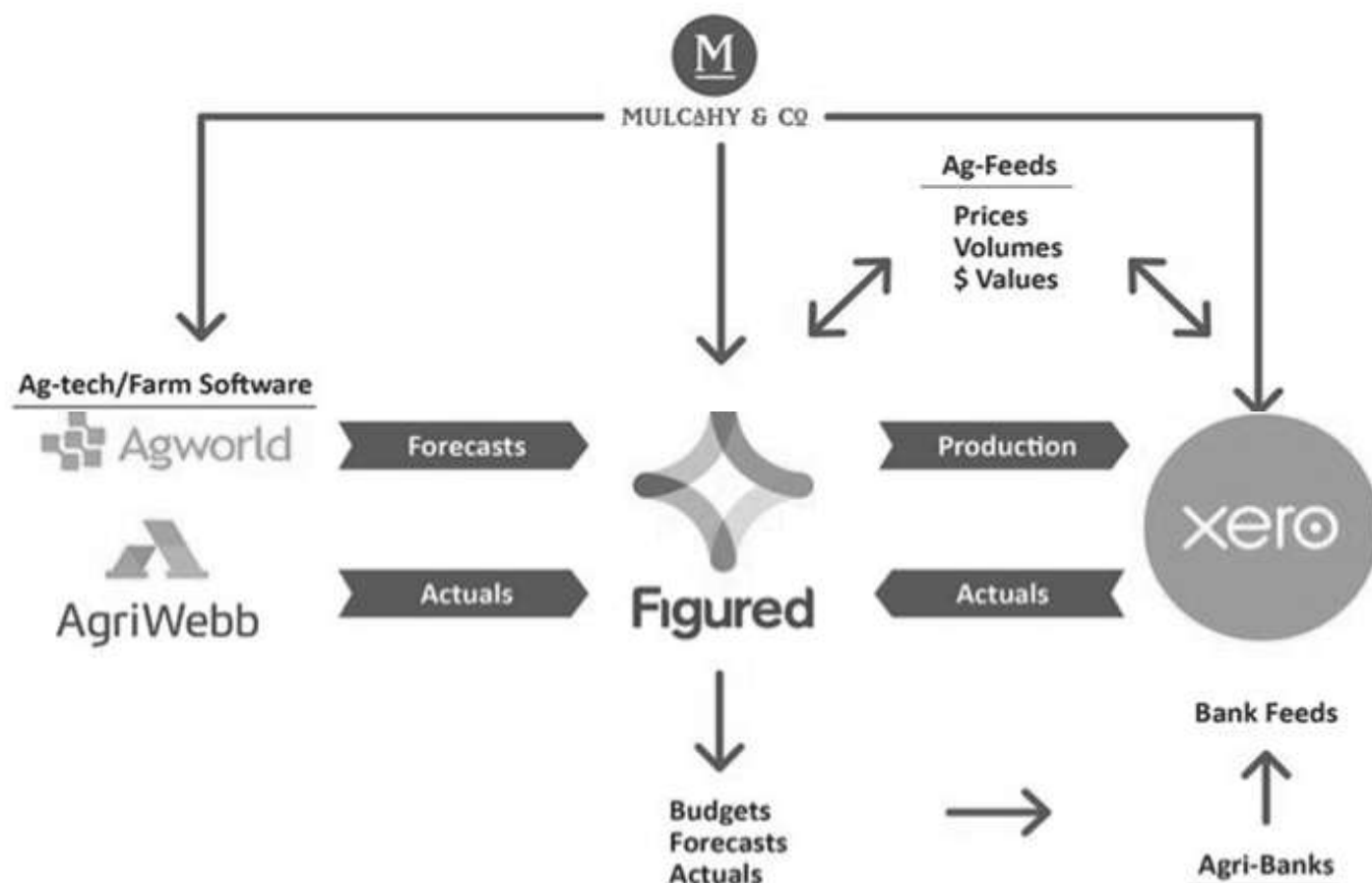
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## A Legend Recognised

Mary Nolan passed on an extensive tribute to her son Chris on the occasion of his recognition as a "Legend of the College" by his old college, St Patrick's, Ballarat. Regrettably, we didn't have space for all of it, but you don't have to miss a word, as we have uploaded the complete article to our website. Visit [meredithnews.com.au](http://meredithnews.com.au) and follow the link to **Online Extras - Ed.**

*"The St Patrick's College Old Collegians Association was proud to host a Legends Dinner on Saturday August 12, 2017 which will live long in the memory of all who attended. The standing ovation offered to 2017 inductee Chris Nolan (SPC 1980-85) sent shivers up the spine.*

*Chris was honored both for his commitment to academic excellence as well as for his work in the community as a co-founder of the Meredith Music Festival and as a strong and passionate campaigner for the rights of young people in nursing homes. He has attended end semester Assemblies for past 10 years for the presentation of the Chris Nolan Awards to top 15% of students years 7 – 12.*

- SPC

"Chris commenced at SPC in year 7 in 1980 and immediately made an impact through academic achievement and peer engagement.

He was a gifted debater, who could efficiently organise arguments and skillfully prosecute his case. He would fully engage his teachers in conversation and debate - clearly a future lawyer in the making.

Chris was consistently in the top level of academic achievement through these years, developing his study techniques with the senior years ahead.

Chris brought his cricket talents from Meredith to SPC, eventually leading to the vice-captaincy of the First XI in his final year of school. Year 11 (or Form 5 in the old days) brought consistently high academic results, building a great platform for his HSC year.

Chris was appointed College Captain in his final year of school, clearly a recognition of holding and displaying leadership traits over his years at SPC. He was held in very high regard by the College faculty and perhaps more importantly, was viewed by his peer group as their leader and the person to represent them to teachers, other students and the outside world.

Chris secured a place at Monash University to study law. He successfully completed degrees in law and commerce and commenced his career at a Melbourne Law firm. After a few years of commercial work, he was offered a position

Prior to 1996 we would wonder what great things he would achieve in his career and life, often referring to him as the "future prime minister". After acquiring a brain injury ... many of us questioned how Chris would fit into this world ... It took time, maybe even years to recognise that there is no loss... Chris has managed to bring a great deal of good to so many and that huge character is still alive and well. - Greg Peele

I can't help but think that any other person suffering the same fate would be slowly abandoned over time by friends moving on with their own lives, but Chris has maintained and galvanized friendships and has many friends who never actually knew him prior to 1996. - Craig Sharp



Mary Nolan with her much admired son, Chris

in the practice's Vietnam office. After 11 months there, he suffered a massive life change – multi organ collapse and was left with very severe brain injury – regarded as hopeless in 1996.

Despite obvious physical disadvantages...he continues to live life to the fullest and provides inspiration to those who come into contact with him.

He goes to the footy to see his beloved Tigers, he attends concerts (Nick Cave at the Music Bowl a summer highlight), has raised about \$8000 for men's health in Movember and returns to the beloved Meredith farm as often as practicable. He opens Golden Plains festival with "Yes" (long blink).

Chris led a campaign to seek better funding and accommodation arrangements for young people in nursing homes that saw a \$350 million commitment from the federal government to better accommodate this vulnerable cohort of

Australians.

He is active, he is engaged, he is all about moving issues forward. He leads our group and plays an integral part in all decisions that affect his wellbeing and life.

He attends end of Semester Assemblies for presentation of the Chris Nolan Awards (academic awards to top 15% students years 7 – 12) named after Chris and now 10 years old.

He's thrilled and honoured to be an SPC Legend. SPC shaped Chris into the man that he is today".

Richard Reilly

(St Patrick's College friend, Vice Captain 1985, member of "What Does Chris Want?" group)

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## Kinder News

It's been a busy couple of months at Kinder with plenty of things to do in each group. The children loved looking after the baby chicks in early August with our hatching program and at the end the chicks found loving hen houses to go to! The Kinder group were also very lucky to have a mini visit from the Grubby Gumboots Farm animals as Nevaeh's family have taken on the business. We got to meet the funny baby goats who ate our clothes, cute soft bunnies, a woolly lamb to feed and colourful chickens.

Thanks to Lucy and Dan for bringing them all in and making it a fun experience for all the children and staff. While I was away on a holiday doing Yoga with the monkeys, I ate coconuts!! The children celebrated Book week with a dress up day and have been busy making their special Dads, Grandad's and Uncles a handmade gift. Thank you to Susan who has been covering for me and has done a great job guiding the children's interests and ideas. GPS staff have attended their annual conference which focused on mental health for children and staff and was facilitated by Kids Matter. There are plenty of good resources online to access and further information will be made available to our families.

Coming up in September the pre kinder group will have a fabulous visit from the Roo Keepers, with many Australian animals to meet and pat, and we will look forward to spending more time outdoors with the Springtime weather to enjoy!

*Jodie*



## Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> October

visit [backtosteiglitz.org.au](http://backtosteiglitz.org.au) or phone Lindy 52819390

...and visit [meredithnews.com.au](http://meredithnews.com.au) (online extras) to read Lindy's fascinating account of quilting in bygone days.



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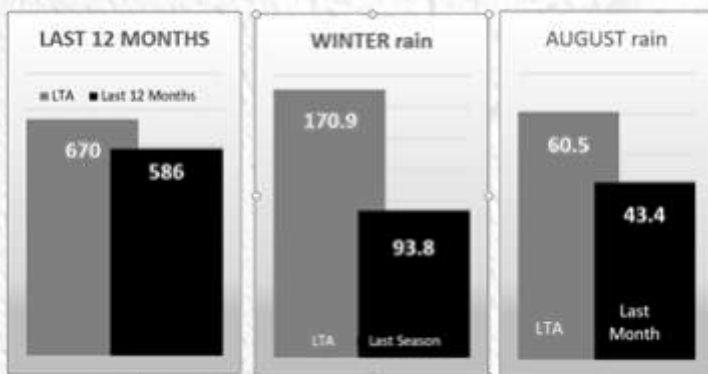
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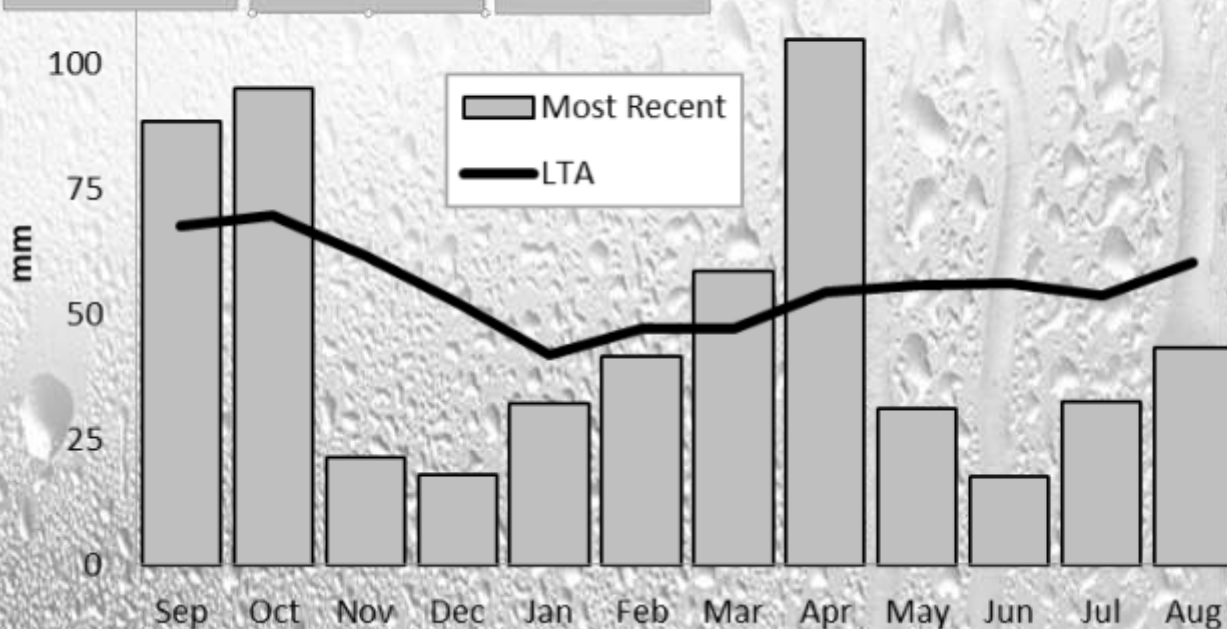
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## rainfall

The winter past was another poor rainfall season, registering only 94 mm or 55% of the long term average. As the accompanying graphs indicate, this continues a longer term trend.





## it's History

Meredith History Interest Group

You are invited to 17 Grant Street on Sunday, September 24, at 1.30 pm to hear about the Meredith Creamery and Butter Factory, to see the walls of the Meredith Creamery and Butter

Factory and to taste some real cream. "An industry fraught with much interest to the residents of the shire of Meredith was opened yesterday afternoon on the banks of the Coolebartghurk Creek, the new venture being a Creamery and Butter Factory, which is designed to assist dairymen and owners of milch cows to obtain a remunerative price for the milk produced in the district. The localities from which the sources of supply are expected to keep the factory in full work are numerous, and already the directors of the company have obtained promises of milk supplies from 1110 cows, the districts and figures being as follow: Beremboke, 350 cows, Meredith, 300 cows, She Oaks (Steiglitz) 120 cows, Morrisons, 120 cows, Lal Lal and Clarendon, 100 cows, Cargarie, 60 cows, and Elaine, 60 cows.

From: Geelong Advertiser, Thursday, November 19, 1891.

### 2018 Calendar:

A calendar celebrating "Sheds of Meredith & District" has been created by Marg Cooper and will be for sale from late September. When you look beyond and behind there are many sheds that are not only interesting in their structure or de-structure but have a fascinating history. The calendar was created to celebrate and record these backyard sheds. Will you know all the sheds? Have you also noticed them? Great for a Christmas Gift!

### The Geelong & District Historical Association:

On Saturday August 12, the GDHA held their meeting at Meredith. This Association consists of representatives of Historical groups in the Geelong area and has meetings every 3 months hosted by different groups. Some representatives at the Meredith meeting included Torquay, Mt Duneed, Dereel, Colac, Lismore-Derrinallum, Teesdale, Bellarine, Cressy and Meredith.

After a brief presentation of the history of MHIG and of the Shire Hall building by Marg Cooper all the attendees got a chance to tell the meeting what their group is "doing" and to ask questions before the President of the Royal Historical Society of Victoria Professor Don Garden OAM explained the role of RHSV, the current situation regarding the cataloguing system and the advantage of affiliation with RHSV.

The next meeting will be at Apollo Bay in November. Of particular interest was that the Torquay History Group has no walls ie their history is recorded on Facebook and their Web Site, one person is the Dereel History Group and Colac & District Historical Association is organizing a weekend of family history in October which MHIG have agreed to have a presence at.

*We meet at the History Centre in Meredith every Thursday morning from 9 am. To "keep up with the times" we plan to create a Facebook page! Is there anyone "out there" who would like to manage our Facebook page for us? We hope the page will both relate history, create an interest and give people an opportunity to share.*

Our Meredith correspondent writes: "The united ages of the last four persons buried in the Meredith Cemetery amounts to 320 years- the oldest an Irishwoman being 84 years old.

The four people may be Jas Cumming died 1882 aged 80 years, Elizabeth Corker died 1882 aged 84 years, Mary McNeill died 1882 aged 76 years and Annie McGillivray died 1883 aged 80 years.

*Geelong Advertiser, January 23, 1883*

### SALE OF MEREDITH CREAMERY

Considerable interest was taken at Meredith on Wednesday in the sale of the very fine creamery at that township. When the Meredith Creamery Company was started some years ago, it had excellent prospects, and the directors and shareholders expected a very fair percentage of profit from the undertaking. But the tide of prosperity turned, and the assistance of the bank was obtained in the hope that times would improve and that the concern would again pay its way. But unfortunately this result was not achieved, and the bank obtained a judgment against the company for something like £440, and then Mr Davies, one of the directors, obtained a verdict for £100, money lent. The company, being unable to satisfy the orders of the Court, the properties of the company at Morrisons, Mt Wallace and Meredith fell into the hands of the Sheriff, and the whole lot were submitted to public auction on Wednesday the latter place, in presence of nearly 70 persons. The sale was conducted by Mr William Pittaway (sheriff's officer), and by the exercise of tact and judgment, he succeeded in raising the first bid of £200 to £430, at which price there was a halt, and the entire property of the company, which originally cost close upon £1000, was knocked down to Mr Davies, of Meredith, who, as previously mentioned, was a director of the company. A very hard feature in connection with the late company (says the Times) is that wages owing to workmen have not been paid, and there was present yesterday at the sale one employee with a wife and six children depending on him for support, who complained that £32 was owing to him for wages, which he must now lose.

*The Colac Herald Friday 13 March 1896*

*Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group*



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## Uncle Chris Mooney

*Marg Cooper*

Brendan O'Loughlin wanted to go away in his Uncle Chris Mooney's shearing team when he was 15 years old but his mother said, 'No!'

He remembers Chris classing his grandfather's fine merino wool. Chris was a big man and didn't believe in walking to the bins. He "chucked" the fleeces. Sometimes he'd talk and get a bit behind so he'd "chuck" faster.

The wool from Brendan's grandfather's farm at Durham Lead often topped the market and Brendan believes that was due to both the sheep his grandfather bred and the preparation of the wool for sale. Chris did a great job. Chris Mooney married Kit O'Loughlin, daughter of Stephen and Laura O'Loughlin.

Brendan remembers his smart Buick car parked at the front gate of the O'Loughlin's farm, remembers watching his first television program "World of Sport" on a TV at their home in Meredith, remembers how all the O'Loughlin grandchildren loved to come to the Royal Hotel in Meredith where Chris supplied them with free lemonade and chocolates and how the main road outside their house was fatal to Chris's dogs.

According to Brendan's 98 year old Uncle, Gerard O'Loughlin, Chris went to school in Meredith and then studied wool classing at Geelong Tech. Brendan believes he classed in Tasmania before he started his sheep shearing contracting business.

Chris had several shearing teams and contracted many sheds including some in NSW, including "Yanga". Brendan describes his Uncle Chris as "matter of fact" or easy going. One day Chris went to go to his ute which he'd parked next to the shearer's huts. It wasn't there. A note under his door was from one of his workers who wrote that he had trouble at home, needed to leave immediately but would leave Chris's ute in front of Ballarat Police Station. A few days later Chris rang the Police Station and asked them to look out of their window to see if his Ford ute was there. Sure enough, it was there.

Another time Chris and Kit picked up a hitch hiker in outback NSW. Kit said she couldn't keep her eyes off him as he was the scruffiest bloke she had ever seen. As she suspected, he'd escaped from custody. She read all about him in the newspaper.

When Chris was getting the business going he was away a lot but later he'd be at the sheds when the team started and return to pay them when the shearing was finished. Sometimes Kit went with Chris but she always stayed in the closest town.

Brendan did go with a shearing team when he was 18 years old but he went with his Uncle Steve O'Loughlin's team. His Uncle Steve had shorn for Chris but later bought a half share in a contracting business which became Worrell & O'Loughlin. When Brendan went the team

shore at Mullurulla, Eulo, Manfred and Milton Grove. He believes these properties were owned by a Mr Harris, formerly from Elaine.

The Lionel Rose title fight was on TV while they were away and they travelled 200 km to a pub in Mildura to see it. Unfortunately one of the team made a caustic comment to a man seated at the bar who happened to be the local policeman who was dressed in civvies. He kicked them out before the fight started!

Brendan was a farmer at Durham Lead like his father and grandfather and he also topped the market with his fine merino wool.



*Chris Mooney's beloved Oldsmobile in front of the O'Loughlin's Durham Lead house.*

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## Get the FACTS about Immunisation

(from media release)

The federal Government has launched a new 'Get the Facts about Immunisation' campaign to encourage Australian parents and carers to get their kids vaccinated.

Immunisation rates in Australia are already high, with over 93 per cent of five-year-old children fully vaccinated, but there are some areas where the immunisation rate is too low.

These areas of low coverage pose risks to the community, especially to people who can't be vaccinated, like newborns and those with medical reasons.

Research has shown that when people are fully informed about the benefits of vaccination, they are more likely to vaccinate.

The facts include::

- Vaccines strengthen your child's immune system.
- All childhood diseases we vaccinate against can cause serious illness, including death.
- All vaccines available in Australia have been thoroughly tested for safety and effectiveness and are continually monitored.
- Immunisation is a safe and effective way of giving protection against diseases such as whooping cough and measles.

The Hughes and McCaffery families shared their heart breaking stories as part of the government's campaign. Riley Hughes and Dana McCaffery were both only a month old when they died of a vaccine-preventable disease. They were both too young to be vaccinated, so like all other newborns, relied on the rest of the community being vaccinated to offer protection.

The new campaign also features immunologist and 2006 Australian of the Year, Professor Ian Frazer. His credible, evidence-based information about childhood immunisation is one of the great strengths of this campaign.

"Ensuring parents are fully informed about immunisation is vital in ensuring we increase the rates of immunisation across Australia in the 0 to 5 age group," Professor Frazer AC said.

"Australia has a strong immunisation record which has seen a reduction in disease in this country, however we still see cases of disease outbreaks, particularly in areas of low immunisation coverage, so it's important immunisation rates are as high as possible.

"Vaccines work to protect children against being infected by these diseases. A parent will never know when their child may come into contact with someone who has got one of these infections, so the best way to protect children from these diseases, is to make sure they're fully immunised."

You can find out more information about the campaign by visiting [immunisationfacts.gov.au](http://immunisationfacts.gov.au).

## St Mary MacKillop Church and School

Did we let everyone know that we have chosen a name for our new church and school? St Mary MacKillop: a modern saint, a saint with connections to the margins of society and with strong links to rural life, a female saint, a saint who will become well known in Bannockburn and surrounds through the Catholic church and school that will bear her name.

Things have been progressing at breakneck speed with planning for opening the St Mary MacKillop Catholic Primary School Bannockburn and there is still a lot to be done.

Till now not much has been in evidence except the start of moving for the current Bannockburn Primary School. Our architects for the school, Minx Architects, are working behind the scenes to develop a Master Plan so if you hear of them seeking community input please be willing to help. Similarly, we have a media and communications company, Resonate, working to help us develop our public presence: please help them too.

Now!!! There is a very visible presence via a portable office on the church block on the corner of Milton and High Streets, soon to be the office space for the early staff for the new Catholic School and soon to have a big sign announcing the name.

Even more important is the appointment of a principal: we are proud to announce that Mr Anthony Drill has accepted this role and will formally start with us in early September. Anthony is an experienced principal within the Catholic system and brings a wealth of expertise, passion and energy to our brand-new school. I am overjoyed to have him join us as we journey apace towards 2018.

Enrolments are coming along well with over 200 application forms handed out so far and about 20 already returned: we need more so please fill in the application for your child and submit it. We need to get an idea of who is interested and how to contact you directly to talk further and an application is the best way to do that.

You can get news about the school via Facebook by liking "Bannockburn Catholic Primary School"

The other major element of change for the Catholic presence in Bannockburn is of course the building of a new church, St Mary MacKillop Church, replacing the St John the Evangelist Church so tragically destroyed two years ago. After receiving insurance money and some bequests and launching a major fundraising effort we are in a position to start the process of detailed design, planning and building. To help guide us with this once in a lifetime effort we have appointed Law Architects.

A heartfelt thank you to all those who have supported our fundraising so far. The gala fundraising launch at Clyde Park was a great success – thank you especially to Terry and Sue for providing their beautiful Clyde Park for the evening – we raised about \$30,000 through tickets, auctions and associated donations: thank you thank you to all who gave items for auction, who helped organize the evening, and who participated so joyfully. We still have a lot more money to raise but we have a year to get it and after this fabulous start I am confident that the generosity of all the people of the area will continue and help us to create a new landmark that breathes Spirit into the town and draws people towards the heart of Bannockburn.

God bless, Fr Charles.

**Have you...** got a ripper story to tell, joke to share, photo to display or some news for your community?  
Then let us have it! (Contact details on page 3.)

**MEREDITH NEWS - Take Part.**





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from the MAYOR

## Cr Des Phelan Mayor, Golden Plains Shire

Around 60 guests gathered at Smythesdale's Courthouse Hotel in mid-August for a business networking event as part of the Victorian Small Business Festival. The guests, including many local small business owners, heard from Associate Professor Sam Henson, Head of Campus at Ballarat's Federation University.

Associate Professor Henson spoke about the latest trends in the business environment, and how businesses could grow sustainably and successfully.

A broad range of organisations, businesses, industry and government were represented at the lunch. This event was about celebrating the success of local businesses in Golden Plains Shire. Council is proud of how many accomplished and well-known businesses can be found in our Shire, and events such as this give us an opportunity to network with local businesses.

Our Shire has a high concentration of small and medium sized business. These include those offering professional services such as engineers, architects and accountants.

Another large business sector is in construction, with many builders and tradies having their businesses registered locally and servicing the wider area including Ballarat and Geelong.

Wineries and cellar door businesses also feature strongly in Golden Plains Shire and attract tourism with their award-winning wines. Although traditionally Golden Plains has centred on farming and agriculture, this is changing as the population base grows.

This makes it more viable for existing businesses to service local growing centres such as Bannockburn and Smythesdale, as well as our smaller towns.

Our Council supports businesses by facilitating training and networking events; we also work with business owners to access grants from state and federal government. We're encouraged by the support shown by those attending our events, and are looking to hold more in the future.

## Wanted to lease -

**Farm House and Sheds or Unused Commercial Property** in the Ballarat Council, Golden Plains Shire, or Moorabool Shire areas for short or long-term lease.

Sheds/commercial property must be suitable for machinery maintenance.

Locations close to Midland Highway, Western Freeway, Glenelg Highway, Geelong – Ballan Road and the Colac-Ballarat Road preferred.

**Call Dan 0458 922 088**

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# Meredith Primary School News

## Writers Festival @ Meredith Primary School

Last Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup> September, there was a Writers Festival at Meredith Primary School. It was a celebration of the students' writing and a chance to work with professional writers. We had a visiting author (Sue Lawson), author/illustrator (Marisa Alo) and storyteller running workshops during the day. We are very grateful to the Meredith and District Newsletter who sponsored the event.



Visit [marisaalo.com/index.html](http://marisaalo.com/index.html)

A full report and some of the output from the day will be in next month's Meredith News.



Visit [suelawson.com.au/](http://suelawson.com.au/)

## a VERY BIG thank you.

The Meredith Primary School Council, staff, students and families would like to sincerely thank the Meredith News Committee for their generous donation towards the Dirt Ditch to Soccer Pitch project. We have been fundraising to make this a reality for over 18 months and thanks to the support of the Meredith News, we are now in a position to begin construction. We look forward to welcoming all community members to our school to enjoy this fabulous new facility once complete.

*Stefania Parkinson – School Council President*

## For the Lexophiles

- ☺ .. When fish are in schools, they sometimes take debate.
- ☺ .. A thief who stole a calendar got twelve months.
- ☺ .. The batteries were given out free of charge.

## Happy to Help

Meredith News is very pleased to have contributed to the Meredith Primary School fundraising effort to finance a synthetic soccer pitch. We see this as a very practical way of contributing something to our community. An all weather play area will foster physical activity among students, contributing to a healthy lifestyle.

We have been able to make this contribution because of the fantastic support of advertisers over the 12 years since we moved to a monthly publication, and our careful management of finances in that time.

We wish the school every success in this excellent initiative.



## Ladies' Night Success

*Kylie Smith*

After a busy couple of months in the planning, the Meredith Kindergarten Committee hosted their Annual Ladies Night on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> August. Whilst it was a blustery freezing cold night, we still managed to see about 60 people come through the doors which was just wonderful.

This night originally came to life with the intention of giving the mums of the kinder a well-earned night off to come and enjoy an evening of shopping, pampering, socialising and networking. From there it just grew and the focus became getting the ladies of the community together, which it certainly did!

The aim of the night was also about showcasing some of our fantastic local businesses and hobbyists and boy, do we have some talented locals!

With some very generous donations and a fantastic raffle draw to have on offer, we decided early on that any funds raised from the night would be donated.

Last year's night funds were donated to the Lions Club, towards the Pioneer Park Upgrade.

This year we had a cause very close to our hearts, that of 'Zoe's Fight'

Little 5 year old Zoe was diagnosed with Glioblastoma Multiforme, a rare type of brain cancer. Sadly there is no

cure. As her family travel on this journey they've come to realise there is not a great deal of funding that goes into Brain Cancer Research, so her family have decided to raise awareness about the lack of funding and are trying to raise funds to support this very important and much needed research.

Our Ladies Night raised \$835.00, which was just fantastic. We appreciate everyone who dug deep to help us reach this number and this would not have been possible without the donations from local businesses such as The Royal Hotel, Meredith Dairy and Hearn's Meredith Hotel, as well as our stallholders who all donated something for us to add to the raffle. We also had some very generous others donate some beautiful items...just because they could.

Once again it was such a great sight to see the Community House packed full of people, all mingling and having a great night. What a wonderful community it is that we live in.

Our thanks goes out to everyone who came along and contributed to making this such an enjoyable and successful evening.

## The Bathtub Test

During a visit to my doctor, I asked him, "How do you determine whether or not an older person should be put in an old age home."

"Well," he said, "we fill up a bathtub, then we offer a teaspoon, a teacup and a bucket to the person to empty the bathtub."

"Oh, I understand," I said. "A normal person would use the bucket because it is bigger than the spoon or the teacup."

"No," he said. "A normal person would pull the plug. Do you want a bed near the window?"



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## Kindred matters

judith emond FAMILY THERAPIST

Dear Judith,

*Can you please give me some tips on how I can manage some problems I'm having at work with a colleague. I feel that I am being bullied and because they are older than me I'm not sure what to do?*

Work place bullying is very common and I'm sorry to hear that you are experiencing troubles at work with a colleague. If you work for a Pty Ltd company then you are covered under the national anti bullying laws and you can get help from the Fair Work Ombudsman. Thankfully, the national anti bullying laws were established to protect employees against ongoing bullying in the workplace where there is risk to their health and safety. You will also find that nowadays most work places have their own internal policies and procedures for managing bullying.

The Fair Work site defines that bullying occurs when "a person or a group of people repeatedly behaves unreasonably towards a worker or a group of workers at work the behaviour creates a risk to health and safety."

Bullying behaviour can involve any of the following types of behaviour: Aggressive or intimidating behaviour, belittling or humiliating comments, spreading malicious rumours, teasing, practical jokes or 'initiation ceremonies', exclusion from work-related events, unreasonable work expectations, including too much or too little work, or work below or beyond a worker's skill level, displaying offensive material, pressure to behave in an inappropriate manner

This behaviour must be repeated and unreasonable and must create a risk to health and safety in order for it to be bullying. Bullying does not include reasonable management action carried out in a reasonable manner.

You will find more information about the anti bullying laws and how to apply for an order to stop bullying at the following websites:

[fairwork.gov.au/employee-entitlements/bullying-and-harassment](http://fairwork.gov.au/employee-entitlements/bullying-and-harassment)  
and [fwc.gov.au/content/rules-form/application-order-stop-bullying](http://fwc.gov.au/content/rules-form/application-order-stop-bullying)

I would also encourage you to discuss the matter with your supervisor or manager and follow the internal policy and procedure on bullying as the first step. By law employers must take these matters seriously to ensure that their staff has the right to work in a safe and healthy environment.

Perhaps most importantly we need to consider how you can manage your colleague at work in the meantime because despite taking any action you still need to face the person at work everyday. Here are a few self care tips;

Initially, request that your line manager raises your concerns with your colleague and draw up a plan with your manager on how they can ensure your ongoing safety in the workplace. For example; you may consider not being rostered on the same shift or not working alone together or being alone during tea breaks.

Try your best to be polite to your colleague whenever you

see them. You don't need to converse with them but saying hello and acknowledging them shows that you are trying to remain professional and courteous in the workplace.

Try not to feel too intimidated by your colleague being older or perhaps more experienced. The age difference is irrelevant when it comes down to bullying behaviour and one would hope that a more experienced and mature colleague would be insightful enough to stop and reflect on how they are treating you at work.

Prioritise your health if you are experiencing, trouble sleeping, loss of appetite, increased anxiety or depressed mood then see your GP immediately. Taking some sick leave and having time to rest and recuperate is beneficial.

Ensure that you access supportive people around you such as, family, friends and consider seeing a counsellor through your workplace Employer Assistance Program (EAP)

Engage in activities that recharge your batteries like regular exercise, hobbies, gardening, yoga, mindfulness or meditation and try to eat well. Plan your next holiday

I really hope that you get the support you need from management at work to resolve your problem. If you have followed your company's prescribed procedures and not got a satisfactory result, consider contacting Fair Work Commission and submitting an application order to stop bullying, if need be. Remember everyone has the right not to be bullied or harassed in the workplace.

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# The Lethbridge Jet

Marg Cooper

Do you like speed?

Maybe a flight from Lethbridge Airport to the Great Ocean Road and back in 30 minutes is for you or maybe a more leisurely 45 minute flight which includes acrobatics over the Twelve Apostles.

Pauli and Vesa Saario have relocated their "Eastern Bloc Warbirds" to Lethbridge Airport from Lilydale. Their collection of aeroplanes includes the mighty Antonov 2, the world's largest bi-plane in service in Australia. Pauli tells that there were 20,000 of this plane built, it was designed in 1947, their plane was built in Poland in 1989 and it is a great all-rounder and great workhorse.

The Antonov 2 was designed for agricultural purposes, they have carried over 100 million passengers all over the world, are good for delivering parachutists and have been used in war. The first fixed wing aircraft shot down by a helicopter was an Antonov 2 in the Vietnam War which was shot down by a mechanic of an American Huey helicopter when he machine gunned into the aeroplane's cockpit.

Pauli and his brother Vesa who both fly for Virgin Airlines and their brother Seppo rode their bikes from their home in Brisbane to nearby Archfield Airport as kids to do odd jobs and earn pocket money which included washing and re-fuelling a Antonov 2 which belonged to their boss. This is the same plane that they now own.

It is a slower bird than the jet, taking 9 hours to fly to Brisbane from Lethbridge with a stopover at Mudgee to re-fuel. When cruising the Antonov 2 uses 180 litres of Avgas per hour ie \$6 worth of fuel per minute. Under pressure it uses 300 litres of fuel per hour. Its maximum speed is 139 knots.

To keep it in the family their father also bought an Antonov 2 in 2004. He returned to Finland where the family originated from operated joy flights there.

Their collection also includes a TS-11 Iskra Fighter Jet which is the first jet aeroplane to be stationed at Lethbridge Airport. It was developed as an advanced system fighting/trainer jet during the Cold War. The plane they own is ex Polish display team and performed at hundreds of shows {like the Roulettes} in Poland before coming to Australia. It has a Rolls Royce Viper engine and holds one passenger who sits snugly behind the pilot.

The plane won Best Jet at Avalon in 1995 and a 1<sup>st</sup> at Mangalore Gold Cup in 1999 and the previous owner came 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Jet Racing at Valleyfield in Tasmania in 1996. Pauli tells that the jet is thrilling to fly!

The Lethbridge Airport is suitable for their "business on the side" involving Eastern Bloc Warbirds. It is easy to get to for pilots and passengers, their planes are all housed in their own hangar, and the runways the tarmac are "all weather". The fuel facility at the airport is the best in regional Victoria and it is an ever increasing hub for like-minded people Lethbridge is outside the restricted aviation zone {which means they don't have to wait for permission to take-off and land} and it is only 30 minutes from the Great Ocean Road.

Want to do something special? Maybe join with 8 others in the Antonov 2 where you can even wear a Russian Airforce Cap or, if you're game a quick trip in the jet, just you and the pilot.



Pauli with the Antonov 2.



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## Marg's Book Review

### "Room" by Emma Donaghue

I nearly stopped reading this book but I'm glad that I didn't.

The story is told from the perspective of a five year old boy, Jack, who is being held captive in a small room along with his mother. "Room" is a secured single room outbuilding containing a small kitchen, a bathtub, a wardrobe, a bed and a TV set. Ma tries to keep Jack healthy and happy via both physical and mental exercises, keeping a healthy diet, limiting TV watching time, and strict body and dental hygiene. With the few items at her disposal Ma has developed the pleasant routines of the day : "like give Plant a cup of water in Sink no spilling, then put her back in her saucer on Dresser...I count one hundred cereal and waterfall the milk that's nearly the same white as bowls, no splashing, we thank Baby Jesus".

The only other person Jack has seen is "Old Nick" who visits Room at night while Jack sleeps hidden in a wardrobe. Jack is unaware that Old Nick kidnapped Ma when she was 19 years old and has kept her imprisoned for the past seven years. Her captor brings enough food to survive, regularly disciplines her by cutting off electricity and heat and rapes her several times a week. A week after Jack's fifth birthday Ma learns that "Old Nick" has become unemployed and is in danger of losing his home. Feeling certain that "Old Nick" would kill them both Ma comes up with a plan to get Jack out of the room.

After their escape, which takes the reader by surprise in the middle of the book, Ma begins to relearn how to react to the larger world while Jack, overwhelmed by new experiences and people wants to return to the safety of Room. Jack is often frustrated and confused by his surroundings including his new extended family, who, while kind and loving often do not understand. Finally, Jack requests to visit "Room". He and Ma return, but Jack no longer feels any emotional attachment toward it and is able to say goodbye.

The author was inspired by having children with the locked room being a metaphor for the claustrophobic, tender bond of parenthood. She borrowed observations, jokes, kid grammar and whole dialogues from her son who was five while she was writing the book. Room was also inspired by "walled-up virgins" who gave birth in ancient folk stories and by the escape of Elisabeth Fritzl, the Austrian woman who was imprisoned by her incestuous father in a dungeon for twenty four years.

Not many writers would have the courage or the ability to visit this particular place and to produce such a startling, original and moving piece of work. Donaghue starts with what appears intractably bleak and finishes with a compulsory readable work of fiction. It is fantastically evocative.

Jack expresses a poignant mixture of wisdom, love and naiveté and the reader aches to save him....whatever that would mean. Delivering him to the outside world? Keeping him preserved forever?

*The book for discussion in September is Flaubert's Parrot by Julian Barnes.*

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### **Loyalty Club Gift discount now 20%!!**

To thank everyone for their continued support & loyalty we have decided to increase our Loyalty Club discounts on our **gifts** to **20%!!**. If you are a member of our FREE Loyalty Club you will now receive a 20% discount on all gifts all the year!!! Plus as previously, 5% of your purchase price goes back onto your Loyalty Club to spend on your next purchase or at a later date (the choice is yours & there's no expiry on money accumulated). Effectively you will be receiving an overall discount of 25% (20% at the till immediately + 5% goes onto your Loyalty Club).

### **New Giftware in store!**

Last month we went to the Melbourne Gift Fair where we bought lots of new giftware and lots of the new giftware has already started to arrive.

Some of the new giftware to arrive include ceramic electric diffusers and also Himalayan Salt Lamps (both pictured below) Some of the other giftware arriving in include gifts for baby's & children. We also have new jewellery, wallets and lots more coming in as well. Don't forget you also receive a further **20% discount** if you are member of our **FREE Loyalty/Gift Club!** So come in and compare our prices and range before shopping in Geelong or elsewhere.

### **Vaccination clinic**

Don't forget that two of our pharmacists, Cindy & Tracey, are accredited to provide and administer **flu** and **whooping cough** vaccinations in the pharmacy. You don't need a prescription from your Doctor. Our vaccination clinic is open during the following times:

- **Monday: 10:30am - 5:30pm**                      - **Tuesday: 9:00am - 4:00pm**  
- **Wednesday: 9:00am - 4:00pm**                      - **Thursday: 10:30am - 3:00pm**

Please note that if you are **pregnant** there will be no cost for the vaccination of both flu & whooping cough. There will only be a \$10 administration fee for each vaccination. Whooping cough vaccinations are recommended 28 weeks or after during pregnancy.

To secure a time that best suits you we recommend that you make an appointment through the pharmacy. You can either phone the pharmacy on 5281 1519 or you can bookonline through our FaceBook page <https://www.facebook.com/bannockburnpharmacy/> You can also just walk in but there may be a wait if someone else is already having a vaccination done.

### **Ear Piercing**

Don't forget we offer ear piercing in the Pharmacy. The cost is \$34.95 and this includes the ear rings & antiseptic spray to take home. Bookings can be made online through our FaceBook page or call us on 52811519.

### **Naturopath**

Did you know that our Naturopath, Karah McLaren visits our pharmacy every fortnight on a Thursday? You book a private 1-on-1 appointment to see Karah to discuss any health related problems or questions you may have and she will personally tailor an outcome to your needs.

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Saturday: **8:30am - 1:00pm**  
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What we know about...

## ...September

The ninth month of the year and our foray into spring was originally the seventh month in the Roman calendar. For those who learnt Latin, or more recently French, in high school, you will probably now be having flashbacks of your teenage self trying to commit the foreign number 'septem-' or 'sept' to memory. And now September will never make sense to you again. The vernal equinox will be happening in Australia on the 23<sup>rd</sup> at the precise time of 6.02 am, marking astronomical spring...just in case you want to make winter last that little bit longer.

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**Local Beremboke plumber  
 Servicing all surrounding areas**

**Darryl 0419 782 015**

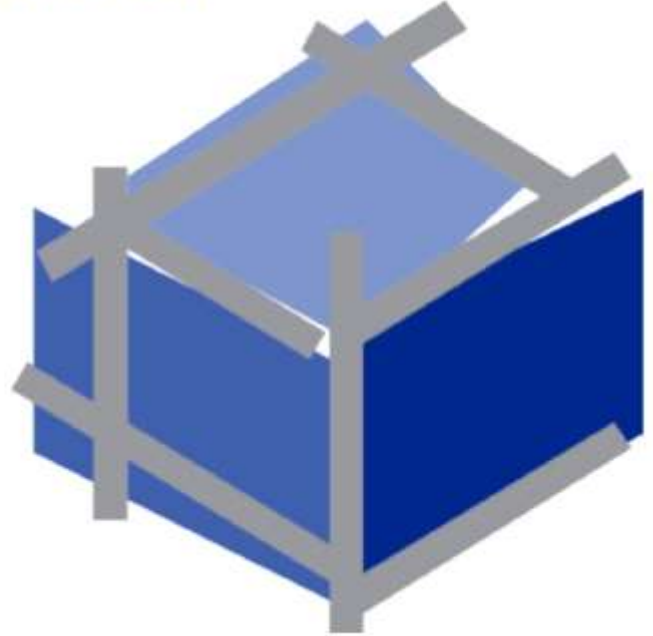


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## LAWN MOWING LAWN MAINTENANCE

Mowing of small front and back yards and up to 5 acre blocks.

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- Whipper snipping
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Larger lawns cut quickly and neatly with a zero turn mower.

Friendly and reliable service

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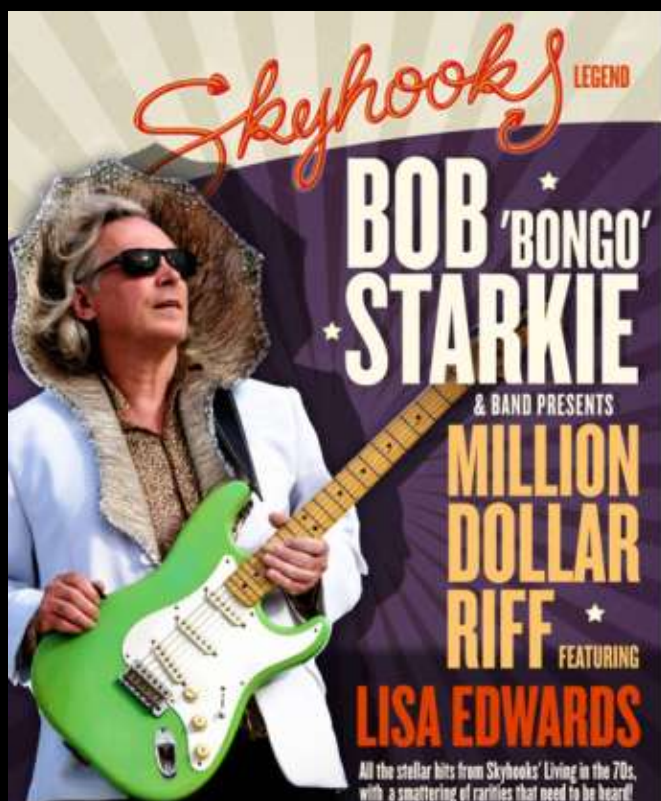
**SUNDAY 15TH  
OCTOBER 2PM  
TIX. PRE \$35 DOOR \$40**



**TEL: 5286 1100**



**GRAND FINAL LIVE  
ON THE BIG SCREEN**



*Skyhooks* LEGEND

**BOB 'BONGO'  
STARKIE**

& BAND PRESENTS

**MILLION  
DOLLAR  
RIFF**

FEATURING

**LISA EDWARDS**

All the stellar hits from Skyhooks' Living in the 70s,  
with a smattering of rarities that need to be heard!

**SUNDAY 5TH NOVEMBER 2PM**

**TIX. PRE \$30 DOOR \$35**

**DALE RYDER ACOUSTIC DUO**

**BOOM CRASH OPERA**

**FRI. 8TH SEPT. 8PM**

**TICKETS \$20**

**JAZZ & HOGES**

**FRIDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> SEPT.**

**8PM FREE ENTRY**