

DECEMBER 2018

Meredith & district News

Our FREE Community Newsletter since 1972



inside



A wedding... a woofers... and a William.

18th Annual Private Selection Flock Ram Sale



Left "Mallee" ANDEN 130176
Bwt 0.44 Wwt 12.4 Pwwt 18.5
Pfat -0.9 Pemd 1.64 C+ 216

Right "Des" WARATAH
150165
Bwt 0.29 Wwt 10 Pwwt 16.9
Pfat 0.3 Pemd 2.7 C+ 212

These are the 2 Sires of the
Flock Rams for Sale



At our inaugural Show last year 2017, we took two of our Rams to "The Bendigo Elite White Suffolk Show and Sale". Selling both of our Rams to other studs.



Left: "WOODBANK 150146"
Bwt 0.36 Wwt 10.2
Pwwt 16.9 Pfat -0.8
Pemd 0.9 C+ 197
Sired by "Mallee" Sold in
Auction for - \$3,500
"Wattle Park White Suffolks"
Yarrawonga NSW

Also selling "WOODBANK 150151" for \$2,000. This was a very pleasing result for our first Show Auction

The Table below shows some of our 2017 drop Flock Rams on offer and a selection of Lambplan Figures. Don't Miss out.

	Bwt	Wwt	Pwwt	Pfat	Pemd	C+
170253	0.37	9.9	15.6	-0.8	1.1	195.5
170324	0.24	9.3	15.4	0.2	2.6	204.4 SOLD
170278	0.29	10.5	16.4	-0.3	1.9	204.5
170282	0.31	8.9	15.0	0.1	2.3	199.8
170283	0.45	10.4	16.5	-0.5	1.7	202.9
170297	0.15	8.5	14.3	0.5	2.9	200.6
170298	0.16	8.5	14.5	0.4	2.6	198.5
170304	0.24	9.6	15.5	-0.4	2.2	202.6
170328	0.20	9.2	14.9	0.2	2.8	205.1

33 Rams in total for sale from \$ 600 plus GST.

Private sales on property enquiries welcome

559 Mt Mercer Rd
Meredith VIC 3333

David Hutchinson
0439 310 202

E: www@hotmail.com.au
Find us on facebook

Leone Guinane
0400 850 306



ASBA Flock no 494 Oct. 2009

Meredith & district NEWS



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

DATES AND DEADLINES
The Newsletter is distributed on the first Thursday of the month (except January). All ads and submissions must be lodged by 9.00 am on 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. Please submit in jpeg format, if available.

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

CONTACT US

Post Office, Meredith, 3333
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advertising@meredithnews.com.au
Accounts: Dawn 0428 861274
accounts@meredithnews.com.au
Editorial: Jim 0409 163169
news@meredithnews.com.au

WEB

You can check back copies and lodge comments at meredithnews.com.au

ONLINE PHOTOS

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

DISCLAIMER

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

connect emergency

**ADVANCE
MEREDITH**
5286 1291

ANGLING CLUB
0419 423 960

**B'BURN ART
GROUP**
0410 808 483

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 545 248
Juniors 0430 587 874

GOLF CLUB
0407 795 342

HISTORY GROUP
5286 8201

LANDCARE
0409 862 326

MEMORIAL HALL
5286 1251
0435 312 984

MEREDITH LIONS
0473 380 552

MOTORCYCLE CLUB
0437 009 250

PLAYGROUP
5286 0700

POLICE PADOCKS
5286 1273

RSL - 5286 1452

SENIOR CITIZENS
5286 8232

TENNIS
Elaine
0448 291 074
Meredith
5286 1211

SEW 'N' SEWS
5286 0700

**FRIENDS OF THE
BRISBANE RANGES**
5286 1252

Police, Ambulance, Fire	000
(from mobile phone)	000 or 112
Meredith Police Station	5286 1222
Power Failure	132 412
Nurse-On-Call	1300 606024
Mental Health Advice	1300 280 737
Poisons Information	13 11 26
Barwon Water	1300 656 007
SES Emergency - flood & storm	132 500
24 Hour Helpline	1800 629 572
24 Hour Drug & Alcohol Counselling	1800 888 236
Kids Help Line	
24hr 5-18yo	1800 551 800
Golden Plains Shire	1300 363 036
A.H. Emergencies	0408 508 635
Ranger	5220 7111 or 0409 830 223
Bannockburn Vet	5281 1221
Golden Plains Vet	5281 2226
Injured Wildlife	0429 430 646
Pets and Horses 24/7	0421 617 23

Justices of the Peace

Mr Don Atherton, 0409 869 960
Mr Paul Ryan Elaine, 0409 861 296

services

CEMETERY TRUST	MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH
5286 1550	5220 7230
HALL HIRE	PRE-SCHOOL
Meredith Memorial	5286 0722
5286 1251	PRIMARY SCHOOL
Elaine Mechanics	5286 1313
5341 5596	RECREATION RESERVE
Elaine Rec Res	
5341 5703	
LIBRARY VAN	0429 841399
5272 6010	

..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.



The miracle is this: the more we share, the more we have.

~Leonard Nimoy



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MEREDITH CAROLS SUNDAY 23 DECEMBER 2018

VENUE: Paddock Adjacent to
Meredith Interpretive Centre

6.30pm Sausage Sizzle & Children's Activities

7.30pm Christmas Carols & Santa

BYO Chair/Picnic Rug



There was a bit of competition, but undoubtedly the wedding of the year was between former Meredith resident and Primary School student (and close relative of the editor!) Cameron Elvey, and Yolanda Warren. They married recently in a ceremony held in the charming western district town of Birragurra.



Delivering for Meredith

Fixing local **roads**, backing our **farmers**, funding vital community **infrastructure**, investing in Meredith **child care services**, supporting commemorative projects and fighting for the Meredith school crossing **safety upgrade**.

I am proud to be delivering for the Meredith community.

As your **strong local voice**, you expect me to fight for you with determination and commitment. And that is what I proudly do, every single day.

Please let me know what's important to you so that, together, we can build a **stronger Corangamite**.

SARAH HENDERSON MP

Federal Member for **CORANGAMITE**

3A/195 Colac Road Wairn Ponds VIC 3216



This Year, My Favourite Book Was...

We asked members of the *Meredith Book Club*, which of the books they read this year, did they enjoy the most, and why.



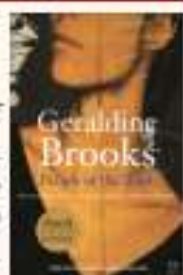
Jenny Colvin

THE PEOPLE OF THE BOOK

by Geraldine Brooks

"The People of the Book" tells the story of Hanna, a young rare book conservator in Sydney, who is asked to come to Sarajevo, to report on the condition of "The Sarajevo Haggadah" an historic Jewish manuscript, which had recently been found, having disappeared during one of the many upheavals in the country.

I enjoyed this book for its fine prose, the way the author interweaves the present day restoration with the historic 'lives' of the book, and because of the meticulous research which enables the reader to believe each phase of the book's history could really have happened.



Jan McDonald

LETTAH'S GIFT by Graham Lang

When failed writer, Frank, is sent on a mission to fulfil his mother's dying wish – to deliver a bequest to Lettah, the family servant they left behind in Zimbabwe forty years earlier – he sees his old homeland with different eyes

In searching for Lettah, Frank travels through land devastated by civil war, drought, poverty, and the land redistribution process. This richly descriptive book is a remarkable story portraying contrasts – violence, dispossession and suffering, the sadness of loss of trust, and humanity striving for ideals. It is a book you won't forget.



Liz Wells

THE LOST SUN by Jane Harper

"The Lost Son" is set in the harsh Australian outback. Jane Harper's descriptions as usual, are brilliant and bring the story to life: the dust, the vastness of the Australian landscape, the unrelenting heat, the magnificent sunsets and the iconic Eucalyptus.

The story takes place in outback Queensland on a family's vast cattle property. The scene is set immediately with a family member, Cameron, dead, kilometres from his well stocked 4WD. His family is devastated with the loss. Mystery and intrigue ensue, many questions are raised – was Cameron murdered or did he take his own life, and if so why?

"The Lost Son" was more intriguing, more compelling and thoroughly enjoyable. A good read!



Marg Cooper

A MURDER UNMENTIONED

by Sulari Gentill

I found this book light hearted and fun and enjoyed it immensely. Rowland Sinclair is an artist with leftist friends and a free-wheeling lifestyle and is the bane of his conservative brother Wilfred's existence in the 1930's in NSW. At the start of each chapter we are introduced to people and events of the day from newspaper reports including Charles Kingsford Smith, Nancy Bird, Edna Walling and Robert Menzies. These characters are cleverly woven into the story.



Kerrie Kruger

COLD COMFORT FARM

by Stella Gibbons

Flora Poste, is my new antidote when finding life a bit samey. I shall pick up Cold Comfort Farm whenever I feel inclined to have a whine and a moan. But even better I've just watched the film and I found I enjoyed it more than the book, by a long way. – not very Book Clubby I know, so it will be on order from the library at least once a year I think.

I love that Flora is bossy, determined and organised and as such is unwilling to accept the misery of the Farm's residents and sets her mind to making change and the Farm ends up a haven of light, warmth and colour and Flora has shown, very subtly, the way for each of its residents to get what he or she wants, even if they didn't know it themselves.



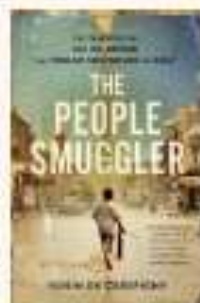
But... Kerrie wasn't so keen on another.

THE PEOPLE SMUGGLER

by Robin De Crespigny

This book tells a tale that was incredible. But, sorry, I didn't like it. The fact that all the hell Ali and his family went through was 100% true outraged me and shook my morals to the core, but I couldn't read it fully, I sort of skip jumped the paragraphs. The story paints a horrifying picture of the plight of the world's refugees and I found the discussion at book club explained the gaps in my knowledge.

I have now realised from book club book selections, that when I read I want to read to immerse myself in books that are uplifting. I read to feel better inside and out. Books like The People Smuggler are too far outside my comfort zone. I appreciate that being a book club member puts this type of book in front of me and that the discussion widens my thoughts but sorry (even if it makes me superficial) I





Community

Meredith Seniors

Jim Hynds

The seniors caught the 12 o'clock ferry from Queenscliff to Sorrento on Monday, November 26. We had a bit of a shaky start with a growing sick list and a change to the ferry schedule but a well-organized morning tea in the park by the ferry terminal saw everybody in a great mood and ready for adventure; for some members a new adventure!

The sea was calm and the sun was out which made for a great crossing. Some were well prepared for a rough crossing bringing sea sick pills and sick bags but they were not needed, fortunately.

When we arrived at Sorrento, Alan our bus driver gave us a tour of the town and then parked in the main street so members could disperse to find a place for their lunch. A group of us settled for a café and ordered a lunch that was well priced and quite filling. The pulled pork with coleslaw and chips was delicious. Some walked around the shops in the main street before we boarded the bus for the trip back. Another great crossing and we arrived home at Meredith at 5.30 pm.

Members and guests are now looking forward to our Christmas break-up luncheon on December 10 at the hall. Merry Christmas to all from Meredith Senior Citizens.

Golden Plains Shire Fire Restrictions Now in Place

All residents are responsible for maintaining their property to the fire prevention guidelines so if you're heading out of town, make sure your home is prepared. If you're staying at home, review and restock your emergency kit and remember to confirm your home emergency plan with your holiday visitors.

Council has completed its first round of Fire Hazard Inspections and the great news is there has been a 50% drop in non-compliant properties compared to last year. If you have questions about your Notice, call the Council's Environment Services team.



Meredith Music Festival 2018 Traffic Management and contacts

We are writing to notify you about the traffic management plans for Meredith Music Festival scheduled to occur on Friday 7 December - Sunday 9 December 2018.

The summary of the plan is outlined here

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

If you live or work along Mount Mercer Road, Bamganie Road or Cameron's Road and you would like a vehicle pass please email Aunty Meredith.

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

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



Meredith Playgroup

Meredith Playgroup meets every
Thursday from 9.30am

During the School Term

Enjoy new activities every week. All Welcome

Contact Community Centre for details 52 860 700



The editorial deadline for the next issue
(February) is

9.00 am Thursday 31st January

Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

Church News



CATHOLIC

St. Joseph's Parish Meredith

Parish Priest Father Charles Balnaves phone 52861230.

Parishofmeredith@bigpond.com

Mass Times:

Winchelsea: 6pm every Saturday.

Bannockburn: every Sunday at 9 am. Every first Sunday of the month Family Mass on at 4 pm

Inverleigh every last Sunday of the month at 4p.m.

Anakie Sunday November 4th/ 18th at 11am

Meredith Sunday November 11th/25th (Parish Thanksgiving Mass) at 11am

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

ANGLICAN

Weekly Services, baptisms, weddings, funerals and pastoral care. Contact: Rev. Phil Jacobson Ph. 0419 322 385

Church Office, Byron St. Bannockburn 5281 2553

Service Times: Holy Communion at Anglican Church, Meredith, 11.00am 5th Sundays of the month

Church of Epiphany - Meredith.

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

St James. - Morrisons:

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

1st Sunday of the month at 5pm, 3rd Sunday of the month at 9am.

UNITING CHURCH

MEREDITH Uniting Church

11.00 am, 2nd Sunday each month

BUNINYONG Uniting Church

1st; 3rd; 4th Sundays, 9.30am.

5th Sunday, combined service at Meredith Church of Epiphany, 11am.

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.

Christmas Blessings from Fr Charles

Catholic Parish of Meredith

At its core Christmas is about allowing ourselves to be open to God's love. Our hearts melt when we see a new born child. Our souls yearn to hold each child close. This is true because in the innocence of a new-born we get a real insight into the way we are loved by God, the God who sent us his Son, Jesus Christ, to draw us into a loving embrace.

This Christmas, when there may be both joys and sorrows, successes and difficulties, let us remember that we are loved by Jesus and there is nothing we can do about it, the Jesus who came among us over 2000 years ago and remains with us today.

Have a BLESSED Christmas this year of 2018. And please join us at one of our celebrations:

Christmas Eve: 6 pm Christmas with a Nativity Play: 24 High St Bannockburn (follow the signs to find exactly where)

Christmas Eve: 9:00 pm Christmas in Meredith at St Joseph's, 28 Lawler St.

Christmas Day: 8:30 am Christmas in Winchelsea at St John the Baptist, 5 Mercer St.

Christmas Day: 10:30 am Christmas in Bannockburn at 24 High St – follow the signs.

God bless,

Fr Charles Balnaves

Parish Priest, Catholic Parish of Meredith

Ph: 5286 1230 **Facebook:** Catholic Parish of Meredith

Our Cover.

Our December wraparound cover is a view from the eastern ridge of the Police Paddocks. Softened by a light, mist it captures the new seat (in use!) with the sharp drop-away valley beyond.

Photo by Jim Elvey



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

Recreation



Elaine Cricket Club Shirt Presentation

On Wednesday October 10 at 6.30 pm, at the Elaine Cricket Club, after a practice session, new shirts were presented to all cricket players for the 2018-2019 season and captains of the teams were announced. The shirts were sponsored to the tune of \$1750 by Elaine Farm Supplies, Lara Glass, Paul Ryan Transport, Ross Creek Stock Services, Cyl- Safe and the Elaine Café (Bush Telegraph), who is the club's major sponsor. The smart shirts had advertising on the back, front and sleeves with all three teams having numbers on the back of them, the U17s also have the players surname put on with the players keeping them at the end of the season. The U17s most of them have been together since the club reformed in 2012 and it's a great keepsake for them to take with them when they finish their last year in junior cricket and move on to seniors next season. The club will continue this with their U17s teams in the future. Three teams have been entered in the Ballarat Cricket Association, Under 17's, Under 15's and Under 13's. The Captains are Nicholas "Chicka" Pantzidis, Vice Captain Seamus Dunne, Deputy Angus Hogarth for the Under 17's, Co-Captains Rory Ludeman and Luke Inglis and Trent Miller is Vice Captain for the Under 15's. The U13s coach Bec Curran chooses a different player each week to lead and captain the U13s team, this gives all the players a chance to grow leadership skills which is great in that age group. The U13s are a combined side made up of Elaine players and Buninyong players; the players all work really well together and have bonded on and off the field, which is fantastic. The club is definitely moving in the right direction having grown from just one junior side only a couple of years ago to now having three.



The Executive Committee for season 2018-2019 is President Julie Pantzidis, Vice president Brad Kierce, Treasurer Karen Pritchard & assistant Bec Curran, Secretary Jonathon Inglis.

With coaches Brad Kierce & Jon Baker U17s, Nigel Parkinson U15s & Bec Curran & Cheyne Mclean U13s The atmosphere at Elaine Cricket Club is extraordinary. After a spirited practice session under the guidance of team managers or coaches the players adjourn to the club room which becomes full of young people, eating and socializing.

GOLF NEWS

The Annual General Meeting of the Meredith Golf Club Inc. was held on 19th Nov 2018, at this meeting a vote was held to merge the Ladies committee to form a single committee for the club. We hope this will reduce complexity in the management of the club and help reflect the club as a whole rather than two separate bodies. An election of office bearers was held with the following results:

President:	Peter Nemtsas
Vice President:	Cathy Rosche
Secretary/Treasurer:	Scott Crighton
Club Captain:	Paul Mitchell
Committee Members:	Denis Gear
	Mike Colvern
	Charlie Osbourne
	Adrian Mohr

We are looking for interest in running local golf clinics for beginners and intermediate players with support from Golf Victoria. Those who have attended the clinics in the past have had a great time and learned a few tips to get them started. If anyone is interested please contact us on the numbers below.

With summer and possible hot days upon us we now tee off on **Sunday mornings at 8:00am** to beat the heat and finish early. If you have ever thought of playing in a fun and supporting group then join us for either 9 or 18 holes or join in on the back 9 at **11:00am**. Everyone is welcome no matter what ability and if you don't own clubs we may be able to arrange a set for the day.

Got a meeting or function coming up? The Club rooms are available for hire for functions and meetings, there are bar and kitchen facilities, a large car park area and with the course as the backdrop it is great for functions.

President -	Peter Nemtsas	0407 795 342
Secretary -	Scott Crighton	0430 480 156
Club Captain -	Paul Mitchell	0448 523 821



HIGH FASHION IN MEREDITH

Mary Foster

On October 26th almost one hundred people enjoyed watching the catwalk at the inaugural St. Josephs Op Shop Fashion Parade. This was one of the many fundraisers taking place in the parish to assist with the building of our new church at Bannockburn, St. Mary MacKillop, after St. Johns was destroyed by fire in 2015.

Models of all ages strutted their stuff on the catwalk like true professionals to the delight of the crowd. We thank the eight ladies, three gentlemen (inc. Fr. Charles), six girls and two boys who bravely took part and discovered modelling is truly hard work! Each adult model had six outfit changes and the juniors had three and were very professional with their timing and very entertaining with their moves.

Bianca from Ballarat was our MC and she kept the fun happening with her commentary and the drawing of the door and raffle prizes. There were also tables set up by locals, Hopscotch Cookies and Candles by Kylie. All the fashions worn on the night were for sale, including accessories and eight racks of beautifully presented clothes plus bags and shoes from our popular op shop.

Guests were treated to wine and cheese on arrival and later served supper of warm drinks and tasty morsels. On the beautifully decorated tables were exquisite little take home gifts of scented candles or home made continental shortbread.

A great deal of fun was had by all, with more than one asking if it would be held again in the future. We thank everyone who took part and who helped in any way. As for next year... watch this space!



Eleven members of the Meredith Police Paddocks Support Group, accompanied by the Ballarat Environment Network field officer, Roger Thomas, undertook an extensive walk through the Police Paddocks network of paths and tracks prior to lunching at the recently installed picnic table. This was followed by a meeting of members. The meeting reviewed the Groups activities for the year, which included extending tracks and installing additional seats as well as considerable tree, shrub and wildflower planting. This work will continue next year as part of a detailed work program agreed at the meeting.

The group is delighted with the continuing improvements at the Paddocks, making it such an attractive venue for walkers and other visitors.

If you would like to join the group or simply be kept informed of its activities, *contact Jim Elvey on 5286 1273*



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MAN COOK EAT



Steve Duffy

Cauliflower

Here I am proud as punch of my latest harvest...the humble Cauliflower. Although cauliflower may have a reputation of being old fashioned and boring, it is a versatile vegetable with lots of healthy benefits.

This member of the Brassica family is rich in Vitamins C, K and B6. Both low in carbs and calories. It provides fibre and lots of Anti-oxidants to assist health by controlling free radicals. Not only is it a great foil for other strong flavours, but sweetens beautifully when caramelised in the oven. Here are some ideas for enjoying the versatility of cauliflower:

Very traditional with cheese sauce:

On last Saturday night I took the cauli in the Photo, gently steamed it whole, while I prepared a roux of flour, butter and milk (spiced with Bay leaf, cloves, onion and cinnamon). Into the finished béchamel I added some Mersey Valley Cheddar. This was then poured over the whole cauli and placed in the oven to melt and colour the cheese. It looked great served at table whole!

Roast Flowerettes with various toppings:

Cut the cauli into smallish pieces and spray with a little oil, then roast till the edges colour up. Then cover with foil and return to the oven for a few minutes. Top with:

Combine a couple of spoonsful Miso, with a little Japanese Soy and mirin.

Mix some tahini with a little lemon juice and top with fresh chopped coriander.

Finely chop some semi-dried tomatoes, fresh



parsley and a parmesan.

Fry some chopped onion and garlic in butter with some ground cumin and black

Cauliflower Soup:

Chop one brown onion and fry in butter (add some carrot, celery or even parsnip), then add some ground coriander or paprika. Roughly chop the cauli into a large saucepan with vegetable or chicken stock with the onion, bring to a good simmer, then blend with a wand and season with salt and pepper, finish with a little cream.

Curries:

There are many recipes available online using Cauliflower by itself or with lots of other vegetables. There is not enough space here to provide them all.

Pakorras:

Make up a batter of Yoghurt and chickpea flour, spiced with garam masala, chilli and some fresh chopped mint. Fry small flowerettes of cauliflower in the batter. Great bite size nibbles.

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from the MAYOR

Cr Owen Sharkey
Mayor, Golden Plains Shire



It was my great honour to be elected Mayor of Golden Plains Shire for 2018-19 and I look forward to working with the new Deputy Mayor Cr Joanne Gilbert and the Councillor team to have a productive, successful year for Golden Plains.

In November, two of Council's grant applications for road projects awarded significant funding from the State Government. First, we secured a \$500,000 contribution for vital safety upgrades on Teesdale-Lethbridge Road and second, another grant of \$943,000 will partner with Council's \$472,000 investment to widen, replace and seal Tall Tree Road in Lethbridge, the next step in delivering the Golden Plains Food Production Precinct, a key economic project for the region. Road safety is a priority of Council and we will continue to lobby and invest in improving our large and diverse road network.

Thank you to the 1,200 residents who shared their ideas in the community engagement process for Council's Waste and Resource Recovery Strategy. A draft Strategy is in the works and will be back out for comment in April 2019. Also, keep an eye out for the draft Communications and Marketing Strategy, open for comment in late December.

I hope you all have a memorable Christmas and safe, happy New Year.

A.D.F.

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Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

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Save 20% on your Christmas Gift shopping

It's hard to believe another year is coming to a close and Christmas isn't many sleeps away now. Firstly, we would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a very safe and Merry Christmas. We thank you for all your support in 2018 and we look forward to 2019! We would like to thank everyone for your support over the last 12 years.

Before you drive into Geelong or down to Melbourne where all the Christmas shopping crowds are, take the time to come in and see what gifts we have to offer this year in a more relaxed environment. We have an extensive range of high quality gifts at affordable prices for all ages.

Some of the companies & extensive giftware ranges we stock are:

- **Glasshouse** candles, diffusers, hand crème's & hand washes
- **Salt & Pepper** homewares
- Ceramic diffusers
- Watches
- Jewellery
- Cosmetic Bags
- Children's Toys & gifts
- Salt Lamps
- Essential oils
- Fragrances (men's & women's)
- Handbags & wallets (huge range!!)
- Men's wallets & men's gifts
- Baby giftware

Don't forget if you are a member of our **FREE Loyalty Club** throughout December you will receive a **20% discount off all Gifts** plus 5% of your purchase goes on your Loyalty program! We also offer free Christmas Gift Wrapping.

Christmas & New Year Trading Hours

We will be open the following hours before and after Christmas

Monday 17 th December	8:30am to 6:30pm
Tuesday 18 th December	8:30am to 6:30pm
Wednesday 19 th December	8:30am to 6:30pm
Thursday 20th December	8:30am to 8:30pm
Friday 21 st December	8:30am to 6:30pm
Saturday 22nd December	8:30am to 4:00pm
Sunday 23rd December	10:00am to 3:00pm
Monday 24 th December	8:30am to 6:30pm
Christmas Day (25th December)	CLOSED
Boxing Day (26th December)	CLOSED
Thursday 27 th December	8:30am to 6:30pm
Friday 28 th December	8:30am to 6:30pm
Saturday 29 th December	8:30am to 1:00pm
Monday 31 st December	8:30am to 6:30pm
New Years Day (1st January)	CLOSED

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- Digital Photo printing
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- Webster-paks
- Home Medicine Reviews
- Free gift wrapping

Trading Hours

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

FREE – 2019 Calendars now available

Yummy **easy** and **delish**



Torta Caprese

A wickedly delicious chocolate cake to share this festive season!

Serves 6-8

Ingredients

200g unsalted butter
200g good-quality dark chocolate
4 eggs, separated
170g castor sugar
1 tps vanilla extract
250g almond meal
Icing sugar and cocoa to dust
Ice-cream to serve

Method

Pre-heat oven to 170 C. Grease and line a 24 cm cake pan with non-stick baking paper.

Melt the butter and set aside to cool.

Process the chocolate until finely chopped, but still retaining a little texture. (Alternatively chop finely with a sharp knife).

Place the egg yolks, sugar and vanilla extract in a bowl and beat until pale and thick. Fold in the chocolate, butter and almond meal. (The mixture should be very thick).

In a separate bowl, whisk the eggwhites until soft peaks form. Gently fold in the chocolate mixture.

Spoon into the cake pan, level the surface and bake for 50-60 minutes, until just firm to the touch.

Set aside to cool in the pan, then turn out.

Serve dusted with icing sugar and with a scoop of ice-cream dusted with cocoa.

Recipe from - ABC Delicious

Merry Christmas everyone
StefaniaJ

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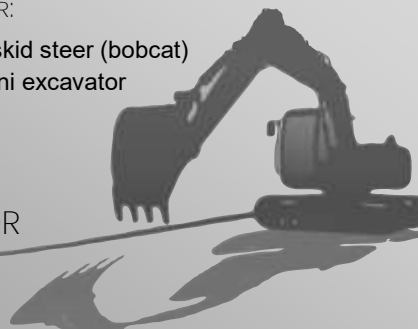
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Bannockburn Surgery provides comprehensive GP services, has been practicing in the community for more than 30 years, is the largest practice in the shire, with 6 full time equivalent Doctors and has an excellent reputation.

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

We are an accredited teaching practice, training GP's of the future, our current Doctors are **Dr Carolyn Grigg**, **Dr David Russell** and **Dr Daniel McCubbery**.

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Mr Chatar Goyal- Orthopaedic Surgeon and Dr Saj Rathnyake-Gynaecologist will both be practicing at Bannockburn Surgery as visiting specialists. Please talk to you Doctor about a referral if you require either of these services.

Fees are payable at the time of consultation by cash or eftpos. Bookings are available online (visit our website) or by phone and we are accepting new patients living in the Golden Plains Shire. Every effort will be made to accommodate your preferred time and preferred doctor.

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Wishing all our valued customers a

VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS AND A HAPPY AND SAFE 2019



Echidna Tracking

Although echidnas are one of Australia's most iconic animals, we know very little about their wild populations. With your help, EchidnaCSI is working to change that.

EchidnaCSI is an app-based citizen science project. After downloading the app, participants can use it to take photos of echidnas as they see them or submit photos they already have. The app facilitates the inclusion of valuable information such as the location, date and time of the echidna sighting, along with extra information provided by the users such as the echidna's approximate size, what it is doing and if it is alive or deceased. This information allows us to better understand the preferred habitats of echidnas, how their populations are changing through time as well as identify main causes of death (such as roadkill) across Australia.

You can also use the app to submit echidna scats before sending them to our lab. Echidna scats can be easily identified as they look like long tubes of soil filled with ants, approximately the thickness of a 5 cent coin and can be up to 10-15cm long. Our app and website have photos of echidna scats to help you identify them. We extract hormones and DNA from the scats, giving us further information about wild echidnas including their diet, how their stress levels fluctuate in different environments, and how reproductively active varying populations are.

We want to use our research to ensure the future of Australia's favourite spiky animals. Echidnas have been declared endangered on Kangaroo Island (KI) - but with very little knowledge about mainland echidnas, it is difficult to know how to help them. It is likely that mainland echidnas are under threat as they experience the same threats as KI echidnas such as habitat loss, roadkill and feral animals. By gaining a greater understanding of echidnas, we hope to improve conservation efforts.

Since the project launched in September 2017, the app has had over 6000 downloads. We have received over 4500 sightings from across all states and territories, as well as 250 scat submissions.



You can find out more through the CSI Facebook page and on our website: grutznerlab.weebly.com/echidna-csi.html. We would love to have you on board! And there are more pictures of these beautiful creatures from the CSI gallery on page 53.

Reunion at Happy Hens

Maria Colla

We hosted a party of the motorhome club we belong to at our Happy Hens egg farm. Our chapter of the Caravan Motorhome Club Australia is known as Southern Explorers. We visit venues around Victoria and our weekend was the first private venue the club has used. .

Twenty six motorhomes attended and I took 5 parties of 8 persons throughout our egg grading facility. We had bacon & eggs for breakfast and many went down our slide, left over from our tourist park.

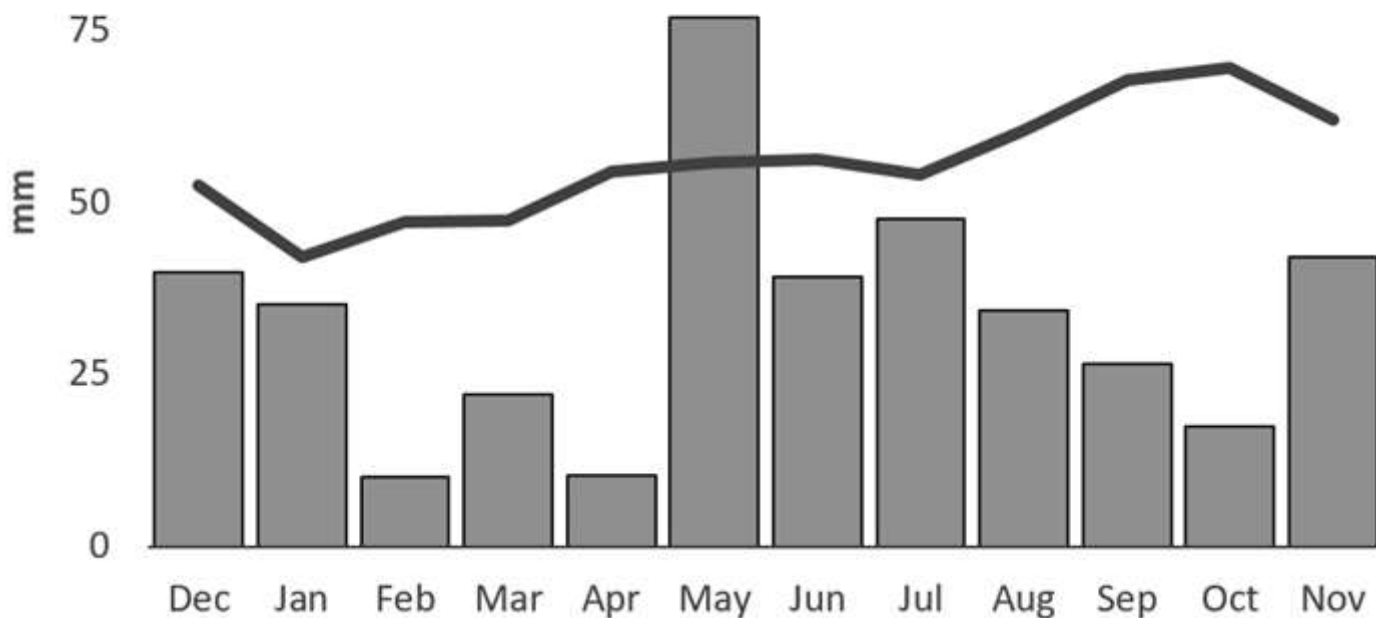
We had a game of disc bowls on Saturday afternoon. . We had a lot of fun, a great time was had by all



the rainfall report



The picture tells the story. All but one of the last twelve months registered less than the long term average (LTA) rainfall. The spring just finished, was a trough when, as the graph shows, it should have been a crest. In numbers, spring registered 86mm or just 43% of the LTA. Over the last 12 months we have had 402mm or 60%. November, delivered 42mm which, although well below the LTA of 60mm, was nearly half of our spring rains.



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Armistice Centenary Commemoration and Celebrations 1918-2018

Marg Cooper

Armistice Centenary Commemoration & Celebrations 1918-2018

A small group of the Meredith & District Memorial Hall Committee organized a weekend of events to commemorate and celebrate the Armistice of WW1.

On Friday 9th November the Annual Remembrance Eve Dinner and Award Presentation to Trinity Crawford along with guest speaker Sgt Sean Fitton 8/7RVR was conducted with John Watson's piano entertainment.

Meredith & District Lions Club provided a free BBQ on Saturday at 12 noon and children's games were organised by the Primary School at Pioneer Park. A native tree donated by Bamganie & Meredith Landcare Group was planted by Neil & June Cameron & Matt Fisher near to the BBQ.

Later that night a Country Dance with supper and a live band was held at the Memorial Hall where those in attendance were totally entertained and encouraged to dance the night away.

A Remembrance Service was held in the Hall at 10 am followed by a light lunch at 12 noon. Donna and Matthew Murrell piped and drummed as people arrived. Kevin Harty, Sec/Treas of Meredith RSL welcomed everyone whilst Maddy McColl, Neil Cameron and John Parkinson lit candles representing WW1, WW11 and Korea, Vietnam and post 1975 conflicts. Marg Cooper described "How Meredith and District celebrated Armistice in 1918". Dawn Macdonald played the organ and Kym Ivory helped us to sing several hymns. Prayers were offered before the crowd adjourned outside to the cenotaph for a minute's silence at 11 am and the laying of wreaths.

At 2 pm John Watson presented '100 years of Song Show'. He sang to a small crowd in the supper room and it was fantastic, intimate and special.

A special thanks to our supporters from the Meredith Dairy, Woolabrai, Clyde Park, Rick and Kate from the Top Hotel and to those who helped the event to be as successful as it was!



...and How it as Originally Celebrated

Meredith

There was no little excitement in Meredith on Friday morning when word came that peace had been declared.

There was a rush for bunting and every available flag was hoisted.

In regard to the old Meredith Shire flag, which had been in safe keeping for a number of years in the strong room at the Meredith Shire Hall, the president of the shire accompanied by Cr McColl, deemed the occasion a fitting one for its unfurling. It was then found that the safe had not been opened for years and years and the key had been lost.

The village blacksmith overcame the difficulty and in the presence of a number of citizens the grand old flag was soon waving in the breeze. In the afternoon the children from the State School and St Joseph's school under Mr Edmonds, Head Teacher and Misses Noy, Murphy and Lowne, marched up the main street. The procession was headed by the State School Union Jack and all the children carried flags, tin whistles and other musical instruments. Cheers were given and the children saluted the flag at the Shire Hall and sang "Rule Britannia" and "God Save the King". Mrs F. Mayo and Mrs M. Mooney provided biscuits and lollies for the children.

In the evening a celebration was held at the Mechanic's Institute. Cr Synot presided. Musical items and recitations were rendered, short addresses were given and a collection was taken up in aid of the local Repatriation Fund and realised £5.

Mr Middleton donated a box of pastry and with oranges and bananas the children had a good time. After the concert a dance was held until Midnight.

Geelong Advertiser: November 11, 1918

Steiglitz

At Steiglitz there was great rejoicing and jubilation on Friday morning when the news arrived that peace had been proclaimed. The church bell was rung continuously, patriotic songs and hymns were sung and bunting appeared on almost every building.

In the afternoon a huge bonfire was built on "the Gib" and the population turned out en masse to light it at night.

A splendid effigy of the Kaiser with his iron cross was hoisted on a pole and consigned to the flames.

Geelong Advertiser: November 12, 1918.



CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR ARRANGEMENTS 2018-2019

CUSTOMER SERVICE CENTRES

Bannockburn and Linton Customer Service Centres

Close Friday 21 December 2018 at 1pm, re-open on Wednesday 2 January 2019 at 8.30am.

Smythesdale Customer Service Centre

Close Friday 21 December 2018 at 1pm, re-open on Wednesday 2 January 2019 at 10am.

GARBAGE AND RECYCLING COLLECTION

There will be changes to Council's waste and recycling collection service over the Christmas period. Refer to the table below for your revised collection day during the festive season and please remember to place your bins out the night before your collection day.

Normal kerbside collection day	Christmas/New Year kerbside collection day
Monday 24 December & Monday 31 December	Monday 24 December & Monday 31 December
Tuesday 25 December & Tuesday 1 January	Wednesday 26 December & Wednesday 2 January
Wednesday 26 December & Wednesday 2 January	Thursday 27 December & Thursday 3 January
Thursday 27 December & Thursday 3 January	Friday 28 December & Friday 4 January
Friday 28 December & Friday 4 January	Saturday 29 December & Saturday 5 January

ROKEWOOD TRANSFER STATION

The Rokewood Transfer Station will open over the Christmas period during the site's normal operating hours from 10am-3pm.

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

Roads & Drains:	Works Superintendent	Ph. 5220 7111
Dogs & Livestock:	Community Protection Officer	Ph. 5220 7111
Garbage & Recycling:	Cleanaway	Ph. 1800 230 130

COUNCIL MEETING CYCLE 2019

At its Special Meeting on 7 November 2018, Council resolved the following dates for Council Meetings in 2019. Meetings commence at 6pm, excluding 22 January which commences at 7pm.

ORDINARY MEETINGS

Tuesday 22 January 2019 (7pm start)	Bannockburn Shire Hall, 12 High Street
Tuesday 26 February 2019	Linton Customer Service Centre, 68 Sussex Street
Tuesday 26 March 2019	Bannockburn Shire Hall
Tuesday 23 April 2019	Linton Customer Service Centre
Tuesday 28 May 2019	Bannockburn Shire Hall
Tuesday 25 June 2019	Linton Customer Service Centre
Tuesday 23 July 2019	Bannockburn Shire Hall
Tuesday 27 August 2019	Linton Customer Service Centre
Tuesday 24 September 2019	Bannockburn Shire Hall
Tuesday 22 October 2019	Linton Customer Service Centre
Tuesday 26 November 2019	Bannockburn Shire Hall
Tuesday 17 December 2019 (3rd Tuesday)	Linton Customer Service Centre

SPECIAL (ANNUAL) MEETING

Tuesday 11 June 2019 (Budget submissions)	Bannockburn Shire Hall
Wednesday 6 November 2019 (Mayoral Election)	Bannockburn Shire Hall

Councillors and staff at Golden Plains Shire Council wish residents a Merry Christmas and a happy and safe 2019.
ERIC BRASLIS, CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



little
GEMS



Ghosts

I love Charles Dickens. As I imagine, do billions of other people. I am also one of those odd people who laugh uncontrollably whilst reading *A Tale of Two Cities* or *Great Expectations*. Although containing serious content matter, that man had a sense of humour that could span across centuries to make a girl in her late-twenties laugh while her futuristic more-computer-than-phone device demands attention from the corner of the room.

Fittingly, about this time of year, *A Christmas Carol* tends to start making its rounds in various adaptations. Christmas time will bring about a plethora of movies and television shows that either seriously or satirically revolve around the ghosts of Christmas Past, Present and Future. While I in no way want to compare myself (or anyone else for that matter) to our friend Scrooge, the idea of past, present and future selves rather than ghosts is something that often presents itself in day to day life. Things you do in the present can either help or hinder you in the future, leading you to either praise or curse your past self.


Just say, for example, that you sat down to write an article for a publication that you absolutely love writing for but the computer's glaringly white screen stares at you, blank as your mind. You might sit there for a long time, pulling at useless threads of ideas until you're all but ready to admit defeat. But then you remember sometimes you write ideas down in your phone. You rush to grab it, excited by the prospect that in the past you have been so clever and organised only to realise that no, she is none of the above because she hasn't written any of her ideas down in the last month. Good on you, you lazy fool.

At other times, you may be having a spring clean (you better have...it's summer now) and find a roll of double-sided scrapbooking tape that you couldn't find months ago when you were ready to scrapbook the hell out of your exciting life (you can make anything exciting with the right stickers). While you have no desire to do it now,


you know you might get a fleeting scrapbooking bug and put the tape with the rest of the supplies. Later in the year when you've exhausted all the latest series' that Netflix has to offer, you decide you want to finish scrapbooking your New Zealand holiday from two years ago even though you can barely remember it. You remember you lost that damn tape but go to your supply box to find it sitting on top. Go past you! She's always got your back (you forgave her for not writing down those ideas).

While admittedly I've never read *A Christmas Carol*, I feel like a takeaway point to my babbling is that present you should always be doing things to make future you's life easier. It'll save all the cursing and self-loathing you feel towards past you when she decided to make a dirty work uniform future hers problem.





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Maude & She Oaks WW2 Roll of Honour

A Dedication Ceremony for installation of the new honour board, was held at the Maude Tennis Club Rooms on October 28, 2018.

Alan Tournier, Master of Ceremonies welcomed everyone and explained that the project of the Maude-She Oaks-Steiglitz Community Planning Group, had taken eighteen months from conception to dedication. The project was funded by a Golden Plains Shire Community Grant, the Maude Recreation Reserve Committee of Management and the contribution of in-kind hours by generous participants.

Alan began the ceremony by reading the inspiring poem "Why Wear a Poppy?". Sentimental songs and readings, with audience participation, were also enjoyed.

Pauline Tournier joint Master of Ceremonies, introduced local historian Mrs Jean Trotter who officially handed over custodianship of historic framed photos of WW1 Maude & She Oaks soldiers Gunner John Richards {whose name is on the WW1 Roll of Honour} and Arthur Cunningham.

Carissah Cain-Sultana Military Historian who is currently working on stories of the twenty- eight service personnel listed on the WW1 Roll of Honour told about John Richards, his early life, his service and his death on 6/7/1918 at Hamel in the fields of France.

David Jones – Wing Commander (retired) current President of the Meredith RSL Branch, who was our VIP Guest, unveiled the new Maude & She Oaks WW2 Roll of Honour and presided over the formal proceedings.

Sincere thanks to Lindy Allinson Civil Celebrant, for assistance with planning the Ceremony.

Several relatives of soldiers commemorated on the board were thanked for their support in researching eligible names missing from the original WW2 Memorial Plaque. Much research was undertaken to ensure that every soldier from the district was included.

Appreciation was expressed to Catherine Schurmann Architect, for designing the board, Adam East Builder, for constructing the board which also preserves the original WW2 Memorial Plaque, Greg Morrissey Sign writer for the gold leaf lettering and the Maude Recreation Reserve Committee of Management for their support.

A scrumptious afternoon tea was then enjoyed with lots of chatter.



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PETE GOAT

Well, here are the Goats back again after a couple of months out on agistment [somehow missed October and there was No -November]. So what were the most nourishing cultural pickings in that time?

Whilst out in the long paddock we visited the Biennale in Ballarat but actually the highlights were right here in the home paddock

The first could only be described as our local Rogues Gallery: I really enjoyed the William Dunbar Johnstone exhibition and luckily visited when Marg Cooper was showing the new Shire CEO around and she was able to explain her wonderful piece. It would have been a hands down winner for the Quirkiest Entry if there had been such a category and I had been a judge. I'm sure anyone who saw it will remember her creative biscuit jar landscape diorama with subterranean cross-section of the rogue's grave in Lowndes' pig-paddock. It reminded me of one of those 19th century souvenirs of miniature villages in glass globes or the Nordstrom models of the 1859 Clunes goldfields in the Melbourne museum which show all the surface activities as well as cut-away views of the shafts and tunnels.

And the rest of the show was such a diversity of uninhibited expression, material, creativity and interpretation of the theme, really impressive. I'm assuming that someone else has written it up in detail already so I won't go through all except to say what an interesting result it was. Let's hope it happens again. I'm sure everyone who saw it had their favourites and when I saw the Archibald Prize exhibition in Geelong it had that same feel many different artists' expression on a common theme and very accessible

The truly important cultural event for me was the Welcome to Country and Smoking Ceremony performed on a beautiful spring afternoon at the Back to Steiglitz day in October

Traditional owner, Wadawurrung woman Melinda Kennedy welcomed us in Wadawurrung language. She spoke very movingly of the dispossession of her people, of the pain suffered by her family, of her mother and grandmother who were taken from their families. She generously welcomed us to her country and the country of her ancestors, to share it and care for it and invited us to join in the cleansing healing smoking ceremony. Then almost all of the gathering joined in passing through the smoke from yellow gum leaves [Bi-et-mai in Wadawurrung] burning in Melinda's Tarnuk [wooden bowl] while Lyndon a Wadiwadi man from Swan Hill played gentle didgeridoo. One local resident said to me afterwards that participating in this ceremony there

where he lives was something he had been wanting and needing all the time he has lived there.

It had been decided at the organising meeting for the Back to Steiglitz day that we did not want to continue the event without acknowledging, respecting and including Traditional ownership, history and culture of this place we all know and love. This ceremony marked what we hope will be the beginning of a learning process which might start with finding out more about the Aboriginal Reserve which was established in Steiglitz in the 1860's and go on to much more.

And as it happens, the standout work for me at the Biennale in Ballarat, was an exhibition of maybe twenty or more paintings by Marlene Gilson who is a Wadawurrung Traditional owner and Elder [Melinda's aunt, I think]. Her work is very simple in a way but it is full of detail and each piece tells a story, some of them many stories, of the impact of occupation and dispossession of colonization

The scenes are of the goldfields, ports, squatters' runs and full of soldiers, horses, sheep, ships, hotels and huts. But in and amongst them are aboriginal people trying to live their lives despite the catastrophic disruption of their culture

They bring to mind Bruegel and S.T. Gill perhaps and also William Barak and Tommy McCrae, the difference being that they were painting in the present whereas she is recreating the past. What Marlene Gilson's work says to me is that for her as Wadawurrung woman with a cultural history of tens of thousands of years, the invasion of her country is as if it were yesterday – and it hasn't stopped. The paintings are not grim though, in fact they are very bright and express an unexpected generosity whilst plainly stating the facts. They are saying: "We were here, we were always here and we will always be here"

I really hope that the Ballarat Gallery has purchased some of her work, which was all for sale, and that it is not all dispersed into private collections.

We didn't see all of the Biennale by any means but it was well worth the trip. There were some extraordinary conceptual sculptural installations in the Gallery and interesting site-specific installations in the eerie Old Bacon Factory. It is exciting to see events like this happening in regional locations.

This Goat wishes everyone a safe and happy end to this year and will be with you again in the new one. Thanks again to all the editorial sub-committee: Jim, Dawn, David, Trudy, Stefania and Ian. Also to Steve Goat for asking me to join in.





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We are looking forward to meeting members of the local community and assisting with their health care needs.

Myrtle does it again!

Marg Cooper

At the first sheep and lamb sale at the new Central Victorian Livestock Exchange at Miners Rest on the 23rd of October, 24,361 lambs were sold & 13,240 sheep- a total of 37,601 head. There were 6,380 more than the week before, on the 16th of October at the last sheep and lamb sale at Latrobe Street.

It was reported that lambs sold to a very spirited competition, prices were quoted as being \$10 to \$20 up on the previous week and export weight lambs sold from \$207 to \$270.

Local famer extraordinaire Myrtle Wiseman was paid \$268 for 41 of the 120 lambs she sent to the market. An absolutely amazing price!

She planned to send a load of lambs to the market prior to her recent holiday because she could see that the season was getting dry but her agent Jamie Gordon of TB White & Sons advised her to wait. Asked if the lambs were produced from the maiden ewes she bought in January for \$350 each she answered that No, the mothers were her older ewes.

Myrtle was very proud of the price she received but wished that she could tell her son Steve who died in 2007. He had the vision and set up the breeding program to produce top quality lambs.





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Kindred matters

judith emond FAMILY THERAPIST

The gift of connecting this Christmas

Many people in our community may have, for various reasons, become estranged from family members. It could be children, an adult child, siblings, a parent or extended family member. Disconnection between parents and children and other family members is heart breaking particularly if it has occurred for many years without reconciling. My experience is that once the ruptured bond has taken place people find it very difficult to manage and often remain disconnected for a long-time or a lifetime.

Note: I am by no means encouraging anyone to connect with family members where there are safety issues and the contact may cause harm or trauma. Instead this information is directed purely at those whom may have fallen out for other reasons and there are no risks to personal safety.

I write this from my experience of working with bereft family members whom have been estranged from each other for several years. It is common that both parties accept the separation and may believe that their relationship cannot be re kindled. This is often not the case and although reconnection may not result in the return of a flourishing relationship some form of continued bond usually occurs. It may result in simply sending a card once a year, the occasional face to face visit each year or more frequent contact depending on circumstances.

Taking steps to offer our gift of connection

Unfortunately we cannot control how someone might respond when we reach out to them but we can certainly gift our kind regards without the need for reply. This concept of gifting your connection to a family member and not holding any expectation on their reply can be challenging but it is a helpful way to let them know that you still care about them. Remember regardless of the outcome every time you reach out it is always noticed and valued by the estranged family member.

This Christmas you may like to consider the following ways to reach out if you feel that it is possible for you to do so;

- Begin with the easiest way to connect whether it is a phone call, text message, sending a card or using social media.
- If you are a parent of an estranged child/ adult child then essentially it is your responsibility to take the lead in reaching out. You may have already experienced unsuccessful attempts in the past but don't give up. Your child may not be ready to speak to you but they will certainly know that you care and haven't given up on them.
- It is important to reach out with the gift of kindness in a non judgemental manner. Try your best to put feelings of resentment aside and avoid digging up past behaviours or placing blame.
- Focus on the aspects of the relationship you cherished

or the things you miss about the person.

- Keep it short and sweet – all estranged family members need to know is that they mean something to you and you care about them.
- Be consistent in the frequency of contact for example, at every birthday and Christmas you may chose to send a card or message. Consistency and perseverance goes along way.
- It is never too late to make contact and at this time of the year it may just make the world of difference to you and your family member.
- Seek professional advice from a family therapist, psychologist or counsellor if you need more support and guidance for managing estrangement within your family. Your GP can refer you to someone suitable if you prefer.

I sincerely wish you well this Christmas if you chose to gift the act of connection and kindness to someone in your family whom may be estranged.



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The Christmas Corner.

Every year we add more and update our towns Christmas spirit. Along with the Christmas sheep all over Meredith, we set up the Christmas Corner on the corner of Staughton St and Midland Highway.

Our Christmas display keeps growing with the Nativity, Santa sleigh pulled by sheep, of course, a large twinkling tree and of course a few kangaroos and emus, and more lights this year.

The team, consisting of members of Meredith & District Lions, Advance Meredith Association, Meredith Rural CFA and a community minded resident, find it now takes few sessions to complete the set up.

We thank Mr and Mrs Parkinson for their generous use of their yard.

So please go for a walk one evening and enjoy a touch of Christmas spirit in Meredith

Merry Christmas & Happy Holiday Season.

Christmas Sheep of Meredith

2018 and another great response to the call out for orders for Christmas sheep with 44 new sheep going to join their new flocks this Christmas Season.

We will be installing the community mob around town in the first and second weeks of December, so it would be great if the private owned flocks appeared about then as well.

We would love it if you took a photo of your sheep and posted it on the Christmas Sheep of Meredith Facebook page.

Special Thanks to Brian & Peter (Meredith CFA) for cutting out sheep, Doris, Michaela & Mary (Meredith & District Lions) and Kerrie (Advance Meredith Association) for undercoat painting of sheep.

Andrea (Meredith Lions) for collating and answering order enquiries and providing back up collection point.

Bev (BOP Arts Co-Op), Doris (Lions) and Marg & Kerrie (Advance Meredith) for decorating community sheep and manning collection point.

Thank You to the BOP Team for the use of their

wonderful space.

What a fantastic Town Spirit we have in Meredith

So, go for a walk or a drive and see how many Christmas sheep you can find hanging around Meredith this Christmas

We wish Ewe a Fleece Navidad

PS Any profits from Christmas sheep sales, goes into providing more community sheep or towards new items for Christmas Corner – this year new kangaroos, emus, donkey, angel and lights.



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Next Year the Tour de Cure is coming to Meredith!

Heidi Bramberger

The 2019 Signature Tour will go from Sydney to Geelong over 9 days – 1287 kms with almost 14,000 metres of vertical climbing!

Tour de Cure is made up of ordinary people who care passionately about curing cancer, who like to ride bicycles and keep fit. I have been privileged to be part of the TDC family now for 8 years and am Victorian Ambassador.

2019 will be very special as the route will pass through many wonderful Victorian towns and on day 8 (May 10) we will arrive in Daylesford, and along the way to Geelong on day 9 we will pass through one town that is particularly close to my heart – Meredith!

With the amazing support of my partner Karl Hardy (son of Denise and Geoff Hardy) I am able to continue to focus on my training and fundraising preparation for next year's tour. Each year we must individually raise \$12,000 to participate in the Signature tour and over my time I have raised over \$100K. This does not come easily and I have had incredible support from the Hardy family, in particular with the Annual Meredith Car Show (Meredith Man Cave Madness) which has supported my fundraising efforts year on year. More about the tour and how you can help in a later issue of the Newsletter.



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In our Nature

Wendy Cook

Have you ever heard spiders referred to as peacocks or jovial? I have met both these enchanting creatures in my garden. They are tiny spiders belonging to a large family known as jumping spiders. Only a few millimetres long, they can be brightly coloured, or patterned with duller hues to provide camouflage, or with markings which mimic a wasp or an ant. They sometimes appear to have a moustache, and all have excellent eyesight. They commonly turn towards movement, so when you watch them, they may be watching you. They can walk along a slender stick lying on the ground, as if it was a bridge above the leaf litter. Their movements are often swift or jerky. If you blink, the spider may have vanished. Watch for movement, and you may see it again among the dead leaves. It might rush across the leaf, pause as if considering its next move, and then leap a few centimetres to another leaf or stick.

The peacock spider I found was moving like this across the leaf litter. Its colouring caught my eye. Its brown abdomen had a central red spot surrounded by broad red lines and a brilliant blue tip. Its white pedipalps, which look like an extra set of short legs next to its mouth and have many uses, gave the spider the appearance of a snowy moustache. Its third pair of legs were covered in black hairs and had white feet which it lifted in turn and waved in the air. I watched until it disappeared into the leaf litter. This foot waving is the beginnings of a courtship display by the male spider to a female. I did not see her with her much plainer colouring. If she shows interest, the male will continue waving his legs, lift his abdomen, unfold colourful side flaps and perform a dance for her. These displays, when recorded, caused the spiders to become internet sensations.

Compared to the peacock, the jovial jumping spider was plainly coloured. From inside the house, I saw it on the outside of a window. It was black with a pointed abdomen, red-brown legs, and white pedipalps. When I went outside, I could see yellow markings on its abdomen. As it crept across the window, it paused regularly, twisting the front half of its body to look around. With a casual glance, it could be mistaken for a small native wasp. This is an excellent form of protection from predators, which may happily attack a relatively harmless spider, but be wary of an aggressive stinging wasp.

While these tiny spiders, usually much less than 1 cm long, need to be cautious of predators, they are themselves proficient hunters of insects, including mosquitoes. They have eight eyes, including two large ones at the front which are the most obvious, and can see all the way around. Rather than weaving a web, they are active daytime hunters, watching for prey, approaching carefully and using their strong third and fourth pairs of

legs to leap on their meal. At night, they retreat to their silk sanctuary, woven into a crevice in a rock or bark or under a plant. They also spend winter hibernating in these places, and in spring or summer the female will lay her eggs there.

While the reason for the peacock spider's name is obvious, I could find no cause for naming the other spider jovial. While relatively plain, it was still more colourful than many spiders. It is because of their colours and intricate patterns that jumping spiders are considered to be among the most attractive spiders in the world. Although tiny, their large eyes and appearance of watchful curiosity attracts the interest of many people, even those who find larger spiders scary. They are found throughout the world, and Australia is fortunate to have over 250 described species, and certainly more that are yet to be discovered.

We were amazed to learn about these magnificently decorated spiders sharing our postcode. Here he (maybe she) is, but you need to go to page 53 to see just how magnificent they really are. We always learn something from this column, but a special 'Thank You' Wendy for this little Xmas gift. - Ed.



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A Way of Life

by KERRIE KRUGER



A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO A MORE SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE

Why do we cringe at that garden with weeds, shake our heads at the shame of allowing them to grow, “oh how untidy” we say as we shake our heads or in our own gardens we mutter “, Oh the weeds are growing, quick spray them, dig them up ... get rid of them!”

Does the weed fairy come out at night and dance over the garden, planting seeds to grow in the most obscure spots and magic them to grow so fast? Does she sit and giggle as she watches gardeners spend their time cursing the unwanted arrival of weeds? But does she cringe and gasp as some even go so far as hating them, declaring an all-out war with chemicals like Round Up, or organically ripping and tearing at them with abandon.

Or is that the spring moisture is usually followed by warm temperatures, which means weeds begin to grow!

Actually, I think weeds are only considered “bad” because of how we, humans interact with them. They grow where they aren’t sown, where we don’t want them. They are often winningly competitive, peskily persistent and willfully disobedient – maybe just like the fairies!

But hang on, while weeds aren’t necessarily always in our garden plans, they can serve a purpose, a few varied purposes. As gardeners, showing respect to nature, maybe we should learn to look at weeds differently. All plants have their roles, and if we can start to see the good in our weeds, perhaps they’ll be welcomed additions, or at least visitors, to our gardens

No, I don’t allow all “weeds” to grow, many do get dug out for the chooks, because they also benefit from the nutritional and medicinal properties of the humble weed. And yes a few do get sprayed with nontoxic spray especially the noxious weeds that do need to be removed asap!

Contrary to their reputation, beneficial weeds under certain circumstances can be helpful in the garden by holding top-soil, drawing up water and nutrients, providing food, controlling insects and a weed is a plant which, are chock full of vitamins, minerals and surprising healing abilities.

Weeds are great attractors of beneficial insects. They summon pollinators and predatory insects, which help other plants succeed (and produce), keeps pest numbers down and more insects equate to more birds in the garden

Then there are many that are very beneficial to us, which I encourage to grow for there nutritional or healing properties. (see box for a few of our Humble “weeds”)

So, sure, in our gardens, sometimes we must do battle with the weeds and speak sternly to that fairy! We can’t very well have a lot of weeds taking over our tomatoes, beans or peas, but we can recognize that these plants play an important part in natural systems and can play a vital role in our gardens. Indeed, weeds might be a good thing to have growing.

So, ignore the neighbours looks and comments. Grow a beautiful crop of weeds, save money and be self-reliant in healing herbs for your body and your garden.

May you touch dragonflies and stars, dance with fairies and talk to the Moon at this time of the year with the magic of the energies of the Summer Solstice and Spirit of Christmas Season.

Slow Down, Connect and Enjoy Your Life - Kerrie

The Humble Weed

Dandelion

The humble dandelion (*Taraxacum officinale*) has a strong taproot saw tooth leaf, and pretty little yellow flowers.

You can eat every part of the dandelion—roots, stems, leaves and flowers. One option is to fry the flowers in a batter and make dandelion fritters. People have also incorporated dandelions into several beverages: grinding the roots for a coffee-like drink, or even making dandelion wine.

Dandelion root tea can have many positive effects on your digestive system. The various compounds found in dandelion tea act as a diuretic, laxative, and a digestive stimulant, while also causing a release of extra bile. This can help speed up digestion and make it more efficient, thus eliminating symptoms of constipation, bloating, cramping, diarrhoea, and even haemorrhoids!

Chickweed

With its starry white flowers with cleft petals, dainty pairs of fuzzy green leaves and purple stems identify the chickweed plant, low-growing, light, trailing plant Chickweed (*Stellaria media*). Chickweed can be used for constipation, stomach and bowel problems, blood disorders, asthma and other lung diseases, obesity, psoriasis, itching, muscle and joint pain

It can be added to soups or stews, but in the last five minutes to prevent overcooking. Unlike many wild edibles, the chickweed's stems, leaves, flowers and seeds are all edible. ... Only the Mouse-ear chickweed has to be cooked. The rest can be eaten raw, but I think it tastes better cooked.

Nettles

It looks harmless enough, but once you make the mistake of touching stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*) with your bare hand, you’ll never do it again. This plant has a piercing sting with tiny needle-like hairs infused with several painful chemicals.

The most common remedy is the leaf of the dock plant—which naturally grows quite near the nettle. According to folk tales one should also say the following charm while rubbing the leaf slowly over the sting,

“Nettle in dock out, Dock rub nettle out”

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But once it's cooked, soaked in water or dried, the fibres are 'disarmed' and can be used both medicinally and as food.

Nettle represents one of the richest sources of chlorophyll (a great source of Iron) and is a valuable as a blood builder- anaemia, eczema, bladder infections, prostate enlargement and bronchitis are just a few of the conditions that are often treated with nettle in dried leaf, tincture or tea form. Nettle can be added raw to smoothies by putting a handful of leaves in a blender with pineapple or orange juice.

And even if you don't want to eat it, nettle can be a big help in a surprising way: as an extremely effective liquid fertilizer for the garden

Nettle tea for the garden

Fill ½- ¾ of a large bucket with nettle leaves
Fill the rest of the bucket with water. Leave to stand for 1 week
Dilute 1-part nettle mix to 10 parts water

This nettle tea can be given readily to any of your plants. The benefit of nettle and other "compost teas" is that the vitamins and minerals are readily available to the plants. It feeds the soil while giving a really quick boost to plants since nutrients can be absorbed almost immediately

Megan's WEED TART

Inspired and Adjusted from "A Table in the Orchard" by M. Crawford.

Pastry

125g plain Flour
110g salted butter
½ tsp salt
1-2 tbsp iced water

Filling

A bunch of greens. EG spinach, chicory, mallow, dandelion, wild broccoli, etc – removed from stalks and roughly chopped
Small Onion, finely diced
Garlic- 1-3 Cloves
Fresh Herbs – parsley, thyme, rosemary - mix & match use what you have growing
200 – 400 g Ricotta – depends on how ricottary you like it
Grated parmesan (fresh) and tasty Cheese (optional)
2 backyard eggs, beaten
Sweet potato slices prebaked (optional) but yummy.

Process

Lightly fry onion in a medium frying pan with a small glug of olive oil until softened.
Add chopped garlic & greens and cook gently until wilted, with a little salt & pepper
Roll pastry out into a rough circle, until about 1/2cm thick and put onto oven tray.
Spread ricotta over base, leaving edge of 8cm.
Top ricotta with cooked greens and herbs
Fold the edges of the pastry up and over the filling, leaving most of the top uncovered.
Pour the beaten eggs over the greens & herbs and top with sweet potato slices. Top with grated parmesan and if you are getting cheesy the grated tasty cheese.
Bake in Oven @ 180 deg C for 30-40 minutes.
Cool slightly and enjoy sitting in your garden with friends and glass of wine



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it's
NEW



meet
emma
and
jess

We are delighted to introduce cartoonist Emma Clarke, who has joined our talented team of contributors. Twenty year old Emma has been drawing cartoons since high school, is a member of the Meredith Art Group and hopes to use her cartooning talents in her future career.

She lives on a Meredith district farm with GP the cat and Jess the kelpie, who she describes as "...the loveliest dog ever, she is smart, loveable, but can often be very silly."

We look forward to finding that out for ourselves as we welcome Emma and "Kelpie Kapers" to the pages of M&D News.



AUSTRALIA DAY IN MEREDITH



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Saturday 26th January 2019

8.30 - 10 am

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Landcare News



Bamganie-Meredith

The Level 2 First Aid course was run at the Meredith Community Centre on Saturday 27th October. Participants had a great time, with much fun putting what they had learnt into practice in real-life like scenarios. All agreed the course was very well worthwhile, either as a 'refresher' to brush up on skills, or for first timers. A very useful app, particularly for those working alone away from the house or up the paddock, is the Emergency+ app for smart phones. The app, developed by Australia's emergency services and Government and industry partners, uses the GPS functionality of smart phones to help callers to Triple 000 provide accurate location details for emergency services. The app is free to download.

2019 Workshop dates for your calendar

Dates for the first two Bamganie Meredith Land and District Landcare workshops for 2019 have now been finalised.

Indigenous seed collection and propagation workshop.

Saturday 9 February at the Meredith Community Centre 9am – 2pm. Guest presenter Dan Frost from Seeding Victoria will cover topics including: the best time to collect local native seeds, seed collection and extraction methods, and seed treatments for propagation. This is a great opportunity to learn about our local tree species and how they grow. Everyone welcome. This is a free event with lunch provided but RSVP is essential. Contact Nick McKinley nick@leighcatchmentgroup.org or phone 0455 147 398.

Plant identification and revegetation techniques,

Saturday 6 April 2019. Steven Murphy from Recreating Country will be the guest presenter for this workshop. Steven has been a local Landcare nurseryman for over 30 years and has helped many landholders design plantations and choose plant species. Steven is a very inspirational presenter, this workshop is not to miss! For more information about Steve see his website: <https://recreatingcountry.com.au>. More details about the workshop will be available early next year.

National Landcare Smart Farm Small Grants 2019

Applications for grants under the National Landcare Smart Farm Small Grants scheme are now open, to be submitted by Friday 11 January 2019. The Smart Farms Small Grants program aims to protect, preserve and provide for the productive use of Australia's water, soil, plants and animals and the ecosystems in which they live and interact. For more information about the grants go to: <https://communitygrants.gov.au/grants/national-landcare-program-smart-farms-small-grants-0>

Next meeting: Thursday 13 December Royal Mail Hotel 7 for 7:30pm

Our final meeting for 2018 will be held on Thursday 13 December. Join us for dinner at 7 for 7:30pm at the Royal Mail Hotel Meredith to celebrate a great year. All welcome. Best wishes for the New Year and we look forward to seeing you in 2019.



Participants in the Landcare Group's first aid course practicing their CPR skills.



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Art Competition and More!

Marg Cooper

On October 7 the Art Competition organized by Meredith History Interest, Group to celebrate History week was opened. Artists had been invited to depict some part of the story of Sub Inspector William Dunbar Johnstone and their artworks were displayed in the History Centre and judged by Helena Kirby the Mayor of Golden Plains Shire and artist Chris Kempers.

At the opening Diane Hughes spoke about the research she had done that resulted in the wonderful story that the artists depicted of the policeman, who died at Meredith in 1855 and was probably the first person buried in the first Meredith Cemetery

.David Steel spoke about the police in early Victoria and told that the Police Department erect memorials to deceased policemen, that this year their focus is on remembering the police who died at Stringybark Creek and that they are uncertain if William Dunbar Johnstone died while on duty

Then the great, great, great, great grandson of William Dunbar Johnstone, Nelson McKenzie spoke, "I came to Meredith to speak about the early life of my great, great, great, great, grandfather, Police Sub-Inspector WD Johnstone. His "colourful" activities in Victoria are documented in public records, well known by those who have an interest in the matter and were the primary subject of this Art Competition. It was my privilege to be given an opportunity to speak about his life before he came to Victoria and thereby give a more complete perspective of a man who raised himself up from relatively humble circumstances to become an officer in the British Army, win the hand of another officer's daughter but die in relative disgrace. My family and I expected neither the large number of entries in the art exhibition nor the size of the crowd in attendance. It was humbling to be part of such a well-organized event and I really appreciated how welcoming the MHIG committee members were. This was the first time I had spoken in public and having a supportive audience made it an enjoyable experience for me".

Helena and Chris presented the prize money to Melinda Everest, first prize for her ceramic head of WD Johnstone and John Crawley for his somewhat humorous depiction of episodes of the story. The judges awarded encouragement awards to Rena Cowley for her scribble art, Joanne Mitchell for her portrait mosaic and Marg Cooper for her terrarium depiction of WDJ in the burial grounds. Two younger artists received awards, Darcy Tyrell and Nicholas Kruger.

The artworks were displayed at Bannockburn Cultural Centre for a month after being on display at Meredith for two weeks.

MHIG congratulate and thanks all the artists for contributing. It was a wonderful way to celebrate History Week in Meredith.



Mosaic by Joanne Mitchell

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DUCK SEASON? NO, WABBIT SEASON!

Elmer Fudd was right, you know!

The fearless hunter with his pop-gun was always several steps behind Bugs Bunny and probably had never tasted rabbit pie, but he knew the importance of rabbit control.

Landholders on large, small and hobby farms need all of Elmer's enthusiasm, but much more success in controlling Australia's biggest animal pest, the European wild rabbit.

Rabbits denude large areas of land, causing erosion and destruction of native vegetation, and threatening the survival of small native animals by eating them out of house and home.

In mid February 2019, the Maude & District Landcare Group will facilitate our annual rabbit poisoning campaign using Pindone poisoned carrot. If you have rabbits, we invite you to join in.

Pindone is an anticoagulant, which works by blocking the blood clotting mechanism. It is regarded as one of the most humane ways to control rabbits. There is an effective antidote for this poison, which reduces the risk to non-target animals like dogs and cats.

Biological control agents such as Myxomatosis or Calicivirus appear sporadically, but on their own are not enough.

Briefly, the details of our rabbit poisoning campaign are:

Number of poison feeds – three, as it is a cumulative poison.

Dates – Friday 22nd, Monday 25th and Thursday 28th February, 2019.

Pick-up time – noon until 2pm.

Place – Steiglitz Road, Maude, directly across the road from the Fire Station.

Permits required – none.

Free feed – your choice, but it certainly helps to get the rabbits used to coming to your trail and eating carrot.

Who can take part – anyone with a rabbit problem, provided you are prepared to travel to Maude on **all three pick-up days**. We do not deliver.

Prices – not yet available.

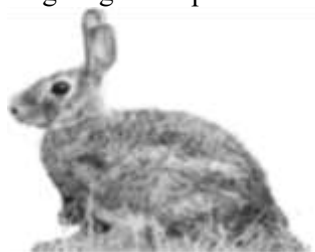
Payment – cash, cheque or electronic.

More info – Lex Stray, ph. 5281 9293 or Elaine Johns, ph. 5281 9395.

Website – www.pestsmart.org.au

Email – gillgartlan@yahoo.com.au

Please talk to your neighbours about the rabbit problem. Several neighbours working together produce a more successful result.



Vale to Matt Sheedy

Matt was the eldest of six children of Matt and Jean Sheedy. He spent most of his childhood in Lethbridge after the family moved there after moving from Ravenswood. His father worked on the railways at Lethbridge and they lived in a railway house. He attended Lethbridge Primary School from 1947 to 1949 and he was always late telling the teacher he had to shake the mats and do the dishes. He attended St Joseph's College in Geelong from 1950-1957, travelling on the railmotor. After he left school he worked in the avionic building at Avalon because he was interested in wirelasses and crystal sets. He also worked at the Geelong Railway Offices as a clerk and later became a chartered accountant as he loved working with figures.

Matt played football for Lethbridge in the years 1959-1963. During that time he picked up the nickname "Spider" because he had long arms and legs! He had a great love for steam and joined Lake Goldsmith Steam Preservation Society in the mid 1970's. He built a shed there and shared it with his brother George. He was Secretary of Lake Goldsmith Steam Preservation Society on 2 occasions and loved going there for weekends. Matt was married twice and had 5 children and in 1998 he met Anna and they shared 20 years together. He was lucky to have such a dedicated and loving lady to look after him. Matt got his wish which was to stay home and stay out of a nursing home.

Abbreviated from obituary of Danny Sheedy, Matt's youngest brother.

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10 Years Service

Cathie Boer



Mary foster joined the initial intake of CERT trainees, about 11 years ago. Recently, at a ceremony in Ballarat attended by Ambulance Victoria personnel and paramedics. Mary was awarded her 10 years service and safe driving medals

Congratulations Mary



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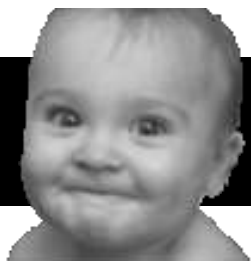
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Are Santa's helpers subordinate clauses?

- anon

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ANOTHER STEIGLITZ REUNION TO REMEMBER!

Lindy Allinson

As this year's Back to Steiglitz Reunion neared, all were getting excited. Especially Lenny, our reigning 'Silly Billy' billy cart race Champion. With entry in hand, he eagerly knocked on Pete & Chris's door, determined to win that coveted trophy (the golden toilet seat) three years in a row!

However, Lenny left disappointed, for this year everything was different. To start with, we'd put the 'Festival' element on hold (including our famous billy cart race). Why? Two big reasons – the band of volunteer organizers (the Back to Steiglitz Association) were down on active members. And none of us wrinkle-free! Plus, for the first time, we all really wanted to actually enjoy the day. Not simply race around like headless chooks. For usually we're so busy working we drop, red faced & exhausted, as the last car drives off.

So, this year was about going back to basics – focusing on the Reunion, and having fun!

And what a laughter-filled, fun day it was. Picture it - town doors open & welcoming. Hand-made bunting fluttering on breezes. Mouth-watering bbq smells threading through hills. Tables groaning under delicious country baked goodies. A glistening St. Paul's offering seats and shade for those poring over mountains of historical info. and photos. And amidst it all, children's laughter mingling with the excited chatter of old friends catching up.

To top it off, we had the best 'Welcome to Country' ever! Our heartfelt thanks to Melinda & Lyndon, of the Wadawurrung Aboriginal Corporation, for the wonderful stories, beautiful didge playing, and smoking ceremony which ensured we all 'smelt the same.'

The Back to Steiglitz Reunion is an incredible local tradition. One that's our privilege to nurture and keep alive. Something we couldn't do without you. **Thank You** to all those who helped make this day so special - whether by simply attending, buying a snag, providing family tales or rolling up your sleeves and jumping in. Hopefully you enjoyed yourselves as much as we did.


On a final note, remember to keep late October 2019 free – for our world-famous, award-winning '**Steiglitz Airing of the Quilts & Reunion**'. No billy cart race (sorry Lenny...maybe 2020) though still heaps of fun for everyone!

Check out our webpage www.backtosteiglitz.org.au or email me lindvallinson@gmail.com With the biggest of sunny Steiglitz smiles, Lindy Allinson (Secretary of the Back to Steiglitz Association) and all the crew



Mrs Jean Trotter ("the Most Beautiful Older Woman in attendance") with Lindy Allinson, and below, Melinda & Lyndon (from Wadawurrung Aboriginal Corporation) during their Smoking Ceremony.



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it's History

Meredith History Interest Group

The Next Tree: One Woman's Experience in Australia's Longest War

We were delighted to have Major Sarah Vesey, Australian Defence Force, as our guest speaker on November 4. Sarah, who was born and raised in Meredith, was a familiar face to many members as she attended Kindergarten and Primary School in Meredith, was a keen Brownie and played junior tennis for a number of years. (winning the Under 12 Doubles B Grade)

Sarah spoke about her deployment to Afghanistan and the talk was beautifully enhanced by the amazing photos taken by her sergeant. The talk and photos gave us an insight to the beauty of the country and the resilience of the people in the face of ongoing and constant danger. Sadly much of the work undertaken by Australian Forces has been lost, but several schools established by the Aussies for girls are still working.

Much to her mother's relief, Sarah is now based in Canberra, well away from the Taliban and the odd stray bullet.

(We all wondered what Sarah's title "The Next Tree" meant. When asked she explained that in Afghanistan one drinks a lot of tea and that women in the Forces are often looking for the next tree!)

Christmas Lunch

On December 13 the volunteers of MHIG are celebrating the years' work and Christmas at the Top Pub with a luncheon. The volunteers can certainly be proud of their achievements including indexing books supplied to us, by recording all our cataloguing on computer, by sorting a lot of Steiglitz History, by holding six events, by displaying in the History Centre, by obtaining a grant and applying for others, by supplying items to the Newsletter etc. The Street Library is popular with borrowers and contributors: if you have a larger cupboard that would be waterproof or could be waterproofed we could use it to offer more books to the public.

Annual Meeting

The Annual Meeting is planned for March, 2019. We are planning to unveil some exciting, artistic additions to the History Centre on that day.

You as a Volunteer: You are welcome! There is a job for everyone! Tell us what history interests you and what skills you wish to use to record history! There is so much history

out there to find, record, organize, showcase! You may like to work at home. You may like to visit people to record their histories. You may like to photograph. You may have a particular interest and may like to follow that track eg significant trees in the district, sites where houses once stood, inquests or where buildings were shifted from and to. Come along and talk!

Best Wishes to all for the Christmas Season and the New Year.

STEIGLITZ 1918

At the annual break-up of the State School a pretty Christmas card was given to every child in the locality, and to the ladies present, by the head teacher. A tin of lollies kindly donated by Mr. and Miss Watson, was distributed amongst the pupils. Songs suitable to the occasion were nicely sung by the scholars, and a vote, taken to decide the best liked boy and girl in the school, resulted in a meritorious win for Kenneth Macpherson and Beatrice Muhlhan; the prizes were donated by Mr. Cumming. The blackboards were ornamented with handsome drawings and Christmas greetings, the work of the more advanced pupils. Mr. Cumming, who had been absent, on sick leave since September, resumed duty at the beginning of the week previous to the holidays. Mrs. Fraser, relieving teacher, acted as head teacher during Mr. Cumming's absence.

Hotel Closing. — The old established hostelry known as Scott's Hotel, closed its doors on December 31st, the owner and licensee, Mrs. Scott, having accepted closing compensation from the Licensing Board. This hotel has seen many strange vicissitudes since the outbreak of mining, and during the succeeding booms that have taken place. The Plough Inn at Maud has also been closed, so that the nearest accommodation for belated travellers in the district, is at Meredith, seven miles distant. There are over 70 well defined gold reefs in the locality, and should another mining boom occur, the want of accommodation will be severely felt.

Patriotic.—Mr. Thos. Byrne, who enlisted about a year ago, was sent to England and invalided home, was given a welcome home in the A.N.A. Hall and presented with a handsome gold medal. His brother, Private Frank Byrne, is still at the Front. Six of the boys on the local school honour roll have been killed, viz.:—Lieut. A. Liddelow, and Privates Richards, Thomas, D. Craig, W. P. Macpherson and H. Boardman.

Mr. Cumming lately received word that his second eldest son, Private P. S. Cumming, A.M.C., had been admitted to Queen Mary's Hospital, Whalley, England, suffering from severe gun-shot wounds in I the chest. Further news has since been received by cable that he is now convalescent.

Mr. Chas. Nash. who acted as engine driver at the Kinlock mine here for many years, and afterwards left for West Australia, is back here on a visit amongst his friends.

Geelong Advertiser Thursday 3 January 1918
Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group

MEREDITH Car Show and Family Day 2018

Frances O'Beirne. Goldfields Car Club. Ballarat.

On Sunday 18 November, the town of Meredith had an explosion of traffic, most being pre 1980 vehicles attending the annual car show and family day held at the picturesque cricket oval.

Judging from the number of vehicles which turned up to this event, it proves that there is a lot vintage and classic era type cars still being pampered in sheds all over the State. Every make and model that one could think of was exhibited. I couldn't find a single vehicle that was out of place in the enormous line up of simply beautiful motor vehicles that were on show.

I tend to prefer the old classics such as old Holden and Ford Falcons as my choice, but that is because I was born in the era when they were the majority vehicles on the road. Young men I knew would transform EH and EK cars into what was considered in those days as "Speed machines". Many succumbed to a 'sticky end' but that didn't matter because they simply went out and bought another for a very low price and converted it into what they had just written off. Most folk who drive these vehicles now are reliving their youth as I am, and they can remember when life was GOOD in the fabulous 60's.

Meredith Car Show is up there with the best, and the organisers should feel very proud they attract such a huge following. This year's car show is the 7th to be held at the Meredith venue, and what a great place to conduct an event of this type. The show was not only for the public to inspect some wonderful machinery but there was also a show and shine event which was accompanied with a

swap meet and stalls that contained interesting vehicle memorabilia.

The show also attracted a huge number of big powerful motorbikes. I know very little about motor bikes, but they sure did look impressive. For those musically orientated a fabulous band performed for us with many songs from the 60's and 70's.

If you didn't get there this year, make sure you attend next year. You will be surprised how many happy memories will come back when you admire these magnificent cars. Just as a side note: Whilst driving my old EH ute home, I passed a police car which had a bright Red Ferrari pulled up a few k's out of Meredith. Just glad my car is slow baby blue, not speedy RED.



Old School Street Cars of Geelong recently had their 7th annual car show at the Meredith Cricket Club with over 600 classic cars from the 1930's to the 1980's and a huge amount of classic motorcycles who rode in, from Geelong Harley owners group as part of their annual ride. Trophies awarded on the day included the Mick Burton Memorial Trophy named in honour of past member, Coppers Choice, Best in Show and Best Bike. There were plenty of food vendors. Raffle prizes were donated by local Geelong and Meredith businesses. We are thankful for the support of the Royal Hotel at Meredith, Lara Panels, Geelong Marble House, Drysdale Autopro, Meredith Cricket Club and all the club members and their wives. There was something for car and bike enthusiasts to see or just a day out enjoying the great weather and what Meredith had to offer. The event raised over \$2000 for Maddies Vision. We hope that the event can keep growing each year with the support of the Meredith Community and businesses and the Golden Plains Shire. In 2011, 7 years ago about 100 people and around 70 cars turned out. The day will be shown on Classic Restos in a few weeks time on Shannon's Insurance website.

Photos by Cathie Boer and Frances O'Beirne

The Things We Say

Gemma Hanan

"Don't look a gift horse in the mouth."

Advising not to wish for more by assessing a gift's value, this phrase is perhaps one to remember (or remind others of) as Christmas descends on us with alarming speed. Its first English use in print dates back to 1546 by John Haywood: 'No man ought to looke a geuen hors in the mouth'. Straightforward enough, it was derived from the practice of studying the teeth of horses in order to assess their age. And while some gift-givers have questionable tastes that leave you wondering if they know you at all, just remember it's the thought that counts.



Coffee Snobs Take the Golden Bean

from media release

Lethbridge/Geelong's Coffee Snobs has been awarded the prize of overall champion at this year's prestigious Golden Bean Awards, which took place on Saturday, 24 November.

The Golden Bean is one of the largest coffee roaster competitions in the world and runs events in Australia and the USA every year to discover the best-tasting coffees in the country across a number of different categories. This year, the Australian arm of the competition was judged by 80 knowledgeable industry experts with over 1,500 entries for the judges to try. Ten of Coffee Snobs' coffees were awarded medals giving them the highest combined score in the competition.



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Judith Emond

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PLAN AND PREPARE



The reasons are black and white

It's your responsibility to be fire ready this summer, so prepare your property, fire plan and emergency kit now. When hot, dry, windy days are forecast, check Fire Danger Ratings in your district daily and monitor conditions via local radio, the VicEmergency website and app. **On high-risk fire days, leaving early, before a fire starts, is always the safest option.**

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WEEKEND APPOINTMENTS AVAILABLE

Our COLOURFUL Year

This year, for the first time, we published coloured pages in every issue. Here, we celebrate with the year's colourful covers. Thank you to the nine, talented local photographers who made our year a lot brighter.



and PLEASE
Keep them coming

If you've taken a photograph you think is good enough to share, then why not share it with our readers?



Meredith Community Centre

Who are we?

Last year in an average week

180

People attended the centre

140

People participated in activities

10

People volunteered

We held

912

Program sessions

Each month on average

6

Community groups meet at the
Centre

People came to be part of...



215

Sessions of
Health and
well being



208

Sessions of
Community Newsletter
production



280

Sessions of
Childrens programs



70

Sessions of
Courses leading to
employment and further
training



17

Sessions of
Life skills and
personal interest
programs



182

Sessions of
Art and craft courses
or activities



16

Sessions of
Computer training
and
digital literacy



10

Sessions of
Family support
Programs



The Staff and Committee wish you a safe and happy Christmas and New Year and hope you will be part of our Centre in 2019



Here's a couple of locals that are sure to cheer you up. You will read about the EchidnaCSI project (no, it's not a new crime series) on page 20 and "In Our Nature" introduces us to the beautiful Peacock Spider on page 36.





XERO FOR FARMERS!

One of the key take home messages from our three days at Elmore this year was that a number of farmers had heard of Xero or tried to implement the accounting software on their own with little or no support. Across the three days we saw a similar theme - You're using it, but don't know the full capabilities of the program & want to know more.

We aim to help you be more efficient & confident with your financial information.



WHAT IS SINGLE TOUCH PAYROLL?

Single Touch Payroll, also called STP or one touch payroll, is an ATO initiative that requires employers to report salaries and wages, PAYG withholding and superannuation to the ATO each time they pay their employees.

Some employees don't need to be included when reporting. These include independent contractors, staff provided by a third party labour hire organisation, company directors, office holders or religious practitioners.

When does it come in?

If you have 20 or more employees you will need to report through Single Touch Payroll from 1 July 2018. If you have 19 or less employees, you will need to report through Single Touch Payroll from 1 July 2019, subject to legislation being passed in parliament.

If you want to know more go to our website for more information or contact one of our specialists.



*We'd like to wish everyone a **Merry Christmas** and a happy and prosperous **New Year**.*

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

December 2018

Moorabool North Wind Farm

- Approximately 9km of access tracks complete;
- 16 foundations are excavated;
- 11 Concrete pours completed;
- On-site concrete batching plant operational;
- Substation works are ongoing;
- Preliminary works have commenced on the Western side of the wind farm.

Construction activity focused on Ballan Meredith Road, Ballan Egerton Road and Manley's & Egan's Road.

Planned works for January include:

- Continuation of access track construction, foundations & excavations;
- Continuation of substation works, the Main transformer arrival and Main Switch room installation;
- Cable reticulation works to commence within the wind farm.

Moorabool South Wind Farm

- Construction compound completed;
- Approximately 2kms of access tracks constructed;
- 9 foundations are excavated;
- Batch plant is operational.

Construction activity will be focused on Mt Wallace Ballark Road and Ballan Meredith Road, Bungeeltap South Road and at the wind farm entrance on the Geelong Ballan Road.

Planned works for January include:

- Continuation of access track construction and excavations;
- Continuation of foundation pours;
- Mobilisation of cable installation contractor.

Construction Hours

Normal construction hours are 7am to 6pm on weekdays, 7am to 4pm on weekends. However, there may be times when work may need to be conducted outside of these normal working hours to accommodate activities that cannot be stopped and for safety reasons (i.e. concrete pours, and oversize component deliveries and erection). All works are in accordance with the Environmental Guidelines for Major Construction Sites (480), EPA VIC.

Concrete pours are currently underway at Moorabool North and South. All endeavours are being made to complete the pours prior to 6pm, however on occasion works will be completed after that time.

Construction activities will cease from 21st December and re-start on 2nd January 2019.

Transmission Line

BEON continue with the erection of transmission line poles and stringing of the conductor wires along the route of the line. Construction will be focused on Ballan-Meredith Road, south of Hamills Lane.

For Further Information about the project please visit
www.mooraboolwindfarm.com, www.mwttraffic.com or call 1800 019 660.

The Moorabool Wind Farm team aims to keep local disruption to a minimum and apologises if construction activities cause any inconvenience.

MERRY XMAS

FROM ALL OF US AT THE



XMAS TRADING HOURS

DEC 24 11:30AM to 8PM LUNCH AVAILABLE NO DINNER MEALS
DEC 25 CLOSED
DEC 26 CLOSED
DEC 31 11:30AM to 6PM
JAN 1 CLOSED

THANKS EVERYONE FOR
YOUR SUPPORT

LIVE MUSIC

ZANE CARROLL & FULLY LOADED
SUNDAY 23RD DEC 2PM

FREE ENTRY

The many volunteers who made it possible, hope you enjoyed your free community magazine in 2018 and wish you and your loved ones a wonderful 2019. And we look forward to being part of it, bringing you district news along with our many entertaining columns and just a sprinkle of nonsense.



See you in February 2019