



Meredith

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

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 \$25,00 Quarter page \$40.00/\$100 Half page \$80,00/\$180 Full page

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 Advertising: Ian 0409 016815

advertising@meredithnews.com.au Accounts: Dawn 0428 861274 accounts@meredithnews.com.au Editorial: Jim:0409 163169 news@meredithnews.com.au

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We do not publish children's photos online.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 248 660

B'BURN ART GROUP 0410 808 483

BLUE LIGHT DISCO 5286 1222

BOOK CLUB 5286 8201

CEA 000 for fire calls Elaine 0409 861296 Meredith 5286 1502 Morrisons 0417 770 765

CHILDCARE 5286 0700

COMMUNITY CENTRE 5286 0700

CRICKET 0448 291074 Junior(U16,U14,13) 0448 291074 Meredith 5286 1434

CUBS & SCOUTS Anakie 5281 9497

ELAINE HALL 0403 193006

Seniors 0408 545 246 Juniors 0430 587 674

GOLF CLUB 0407 795 342

HISTORY GROUP 5286 8201

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MEMORIAL HALL 5286 1243 0435 312 984

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PLAYGROUP 5286 0700

POLICE PADDOCKS 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

..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.



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

Justices of the Peace

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

services

5286 1550 HALL HIRE Meredith Memorial 5286 1251 Elaine Mechanics 5341 5596 Elaine Rec Res 5341 5703 LIBRARY VAN 5272 6010

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The person based on 2011/20, Cel Di-



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MOORABOOL Wind Farm



Moorabool North Wind Farm

Progress to date

- Completion of all turbine components delivered to site
- Installation of 39 turbines complete
- Turbine installation on the eastern side of the project is complete
- · Partial Installation of a further 9 turbines

Look ahead

- Energisation of substation
- Continued road maintenance
- Continued electrical and mechanical fit-out of each turbine
- Continued turbine erection on the Western side of the project.
- Commencement of commissioning

Moorabool South Wind Farm

Progress to date

- All access tracks and hardstands complete.
- Substation civil works complete
- All Kiosks (turbine transformers) installed
- 23 turbine components delivered to site.
- Cable laying 100% complete and rehabilitation underway.
- Installation of tower sections completed at 11 turbine locations.

Look ahead

- Continuation of turbine component deliveries.
- · Continuation of installation of turbines.
- Energisation of substation
- Continued road maintenance

For Further Information about the project please visit www.mooraboolwindfarm.com, www.mwftraffic.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.

Road Safety - Community Interest in Viewing Turbines

As the wind turbines are now visible in the landscape, we ask all interested parties to be mindful of stopping vehicles on public roads to look at or take photographs of the project. Before stopping your vehicle please ensure you are at a safe place to do so and not entering onto private property or obstructing a property entrance. Thank you.

Speed Limit Reduction

 The Speed limit on sections of the Ballan Meredith Road and the Mt Wallace Ballark Road have been reduced to 80km/h until further notice.

These changes have been implemented with Moorabool Shire Council to ensure the safety of all road users during construction. These speed limits are now in operation and being enforced.

Turbine Component Deliveries

Oversize deliveries of wind turbine components are underway at Moorabool South wind farm and will continue until late February 2020.

Oversize loads include, Blades, Nacelle, Hub, Generators and Tower sections. Deliveries will be utilising different routes to site. These include:

- · From the Western Highway and travelling south along Geelong Ballan Road,
- Travelling north from Geelong on the Geelong Ballan Road through Anakie.

The components will then travel to the relevant access points via the local Roads. For further information please see the factsheets available at www.mooraboolwindfarm.com and also www.mwftraffic.com

Road Safety - Oversize Deliveries

Goldwind places a high importance on road safety for all road users and acknowledges the inconvenience that encountering oversize deliveries may cause. All loads will travel in accordance with the relevant permit conditions and be accompanied by pilot vehicles and in some cases, police escorts.

For up to date information on deliveries please register to receive weekly SMS notifications by texting your name to 0418 975 014.

Ongoing road maintenance is taking place in the vicinity of the wind farm. Regular inspections are conducted on public roads being used by wind farm delivery traffic. Areas which may present a safety concern are flagged and temporary reduced speed limits put into operation. Temporary or permanent repairs are being undertaken as soon as practicable.

Landscape and Visual Screening Program

Owners of a residential dwellings within 4km of a wind turbine at Moorabool Wind Farm are invited to participate in a landscape and visual screening program. This is to assist those closest neighbours in reducing the potential visual impacts of the project. For further information please contact us using one of the methods outlined below.

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



Woolabrai has changed its name but will continue to provide the same friendly, local, and reliable service!

Annual Field Day!

We are having a field day in store to provide information about various products.

We are also using this opportunity to launch our new name and new look.

Come down with family and friends to see what we have to offer!

Most of our major suppliers will be in store with stalls and/or information.

Here's some of the things to expect on the day:

- BBQ (Gold coin donation for Meredith Lions)
- Face Painting
- Raffle (Ticket upon entry and you must be in attendance at time of draw.)



When: Wednesday 11th of March Time: approx. 10am - 2pm

Where: Meredith Rural & Pet Supplies (Woolabrai)

4350 Midland Highway, Meredith

Phone: (03) 5286 1223



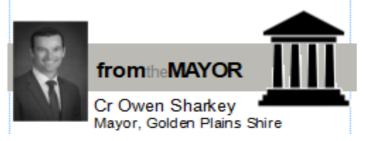
Community

Meredith Seniors

Marg Cooper

The seniors have had a long Christmas break but they are scheduled to get together for lunch on Wednesday, February 12 in Meredith. The President, Jim Hynds, has been nominated for Senior Citizen of the Year for the Golden Plains Shire for his contribution to the Meredith Seniors. He is modest about the nomination and says that he really doesn't deserve any accolades. His wife Linda Hynds has been a member since she was 36 years old and says that Jimmy was elected President soon after he joined the Seniors about 15 years ago. The seniors are looking forward to a good year of social outings.





Happy New Year! As one busy year ends, so another one begins. As we head into the final nine months of our Council term, I am honoured to be elected Chair of the Central Highlands Councils Victoria (CHCV) for the 2019/20 term.

CHCV is an alliance of eight central Victorian municipal councils – Ararat, Central Goldfields, City of Ballarat, Golden Plains, Hepburn, Moorabool, Northern Grampians and Pyrenees – that advocates for a strong economic and social future for the region. We work collaboratively on issues and projects of mutual importance to make a positive impact on the communities in the Central Highlands region.

Over the past year, I have enjoyed and valued the opportunity to represent the Golden Plains Shire and its residents at the CHCV table and I am excited for the opportunity to serve as Chair of this respected and important local government alliance.

Meredith Memorial Hall 2020 AGM

The Annual General Meeting of the Memorial Hall will be held Monday 23rd March, 7.30pm at the Hall.

All positions become vacant and an election is conducted to fill the 12 months term.

The Annual Financial Report is presented. And a short Committee meeting is also held to get the year's business underway!

YOU ARE MOST WELCOME TO ATTEND. Sandra Pearce 0409 662 106



Festival Ticket Allocation For Locals

An allocation of tickets for Golden Plains is available for locals. Tickets can be purchased from Back Creek Cafe (1/27 Staughton Street, Meredith) from 10am on Tuesday 11th February until sold out. Limit of 4 per person. Please bring proof of residential address. CASH sales only. For more information contact us on 0430 091 120 or via auntym@mmf.com.au. Information for locals is available at

www.aunty.goldenplains.com.au/locals

Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

FOR SALE

CHAINSAW - Stihl "023" 40cm/16" bar. In good condition and only used for light yard maintenance. With two sharp chains and accessories. \$50. BLOWER - Electric two-way yard blower/vacuum. Very little use. In excellent condition. \$20 BATH - White vitreous enamel steel bath. Good condition. Free Phone 0409 163169

The deadline for copy for next month's issue, is

9.00 am on the last Thursday of this month

Church News

CATHOLIC

Weekend Mass Times:

Winchelsea every Saturday at 6 p.m.

Bannockburn every Sunday at 9 a.m.

And every First Sunday of the Month Family Mass at 4 p.m. This Mass is at the family friendly time of 4 p.m. and children will be involved in a special way in the mass and music. February's Mass is February 2nd and will be followed by a Junior Master Chef Pancake Decorating Competition.

Anakie at 11 a.m. Sunday February 2nd/16th Meredith at 11 a.m. Sunday February 9th / 23rd.

Inverleigh Sunday February 23rd at 4 p.m.

Pancake Weekend will be on the weekend of February 22nd/23rd and pancakes will be cooked after each Mass. Also on the weekend of February 22nd/23rd we have a special visitor from the Philippines who will bless many sacred objects in the new St. Mary Mackillop Church, Father Herman Licayan who was our Parish Administrator for 6 years, and was the priest at the time of the loss of St. John's Bannockburn.

Ash Wednesday is Wednesday February 26th. Mass will be celebrated and Ashes distributed at all Masses: Winchelsea 8 a.m., Bannockburn 9.45 a.m., Meredith 7

Enrolment for the Sacraments: If your child wishes to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation (usually Grade 3); First Eucharist (usually Grade 4) or Confirmation (usually Grade 6) Enrolment will take place at St. Mary MacKillop Church Bannockburn on Sunday March 1st at the 4p.m. Family Mass. After Mass will be activities and fish and chips. Please bring your child/children with you and also a copy of their baptism certificate.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

Friday March 6th at 10am at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Meredith.

Join millions throughout the world on this day in an ecumenical prayer service. This year we are highlighting and praying for the people of Zimbabwee. Morning tea to follow. Please bring a plate of morning tea to share

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 Sunday of the month **St James. - Morrisons:**

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

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

SERBIAN ORTHODOX

Fr. Theodore—Ph. 5341 5568

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

UNITING CHURCH

MEREDITH Uniting Church

11.00 am, 2nd Sunday each month

BUNINYONG Uniting Church

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

Rev. Carlynne Nunn 43330273. 0409285182

Found

A pale blue backpack was found near the picnic table at the Police Paddocks. The owner can collect it up until the end of this month, (after which it will be disposed of) together with the accompanying empty cans and bottles, at the Meredith Community Centre.

Flower Show *



One of the good flower shows is coming up at Winchelsea about 45 mins drive from Meredith It reminds us of the old style shows with produce stall afternoon tea with entry and champion bloom prizes Run by the Winchelsea horticultural society it is held in Autumn and Spring Bring a friend or a carload and enjoy a good old fashioned day out at the show Saturday 15 February 2020 Doors open 12.30pm Presentation 4.00pm Closes 4.30pm Admission \$7.00 includes Devonshire tea Children free Globe Theatre Willis St (Main St)

Enquires Janene 0417121770

Our Mary, Citizen of the Year

Marg Cooper

On Tuesday evening, January 28 at the Bannockburn Cultural Centre the Golden Plains Shire Awards were presented for Citizen of the Year, Senior Citizen of the Year, Young Citizen of the Year and Event of the Year. Mary Foster of Meredith was awarded Citizen of the Year for her contributions to the Meredith Community. This includes being a member of the Meredith Community Emergency Response Team for over 11 years, a Charter Member of Meredith & District Lions Club and now is the Membership Chairperson. Also being heavily involved with the local Catholic Church for over 30 years, being a volunteer at St Joseph's for 2 days a week in the music ministry, teaching Religious Education and has been a member of the Parish Council of St Joseph's Parish for over 8 years.

She is also much admired for being the mother of 10 children and grandmother to 15 and for studying nursing to become a Division 2 nurse as a mature age student and working in dementia nursing at Estia Health Bannockburn.

Mary is also an absolutely nice person who is always enthusiastic to help and be involved. She recently celebrated a significant birthday but more about that next issue.

Congratulations Mary!

Tennis Anyone?

On the 5th of December the Meredith Tennis Club held an AGM The following people formed the new committee.

President: Madeline McColl Vice President: Melita Cordie Treasurer: David Osborne Secretary: Meg Hay

We have a super exciting year ahead of us. Starting with the Free junior tennis coaching. Prep-6 4pm yr 7 and older 5pm. Starting 12th of February. Beginners more then welcome

Meetings will be held on the 1st Wednesday of every month. All welcome.

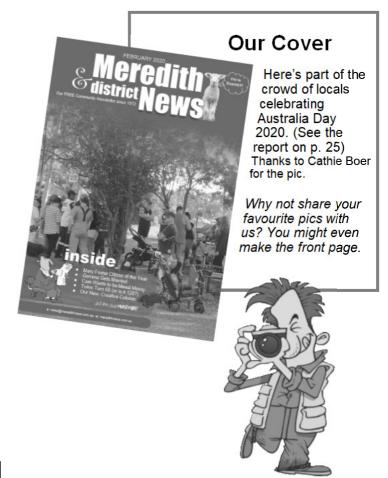
Ballarat Begonia Quilters

2020 Quilt Exhibition

Festival of Quilts WHEN:

Saturday 7th March 10:00 am – 5:00 pm Sunday 8th March 10:00 am – 5:00 pm Monday 9th March 10:00 am – 4:00 pm WHERE:

New Location: Ballarat Masonic Centre 616 Barkly St, Ballarat ADMISSION: \$5.00 per adult





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Steve Duffy

"Those pesky wabbits"

Elmer Fudd is the Everyman of the Cartoon World. So often outsmarted by the precocious Bugs Bunny. Unable to secure his prey on every occasion, I can relate to Elmer, especially when you hear Robin Williams' impersonation of Elmer singing Bruce Springsteen's "Fire" which is one of the funniest things on record!

Well I have an admission to make: I am not a good shot, I don't have ferrets and the grip-of-steel traps are illegal these days. And, of course it's not because rabbits are scarce. In fact after the good winter we've had locally, their numbers are up. Right up! And not just at dusk and dawn, they're often seen scampering away in the middle of the day.

Recently I was given a brace (Pair) of rabbits by a friend Al, who keeps a couple of ferrets and a whippet to run them down. The effort of looking after them is rewarded with a regular supply of our most numerous and famous introduced pests. Although not nearly as numerous as before the introduction of Myxomatosis. There were stories of the ravenous pests climbing trees to satisfy their hunger!

Roasting or stewing the critters are the traditional ways to cook them. But there are other European methods available. The one I used the other night when the hunter came for dinner was:

RABBIT TERRINE with PISTACHIOS

1 Pair of Rabbits (soaked in water for 1 hour, then boned)
500g Minced pork
100g Pork back fat finely diced
1 onion, diced
6 rashers Bacon
100g Pistachios, shelled and peeled
1 egg.
Thyme, salt and cracked black pepper
A splash of whisky, port or white wine.

Cook the onion till translucent in a little butter. Cool and mince with the boned rabbit, reserving the loin strips. Line a loaf tin with the bacon, with enough overhang to wrap over the top of the filling. Mix together all the other ingredients. Press half of the mixture in the mould, lie the strip loins through the middle, then press in the rest of the mince mixture, Fold the overhanging bacon and cover with foil. Cook in a moderate oven in a water bath (a larger roasting pan filled with water to half way up the mould) for about 75 minutes. Test with a skewer to make sure the juice runs clear. Then press with a heavy weight, and when cool refrigerate overnight. Serve sliced with fresh crispy bread and your choice of Chutney.

The recipe could also be made with chicken, which is what Elmer would have had to do!

Good Cooking. SteVe



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Culture and the Summer of 2020

STEVE GOAT

Everywhere we look we see one overwhelming expression being used to describe the events of summer : UNPRECEDENTED.

National Highways blocked and closed at many places around Australia. Thousands of evacuations. Small businesses and farms closed for business and huge numbers of prime livestock lost. Native forests blackened. Native animals wiped out. Army Reservists mobilised. Naval rescues. Domestic tourists sent home or even trapped in threatened villages. Annual revenues lost. Then the clean up and recovery are to be implemented.

But in this crisis people and volunteers are giving their all. Friends and neighbours are rallying around. Donations are flowing. Resources are shared, and largely we are making it up as we go.

To say Australia was unprepared is an understatement. Although the warnings from the experts were made, government spending on rural fire services in some states had been cut. No special arrangements were in place to mobilise the Army or Reservists.

Come on, East Gippsland has been in drought for 3 or 4 years, NSW and Queensland have been in drought for 8 or even 9 years. The Bureau of meteorology has been telling us for years that we've had the hottest years ever for more than a decade.

In a liberal democracy like Australia, we have always held that we live and let live: "I may not agree with you, but will defend your right to say it".

That philosophy still holds true with many ideas, but the Science of Climate change data is not an opinion. We must move beyond so called "debate" and rationally deal with the fact of global warming. The rate of change is the issue; natural systems do change over time but what is happening is beyond natural systems to evolve without huge losses of ecosystems and microclimates causing loss of species and biodiversity. Indeed large planetary systems like ocean currents and atmospheric dynamics could change rapidly. This is being called the point of no return as feedback effects cause more change.

This is not some lefty, greenie or UN conspiracy. Our Governments are asleep at the wheel while mean temperatures and sea levels rise. We will not have the privilege of hind sight. Action, big action is needed now.

PETE GOAT

Well here we are in 2020 and another 26th of January has passed. Now more than ever we seem to be having to question what it is about the culture of this country that this day marks.

As we write fires are still burning out of control in NSW and from Kangaroo Island to the Sunshine Coast communities are stunned by the devastation of unprecedented fire levels. The loss of life, particularly of firefighters themselves is horrendous, the material loss in terms of buildings is colossal, the cost to businesses huge. The level of damage to lives that insurance, or aid can never repair and the catastrophic and in many cases probably irreversible loss of plant and animal species, is something we have not seen before.

Yet this is all in the context of a level of resources, technology and knowledge that we have never had before: more aircraft and equipment, better communication, greater areas of fuel reduction burning. Don't we have to be asking why this is, and whether we are going in the right direction as a culture? And therefore what is the meaning of "Australia Day" on the 26th January?

What is actually being commemorated on the 26th? On that day in 1788 the ships of the First Fleet began to disembark thousands of convicts, soldiers and sailors at Sydney Cove, Port Jackson to establish the British Penal Colony of New South Wales [after actually having arrived and landed in Botany Bay on the 18th only to find no fresh

With the Fleet arrived exotic domestic animals, steel axes, saws, guns and smallpox. So the 26th of January marks the beginning of the large scale felling of trees, the grazing of hard hooved animals, the spread of feral animals, weeds and disease. And the industrial revolution was not far away when coal was found at Wollongong and Newcastle in 1797.

In 2020 land clearing, feral animals, and weeds are all still increasing, so are the population, emissions and coal mining.

We really need to reflect on this and commemorate the arrival of the First Fleet in a balanced objective way. Commemorate it of course, it is an undeniable historic event, but is it just about having an orgy of celebration?

Alcohol and the Union Jack arrived with First Fleet too and they are now the major feature of Australia Day Celebrations...oh,.. and fireworks. Of course the flag now has the Southern Cross and Canopus added to it which as all True Blue Aussies know is uniquely Australian and can only be seen from this Lucky Country Oi! Oi! Oi!. Melbourne and Geelong commendably dropped their usual fireworks as inappropriate given the bushfire situation.

This 26th of January we went to Ballarat for the inaugural Dawn Ceremony at Lake Wendouree.

Supported by the City of Ballarat but initiated, organised and conducted entirely by the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander community of Ballarat [and a Torres Strait Islander woman did sing a very beautiful song] it began in the dark on the edge of the lake.

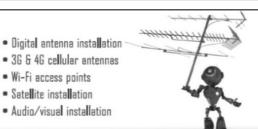
There were about a thousand people there to hear the proud, powerful speakers, of whom all but one were women . They were there to say that despite everything that began with the First Fleet and has impacted on their lives since, they are still here, their culture is still strong and they have never ceded sovereignty. One speaker did make a point of saying that if the British hadn't arrived

some other powerful nation would have and that commemoration is appropriate, but just remember that it wasn't all good for everyone.

It was a wonderful event, and it will only grow and spread. Hopefully the flag, fireworks and alcohol events will diminish and our culture will mature.

And there are signs that one of the ways that future fires may be averted is by learning from traditional indigenous burning practices, a recognition of the complexity of this environment and a culture that is not based entirely on continuous growth.





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Green Thumb Deficiency

I have never been much of a green thumb. This could be put down to my genetics, my lack of knowledge or my lack of trying. To be honest, it is most likely a healthy mix of all three.

So, when someone gifted me a Dieffenbachia Camille a year ago as a housewarming present, I was filled with a sense of dread.

It was so green and young. So full of promise and possibilities. Blooming happily out of its trendy rosegold pot, I held it in my hands and thought you're not going to make it to the end of the week.

There is a popular meme that does the rounds on social media every now and then. A picture of a woman holding a plant with the caption 'Want to come back to my place and die?'. And that just about covers what I was feeling.

The current indoor plant trend sees scores of millennials purchasing greenery and then experiencing varying degrees of success when it comes to said plant's survival.

But a year later I'm pleased to report that Miss Camille is still alive and my initial indifference towards her at the beginning of our journey has turned into love. As you can see, she even has a name.

We have been through a lot together. Or rather, she has been through a lot and I've done a lot of Googling and fretting to an uninterested husband.

Firstly, I forgot to water her for a week. Then, I overwatered her. You would think there would be different symptoms for each of these issues, but no. Plants look the exact droopy same whether they are overwatered or underwatered. So that was a fun discovery.

Then there were the fungus gnats. I'd put her outside for an afternoon to get some fresh air and unfiltered sunlight and brought her back in crawling with bugs. This was a reoccurring problem for weeks that resulted in me having to sort through a plethora of conflicting online advice. One article even promised that they would provide '13 creative ways to get rid of fungus gnats.' Creative ways. Creative Ways. I don't know why one would want to get creative about it, but there you go.

Then I realised that going on my honeymoon for a week would surely result in her death so had to make babysitting arrangements. That in itself was difficult because it requires a great level of trust in whoever you give it to.

Finally, for the last two months I have debated with myself whether I should repot her to allow for growth. I wasn't sure if my lack of skills and knowledge would be able to pull it off and, after a year of general success, I'd hate to kill her now.

But despite my concerns, I've done it and will spend the next week analysing her obsessively. Because this trend is more than a hobby. With indoor greenery comes great responsibility.

THE THINGS We Say

Gemma Hanan

Gemma

Beat Around the Bush

Another phrase with litorigins, eral beating around the bush came from hunters beating a bush to scare birds out of it so they could catch them in nets. The phrase comes from the fact that beating the bush was the lead-up to the main event, meaning that someone is avoiding coming to the point. Maybe to avoid being trapped in a net themselves?

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Landcare News



The Maude & District

Lex Stray

The Maude & District Landcare Group's rabbit poisoning campaign is coming up soon! We wish to remind you that the dates are Friday 28th February, Monday 2nd and Thursday 5th of March. We welcome anyone to join us, provided you are able to come to Maude to pick up your bait.

Pick up time is between 2 - 4pm at the Maude Recreation Reserve, Steiglitz Road, Maude, directly opposite the Maude Fire Station. The prices are: \$72 for a full bag (20kg), \$42 for 1/2 bag and \$27 for 1/4 bag of Pindone poisoned carrot.

Payment is accepted via cash, cheque or EFT, and we will provide an invoice. The deadline for orders is Friday, 21st February.

Please note that it is recommended that the bait is put out on all three nights, as Pindone is a cumulative poison. It is an anticoagulant, which works by blocking the blood-clotting mechanism of the animal. There is an effective antidote available which reduces the risk to non-target animals.

A free feed of non-poisoned carrot helps to introduce the rabbits to the bait. The Landcare Group does not supply carrots for this feed. Bait should be laid in a shallow trail.

Please contact the group by email at maudeanddistrictlandcare@gmail.com, or ring Lex Stray, 52819293 or Elaine Johns, 52819395.

Bamganie-Meredith

Nerida Anderson

Seed collection and propagation

Our Landcare group has received funding to grow seedlings at the Rowsley Landcare Nursery. This is a great opportunity for you to obtain seedlings to plant in shelter belts and other revegetation projects without the financial cost. As part of the process of growing seedlings we will hold a 'pricking' out day at the Rowsley nursery in March. Pricking out involves lifting the young seedlings from the trays where they have germinated to plant into individual tubes. The Rowsley Nursery will then care for the seedlings until they are large enough to plant later in the year. Seedlings are ready for pricking out once they have developed their first set of leaves. More information about the pricking out day will be in the next Meredith and District News, or alternatively see out Facebook page - or of course you can come to the next Landcare meeting to find out more!

Do you have seed to propagate?

If you have collected seeds and would like help with

propagating them please contact Nick McKinley on 0455147398 or email *nick@leighcatchmentgroup.org* There is still time to propagate the seeds before the pricking out day in March but you will need to sow the seeds very soon for the seedlings to be ready for planting this year.

February planning meeting

The next meeting of the Landcare group will be Thursday 13 February 2020 at the Meredith Community Centre. Please note this is a change of date from that advised in the December News. This will be a planning meeting to organise events for 2020. Please come along if you have ideas for events/speakers/information sessions or any other event you would like to see in 2020.

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Gorse on Your Property?

Moorabool Catchment Landcare Group has obtained funding from the Victorian Gorse Taskforce (VGT) for landholders who would like to participate in a new Gorse Rebate Program. This program offers a <u>rebate of 50%</u> for control costs including: use of a contractor to spray or mulch; diesel costs for mechanical removal and for the cost of chemical for spraying (an Agricultural Chemical Users Permit or ACUP may be required for some chemicals). Please note that there is a capped rebate amount per property. Gorse Rebate program will run from November 2019 to April 2020 but may be extended.

To find out if you qualify for program, organise a field inspection or register your interest in the program, contact Jennifer Johnson (Moorabool Catchment Landcare Coordinator) on:

0497 770 075 or moorabool.landcare@gmail.com





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It takes considerable time to research, write and perfect these miniature essays on nature, and Wendy is far too busy to focus on the task for now. But she has given us permission to recycle earlier columns. This one appeared in the March 2015 issue and was one of the first Wendy wrote for us. It discusses the mistletoebird. You may be like those of us involved in the Meredith Police Paddocks who bemoan the burden excessive mistletoe puts on the old swamp gums that grace the site. But the mistletoe and the mistletoebird are indigenous too and have survived in harmony with trees for long before we started all our bemoaning. – Ed.

A bushy clump of drooping olive-green leaves hangs from a branch of a gum tree. It is a mistletoe plant, which cannot grow on the ground. It makes some of its food from sunlight and sucks other nutrients and water from the tree. Too many clumps of mistletoe on a tree can kill it, but this usually happens only if the tree is old, unhealthy, or has no other trees near it. There are many types of mistletoe in different parts of the world. In southern Australia, mistletoes commonly grow on eucalypts, and have leaves which look similar to gum leaves. Other species of mistletoe grow on trees with different shaped leaves, and have evolved leaves similar to the host plant on which they grow. The reason for this is unknown, but one theory is that some herbivores prefer to eat the mistletoe, so they have evolved to look like part of the less palatable tree.

For wildlife, mistletoe can be an important source of food and shelter. Possums find the leaves of mistletoe tasty and may also shelter in the dense clump during the day. The base of the plant, where it attaches to the tree, can be a secure and well-hidden place to build a nest. Imperial white butterflies lay their eggs on mistletoe. The purple-brown caterpillars eat the leaves and pupate on the plant. They emerge as eye-catching adults with red and yellow markings on the black and white undersides of their wings. The upper surface is duller, white, grey and black, providing them with camouflage. Another less attractive butterfly, named the dull purple azure, also lays its eggs on mistletoe. Its caterpillars hide beneath the tree's bark during the day and feed on the mistletoe's leaves at night.

The long red mistletoe flowers hang down in clusters, their narrow petals curving upwards as they mature. They are visited by birds, especially honeyeaters, and insects including moths and butterflies, which enjoy the nectar the flowers provide, and in return spread its pollen to fertilise other flowers. The mistletoe continues to flower for longer than many other plants and may provide food at times when other plants do not, making it an important food source.

In autumn, the mistletoe produces little oval-shaped yellowish fruits. These attract birds, especially mistletoebirds. They are small, but the male is handsome with a glossy black head and back, red throat and breast, a black stripe down his white belly and bright red under his

tail. The female is much duller with grey on her back, white below and pale red under her tail. Although the mistletoebirds will eat insects and other fruits, their favourite food is mistletoe fruits. The fruits have a sticky layer under the skin with the seed in the middle. Sometimes the fruit sticks to the bird's beak and it wipes it off on the tree branch. More often, the bird eats the fruit, which passes through it very quickly. Several minutes after eating, the bird defecates. The seed is still very sticky.

The bird, who may now be in a different tree, rubs the seed off its feathers onto a branch, where it adheres firmly and quickly begins to grow. Initially, its leaves make all of its food, while its root grows into its host. It may take a year until it reaches the veins in the tree which conduct water and minerals from the roots to the leaves. The mistletoe forms a permanent connection with this nutrient supply, and becomes partially parasitic. Sometimes the branch beyond the clump of mistletoe will die, but the rest of the tree remains healthy, and visiting wildlife can enjoy the resources of tree and mistletoe



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Vale to Leonard (Len) William Broom

31/3/1936 - 28/12/2019.

Marg Cooper

Len always lived his life with a kind word and a happy disposition. He was the second child born to William and Violet Broom in Lethbridge. He had an older sister Elizabeth who died aged four years and another sister Margaret who was ten years younger than Len.

Len's parents owned the general store in Lethbridge which was the heart and the soul of the town. His Uncle George owned the other country store, so between them the Broom's had a lot of connections.

Len attended Lethbridge State School where he was a good student and showed promise as an athlete. He then went to St Josephs College, and had to catch the steam train on the Ballarat line to school every day. He became a very good runner, set a long jump record which stood at the school for many years, was in the school's Army Cadets and carried his rifle to and from school on the train. He learned to play the piano and loved trying to catch Redfin in the Moorabool River. Len also got up to pranks like dropping crackers down the toilets on the train and white washing people's cows in the night.

When he finished school Len worked in the family business. It was in 1955 at a dance in the Bannockburn Hall that he met a beautiful young woman called Yvonne Grant. She was well known in the district for her beauty and her ability to ride cows. In 1958 they married and honeymooned in Queensland which was pretty special in those days. They built a new house on a large block that Len's father owned and gave to them. In 1959 their first son Mark was born followed by Bryce, Darren, Brett and Troy.

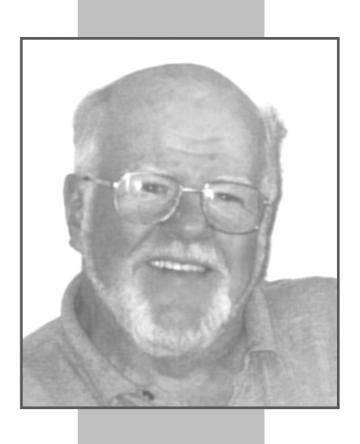
Len worked at Brinton's carpets as a storeman/driver followed by some time doing clerical work at the Ford Motor Company and driving taxis at night before he retired at 55 years of age.

Always living a full life Len was scoutmaster at Lethbridge, went gold panning and detecting and had a real passion for dogs. He became a breeder, a judge and travelled Victoria showing his dogs. The family holidayed at Barwon Heads. He enjoyed the movies, was a good cook and didn't mind a whisky on a balmy evening. In fact there wasn't anything he didn't enjoy including the craft group at Lethbridge where he was the only male. He rode there on his scooter often giving the dogs on the way a tasty treat. He also loved the Geelong Football Club, was an avid reader, a photographer and embraced modern technology.

He had a triple bypass operation when he was 59 years old and since then spent a lot of time in and out of hospital. The family believe that he had nine lives but, sadly, on December 28 the last of those nine lives ended.

Len had three important passions: his family of five sons, twelve grandchildren and ten great grandchildren, his dogs and the wonderful community of Lethbridge where he spent his entire life -and wasn't it a good one!.

Abbreviated from Eulogy delivered by celebrant Dallas Verfurth on Monday, January 6 at Tucker's Chapel, Geelong.



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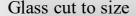
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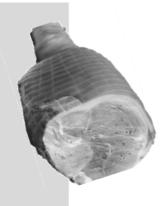
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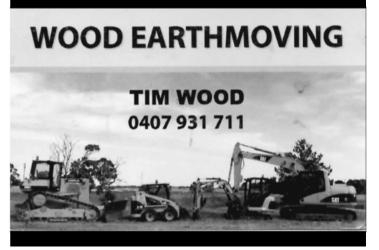
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That's a nice him you've got there.

It would be a shame if someone put an 'S' at the front and an "E" at the end.





Nevaeh Raises Bushfire Funds

Nevaeh Measures and Woolabrai thank the generous Meredith community for all of their donations. Thanks to this, Nevaeh was able to hand over \$440 to the Malacoota Wildlife Shelter but is still raising money and is close to the \$500 mark. Special thanks to Shoof for sending Nevaeh this package to donate to the wildlife shelter.

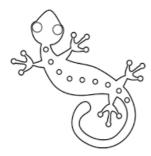
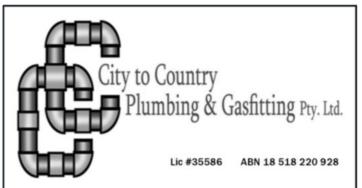


PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE EDITION

Well done Nevaeh. Why not join in her good work and drop a donation around to Woolabrai ...oops - Meredith Rural and Pet Supplies. - Ed.





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A PRACTICAL GUIDE TO A MORE SUSTAINABLE LIFESTYLE

In Spring I began exploring and learning about our native bees, beneficial insects, nature spirits as a way of bringing a positive energy to the garden and to help our environment.

Although bees look ethereal in the morning light, like little fairies flitting in and out of the hive, sometimes covered with the pixie dust of flowers, sometimes swollen with Australian native bees and other sweet nectar, the beneficial insects are under threat, and will continue to be under threat from habitat loss, pesticide use and climate change unless we humans change our ways.

As primary pollinators, bees are a vital part of both the human and animal food chains, and on small scale are an integral link in a healthy garden.

Simply put, bees keep plants and crops alive. Without bees (honey species, bees, solitary bumblebees); wasps pollen

wherever there are flowers there is new life and hope."— Christy Lefteri, The Beekeeper of Aleppo

"Where there are bees there are flowers, and

Firstly, we need to provide flowering plants. Flowers provide their only food, as they eat nectar and pollen for themselves and they also collect pollen for their young. So, I planted a Nectary. I dug over a garden bed and scattered seeds, watered and then stood back waited. When planning your Nectary garden, many plants attract bees, butterflies and fairies... some of their favourite flowers are include, Cosmos, Daisies, Zinnia, Cornflower, Coneflower, Basil, Thyme, Dill, Chives, Lemon Balm, Mint, Lavender, Salvias, Borage, Bergamot, Sunflowers Clovers, Yarrow, Red Valerian, Daisies, Rosemary, Alyssum and Pincushion Scabiosa, are favourites of the bees, fairies and myself, most prefer blue or purple flowers, although mauve, pink, yellow and white flowers are also popular.

Dill and gazania will attract ladybugs. Nasturtium will attract ground beetles and spiders. Yarrow will summon more ladybugs and hoverflies. Clover, mint and poppies are great for attracting helpful bees, so welcome these plants and let them all spread and create bases for an ongoing nectary.

> So far we have had continual supply of flowers in the nectary and should till the late autumn. Perfect!

As well as a Nectary, plant some favourite perennials Abelia x grandiflora, Buddleia, (Butterfly Bush), Callistamen – (Bottlebrush), Eucalyptus and Angophora (Gum Trees), Grevillea's, Lavandula (Lavender), Leptospermum (Tea Tree), Melaleuca (Paperbark/ Honey (Native mvrtle). Westringia Rosemary) www.ourlifeourway.com.au for full rundown of these plants)

Most native bees take a break mid-winter, when their focus turns to shelter, while honeybees live in colonies and hives, most native bee species nest underground or in natural cavities so, make sure your garden provides some basic protected habitat. So, here's the good part for "messy" gardeners like me, allow a few patches of partially bare, undisturbed soil to help underground nesters, allow hollow plant stems to stay over winter there may be tiny native bees hibernating inside, add some branches of varying sizes or a Bee Hotel for others. In Autumn let your veggies bolt, seeding plants are the bee's and other beneficial insects best friend. All that food gives the bees a chance to bulk up to survive the colder months and make it to spring. It might look messy to an amateur eye, but a healthy garden has a few leafy vegetables bolting after harvest and as a bonus you get to save the seed for next year.

Don't forget the water. Provide a source of shallow water, such as a bowl with some floating twigs or corks to provide a landing pad. We don't want drowned bees or nature spirits.

Eliminate pesticide use or you'll kill the very ones you are hoping to attract and welcome to the garden.

To know and learn about the difference between native local bees and wasps, check out www.aussiebee.com.au/ beesinyourarea

(Masarinae); ants; flies including bee flies, hoverflies and mosquitoes; lepidopterans, both butterflies and moths; and flower beetles, we wouldn't have very much to eat. If they do not have enough to eat, we won't have enough to eat. Although the majority of our basic foods like, wheat and

corn, are wind-pollinated meaning the breeze does the work of the birds and the bees and they would be unaffected by a massive pollinator catastrophe. But how long before the rest of our food supply would be affected? Well, within just three months of our last bee dying off, producers would be facing record low harvest yields. Much of our foods, Pome Fruits (apples and pears), Nashi Fruit, Cherries, Kiwi Fruit, Blueberries, Raspberries, Strawberries, Cucurbits - Melons, Pumpkins, Marrow, Squash, Cucumbers, Zucchinis, Almonds, Lucerne, Buckwheat, Clover, Sunflowers, Canola, Fava Beans, Chick Pea, all Stone Fruits and Vegetable seed production rely on bee-assisted pollination. One analysis of the global crop market found that pollinators are essential or highly, moderately, or slightly necessary for 91 crops consumed by humans. So, we would definitely lose many of the foods that make our diets vibrant, healthy, and nutritious.

Bees, along with butterflies, moths, ants, beetles, native wasps and birds, are among the most important pollinators of our plants and the crops in our backyards.

So, if we want a good crop yield from our gardens we need to leave the bees, beneficial insects and their protectors, the Nature Spirits (who help take care of them and Mother Earth) to their own devices in the backyard, as they go about their business and more often than not help the garden to flourish.

So, in late Spring I set about to provide habitat (accommodation, food and water) that will attract these beneficial pollinators to the garden and help boost declining populations.

A sobering thought, if we lose all of our bees, the least of our worries would be the lack a variety of foods, as at that point we'd be living in a world so soiled and toxic that we'd have much bigger problems.

In the face of all that is happening in our world, it may feel like a small thing to do, to plant a Nectary, to stop using pesticides and create a place of positive energy, but from little things big things grow, and it is vitally important that we provide a habitat, no matter how small, for the native bees, nature spirits and other beneficial insects before it's too late for them, Mother Earth and for Us.

.The Planet is our one and only home, we have no other choice – we must care for it

Kerrie

Australia Day 2020

Dianne Richie

What a great celebration!!

Meredith celebrated with an Australia Day breakfast at Pioneer Park co-ordinated by the Meredith & District Lions Club from 8.30 am. The colourful flyer advertised Tug of War, Best Aussie Costume, Relay Race, Games and Fun and much more.

On the balmy morning many people and lots of young families enjoyed the free breakfast, the games from the Create Crate from the Golden Plains Shire, the animal farm supplied by Lucy Banks, the history of the Recreation Reserve presented by Marg Cooper and the music supplied by Kim Ivory and a fantastic duo from Elaine featuring Paul Witham and his partner before what seemed like the event that caused the most interest, the Meredith Gift.

This race which carried a prize of \$100 was won fairly easily by Steph Ferry. Up the straight, a sharp turn around a tree and back to the start line, Steph ran hotly pursued by the rest of the field. Senior relay teams representing east, west, north and south Meredith then raced as did younger competitors in other races. The relay was won by the Westies so the challenge is out for next year.

Many attendees added some Australia Day theme to their apparel including aprons, T shirts, hats and flags. The best male Aussie costume winner was dressed in an Australia Day singlet, shorts and thongs as a typical Aussie.

Thank you to all who worked hard to present a very enjoyable and relaxed Aussie morning celebrating our great country. Next year come along to celebrate Australia day again as a community!

Woodburn Creek residents celebrated with a BYO tea to share at the site of the Woodburn Creek school from 5.30 pm. A beautiful night, lots of chatter, good heartedness and food before the ceremonial cutting of the fruit cake made by June Cameron in the shape of Australia. This year Vesper, one of the carers with Chris Nolan was invited to cut the cake because she has been coming to the event for years but mostly has been in the background caring for Chris. We welcome her presence and her friendship.

Then it was home just before dark to watch the tennis, but this year, not the final match!



Judy Hullin

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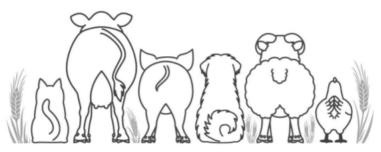
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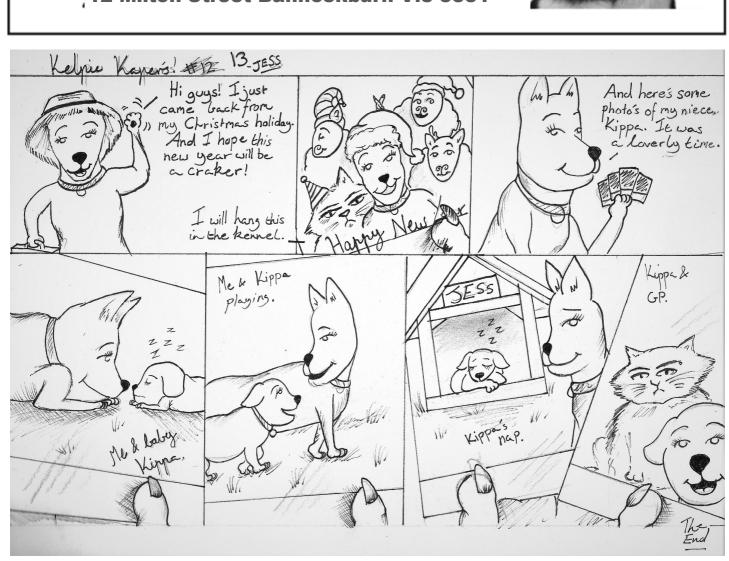
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Australia Day Award Winners

Media Release

In front of an enthusiastic crowd this evening, Mayor Cr Owen Sharkey presented the 2020 Australia Day Awards to four well-deserving nominees at the Bannockburn Cultural Centre.

Citizen of the Year

Mary Foster has been a resident of Meredith for more than 30 years, and is dedicated to the health needs of her community. A nurse, Mary was a foundation member of the Meredith Community Emergency Response Team (CERT), a highly trained group of volunteers who are first responders for emergency medical care. Mary is also a member of the Lions Club of Meredith & District, and actively involved with St Joseph's Church, Meredith. Senior Citizen of the Year

Senior Citizen of the Year

Una Miller has been an active member of the Inverleigh community since moving to the town 13 years ago. A life member of the Country Women's Association, Una is a mentor for younger members of the Inverleigh CWA, and goes out of her way to assist other members of the community. Una is also an active member of the Inverleigh Presbyterian Church, Inverleigh Progress Association and the local walking group.

Young Citizen of the Year

Minh-Chau Ho of Dereel has a passion for maths and languages, and is always happy to help her classmates, younger students and neighbours in their studies. She helps her Vietnamese classmates with their school work, learning English and Australian culture. Minh-Chau also spends her spare time helping her parents with community fundraising events to support the Royal Children's Hospital and the Ballarat Foundation.

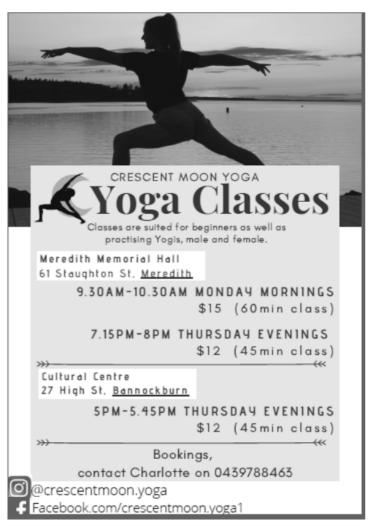
Community Group of the Year

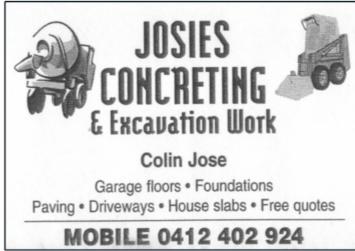
Inverleigh's Anzac Day Service is an important date on the Shire's calendar of events. The Inverleigh RSL ensures the Anzac Day and Remembrance Day services in Inverleigh, Bannockburn, Teesdale, and Shelford are run rain, hail or shine. The volunteer driven events are promoted nationally, and attract more than 500 visitors from across the Shire, Victoria, Australia and internationally.

The dedication of the four award recipients, and all nominees were acknowledged at the special ceremony, which also celebrated the contribution of Council's volunteers, and Community Coordinators as part of the 20 year celebration of the Community Planning program.

"We are very fortunate to have such community-minded residents as Mary, Una, Minh-Chau and all the volunteers who put together the Inverleigh Anzac Day Service, living in our community."









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

Quick Lamb Biryani

Serves 4

Prep time 5 mins Cook time 15 mins

Ingredients

400g diced lean lamb leg steak

1 onion, finely sliced

1 garlic clove, finely chopped

40g Indian curry paste (such as Rogan Josh)

250g cooked Basmati rice

1 tsp ground turmeric

1 tsp garam masala

200g broccoli, cut into small florets

100g baby spinach leaves

2 tbs lemon juice

5g flaked almonds, toasted

Method

Spray a large non-stick frying pan with oil and heat. Cook lamb, stirring for 5 minutes or until browned. Add onion and cook, stirring for 4 minutes. Add garlic and curry paste and cook, stirring for 1 minute or until fragrant. Add rice, turmeric, garam masala and 2 tablespoons of water and cook, stirring, for 3-4 minutes.

Meanwhile, cook broccoli in a large saucepan of boiling water for 2-3 minutes or until bright green and just tender. Drain. Add broccoli, spinach and lemon juice to rice mixture and cook, stirring to combine, for 1 minute or until spinach has just wilted.

Sprinkle biryani with almonds and serve with tzatziki.

Recipe from – The Internet Somewhere?? Stefania

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JPAG

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"All The Light We Cannot See" by Anthony Doerr.

I received this book as a Kris Kringle gift for Christmas and am very grateful to the unknown giver because it was a fantastic book.

The book incorporates two parallel stories set during WW11. It tells about the lives of two young people from totally different backgrounds whose paths eventually cross towards the end of the book.

Marie Laure is young, motherless and blind and enjoys a happy childhood with her locksmith father in Paris. He builds scale models of her neighbourhood so she learns the area before venturing out with her cane. They are forced to escape from Paris in 1940 and take refuge with an uncle in Saint Malo on the coast of Brittany. "In a corner of the city inside a tall, narrow house at Number 4 rue Vauborel, on the sixth and highest floor, a sightless sixteen year old named Marie Laure LeBlanc kneels over a low table covered entirely with a model. The model is a miniature of the city she kneels within, and contains scale replicas of the hundreds of houses and shops and hotels within its walls."

Werner is young, an orphan living with his sister in an orphanage in Germany who is an engineering prodigy who learns to build and repair radios. He is chosen to enter the National Political Institute of Education escaping the coal mines of Essen where his father was killed but he becomes part of a Nazi team who track anti Nazi radios.

The poetic narration moves back and forward in both time and place between the two main characters. A review describes how 'no noun sits upon the page without the decoration of at least one adjective and sometimes, alas, with two or three'. I thought the book had the most hauntingly beautiful prose, brimming with rich details. Always you want to know what happens next to Marie Laure, to her father, to her great uncle, to Werner and his sister Jutta and to his considerable parade of other characters.

The author explains that the title is a reference first and foremost to all the light we literally cannot see (ie in wavelengths of the electromagnetic spectrum that are beyond the ability of the human eyes to detect). It's also a metaphorical suggestion that there are countless invisible stories still buried within WW11 - such as the stories of ordinary children.

Bookclub will resume on the third Thursday in February.

Connecting New Residents With Local Businesses

Media Release

Golden Plains Shire Council is pleased to offer a new free advertising opportunity to local businesses and services to connect them with the Shire's newest residents.

Golden Plains Shire Council publishes a New Residents Guide that is distributed to people who have newly purchased or rented a home in Golden Plains Shire. The guide includes useful information on Council services, including how to find out what day the rubbish is collected and how to access the local library, aged care, or maternal and child health services.

Council is updating the guide and adding a new section of vouchers to promote local businesses to this valuable group of prospective new customers and clients. Each voucher will include a special offer for new residents from that business, such as a local café may offer two free coffees or a local dentist may offer a 10% discount on the first check-up appointment.

For local businesses, it's free and easy to participate. Interested businesses within Golden Plains Shire can complete an online form with their business information, offer to new residents and attach a business logo, if applicable. The online form is available at goldenplains.vic.gov.au/forms/new-residents-guide-2020-business-vouchers-form

Golden Plains Shire Mayor Cr Owen Sharkey says the new business voucher section of the guide will be an excellent incentive for the Shire's new residents to try a local business.

"With new residents continuing to move to our Shire, connecting them with our terrific local businesses through these vouchers is a win-win for both the businesses and new residents."

"The business vouchers program is a great opportunity for new residents to learn more about the great range of businesses and services in their new home town and across the Shire."

"This offer from Council, is one of the many ways we help support and promote our businesses in Golden Plains Shire and we hope many will take this free opportunity to connect with new residents"

All forms must be submitted by **Friday 14 February, 2020**. The updated New Residents Guide will be published in early 2020. Vouchers may only be used once and will have a standard expiration date of 31 December 2021. A sample design of the vouchers is available on the online form.

Businesses with any questions can call Council's Investment Attraction and Business Support team at 5220 7111 or email business@gplains.vic.gov.au

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Koala Saved

Marg Cooper

After the fire that raced down the Leigh River from Mt Mercer on the afternoon of Friday, December 20 Wally Tabone, who owns a block at the south end of Coopers Road, found a distressed koala. He offered it water and he said that it drank and drank and drank. It didn't seem to be injured. It appeared to enjoy eating the leaves on the trees along Coopers Road that Wally has grown from seed, planted on the sides of the road and carefully tended until they became established.

The fire that started near Graham's Road at Mt Mercer (near where a fire also started in March, 2019) was controlled late on the Friday night but mop up activities took place for almost a week. The Mt Mercer CFA report that 125 trucks attended, 10 helicopters, 2 small planes and 1 big plane spreading fire retardant. It was extremely frightening but we thank everyone who helped.

On the same Friday a hay shed on Cameron's Road caught fire and the Meredith trucks and crews were kept busy for several days with that fire .





WHAT'S ON



CLASSES COMING UP

SELF DEFENCE FOR WOMEN

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 29 10.00am-1.30pm \$50.00

SELF DEFENCE FOR KIDS

THURSDAY MARCH 5 3.45pm - 4.45pm \$12.50

ART WORKSHOP WITH JEN JONES

SATURDAY MARCH 28 10:30am - 2.30pm \$80.00

FERMENTATION MADE SIMPLE

FRIDAY MARCH 20 10am - 1pm \$120.00

CHEESEMAKING AT HOME

FRIDAY MAY 15 10am - 1pm \$120.00

COMING SOON!

PILATES - TUESDAYS 2pm - 3pm \$15.00 Exercise - Over 65's - WEDNESDAYS - 10-45- 11:45 TBC

WEEKLY CLASSES

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Meredith - Tuesday 9.30-10.30 Teesdale - Thursday 9.30 - 10.30

Bannockburn - Tuesday 5.00-6.00

STEADY FEET

Meredith - Wednesday 9.30-10.30

For more information on any of these classes or to enrol go to our website or give us a call

W: www.meredithcommunitycentre.com.au
E: learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au
http://www.facebook.comMeredithCommunityCentre
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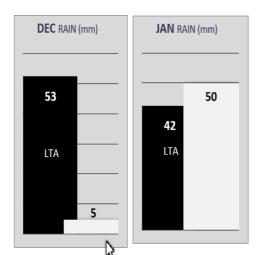
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Meredith History Interest Group

Annual Meeting:

The Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 1 at 1.30 pm at the Meredith History Centre followed by the debut screening of "Down Shelford Road", a historical trip. The video has been produced by David Law of Redwood Entertainment, Ballarat East. The video includes film shot of the road, voice by Doug McFarlane, music and still photos, animals. The video was produced as part of our Escape to the Country project in which we endeavour to document every road, farm, building and people in the district of Meredith.

Bannockburn Library:

MHIG was invited to mount a display at the library for the Australian Heritage Festival which is on from April 18 until May 19, 2020. The National Trust website says that people can look forward to community events, exhibitions, talks, experiences, tours, seminars and workshops.

We decided to mount a display of Hotels of Meredith and District at the library Bannockburn but to also have a Pub Crawl in Meredith on Sunday, May 3 when we will conduct a tour to sites of some former pubs, visit present pubs and enjoy some interesting stories relating to the pubs.

Masonic Chairs:

Just before Christmas we sold the last of the Masonic chairs that we (mainly Bev) had painted and adorned with a plant. The wooden, some wobbly, chairs were surplus to our needs after we bought white plastic chairs and rather than burn them we decorated them and sold them for \$20 each. A shed full! Bev thought that the supply would never end!

Street Library:

You may have noticed that the small wooden cupboard that was showing signs of weather damage has been replaced with a waterproof, vermin proof, larger metal cupboard. We have started to decorate it. We have filled it with books. We invite you to take a book, replace a book if you like and enjoy the convenience of a local library available day and night.

A Quote:

Over the years, the townsfolk indulged their human propensity to make something from tattered scraps. They embroidered a tale as one might a blanket or quilt – a rumour here, a supposition there – until a story becomes historical, complete with a beginning, a middle and an end.

From: "Bereft" by Chris Womersley.

MEREDITH - LETHERIDGE DISTRICT · Famous Wool-Growing Property ACRES

(Homestead Portion) To be offered by Public Auction at the GEELONG WOOL EXCHANGE

at 2.15 p.m.
DENNYS LASCELLES LIMITED have received instructions from the Soldier Settlement Commission to offer by Public Auction the homestead portion of Morang-

Situated on the main bitumen Geelong-Bailarat high-way with a frontage of 2 miles 22 miles Geelong, 4 miles Meredith, 31 miles Baflarat, the property is sub-divided into 7 main paddocks and watered by 5 dams, Moorabool River and Coolebarghurk Creek.

Moorabool River and Coolebarghurk Creek. The fencing is mainly post and wire in excellent order with some stone wall and the West and North West boundary netted. New South boundary netting fence in course of erection to be completed by vendor. The country consists mainly of strong basalt plains carrying stone in places, with a long frontage to the Moorabool river, running in the North West corner to light sandy loam. A proportion of the property is carrying green timber in varying quantity and the whole is in its natural state and offers a great potential for increased production by modern methods of pasture improvement by the use of super phosphate, no pasture improvement or use of super phosphate ever having been attempted.

been attempted. The comfortable W/B homestead containing rooms and servants' quarters is splendidly situated and commands an extensive view overlooking the Moorabooi river valley Parquetry floor covers the large sitting room, dining room and main hall, and further amenities include Esse atove and extensive built in cupboards in kitchen — 110 voit Lister diesel lighting plant — hot water service — sewerage — telephone and an boards in kitchen — 110 voit Lister diesel lighting plant — hot water service — sewerage — telephone and an unfalling water supply pumped from Moorabool river to large storage tanks by Lister diesel engine and pump and reticulated to house and garden. Detached laundry and office complete a most attractive homestead set in extensive belts of ornamental trees, shrubs and hedges. Other buildings include blue stone lodge containing 5 rooms and laundry, situated at the end of a mile long lambertians lined bitumen drive and aurrounded by well kept hedges blue stone garage 4 cars with electric light boused under one roof, large blue stone stable and machinery shed with E.L. connected. Blue stone men's hur containing 7 single rooms, sitting room, kitchen, bathroom, storeroom E.L. connected Alao 5 bail cow shed — 3 roomed store — engine shed — dog kennels — fow house and pens — hay shed and sheep yards. Moranghurk has been favorably known for over 100 years as a super fine wool growing property and

Moranghurk has been favorably known for over 100 years as a super fine wool growing property and the offering of the homestead portion gives a wonderful opportunity to buyers to purchase land capable of vast improvement in a good rainfall area.

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The Powles Twins celebrate 60 Years

Marg Cooper

Leanne and Peter Powles were born in Ballarat, 27th November 1959. The Powles family arrived with three small children in Meredith, April 1958. Peter Powles left Meredith in 1988.

Leanne and Peter had been planning a party for this significant birthday, probably since their big bash at Melton Trotting Track where they celebrated their 50th with a black tie dinner and guests staying the night at the motel at the track. Their 40th was celebrated with a Ken and Barbie party on the Moorabool River at Possum Point with guests camping at the site overnight.

Peter who lives at Orange chose the venue for their 60th at Katoomba and Theresa who lived at Condobolin did the reconnaissance work by staying a night in 2018. The Carrington Hotel is a grand old-worldly hotel opened in 1883. It was renamed the Carrington in 1886 by the Governor of N.S.W. In the early 1900's it was cited as the only rival to Raffles Hotel, Singapore within the Empire. It was closed and derelict from 1985 but reopened after extensive renovation in 1998.

Leanne describes how eighteen of them sat down to dinner in the Grand Dining Room on Saturday night, November 30th. They all sat at a big long table and served by their own waiter whilst a young man played the grand piano. The food was superb and Leanne and Peter's desserts were presented with Happy Birthday written in chocolate on the plates followed by champagne enjoyed on the balcony. A continental breakfast was also in the dining room the next morning. The younger guests were amazed at the dimensions and grandeur of the full sized billiard table in the billiard room, others enjoyed the ambience of the library but no one waltzed around the ballroom.

Leanne's outfit was workshopped around the ridgy-didge orange Prada shoes that sister Denise bought for her at a sale. She admits that she is a shopaholic for Op Shops and loves to dress up, often in fancy dress. She thinks this personality trait may have begun in Meredith when Carmen dressed all the Powles children for the fancy dress competitions at the Meredith Flower Show. Once they went as the three pigs complete with pink paper mache heads with square snouts.

Taking four days, Leanne and her husband Peter drove to Katoomba. On Friday 29th some of the family attended a tribute to sister Theresa at the Condobolin Library who died suddenly on October 29, 2019, at Coonabarabran . Several members of the family intended to fly home but with strikes and smoke they drove home through the night to be at work on Monday morning.

Where will the next birthday be? They love an occasion, a chance to get together and to dress up so. She also suggested that the article be called "Four sisters (& others) at the Three Sisters, missing One sister".



Volunteer Grants Now Open

from Media release

The 2019-20 Volunteer Grants program is now open to volunteer organisations.

Volunteer organisations across regional Victoria are encouraged to apply for funding. Applications close on 16 March 2020.

These grants can be used to buy small equipment for volunteers or for the reimbursement of volunteer fuel, transport or training costs. Community groups can apply for grants of between \$1,000 and \$5,000.

Whether it's fighting bushfires, caring for the most vulnerable, raising money for families in need or supporting environmental projects, volunteers are integral part of the social fabric of every community.

By supporting our volunteers, the Federal Government aims to encourage and increase participation in volunteering.

For more information about the grants, please see www.grants.gov.au





Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

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- 2. Receive a 20% discount off all gifts all year!
- 3. There is no card so don't need to carry a card around in your wallet. Everything is stored at the Pharmacy on our computer system.
- 4. You can accumulate the money you earn for as long as you want and you can spend as much as you would like. It's your choice.
- 5. You can have multiple family members linked to your Loyalty club profile.
- 6. It only takes 1 minute to join in-store and you are right to go.

Don't forget if you have any children aged under 2 year you can join our <u>Baby Club</u>. You get the same benefits as above but you get <u>10 cents</u> for every <u>\$1 you spend</u> on mother and child related products, plus when you join we give you a \$5 bonus which will be available to spend on your next visit.

NEW Look Glasshouse coming next month!!!

If you have been in the pharmacy recently you will have noticed that we are low on stock a number of our Glasshouse products. The reason for this is next month Glasshouse are refreshing their complete range and look!! The large candles will increase in size from 350g to 380g but the price will remain the same.

We are very excited about what coming and below are what products will be available within the Glasshouse range:

Candles - Diffusers - Body Bars

Scent Stems (NEW) - Hand Cream - Hand Wash

Body Lotion (NEW) - Shower Gel (NEW) - Perfume (NEW)

The following fragrances have been discontinued: Beverly Hills, Coney Island, Monte Carlo, Oahu, Tahiti & Persia. But this means this makes way for NEW fragrances which are:

Flower Symphony - Melbourne Muse - Midnight in Milan

Over the Rainbow - Sydney Sundays

The official release date for the new range is Monday 16th March. Follow us on Facebook to be kept up to date with what's happening

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 Friday:
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 Saturday:
 8:30am - 1:00pm

Sunday: CLOSED

A Young Author, Published.

Marg Cooper

It was school holidays and he was bored. His grandmother became annoyed because he spent hours at the computer watching YouTube pranks. So, 9 year old Cameron Pearce decided to write a book and his grandmother was there to encourage, advise and help with formatting, editing and production. On October 25 Cameron pushed the "publish" button so it became available worldwide on Amazon.

Cameron's ambition is to be a star soccer player like his idol Cristiano Ronaldo of the Portuguese National Team. He also admires Lionel Messi of the Argentinean National Team. Cameron plays soccer in a Golden Plains team, plays at The Geelong College where he goes to school and always has a ball in his hands or at his feet. He says that his family get annoyed when he plays inside especially at meal times when he passes the ball between his feet under the table.

He is accumulating a collection of team jumpers, has attended professional soccer at AAMI Stadium in Melbourne and GMHBA Stadium in Geelong and plays "FIFA20" on his PlayStation.

So being a boy who lives in the country and loves soccer Cameron called his book "I Want to be Super Messy" - a play on words for "Messi". It tells of the quirky life of Matt who resents the efforts of his mother to keep him clean, all the time. Each chapter involves another adventure with mud, snot, creepy crawlies, grime, goo or slime or, in fact, anything that is icky, sticky, yucky, filthy, grimy, grubby and foul smelling. Of particular interest was the "pat-lympics", the "stink bus" and "mud soup". His dog is involved in lots of the attempts to get and stay dirty. Everything in the book has actually happened to Cameron with all the episodes being from his own experience.

His grandmother believes that they both learnt a lot. The manuscript had to be produced in Amazon requiring digital format, an early editor they hired altered wording and spelling but they were delighted with their illustrator from Serbia. The book is available online as a Kindle ebook from Amazon.com.au and in paperback format from Amazon.com. Cameron welcomes reviews because books live through reviews.

The young author, who published his first book under the pen name Cam R. Pearce has almost finished his second book about "The mystery of the missing sheep". He assures us it will also be gross and funny with some new hilarious characters creating mischief. His grandmother is delighted that he is being creative and not just consuming other people's creativity. Even though Cameron wants to be a professional soccer player he thinks he will keep up writing books as a lifetime hobby.

The book is a great read, well set out and nicely produced. Each chapter contains another adventure in mess and subtle lessons on dealing with other children and mothers.

PHOTO OMITTED FROM ONLINE EDITION



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FREE one-on-one sessions as well as general advice available 10am to 4pm, Thursday 13 February 5 x 45 min sessions available. Bookings essential.

Taking your business online: What you need to know - Bannockburn

Thursday 20 February 6pm to 8pm

Cost: \$20

Starting a small business & planning your financial commitments – Bannockburn

FREE sessions provided by the ATO

10am to 12.30pm, Thursday 27 February

Bookings essential

Finance Fundamentals: How to keep cash flowing - Bannockburn

6pm to 8pm, Wednesday 18 March

Cost: \$20

SBMS Small Business Clinic Rokewood

FREE one-on-one sessions as well as general advice available. 10am to 4pm, Thursday 12 March

5 x 45 min sessions available. Bookings essential. FREE

Starting your business: How to turn an idea into a business - Haddon

9.30am to 1pm, Thursday 26 March

Cost: \$30



To register for these and other events, visit: goldenplains.vic.gov.au/business and follow the link to Business Events & Training -What's on.

FIND US EVERYWHERE!







Christmas 2019

Dianne Richie

Carols

Our community's celebration of Christmas on Sunday 22nd December, the singing of carols, face painting and other activities drew a large crowd of families from Meredith, neighbouring towns and visitors from as far as Brisbane. Meredith & District Lions Club provided a wonderful free sausage sizzle, soft drinks, tea and coffee, and all done with a smile. Well done Lions!

Santa arrived in the fire truck with sirens blaring (thanks CFA) and he took up residence in his Santa cave helped by Mrs Santa Claus to distribute lollies. It was a wonderful picture to see families sitting in camp chairs or on picnic rugs enjoying each other's company in what is one of Meredith's growing community events.

Thank you to the Combined churches of Meredith, Momentum Christian Church of Bannockburn for supplying the excellent music and the truck and Cass for the face painting and story telling. Kim Ivory for MCing once again, Dawn for assisting with the music, Father Charles for the opening prayer, the Lions Club of course and to Santa and his helpers. Thank you also to Meredith Community Coordinators and Advance Meredith Association members for helping to organize the event. As the darkness came, happy families wished each other Merry Christmas as they packed up for home. See you all again next year on the Sunday before Christmas.

Lights and Wreaths

There were a few spectacular Christmas lighting displays around the town this year. Thank you to those businesses who made an effort to brighten the town. Winner of Best Decorated House

was Josh in Wallace Street, 2nd was St Joseph's Church Fr Charles.

Next year we can be bigger and better and don't forget to enter your house lights by sms.

Start thinking about your Christmas Wreath made out of natural materials to place on the Christmas Corner next year. We had three this year, next year we hope to have thirty. Could be gum leaves, branches, wire, pine cones or up to your imagination.







...ip our Family!

One of our much loved columnists, German Hanan, married Luke on the 30th of November last year at *Merne at Lighthouse* in Drysdale. German reports, "...after a year of hard work, everything went perfectly and we had the most magical day." Our heartiest congratulations to German and Luke for a long and happy life together.





A single ember can spread bushfires as far as 40km.

Burning embers from bushfires can travel up to 40km, starting new fires in seconds, destroying homes and making escape impossible. If the Fire Danger Rating is ever extreme or above, don't hesitate. Leave early.

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Kerry Thomson & Amanda Hyatt

We're delighted to launch a new column for 2020. Kerry and Amanda will introduce us to some of the creative people living in our district, whether they're working in pottery, painting, metalwork, woodwork, sculpture or the softer fabric arts, happily going about the production of artistic objects in their many forms. For the February issue, they talk to Louise Corrall.

(If you, or somebody you know, would like to give us a glimpse of the creative life, email Kerry on kesthommo@activ8.net.au) - Ed.

Local resident, Louise Corrall, is passionate about her art. As well as drawing a couple of times a week she also goes to her studio to paint once or twice a week. Louise is part of the Meredith Saturday morning art group, regularly does a Tuesday Plein air session with friends and is a member of the Geelong Art Society based at the Shearers Arms Gallery in Aberdeen Street.

Coming from a creative family where her grandparents were pastry chefs and with an aunt and several cousins who are artists, she herself has always loved history, language, drawing and study. As a 10 year old, completed a special drawing for a friend and this started her passion. From a somewhat difficult childhood in Madrid, Spain, Louise, came to Australia with her family as a 14 year old but did not really taking up art seriously until after her children were born.

After 30 years of catering at Geelong Grammar School she was accepted into the Gordon in Geelong to do a painting course which "was a wonderful experience". This was the first of many learning experiences with professional art teachers and set Louise on a lifetime of furthering her creative interests.

However, It was menopause and the onset of depression which ultimately led to a change in thinking and whole new way of viewing the world. A sore foot slowed her down and she did some drawings, rekindling this interest. Later Louise came across a cassette tape and then a book titled "You can heal yourself" by Louise Hay which has become a major influence in her life. With its two main premises of 'love yourself' and 'healthy food and exercise' it also opened her mind to a more spiritual way of thinking, of being true to herself and to being open-minded in order to connect with the world and become

creative. These ideas reawakened her love for painting. In combination with this, her daughter who was living in London at the time, won a trip to Paris and invited Louise to go with her. She spent a wonderful five weeks of travel which further changed her thoughts and way of thinking (retraining her brain) and view of life.

Louise initially tried to be a perfectionist with her art, having admired artists like Michelangelo. More recently she has realised she prefers impressionists like Renoir. She admires Van Gogh in whose paintings she can feel the disturbance of his mental illness and how it drove his art. Ben Quilty and Ahn Do are modern artists she admires for the freedom and colour of their work. She has stopped trying to use other people's styles in order to develop her own, describing herself as having gone from realist/perfectionist to painting with her 'heart and soul'.

Over the years, Louise has endeavoured to learn from others and develop her practical skills. One of the first key stages in this journey was after attending a pastel

> exhibition in Meredith by Ros Speiring and then attending classes at her studio. Louise also took pastel classes at Vines Road Community Centre before going the Geelong Art Society at taking lots of classes in lots of mediums. She especially liked watercolour classes with Charles Moodie, portraiture with Lianne Gough and oils with Jill Shalless. The internet and u-tube have also provided Louise with numerous tutorials and demonstrations of a whole range of artists, styles and mediums. After her painting of a rooster won second prize at the Geelong she bought some palette knives and this, followed by some 'palette knife' episodes, has led to her having adopted this style with gusto because of the freedom of expression and

loosening up which it enables.



A self portrait of a whimsical Louise Corrall.

Louise loves painting people and landscapes but has experimented with many styles, subject matter and techniques. She feels she has a drive inside her to keep going. Her goals with her art are to be the best artist that she can be and to bring joy to people as there is enough sadness in the world. She wants people to see her work so enters shows, exhibitions (including the Golden Plains Art Trail) and has recently sold a landscape painting at Apollo Bay. Ideally Louise wants her paintings to generate some sort of emotional engagement and, ultimately, inspire others. Her absolute, ultimate goal would be to have a portrait accepted into the Archib ild awards!!.





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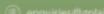
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Mat's On! February



CORY HARGREAVES FRIDAY 14TH FEB. 8PM FREE ENTRY





JACK GATTO ELVIS TRIBUTE TICKETS SELLING FAST \$30 SUNDAY 16TH FEB.

UNCLE & BLACKY FRIDAY 21ST FEB. 8PM FREE ENTRY





TRISTAN ROSS FRIDAY 28TH FEB. 8PM FREE ENTRY