



Meredith & district News



inside

Happy Mother's Day



- Herbie Platt Pt 2
- Anzac Celebrations and stories
- Vale to Nellie Musgrove
- We are all in this together



...and the usual MUCH MORE!



Meredith & district NEWS



The Meredith and District News is published by a volunteer sub-committee of the Meredith Community Centre comprising: Jim Elvey, (general editor and chair) Dawn Macdonald, David Jones, Stefania Parkinson and Ian Penna. Production is undertaken by alternating teams comprising Pam Ridd, Peter Boer, Don Atherton and 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

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: Mike 0419 307044

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We do not publish children's photos online.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

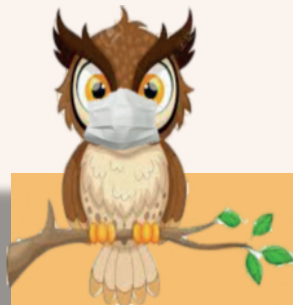
Issue Editor: Pam Ridd

connect

ADVANCE MEREDITH 5286 1291	FOOTBALL Seniors 0408 545 246 Juniors 0430 587 674
ANGLING CLUB 0419 248 660	GOLF CLUB 0407 795 342
B'BURN ART GROUP 0410 808 483	HISTORY GROUP 5286 8201
BLUE LIGHT DISCO 5286 1222	LANDCARE 0409 862 326
BOOK CLUB 5286 8201	MEMORIAL HALL 5286 1545 0409 662106
CFA 000 for fire calls Elaine 0409 861296 Meredith 5286 1502 Morrisons 0417 770 765	MEREDITH LIONS 0491 061640 0419 757965
CHILDCARE 5286 0700	MOTORCYCLE CLUB 0437 009 250
COMMUNITY CENTRE 5286 0700	PLAYGROUP 5286 0700
CRICKET Elaine 0448 291074 Junior(U16,U14,13) 0448 291074 Meredith 5286 1434	POLICE PADDOCKS 5286 1273
CUBS & SCOUTS Anakie 5281 9497	RSL - 5286 1452
ELAINE HALL 0403 193006	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.



"All you need is love. But a little chocolate now and then doesn't hurt."

- Charles M. Schulz

emergency

Police, Ambulance, Fire (from mobile phone)	000 000 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
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 5286 1550	MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH 5220 7230
HALL HIRE Meredith Memorial 5286 1545	PRE-SCHOOL 5286 0722
Elaine Mechanics 5341 5596	PRIMARY SCHOOL 5286 1313
Elaine Rec Res 5341 5703	RECREATION RESERVE
LIBRARY VAN 5272 6010	0429 841399



Community

Anzac Day in Meredith

An Invitation, consisting of a wreath in a bag and an invite, was delivered to everyone in east Mercer Street to be up and out at their front gates at 6 am, for a Dawn Service on Saturday, April 25 to commemorate Anzac Day. Most residents participated with a candle or small light. The service was broadcast, the Last Post was bugled and a minutes silence was observed. Then it was back to bed or inside for breakfast.

Daylight revealed that the Murfitt family of Mercer Street who organized the commemoration had arranged red poppies on their nature strip which signified the occasion magnificently.

The invitation was also for Trivia. Be out at your front gate in Mercer Street at 4 pm on Saturday. It was reported that this was lots of fun and that the winner received a very valuable “roll of toilet paper”.

Locals also remembered Anzac day by placing flowers on the Cenotaph.



Classifieds

First insertion of small ads are FREE to district residents

WANTED

Old wooden play pen. Ph: 0409026446

The deadline for copy is
9.00 am on the last Thursday
 of the preceding month

HISTORY OF THE LONE PINE

Lone Pine or Plateau 400 at Gallipoli was the scene of a major diversionary offensive launched by the 1st Australian Infantry Division on 6 August 1915. Turkish Soldiers had cut down all but one of the trees that clothed the ridge to cover their trenches. The ridge dominated by the single Aleppo Pine (*Pinus halepensis*) became known as Lone Pine. In three days of fighting the Australians lost more than 2000 men and the Turkish an estimated 7000 men. Seven Victoria Crosses were awarded.

As far as we know two Australian soldiers souvenired pinecones from the ridge that found their way back to Australia.

Lance Corporal Benjamin Smith of the 3rd Battalion, whose brother was killed in the battle for Lone Pine Ridge, sent a cone home to his mother, Mrs McMullen at Inverell in New South Wales. Mrs McMullen kept the cone for 13 years before planting the seeds in 1928.

She grew two seedlings, one of which she presented to the town of Inverell and the other to the Parks and Gardens section of the Department of the Interior in Canberra. The Duke of Gloucester planted this second tree at the Australian War Memorial in October 1934. Today it stands over 20 metres in height.

Sergeant Keith McDowell of the 24th Battalion carried a pinecone in his haversack until the end of the war. Upon returning home to Australia he gave it to his aunt, Mrs Emma Gray, who lived at Grassmere near Warrnambool. A decade or so later Mrs Gray planted the seeds, and four seedlings were grown. One was planted in May 1933 in Wattle Park. Another at the Shrine of Remembrance in Melbourne and another at the Soldiers Memorial Hall at The Sisters, Terang. The last was planted in the Warrnambool Gardens.

The Yarralumla Nursery in Canberra has been collecting and propagating seeds from the tree at the Australian War Memorial since the late 1940's. Since then many seedlings have been distributed to RSL branches, schools and other organisations for commemorative purposes.

Meredith Cemetery's Lone Pine

Don Atherton

In 2015, Meredith Cemetery Trust received a Lone Pine seedling from the CCAV (Cemeteries and Crematoria Assoc of Victoria), as part of the commemorations that were held across Australia for the Centenary of Gallipoli and the First World War.

CCAV started to plan this Lone Pine Project in 2013 by ordering 180 Trees from Yarralumla Nursery, with delivery expected late 2014 or early 2015. The Yarralumla Nursery propagated CCAV's trees from seed collected from the second seedling planted at the Australian War Memorial in 1934.

A total order of 180 commemorative bronze plaques were supplied to CCAV, to be distributed with a tree, for each member of the association across Victoria. Of the 180 trees that were offered, 13 members opted out of receiving a tree, 7 trees were replaced after planting due to kangaroos, rabbits and cockatoos eating the trees, and one tree fell off a veranda after heavy winds two days before a MP was to plant the tree. The remaining trees were donated to service clubs, commemoration groups and schools who had heard about the project.

This project gave many cemeteries the opportunity to arrange significant commemoration ceremonies and involve the wider community in their localities. An opportunity that normally is not available to a cemetery.

Several large old pine trees were at the end of their life and were removed from the northern boundary of our local cemetery, and the tree received by Meredith Cemetery Trust was planted in pride of place at the northern end of the main access way through the cemetery.

Our Lone Pine is alive and well and has more than doubled in size since it was planted.





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Church News



The State Government has given the following directive:

All places of worship must close, except for the conduct of weddings and funerals in accordance with the following guidelines:

- Weddings may be held in places of worship (or other venues), but only with the couple, celebrant and maximum of two witnesses in attendance.
- Funerals may be held in places of worship, funeral parlours or other venues, with a maximum of ten mourners in attendance.

Meredith and District News has always provided church service details as a free service to the community and will continue to provide contact details as known to us. Churches are invited to provide more information as appropriate.

St. Joseph's Catholic Parish - 0417 319556
Catholic Archdiocese of Australia Elaine - 5341 5544
Anglican -

Rev. Timothy Smith , 0412 673152

Rev. Glen Wesley : 0429 146 566

Serbian Orthodox 5341 5568

Uniting Church 0409285182



Our Cover

Our cover this month is a beautiful sunset reflection taken by Peter Boer



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Davison's Wars

Marg Cooper

Norman McNicol Davison and Daisy Mary Jane Davison were children of Henry and Elizabeth Davison. They were born in Brisbane. Their family were influential people of Meredith from about 1902.

Norman Davison enlisted on 18/8/1914 when he was 26 years old. He was an electrician and saw service at Gallipoli, England and France. He had attended Flinders State School, Geelong and was a day boy at Geelong Grammar School. News of the Week, 25/12/1918 reported that *Davison who is with the Signaller Engineers writes that he has just arrived in France.* Sergt. Davison was an original Anzac who was wounded in action at Gallipoli, then invalided home in April 1916, was discharged and then re-enlisted in June 1917.

He joined the RAF in 1941 and served in England, Scotland and India during WW11 as a Flight Sergeant.

Daisy Davison enlisted on 25/5/1917 as a 28 year old nurse who had trained at Maryborough, Victoria from 1907 – 1910. She had been a Sister at Maryborough Hospital before she worked for some time at Hamilton Hospital. She returned to Australia on 30/8/1918 and was discharged on 5/12/1918. Her next of Kin was Chas. H. Birdsey (of Birdsey & Belcher, Solicitors of Geelong) who had married her sister Cissie. In August 1918 the Medical Board deemed that she should be invalided home. Daisy's disability was "post malaria", with The Board recommending home service or light duties for four months.

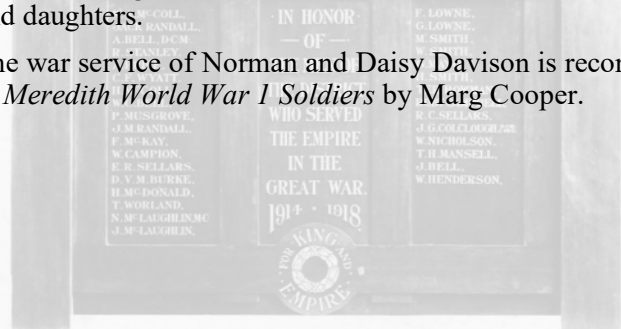
Mrs E Davison was Licencee of the Railway Hotel (later The Meredith Hotel) in Meredith from about 1902.

Henry Davison was the new publisher and printer of *The Meredith Sentinel*. His first issue was produced on January 17, 1908. Henry died in March 1911 and was interred in the Meredith Cemetery. His obituary recorded that: Henry Davison was 'an enthusiastic supporter of every movement to improve the condition of the district. His son Norman took over the publishing and printing of the newspaper'. It was advertised for sale as 'a going concern' in March 1911.

Henry Davison's obituary also said he was educated at an English Public School and went on to join the staff of *The*

London Times as Parliamentary Reporter and could tell many a tale of the stirring debates in the time of Disraeli and Gladstone. He came to Australia in 1884, worked in journalism in Queensland, was connected with *The Herald* in Melbourne and then with *The Geelong Advertiser* before coming to Meredith. He left a widow and six sons and daughters.

The war service of Norman and Daisy Davison is recorded in *Meredith World War 1 Soldiers* by Marg Cooper.



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PETE GOAT

Listening to a radio program discussing the future for the economy, one of the speakers, I think a retired Treasury or Reserve Bank official, used the word “thrift”. This came as a bit of a surprise, coming in the context of terms such as “GDP”, “deficit” and “recession”. “Austerity” is the term we have come to expect but he went on to explain how he thinks there is an opportunity to adopt thrift in rebuilding. Thrift is a word that is often thought of as connoting penny-pinching even miserliness. But “thrift” is related to “thrive”. If we are thrifty we thrive, a thrifty horse is one which keeps condition without a lot of extra feed. “Austerity” on the other hand means harsh or severe reduction.

Words and language are so interesting in their shades of meaning and the way they evolve. “Economy” comes from the Greek word for house and essentially means “the efficient running of a household”. Running a household is really about making ends meet, being thrifty, making sure everyone in the household has food and shelter. A household is about having enough for now and a bit put aside for the future, it is not about endless growth, but the world we live in has come to equate “The Economy” with the necessity for incessant growth. “Frugal” is another word, related to “fruitful”, which really means not needing anything beyond necessities, not craving luxuries; but it has come to be associated with poverty.

Let’s not get into either politics or pedantry! What I think is interesting is the subtle aspect of words which can be lost when they are misused or misunderstood, and knowing something of the etymology or origin of words can give them such richness. “Quarantine” is a word that has been about a bit lately and it was fascinating to learn that it originates in the requirement of ships arriving in Venice during the Plague to anchor offshore for forty days. “Happiness” has a richer meaning when we put it in the context of “hapless”, “happenstance”, “haphazard” “perhaps” and “mishap”. It’s all about luck or chance, so when we feel happy we are really saying how lucky we feel we are.

What do we understand by “normality”? It derives from a term for a right-angle, being square or standard. Whether we want to return to it or not, is it likely to have quite the same meaning or be the same standard? Maybe there is opportunity for cultural change.

Our thoughts go out to all who have been severely impacted whether directly or indirectly by the pandemic and also to all the front line workers. And in particular to the Victoria Police after the horrific incident in Melbourne.

STEVE GOAT

“Strange days have found us.”

There have been many commentaries and forecasts of

what might happen in the next few months. The truth is that we just do not know which way the worm will turn. The reason it is so complicated is that this pandemic demands the very best of our medicos, our leaders, our media. Perhaps something they don’t do very often or well. We can only hope these decision makers come up with the best plans. Now, even amongst them there are appearing some cracks and disagreements.

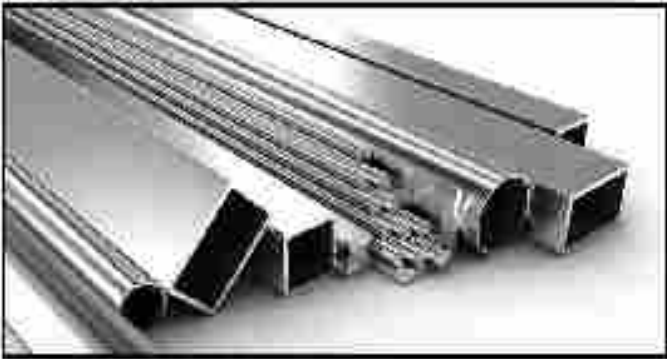
In Australia we survive by being tolerant of divergent opinions. Of course we elect governments to represent community wishes and hopes, and we change them every now and then. Oh boy have we had a few very different leaders in the past decade. Now is the time to put aside the differences and pull together. I hope our system can come up with a new future that includes all of our people; especially the more vulnerable.

At this time we have several enquires running into Aged Care, Disability services, Water management and Bushfires. We have a chance of finding better solutions to these and other problems. (Climate Action is probably the biggest of all!) As we overcome the health threat of this Covid19, let’s take this opportunity to make a fresh and more equitable start on solving these problems. In the past too many people have been left behind. This pandemic has shown us one thing: co-operation and caring are a couple of our great strengths. Our teachers, nurses and age care workers have shown us the way. Let’s move to a fairer, more caring and just society. There is no business as usual anymore.

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Landcare News



Bamganie-Meredith Landcare Group

Events for the Bamganie-Meredith Landcare Group continue to be on hold while the COVID-19 social distancing requirements are in place.

EQUIPMENT AVAILABLE FOR REVEGETATION

With the early rainfall this year now is a great time for planting out trees and shrubs, perhaps to provide a little more shelter in the paddock or around the house, to protect creek banks or help control erosion, or to increase habitat for birds or bees. Although no formal Landcare events are planned for the next few months, our equipment is still available for use by members to help with revegetation projects. The equipment includes:

- Ripper-moulder – to prepare the ground for tree planting
- Two 1100 litre spray units with 30m hose for weed control and site preparation.
- Poti-puki tree planters
- Hamilton tree planter
- Long-handled loppers for collecting seed

Contact Rob McColl on 0413 343 128 for more information or if you would like to arrange to borrow any of the equipment.

FIRE RETARDANT PLANTS

The devastating bushfires over summer highlights the need for bushfire planning, including selecting plants that may help to slow the spread of fire. The Australian Plants Society (Victoria) website has a list of fire-resistant plants (plants that will not burn in the face of continued flame) and fire-retardant plants (plants that will not burn in the first wave of a bushfire, but may burn once dried out), see <https://apsvic.org.au/fire-resistant-and-retardant-plants/>. Information is also provided about how to gauge the fire vulnerability of trees and shrubs on your property.

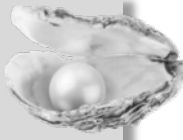
It is important to select the right plant for the right position if the revegetation is to be successful. Not all the fire-retardant plants listed on the Australian Plant Society website are suited to our area. The Golden Plains Shire website has a list of indigenous plants suitable for planting in our region, see <https://www.goldenplains.vic.gov.au/residents/my-home/environment/indigenous-planting-guides>. More information about the plants that are indigenous to our area can be found by looking up the ecological vegetation classes within our bioregion <https://www.environment.vic.gov.au/biodiversity/bioregions-and-ecv-benchmarks>.

NEXT MEETING

No formal meetings of the Landcare group will be held until after the COVID-19 restrictions are lifted. If you would like more information about our group please see our Facebook page or contact us at meredithlandcare@gmail.com.



little
GEMS



Everything old is new

Everything old is new again. It is a fair enough adage: when enough time passes, things can gain new life.

Does it ever stop being surprising that the ‘new again’ was—once upon a time—just your plain old ‘new’?

Have you ever been surprised to find yourself saying ‘I used to have one of those!’ or ‘I used to wear that’, only to follow it up with a self-satisfied smirk? Because no matter how much you loved it at the time, you can’t help but think how ridiculous you used to look in it, and how ridiculous this generation will think they looked when the next resurgence comes.

Some things such as lurid-coloured leg warmers and dental work without painkillers have thankfully stayed out of fashion. Others had a brief period of remission (when people would guffaw at pictures of themselves wearing a ‘fashionable’ outfit or haircut) only to come screaming back with a vengeance 20 years later.

For instance, a certain girl band was at the height of its career in the 90s and one member of said band had a ‘sporty’ style. Often seen in midriff-showing crop tops, tracksuit pants and sneakers, she had an effortless style that thankfully didn’t make it into the two-thousands. Flash forward to now and you’ll find Generation Zs gallivanting around nightclubs in exactly that, paying a handsome mark-up on the original prices.

Television and movie remakes have also become very trendy in the last few years. TV shows that died ungracious deaths decades ago are now being remade with an aged cast being thrown into modern-day dilemmas. Disney movies that were rendered classics when they were originally released are now cashing in on nostalgia with the first-time-around fans now taking their own kids to see ‘live action’ remakes.

But with the cringeworthy comes the nostalgic; trends brought back to life with love and which reinstate classic traditions.

Vinyl records and players have come back big time. Where once you would have had to scour the depths of vintage shops to find a working one, now you can find them all over the internet and in electronic stores. Only now they feature Bluetooth and require

you to spend on expensive records.

Band reunions also seem to be cashing in on our longing to relive those sepia-toned memories, but I will leave it to you to decide whether that is for better or worse...we have all had questionable music moments.

In the end, amongst the cringy and successful facets of old things becoming new, we can’t help what we like, and nor can we warn the younger generations who choose to revisit these facets. Sometimes you have to remember that those who cannot learn from history are doomed to repeat it.

Gemma



Meredith **Community Centre**
working for our community

On behalf of the Staff and Committee we would like to thank everyone for their understanding and patience during these times

Your kind words are greatly appreciated as we are dedicated to keeping our community as safe as possible.

We are still available, and whilst we may not be able to have you in the Community Centre, we can still be contacted via other means should you need assistance.

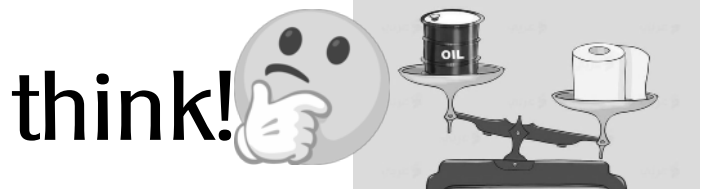
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Opening hours: Monday - Thursday 9am to 3pm - Friday Closed

Occasional Care

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History can be Exciting

Jan Crump

A few weeks ago Kevin Gargan and sister Margaret Nolan visited the History Centre to share their collection of family photos and documents. Among these was a large photo that is widely believed to be of Mary Ann Stow and the pupils of the first school at St Josephs Meredith in 1861-1863. This image has been used in many publications over the years.

But on close examination of this quite clear image it was obvious that this photo was very unlikely to have been taken in the 1860s. The task was then to try and date the photo which turned out to be quite easy.

Firstly the clothes of the teacher were definitely not the crinolines and close fitting dresses of the 1860s. By the mid-60s gowns were showing modified bustles, high necklines and were usually in dark colours. As St Josephs closed in 1866 and did not reopen until 1890 it was easy to ignore these years. The web site of the Victoria and Albert Museum Clothes Collection showed that by the late 1890s and early 1900s professional women were wearing slim fitting dark skirts and white shirts. These were high necked and rich in detail, featuring lace, pintucks and corded embroidery. Just what our teacher is wearing.

The next clue was even easier. By enlarging the notice board on the wall of the building, it was easy to read the name of Rev Father M Murphy. The "Australian Catholic Church Histories" states that Father Michael Murphy was the parish priest in

Meredith from 1900-1911 This of course narrows the timeline down to the first decade of the 20th century

Then came the best bit. Among the papers that Kevin and Marg had shared was a list of names that exactly matched the composition of the photo. The list named the teacher as Miss Heffey. Church records show that Miss Heffey was a teacher at the school in 1908/9 and had left by the time the new school was opened in 1912.

A quick search of Births, Deaths & Marriages revealed that at least 6 of the pupils were born in Meredith and their birthdates matched the expected ages of the pupils. For example William Bennett (Bill) was born in 1902 and his sister Marie was born in 1904. John Watts was born in Meredith in 1898 and he is one of the bigger boys in the back row.

One interesting fact that the enlarged photo showed was that 2 boys are wearing glasses. Jack Watts in the back row and Jack Kay in the front row. Glasses were very common in the early 1900s but perhaps not for children.

Therefore it is fairly safe to date our quite famous photo as being taken in 1909 or 1910. The teacher was Miss Heffey and Father Murphy was the parish priest.

And yes, there is a Stow in the image. The little girl wearing a dark dress with a white lacy top and standing beside Miss Heffey is Julia Susan Stow aged about 8 yrs, the youngest daughter of Robert and Mary Ann Stow of Barhoneyghurk and niece of Mary Ann Stow.





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On an early evening in April, I walk along the creek. Pale clouds in the blue sky are darkening to grey smudges, highlighted in orange. Banksias, planted fifteen years ago, reach up, their branches ornamented with scented yellow flowers. Grey fantails flit between trees, hunting insects. Scattered in clusters among the grasses are fungi, tiny and brown, or standing tall on slender stalks, their white caps dotted with brown scales. In a gully, large spreading manna gums have ribbons of bark hanging from their trunks. A few of their branches stretch towards the ground. Among the leaves on their red twigs, I see clusters of buds, the creamy flowers inside nearly ready to push open the caps.

The golden light, the flowers, the fungi and the hunting birds are all signs that it is Gwagal Moronn, season of native honey bees, according to the Djab Wurrung and Jardwadjali peoples, whose lands lie around Gariwerd (the Grampians) and closer to us, but west of the Wathaurong people who lived around Meredith. The signs in nature indicating the changing seasons would be similar. Gwagal Moronn is a time when native bees are active, birds form flocks and begin to migrate north, eels travel to the sea, and reptiles begin to hibernate. For the people, it was a time of gathering in villages. Women foraged for plants, berries and small animals, while men hunted larger game.

Gwagal Moronn is the time from late March until the end of May when the weather is becoming colder. It coincides with most of Autumn, but the seasons we use are based on the climate of the Northern Hemisphere. They do not fit so well with the patterns of weather and nature of the Australian continent. As the climate in Australia is so variable, people in different regions have different seasons. Even in southern Victoria, there is variety based on local areas. For the Kulin people of the upper Yarra Valley, March is Iuk, or eel season, which is followed by Waring, or wombat season, from April to July. Waring is a time when wombats graze in the sun, superb lyrebirds put on courtship displays, and the hearts of soft tree ferns provide food for people. Wombats, lyrebirds and tree ferns, which thrive in the tall wet forests of the upper Yarra, are less common or absent from our area. The flowering of manna gums is a seasonal sign, common to Gwagal Moronn season to the west of us, and Iuk season in the upper Yarra. In other parts of Australia, there are seven seasons. Seasons are determined by changes in the weather, by behaviour of animals, birds and insects, by changes in plants and fungi, and by movement of the stars. All these signs provide information about what food to seek, where to look for it, and where to find shelter.

For the Djab Wurrung and Jardwadjali peoples, as the weather became colder, the movement of flocks of cockatoos showed them that it was now Chunnup, season of cockatoos, the coldest time of year which continues until late July. The people of Gariwerd moved to rock shelters and wore long possum skin cloaks. In

this season, possums have joeys in their pouches, and the first orchids and wattles begin to flower. Chunnup is followed by Larneuk, season of nesting birds. This is a short season, lasting one month. It is usually the wettest time of year with changeable weather. Eucalypts grow new leaves. Women dug for tubers, baked them in underground ovens and made baskets. The next season, Petyan, season of wildflowers, continues until mid-November. Migrating birds return, reptiles and insects become active, and the bush is full of life. This was the time for gatherings of up to one thousand people, for corroborees, trade, sport, settling disputes and arranging marriages. After Petyan is Ballambar, season of butterflies, the early summer which continues until late January. The weather is hot and the land dries out. Groups of people returned to the plains, taking few possessions with them, and often living in stone huts. There are fruits and seeds to collect. From late January to late March is Kooyang, season of eels. This is the hottest, driest time of year, when creeks are dry and the risk of bushfire is highest. Young animals and birds become active. It was a time for trapping eels, fishing and collecting herbal medicines. Then, as the weather cools, Gwagal Moronn, season of honey bees, returns.

Although most people now pay less attention to the signs in nature, they are still there to observe. If you would like further information about the seasons of the Djab Wurrung and Jardwadjali peoples, try visiting these websites.

<http://www.bom.gov.au/iwk/calendars/gariwerd.shtml>

http://www.bom.gov.au/iwk/brambuk/brambuk_homelands.shtml

Wendy

THE THINGS We Say

GEMMA HANAN

Butter someone up

While you may be tempted to equate this phrase with golden baked goods and other tasty treats, the origin of this saying is a bit more obscure. Or literal, if you will. Meaning to get something from someone with flattery, its origins derive from an ancient Indian religious act where balls of butter would be thrown at statues of gods to seek forgiveness and favour. Although, others believe that it stems from the likeness of spreading butter on bread to spreading someone with nice words – bringing us back to tasty treats. Anyone suddenly feel like toast?

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from the **MAYOR**

Cr Owen Sharkey
Mayor, Golden Plains Shire



In Golden Plains, we share an understanding that our corner of the world truly is a special place to live.

While we have easy access to all the big city assets in nearby Geelong or Ballarat, here at home, we have the very best of small town life – we have real backyards, we enjoy the peace and quiet of our rural lifestyle, and our neighbours are our friends.

We know it's not all sunshine and roses right now. In our towns, there are people who have lost their jobs or had their work hours cut, those who have family and friends living overseas in terrible situations, and there are people who are struggling in isolation without their usual support network.

There are many levels of difficulty, stress and heartache, and we face more uncertainty in the weeks and months ahead.

Some people have suggested that council could eliminate rates to help everyone – and believe me, we'd love to do that. The reality is that as a small rural Shire, every year our budget is tight and it's funded almost entirely by rates – we don't have the revenue that other councils have, like parking meters and big industry.

Put simply, if we cut out rates, we cannot continue services like Meals and Wheels, personal care of our aged and disability clients, and helping new parents and babies with maternal and child health services – and we know that supporting our community is more important than ever right now.

With this front of mind, council has chosen to focus its financial support on helping those who need it the most – our ratepayers and residents in genuine hardship from the COVID-19 crisis, who need more time to pay their bills and get back on track; as well as our local businesses who need some financial breaks to keep operating or to reopen the doors in the future.

We've laid out our commitment in our new hardship policy and welcome all concerned residents to give us a call to chat about how we can help you.

On behalf of council, I'd like to thank all our local residents who continue to go out and work every day in hospitals and pharmacies, grocery stores and banks, offices and their own local businesses.

I also want to acknowledge the hard work and caring response of the council staff. I know it's a popular past-time of many to berate council workers, instead I hope that our residents will appreciate their dedicated efforts to continue supporting our customers, clients, volunteers and residents through this crisis.

Though there is great tragedy and turmoil across the world, in our lucky country there is also hope, and here in Golden Plains, there are heart-warming stories of

great caring and compassion.

Stories like the Linton Progress Association supporting neighbours with the local food pantry and the Smythesdale IGA delivering packages of essential groceries to the homes of council's aged and vulnerable clients.

be kind
TO BUSINESS
GOLDEN PLAINS

At Council, we started the Be Kind campaign to connect our residents at a time of distance and to inspire others with the fantastic efforts of our local communities. Please stay connected with us and your community on Council's social media and website, or read the Golden Plains Times and the Gazette.

There's no doubt, it's a tough time for many people and it's heartening to see our communities embody the very best of what we love about living here in our corner of the world.

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Steve Duffy

Quince- a love story

I can still remember the very first time I tasted stewed quince. I must have been 4 or 5. We were visiting an elderly neighbour, who had a reputation as a great old fashioned cook. One taste and I was hooked. When stewed with sugar slowly, it brings out the sensational aroma of this woody, odd fruit. And as autumn turns to winter these hard yellow bombs come into their own. Often described as a rich perfumed apricot flavour, they can be used in sumptuous desserts or savoury meat dishes. Here's a couple of my favourites.

Pot roasted Quince with a hint of lemon.

Wash and rub the fur off the skin, cutting out any blemishes, but a couple of leaves can be left attached. Place the fruit in a deep roasting pan that will accommodate the fruit tightly. Add a few strips of lemon or orange rind, then add enough sugar to almost cover the quinces. Cover with foil and roast in a slow oven for 3 to 4 hours. Check them occasionally, and turn them over as required. Watch point: make sure your oven is not too hot, you don't want to caramelise the sugar or burn the quinces. In time they take on a rich ruby red colour and the sugar syrup will be thick and luscious. Serve warm or cold, with pure cream of plain yogurt. This will be love at first sight. Rich and sweet but so good.

Beef Tagine with Quince and prunes.

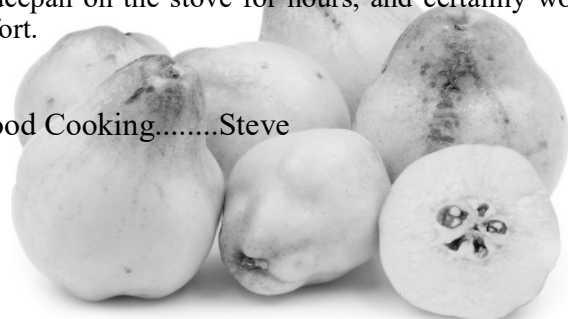
Basic ingredients are: Diced beef, onion, a little ginger and garlic, tomato or red pepper paste, Lemon juice, a cinnamon stick and enough stock to half cover. The fruit component of prunes and quince will be added last. Seasonings to taste.

Fry the meat, then the finely diced onion. Add the rest of the ingredients, except the quince. Fry the cored slices in a little butter, then add to the pot. Cook very slowly for 3 hours. The Tagine will give off great aromas, and is best served with a rice pilau and fresh green salad. Maybe some flat bread to soak up the juices.

Quince Cheese/ Quince Jelly

Best to check recipes for exact quantities for these. Maybe even try your slow cooker. It sure beats standing over a saucepan on the stove for hours, and certainly worth the effort.

Good Cooking.....Steve



the rain report

Well there's a turnaround. Last month's rain was nearly double the long term average (LTA) and brought the last 12 months up to 726mm or 108% of the LTA. That's the first time we have had a year of above average rain in a long time.

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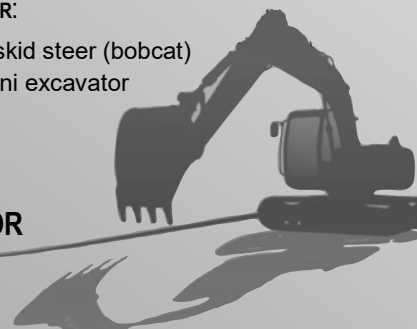
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Married in May 1960

Marg Cooper

Graham Stark and Rosemary Marchment were married in May, 1960.

Graham Stark was a Geelong boy who completed a motor apprenticeship at Cowley's Garage in Jacob Street, Geelong. Cecil Wells of Morrisons got his Austin serviced at Cowleys and one day he suggested that Graham should open a garage in Meredith.

So he did! He bought the only block he wanted, on the south east corner of Staughton and Wallace Streets from Dick Brady. and had a garage built by a man from Belmont. Graham lived in part of the garage until he married Rosemary Marchment. Both the garage and the house next door in Staughton Street were built by Geelong builders.

Rosemary is the daughter of Jack and Gladys Marchment. Her grandparents Edwin and Charlotte Marchment came to Meredith in 1911 from Kellys Plains near Birchip where they were wheat farmers. They were sick of dust, no water and mice, so they came to farm sheep in a district with a reliable rainfall. Their sheep flourished and in the 1950's her mother was promised a refrigerator if they got 90d per pound for wool. They got 110d per pound and she got her refrigerator.

After Primary School in Meredith, Rosemary stayed in East Geelong with an Aunt and attended Secondary


School. She then had a year at home working on their farm on Marchments Road, before training as a nurse in Ballarat and doing Midwifery at the Queen Victoria Hospital in Melbourne.

Graham and Rosemary married at St Andrews, Geelong. The wedding party consisted of Rosemary's best friend Janice Nelson (McColl), Jean McKeon, Eric Miller and Don Quinton. Rosemary remembers that Eric Miller was last to arrive at the church because he had played the first half of a football game against Elaine.

Rosemary didn't nurse again, except in a voluntary capacity. Quite often she and Mr Powles, the policeman, would turn up at the same time at accidents. Rosemary remembers several occasions when her nursing training came in handy, including on the day that President Kennedy was assassinated, when Ken East dislocated his shoulder.

Graham says the garage work nearly killed him! Not only were there vehicles to fix, fuel to dispense, the RACV or Tow Truck was 24/7, and during the summer the fire truck that he maintained was parked next to the garage as he was the main driver.

Rosemary and Graham had three children; Susanne, Andrew and Peter. In 1966 Graham and Rosemary moved to Ocean Grove. They sold the garage and house to Margaret and Kevin Parkinson. After a few different jobs Graham worked in the Test and Development Department at Fords for 27 years until he retired.




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Vale to Ellen Roberta (Nellie) Musgrove

8/6/1931 – 29/3/2020

Nellie was the second eldest of the 13 children of Sydney and Hannah Collins of Winchelsea. After she left Matthew Flinders School in Geelong at the age of 15 years, she started work at a book binding business in Winchelsea. She met Ron Musgrove from Bamganie at a dance in Winchelsea in 1951. He was working on a farm where his brother and sister-in-law worked as caretakers. They married at St Thomas's Church, Winchelsea on April 11, 1953 and lived with Ron's parents, Jim and Maude Musgrove at "Fairview", Bamganie, until they bought "Clover Hill" at Bamganie from Ron's Uncle Harry Musgrove.

Nellie was a great worker. Ron's brother Percy was a shearing contractor and Ron and Nellie used to go away with his teams. Ron would shear and Nellie would cook. On their own farm Nellie worked tending their merino sheep, driving tractors, carting hay and much more. They did a lot of work for Henry Bolte and it was quite common to see two tractors going round and round a paddock there on a freezing cold day. Only one tractor had a cabin - but not the tractor that Nellie drove - but she was well rugged up. She also reared 1000's of chickens for egg production selling eggs locally and to the Egg Board in Ballarat.

Nellie was a great club person. She could be depended on to cook copious amounts of food, attend working bees and work hard and devote her time to meetings and events. She supported Meredith Football Club by running the canteen, washing jumpers and hosting fundraising events, she supported Ron and Darryl when they played cricket by acting as scorer and Meredith Golf Club by loyally attending golf events at other clubs, helping with catering and being an office bearer.

Ron and Nellie sold their farm and moved to Drysdale in 1984. They got involved in Curlewis Golf Club and Drysdale Bowling Club of which Nellie was made a Life Member. Nellie had four hip replacements, two shoulder operations and a knee replacement. After each operation she bounced back but after one shoulder operation, left handed Nellie taught herself to play bowls right handed. She was a good bowler.

Ron died in November 2018 after a battle with dementia. Nellie lived alone until a fall and a bit of short term memory loss necessitated that she move to an aged-care facility. Luckily she could move to Winchelsea where members of her large family could visit her.

Nellie's family, her eight living brothers and sisters, her son Darryl and Dawn, her daughter Sheryl and Ken, three grand daughters and five great grandchildren are sorry that a memorial service cannot yet be held to celebrate her life.



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Changing of the Guard

Pam Ridd

Amid all of the upheaval we are experiencing the Meredith Community Centre has had a significant change. After 7 years at the end of March, I retired as Centre Manager. It has been an important few years for the Centre with the transition from the old Community Centre building to the new Meredith Community Learning Hub. Working as a team, what could have been a challenging time was smooth and collaborative. Over my time, Childcare has grown, offering more and longer sessions and the activities have evolved to meet participant's interests and needs. I have been able to bring my skills to acquire a number of grants and funding to enable opportunities to expand and continue the programs and operational capabilities of the Centre. As I leave the role, our whole world has been thrown into chaos and I am pleased that under my administration, we have some reserve for a rainy day and that I am leaving the Centre in a position to enable it to weather the next few months. Over the past 18 months, many of you have met Leah Phillips in her role of administration and program development and I am pleased that she is taking over the role as Centre Manager. Congratulations to Leah. She has brought many great ideas to our programs and I am sure she will continue and grow in her new role.

I would like to thank all of the people who have made my role such a rewarding one. I have had great support from the Committee, essential for the smooth running of any organisation. Importantly, I would like to thank the staff, tutors and contractors both past and present who have supported me throughout my tenure particularly Jo Vermeend, our childcare manager who has taken Occasional care from strength to strength. Finally, the Centre would not exist without the people who contribute and participate in the life of the Centre, to all of you I thank you.

I am looking forward to my retirement and at the time of writing 3 weeks in, and in social isolation, I am already wondering how I found time to work. I am keeping very busy with my Family. I am a lucky grandparent who is sharing a household with them.

Although not a Meredith resident, I will still keep in touch with the Community through my role as assisting with the editing of the Newsletter, and supporting Leah with the bookkeeping until she settles in to her role.

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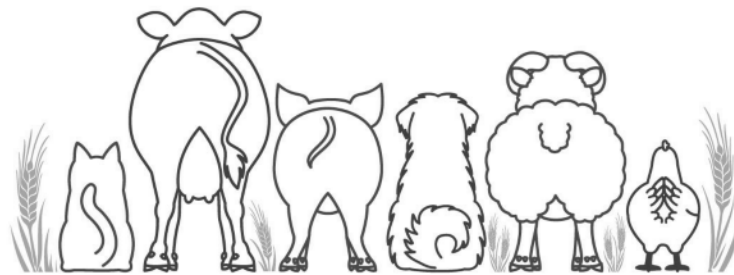
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Our lives as individuals, families and communities has taken on a new normal, while thinking about what to write this month May 2020, I struggled, I did not want to write about how easy, hard, horrible or great our lives have become, there is already so much 'noise' out there about that already. With ANZAC day being in my thoughts, I decided to research life in Meredith during the first war and oh my they lived through 4 years of the unknown. Not just the unknown of when social distancing may be lifted, or the unknown of an economic depression (although that was to come as well). Of sons and husbands, brothers, cousins, neighbours becoming soldiers, daughters and sisters as well enlisting as nurse's and going across the ocean. With no technology to stay in touch, but maybe a letter or a postcard, and of course the fear of the telegram being delivered. And then when the war was over, they had to fight again, but much closer to home ...

In 1914 Meredith residents read in the paper that it had finally happened, when on 4th August Germany invaded Belgium, and so, standing by its promise to stick up for Belgium, Britain declared war on Germany. Many believed that Britain was so powerful it could win very quickly. In fact, the war lasted four terrible years, not four months as first hoped. When war was declared, it was the war to end all wars they said, over by Christmas they said. What was not said was how it was going to change the lives of so many of the men, the families, the community. When the recruiting offices opened on the 10th August, William and John enlisted - both boys were only 19.

In 1914 our small town and surrounding district had about 700 residents and by 1918, 33 of the local men had enlisted to become soldiers and 8 never came home. For those who stayed home they were all determined to do their bit, to help their husbands, their sons, their brothers, nephews, grandsons and neighbours.

So, on Friday 18th September a meeting was called to start the Meredith Red Cross Society, and the ladies of Meredith turned up. They agreed on fortnightly meetings and to establish First Aid Ambulance classes. On Saturday 12th September, a meeting of the citizens was held to establish a Patriotic Movement. Patriotic Movements were formed in all states, their goal to raise money to send extra food and clothing to the fighting men. On that same Saturday, the Rifle Club held a meeting in the evening to choose the men who would be required in the event of mobilization. Twenty upstanding men of the town were chosen. It was their duty to have plans, people and resources ready to move or act when required. It was also decided it would be beneficial to learn semaphore signalling and to undergo a course of instruction and drill.

The children of St Joseph's Roman Catholic school wanted to assist the patriotic fund and so united in a great egg collecting movement, and so liberal was the response that the contribution total about 60 dozen, they were dispatched to the Broadmeadows Camp.

The Meredith Patriotic Movement donated £18 to assist the Red Cross in purchasing material supplies and Mrs Bell generously offered her shop window in Staughton St for a Christmas display, which gained the Red Cross more members and therefore more garments able to be made to send overseas. A Vigilance Committee was formed and their role/duty was to arrange send off's with speeches and gift from Meredith

residents and later to welcome home the soldiers and establish honour boards. They also arranged to pick up soldiers at the station and on behalf of Meredith residents to present gold medals at a welcome home party which included a dance and speeches for each soldier.

Regularly the community gathered at the Mechanics Hall to farewell the enlisted men. A concert with songs Wake up Australia, Scarlet & Blue, Tipperary, Land of Hope & Glory, were performed and included a speech by the Shire President, thanking the men for their brave and patriotic action in volunteering for active service, and he presented each soldier with serviceable wallets, inscribed as keepsakes from the people of Meredith. The townsfolk of Meredith would then dance and share refreshments till the early hours.

On Sunday, 25 April 1915 Anzac cove—the Gallipoli Campaign, Australia as we know, lost so many men including young William. He was reported missing at Suvla Bay and then notice arrived stating he had been killed in action in the Gallipoli Campaign August 8th, age 20. There is No Known Grave. He Died for Freedom & Honour.

The State school girls knitted socks for wounded soldiers. Eileen, (whose parents owned the Royal Hotel) put a note with her name and address in a pair of socks she had knitted and received a long letter from Drummer Cain of North Carlton who was wounded in Egypt. He expressed his heartfelt thanks for the socks and the note, as with no family he had no one to write to him.

Over the war years many recruiting rallies took place. Many stirring posters were to be seen around the town and recruitment volunteers canvassed the district and in 1915, 21 local men enlisted, average age 21 yrs.

Andrew was invalidated home after 10 months service, he was wounded at Lone Pine Gallipoli - lost sight in left eye as result of shell concussion. He received the Distinguished Conduct Medal (DCM) at Troop Parade Geelong Camp by Brigadier General Williams. On 15th April, 400 residents packed the Mechanics Hall for merry making and presentation of his gold medal. On one side of the medal said, "For King & Country", the other "Presented to Corporal Bell DCM from Meredith Residents on his return from ANZAC 7/4/1916".

On the 25th April 1918, Vicar Rev Chalmers referred to the valour and sacrifice of the Australian troops. It was noted that Anzac Day should never be forgotten by us, but it seems a surprising fact that already, in this fourth anniversary of the landing, many citizens forgot the honour, due to the boys who laid down their lives for God, King & Country. Not only should we remember the lads who paid the supreme sacrifice, but also those who were bereaved, as well as those who suffered disablement in any shape or form.

Friday May 3rd was a big day in Meredith, The Red Cross Jumble Fair, was held at the Mechanics Hall, and not only did they run the jumble table, they also ran a euchre tournament and waltzing competition. The men paid an entry fee, but ladies bringing a basket were admitted free. The stall holders had many sweets, plants, cakes, produce, jumble, as well as abundance of side shows and competitions.

There was such excitement in Meredith when word came via the telegraph that peace had been declared and on Monday 11th November 1918, the war ended following the signing of an armistice between the Allies and Germany. Ceasefire was effective at 11 a.m.— it was on the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month. The day we call Armistice Day. The War was finally over. But what a coincidence, the latest recruiting poster 'The Last Call' was put up almost simultaneously as the news of imminent Peace reached Meredith. There was a rush for bunting and every available flag was hoisted, even the old Meredith Shire Flag, as this was deemed a fitting occasion,

except it was kept in the safe in the shire hall and the key was lost. The towns blacksmith soon rectified this, and the flag was soon blowing in the breeze. In the afternoon, the State school and St Joseph's school students with their teachers marched up the main street, the procession was headed by the Union Jack and the children carried flags, tin whistles and other musical instruments. The town cheered and the children saluted the flag at the Shire Hall and sang Rule Britannia and God Save the King. The Shop keepers provided biscuits and lollies. In the evening, a celebration was held at the Mechanics Institute. Musical items and recitations with a supper of pastries, oranges and bananas and a dance that went on till midnight. Town folklore tells of the occasional round of celebratory gun fire being heard throughout the day and into the evening. The next day a special church service was held, of thanksgiving for the peace. Friday 14th was declared a public holiday. To celebrate the signing of the Armistice, Mr Matheson of Moranghurk Estate donated £10 to the schools of Meredith. Dinner was served to the children in the Shire Hall and all had a thoroughly enjoyable day. Down at Steiglitz there was also great rejoicing when the news that peace was proclaimed reached them. The Church bell rang constantly, and bunting was hung on every building. In the afternoon, a huge bonfire was built, and everyone turned out to light it that night.

The Armistice was not intended to be a permanent peace treaty, and on Friday June 28th, 1919, The Treaty of Versailles—the peace document - the world has been waiting on, was signed and took force on 10th January 1920.

But peace turned out not to be as simple as all had hoped for, a new mass killing was under way. The Spanish influenza pandemic. In Australia, the virus became known as 'pneumonic influenza'. The flu probably came into the country via returning soldiers, many of whom broke quarantine. The precise source of the first known infection – in Melbourne in January 1919 – was never discovered.

Local soldier Hugh embarked on 22 October on the Boonah the last troopship to leave bound for the Middle East. Carrying about 1200 AIF soldiers the ship arrived in Durban South Africa, 3 days after the Armistice had been signed, and hearing the news made plans to return home. Unfortunately, the town was stricken by the Spanish Flu and by the time new supplies were loaded, the soldiers were infected. The crowded conditions on board meant that by the time they arrived at Freemantle, more than 300 cases had been reported. The Commonwealth Immigration Authorities initially refused the soldiers to disembark. Finally, the most unwell soldiers were ferried ashore to the Quarantine Station. For those left on board the conditions worsened. A 7-day incubation period with no new cases was required, but new infections and deaths continued. Public outrage at the treatment of our soldiers, as wrangling between State Minister for Health and Immigration Authorities continued. The Returned Serviceman's Association made threats to storm the ship. After 9 days the ship was ordered to depart. Finally, the soldiers were allowed to disembark at Torrens Quarantine Station Adelaide. After being given the all clear Hugh was welcomed home in early 1919.

Despite a swift quarantine response, cases of Spanish flu began to spread. On 28 January 1919 it was reported that: Australia must now face the fact that the scourge which has taken so heavy a toll from the rest of the world, has invaded her own frontiers.

Victoria was declared infected and placed in quarantine. Public meetings were prohibited, travel in long-distance trains was restricted. In newspapers there were notices of public lectures; requests for volunteers to support medical officers in the event of an epidemic emergency; legal obligations for householders; advice on symptoms, prevention and treatment. For a time, it was compulsory to wear a mask in the street. Places of entertainment such as theatres, cinemas and dance halls closed,

as did churches.

Panic and fear of infection caused welcome-home parades and concerts to be postponed or cancelled. The returning soldiers were forced into quarantine before they could be reunited with their families and sweethearts but by September 1919 the last of the Meredith soldiers had returned home and by end of 1919, the pandemic was over.

Australia's death rate of 2.7 per 1000 of population was one of the lowest recorded of any country during the pandemic, but that still meant 40 per cent of the population fell ill and around 12 - 15,000 (from a population of just over 5 million) died as the virus spread throughout Australia.

In addition to enlisting, almost every member of the community rallied, they supported their fighting men often with aching anxious hearts, they supported each other, especially the wounded soldiers, they pulled together as a community including helping those struck down with the influenza.

In times of adversity, we need to remember we do not need to thrive, we can cry behind closed doors, while standing in the shower, it is okay to feel lost, but we need to survive. We may yet need to channel the spirit of survival from those who lived here in Meredith 100 years ago, and you know what, we can do it because we have to, just like those before us who danced, raised funds, knitted socks, protected and supported the Meredith community. We have a record of which we can be justifiably proud and that we can hold on to as 2020 unfolds in a way we would never thought would happen....100 years on.

Kerrie



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“James Cook - The Story Behind the Man who Mapped the World” by Peter Fitzsimons

Who was the real James Cook? The blurb says, “This Yorkshire farm boy would go on to become the foremost mariner, navigator and cartographer of his era, and to personally map a third of the globe. His great voyages of discovery were incredible feats of seamanship and navigation. Leading a crew of men into uncharted territories, Cook would face the best and the worst of humanity as he took himself and his crew to the edge of the mapped world and beyond.”

Most amazing was that James Cook came from working class beginnings, as Peter Fitzsimons says, “as humble as a garden potato” and “because of sheer talent and character, influenced a lot by his Quaker upbringing he gained qualifications and rose through Navy ranks from a shop assistant to become a knowledgeable and resourceful Captain of the British Royal Navy.

This book focuses on Cook’s first voyage of discovery, his nearly three year trip with orders to record the transit of Venus from Tahiti, to try and find the great southern land, to observe fauna, flora and natives and to claim land in the name of the King of Great Britain. He set foot on New Zealand and Australia but, as Fitzsimons reveals, “the greatest non-discovery of Cook’s life was his failure to enter what is now Sydney Harbour, an irony that Cook will never know”.

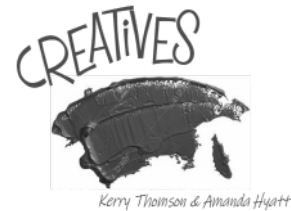
Peter Fitzsimons is a proliferate publisher of books. He constructs his books like novels. Writing in the present tense brings the story to life as if the reader is “in the moment” and “with the people”. He employs a team of researchers who work tirelessly to bring facts and anecdotes to the surface.

Of particular interest is the contrast between James Cook and Joseph Banks, the botanist on the voyage. Banks is a rich aristocrat, a man about town and a ladies man. In fact he was everything that Cook was not. Fitzsimons reveals at the end of the voyage Banks tried to take all the glory for himself but finally accepted the age old adage, if you can’t beat a man join him...or at least try to bask in his reflected glory.

This was a marvellous book: an adventure book, a book of discovery, a book that describes shipboard life. “Every man has a role and together the men are a living breathing organism afloat on the high seas.”

Next month.

“Life can be understood backwards, but it must be lived forward.” From: “The Sun Sister” by Lucinda Riley.



COLIN SMITHYMAN -Part 1

Some Meredith residents may know Colin Smithyman from the bee keeping courses he ran at the Community House. But, there is much, much more to Colin. He is a true ‘creative artisan’ whose talent and legacy is evident in numerous and unexpected places. If you’ve driven an older Ford, put a coin in the model guide dog at the supermarket, walked in the Brisbane Ranges State Park, visited Steiglitz or Teesdale’s Turtle Bend, noticed some local dry-stone fences or even tasted local grapes/wine or honey you might well have seen the results of Colin’s efforts.

Some of you may even have been lucky enough to have shared a cuppa poured in one of his own fired mugs and meal supplied by his garden, spent time sharing the pleasure of a bush walk or listened to him give a talk about the geology, history or wildflowers of the local area. Others may have been twirled on the ballroom dance-floor or spun in a salsa to Cuban rhythms whilst even others may have been belayed by Colin at the climbing gym or helped him map an underground mine-shaft.

From a very young age Colin was interested in lots of things. This natural curiosity saw him lean towards the arts, creativity and inventiveness rather than the usual things focussed on by the local boys at his Coventry school in England. In primary school he was fascinated by watching a potter demonstrate his craft. Colin went home and tried to use a wind-up record player to make his own wheel and this was indicative of his adaptiveness and problem solving abilities as well as a life-long (though intermittent) passion for ceramics.

Colin grew up in the swinging ‘60s in the UK as a ‘Beatnik’. He loved all sorts of music, mixed with musicians, slept on beaches at St Ives, talked and mixed with others of similar ilk. He went to night school at the Manchester College of Art with many of his hippie friends but the course never really jelled with his personal philosophy - he didn’t particularly like visiting art galleries in order to ‘artificially analyse and describe’ paintings. He prefers a personal engagement and honest response to art.

In 1966 at the age of 24 and married with two young children, Colin arrived in Drysdale, Australia as a ‘10 pound Pom’. In his spare time he ‘had a go at’ impressionism and expressionism as he liked the work of an artist called Kessell. He set up a little shed and actually taught some local ladies oil painting but then rekindled his interest in pottery. He built his own kiln and wheel, sourced clay and materials from Anakie, Alcoa and elsewhere and became a member of Geelong Ceramics Group. He participated in many different workshops, loving new experiences and ideas, especially Japanese Koyama pottery and was also inspired by teacher Brian

Kemp. Colin continues to be a part-time potter who makes his own clay, glazes and colours, wheel and kiln. He believes that 'you lose too much if you do it full-time'.

Colin sees creativity as part of him and that 'his main work of art is his life'. His natural creativity is basic to life and manifests itself in everything he does. His prolific veggie garden is a testament to the watering system and anti-frost mechanisms he's put in place. He makes his own tools and if he wants something he'll make it out of what's around rather than just going to Bunnings! For instance, a fallen local Red Gum became a wonderful curved wooden hand-rail abutting the post and rail fence beside the hand-laid stone steps outside his potting studio. It's this sort of problem solving that Colin loves and which he applies to every aspect of his life. He believes he can't help it, can't stop and, in modern terms, he has an internal algorithm for creativity!



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It's our History

Meredith History Interest Group

Interruptions:

Covid-19 has caused interruptions to our society which for most of us, are beyond anything we have experienced in our lifetimes. But they are not unprecedented. History records that during the Spanish flu pandemic, which occurred just over a century ago, the responses from Government of the day show some similarities to today. There were limits to how many people could meet, state borders were closed and the restrictions weighed heavily on wage earners. In Meredith some "Welcome Home" dances had to be postponed.

Work Goes On:

But we are working from home. MHIG still requires administration, including preparing to apply for grants. We are researching in our different fields of interest and creating the display boards for the Bannockburn Library (for when the library re-opens) about the Hotels of Meredith. We are also indexing, cataloguing and answering inquiries. All events and meetings have been postponed until restrictions are eased.

While you are Self Isolating:

If you have a field of interest, whether it be history of your family, your street, the river that runs through your farm, a photo, a building, the toll gates of Meredith, PWMU or anything at all, you may enjoy researching that topic. For example, if you have a photo of ladies at a flower show you may list all the people and document the event, that is, the history of that event. *Trove* is a fantastic resource for information and it is such fun discovering and collating the information. MHIG would be forever grateful to you for helping to document the history of Meredith. An example follows below!

Meredith Saleyards:

Locals remember that there were several sale-yards in Meredith at different times. This included yards on the south east corner of Wilson and Wallace Street that may have been operated by Strachans, yards on Read Street between Lawler and Staughton Streets and yards on the block fronting Wallace Street and Lawler Street. There were also yards east of Wallace Street and yards beside the Bakery that ran between Staughton and Lawler Streets (with these possibly being operated by Dennys Lascelles). Two other yards are recorded at the Railway Station and ones in Champ Street which were built by Elders about 1956.

Some research has revealed that in 1883, Coghlan started sales in yards adjoining the Royal Hotel. In 1892 Frearson & Wilkie held a monthly sale at yards near the Railway Station, whilst large properties like Lindisfern held on-property sales. J. Ward & Co had their opening sale in August 1890 and Robinson, Burns & Sparrow, Victorian Producers, Toyne & Walsh and Wilson, Bolton & Co were some of the agents. A folder of information has been amassed but if you can tell us more, please do.

A different epidemic in a different time

THREE DEATHS; 13 CASES

Paralysis Total Now 1,599

Eight country and five suburban cases of paralysis and three more deaths were reported last night by the Health Department. The total number of cases was increased to 1,599.

The deaths, which now total 87, were of suburban children who were diagnosed on Wednesday. They were a boy, aged six years, of Mentone (case No. 1,577); a girl, aged five and a half years, of Sandringham (case No. 1,584); and a boy aged nine years, of Benteigh (case No. 1,591), and included in yesterday's list.

Additional cases yesterday were:—

METROPOLITAN

Girl, aged one year, Croxton.

Boy, aged seven years, North Fitzroy,

Boy, aged 14 years, Footscray.

Girl, aged seven years, Elwood.

Boy, aged nine years. Benteigh (died).

COUNTRY

Girl, aged seven years, Mildura (city).

Man, aged 27 years, Rutherglen.

Boy, aged nine years, Maryborough.

Boy, aged six years, Leviathan.

Boy, aged 15 years, Meredith.


Girl, aged eight years, Jancourt East.

Youth, aged 17 years, Colac.

Boy, aged eight years, Elliminyt.

The Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1957) Friday 14 January 1938

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EXPRESSION OF INTEREST BANNOCKBURN SHIRE HALL

Golden Plains Shire Council is seeking expressions of interest from commercial or retail operators interested in leasing the Bannockburn Shire Hall.

The Shire Hall is located at 12 High Street, Bannockburn and is expected to be vacant from May 2020. The site offers:

- Two large spaces suitable for commercial or retail use
 - Kitchen and bathroom facilities
 - All abilities access
 - Additional rooms for storage
- Prime High Street location in Town Centre, adjacent to Bannockburn Plaza
- Commercial 1 Zone (C1Z)

Expressions of interest are due by 9am, Monday 22 June, 2020.

For more information, email enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au or call 5220 7111 and speak to Council's Governance team.

Eric Braslis, Chief Executive Officer

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Mexican Chicken & Garlic Rice with corn salsa & sour cream

Serves 4

Prep time 30 mins & Cook time 35 mins

Ingredients

4 cloves garlic	1 cucumber
40g butter	Coriander
Olive oil	500g chicken tenderloins
150g basmati rice	Taco seasoning mix
3 cups water	150g Enchilada sauce
½ tsp salt	1 tsp white wine vinegar
1 corn cob	100g shredded cheddar cheese
2 tomatoes	
200g Sour cream	

Method

1. In a saucepan, melt the butter with a dash of olive oil over a medium heat. Add the chopped garlic and cook until fragrant. Add the basmati rice, water and salt, stir, and bring to the boil. Reduce heat to low and cover with a lid. Cook for 10 minutes, then remove from the heat and keep covered until the rice is tender.
2. Cut the chicken tenderloins into 1cm chunks. In a medium bowl combine the chicken, seasoning mix, a drizzle of olive oil, a pinch of salt and pepper. Toss to coat.
3. Heat a large frying pan over high heat. When the pan is hot, add the corn kernels and cook, tossing, until lightly charred. Transfer to a medium bowl and set aside.
4. Return the frying pan to a high heat with a drizzle of olive oil. Add the chicken and cook, tossing occasionally, until browned and cooked through. Transfer to a plate and repeat with remaining chicken. Return the chicken to the pan and add the enchilada sauce (or taco sauce if using) and stir until heated through.
5. To the bowl with charred corn, add the tomato, cucumber and coriander. Add the white wine vinegar and drizzle with olive oil. Season with salt and pepper and stir to combine.
6. Divide the garlic rice between bowls and top with the chicken. Spoon over any sauce remaining in the pan. Top with corn salsa, a dollop of sour cream and a sprinkling of shredded cheddar cheese.

Recipe from – Hello Fresh

Stefania

Herbie Comes to Elaine

Herbie Platt

An opportunity too good to refuse.

Lynette had worked in shops so when we saw that the Elaine General Store was for sale we jumped at it. Lynette could look after the shop and I could do the mail run. We bought the building and business from Ian and Sandra Watson in January 2000.

Each morning I got up at 4 am, left the Elaine General Store where we lived and drove my Courier 1 ton utility to North Geelong Mail Centre arriving by 5 am. I picked up trays with lids that contained the mail, bags and parcels and then drove to Lethbridge, Bannockburn, Teesdale, Shelford, Rokewood, Meredith and Elaine dropping off at each Post Office. Often there were additional deliveries; for example, I carted plants for Meredith Nursery and dropped off mail at Colla's chook farm everyday.

I was back in Elaine at 7.05 am. Lynette would open the shop and start to sort the Elaine mail, while I got our five children out of bed and ready for school. (Our youngest daughter Samantha was born in October 2000.)

At 8 am I left to deliver mail and newspapers on the Bannaganie run which took me along Mt Mercer Road, Bannaganie Road and around a large area and back down the highway.

About 9 am I set out on the Ballark run which took me to Morrisons, along Ballan Road, Bayards Road, Gluepot Road, to Mt Wallace road, Bungal Road, to Mt Doran, Settlement Road and on. This was a long run and took until 1.30 or 2pm to complete.

At 4.30 pm I left for the Geelong Mail Centre picking up mail at each Post Office on the way. I'd be back home by 7.30 pm.

I drove a yellow ex-Taxi Ford Falcon (on gas) to complete the country mail runs. The braking systems only lasted for about three months and the gear selectors lasted about a month. Nearly a million miles that vehicle did!

I had a heart attack in January 2007 when I was 60 years old. I died for 5 minutes as I arrived at the Ballarat Base Hospital, but the marvellous staff brought me back. Only 60% of my heart works and I tell people that I am not allowed to get it wet! (I'm always telling people jokes.)

So, unable to work anymore, I leased the shop to Paul Ryan. I bought the house and land right over the road from the shop in February 2015. It suits me as it is near everything but is secluded and private. Recently, I helped to sort the mail after Peter, the latest mailman, died suddenly. The mail must get through!

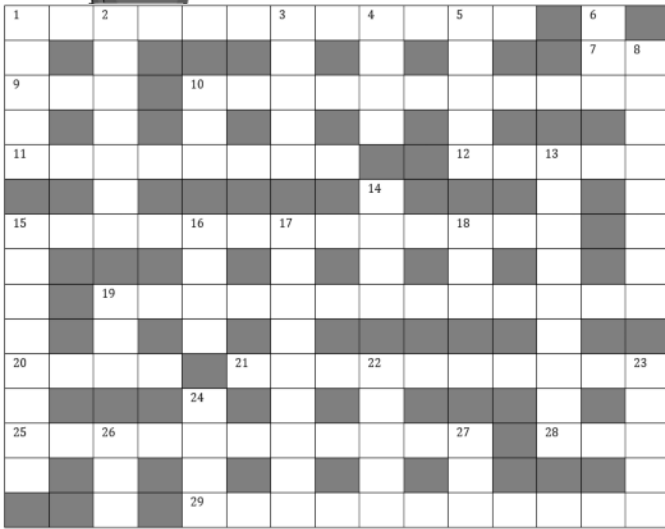
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enjoy reading.

We should introduce you.



We are delighted to introduce a new regular feature and just the thing for all those idle hands and minds out there. Our "Nice Words" (we don't do cross words) is the work of Graham Watts, a Geelong resident recruited by friend and Sheoaks resident Sue Higgs. Graham has a long time interest in composing puzzles with a local flavour, as you will hopefully discover completing this one. Have fun - Ed.



The definition of each clue is in regular font. *The italics indicate cryptic support and are designed to mislead the solver.*

ACROSS:

- 1 Place north of Steiglitz's fresh air Rudd and Howard shared with no love shown by the latter (12)
- 7 As an alternative 10 dn would sound okay (2)
- 9 A quick trip to where Clyde Park's chickens are kept for free movement (3)
- 10 Golden Plains mayor sounds in debt, eh? Sounds fishy! (4,7)
- 11 Cardiovascular disease poor miners (Australian) contracted (8)
- 12 Arm support for Geelong's last captain of the Cats (5)
- 15 Local grand event at the Supernatural Amphitheatre may miss value if court is devoid of our presence (5,8)
- 19 Liberal urge in our Brisbane ones to produce sales from Family Homestead, Myrningong (4,5,4)
- 20 What customers do at the Back Creek Café making a racket with last course (4)
- 21 King Usain, the last Victorian premier from Meredith (5,5)
- 25 Ribbons of pasta Italiana et gelati all horribly mixed! (11)
- 28 A version of your Ayers, The Centre (3)
- 29 Encoded message found in hidden chamber with love script (11)

DOWN

- 1 House and stone cottage at Slate Quarry Road did well in calendar rating (5)
- 2 Spitting images of gun shearers (7)
- 3 Sir Christopher's little birds by the Moorabool (5)
- 4 National Party politician _____ Hinze got only a little way along Russell's Bridge (4)
- 5 Stockpile a service (5)
- 6 Enemy regularly froze (3)
- 8 If you take cannabis after cereal you get a type of staggers suffered by sheep (8)
- 10 Paddle on a rowboat for starters only (3)

- 13 Wrongfully bearing saddle sore of a horse in Carey's "whacker" (9)
- 14 Astound by cracking nuts (4)
- 15 The first day in the holidays on the lake I wrote this town crossword (8)
- 16 Prompts learner lost on clues (4)
- 17 Seriously early compass of ones snug home (9)
- 18 Compete for life in Paris (3)
- 22 Lease afresh yet relent - northerly facing aspect is the thing missing (5)
- 23 Blackwood's Diggers Club garden features a hub of our planet (5)
- 24 Galvanising element for Steiglitz's finish in cemetery gate (4)
- 26 Fuel supplied in Kanga's Service Station (3)
- 27 What a Leghorn produces. Spur!?! (3)

NEW to Cryptic Crosswords? Start Here!

There are several tricks up the cryptic setters sleeve, and Graham will reveal them all. This month, he explains the *Hidden Solution*. Each month we'll discover a new ploy or, if you want to do the crash course, they are all online at meredithnews.com.au/extras.

Ploy 1. HIDDEN SOLUTION

The solution is hidden in order letter for letter within the clue, although there may sometimes be a space between the letters. E.g. Clue: City in Salami Land. Solution: Milan = City. Ploy indicator : **in** (the solution is **in** the letters of the clue). There are three examples of hidden solutions in this month's Nicewords: 28 ac., 1dn. and 26 dn.

The Solution

ACROSS: Durdwarrah, 7. or, 9. run 10. OwensSharkey, 20. 11. Anearism, 12. Sling, 13. MusicalFestival, 19. FreeRangEggs, 20. Dine, 21. HenryBolte, 25. Tagliatelle, 28. Ver, 29. Cryptograph
DOWN: 1. Datta, 2. Ringers, 3. Wrens, 4. Russ, 5. Amass, 6. Foe, 8. Ryegrass, 10. Car, 13. Illegally, 14. Stun, 15. Meredith, 16. Cues, 17. Earnestly, 18. Vie, 19. Fun, 22. Relet, 23. Earth, 24. Zinc, 26. Gas, 27. Egg



Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

6 High Street
Bannockburn VIC 3331

Phone: 5281 1519

COVID-19 Update

Until further notice we have made some very important changes to the operations of the pharmacy during this COVID-19 pandemic. Please read carefully below what is changing.

1. We are splitting our pharmacy team into 2 teams. This means we will have slightly reduced staff members working each day so please be patient as wait times maybe longer depending on how busy we are. Please note that our staff WILL NOT be left financially disadvantaged by splitting our teams.

2. OPENING HOURS

- Monday to Friday: 9:00am - 5:30pm
- Saturday's: 8:30am - 1:00pm

3. CAR PARK PICK UP service will still be available

- you can ring & order ahead,
- we will get your order ready & ring you back to arrange payment over the phone,
- when you arrive phone us and we will bring your order out to your car when so you don't have leave your vehicle.

4. NO VACCINATIONS in our pharmacy vaccination clinic

- we don't have the personal protective equipment that Doctors/Nurses have to safely protect our pharmacists so we cannot offer this service during this period of time.
- We will still have flu vaccinations available to purchase if you have a prescription from your Doctor. We have more flu vaccinations arriving at this stage around the 11th May.
- We having a waiting list if you would like to be placed on this list and we will call you when the stock arrives.

We know that there a lot of people who may be struggling financially at the moment and we just wanted to share some of the services/benefits/tips we can offer by shopping with us that might be of assistance:

1. LOYALTY CLUB

- FREE to join
- 5% of all non-prescription sales accumulates as money to spend in the pharmacy e.g. spend \$50 & \$2.50 goes onto your loyalty profile
- no expiry (you can save money up as long as you like)
- no minimum spend/redemption. You can spend what you want when you want on non-prescription items.
- no card (everything is stored securely & electronically on our pharmacy point of sale computers)
- legally we are not allowed money spent on prescriptions to accumulate as loyalty dollars on your profile. We would if we could.

2. BABY CLUB

- FREE to join
- works exactly same as Loyalty club except DOUBLE (10% of all mother & child related non-prescription sales) accumulates as money on your Baby club profile e.g. spend \$50 and \$5 goes onto your loyalty profile.
- \$5 bonus will be added to your Baby club profile when you first join.
- Baby club runs until your child turns 2 years old

3. 20% off ALL GIFTS ALL YEAR (Loyalty & Baby club members)

- includes Glasshouse & Circa Home products

4. AFTERPAY available on everything!

- Afterpay allows you to split your purchase over 4 equal fortnightly payments

Pharmacy Features:

medAdvisor

Vaccination Clinic

Glasshouse Fragrances

Circa Home

Ear piercing

Nose piercing

Medela (we hire Breastpumps)

MooGoo

Roogenic teas

Natio

Sukin Organic Products

Nude by Nature

Diabetes Australia Agency -NDSS

Giftware for all ages

Salt & Pepper

Passport photos

Webster-paks

Home Medicine Reviews

Free gift wrapping

Temporary Trading Hours

Monday: 9:00am - 5:30pm

Tuesday: 9:00am - 5:30pm

Wednesday: 9:00am - 5:30pm

Thursday: 9:00am - 5:30pm

Friday: 9:00am - 5:30pm

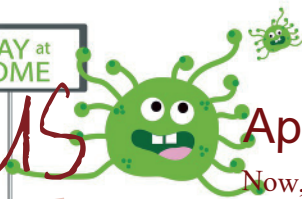
Saturday: 8:30am - 1:00pm

CLOSED

Follow us on Facebook for up to date COVID-19 information

The VIRUS and US

STAY at HOME



Apart but not Alone

Now, more than ever, our community newsletter has an important role to play, giving us a sense of community, while we are mostly confined to our own homes. As you work your way through this issue, you will find Wendy's appreciation of nature in hard times, Kerrie's detailed report of the local participation is WWI and the flu pandemic. The Mayor describing how the council and community are responding. Recipes from Stefania and Steve to keep us busy at home and cooking up our produce. PS's graphic depiction of the human race, a crossword page, Landcare's great suggestions for fire retardant trees, as well as....well, you will find out what else as you meander through our community newsletter. As with many other organisations with our advertising revenue diminished we have reduced the size of this issue but we plan to be back bigger and better in future issues. Many thanks to all of our advertisers who have continued to support us. And don't forget, if you have any stories to tell, photos you are pleased with, jokes that make your children laugh (or your mum and dad) then send them in to news@meredithnews.com.au.

What the???

You may have seen a Tree taking out the garbage, a School Girl with long plaits, Dolly Parton, Big Bird, a Geelong Football Club supporter or another character walking the streets of Meredith. You are not having hallucinations and you have not been drinking too much!



Jo Primmer decided to use her extensive wardrobe of costumes, to wear a different one each day on her walk, to bring a smile or a bit of light heartedness to people staying at home in Meredith. She says that it was difficult to walk in the Tree Parton costume and that it's now a bit cold for the Dolly Parton costume. Maybe it's catching on. We think we saw a zebra taking out a rubbish bin!



We like you, please like us.

A post from the Socials

Viewed on the Meredith Residents Facebook page posted by Rebecca Love.

I just wanted to put a shout out to the Meredith Pantry!! There is plenty of food in there - and the occasional sweet treat!! It is being regularly stocked by the school. Today I was lucky enough to call past and find some tea bags - saving me a trip to the supermarket!! This is exactly what the pantry is for - sharing within the community!!



HEY Kids...

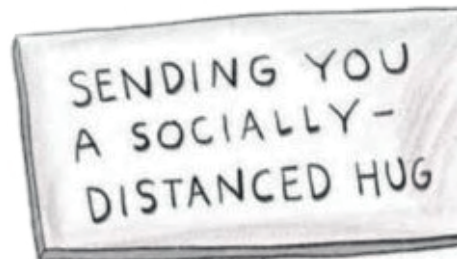
What on earth are you doing now?

So, with all this *me* time, have you found any interesting ways to spend it, or done something special. Tell us on our Facebook page, or write, send a drawing or a photo to news@meredithnews.com.au.



Keep active, keep informed.

The Meredith Community Centre has suggestions and ideas for lots of activities for both you and your kids on their facebook page. Tour the Melbourne museum, move with yoga, pilates and mini movers for the kids and letting you know local business alerts.



If you have any heart warming or funny stories arising from the dire circumstances we are all going through right now, please share them with all of us.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

May 2020

Moorabool North Wind Farm

Progress to date

- Installation of all 50 turbines complete
- Environmental reinstatement and rehabilitation underway
- Energisation of substation complete

Look ahead

- Handover of Ballan-Egerton Road to Moorabool Shire Council for maintenance, in progress
- Ongoing pre-commissioning of turbines

Moorabool South Wind Farm

Progress to date

- Installation of tower sections completed at 36 turbine locations
- All access tracks, hardstands and substation complete
- Environmental reinstatement and rehabilitation work is complete
- Energisation of substation complete

Look ahead

- Continuation of turbine component deliveries
- Continuation of installation of turbines
- Continued road maintenance, this is monitored weekly and repairs carried out as required



Community Fund Update

Round One is **OPEN** as of 9am on the 1st May and applications can be made via the SmartyGrants link on the Moorabool wind farm website. Applications must be submitted by the 18th June at 3pm.

<https://mooraboolwindfarm.com/community/community-fund-and-sponsorship/>



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