

Our FREE Community Newsletter since 1972

Meredith & district News



AUGUST 2020

inside

- Charlie Turns 90!
- Tidy Town Finalists
- Who are these Fisherpeople?
- and where's Bob?

...and the usual **MUCH MORE!**



e: news@meredithnews.com.au w: meredithnews.com.au





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The VIRUS and us

“...regional Victoria (has returned) to Stage 3 “Stay at Home” restrictions.

That means there’ll again only be four reasons to be out: shopping for food and essential items. Care and caregiving. Daily exercise. Work and study – if you can’t do it from home.

Otherwise, you need to stay home.

Businesses in regional Victoria will also return to Stage 3 restrictions.

That means restaurants and cafes can only offer delivery and takeaway. Beauty and personal services will need to close. Entertainment and cultural venues will need to close. Community sport will need to stop.

This we’ll be tough for these businesses and their workers – and we’ll have more to say very shortly about extra support to help get you through.

Face coverings will continue to be compulsory – ensuring that if we do have to be out, it’s in the safest way possible.

The question I know most parents will be asking: regional schools will return to remote and flexible learning – across all year levels and across the state. The only exception will be for our specialist schools.

Onsite supervision will again be made available for students who need it, including children whose parents are permitted workers and vulnerable kids who can’t learn from home.”

Extract from Premier’s statement, 2nd August, 2020.

This information is derived from dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus and was correct at the time of writing. For current and more detailed information, please visit the site.



...we need your help to identify the fisherpeople and help find Bob the occasional cat. Gemma is on her Hobby Horse, Charlie lights up for his 90th, Steve shows us how to make our own pasta (it’s easy) and Stefania, golden syrup dumplings (Yum!). Graeme’s Nicewords are back, Wendy tells us about her (perfectly legal) overseas visitors and (the usual) lots more! Enjoy the read.

dear readers...

A terrific resource for helping kids and their parents get through these difficult times, is smilingminds.com.au

You may be among the many missing those hugs and handshakes. At the least, you will be missing personal contact with friends and loved ones. There’s a lot of evidence that these social interactions play a significant role in our wellbeing, so it is important that we look after ourselves and each other during these alienating times.

Video conferencing is all the rage and no doubt is a great way to keep in touch with each other. Seeing faces and smiles is a wonderful thing. But don’t give up on phone calls. The New York Times recently ran a piece extolling the virtues of a phone call. It is technology we are used to and feel comfortable with. And it is intended for one to one chats. We don’t have to care about hair, clothes, backgrounds or lighting; just focus on the conversation. You will come away from a chat with a caring friend, the better for it.

Other advice we have read recently, is spend more time with pets if we have them, and your garden, even if it is just a few pots. Talk to them. (Pets or plants.) A little bit of silly is a good vaccine against going silly.

And think about who you know that may be doing it tough at the moment. Chances are, they would love to hear from you. - Ed.



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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:

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Business Card \$14.00

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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.

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advertising@meredithnews.com.au

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accounts@meredithnews.com.au

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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: Jim Elvey

connect

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B'BURN ART
GROUP
0410 808 483

BLUE LIGHT
DISCO
5286 1222

BOOK CLUB
5286 8201

CFA
000 for fire calls
Elaine
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Meredith
5286 1502
Morrisons
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CHILDCARE
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COMMUNITY
CENTRE
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Junior
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CITIZENS
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TENNIS
Elaine
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Meredith
5286 1211

SEW 'N' SEWS
5286 0700

FRIENDS OF THE
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RANGES
5286 1252

emergency

Police, Ambulance, Fire	000
(from mobile phone)	000 or 112
Meredith Police Station	5286 1222
Police non emergency	131 444
Power Failure	132 412
Nurse-On-Call	1300 606 024
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	52207111 or
Bannockburn Vet	0409 830 223
Golden Plains Vet	5281 1221
Pets and Horses 24/7	5281 2226
	0421 617 238

Justices of the Peace

Mr Don Atherton. 0409 869 960

Mr Paul Ryan Elaine 0409 861 296

services

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HALL HIRE

Meredith Memorial

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Elaine Mechanics

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Elaine Rec Res

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PRIMARY

SCHOOL

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RECREATION

RESERVE

0429 841399

..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 sorted.



The best cure for sea sickness, is to sit under a tree.

- Spike Milligan



Community

Meredith Memorial Hall Update

The Memorial Hall Committee met Monday 22nd June under COVID-19 restrictions to elect Office Bearers for the pursuing 12 months. Elected for the positions were;

President- Doris Robinson 0491 061 640, Treasurer- Heather Kent, who presented the Annual Financial Report and Sandra Pearce- Secretary & Bookings 0409 662 106.

Earlier this year the ramp and balustrade were revamped with the assistance of a grant from the Golden Plains Shire and 2 of our local tradesmen Cameron Williams and Peter Kruger. These modifications were completed successfully before the Pandemic restrictions became apparent; with the Hall closing its doors late March.

Later in the year when the weather is warm the balustrade will be painted, but for now, we continue to come to terms with changes to our life style.

The Hall has opened its doors once again for community use. Like all community buildings & organisations, the Hall management continues to work with the restrictions; keeping the building in a clean and safe condition for the few who are able to hire the Hall. As the restrictions hopefully are lifted over the next few months and we are able to move more freely about, hopefully people will want to celebrate significant milestones and events in the family and community life; whilst abiding and living with the current-day

restrictions, including a limit of people and adhering to the 4 square metre rule. Facilities are required to record the names and phone numbers of visitors who are in facilities for more than 15 minutes.

Each year at the Annual General Meeting the Committee review the Hall Charges, which are kept to a minimum to encourage the Meredith and District community to use and enjoy this community facility.

2020 Hire Charges are:

Daytime:	9am-5pm	\$135.00
Night time:	5-12pm	\$165.00
Supper room (day/night)		\$ 55.00
Supper & Kitchen (day/night)		\$110.00

Included in the above charges for small groups; assorted crockery, cutlery and the use of kitchen facilities. Hirers having a large function can pay an extra cost to use a 120 piece set of white crockery, glasses and cutlery, water jugs, table clothes, etc.

A liquor licence is required from the hirer when selling liquor, or the cost of liquor is included in the entry charge/ticket.

Further enquiries contact - Sandra Pearce 0409 662 106.



What's On



TERM 3

Cheese-making with Narelle

Friday September 11, 2020 - 10.00 - 2.00 - \$120

PILATES

Wednesdays - 9.30 - 10.30

\$15 per session

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL

Social Distancing
Safeguards apply at
all activities.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Tai Chi

Tuesdays @ Meredith with Sandra - 9.30 - 10.30 am

Tuesdays @ Bannockburn with Desma - 5-6 pm

Thursdays @ Teesdale with Desma - 9.30-10.30 am

Steady Feet

Wednesdays with Ane - 9.30 - 10.30 am

Active Exercise

Wednesdays with Ane - 10.30 - 11.30 am

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

OCCASIONAL CARE

SESSION TIMES

MONDAY - 9:15 - 2:15

TUESDAY - Expressions of Interest Only

WEDNESDAY - 9:15 - 2:15

FRIDAY - 9:15 - 2:15



Recreation

Meredith Angling Club

Updated contact details for the Meredith Angling Club

Email : meredithanglingclub@iinet.net.au

Bert Eldredge Club Secretary, phone 0419248660

Also asking if anyone has any history of our club ie old club calendars or photo's etc. I have managed to go back as far as 1967 for our past members. Any information can be emailed to me on the above email.

Bert Eldredge, Club Secretary



What sort of music should you listen to while fishing?

Something catchy.



Have a look at the old photo on p. 30. of Meredith anglers - you might know someone. - Ed.



Church News

Public gatherings, including church attendance, are currently subject to Covid-19 restrictions. Please check with your church or visit dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus for details.

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

Elaine Tennis Club



All old and new players wishing to play junior competition tennis (8+ years of age) for Elaine in season 2020/21 need to contact the club by 31st August 2020 to guarantee your place in a team, as all teams need to be entered in the Buninyong & District Tennis Association by the end of August.

The Buninyong & District Tennis Association will continue to plan for the season ahead unless told otherwise by the Victorian State Government.

Enquiries: President Simon Colla, 0439 742 419 or elainetenniscubinc@gmail.com

Our Cover

Our beautiful cover photo of a quizzical wallaby, was taken last month by Colin Cook, while walking a track in the Brisbane Ranges. Thanks Colin. And thanks for the inspiration. The next few months are an especially good time to be visiting the Park: wildlife, wild flowers and exercise in a beautiful environment.



Share your favourite pics with us. Contact details are on page 2.



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Jenny Talbot

Jenny Talbot is a magician with a sewing machine as she transforms ordinary fabric (or other materials or bits and pieces) into exquisite textile art. It hasn't always been the case. She only made a dress in high school because it was mandatory and never considered herself as creative.

Nevertheless, for years after leaving school she made all her own clothes - everything from shirts, skirts and tailored jackets to even her own knickers! It was all personal items with nothing decorative about it. Jenny enjoyed it at the time but now can think of nothing worse!

Jenny is very much a local who has lived in Lethbridge area for 33 years. Her family have many ties to the district through five generations. Her great, great, grandfather's brother had an oak tree planted for him on the Maude/She Oaks Road (sign-posted and featuring in the MHIG Tree Book), her Grandmother was a Heam and her uncle (Alex Richards) from She Oaks owned the original quarry in the area. After leaving school Jenny worked as a Pharmacy Assistant in Lara until marriage. Since then she has worked with her husband to run a sheep property.

Over the years Jenny has developed her creativity in a number of ways and is always keen to learn new skills and try new challenges. From 1979 for at least 10 years Jenny gave music lessons in both piano and guitar. Jenny is also a very accomplished cook who is never afraid to try new recipes. Photography, especially of landscapes, is another area which has captured Jenny's interest. Every aspect of her current home - from the architectural and building side through to the materials and interior - was designed by Jenny and it's an interest she would love to develop if she had her time again.

But, it is free embroidery that has been Jenny's passion for at least thirty years. After watching a demonstration by Gabriella Ver Straeten at the old Town Hall, Jenny was intrigued and has since become highly proficient and accomplished in this art. (She has won numerous prizes in various events for her work). She continues developing skills and seeking new techniques through attending the Geelong Textile Group once per month, researching on the internet and in magazines, attending workshops and referring to her collection of over 70 reference books.

Jenny absolutely loves the freedom and, often, unexpected nature of this art. She is definitely not a traditionalist who uses a computer design but relishes the speed and movement of the sewing machine where you control and adjust everything and the 'machine is your friend'. It is highly creative and Jenny likes the fact that you cannot be perfect. It is also pleasing to be able to scour op-shops for

materials that can be re-purposed into art. She uses fabrics, sheets, pillow cases, doilies, scarves, papers, ribbons, and much, much more to create all sorts of outcomes. Her work is turned into bags, cushions, table covers, lampshades, light fittings, scarves wall hangings and framed art. Jenny also has hundreds of samples where she has experimented with new ideas.

Eco-dyeing - collecting leaves, flowers, bark, Jex, vegetables etc then bundling them up in a roll of fabric and boiling it all for two hours then waiting patiently (or impatiently!) for a week to see the results.

Felting - eg. snippets of wool sandwiched between fabrics then needle felted.

Bleaching.

Burning and Heating - (a favourite) - sewing on various materials then using the heat of a solder iron to burn away fabric to reveal a "yummy, scrumptious, encrusted surface".

Cutback - (another favourite) - sandwiching layers of pretty, shimmering fabric topped with organza, embroidered and then cut away. It is a very long and involved process but it is quite exciting as the reveal is often unexpected.

Jenny has also experimented with all sorts of papers from cellophane, brown paper, napkins and even toilet paper, grass, leaves, and plastic shopping bags. Free embroidery is addictive and fun. You can see more of Jenny's work (and others) at geelongcreativefibrearts.wordpress.com or if interested contact geelong@embroiderersguildvic.org or Leonie on 0419165353.





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that's a Puzzle

Three letters are missing in the circle.
Find them to make one or two eight-letter
words reading clockwise

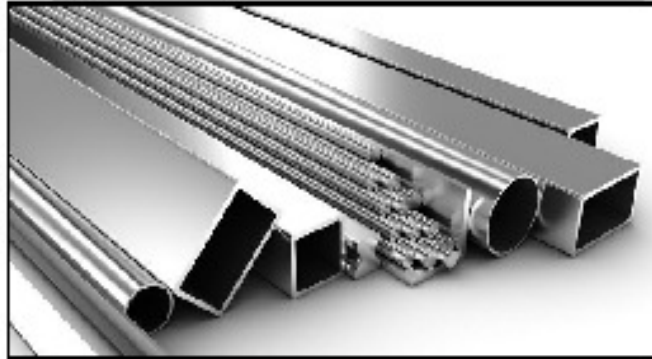


The missing letters are revealed on page 14.

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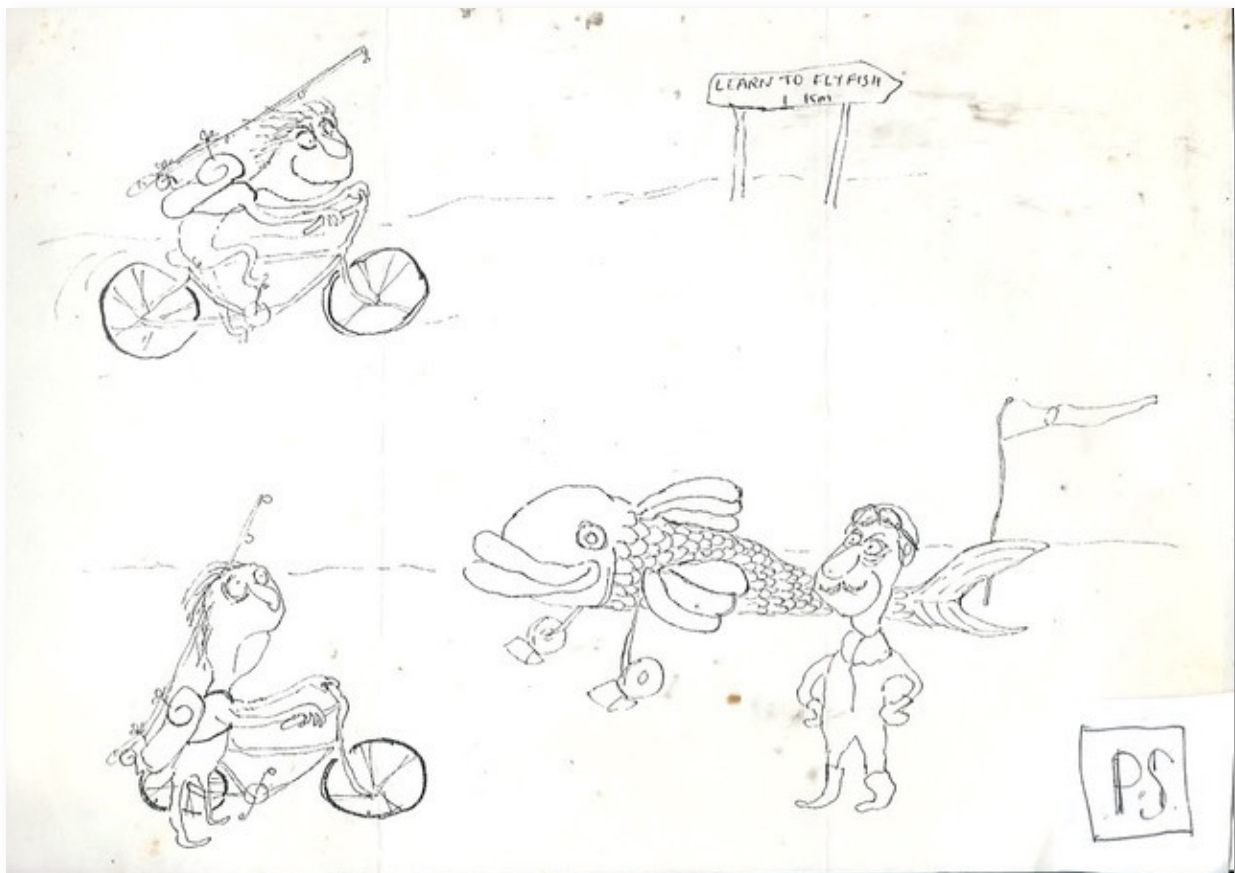
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little GEMS



Humble Hobby

This year has been an interesting one for everyone, to put it kindly. But if we're going to start looking for little silver linings, mine is that I am no longer embarrassed about my hobby. In fact, I feel quite proud of it.

I'm not sure about you but in my circles, hobbies seem to be on the rise. Even now I hear stories about exercise equipment being sold out everywhere (probably not quite hobby status) and it being near impossible to find a nice beginner's craft kit of some kind (that's more like it). Suddenly the streaming service binges, the books and the computer games aren't quite cutting the mustard. They're not entertaining enough for all these extra hours spent at home.

People are picking up more knitting needles, more scrapbooking materials, more puzzles. The humble hobby is on the rise and I am absolutely here for it. You see, up until now I was a bit shy when it came to admitting that my big Friday night plans involved sitting on the couch doing something perceived as antiquated. Pre-2020, I'd go back to the office on Mondays and share my weekend happenings, glossing over the hours I spent in hobby heaven for fear of what people might think.

Because, up until a few months ago, cross stitching wasn't a popular hobby for people my age. Staying at home hunched over your hoop stand, spending hours doing a repetitive stitching motion without making a dent in the pattern didn't sound appealing.

Now, people are trading their hidden hobby secrets like football cards. Complicated puzzles are back in vogue with the end goal being to hang them on the wall like art. Sending pictures to friends and family documenting your progress is not self-indulgent, it is expected. Baking skills are being honed (for some), candles are being made and tie dye shirts are being handed out to loved ones who are probably right now Googling 'How to bleach a shirt'.

People are learning new skills, including those of persuasion as they try to convince their partners that a sewing machine is actually what has been missing in their lives. And while the subtle hierarchy of hobbies still leads some people to tack on 'not very well' in response to enquiries into said hobbies, my cross-stitching is becoming quite revered.

Although the intricate French cobblestone street pattern that was chosen for me was an interesting choice to cut my teeth on, four years later and halfway through, I am finally proud to show it off to anyone who will listen.

Of course, in a couple of years' time we might be cleaning out cupboards and find pieces of half made jewellery and never-finished scarves but at least for now the humble hobby is back. And whether your hobby is on trend or was last popular decades ago, the repetitive strain injury is always worth it.

Gemma

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Happy Birthday Charlie

Marg Cooper

Charles Osborne was born on July 1 1930 to Dorothy and Charles Osborne who then lived at Staughton Vale. They later moved to Staughton Vale Road, Anakie.

In his youth he played one season of cricket with Anakie but then he started tennis at 16 years of age. He won three Premierships playing in the Bacchus Marsh Association. At 15½ years of age he played his first football game with Anakie against Elaine at Elaine. He won two Best and Fairest Awards while playing for Anakie. Geelong Football Club offered him a "run" but he didn't have any transport to get there.

Charles worked on his father's farm, cut wood with an axe and caught rabbits after he got his Merit Certificate at Staughton Vale Primary School. There was no way he could get transport to Secondary School. In 1948 he had saved enough to buy a new Bedford truck to start a carrying business. He courted Jessie Griffiths in the truck and after they married in 1955 he began farming at Meredith and sold the trucking business to his brother Jack.

A transfer was arranged from Anakie to Meredith Football Club and Charles continued playing until he was 48 years old. His main position was at centre half forward and he played under a lot of good coaches. Charles won Best and Fairest at 36 years of age but during his career he had his nose broken three times. The last time he didn't have it straightened. He was proud to play football in the same team as his son David.



Charles and Jessie and their three children, David, Denise and Sandra played tennis for Morrison in the Mooney Cup Association. Their A Grade team won many Premierships and there was always great competition between the Meredith and Morrison teams. Charles also played Country Week Tennis

for Mooney Cup for 25 years straight. He was committed and competitive. (I can remember playing on hard courts at Wendouree on a day when it was 45 degrees in the shade. Previous to our match Jessie and I had been sitting with our bare feet in the gutter because a tap was dribbling water down the gutter. I asked if we had to play because it was so hot but Charles thought we should!)

After football Charles tried to play golf. He laughed when he said he was never very good but he enjoyed the company and the exercise. He now uses his golf cart to transport sheep.

He said he would still be playing golf if his balance was good. That's not bad for a man who has had open heart surgery twice, has had two pace-makers and his aortal arteries operated on.

And there were the horses. Charles bought horses but had other people train them. They met great people at the Trotting Meetings and had lots of fun but it wasn't as financially successful as his farming enterprises. With the help of Doug Banks and Myrtle Wiseman and his family he farmed "Chestervale" and other properties he bought and sold, growing fat lambs, crops and peas.

Happy 90th birthday Charlie. You have been successful at sport and life because you have a confidence in your own ability and do not worry.

Where's Bob?

John Merlo

Bob (as I called him) was a roamer.

He started appearing at my place in Lawler Street, Meredith, about 18 months ago.

A male, silver grey tabby in his sexual entirety, Bob was a rather handsome lad and clearly had an active local social life around Meredith.

He'd drop by every few days and make himself a nest in a pile of grass clippings down by my woodheap, where he'd rest-up, stay perhaps a day and then be gone again on his rounds.

Neighbours told me he apparently made-do by helping himself to cat-food left-overs on their verandahs or in their yards after their own cats had gone inside for the night to their warm lounge-rooms and their sleeping spots by the fireplace.

Bob seemed happy enough to sleep outside on his bed of grass clippings - sometimes out in the rain - before slipping away in the morning to his next destination.

Most of the time he seemed to be in reasonably good condition - no collar of course - and I felt sure he had other owners around the Meredith township.

I guessed I was just one of Bob's casual circle of

'owners'. (People say cats don't have owners. They have 'staff'.)

Eventually he allowed me to approach him at some distance and he'd warily accept a bowl of cat food pushed toward him slowly on a long stick.



No closer though. It was obvious he'd had to dodge many a thrown boot in his time.

After a few months of this, Bob took up a regular spot on an old sheepskin rug I'd put on a chair for him on my front verandah. He'd be there in the mornings and he'd meow 'hello' as I got him some food.

That done, he'd wander out into the middle of Lawler Street and roll around in the middle of the road before wandering off to his next stop.

Then one day - he was gone, apparently never to return.

That's about three weeks back, and the old sheepskin rug on the verandah chair sits lonely and empty. No Bob.

I've done regular patrols around Meredith's major intersections, looking perhaps for a bit of closure.

But no Bob, no sightings, no relevant road kill evidence. Nothing. I guess that's it.

If anybody know anything about Bob, his history around Meredith, or perhaps an indication that he hasn't been skittled, I'd love to hear. Please call me on 0407 706 617.

And the answer is...



The missing letters in the puzzle on page 10, are LAE — to spell out EVALUATE. Or CAE to spell out EVACUATE

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This winter, a small flock of well-travelled visitors has been spending a few days at a time in my garden. As they hop around the bushes seeking insects, I have glimpses of their olive-green heads and backs and their grey shoulders. When one of these birds perches at the top of a bush, I have a clearer view, and can see its yellowish throat and the white circle around each black eye that gives them their name, silvereye. It is not often that silvereyes visit my garden, but I am accustomed to them having pale grey fronts. These birds are different. Below their wings, their sides are a bright shade of brown. Silvereyes are found in Victoria, Tasmania, most of New South Wales, and parts of Queensland, South Australia and Western Australia. There are slight differences in the way they look in different parts of Australia, so scientists have divided the species of silvereye into nine subspecies. The birds with the brown sides are Tasmanian. Although they are 12cm long, with wings about 6cm long, and the largest of them weigh 15g, they have flown across Bass Strait to be here.

Like any journey, a migration flight takes preparation. The birds need energy, warmth, a navigation system and the correct weather conditions to reach their destination safely. Before departure, birds eat extra food and put on weight. This stored fat provides them with the energy for their travels. Most will have a refuelling stop on the islands in Bass Strait. For warmth, they have their feathers. Nearly all of their body is covered in short, soft down. This can be fluffed up, so that air is trapped and warmed by the heat of their body. The birds' means of navigation are more of a mystery, which scientists are still investigating. Small particles of a magnetic substance called magnetite have been found in the birds' beaks. This allows them to detect the Earth's magnetic field, so they can tell which way is north and which way is south. They may also use light from the rising and setting sun to find their direction. The more experienced birds in the flock can recognise landmarks along the way. As for weather, I found an account of silvereyes arriving in Victoria, in a book written last century by Gippsland naturalist, Ellen Lyndon. She, and a group of other naturalists, visited a beach on a stormy morning in May. Rain, sleet and wind were blowing onshore so strongly that they could hardly stand up. In this gale, they were surprised to hear many birds calling to each other. As they watched, thousands of silvereyes were blown in from the sea. The birds took shelter in the bushes

behind the beach.

After their arrival on the mainland, silvereyes continue their travels, seeking insects, fruit and nectar. Some follow the coast as far as south-east Queensland, while others fly inland. However, not all of Tasmania's silvereyes migrate north. Some find sufficient food to remain in Tasmania throughout the winter, and avoid the perilous journey across Bass Strait. When the birds first started their migratory travels, many thousands of years ago, Tasmania was joined to the mainland, so the journey north was much simpler. Sea levels began to rise after the last ice age. Initially, Bass Strait would have been no wider than a river, and would not have been a hazard to migration. Over time, it broadened into the dangerous stretch of water we have today, but the process was gradual. Each year, the flight across sea became a little longer and the silvereyes continued with their journey.

Silvereyes are not the only birds to make this flight. There are numerous species of birds that fly north across Bass Strait, to winter in a warmer place. Very few parrots migrate, but three species make the journey from Tasmania, and all can be seen not too far from Meredith, if you are lucky. The critically endangered swift parrot spends the colder months wandering parts of Victoria and New South Wales, feeding in flowering eucalypts. They have been seen near Bacchus Marsh. Blue-winged parrots pass through our area on their way inland. Another critically endangered bird, the orange-bellied parrot, spends its winter in coastal areas, including the less disturbed parts of Port Phillip Bay. Of course, some birds fly far greater distances. Eastern curlews are the world's largest shorebirds. They breed in Siberia and China, then make the incredible journey to Australian coasts to feed on tidal flats, where they dig their long curved beaks into sand to hunt for crabs. Many smaller shorebirds also journey from Russia, China or Alaska to avoid the cold winter, then a few months later return there to breed. The same drive to return to their breeding grounds will soon disturb the silvereyes that have been visiting my garden. Then they will undertake the hazardous journey again, this time travelling south across Bass Strait. Perhaps they will be back here again next winter.



These are not silvereyes. They're probably not even Tasmanian - Ed.



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from the MAYOR

Cr Owen Sharkey
Mayor, Golden Plains Shire



Recent news of the increase of COVID-19 cases in Melbourne, as well as a small number in Golden Plains Shire, are a reminder that we are not through this pandemic yet, and that we all need to remain vigilant in our health and hygiene practices.

It's great to see many of our fellow residents taking this challenge seriously, and I strongly encourage everyone to continue their good work in helping prevent the spread of this virus. We are now fairly used to practicing physically distancing of 1.5m from each other, frequently washing hands with warm water and soap, and proper cough and sneeze etiquette.

More recently, the Victorian Government has required us regional Victorians wear face masks in public. While it may be hard to get your hands on a washable cloth face mask at the moment, the Victorian Department of Health and Human Services has some great resources on its website on how to make your own at home. Visit dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus to watch the video or download a guide.

Most importantly, if you are feeling unwell, and particularly if you have COVID-19 symptoms, please get tested. This is not only about protecting your own health, but also that of your family, friends and neighbours. Remember, if you get a test, you then must remain at home until you get a negative result. If you are unsure where to get tested, or are looking for more COVID-19 information, please visit dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus or call the COVID-19 hotline on 1800 675 398.

While many Council services, such as the Rokewood waste transfer station, Bannockburn and Mobile Library services, and our Smythesdale and Bannockburn Customer Service Centres have resumed face-to-face visits, please remember to follow the restrictions and health and hygiene practices as requested by staff members. You can find the latest updates on Council's services at goldenplains.vic.gov.au/coronavirus.

Finally, as the 2016-2020 Council term comes to a close, I'd like to acknowledge what a great honour and privilege it has been to serve as the Mayor of Golden Plains Shire over the past two years. I wish everyone who takes the big step to put up their hand for the next Council term all the very best and a reminder to make sure you vote by postal ballot in the local government election in October.

Mayor Cr Owen Sharkey

COUNCIL CANDIDATE TRAINING

There are a number of upcoming information and training sessions for prospective council candidates in Golden Plains Shire prior to October's Local Government Elections.

MAV Stand for Council Online Information Session

10am to 12pm, Tuesday 11 August - online

VLGA Training Session – Smythesdale

4 to 5.30pm, Tuesday 1 September – 19 Heales Street

VLGA Training Session – Bannockburn

4 to 5.30pm, Thursday 3 September – 2 Pope Street

Attendance at a session is optional, however it is strongly encouraged that prospective candidates attend one of the events. To find out more and to register, visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au

COUNCIL MEETINGS 2020

While Council Meetings are currently closed to the public until at least 2 November 2020 in accordance with the Victorian Government's COVID-19 directives, the meetings are available to view online via the livestream. The remaining meetings for 2020 are:

- Tuesday, 28 July 2020
- Tuesday, 25 August 2020
- Monday, 21 September 2020
- Tuesday, 17 November 2020 (Mayoral Election)
- Tuesday, 24 November 2020
- Tuesday, 15 December 2020

The location of the Council Meetings in November and December, and the possibility of public attendance, is to be confirmed. For meeting agendas and links to the livestream, visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au

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LOCAL COMMUNITIES MAKE TIDY TOWNS FINAL CUT

Media Release

Communities from across Golden Plains Shire feature prominently in the list of finalists for this year's Keep Victoria Beautiful Tidy Towns Awards.

Announced on Friday 26 June, six local community groups and one Golden Plains Shire township have been named finalists across five categories for the organisation's Sustainable Communities – Tidy Towns awards:

Overall 2020 Tidy Town Finalist

Bannockburn

Community Finalists

- Turtle Bend Events Committee – Teesdale Celebrates
- Bannockburn Community Planning Group Inc – Advocacy for the Teesdale to Bannockburn Cycling Path
- Ross Creek – Smythes Creek Community Group – Car Boot Sale

Environment Finalists

- Ross Creek Landcare Group – Ongoing commitment to Ross Creek Nature Reserve
- Friends of Bannockburn Bush – Cleaning up the Bush
- Friends of Bannockburn Bush – Protecting the Bush

History & Culture Finalist

Meredith History Interest Group – Significant Trees of Meredith & District

Indigenous Culture Finalist

Bannockburn Community Planning Group Inc – Advocacy for the Milton Street Ironbark Arbour

The Tidy Towns Awards program has been running since 1982. The winners of each award category will be announced on 5 September 2020.

Mayor Cr Owen Sharkey congratulated this year's finalists from Golden Plains Shire.

“Golden Plains Shire is home to many strong communities, and it's no surprise to me to see a number of our communities and local groups included as finalists in this year's Tidy Towns Awards. From Bannockburn, to Meredith and Ross Creek, it's brilliant to see the great work being done in our communities recognised from outside the Shire.

“Congratulations to each and every one involved in these bids. Council wishes them all the best of luck, and we will be crossing our fingers for when the winners are announced in September.”

Maude-SheOaks Road Upgrade

Media Release

Golden Plains Shire Council has now completed works on the \$1.485 million widening and upgrade of Maude-She Oaks Road.

This project delivered the upgrade and widening of 3km of the Maude-She Oaks Road, from the driveway entrance to Mountain View Quarry in Maude to Strong Road in She Oaks. As part of the works, upgrades were also completed to a number of roads intersections, including with Sharps Road and Steiglitz Road. Other works included the sealing of road shoulders, new guardrail, and kerb and channel installation.

This important project for the Maude-She Oaks community was funded by \$1.1 million from Council and \$385,000 from the Federal Government's Roads to Recovery Program.

Mayor Cr Owen Sharkey welcomed the completion of another road upgrade funded in last year's budget.

“Council set a busy infrastructure agenda in our 2019/20 Budget, and it's great to tick off another project from that list now that the \$1.485 million upgrade and widening of Maude-She Oaks Road is finished.”

“The 3km of upgraded road and associated works has delivered a better and safer road for our residents in the Maude area, as well as for businesses that use the road.”

“This is the second major project that has been completed in the area in recent months, following the opening of the new \$1.6 million Coopers Bridge on the Meredith-Steiglitz Road in May. Since 2017, Council has invested more than \$4 million in improving the condition and safety of the roads and bridges in the Maude area.”

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Pete Goat

Well, what else is there to say except that our culture has changed a lot in a matter of a few months and will go on changing for a long while yet at best. How much more will it change? We don't know because we don't know when or if we will get the virus under control to the extent that, say, New Zealand has. But even then, it will depend on how other countries are dealing with it and what restrictions it will place on travel and trade.

At the same time the Black Lives Matter movement is sweeping the world in a way that has never been seen before and is not going to go away. Statues have been toppled, but also institutions have, of their own volition, acknowledged offensive names and made changes.

I heard a few interesting radio programs that discussed how some developing countries that have largely avoided the virus because they had much less international traffic, will also have economies that are less disrupted by the pandemic. Their cultures may thrive but others that have become dependent on tourism may be devastated.

In Australia we have an opportunity to make cultural changes by providing employment in creating affordable housing which is so badly needed and building a regenerative environment and emission free energy, industrial and transport systems. But will our leaders learn from the experience of following expert scientific advice and acting in a bipartisan way in matters so important? Some things will never be the same again and some of it could be for the better if we learn from this and make the right choices.

Steve Goat

I don't know about you, but the year 2020 is making me very angry.

I'm angry at Covid19.

I'm angry with the resultant lockdowns and other restrictions.

I'm angry at those people who won't comply.

I'm angry at the effect on the economy.

I'm angry at the loss of life.

I'm angry at the weak response from Government.

I'm angry at the Treasurer bringing up ghosts from the past in Thatcher and Regan.

I'm angry at the lost opportunities of the young.

I'm angry at the stifling of education.

I'm angry at the loss of contact with friends and family.

I'm angry at the shut down of theatre and the Arts.

I'm angry at the pressure on freedom of speech.

I'm angry at my negative thoughts.

I'm angry at my being angry.

But 2020 continues.....

Luckily there is some joy left in our world :

Joy in my garden,

Joy in my family, especially our new grandchild,

Joy in my community,

And Joy in our resilience.and good luck to you all.

Peter comes to the Outback

Marg Cooper

Quietly walking along Staughton Street in Meredith last week I met a young, smartly dressed man of Vietnamese descent. He seemed to be out of place so I introduced myself.



Father Charles Balnaves invited the Seminary to send a trainee priest to the Meredith Parish and Peter Nguyen was selected from the six fourth year trainees. The other five are spending six months at other parishes and at the end will share and evaluate their experiences. Peter says there are four dimensions to their study; Human, Intellectual, Pastoral and Spiritual. His time at Meredith will focus largely on the Pastoral.

Peter Nguyen grew up near Saigon in Vietnam with his five brothers and one sister. He described how their grandmother lived with them and virtually raised them because both their parents worked; their father in furniture retail and their mother as a tailor in a fashion store. Their grandmother was a huge inspiration, a devoted Catholic in a largely Buddhist country and she taught her grandchildren how to be good people. They also lived opposite the church so attended services regularly.

After school Peter studied food and technology at Saigon Technology University and then worked in hospitality at the Park Hyatt in Saigon for two years before he spoke to the local priest about his vocation. He was recommended to study in Melbourne. He had never considered this as his English language was weak. He had had English lessons at school but these were once a week for 45 minutes. He learnt to say 'Hello' and 'Thank you' and a few other words.

He arrived in Melbourne in 2016 and did six months of intensive lessons in English language at Australian Catholic University. Living in a community that only spoke English also helped a lot but he says that the three years of Philosophy that followed was difficult because of the complicated vocabulary and culture involved.

On July 1, 2020 Peter came to the Outback. Initially he was concerned because he hasn't yet got his licence to drive a car as his test was cancelled due to Covid 19 but when Father Charles and Peter travel together he finds it a good time to learn from his mentor. In Vietnam he rode a motorbike. He likes the Australian culture and wishes to learn more about how country people live and relate. He loves playing sport, music, reading and cooking.

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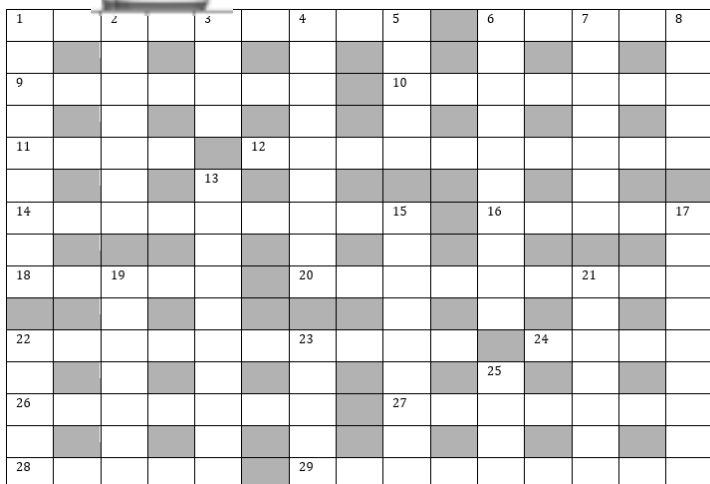
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Regular font: the definition. *Italics: cryptic support.* G.P.= Golden Plains.

ACROSS:

- 1* *A neglected tabernacle perhaps for Meredith's Judy Hullin e.g. (9)*
 6 *Review section of Graham, megacrypt contributor to the Meredith News (5)*
 9* *Main cod are on the move - always on the move (7)*
 10* *Quad bike manufacturer (May ad.) has a 50%-OFF line model with ROPS (Roll Over Protection Structures) (7)*
 11 (Ref. May, p.24) *Leah's "old guard" 's free report (4)*
 12* *Disc felt so dislocated that you want emoji symbol for power (6,4)*
 14* *Poor puss came to an end - hanging from a rope (9)*
 16* *District weed rebate program: making a lot of progress (5)*
 18 *Overhead volley a great success (5)*
 20* *Terra test created for graffiti e.g. in Geelong event (6,3)*
 22* *Gone beserk and hit poor ape (10)*
 24* *Amaze with mixed nuts (4)*
 26* *Make happy landing at last. Landed well. (7)*
 27* *The setting of Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, a poor comedy ending off air (7)*
 28 *Fashion sundial pointer (5)*
 29 *Announced tax on a little water supplying "The Martyrs" Vineyard at Richmond, Tasmania (9)*

The Plays

Cryptic setters use several plays and Graham will explain one each month. Or you can find them all online at meredithnews.com.au/extras.

PLOY NO 3: ANAGRAMS

Anagrams are letter jumbles. See detailed notes online at meredithnews.com.au/extras. Today, clues containing anagrams have an asterisk* and anagram indicators are underlined. For your solution just rearrange the required number of letters of words left or right of them. **Too easy!**

DOWN:

- 1* *Compares fairly strong cast with one needing changes (9)*
 2 *Agnus Dei the last one sacrificed as the 11th letter of the Greek alphabet (P1.) (7)*
 3 *Plots where to lie down (4)*
 4* *Reconstruct old case following current honours (9)*
 5 *Sorts of fonts (5)*
 6 *G.P. miner also an AU. (Australian) soldier (4,6)*
 7 *Dirtier but grand old city-state King Hiero established without walls (7)*
 8* *Property settlement for Tessa (5)*
 13* *Left turn of the link to G.P. quarry locality and business (10)*
 15* *Weed hedges in "Wirra", settled historic property on the Moorabool: _____ Estate (9)*
 17 *Et.au.net.x. Electronic abbrev. RETURN. Excuse in part. (9)*
 19* *Risk assessor deciphering a lot of cautionary characters (7)*
 21* *The last store not operating at Dereel sadly has changed (7)*
 22* *A well sung breed of cattle (5)*
 23* *A Moorabool Valley wine variety scoring 4 out of 5 points in reassessment (6)*
 25 *The odds are that you have billed us for blue mould cheese (4)*

the Solution

Across: 1. Celebrant 6. Gemma 9. Nomadic 10. Polaris 11. Ridd 12. Closed fist 14. Suspended 16. Gorse 18. Smash 20. Street art 22. Anthropoid 24. Stun 26. Gladden 27. Illuvia 28. Style 29. Toppuddle
Down: 1. Contrasts 2. Lambdas 3. Beds 4. Accolades 5. Types 6. Gold digger 7. Murkier 8. Asset 13. Lethbridge 15. Darnitwill 17. Externate 19. Actuary 21. Altered 22. Angus 23. Pinot 25. Bleu

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I don't believe in astrology. I am a Sagittarius and we're very sceptical.

– Arthur C Clarke

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MAN COOK EAT



Steve Duffy

A Simple Staple Food

This month I would like to address one of the most basic ingredients in Italian Cuisine. Now enjoyed all over the world. Some say that Marco Polo brought it back from China, this may be true, but wheat was domesticated much closer to Europe thousands of years before the Venetian Trader headed east.

Yes, let's talk pasta. Most of us are very familiar with what pasta is, indeed, we eat a lot of it. Although there are many regional sauces and recipes, we would all be conversant with Bolognese, Carbonara and Pesto. And most of us would use the wonderfully convenient dried pasta we buy at the supermarket. A good and serviceable product, but I would like to introduce you to the delight of home made fresh pasta. It's cheaper too!

For a batch of pasta for four people you'll need just two ingredients:

175 grams of plain flour,

3 large eggs,

This will make just over 320 grams of your own home made pasta.

Place the flour on the bench with a deep hollow in the centre. Break the eggs into the hollow, then beat the eggs to break up the whites and yolks. Draw some of the flour over the eggs with your hands. Now work the eggs into the flour, making sure the eggs don't run off the bench. Continue working the mixture until a smooth drying paste comes together. If still sticky work in some more flour.

Now is the time to knead the dough, using the ball of your hand to stretch the dough, fold and repeat several times. If you have a pasta rolling machine you can finish the kneading by putting it through the machine at the widest setting, gradually setting it narrower as you go, when smooth and thin, run it through the cutters to your choice of width.

Alternatively, if you don't have a machine, get the rolling pin out and roll thin and cut into noodles with a sharp knife. Perhaps a little more rustic, but still good enough to eat.

Having rested the pasta noodles for a while, even up to a couple of hours, fill a large saucepan with salted water and bring to the boil. When on a rolling boil chuck in the pasta and cook for a few minutes. The pasta needs to remain firm, or al dente, and not allowed to get soft and gummy. Drain and your pasta is ready for whichever sauce you have decided on.

Try it with fresh herbs and olive oil, butter, cheese and garlic or one of the many and varied sauces.

Buon Appetito Steve

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SEELONG
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**MEDIA
RELEASE**

Golden Plains Mobile Library is back on the road!

Tuesday 23 June 2020

The Golden Plains Mobile Library is back on the road, and operating on a normal schedule.

After being closed to the public since Wednesday 18 March due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic, all GRILC library branches and mobile libraries have now re-opened to the community.

The Golden Plains Mobile Library has returned to normal operations and is visiting all the usual stops on its route across the Shire.

The community is warmly welcomed back to the Mobile Library to browse, borrow and return books.

The Mobile Library operates the following schedule:

Cape Clear	Friday	3:15pm - 4:30pm
Dereel	Thursday	2:15pm - 3:30pm (except last of month)
Griffith	Thursday	3:30pm - 4:30pm
Geenville	Thursday	2:15pm - 3:30pm (last of month)
Haddon	Friday	9:00am - 12:00pm
Linton	Friday	1:30pm - 2:45pm
Meredith	Thursday	9:00am - 12:30pm
Rokewood	Thursday	11:45am - 1:00pm
Seymourdale	Friday Saturday	12:30pm - 12:50pm 9:00am - 12:00pm (third of month)

The health and wellbeing of the community and staff in Seelong Regional Libraries' number one priority, and as such customers are advised of a few changes to usual operations. Strict hygiene and social distancing rules are in place and customers will be asked to sanitise their hands before entering.

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Marg's BOOK REVIEW

The Girl from Eureka by Cheryl Adnams

Essentially this book is a love story in the historical setting of Ballarat in 1854.

Gold miner and wild colonial girl Indy Wallace partners with a young lad and his mother to dig for gold on the Ballarat goldfields. "... three years she has lived in this commune of contradictions. So much wealth and so much poverty existing side by side. It had been an adventure for sure. But, like living close together, it could be a lonely place."

It is a great read, action abounding right from the first page. The town of Ballarat as it was in the mid-19th century is recreated with vigour and atmosphere whilst a feisty heroine attempts to break through the traditional female barriers. Miners clash with the crown and there is unrest and rebellion and, as well, it is a love story against all odds.

The love interest is handsome, chivalrous Will Marsh who is a Lieutenant in the British Army. He has been posted to Ballarat to protect the Crown gold and to keep peace on the goldfields. But as Will and Indy's attraction grows their loyalties are tested when the unrest between the miners and the military reaches breaking point at the Eureka Stockade. In the eyes of immigrant miners soldiers are the enemy.

With this story the author offers a dual perspective of the Eureka Stockade, from the miner and the soldier, with a realistic account of the events leading up to the battle. She paints a vivid landscape and treats the history she is writing about with respect. There are some interesting points including that many soldiers felt uneasy about what they were ordered to do and that high numbers deserted the army post battle. Also interesting was that a soldier like Will started thinking for themselves rather than simply following orders which they had always done.

"A makeshift flagpole had been erected. The Union Jack was lowered and another flag was raised in its place. The five white stars of the Southern Cross constellation, connected by white stripe on a field of deep blue. It was impressive. It was a symbol for the people of a new Australia. A defiant departure from the tyrannical rule of Her Majesty under the Union Jack."



This is a great way to learn history, to almost be a part of history, and to be immersed in history while being entertained with a love story that keeps you reading until the very end.

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the rain report

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Recognise Anybody?



Meredith Angling Club has been retracing the history of the club and looking for photos or members names or any history items from the club Any information would be greatly appreciated, and in particular names of the people in the photo.

Please contact me, Bert Eldredge on 0419248660 or meredithanglingclub@inet



Windfarm Connects

Media Release

The first turbine at Moorabool Wind Farm, located approximately 25 kilometres south-east of Ballarat, is now connected to the Victorian transmission network and generating electricity.

The Managing Director of Goldwind Australia, John Titchen, said this was a significant step in the project which, once operational, will produce enough clean, emission-free energy to power approximately 228,000 Victorian homes.

“As part of the commissioning phase that is currently underway on the northern section of the Moorabool Wind

Farm, the project is now connected to the Victorian transmission network and is generating electricity.”

“Construction of the southern section of the Moorabool Wind Farm is continuing to make good progress and is expected to be completed later this year.”

“Once fully operational, the 312 MW 104-wind turbine project will be one of the largest wind farms in Victoria and will directly employ up to 20 permanent full-time maintenance roles.”

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Brown Tree Frog

Kerry Thompson

A slight change in colour caught my eye as I was looking for bugs to photograph. It was a small, (about 2.5 cm) pale brown frog with dark stripes along its side. The unusual thing for me was that it was 1.5m up a young eucalyptus and 3m from the reeds at the edge of the dam. Thanks to members of the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria it was identified as the Southern Brown Tree Frog (*Litoria ewingii*). They're actually pretty common and nothing unusual about where I found it. It has a call like a raspy 'reeet, reet, reet, reet'.



It's nowhere near this big, but we wanted you to see it! - Ed.

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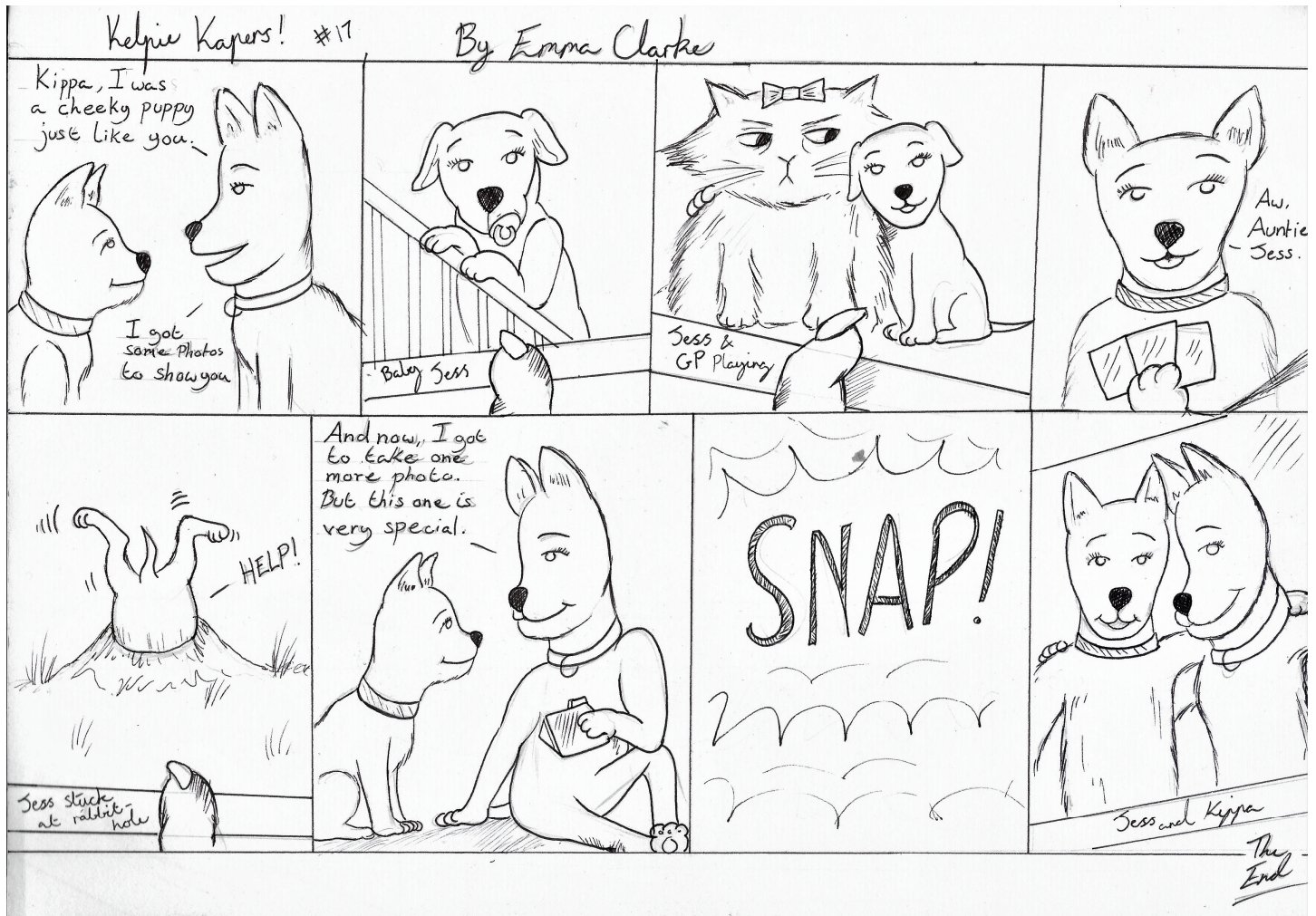
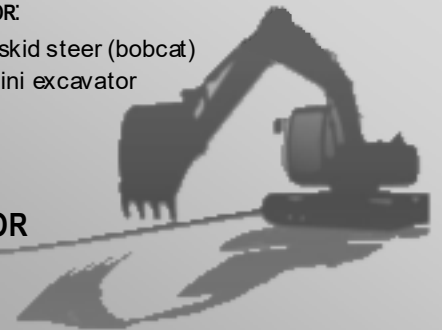
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Ingredients

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To taste salt
20g unsalted butter
1 eggs
50ml milk

Sauce

1/2 cup golden syrup
3/4 cup brown sugar firmly packed
30g unsalted butter
1 2/3 cup water
To serve runny cream

Method

Sift self raising flour into a bowl and add a pinch of salt.

Rub the butter into the flour until it resembles breadcrumbs, add the whisked egg and stir to combine.

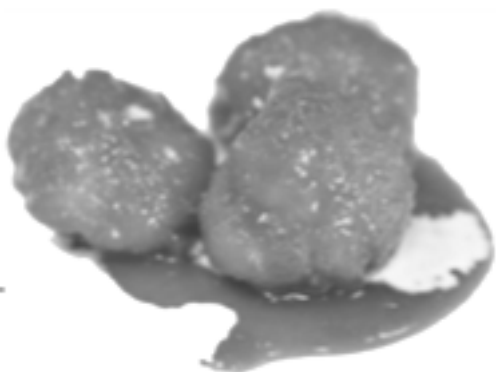
Gently add the milk and mix till the dough just comes together and resembles a scone mix (do not over work the dough). Set aside.

Combine all sauce ingredients into a large fry pan. Bring to the boil to amalgamate before reducing heat to a gentle simmer.

Flour your hands and roll the dough into the size of a twenty cent piece. Place the balls onto a tray lined with baking paper.

Slip the balls off the baking paper all together into the syrup. Cover the fry pan with foil to form a tight seal and cover with the lid. Cook for about 10 minutes before turning over to cook for another 10 minutes on the other side.

Remove with a slotted spoon and serve with the remaining sauce and a jug of runny cream.



St Joseph's Statues

In January 1918 there was a crowded congregation at St Joseph's Church, Meredith for the unveiling and blessing of three statues. The late Mr John Thomas Boxell bequeathed a sum of money to the church which was supplemented by Miss Mary Boxell to the extent of £65, as a memorial to the deceased members of the Boxell family. A magnificent statue of the Sacred Heart and two large Sanctuary Angels were placed in the Parish Church. After the statues had been blessed by the Rev MA Vaughan, the occasional sermon was preached by Rev PA Vaughan. The preacher stressed the fact that nothing was too good for the house of God and that it was a splendid tribute to the faith of the donors to have these beautiful statues. They would speak with an eloquence more forcible than words.

Miss Boxell spent a fortnight in Meredith visiting a large circle of friends and attending the unveiling ceremony of the statues. She returned to Melbourne to her duties. It is believed that she worked as a Post Mistress, often relieving at Post Offices.

Mary and John were two of the seven children of James and Mary Boxell (Callaghan). It seems that the Boxell family lived in the vicinity of Taylors Road from about 1870. Their brother James Horatio married Rebecca Weightman and all their eleven children were baptised at St Josephs, Meredith. He was listed in the Meredith Rate Books until at least 1886.

The statue of the Sacred Heart stands proudly at the front of the church on the left. On an almost illegible plaque on its base one can see the name Boxell. But the two angels are missing. Photos of the altar in earlier days show the angels in recesses on each side of the altar, holding candelabras. It is said that they were discarded by a previous priest but that a parishioner saved them!





have you heard
this one?

The Pope is early on the way to the airport, and asks his driver if he could take over and drive around for a while as he hasn't driven a car since becoming the Pope.

Naturally, he's a bit rusty, so he's driving poorly, when suddenly he sees police lights behind him. He pulls over and when the officer comes up to the window his eyes go wide. He says to the Pope "Hold on for a minute," and goes back to his car to radio the chief.

Cop: "Chief we have a situation. I've pulled over an important figure."

Chief: "How important? The local mayor?"

Cop: "No sir. He's bigger."

Chief: "So, a sports figure, a celebrity, what?"

Cop: "More important, sir."

Chief: "Not the Prime Minister?"

Cop: "No sir, he's much more important."

Chief: "WELL WHO IS IT!?"

Cop: "Well actually I'm not sure. But the Pope's his driver."

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it'S HiStoRy

Meredith History Interest Group

Events:

Unfortunately the events we had planned including the display at the Bannockburn Library about the Hotels of Meredith and the Pub Crawl at Meredith have been delayed but we have had the luxury of more time to research. And the deeper we go the more interesting information we find.

Reading an inquest from 1865, when Bridget Hall died from exhaustion after delivering twins, we found that her maiden name was McGuire and that she was sister to Miss Mary McGuire who owned a two-story house next door to where the Meredith Corner Store is today in Wallace Street. Another sister Elizabeth who was married to Michael Pollard, a general storekeeper at Lethbridge, was living in the building when it burnt down in December 1869. Patrick McGuire applied for a Publican's Licence in September 1869, to be known as the Progress Hotel and Miss M McGuire applied for a beer licence for the premises in November 1869. Obviously, neither application progressed any further!

It is amazing what connections can be made when reading and researching!

Street Nursery:

To help pay for maintenance MHIG has established a nursery in Staughton Street next to the Street Library. Plants are mostly \$3.00. Money is to be paid through a gap in the fence as indicated. At the moment there are dahlias, iris, succulents and plants for your garden that supply fruit like strawberries, boysen berries and fig tree cuttings [fig trees grow easily from cuttings].

If you have any plants in your garden that you are dividing or don't need any more, please add them to our nursery. Thank you!

Catalogue:

MHIG volunteers meet every Thursday and most Tuesdays from 9 am at the History Centre. There are lots of tasks to do. There are lots of subjects to research. Volunteers at the moment are deciphering inquests, organizing donated history documents, pasting newspaper references to Meredith into folders, cataloguing documents, researching families, compiling books, adding to our Facebook page and replying to search requests, adding to the information about Meredith houses and properties in Who Lived in my House and Escape to the Country, etc.

Significant Trees of Meredith & District:

The book which documents most of the photos and stories submitted for the exhibition MHIG held in October 2019 has been printed and is for sale for \$35.00 from MHIG. It is an amazing collection of history of Meredith & District, related in some way to trees. It is a very attractive book that you can read a few pages of every now and again, if you wish.

EXTENSIVE LAND SALES

Messrs. L. A. Fairbairn and Co. have sold (directly and in conjunction with other agents) the

following, amongst other properties:—

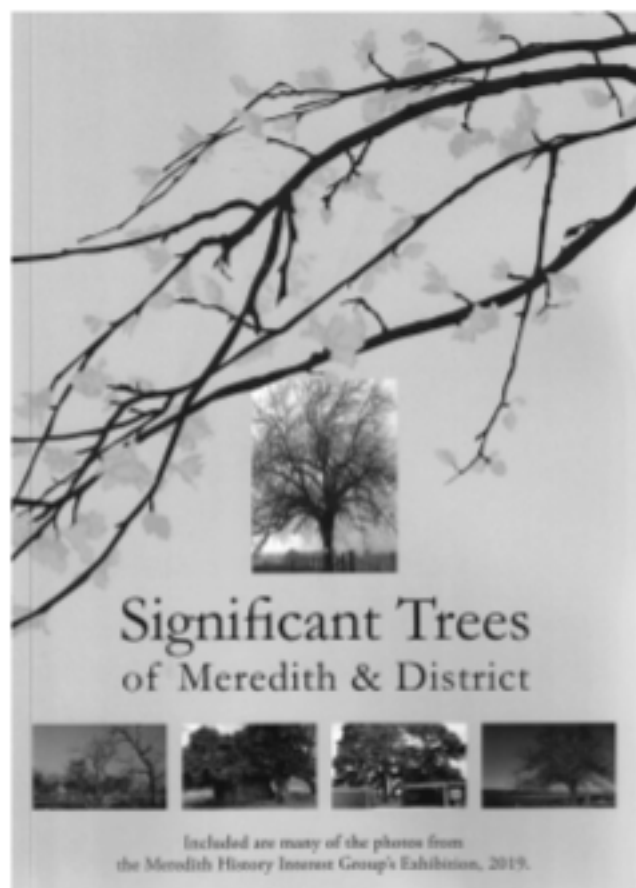
...Account the trustees the late S.T. Staughton, Lindisferm Estate, situated between Ballan and Meredith, containing 6,134 acres, as follows:—3,116 acres, including the homestead block, William Rhodes, Queensland; 114 acres, T.S. Marshall, Essendon; 662 acres, John Wohlers, Rainbow; 636 acres, Albert Wohlers, Rainbow; 280 acres, Geo. Slocombe, Ballan; 225 acres, A. Yearing, Beremboke; 108 acres, H. Wells, Meredith.

... Account the Misses Mackinnon, the Moreep Estate, situated between Ballan and Meredith, having a total area of 8,505 acres, to William Rhodes.

The Australasian 22 April 1911

Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group

Meredith History Group's latest book.



The THINGS We Say

Gemma Hanan

A Stitch in Time Saves Nine

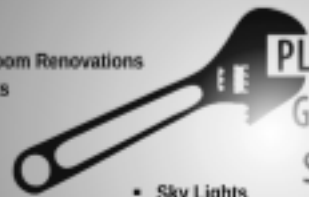
From a 1700s French proverb to a sailor sewing up his sail at sea before the rip got too big, this saying has mixed origins. The moral of the idiom is that putting in the work now will save having to do more work later. For a period, the phrase was 'a stitch in time may save nine', but the confidence of the current usage encourages proactivity. It's also an anagram for 'this is meant as incentive' – go on and whip your highlighters out, I know you want to double check this one.



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Vale to Joy Smith

3/3/1942 – 3/7/2020

Marg Cooper and courtesy of the Smith family

Joy by name and Joyful by nature.

Joy Smith was raised by her mother and stepfather in England. She only had one boyfriend whom she married in April 1961. She wore a pale pink frock of heavy brocade with a full skirt.

Joy and Gerald Francis Norman Smith emigrated to New Zealand with their three sons (Gary, Chris and Tony) in 1971. After eight wonderful years there, mainly living in a newly renovated house on a dairy farm, they decided that Australia offered more opportunities for their sons' employment. In 1979 they shifted to Williamstown. Gerry worked for Westinghouse Brake and Signal Company in England and they offered him a job in New Zealand which he accepted. When he applied for a job in Melbourne it was his old boss from England who hired him.

Joy's trade was as a pattern maker and fabric cutter. She worked in a factory but was home when her sons arrived home from school. She often spoke about the women from varied ethnic backgrounds who worked with her. Many of them became life long friends. Gary recalls their house being the hub for all their young friends - the door was always open.

Perhaps they thought that they had lived in one place for too long. In 1996, after looking at many country towns, Joy and Gerry decided on Meredith and bought at 22 Sutherland Street - a house with a garden that ran to the Coolebarghurk Creek.

Joy was an extremely talented woman. She attended art classes at the Community Centre and when the teacher left she took over as the teacher. She could paint and her ideas for the Friday Folk Art Group were amazing. Gerry made Rocking Horses and Joy decorated them. She sewed clothes for family and costumes for childcare. She framed pictures for people. She was a committee member of the Community House. But, above all, Joy loved her family, her garden, her dogs, British Comedy and jigsaws. [Her friend Liz remembers giving jigsaws to Joy for birthdays in the hope that she didn't finish it in a couple of days - she didn't succeed!]

A Service of Love and Remembrance was held in Altona and live streamed to those who were unable to attend. Her grandchildren lit candles representing the light of Joy's life that will continue to shine.

Joy had a huge impact on the small town of Meredith. She was always happy and enthusiastic and holds a special place in our hearts.

Right: A recent photo of Joy, and with Gerry on their wedding day.

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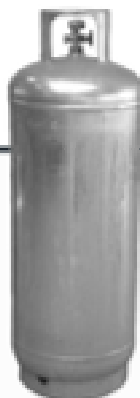
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Vale to Alexander John Concannon

3/5/1923 – 13/7/2020

Marg Cooper

Until last month Alexander [Sandy] walked unaided, was not taking any medication and was still relevant to his family. He kept fit, he was neat, eloquent and had a trimmed silver moustache which fitted his distinguished airman's past.

Sandy occupied the tightly cramped, mortally fragile, occasionally freezing seat of a Halifax rear-gunner in 35 bombing raids over Europe during the run into D Day. He had arrived at Yorkshire in England to join 102 Squadron as an air gunner on his 21st birthday in 1944. Of the 7 crew, the pilot and engineer were 22 years old and the rest were 21 years old. Sandy was the last of his crew. Sandy referred to himself as a devout coward, but what he did in the sky in WW11 was enough to earn him a Distinguished Flying Cross for valour, courage and devotion. He told that "you couldn't stop to mourn your friends because chances were you were going to join them next morning or next week".

When Sandy was discharged after WW11 he worked at his father's hotel for 2 or 3 years, he played football which helped him to recover from his extraordinary war experiences and he married Edith from Robe in South Australia in 1948. He then worked on a farm near the South Australian border before being allotted Soldier Settler Block 4 on the Moranghurk Estate at Meredith.

The land on Boundary Road was vacant, undeveloped and had had all the trees ripped off it. When Sandy arrived in December 1952 his block was covered in water and the site for the house was selected well back on the block because all in front of it was water. Edith and Jamie, 3 years old and baby Andrew came after Sandy had been at Meredith for a few months and the garage had been built for the family to live in.

They had 3 more sons after they came to Meredith, Craig, Michael and Peter. They became very involved in the community. Sandy started playing golf after they had been at Meredith for a few years and he encouraged Ede to play, offering to work around the house on golf days and to mind the boys while she played golf. Sandy told that there was a nucleus of RSL when he came to Meredith and that it became very strong when the Soldier Settlers came.

In the early days Sandy bought big merino rams that

threw the shearers out! He later crossed the sheep with Corriedale. The crossbred sheep cut more wool at slightly less value than merino, but paid well. Sandy never made a fortune, never went broke and was happy doing what he like doing.

They sold the farm in 1979 and moved to Curlewis. He felt Ede had given all her life to the country and deserved a few luxuries. Sandy continued to work on the farm for the new owners Gail and Keith Dempsey for a few years and enjoyed his golf at Curlewis Golf Club. Ede died in 2009.

When his son phoned him in 2011 to tell Sandy that he was taking him to France he was surprised but delighted. His Uncle Alexander John Concannon had fought at Gallipoli and was shot at Bullecourt in 1917. They visited his grave on Anzac Day. Sandy at age 88 years told that "it was the only thing in his life he had wanted to do but hadn't."

Sandy spent his last years at Mercy Aged Care at Marshall. His neighbour there who rarely spoke

acknowledged to the family that he was a thorough gentleman.



NOW We can Stop arguing

Finally, there is irrefutable evidence that global warming is real. Sitting in my shed last month (that's July, the middle of winter) a couple of flies popped in to see if I had any putrid flesh lying around. (I told them "No" but they insisted on checking for themselves.)

Flies in July?

Well, now that that is settled, let's move on to something that is not proven.

- Jim Elvey



CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

August 2020

Moorabool North Wind Farm

Progress to date

- Installation of all fifty (50) turbines complete
- Energisation of substation complete
- Energisation of one (1) turbine complete

Look ahead

- Ongoing commissioning of turbines

Moorabool South Wind Farm

Progress to date

- Installation of bottom tower sections (S1 & S2) completed at all 54 turbine locations
- Nine (9) turbines fully installed
- All access tracks, hardstands and substation complete
- Energisation of substation complete
- All turbine components have been delivered to site
- Three (3) Main cranes now onsite to support turbine installation

Look ahead

- Ongoing turbine installation works will continue
- Nightworks may take place as works progress
- Road maintenance and repairs will continue as we monitor on weekly basis
- Ongoing Mechanical and Electrical completion of turbines

Turbine Naming Competition

Congratulations to:

- Kate Bonar of Gordon Primary School, Gordon – Turbine Name = **CAPTAIN WIRLY WOO**
- Emmanuelle Fidler of St Brigid's Primary School, Ballan – Turbine Name = **LILLY**

Moorabool wind farm looks forward to welcoming the winners and members of the community to visit the turbines once construction is complete.

For Further Information about the project visit:

www.mooraboolwindfarm.com

www.mwftaffic.com or call

1800 019 660.



Image – Installation of Turbine 15 at MSWF



Images – Emmanuelle Fidler and Kate Bonar receiving their prize for being the winners of the Turbine Naming Competition

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

ANY

SYMPTOMS

GET

TESTED



It's important to get tested for coronavirus at the first sign of any symptom and stay home until you get your result. Getting tested means you keep yourself, your friends, family, workplace and your community safe.

It's not over yet.

STAYING

APART

KEEPS

US

TOGETHER

Find out where to get tested visit
vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS

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