

# Meredith & district News

Our FREE Community Newsletter since 1972

OCTOBER 2020



## inside

- Children's Week stuff.
- Help with endangered woodlands.
- Comment on Community Vision

...and the usual MUCH MORE!



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



# Cameron STEELE



**VOTE 1**  
Golden Plains Council Elections

Dear residents of Meredith and surrounds,

I am a candidate in this year's Council elections. Over the last four years I have closely followed the direction of our Council and attended the majority of its meetings. I have made submissions on a range of issues and I have gained a good understanding on what is working well and what needs improving.

On rates I have lobbied on behalf of residents:

- for a focus on rate relief
- for better rate equity
- for a rate freeze in this COVID year
- against increases in the municipal charge

I have sought greater protections for our;

- natural environment
- farmland
- open spaces

I have called for improvements in:

- governance
- community consultation
- budget transparency
- public input into planning decisions

And I spoke against the privatisation of Council services.

I am proud to belong to a group strongly advocating for one of Meredith's best natural features, the Moorabool River.

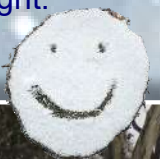
I want to be part of a positive, progressive and forward thinking Council - one that will have the skills and energy to manage a fast growing population while protecting the lifestyles we value so highly in the Shire. I welcome your support.

## A Fair, Balanced and Independent Voice for Residents

Authorised by Cameron Steele P.O. Box 12, Bannockburn 3331 Phone:0460503008 email: [cameronsteelegps@gmail.com](mailto:cameronsteelegps@gmail.com)



Peter Thomson, excited by finding his She Oaks home converted into a ski resort, couldn't resist. And snow on the banksia. Not a honey eater in sight.  
(Photos supplied by Kerry Thomson and Moya Elvey.)



# The VIRUS and us

## Well Done Regional Vics!



Spare a thought for our city cousins, but celebrate regional Victoria moving to Stage 3 restrictions. We have summarised the relaxed restrictions below:

- There are no restrictions on the reasons you can leave home.
- There are no restrictions on how far you can travel within regional Victoria.
- If you can work from home you must work from home.

You must wear a face covering when you leave home.

As restrictions ease it is important to stay safe. You can stay safe by:

- wearing a face covering when you leave home
- washing your hands regularly
- coughing and sneezing into your elbow keeping at least 1.5 metres distance from others

*This information is [dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus](https://dhhs.vic.gov.au/coronavirus) and was correct at the time of writing. For current and more detailed information, please visit the site.*



# THIS MONTH...

...tennis, golf and cricket are cranking up, Gemma reflects on you vs you, Wendy heads down to the frog pond, readers talk about their Covid experiences, Steve gets your pumpkin patch ready, we meet cocky Nigel and find out one of our goats is cultured after all. We all knew Victoria's longest serving premier comes from this district; Jan McDonald points out that, amazingly, so does the shortest serving premier. Of course, there is also (the usual) lots more! Stay happy, and enjoy the read.

## dear readers...

This month, we have gleaned some great tips from the web about staying positive during these extraordinary times. You will likely have heard them all before, but it is worth a revisit to sharpen the focus. So, here we go...

**Keep active** – when we are physically active, it keeps our bodies healthy, our immune system strong and our minds in tip top condition. Physical activity burns off stress hormones like cortisol so we feel calm, centred and energised. Make up a 20 to 30 minute routine that suits you - there's a lot of advice online for all abilities - and Just Do It!

**Immerse yourself in nature** – research shows that nature can have a healing effect on our minds and bodies. If you have a garden, you are in luck, because right now, you're needed out there! A walk in the beautiful bush around us or through the Police Paddocks will cut you loose from the day-to-day.

**Focus on the present** – our minds have a tendency to ruminate on the past, or fast-forward to the future, sometimes in a negative kind of way, especially during times of stress. An antidote is to intentionally focus on the present moment – by noticing what's happening in our minds, bodies and the external environment with an attitude of kindness and curiosity

**Laugh** - Laughing feels good, boosts our immune system and helps us keep things in perspective. Read a funny book or dig into the volumes of comedy clips online.

**Practice kindness** – in times of need, we often see the best of humanity as people dig deep to help others. Offer to pick up supplies for less mobile neighbours. Be extra kind to others in your house. Tensions can run high when we feel trapped inside. Make cups of tea, give hugs (if you're allowed to!), pay compliments. Reach out to friends and family and let them know you're thinking of them.

**Focus on what's good** - There is ample research to show that deliberately focusing on the good things in our lives - practising gratitude - can improve our wellbeing. It's easy to give in to our natural 'negativity bias' as our brains strive to protect us from harm, but we can counter that by deliberately focusing on what's good, even during challenging times.

Derived from Oldham College, UK.

SENDING YOU  
A SOCIALLY-  
DISTANCED HUG



# 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, Stefania Parkinson, Ian Penna, Mike Palmer, Sue Higgs and Alex Hyatt. 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](mailto: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](mailto:advertising@meredithnews.com.au)

**Accounts:** Mike 0419 307044

[accounts@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:accounts@meredithnews.com.au)

**Editorial:** Jim: 0409 163169

[news@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:news@meredithnews.com.au)

## WEB

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

## ONLINE PHOTOS

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

## DISCLAIMER

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

Issue Editor: Jim Elvey

# connect

ADVANCE  
MEREDITH  
5286 1291

ANGLING CLUB  
0419 248 660

B'BURN ART  
GROUP  
0410 808 483

BLUE LIGHT  
DISCO  
5286 1222

BOOK CLUB  
5286 8201

CFA  
000 for fire calls  
Elaine  
0409 861 296  
Meredith  
5286 1502  
Morrisons  
0417 770 765

CHILDCARE  
5286 0700

COMMUNITY  
CENTRE  
5286 0700

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

CUBS &  
SCOUTS  
Anakie  
52819497

ELAINE HALL  
0403 193006

FOOTBALL  
Seniors 0408 545  
246  
Juniors 0430 587 674

GOLF CLUB  
0407 795 342

HISTORY GROUP  
5286 8201

LANDCARE  
0409 862 326

MEMORIAL HALL  
5286 1545  
0409 662106

MEREDITH LIONS  
0491 061640  
0419 757965

MOTORCYCLE  
CLUB  
0437 009 250

PLAYGROUP  
5286 0700

POLICE  
PADDOCKS  
5286 1273

RSL - 5286 1452

SENIOR  
CITIZENS  
5286 8232

TENNIS  
Elaine  
0448 291 074  
Meredith  
5286 1211

SEW 'N' SEWS  
5286 0700

FRIENDS OF THE  
BRISBANE  
RANGES  
5286 1252

# 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

CEMETERY  
TRUST

5286 1550

HALL HIRE

Meredith Memorial

5286 1545

Elaine Mechanics

[elainetownhall@](mailto:elainetownhall@gmail.com)

[gmail.com](mailto:gmail.com)

Elaine Rec Res

5341 5703

LIBRARY VAN

5272 6010

MATERNAL &  
CHILD HEALTH

5220 7230

PRE-SCHOOL

5286 0722

PRIMARY

SCHOOL

5286 1313

RECREATION

RESERVE

0429 315 575

## ..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.



"A friend may well be reckoned the masterpiece of nature."

Ralph Waldo Emerson



## Community

### Council Elections

The Council Election Period commenced on Tuesday 22 September, 2020 and concludes at 6pm, Saturday 24 October, 2020.

Council has an Election Period Policy in place to ensure that the ordinary business of Council can continue throughout the election period in a responsible and transparent manner.

The Golden Plains Shire Council elections will be held by postal ballot. Ballot packs will be mailed out by the Victorian Electoral Commission to all registered voters from 6 October, 2020.

### ...and the candidates are...

(in ballot paper order)

GAMBLE, Gavin  
HARROP, Tim  
STEELE, Cameron  
ROWE, Les  
SHARKEY, Owen  
GILBERT, Joanne  
CUNNINGHAM, Brett  
HANSFORD, Nathan J.  
KIRBY, Helena Angela  
NYARY, Greg Greg  
WHITFIELD, Clayton  
GETSOM, Ian  
MAHON, Andrea

(from [goldenplains.vic.gov.au](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au))

### Whats on in October

We are Getting Online in October!  
Join us to win Prizes!

Is Your Child Travelling Safely? Book in for a Fitting Check!

Are you walking during Covid? You could help us win a Challenge!  
Give us a call to join in and help us win the inaugural Walktober!

[www.meredithcommunitycentre.com.au](http://www.meredithcommunitycentre.com.au)  
[learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au](mailto:learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au)  
[www.facebook.com/MeredithCommunityCentre](https://www.facebook.com/MeredithCommunityCentre)  
 4 Russell St. Meredith Vic. 3333 Ph. 5286 0700  
 Opening hours: Monday - Thursday 9am to 3pm - Friday Closed



### Warm Safe Home for older Victorians

Are you struggling to pay your bills?

A financial counsellor may be able to help you

To connect with a financial counsellor in your local area visit [warmsafehome.org.au](http://warmsafehome.org.au) or call

**1800 007 007**

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

# Recreation



## MEREDITH CRICKET CLUB: AGM AND UPCOMING SEASON

What a bizarre year this has been. So much has happened globally, and yet it's nearly time for cricket season again. Our First XI was disappointed to not play finals for season 2019/2020, as we were exceptionally strong in our competition and had a great chance to bring another premiership back to the MCG. We all hope that the 2020/2021 season will get underway relatively smoothly, so we can once again showcase the strength we showed last season.

Our Second XI had a mixed year; some weeks struggling to field a side, and other weeks putting a very strong team on the field. While we weren't in contention for finals when the season was cancelled, we feel that, with some more consistency in player numbers, we would have found ourselves right in the hunt.

AGM - On the 20th of July, the AGM was held at the Meredith Recreation Reserve, and the following executive positions were voted in:

PRESIDENT: Andrew "Soupy" Campbell  
 VICE PRESIDENTS: Shane Grinter and Craig Young  
 SECRETARY: Cam Boer  
 TREASURER: Jimmy Hay  
 MUSIC FESTIVAL DELEGATE: Joel Hart  
 JUNIOR COORDINATOR: Jimmy Hay  
 GCA DELEGATE: Chris Hart  
 PUBLIC OFFICER: Terry Hart  
 SOCIAL COORDINATORS: Aaron Hart and Joel Hart  
 OTHER COMMITTEE MEMBERS: Damien Brunt, Craig Whitehand, Kane Hart.

Congratulations to the incoming committee, we are all hoping to make this next season a success. Whatever the future holds, we will be sticking tight as a town and a club to get the best result we can.

### SEASON 2020/2021

We plan to field two sides again this season. Our First XI will compete in the Division 3 Seconds and our Second XI will compete in the One Day competition. At this stage, the season is looking likely to commence on the 31st of October, though this may change, depending on restrictions. The season format will be all one-day matches until Christmas, and likely to be one-day matches for the entire season, regardless of divisions or competitions. Given our issues last season with getting two teams on the park each weekend, we are confident that this format will suit us.



*We are always happy to welcome new players to the club, so if you are looking to play cricket this summer, get in contact with us and we'll get you involved with the club.*

## Meredith Tennis Club Social Night

The Meredith Tennis Club will be holding a social night on the 5th of November with the games starting at 6:30. All players of any level welcome. Enquiries to [meredithtennis2020@gmail.com](mailto:meredithtennis2020@gmail.com) or



## Our Cover

Our wintry cover photo was taken at the end of last month - 4 weeks into spring, when we received our second snowfall for the year. This was the more substantial, leaving a thick carpet of snow. (We even had to put the reader's hat and scarf back on.) Jim Elvey took the photo.



*Share your favourite pics with us. Contact details are on page 3.*

## 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](https://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



# MEREDITH GOLF CLUB



Now that COVID-19 restrictions have eased, why not learn to play golf, or brush up on your skills

Meredith Golf Club will be conducting 'Golf Clinics' for adults and children from 9:00 am on Sunday 25 October 2020 and continue for four Sundays.

Lessons last one hour and include golfing basics and some fun and games to test your existing skills and to refine your new skills.

Cost is only \$20 for the four lessons and there are discounts for family participation.

To register for these Clinics, call Peter Nemtsas on 0407 795 342



Buninyong & District Tennis Association

## ORANGE BALL COMP

Oct 10th 2020 - March 13th 2021

Registration Day Oct 10th

11am @ Buninyong Tennis Centre

- Suited to beginner players who are learning the game
- Recommended ages nine and under. (Age guide is flexible.)
- Reduced court size with lower net.
- Low compression balls.
- Easier scoring system.
- Dedicated facilitator will teach kids match play skills over the season.

Enquiries 0403 668 029

## A Flying Visit!

*Heather East*

A few weeks ago there were flying foxes feeding in the oak trees in Meredith.

Their visit may be of interest for locals so I have been in touch with DELWP in Ballarat, & will follow up their recommended contacts & information for further discussion about them.

Sadly my many attempts to photograph them has been very difficult.

Mother possum & baby were also in the oak tree one night.



## Look After Yourself

When it comes to getting active, the Heart Foundation recommends that we all aim to do:

- 150 minutes of moderate to vigorous intensity physical activity each week (at least 20 minutes a day)
- Muscle-strengthening activities on at least 2 days each week

Being active at these levels can reduce your risk of heart disease by up to 35%, boost your general health and your mental health.





## Peter Sharpe - a not so 'uncultured goat'

Readers of the Meredith Newsletter will recognise the name and know Pete's work as a cartoonist (P.S.) and as a writer (one of the two 'uncultured goats'). But, there is much, much more to him as a creative person, thinker, seeker of knowledge, historian and story-teller.

Born in Zimbabwe (formerly Rhodesia) to an engineering, English father and mother from Melbourne, his early life and experiences shaped his ideas and curiosity about the world. A trip to London as a five year old was memorable for the contrast to his known world - cold, grey, damp, city buildings versus blue skies and open spaces. When he was seven Pete was already acutely aware of having lived as a white person in a black country. Arriving in the middle of a winter night, Australia seemed more like England - dark and damp. He was told at this point that there were no aborigines in the city with school reinforcing this view: a view he is now confronting.

Pete quite liked primary school, where he could read what he liked and had free reign in the art and woodwork rooms. He hated high school and being told what and how to read and having to get specific answers. He followed advice in studying science which led on to Agriculture at Melbourne University. After working for a while, Pete travelled for a couple of years, especially through the Middle east. He assisted his travelling companions working on a plant collecting trip and many of their wheat and barley specimens have been preserved in the genetic conservation seed-bank. On this trip Pete whittled (in local wood) characters to represent the people he encountered.

In the early 1980s Pete's parents bought a hobby farm in Maude, which introduced him to this area but it wasn't until 1998 that he actually moved to Steiglitz himself. Prior to this he briefly attended art school in Geelong, but found it too formal and restrictive, though he did learn one thing which was that through art and creativity you could visually problem solve. He believes that necessity is the mother of creativity, because if you can't afford to buy something then you find a way to make it. His home is a testament to this philosophy with Pete's touches everywhere - from handcrafted cupboard handles, bath mats carved from

wood with designs inspired by the view of sand dunes out a plane window over the central Australian desert, through to the didgeridoo he carved from a local stringy-bark tree, or the range of wooden platters carved from the sound board of an old piano. Pete loves working with timber and metal (especially copper), putting his creative skills to repurposing, re-using and repairing. Making something in an aesthetic way is satisfying and bringing out the beauty of wood grain or texture is part of the joy of these materials.

Pete has developed a passionate interest in indigenous culture, history and heritage. He has never forgotten an indigenous woman saying to him, "In our culture everyone is an artist - be it through dance, song, language, play or painting." We can learn an enormous amount from such culture as art is a vital part of life, history and knowledge - it tells the story of that culture, reinforces traditions and solves problems by sharing details and information.

Writing, theatre and music are other areas of creativity for Pete, although he claims to play several instruments badly (recorder, violin, didgeridoo, piano). He has always 'doodled' - drawing caricatures and cartoons during lectures instead of taking notes! He admires Leunig for the range of material he covers. Pete finds cartooning easy and is inspired by his surroundings, reading, history, events and people around him.

Dogs, in particular Border Collies, have been a love of Pete's and led to an interest in animal behaviour. He trained one dog to ride a skateboard and he featured in TV commercials. A skit with 6 sheep and a dog which was



developed for the Mill Theatre Company in Geelong, led to an act which he took all over Australia (shows, schools, even a United Nations conference in Sydney!). This job was not only fun but also led to Pete being awarded "The National Busking Champion".

Pete's proudest, most meaningful and satisfying creative activity has been the rehabilitation of 200 acres of land in The Brisbane Ranges. Over twenty years he has gradually changed an area ravaged by mining, logging, over-grazing, weed invasion and total degradation back to its more natural state. A major task was clearing a mile-long length of creek infested with gorse extending 50m wide and 15ft high. He has only used local plants from the area itself and brought nothing in. This project will be Pete's lasting legacy. This 'caring for country' epitomises his belief that we should all be conservationists, that we should all be responsible for the land and that we can all be artistic or creative to help make a sustainable world.

*If you are a creative, and would like to share your story, please let us know. (Or maybe you know someone creative in the district.)*



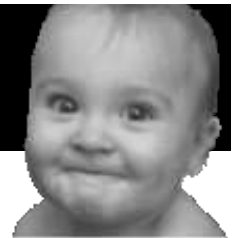
## Avian Flu in Golden Plains Shire

Agriculture Victoria has extended housing restrictions on domestic birds until October 19th after bird flu was detected at three local farms near Lethbridge.

However the restrictions ended on the 26th September for those outside the two kilometre buffer zone.

Visit [agriculture.vic.gov.au](http://agriculture.vic.gov.au) for up to date information.

# GO ON....SMILE!



We are here on earth to do good unto others.  
What the others are here for, I have no idea.

– W. H. Auden



**RV 5116 BALER**



- Vicon PowerBind net wrap system
- Large 2.2m Super Feed rotor pick up, hydraulic drop floor, auto chain lubrication



**800 SEED DRILL**



- 2.43m, 4mm thick disk blades
- Full length seed tubes and an 18-position T-handle press wheel to precisely control depth



**6 DISC LINKAGE MOWER**



- 2.40m working width, weighs 450kg
- Low HP requirement
- Compact build for smaller tractors

**Kubota  
DSX SPREADER**



- Accurate and consistent spreading pattern thanks to the Kubota Rota Flow system that features 8 vanes per disc that are easy to adjust
- Up to 54 meter spreading width
- 1875 litre base unit up to 4575 litre capacity, just add extensions

**Kubota  
M8540 DH**



- 84HP, 4 Cylinder engine
- ROPS tractor

**0.9%  
FINANCE\***

**POLARIS  
RANGER 1000 EPS**

- 24 HP, 2 Cylinder Petrol Engine
- Tilt Tray

**LAST TWO^**



\* terms and conditions apply, contact us for details. ^ stock levels may vary, contact us to check availability.



**"We Service What We Sell"**

12 Wiltshire Lane, Ballarat, Victoria, 3356 | t 03 5335 8609  
www.westag.com.au | facebook.com/westagballarat





Steve Duffy

## Can You Grow

### Meredith's **BIGGEST** Pumpkin?

Meredith News, with the support of Mr Fothergill's Seeds, present our community Challenge.

With the help of Meredith Primary School, Rosemary Gargan and Jim Elvey we have arranged a supply of Giant Pumpkin Seeds available through the Primary School. We encourage everyone to take part. Alternatively the "Max" Seeds can be ordered through the Mr Fothergill's Website or purchased at your local plant nursery or hardware store. The competition will run through the summer and entries can be entered at the school when fully grown. Judging will be in late March, 2021.

So get your garden beds ready, preparations include a well composted mound with fertiliser and plenty of water available. A sunny position is preferred. Plant into mounds, with plenty of space for the plants to spread. The seedlings should appear in about 7 days. When the pumpkins have got to cricket ball size thin them out, eventually you will have a plant with only one pumpkin, making sure you prune off any smaller ones and the longer trailing shoots. These instructions are on the seed packets.

Come on, join in this fun community activity, we look forward to getting many locals involved. We may not be able to get together much at this time, but this is something we can all join in.

Good planting- Steve



## **B&S** Stock & Pet Supplies

Cnr Milton & Burns Sts. Bannockburn

Phone 52 811 566

*We stock all your requirements including:*

- Horse Feed
- Molasses
- Dog & Cat Food
- Horse Shoe Nails
- Poultry
- Collars & Leads
- Bird Seed
- Supplements
- Pure Apple Cider Vinegar available
- Horse Rugs (all sizes)
- Double Horse Float Hire

Agents for Sureguard Solar Electric Fence Energizers

**Delivery can be arranged**

*Hours:- Mon - Fri 8.30am- 5.30pm  
Sat 8.30am-1pm*

*Please note - closed Sundays until further notice*

**Golden Plains  
Physiotherapy  
& Massage Clinic**



- |             |                                |                     |
|-------------|--------------------------------|---------------------|
| ➤ Remedial  | ➤ Chronic pain                 | ➤ Mobile service    |
| ➤ Sports    | ➤ Dry needling                 | ➤ Gift certificates |
| ➤ Pregnancy | ➤ Health fund rebate available | ➤ AAMT member       |

Also available at  
Corio Bay Health Group located in High St Bannockburn  
Phone (03) 5281 1016

[www.goldenplainsmassage.com.au](http://www.goldenplainsmassage.com.au)

**Phone 0418 798 608**

email: [goldenplainsmassageclinic@gmail.com](mailto:goldenplainsmassageclinic@gmail.com) located in Meredith





Independent and local, serving Meredith and district for 25 Years

## **A COMPLETE RANGE OF STOCK FEED & ANIMAL HEALTH PRODUCTS**

### **Wool Brokering Service**

- Auction & Electronic Marketing through WISS

### **Contract Fencing and Farm Services**

- Spreading, Sowing, Discing, Baling (Required seed/fertiliser available through store)
- Fence contracting per hour OR per metre (all materials available in store)
- 

**Transport** – Wool cartage from farm to preferred broker

WIDE RANGE OF **TANKS AND PLUMBING SUPPLIES** IN STORE

WIDE RANGE OF **PROTECTIVE WORK WEAR** IN STORE

PH **5286 1223**,

Find us on Facebook or Check Out Our Website! - [www.woolabrai.com.au](http://www.woolabrai.com.au)



little  
GEMS



### Stress for success

There is nothing wrong with a bit of healthy competition, as they say. Competition provides motivation, determination and drive to achieve your goal. But where there's competition, there's usually tears, tantrums, a less-than-humble winner, and a runner-up who is perhaps sat in a corner delivering a cuss-peppered soliloquy. And while competition with other people is usually a torturous affair, competition with oneself is nigh unbearable.

What do I constitute as being in competition with oneself, I hear you ask? Well, I suppose a slightly more optimistic person would call them 'goals'. I have learnt from past years that making New Years' resolutions are the guaranteed fastest way to disappoint yourself. That and the old 'I'll give up (insert vice of choice here) tomorrow'. So, in lieu of resolutions, I make goals. This isn't so much about giving things up, rather than taking things up for the betterment of my being. However, the element of sands slipping through the hourglass often turns these well-meaning objectives into a full-blown obsession, with not only meeting but beating the goal.

At the beginning of the year, my New Year's challenge was to read more books than I had last year. This number was determined by lists I'd kept during previous years and by the fact that I had a four-hour round-trip commute to work to knock them out in. However, that was back when the world was a predictable place, and I found that by then having to work from home, I quickly replaced those reading hours with television hours. Or hobby hours. Now with not that long left in the year (how!?), I am choosing thinner books in order to pick my numbers back up.

Likewise, I signed up for a charity walking month in September to motivate me to stay active and get away from my desk. 10,000 steps a day seemed achievable. However, what started as a way to raise money and force me to move, became a competitive obsession wherein I not only wanted to beat my team members, but to beat my own steps every day. Which, let's face it, was never going to happen.

However, with this need to beat myself, I'm finding that I'm losing the enjoyment of the ride in order to win against myself. Much like competition eaters who swallow their food at dangerous rates without savouring any of the flavour (and there won't be a chance to, the second time around, either), the scenery of a nice walk and the meaningful prose of a good book are being lost on me.

So really, when you're in competition with yourself, are there any winners? Because at the end of the day you know if you cheated, you know if you cut corners, and there's no escaping your own 'I'm disappointed in you' soliloquy.

Gemma

## Draft Community Vision Now Online

### Media Release

Following extensive consultation, the Draft Golden Plains Shire Community Vision 2040 is now available online, ahead of adoption by the next Council.

The Draft Golden Plains Shire Community Vision 2040 seeks to reflect the community's hopes, aspirations and priorities for the next 20 years. The draft document has been developed by the Community Vision 2040 Reference Group in partnership with Council, and has been informed by engagement with communities across Golden Plains Shire during 2020.

In February and March, 534 people took part in the Community Vision 2040 survey, which was an open engagement process conducted across the Shire. From the survey responses, the Reference Group created a framework for the Draft Community Vision, centred on four key themes: community; liveability; sustainability; and prosperity. These themes were then supported and expanded on with the creation of a number of Community Priorities and Vision Statements.

The Reference Group also conducted focused engagement on the Themes, Community Priorities and Vision Statements with Council and community stakeholders, resulting in a further 33 written responses. From this feedback, further refinement on the concept was undertaken by the Reference Group to produce the Draft Golden Plains Shire Community Vision 2040.

At its 25 August 2020 Meeting, Council formally received the Draft Community Vision document, and after thanking the Community Vision Reference Group and community members who took part in the consultation process, referred the Draft Golden Plains Shire Community Vision 2040 to the next Council to consider for adoption.

The Draft Golden Plains Shire Community Vision 2040 is now available on Council's website at [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations/golden-plains-community-vision-2040-0](https://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations/golden-plains-community-vision-2040-0).

"The Draft Golden Plains Shire Community Vision 2040 is a unique whole-of-community plan that aims to reflect local residents' aspirations about the future of our Shire and guide decision-making toward this vision.

"From the survey questions, to the identifying of key themes, and right through to the development of the draft document, this project has been led by members of our Community Vision 2040 Reference Group. I'd like to thank all members of the Reference Group for their dedication and passion in this process, as well as the more than 500 locals who took part in the survey.

The formal adoption of the Community Vision and any further engagement, will be a decision for the next Council following October's Golden Plains Shire Council election.

Released by: Eric Braslis, CEO, Golden Plains Shire Council  
Media contact: Susan Talpey, Coordinator Communications,  
Engagement and Advocacy, Golden Plains Shire Council  
P. 5220 7147 | M. 0421 923 399 | E.  
[susan.talpey@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:susan.talpey@gplains.vic.gov.au)



# MULCAHY & CO

*Helping committed clients achieve and maintain financial security.*

## Our Business Service Units:

Accounting

Agri Solutions

Financial Planning

Information Technology

Legal

Lending

Marketing



Our 12 Steps to Success

[www.mulcahy.com.au](http://www.mulcahy.com.au)

300B GILLIES ST N BALLARAT VIC 3355



P 03 5330 7200 E [info@mulcahy.com.au](mailto:info@mulcahy.com.au)

## Landholders Chance to Protect Endangered Woodlands

The Corangamite Catchment Management Authority is calling for expressions of interest from private landholders with Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands of the Victorian Volcanic Plains who want to protect and enhance this critically endangered community.

The Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands Stewardship Program provides a unique opportunity for private landholders to:

- Discover the plants and animals that live within Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands on their property.
- Learn how to protect and enhance this single ecological community through site visits, field days and workshops.
- Protect their Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands with financial support for a range of conservation management actions including fencing to enable management of stock, seasonal grazing management, ecological burning, and pest plant and animal control.
- Be supported by a network of experienced and knowledgeable organisations.

The Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands Stewardship Program targets the region east from Shelford to the western flank of the You Yangs, to Inverleigh in the south and Meredith to the north. Quality sites outside of the target area on the Victorian Volcanic Plains will also be considered.

“The Grassy Eucalypt Woodlands Stewardship Program is

an exciting opportunity to support landholders to protect and enhance this rare and beautiful ecological community,” CCMA Project Officer Jess Lill said.

Expression of interest are now open. To register, please visit <https://bit.ly/2R0QRrW>.

This project is supported by Corangamite CMA, through funding from the Australian Government’s National Landcare Program.

Media contact:

Olivia Brandimarti 0429 805 825

[Olivia.Brandimarti@ccma.vic.gov.au](mailto:Olivia.Brandimarti@ccma.vic.gov.au)

## TEST’N’TAG

All plug in electrical items can be tested and certified safe.

On-site or off-site testing. Reasonable rates.

Contact Meredith Maintenance  
(Licensed Tester)

**52861550 or 0427300742**





## Update on the Meredith Music Festival

Dear Resident,

The Meredith Music Festival will not take place this December.

This will be the first fallow year since the festival began in 1991.

I would like to thank the Meredith community for their continuing and incredible support, both now and over the years.

A decision on the Golden Plains festival, usually held each year on the March long weekend, hasn't yet been made, and we will be in touch with various local groups and residents before that happens.

In the meantime, any questions, concerns, or even ideas, you are very welcome to email [auntym@mmf.com.au](mailto:auntym@mmf.com.au).

With much love,

Auntie x



**Gavin Gamble**

for Golden Plains Council

### Golden Plains needs a Greens voice

- Action on climate change
- Responsible development
- Protection for biodiversity
- Cultural and wellbeing initiatives
- Township improvements

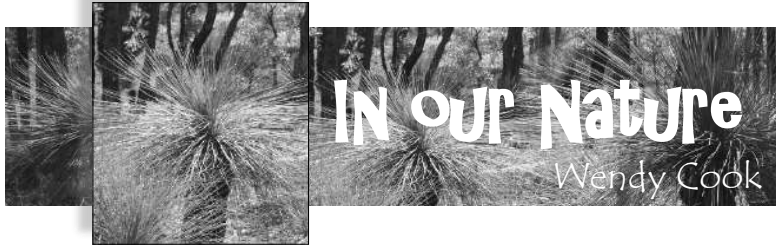
[Greens.org.au/gavingamble](https://greens.org.au/gavingamble)

Gavin Gamble  
is endorsed  
by the Greens

**Simon Plumbing and Gasfitting**  
1411 Highgate Road, Melbourne VIC 3000

- All General Plumbing and Gasfitting
- Backflow and Gaswork, Hot Water services throughout
- Split Systems, Air Conditioning and Floor Heating
- Drains, Sinks and Treatment plants
- Excavation, Retention and Trenching
- Rain water Tank installation
- Repairs and Extensions
- Gas connections and servicing

Simon McElroy  
Call 039455 1111 Free quotes, Fast and friendly service



In the dam is a band of percussionists, reaching peak diversity and volume after dark. There are clicks, creaks and rattles, each sound belonging to a different species of frog. One of the most easily recognisable is the eastern pobblebonk, also known as the banjo frog. It calls its name loudly and quickly, pobble, pobblebonk, pobblebonk, bonk, bonk. The spotted marsh frog sounds as if it is striking pebbles together, while striped marsh frogs make a noise like a tennis ball being struck. The voice of the common froglet imitates the sound of winding up a watch. Southern brown tree frogs make a continuous creaking call. Verreaux's tree frogs have a fast high-pitched 'weep weep weep' call, rather like a bird. Painted burrowing frogs rattle like one of the wooden instruments played by children, a hollow tube with ribs on the outside, along which a stick is scraped. The Victorian smooth froglet makes a high-pitched click, and if you are lucky enough to hear a deep growling call, it is a species endangered in Victoria, the growling grass frog.

While for us, it can be hard to distinguish individual calls in the cacophony, frogs have no such difficulty. All these sounds are the advertisements of male frogs, notifying females of their presence. As he calls, a thin sac of skin on his throat expands, so that his call is louder. He may also choose a location where his voice can reverberate off rock or an overhanging bank. The females are full of eggs and looking for a mate. Each listens carefully to the calls of frogs of her species, taking her time to select her preferred male. He may be the one with the deepest call, indicating that he is one of the largest males. When she approaches him, he jumps onto her back and hangs on, clasping her under the armpits or around the waist. In most species, the female is larger than the male, and often he has rough patches of skin on his feet to help him to stay on her back. The female carries him as she swims to a place where she wishes to lay her eggs. As she lays them, he releases sperm into the water to fertilise them. In some species, the eggs are laid in long strands. Others lay clusters of eggs, which they attach to vegetation. Some frogs allow their collections of eggs to sink to the bottom of the dam or stream. There are different strategies for producing the most surviving tadpoles. One species may lay only a few large eggs. Each egg will contain plenty of yolk to keep the developing tadpole fed, so it can stay inside and be well grown when it hatches. It will then have a better chance of escaping predators. Another species may lay large clumps of spawn containing many small eggs. Each egg contains only a small amount of yolk, so the tadpole will soon have to hatch to find food. Many will be eaten, but a few will survive.

The majority of tadpoles do not live to become adults. Fish, yabbies and birds all eat tadpoles. Those that live long enough to metamorphose into adult frogs face more predators when they leave the water. Here they become food for snakes, lizards, more birds and some mammals.

Tadpoles and frogs are also susceptible to pollution, including herbicides and pesticides used on farms. Throughout the world, frog populations are declining and sometimes becoming extinct, due to habitat destruction, climate change and infection by chytrid fungus, which infects the mouth parts of tadpoles and the skin of frogs. However, chytrid fungus does not seem to be a problem in the Meredith area. Although frogs do not survive in salty water, they can tolerate salinity better than the chytrid fungus can. Our soils and water are saline enough to kill the fungus, but not too salty for frogs to thrive.

If you have frogs calling from a creek or dam near you, and you are curious to know more about them, you can download the Australian Museum's FrogID app. Using it, you can record the calls of frogs that you hear, and they will be identified by the Museum's frog experts. The app also provides you with information about the frogs that have been identified, and any others you wish to learn about, including their calls, description, habitat and tadpoles. The scientists use the calls that you record to learn where different species of frogs are living, and to follow changes in their populations over time.



*Wendy*

## A.D.F.

AUTO DRIVE FENCING

For ALL your fencing needs

Town & Rural

Horse, Sheep & Cattle yards

Horse Shelters

Post & Rail

Electric fencing

Repairs & Maintenance

SPECIALIZING IN FAST

POST DRIVING USING THE LATEST  
MUNRO AUTO

DRIVER ON SIDE SHIFT

**Call Matt 0438 828 043**

# THE FARMGATE SHOP

MIDLAND HIGHWAY, ELAINE

- Lamb, pork and venison
- Seasonal, organic vegetables, including leeks, broccoli, cauliflower, swedes, carrots, radish, celeriac, fennel, tomatoes, potatoes, onions, basil, cucumbers, eggplant, sweet corn, chillies, lettuce and much more
- Goldfield and Meredith Dairy Cheeses, Inglenook Dairy milk and cream, Timboon Ice Cream
- Local olive oil and garlic
- Pure honey: redgum, greybox, clover, yellowbox and more seasonal flavours
- Homemade pickles, jams, marmalades and sauces
- Meatrubs, Gravy, Balsamic Vinegars, Salad Dressings
- Free Range Eggs
- Fresh Bread
- Smoked Trout, Smoked Eel, Smoked Salmon
- Cordials, Softdrinks
- Dry biscuits,
- Kookas Country Cookies

...and Much , Much More.

If we don't have it we are happy to get it in for you. Please ask a staff member.



WE WILL KEEP YOU FED!

## Your Local Grocery Store

Midland highway Elaine

Open 7 Days a week 9am -5:30pm

Ph 0432024509 or 0437358307

We are proud to be  
supporting local  
produce from Local  
Farmers &  
Producers

## Tadpoles in the Front Yard

*Marg Cooper*

When Emma, 11 years old, and Lachie, 7 years old, ventured out into their yard in their gumboots they were delighted to find tadpoles swimming in the pools of water in front of their new house in Mercer Street. They have just moved into the first house that is finished on the land between Mercer Street and the Midland Highway with their parents Ebony and Ben McAteer.

It was almost two years ago that they bought the half acre block. It is the biggest piece of land that they have ever owned although they have built houses in both Werribee and Bannockburn. They were attracted to the block on the corner of Mercer and McLeod Street because it had an established tree on it but that block had already been sold. They decided on a plan and secured a builder fairly quickly because they “had done it all before”.

They saw an empty block that was “full of possibilities” - a rock wall to create a patio, a shed for Ebony’s hobbies, an in-ground trampoline for the children, water tanks, a bee friendly garden where they can grow their own vegetables and fruit trees, ducks and chooks and room for the dog to run. They also have space around them.

Ebony says the family feels good and safe and are excited to be in their new home in Meredith. She can’t wait for things to open again. She already helps at St Joseph’s Church to organize baptisms. She is very interested in history and has observed that the culvert on the corner of their block “could be over 100 years old” and is collecting bits of china that could have come from a hotel on the land. She is a florist by trade and has many hobbies including book binding that she is keen to share with others.

The tadpoles are creating lots of interest at the moment but when they turn into frogs the pools of water need to be levelled, the piles of wet mud and clay shifted and the garden laid out. The house is finished but the yard still seems a bit daunting!

Welcome to Meredith.

## Tiptoe Through the Tulips

*Marg Cooper*

Jim Connell delights in the fact that many people stop when travelling through Elaine on the Mt Egerton Road to take photos of his bed of tulips. The flowers are big, standing up strong whilst displaying their brilliant colours (but mainly red and yellow). They are striking!

Liking colour around the house, Jim has roses along the front fence, plants two large beds of petunias in the front yard every year and has sweet peas growing on the side fence.

Jim set out the beds and cemented the edges and paths many years ago. He has a little tiller that he uses to prepare the ground. He has just planted a huge bed of Greenfeast Peas, he plans to give away the produce when they are ready, and soon he will plant Butternut and Queensland Blue pumpkins.

The garden also includes quince, apple, lemon, orange, plum and cherry trees. A work mate in Ballarat gave him a mature apple tree many years ago and asked him to dump it down the paddock. Jim planted it and each year it produces about 20 cases of 5 Crown apples. They are an old variety; a big sweet apple which Jim also gives away to his lucky friends.

Watch for the tulip display next year as Jim digs the bulbs up every two years and because the number of bulbs will have multiplied, he will have enough to fill two beds.



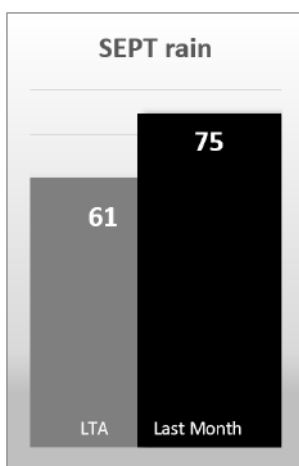
## You Could Have Predicted It!

We should have heeded Nostradamus’ technique: predict a lot of things and cast them well into the future. That way, you won’t be around to explain the ones you got wrong, and be admired for the few you got right.

Two months ago we were heralding an early summer on the back of two flies turning up in the shed. A week later, when the newsletter was published, it was a miserable day that even delivered a little snow. But nothing compared to last week, with a fall that carpeted the landscape, and decked the trees, making a magical transformation.

Perhaps we should update Aristotle’s warning: “Two flies do not a summer make.” - Ed.

## the rain and snow report



(Rainfall to 9.00am 27th September)




**coopelec**  
REC11582. Electrical and excavation contractors  
**Phone: 0417 518 930**

FOR ALL YOUR ELECTRICAL REQUIREMENTS

**MURRAY COOPER**

PO Box 267  
Buninyong, 3357

## Water Tank Cleaning

Have all mud and sludge removed from, your water tank and improve your water quality.

We clean all types of water tanks.

Removing all mud and sludge as well as washing the walls and floor clean.

## Otway Concrete Tanks

Concrete tanks, repairs & tank maintenance

PH: 0409 210 057

[www.otwayconcretetanks.com.au](http://www.otwayconcretetanks.com.au)



**CONNOR  
CONSTRUCTION  
AND DESIGN**

*Your registered building practitioner*

- ✓ New Homes    ✓ Designs
- ✓ Renovations    ✓ Planning
- ✓ Alterations    ✓ Consulting

Adam Connor | 0409 729 629 DBU 43290  
Connor Construction & Design CBU 51120





### PETE GOAT

The best live cultural experience I have had this month was the interview with Kerry Thompson and Mandy Hyatt. (It's fair to say there wasn't a lot of competition!)

Although we had all met before, we had never sat down together in this way, and it was such a good thing to do. And although I was very flattered to be asked of course, I'm going to say that I was reluctant to do it, but having written before about the value of our community publication and the importance of its contributors, it would have been hard to wriggle out of. And it's given me the idea that in due course the Uncultured Goats should interview these two very cultured and creative residents themselves!

So I would say to anyone else they approach to be interviewed: Do it, it's fun and Kerry and Amanda are so good at it. It's all part of how we learn about each other and our community's everyday culture.

*If you missed it, Amanda and Kerry's "Creatives" column, featuring Peter and his work, is on page 8 - Ed.*

### STEVE GOAT

To celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Sydney Olympic and Cathy Freeman's Gold Medal win in 2000, the ABC presented an inspiring Show about Freeman.

Firstly, let me say I was indeed surprised it was 20 years on. Secondly, if you missed it live, you can catch up with the Show on the ABC's iView streaming service. Not just a simple retelling of the facts, the program had a clever overlay of the fabulous Bangarra Dance Company, while Cathy reminisced about the training build up, pre-Games preparations and of course the race itself. Undefeated in the build up competitions, Freeman proved her talent and commitment.

A few years after 2000, she set up the Cathy Freeman Foundation. This non-profit organisation has worked with Indigenous children in the area of Education. Working in North Queensland and the Northern Territory, strengthening community and schooling with parents and children to broaden horizons. So far they have helped over 1600 indigenous children. Cathy Freeman has proven herself to be both a champion and role model for many, many people. We, as Australians should be proud of this softly spoken hero!



## If you don't buy it.....

*Meredith Cornell*

COVID-19 has been with us for some time now and almost feels like the new normal.

I am lucky enough to have a job where I can work from home.

On a daily basis I usually work with a team of up to ten great staff, who are spread across three locations, with two or three members at each office.

Since COVID-19 has impacted our lives, these sites are closed to the public and we are now working from home with occasional visits to the office.

For me, the change has brought some benefits – saving fuel, not travelling for up to two hours per day and to be able to walk out of the office at 5.05 and say hello to my partner and start tea.

The hard part is not having the physical interaction with the rest of the crew. Each day would start with a quick hello and a hug, and between calls and dealing with the public as they came through the front doors of the office, we would chat and exchange stories about life in general.

My cats have loved me being around as they can stay in all day and night in front of the fire during the coldest part of the year. They have grown quite fat and lazy so I will start to send them outdoors each day to play. My dog also thinks it is wonderful to have her owner home, so she can have a play during the day for a few minutes, instead of a rushed time as soon as I get out of the car each night.

I have learnt that if you don't buy it you can't eat it – this applies mainly to chocolate of course.

I have great admiration for those parents trying to juggle home schooling and their job at the same time. It would be very hard to achieve a fine balance and have a good outcome for either of these situations.

I am sure our new normal will slowly evolve. Hopefully I will start to travel to work and see all my friends and family soon.

COVID-19 has tested our patience and resolve but as humans, we will pull through and adapt.

## Walking the dogs

*Cheryl Lewis*

The reason that I started to walk my dogs around town was because they were digging in the backyard. I hoped that if they were able to go for a walk they would stop digging.

And they love going for a walk around town. They get so excited. They 'sook' at the back door and even come in and jump on the bed and give me kisses to wake me up so that I will take them for a walk. I like the social aspect of walking with the dogs as well. I meet and see people and they do also.

Sometimes it looks like they take me for a walk, me walking behind two strong, enthusiastic dogs, but they do obey orders to 'Stop' and 'Go!' And they have stopped digging in the backyard!

## LETHBRIDGE QUARRY

NORTH ALTONA ROCK BLASTING CO PTY LTD  
Lot 2 LOWER PLAINS ROAD LETHBRIDGE

OFFICE: (03) 5281 7190

PAUL: 0429 361 378

### OPENING HOURS:

Monday to Friday 7:30am-4:00pm  
(Saturday by appointment)



FOR ALL YOUR CRUSHED ROCK NEEDS  
FROM A TRAILER FULL TO A TRUCK LOAD

email: northaltonarock@bigpond.com

Note: No credit given and no EFTPOS on premises

## ELAINE EXCAVATIONS PTY. LTD.

CONTACT Warwick Mob. 0408 508 303

pitcherindustries@bigpond.com

A.H 03 53 420329

FAX 03 53 420387



\*Excavation Work  
\*Site Leveling \* Driveways  
\*Dam Digging & Cleaning  
\*Demolition Work \*Drainage Work  
\*Septics \*Rubbish Removal

Scraper, 4.5 & 10 Tonne Excavator  
Traxcavator, Grader, Bobcat,  
Lazer Equipment, Under - Road Borer  
Tip Trucks & Trailers,

**\*Free Quotes**

**GIVE US A CALL!**



## ELAINE FARM SUPPLIES

5264 Midland Hwy Elaine

Phone: 03 5341 5665



**For all your Pet, Livestock and Rural Supplies**

**We stock all your requirements including**

- \* A Large Variety Horse Feed
- \* Natural Herb and Mineral Supplements
- \* Poultry and Bird Feeds
- \* Dog & Cat Food
- \* Guidar, Vaccines & Drenches
- \* Pasture Seeds & Fertilizers
- \* Shearing Items
- \* Electric and Rural Fencing Supplies
- \* Farm & Garden Chemicals

**Normal Trading Hours Monday - Friday 9am - 5.30pm**

**Saturday 9am - 1pm**

**Come in and Visit us for store specials**

# Children's Week 2020



## Media Release

Golden Plains Shire Council is once again proud to deliver an exciting Children's Week celebration next month.

Children's Week is a national event held every year during October, giving families and community members the opportunity to recognise the talents, skills, achievements and rights of children. This year, Children's Week runs from 24 October to 1 November, with its theme celebrating the right of all children to choose their own friends and safely connect with others. This is based on Article 15 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

While the COVID-19 pandemic will prevent Council from holding its usual in-person event, Council's Child and Family Services team will run free remote activities families can participate in from home: DIY friendship bracelets and online interactive playgroup sessions.

**Friendship Bracelets** Children can get creative from home and make a friendship bracelet for themselves or to share with a friend or family member. A limited number of free bracelet making kits are available and can be sent to families or collected from Council's Customer Service Centre in Smythesdale at 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale or the Bannockburn Family Services Centres at 2a Pope Street, Bannockburn. This activity is suitable for children three years and older, and will be available for collection or delivery from 12 October, 2020.

**Interactive Playgroup** Families are invited to join the Golden Plains Early Years team for three fun and interactive playgroup sessions during Children's Week. The playgroups will be held over Zoom from 10.30 to 11.15am on Monday 26, Wednesday 28 and Friday 30 October, 2020. The playgroups will include different activities for children and families to follow along to from home, including stories by the Geelong Regional Library Corporation, singing, fun, play and even a bit of magic. Participants will receive a Zoom link and activity sheets ahead of the sessions.

Families can register for the bracelet kit and interactive playgroups by visiting [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/events/childrens-week-0](https://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/events/childrens-week-0), emailing [earlyyears@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:earlyyears@gplains.vic.gov.au) or calling 5220 7230.

Mayor Cr Owen Sharkey says this year's Children's Week will be a bit different but still a great opportunity for young families in Golden Plains Shire to have fun and celebrate children.

"Council is proud to once again offer some exciting Children's Week activities. Our Child and Family Services team has done a fantastic job adapting to this year's changed circumstances to still put these fun events that can be done from home.

"The friendship bracelet kits and online playgroups, along with the reopening of playgrounds, skate and bike parks, will I'm sure ensure a fun-filled Children's Week for Golden Plains families."

For more information, contact Susan Talpey, 5220 7147, 0421 923 399 or

## The Pet Puzzle

How many pets can you find hidden in this word puzzle? The letters have to be in a straight line, but they can be up and down or sideways. They can even be backwards! You can also use the same letter twice. An answer is on page 24. We found some, like "worm" (surely, someone has a pet worm) that aren't on this list. Have fun. And don't forget to feed them.



Y	P	P	U	P	N	E	T	T	I	K
S	N	A	K	E	L	I	Z	A	R	D
G	N	I	L	K	C	U	D	C	E	O
E	S	E	S	I	O	T	R	O	T	G
S	I	L	K	W	O	R	M	S	S	E
P	I	G	D	C	G	O	A	T	M	L
G	O	L	D	F	I	S	H	I	A	O
E	L	T	R	U	T	H	C	B	H	P
E	S	R	O	H	B	E	C	B	E	D
P	O	N	Y	P	P	U	G	A	R	A
E	S	O	O	G	F	E	R	R	E	T



## BANNOCKBURN EARTHWORX

FOR HIRE WITH OPERATOR:

Cat traxcavator with skid steer (bobcat)  
and Cat 3 tonne mini excavator

**Tom McBride**

**OWNER/OPERATOR**

Ph. 0435 892471

[tommcbride10@hotmail.com](mailto:tommcbride10@hotmail.com)





## Bannockburn Pharmacy

6 High Street  
 Bannockburn VIC 3331  
 Ph: (03) 5281 1519  
 Fax: (03) 5281 1450  
 Email: [bannockburn.pharmacy@nunet.com.au](mailto:bannockburn.pharmacy@nunet.com.au)  
 Owners: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

### Opening Hours

**Monday – Friday:** 8:30am – 6:30pm

**Saturday:** 8:30am – 1:00pm

Sunday & Public Holidays: Closed

## Pharmacy Features

### \* Professional

#### - **Vaccination Clinic**

- Free Blood Pressure Testing
- Diabetes Australia (NDSS) Agency
- Home Medicine Reviews
- Webster-paks
- Free Prescription filing service
- Free Prescription reminder service (**medAdvisor**)
- Extensive range of Vitamins & Supplements
- Medela Breastpump Hire
- Hiring of crutches
- Weight Loss products
- **Ear & Nose piercing**

#### - **FREE Home Delivery Service** to:

- o Bannockburn
- o Teesdale/Shelford
- o **Inverleigh**
- o Lethbridge
- o Batesford

### \* Other Products & Services

#### - **Loyalty Program**

- \* **FREE** to join
- \* 5 cents for every \$1 spent on non-prescription products is added to your loyalty (no expiry)
- \* **20% Discount off gifts ALL YEAR**

#### - **Baby Club**

- \* **FREE** to join
- \* **\$5 bonus** when joining
- \* 10 cents for every \$1 spent on mother & child products is added to your loyalty (no expiry)
- \* **20% Discount off gifts ALL YEAR**

#### - Extensive **GIFTS** to choose from, including:

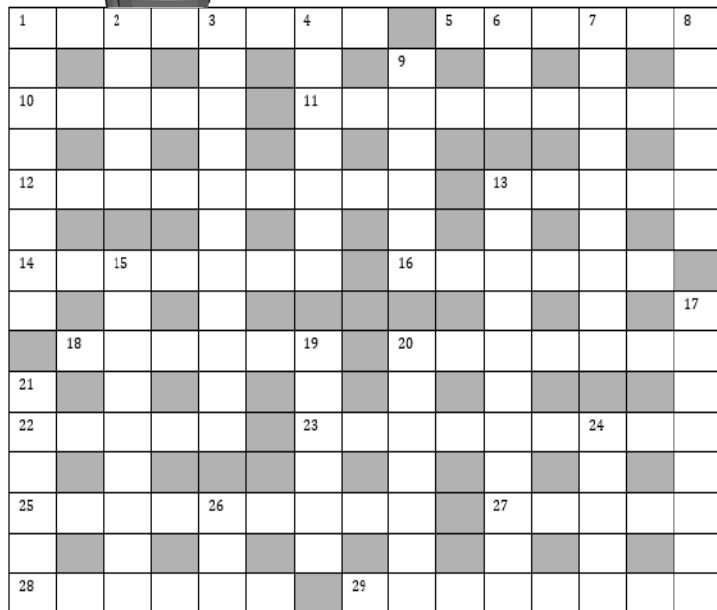
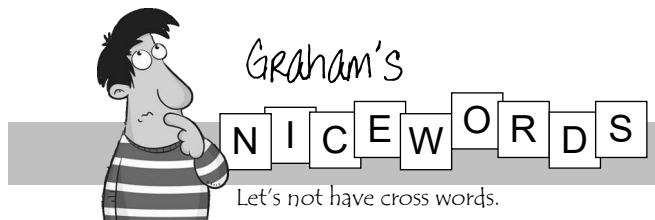
##### \* **Glasshouse & Circa Home**

- \* Handbags & Wallets
- \* Jewellery
- \* Robert Gordon
- \* Fragrances
- \* Aromatherapy & Wellbeing
- \* Infants & children's gifts

#### - **afterpay** available

- Roogenic Tea stockist
- Passport Photos (Australian & International)
- MooGoo products
- Natio
- Nude by Nature
- Sukin Organic Products

Follow us on **Facebook** and be kept up to date  
[www.facebook.com/bannockburnpharmacy](http://www.facebook.com/bannockburnpharmacy)

**ACROSS:**

- 1 Multicoloured toy bearing (!) a nickname for the girl's name Meredith (4,4)  
 5 \*G.P. township at the end of Farmgate and sprinter's track, we hear. (6)  
 10 \*Change form of speaking further on phone! (5)  
 11 \*Possible meaning of Meredith, say, "Mighty praise" (5,4)  
 12 Provided organ in middle of performance (9)  
 13 \*Torch for the ear is a natural gift (5)  
 14 Take off with stomach muscles a fair bit out of condition (7)  
 16 Causing to bring up food from the rear had me twitch (6)  
 18 Discovers that Lethbridge starter wins (6)  
 20 \* Ardern. Yes, in German, reporting Ash (7)  
 22 \*Radio receptor of an area (5)  
 23 \*Broods in copper Pindone doses, say (9)  
 25 \*Second class road banned, we hear, from high-speed internet access (9)  
 27 Ham e.g. for one of the cast (5)  
 28 \*Had to have worked for bread, as the saying goes (6)  
 29 \*Nazi emblem was creatively added to State seal (8)

**DOWN:**

- 1 Tommy Little e.g. firm and mean (8)  
 2 Meredith \_\_\_\_\_ & Pet Supplies sent back some irregular urban stock (5)  
 3 I have Labour represented as model of behaviour (11)  
 4 Enraged? Yes, upset! (7)  
 6 In Genesis a patriarch's destiny (3)  
 7 Island of Italian ordered into seclusion (9)  
 8 \*2 dn. real estate company's whispering trees (6)  
 9 Part of compass showing NE bearing one degree, then 90 degrees to the East (6)  
 13 Vegetables cooked whole: haricots? (6,5)  
 15 Packer's News: goat and rabbit taking over run (9)  
 17 \*Appropriate bottom sounded in ancient seaport in Israel (8)  
 19 Rotate a lumbar segment of the backbone (6)  
 20 \*Crow-like bird calling: "Raise door!" (7)  
 21 Element of diamond. Do you want a copy too? (6)  
 24 Italian for all. Sign of censure. It's retro! (5)  
 26 Singular of dice? Pass! (3) (This is an example of next month's play: Synonyms.)

**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](http://meredithnews.com.au/extras).

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

Today's cryptic play introduced is **HOMOPHONES** (Sound-alikes).

Thirteen homophone clues below are marked \*.

E.g. Clue: \*It comes down from heaven, as a rule, we hear. (4) Solution: **Rain** (Sounds like reign = rule). Homophone indicators which are underlined in the clues today are words of speech and hearing: sounds like, we hear, to the ear/ auditor ... say, said, expressed, reported, broadcast, on radio, voice...

See [meredithnews.com.au/extras](http://meredithnews.com.au/extras) for more details and other cryptic plays.

**SOLUTION**

**Solutions Across:** 1. Care Bear 5. Elaine 10. Morph 11. Great Lord 12. Deliverer 13. Flair 14. Abscond 16. Emetic 18. Learns 20. Jactanda 22. Areal 23. Incubates 25. Broadband 27. Actor 28. Needed 29. Swastika  
**Down:** 1. Comedian 2. Rural 3. Behaviour 4. Angered 6. Lot 7. Isolation 8. Elders 9. Needle 13. French beans 15. Steve Dore 17. Caesarea 19. Spinal 20. Jackdaw 21. Carbon 24. Tutti 26. Die

BUDGIE  
 CAT  
 CHICKENS  
 DOG  
 DUCKLING  
 FERRET  
 GOAT  
 GOLDFISH  
 GOOSE  
 GUPPY  
 HAMSTER  
 HORSE  
 KITTEN  
 LIZARD  
 MICE  
 PONY  
 PUPPY  
 RABBIT  
 SILKWORMS  
 SNAKE  
 TADPOLE  
 TORTOISE  
 TURTLE

**The Pet Puzzle**

Here are some of the pets you may have found on page 22.





**MORTIMER  
PETROLEUM**

**MEREDITH  
ROAD HOUSE**

## 45Kg GAS BOTTLES

ONLY

**\$88**

...with **FREE** delivery  
and **FREE** rental

phone the Road House on **5286 1556**  
to place your order

### **BULK FUEL** Phone David Mortimer **0418 524219**

- Addblue 1000lt delivered free \$770.00
- Addblue 220lt delivered free \$187.00
- Diesel exhaust fluid, 200lt drum oil also available

SERVICING Gheringhap, Bannockburn, Teesdale, Inverleigh, Lethbridge, Meredith, Steiglitz, Anakie, Geelong, Bellarine Peninsula, and more.

Mon to Thurs 6am to 7pm  
Fri 6am to 7.30pm  
Sat 7am to 7.30pm  
Sun 8am to 7 pm



CENTRAL HIGHLANDS  
**ANTENNA  
SERVICE**  
PTY. LTD.

Master Technician with 35 years industry  
experience and service to the region

- Digital antenna systems
- Satellite/VAST systems
- Metro & Regional Reception
- On site Signal tests & quotes
- Home Theatre, DATA & Phone
- Friendly Service, Advice & 5 year warranty

**Frank Schaefer**

53334441 or 0418508524 anytime

[www.chantenna.com.au](http://www.chantenna.com.au)



**Country to  
Coast  
Electrical**

R.E.C. 14586

**All Types of Electrical Installations  
Pensioner Discounts and Free Quotes**

**Mob. 0419 504 297**

Shaun Bubb

email: [shaun.bubb@bigpond.com](mailto:shaun.bubb@bigpond.com)

66 Brunel St. Lethbridge 3332



## Marg's BOOK REVIEW

### “The Snow Geese” by William Fiennes

William Fiennes was inspired by the book, “The Snow Goose” by Paul Gallic which tells of an injured snow goose carried across the Atlantic by a storm as it flew south to escape the Arctic winter. A man living alone in an abandoned lighthouse in Essex tends to the snow goose.

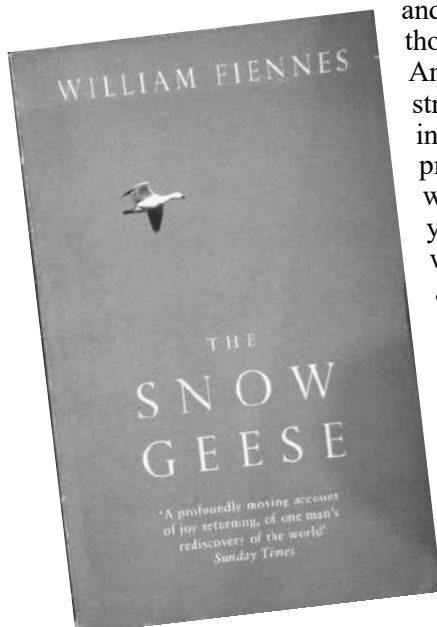
Snow geese spend their summers in the Canadian Arctic. Each Autumn they migrate south to California and the Gulf of Mexico. In the Spring they fly north again. William Fiennes decided to go with them and to write about their travels.


Fiennes was also desperate to get away from his home and desperate for an adventure that would fill his time and interests while he recuperated from a serious illness. He had been immersed in everything that was familiar to him and he was hungry for the new, for freedom, for uncharted country.

What he produced was a blend of autobiography and reportage. The subject was always the migration of the geese but he has included observations and insights about people he met and places he visited, meditations on philosophy and especially the nature of homesickness and what he learnt about nature. It is also full of fascinating insights into the graceful and evocative birds.

The book is also full of elegant prose. Throughout the book Fiennes describes places, people, situations and birds and their particular characteristics. “I lifted myself up in my seat and looked back down the bus at people sleeping, the Greyhound a gallery in which diverse attitudes of repose were on display; heads tilted back, mouths agape, necks limp, cheeks on shoulders, couples slumped together, all lit up when the Americruiser cruised through concentrations of streetlights at the intersections, and all eyes closed but for those of the two white bearded Amish elders, who looked straight back at me with the inscrutable, wild gaze of prophets.” He describes so well and in such detail that you feel you are in the place with him.

This is an absolutely beautiful book. Fiennes evokes the joy of being alive, of being on the move and above all, of returning home. His aim is to also return home to his pre-illness life.





## Part of Your Community.

Inverleigh resident and  
Funeral Director,  
Ebony Hovey can assist you  
with your enquiries and  
funeral care needs.

Ebony is available to  
guide you through  
funeral planning  
and arrangements  
as well as provide  
obligation free funeral  
advice and information.

*...for a life worth  
celebrating.*

# Tuckers

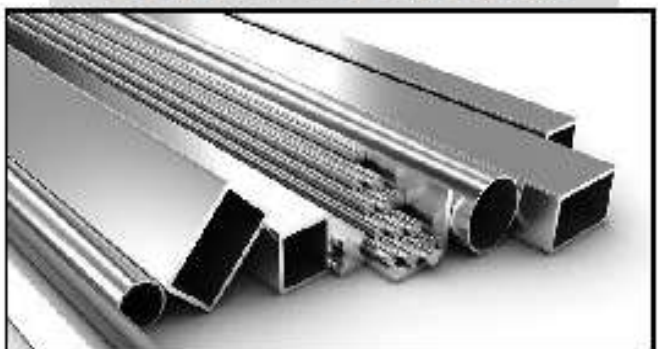
Funeral & Bereavement Service

[www.tuckers.com.au](http://www.tuckers.com.au) 5221 4788

IF YOU NEED ALUMINIUM, GO TO...

## JUST ALUMINIUM

19 BIRKETT PLACE, SOUTH GEELONG



**FULL RANGE OF EXTRUSIONS & SHEET**

Deliveries to Ballarat via Midland Highway  
on Tuesdays and Fridays

**Phone: 5222 5444 Fax: 5222 2788**

# Judy Hullin

**Civil Celebrant**



- ♦ Wedding Ceremonies
- ♦ Funerals or Celebrations of Life
- ♦ Naming Ceremonies
- ♦ Commitment Services

All ceremonies are unique and memorable and your guests are an integral part of the special service. Your special day is all about you.

**Mobile:** 0407 226 544

**335 Pioneer Ridge Road, Meredith, 3333**

**Internet:** [judyhullin@ipstarmail.com.au](mailto:judyhullin@ipstarmail.com.au)

**Web:** [www.judyhullin.com.au](http://www.judyhullin.com.au)

## IS YOUR SOLAR FEED-IN TARIFF BEING CUT BACK?

GIVE US A CALL AND GET THE RIGHT ADVICE ABOUT  
HOW YOU CAN FIGHT BACK AND CONTINUE TO  
MAXIMIZE THE ECONOMIC BENEFIT FROM YOUR  
SOLAR POWER SYSTEM.



**BREAZE  
ENERGY  
SOLUTIONS**

Solar Power (with Batteries) Solar & Heat Pump Hot Water  
On-Grid & Off-Grid Domestic & Commercial

**[energysolutions@breaze.org.au](mailto:energysolutions@breaze.org.au)**

**03 4309 4027**

## BANNOCKBURN SURGERY

16 High Street Bannockburn VIC 3331

Tel: 03 5281 1481 Fax: 03 5281 1978

[www.bannockburnsurgery.com.au](http://www.bannockburnsurgery.com.au)

Dr Cameron Profitt

Dr Andrew Bell

Dr John Henderson

Dr Benjamin Fry

Dr Margaret Somerville

Dr Samantha Buchholz

Dr Carolyn Grigg

Dr Rupali Jain

### COVID 19

During these times our practice opening hours vary significantly. Please phone the clinic or book online for all available appointments.

Bannockburn Surgery is a fully accredited medical practice that provides comprehensive GP services and has been practising in the community for more than 30 years. Bannockburn Surgery is the largest practice in the shire.

We are an accredited teaching practice, training future GPs. Our current Registrar doctor is

**Dr Veronica Stubbs**

We also offer the following services

Diabetes Education: Jessica O'Shannassy

Podiatry: Peter Angelucci & Stephanie Bennetts

Speech Pathology – Ceri Webb

Q fever (Testing & Vaccines)

Yellow fever (Vaccine)

Visiting Specialists

Orthopaedic Surgeon: Dr Chatar Goyal

Gynaecologist: Dr Saj Rathnyake

**New patients welcome**

## Nigel the Cockatoo

Marg Cooper

Although Nigel can't fly anymore he has landed on his feet! He has a new home, is receiving heaps of attention and is becoming a local attraction.

It is believed that Nigel was born along the Murray River, he was bitten by a snake which caused half of his left wing to rot away and he was rescued. A Meredith family cared for Nigel, but because they couldn't give him all the attention he needed they offered him to Daniel McDonnell.

Nigel has quickly become a member of the McDonnell household. He is never caged but has various perches. Because he can't fly, when he moves from a perch he "falls with style"! Most of the day he spends with Daniel in his shed, but if it gets too noisy or dusty he goes outside where he often calls up a few local cockatoos for a social occasion.

He eats meals with the family and especially likes butter and plum jam on toast. If he's being a bit picky he scrapes the butter and jam off with his sharp beak and leaves the toast.

He loves travelling in vehicles and is most vocal when travelling in the ute. Most of the time Daniel can understand words but sometimes he goes off on a tangent and it sounds as if he's rapping. If Daniel is not taking notice of him he pecks his hand, asking for a pat. Daniel tells that he has become "clingy" with his wife Bianca, but their two boys are still scared to get too close in case he pecks them.

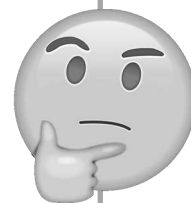
Nigel often visits Steel Art and can be seen perched on Daniel's shoulder. Visitors are intrigued!



As I sat, strapped in my seat waiting during the countdown, one thought kept crossing my mind .....

every part of this rocket was supplied by the lowest bidder.

-John Glenn, astronaut



**Trust  
Australia's  
largest LPG  
supplier...**



**Elgas is a local business,  
run by local people  
offering LPG for your home**

**Elgas Welcome Package**  
**OPEN NEW ACCOUNT &  
RECEIVE \$80 WORTH OF  
LPG GAS ACCOUNT CREDITS\***

\*For all terms and conditions see website [www.elgas.com.au](http://www.elgas.com.au)



©2019 ELGAS LTD.

**Give Elgas a call and get friendly  
reliable service in your area**

**131 161**  
[www.elgas.com.au](http://www.elgas.com.au)

**ELGAS**

- Digital antenna installation
- 3G & 4G cellular antennas
- Wi-Fi access points
- Satellite installation
- Audio/visual installation



***Totally Antennas***

Everything you need connected in a modern home

**Justin Brearley 0412 076672**

# GARGAN WATER CARTAGE

water tanks,  
swimming pools

Can't get it in?

Don't want a Big Tanker?

Call Andrew Scott

**0428 301 701**

Drinking water only



## JOSIES CONCRETING & Excavation Work



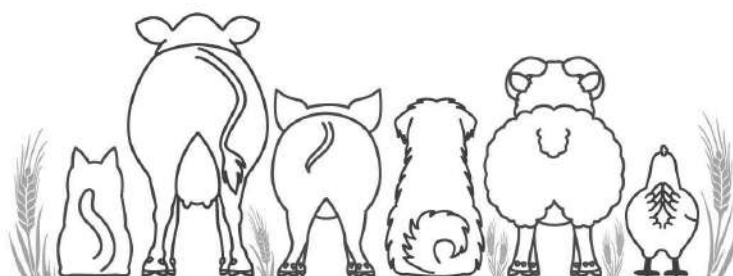
Colin Jose

Garage floors • Foundations  
Paving • Driveways • House slabs • Free quotes

**MOBILE 0412 402 924**

Super Lime Gypsum    **Harbour Spreading**    Manure Urea  
Buy Direct    Grain Cartage

DAVID: 0409 579 178  
Len 0439 749 286    GPS    Eliesha 0418 223 618



## Golden Plains Animal Hospital

Veterinary care for your family pets when you need it

### Opening hours:

Monday to Friday: 8:00 am to 6:00 pm

Saturday: 9:00 am to 5:00 pm

Emergencies: 24 hours a day

**Appointments: 5281 2226**

**212 Milton Street Bannockburn Vic 3331**





Healthy easy and delish

## Kay's Delicious Chocolate Chip Cookies

Makes 20

Prep time 15 mins & Cook 12 mins

### Ingredients

- 1 ½ cups self-raising flour
- 1 cup castor sugar
- 4 ounces softened butter (approx. 125g)
- ½ tin condensed milk
- 1 packet milk, dark or white choc chips

### Method

- Pre heat oven to 160 fan forced. Line two trays with baking paper.
- Using an electric mixer, cream the softened butter and sugar until very pale and creamy.
- Slowly add the condensed milk and mix until well combined.
- Add the sifted flour and stir to combine. Add milk, dark or white choc chips or a combination of them all! Stir gently until combined.
- Place tablespoons of the mixture onto lined trays leaving space in between each to allow for spreading while baking.
- Bake for 10 – 12 minutes or until desired golden colour is reached. (Less baking makes for a chewy cookie, while longer baking makes for a crispy cookie). Allow to cool on a wire rack.

Recipe from – Kay McKnight, Ballarat

Stefania

## 100 Year Old Mother

Marg Cooper

Ivy Dick celebrated her 100th Birthday on July 7, 2020. A party was held in the dining room at Bannockburn Aged Care, where she has resided for the last four years, but only one visitor was allowed because of Covid 19 restrictions. Her son Stewart, who lives in Meredith, celebrated with her and helped her to cut the three cakes decorated as the three numbers, 100. He said that her room was full of flowers, balloons and decorations.

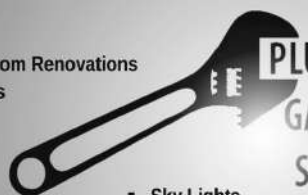
Ivy was working in the canteen at Bletchley Railway Station when she met Tom Dick who was then a Corporal in the RAF. They later met at a dance, their romance blossomed and they married in 1941. They had a daughter and a son. Their daughter and her husband emigrated to Australia first and then Stewart emigrated in 1965. Because he was under 19 years of age he flew for free. He can't even claim to be a £10 Pom! Ivy and Tom Dick followed their children, arriving in 1967. They first rented and then bought a house in Richmond and Tom worked for the Local Authorities Superannuation Board. Later they moved to a unit at Hoppers Crossing.

Stewart has had many jobs and has travelled extensively. He travelled around Australia with "the blokes next door" soon after he came to Australia, he travelled back to England twice, following "affairs of the heart" and on his return in 1976 came overland across Europe and Asia by bus and train. He tried hitch hiking but often a lack of communication meant that he didn't get where he wanted to get to. He did hitch hike from Perth to Melbourne and he tells that that was easy in those days. He also worked in outback Western Australia looking for samples of chromite. It didn't seem like an adventure to him because so many others were doing what he was doing!

After a few years living in New Zealand and a marriage breakup he moved back to Victoria, studied horticulture at Burnley College and set up his own landscaping business. After a visit to the nursery at Ascot on Good Friday 2012 he travelled back to Werribee via Meredith. He bought a hamburger at the Corner Store and looked at the advertisements in Frank Parnell's window for real estate. He had just sold his house in Werribee and wanted to move to the country. He missed buying a half acre block on Ballan Road but bought 4 Mooney Street at Auction.

Meredith was only an hour's travel to Hoppers Crossing where he visited his mother two or three times a week. Her eyesight was deteriorating and although she had many services including meals on wheels he helped her to stay in her own unit. So, he was flabbergasted when she announced that she would like to go into a home for the aged. Estia Bannockburn has suited them and although Stewart can't visit her at the moment he phones her. He has to do all the talking now and his 100 year old Mum has become the listener. Laughing, he says it used to be the other way around!

- Complete Bathroom Renovations
- Rain Water Tanks
- Storm Water
- Roofing
- Irrigation
- Gas Fitting
- Gas Appliance Servicing
- Solid Fuel (Wood) Heating
- Evaporative Air-conditioning



- Sky Lights
- Solar Hot Water
- Hot & Cold Water Supply
- Sanitary Plumbing
- Drain Blockage Clearing
- Drain Pressure-Jet Cleaning
- Septic Systems
- Sewerage

call Nathan  
0408 996 721  
nathanlepage@hotmail.com

Based at  
Meredith

QUALITY  
WORKMANSHIP

'

**& CANVAS**

Servicing the Golden Plains and Geelong Areas

**Over 30 years Experience in the Motor Trimming Industry**

No matter what your project is - Car Interiors , Boat Covers and Interiors, Caravan Awnings and Interiors, Ute Tonneaus, Trailer Covers, General Machinery Covers, General Upholstery, Horse Floats and Plane Interiors are just some of the areas I can help you with.

GIVE ME A CALL FOR A QUOTE AND FRIENDLY SERVICE

**Vin Drew**

Mon to Fri 8.00 am to 4.30 pm Sat 9.00 am to 11.30 am

29 Burrows Rd, Lethbridge

Ph 0439 967830

After Hours by Appointment Only



**SOUTHERN  
GRAIN** STORAGE  
PTY. LTD.

**BULK & BAGGED FERTILISER GRAIN PASTURE SEED SEED CLEANING**

15 Murrell St, Winchelsea  
**(03) 5267 2351**

**HYDRAUTECH**  
FLUID POWER

**HYDRAULIC  
SALES & SERVICE**

- Suppliers of hydraulic parts & components for farm machinery
- x5 qualified fitter and turners operating a modern and fully equipped workshop including a 25 tonne truck hoist

- Rebuilding of hydraulic cylinders
- Pump & Motor resealing, pressure testing
- Suppliers of oil & grease for farm machinery



24 hour on call  
Hydraulic hose service

**03 5336 2266**

18 Wiltshire Lane, Ballarat, Victoria, 3350  
[www.hydrautech.net.au](http://www.hydrautech.net.au)



## it's History

Meredith History Interest Group

**Covid 19:** Due to the restrictions MHIG has been closed to the public and events have not been held but emails between committee members last week confirmed that all are doing history projects in various forms.

**Trophies:** Several Presentations were made to players and officials of the Meredith Football Club. The club had made a splendid recovery. After winning only one match during the 1928 season, in 1929 they were Runners-up in the Association.

**Gordon Fraser** received his Merit Certificate at Bamganie State School. During 1929 and 1930 he played football for Meredith and may have played cricket. He shored sheep for Henry Bolte. Born in 1909 at Bannockburn, it is believed that he moved to Bamganie in 1919 with his father and maybe his father's brother John as well.

His family contacted MHIG wondering where they lived at Bamganie. Doug Henderson told them that the family lived in a hut/tent on a 20 acre block on Bamganie Road, south of Roy Ritchie's that was then owned by George Musgrove. Gordon Fraser was a keen bike rider and told his family that he rode in the Warrnambool to Melbourne bike race against Sir Hubert Opperman and he rode to Mildura in something like four days. They recall seeing a photo of Gordon with another rider standing near their bikes. (I believe that the other rider was Gordon Elliott.) If you can help with any information about Gordon Fraser or his father Donald, please let us know.

**A census in 1854** states that Lethbridge had 30 males, 23 females and 7 families. Meredith had 270 males, 209 females and 61 families. Wouldn't a list of them be wonderful?

**Street Nursery:** Thank you to all who have put plants on the stall to sell and thanks to all who have bought plants. The proceeds help to maintain the grounds of the History Centre.

**Quote:** *You (and I) might be pleasantly surprised at the scope of detail uncovered just by changing perspective!*

### AWARDS NIGHT

Cr G Elliott (President of the club) presented to each player an inscribed gold medal. Mr Lex Briggs responded on behalf of the team and gave Cr Elliott a framed and inscribed enlarged photo of the team and officials. Cr Elliott was given a standing ovation and then gave Mr Lex Briggs the trophy presented by Mrs Thomas (Railway Hotel) for the most popular player and to Mr Sid Stafford, Mr M Connell's trophy for the most improved player of the season. Mr M J Gargan (Timekeeper) received a handsome silver and crystal

## The Premier from Lethbridge

Jan McDonald

George Alexander Elmslie was born to Catherine and Henry Elmslie in Lethbridge in 1861. His parents had married in Lethbridge in 1859, and father, Henry, a stone mason, was probably working at one of the Lethbridge quarries. At this time Lethbridge was a beehive of activity – the new railway line was being laid from Geelong to Ballarat, and speed was of the essence! The whole area was teeming with quarrymen, skilled masons, pick-and-shovel men, barrowmen, stone-breakers and more.

Lethbridge, or "Muddy Waterholes," as it was originally known by teamsters who camped here on their way to the Ballarat goldfields, was quickly evolving from a tent-town. It had been proclaimed as a township only seven years before George's birth. Now, with the Geelong-Ballarat railway coming through, the contractors had discovered that the best quality blue-stone was here right under their noses, thus creating short distances for cartage to the new railway works. Overnight the little watering place had become a thriving community.

As a young child, George would have seen the new bluestone buildings in Lethbridge, among them the police lock-up, railway station, railways water tank and the double storey Victoria Hotel north of the town. There were also several wooden pubs, stores, churches and church schools. Horse-drawn coaches were still plying the route between Geelong and Ballarat, but rail was the new fast mode of travel. George would have known children of farm workers, quarry workers and railway men, and possibly those from the vineyards that thrived along the Moorabool valley.

By 1864 the family had moved to the Tea-tree Creek area, Morrisons, where George's father was appointed manager of Morrisons Common. Father, Henry, was now a "storekeeper, residing at Table Land, Tea Tree Creek," and had applied for a Beer License in the house they occupied – a "wooden house, consisting of three rooms and shop." He stated that "The house is my own property, occupied by myself, and not licensed." It may have also become a post office.

George probably attended Tea-tree creek school – in 1865 his father was on the school committee and placed an advertisement for a teacher. George's father was involved in many community groups – he was a member of the

fruit stand, Mr M Connell received an inscribed silver butter dish, Mr Robt. Lowne (Trainer) received an eight-day watch and Mr W G Bell received a case of gold mounted pipes. Mr Bell then asked Mr M Stanley to accept a small gift for his baby son remarking that he hoped some day to include the newcomer in the ranks.

*The Australasian 22 April 1911*

Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group

Mining Board, Hon. Sec. of the Elaine, Meredith and Morrisons Coursing Club, Returning officer for Grant, Hon. Sec. for the Morrison's district annual ploughing match, among others. Perhaps this interest in community affairs influenced George to later stand for politics.

Several of George's eight siblings died as infants, and at least two, Richard and Catherine, were buried in Meredith Cemetery in 1868 and 1872.

A memoir in Melbourne Punch of George in later life recalled him as a 'big, burly boy...[who] led a fairly open-air life'. He was keen on shooting and suffered a shooting accident resulting in a scar later half hidden by a moustache.

Henry Elmslie had decided, according to Punch that his son 'should have a profession that would not require him to remove his coat', so George continued his education until he was eighteen and was made to study diligently with the idea that he would be a teacher. However George decided on becoming a stone mason like his father, and started work in Melbourne sometime around 1880, before his family moved there in 1885. He worked as a mason on various big buildings, including Wilson Hall at Melbourne University for three and a half years, and St Patrick's Cathedral for twelve. He was described as a 'splendid mason, his steadiness and reliability helping him win a big reputation as a thorough workman.'

In 1887 George married Clara Ellen Williams, and they lived in Carlton. They had a two children, though daughter, Nellie, died in 1901 at the age of ten.

At work George became a member the Operative Stonemasons' Society. He was on its central committee and represented the union on deputations, the Trades Hall Council, the Political Labor Council and wages boards, in particular the Stonecutters' Board in 1900-01.

In 1898 George became one of the founders of the Victorian Labour Federation, which had as its object 'the unification of the workers in one all comprehensive and extensive union', for the purpose of achieving industrial democracy. He was considered to be a part of a moderate element of the Labor Party which resisted a socialist program. In 1902 George was elected to the Victorian Legislative Assembly as Labor member for Albert Park.

The champion of every cause for the advancement of the race, George advocated that an essential in that progress was the thorough training of the young. He was instrumental in establishing a technical school in South Melbourne which would help any local boy to "be given his opportunity to rise to an eminently useful position in society."

At the 1911 election, Labor won only 20 seats to the various factions of the Liberal Party's 43. In December 1913 the Liberal Premier, William Watt resigned after a dispute with the rural faction of his own party. The acting Governor, Sir John Madden, surprised the Liberals by sending for George, who on 9th December became premier of Victoria's first Labor government.

George had no chance of a long tenure, or even of meeting the House as Premier, since under the law of the time ministers had to resign their seats and contest by-elections

before they could take their seats. The Liberal factions reunited, and Watt moved a no-confidence motion in George, which he had to watch from the gallery since he was technically not a member. He was duly voted out and Watt resumed office on 22nd December.

After this George continued as leader of the Labor Party and thus as Leader of the Opposition until 1916 when he resigned as Leader on the ground of a severe nervous breakdown, largely due to overwork. The Party refused to accept his resignation, instead passing a vote of sympathy and granting him leave of absence.

George died at home, 82 Merton St, Albert Park on 11th May 1918, a long way from his birth-place, Lethbridge. J.W. Billson, M.L.A. Deputy-Leader of the Opposition, in the course of a tribute to his old chief, said:— "His death is a serious blow to the Parliamentary Labor party. He was the 'sheet anchor' of our party. Slow to make up his mind, but very determined when he came to a decision, he was always straight, and a more conscientious man and truer friend I have never had the honor to work with."

George Elmslie had the distinction of being the shortest serving premier of Victoria, as well as the first Labor premier – but he was a premier and he was born in Lethbridge.



## G'Tow/G&S Towing, 24/7

Tilt tray breakdown towing service and transport of Vehicles,  
light machinery,

20 foot container and trailers/Caravan.

Anything up to 3.5 tonne

Located in Bannockburn



**Phone: 0425 800 812**

## Born at Morrison's Diggings

Marg Cooper

George Dyson arrived in Australia in 1852 and after working on various diggings became a mining engineer. He married Jane Myall who came from a "life of refinement in England" and while they were at the Morrison's Diggings their first son, Edward [Ted] Dyson was born on March 4, 1865.

The family led a roving life during Dyson's childhood, moving successively to Alfredton, Bendigo, Ballarat and Alfredton again by the time he was eleven. He was educated in government schools in those towns. He delighted in examining abandoned mine shafts, also fossicking and re-washing hillsides.

According to Wikipedia, Edward Dyson began work as an assistant to a travelling hawker, aged twelve as well as various jobs below ground and above ground at mining sites, he was a drover, a trucker in a deep mine, then worked in battery building before the family settled in South Melbourne about 1883.

At nineteen years of age he began writing verse, which first appeared in the Ballarat Courier and a few years later he embarked on a life of freelance journalism which lasted until his death. When J F Archibald, editor of *The Bulletin* accepted his writings, Dyson left the factory where he worked to earn his livelihood solely from his stories, verses and paragraphs. His first real success came in 1889 when his short story "A Golden Shanty" was used as the title-piece in *The Bulletin's* Christmas Anthology. In 1896 he published a volume of poems "Rhymes from the Mines" which included his famous poem "The Old Whim Horse".

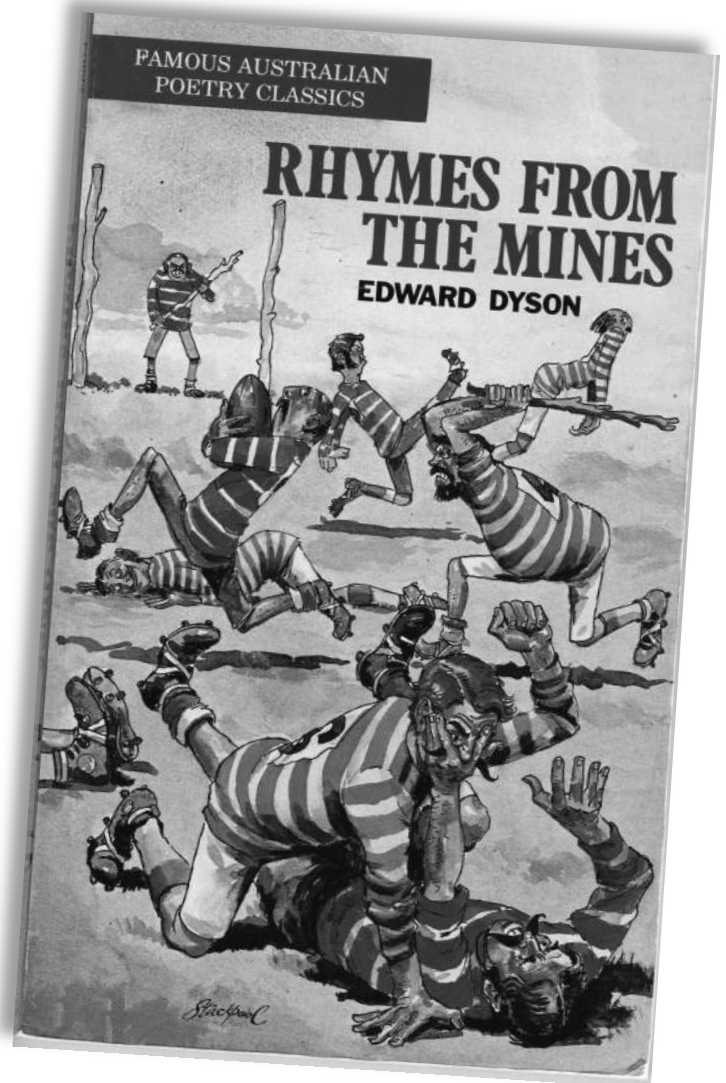
It is told that his work was coloured by the influence of the "Bulletin" school of writers of that time, of which he was an active member, including Victor Daley, Henry Lawson and Banjo Paterson.

Edward had two brothers, Will and Ambrose who were artists and writers and three sisters were also artistic and literary. Will Dyson married Ruby Lindsay and Jean Dyson married Lionel Lindsay of the famous Lindsay family of artists.

Edward died in August 1931, aged sixty-six after being severely weakened by a dose of the Spanish Flu in 1919.

Lovers of Australian literature can only regret the passing of writers like Edward Dyson for with them has gone much of the colourful romance of an era that will not come again.

"I write in rhyme of all these things,  
With little skill, perhaps but you,  
To whom each tale a memory brings  
Of bygone days, will know them true.  
Should mates who've worked in stope and face,  
Who've trenched the hill and swirled the dish,  
Or toiled upon the plat and brace,  
Find pleasure in the lines I trace,  
No better welcome could I wish.



## The THINGS We Say

GEMMA HANAN

### "Spill the Beans"

Most of us like to think that we can keep secrets pretty well. However, whether it's you or someone you know, there's always someone who can be counted on to spill the beans. Meaning to divulge something prematurely or inadvertently, the phrase is most commonly attributed to a voting system used in ancient Greece. Votes would be cast using either white (positive) or black (negative) beans and were required to be unanimous. The collector would spill the beans to see whether a black bean had been cast and, if so, the vote would be halted. However with variations using anything from soup to guts, the origins are all a bit of hearsay.

# Paul Ryan Transport

- Livestock & General Cartage
- Bulk Haulage
- Grain and Fertilizer



0409 861 296

5341 5575



## “GLASS”

Glass cut to size

- ~Doors, windows, mirrors
- ~All glass replacements
- ~Tractor cabin windows
- ~Made to order leadlight
- ~Personalised service

**Ph 5341 5500**

200 Midland Hwy Elaine 3334



*Free  
Quotes*

## MEREDITH CONSTRUCTIONS GEOFF L. HARDY D.B.U 15273

Registered Building Practitioner For

- |                        |             |
|------------------------|-------------|
| New homes              | Renovations |
| Additions Ground Floor |             |
| 2nd. Storey            | Bathrooms   |
| Kitchens               | Decking     |
| Painting               | Tiling      |
| Plans etc.             | Pergolas    |

All aspects of concreting

**Phone. 0429 084 655 8am–5pm**

## Local Shearers Available

Large and Small Lots

Phone Shane & Seamus Dunne

**0448 291074**

## WOOD EARTHMOVING

**TIM WOOD**  
**0407 931 711**





### **Life is really simple, but we insist on making it complicated. (Confucius)**

Our economy is dependent on either actual or potential income, work hours, and spending levels. The pandemic we are living through has certainly reflected this, with many of us having lost jobs or being underemployed and reassessing our spending, it has led to an economic recession and possible depression.

Obviously reducing the number of hours of work, consequently, lowers the amount earned, but it does give you the time to be more self-sufficient and live simply. The philosophy of work-to-live replaces the social ideology of live-to-work.

Simple living often means focusing on what you love and the hobbies we don't often get to enjoy when our lives are packed with "all the important things" – busy work designed to make us feel productive but don't really add value to our lives.

You must have heard the phrase that it is the simple things in life that make us truly happy.

One way to simplify life is to take control and reduce dependency on money and the economy. Tom Hodgkinson believes the key to a free and simple life is to stop consuming, start producing and stop being 'successful' and start living.

The dictionary describes success as the following: "attaining wealth, prosperity and/or fame", but material things only define what you have instead of defining who you are. So, what defines you? It is:

- always doing your best.
- having a place to call home.
- understanding the difference between need and want.
- believing you can.
- remembering to balance work with passion.
- learning that you sometimes have to say no.
- loving and being loved back.
- standing your ground when you believe in something.
- not giving up.
- understanding that you control your destiny.

Along our life journey, we have collected a shelf of books that have really helped or inspired us. A few of these, in no particular order, are those we continually refer back to when needing clarification or motivation to stay our chosen path.

*How to Be Free:* Looking to history, literature, and philosophy for inspiration by Tom Hodgkinson.

*Family Guide to Waste-Free Living:* gives you all the information, advice, budget-friendly recipes, and projects

you will need to start reducing waste in your life. By Lauren and Oberon Carter.

*The Art of Frugal Hedonism:* A guide to spending less while enjoying everything more a leisurely guide to a life that both makes sense, while indulging the senses; how to live lightly but luxuriantly. By Adam Grubb and Annie Raser Rowland.

*Living the Good Life:* How one family changed their world from their own backyard, disillusioned with their lives, they decide this is how to break the cycle of too much work and too little time for doing the things that are important, like spending time with their son. By Linda Cockburn.

*Backyard Self-Sufficiency:* If you want a 'self-sufficient' garden. Backyard Self-Sufficiency is the necessary book to get it started. By Jackie French.

*Radical Homemakers:* is about men and women who focus on home and hearth as a political and ecological act, and who have centred their lives around family and community for personal fulfillment and cultural change. By Shannon. A. Hayes.

*Grown & Gathered:* is about growing, gathering, nurturing, and cooking your own food. By Matt and Lentil Pubrick.

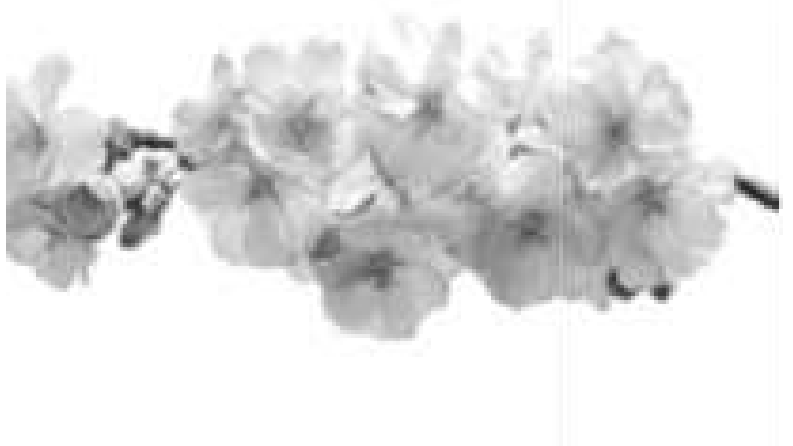
*RetroSuburbia:* The downshifter's guide to a resilient future, this manual shows how you can downshift and retrofit your home, garden, community and, above all, yourself to being more self-organised, sustainable and resilient as we head into an uncertain future. By David Holmgren.



So, break the rules, forgive quickly, kiss slowly, love truly, laugh uncontrollably, and never regret anything that made you smile, life is short, so live it simply but fully and with integrity.

Till next month, be like Winnie the Pooh, and "Enjoy the little things in Life."

*Kerrie*



# NILOC

## maintenance

- Mowing of house blocks to acreage
- General Maintenance
- Landscaping and Gardening
- Tree Trimming and Removal
- General Carpentry
- Wall and floor Tiling
- Bobcat and Truck Hire
- Pressure Washing
- Concreting
- Rubbish Removal
- Carpet Cleaning
- Bobcat and Tipper Hire with Operator

*Servicing all areas*

Email: [chotchin1@bigpond.com](mailto:chotchin1@bigpond.com)

Call Colin for your FREE Quote

**0425 872 866**

## Ballarat Big Vac ABN 39 905 288 238

Specialising in Septic Tank Cleaning Services and all other aspects of vacuum cleaning including:-

- Insulation and Dust
- Grain Silos
- Elevator Pits
- Water Tanks and Flood Damage
- Grease Traps
- Pressure Cleaning

EPA licence accredited

**Ph Milton Howard mobile: 0409 503 778**

## A & R DURRAN Bricklaying

DB-U 40238

### & BUILDING SERVICES

Specialising in brick & block masonry construction

- \* Solid brick houses
- \* Retaining walls
- \* Scaffolding
- \* Telehandler Hire



Anthony Mobile: 0409 524438

ABN 63614843881

[aanddurrnbricklaying@bigpond.com](mailto:aanddurrnbricklaying@bigpond.com)

[www.DURRANBricklaying.com](http://www.DURRANBricklaying.com)



# SUPAGAS

100% AUSTRALIAN

## Paul Ryan

YOUR SUPAGAS DEALER

SUPAGAS is pleased to announce that  
**Paul Ryan**

is delivering SUPAGAS to your area.

Paul will supply competitive 45kg, forklift and BBQ gas cylinder refills in a reliable and friendly manner.

- 45kg Domestic and Commercial Cylinder applications
- Fork lift Cylinders (15kg Aluminium Cylinders)
- Refills BBQ and Camping Cylinders
- Bulk Gas Quotations supplied

Please contact Paul to arrange your next  
SUPAGAS LPG delivery

**Contact Paul Ryan on 0409 861 296**

## More than just tyres at Bannockburn.



Passenger  
& 4WD



Mechanical  
Repairs



Light Truck



Agricultural

60 Holder Road  
Bannockburn

**5281 1666**

**BRIDGESTONE**

**Bridgestone Service Centre**

## Water Tank Cleaning

Have all mud and sludge removed from, your water tank and improve your water quality.

We clean all types of water tanks.

Removing all mud and sludge as well as washing the walls and floor clean.

## Otway Concrete Tanks

Concrete tanks, repairs & tank maintenance

**PH: 0409 210 057**

[www.otwayconcretetanks.com.au](http://www.otwayconcretetanks.com.au)

## Vale to Lionel Ernest Wells. (Tommy)

Tommy was born in Meredith on 30 April 1925 to Elsie Coraline (Nee Synot) and Alfred Ernest Wells. He was the fourth child and second son. He was born very, very little and could fit in a shoe box because he was so little. His mother lined a shoe box with cotton wool and he was kept on the hobbs of the stove. He was so small that the midwife called him Tom Thumb and that is how he has Tommy as a name.

He went to the Meredith State School. When he was 11 years of age he developed Polio. He was in the Geelong Hospital for some time. Before he left Meredith he was told to have a good look around as he would not be well enough to come home again.

But he survived and, as an adult during war time he carted wood to Geelong. He helped with the building of Mangalore Airport. Later he bought two trucks, one being 1952 Bedford, which Janine (Tommy's niece) and Noel still have today. With the second truck he employed a driver, Ake Lowne, and one was a water truck and the other carted gravel. He worked for the Country Roads Board, helping to build the Great Ocean Road. Janine can remember he would go on Sunday afternoon and come home Friday night. They had camps where they lived during the week at Lorne. Some weekends he would bring the truck home for maintenance. Janine can remember getting under the truck with him to change oil. When he was working on the Midland Highway just down the road from home, he had to do the shift on weekends with the lights, to make sure the lights were working, and Janine would sit up in the truck for the ride. He was always on hand to help people with engines. Janine's mum would say, 'if it had wheels and a motor Tommy was happy'.

Tommy liked helping people and was a great person in the Anglican Church until he cut his hand working at the church. Tommy was the only one who could ring the church bells. We asked him how to do it and was told it was all about the tension of the ropes.

He liked cars and he was in Chev Car Club. He owned quite a few cars in his day. For Noel and Janine's wedding he drove his car as the bridal car. He would spend hours cleaning and polishing cars.

After his father died, Tommy retired from the trucks and came home to run the farm. Janine can remember when she was young going with her father to Meredith and Tommy, Rod and Alf would go to the wool-shed at Woodbourne Creek to crutch or dip sheep. Tommy mainly would be the one to push them into the dip. He baled wool, penned sheep and skirted fleeces. He would always help with meals in the shed and at home. One thing Tommy and Rod did not do was milk the cow. We think he helped deliver milk around Meredith when he was younger before school.

Tommy had a lot of sickness in his day. He spent time in care at Geelong Aged Care Hostel in Chesterfield Geelong and then had home care for a little while. After he had a knee replacement, Tommy needed more care then he spent 10 years in Estia Bannockburn.

Tommy spent Christmas and Easter with Janine's family.

Janine remembers Uncle Tommy would always be at the Hospital next day after her children, Alison, Fiona and Rod were born. When we were in hospital he was always there.

Before he drove a car, he had a motor bike. He was very much a part of Janine, and Noel's family. Alison, Fiona and Rod looked on him as an Uncle and not a Great Uncle.

Janine and Noel would like to thank people who helped look after him at Bannockburn Nursing Home and Pam Armstrong with home help when he was at home on his own. Also thanks to Dr Cameron Profit for looking after him.

*Written by Janine Dean, daughter of Tommy's brother Rod.*

A Funeral was held at Barnes funeral Home, Ballarat on Monday, September 14.



SEPTIC TANK PUMPING



7 Days A Week

Noah Azzopardi Septic Tank Pumping

M: 0427 304 959



**EVERYTHING  
WE'RE DOING IS  
MAKING A DIFFERENCE**

**Thank you Victoria.**

**As hard as this is, every sacrifice we're making is making a difference. But we can't stop now, or lose everything we've worked for. We will get through this together.**

**For details go to [vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS](https://vic.gov.au/CORONAVIRUS)**

Authorised by the Victorian Government, 1 Treasury Place, Melbourne





**For over 50 years, Ballarat Insurance Brokers has tailored comprehensive Farm and Business Insurance Victoria wide.**

**Ahead of the 2020-21 Summer period; Ballarat Insurance Brokers would like to offer some free advice and pointers shared by ourselves, our associates and also the insurers we deal with to help you better protect yourself ahead of what could possibly be another disastrous Fire Season.**

- In **2019-20** we've seen a noticeable increase in the number Fire Fighting units added to Farm Pack policies. These have in some cases prevented fires from getting out of hand
- **Fuel Reduction**—Do what you can by Grazing, ploughing, harrowing, slashing and mowing any areas that could cause you problems.
- Regular **Moisture testing and documenting of bales**. Given the rain experienced in our regions over the last few months; we anticipate a record year for Spontaneous Combustion losses.
- **Maintain Machinery**—Most fires are started as a result of a spark coming from a faulty or unmaintained machine. Cleaning out equipment and servicing can help mitigate any potential outbreaks
- **Consider Farm Continuation expenses**. This provides cover for additional costs incurred in ensuring survival of your Farm post event.
- **Have a plan for animals**. A large well-grazed area where they can move freely, with a supply of water, is the safest. Remove all gear from horses and always keep them contained on your property.
- **Review your Insurances**. Ensure the limits selected reflect the sums should you lose property on the worst possible day. If your policy is due in Autumn-Winter; review it again in October to be prepared ahead Summer/Harvest. We also anticipate a spike in Theft losses; so keeping a good record of tools and contents can help streamline your claim should you suffer a loss.

**OFFICE: 31 ARMSTRONG STREET SOUTH, BALLARAT VIC 3350**

**PHONE: 03 5333 5222**