

July 2021

# Meredith & district News



OUR FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER (since we don't know when!)

RU social media savvy?  
we could use your skills  
see page 22



## inside

- A Report from down the rabbit hole.
- Put us on the right track.
- A New Dog Disease in Victoria
- School ground Footy Rules.



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







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# Community



## The VIRUS and US

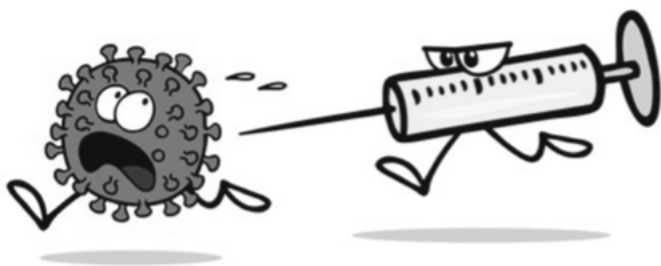
IT'S ABOUT TIME WE ROLLED OUR SLEEVES UP.



The actions and incidents around Australia this past month have yet again illustrated the extreme difficulties of managing the virus in a largely mobile and unvaccinated population.

The message has been clear for some time that we must adhere to health directions and apply an additional dose of common sense to all our social interactions. AND we must get vaccinated as soon as we are able to.

We continue to be pretty lucky in the regions, but it is still a day by day affair. For that reason, we won't even attempt a summary of restrictions here. Instead, head to [dhhs.vic.gov.au](http://dhhs.vic.gov.au) and follow the coronavirus link for authoritative advice on restrictions and developments.



## Meredith Senior Citizens

Jim Hynds.

In Monday, June 28 the seniors are meeting at the Meredith Hotel for lunch. Chris and Jasmine have planned a special \$15.00 menu for seniors. Members are looking forward to getting together as a lunch at Bannockburn Hotel earlier in the month was abandoned because of the Covid Restrictions and the next meeting day coincided with the Queen's Birthday Monday.



## Broadband or Mobile Poor?

The Victorian State Government is funding a program to improve broadband and mobile coverage. Called *Connecting Victoria*, it invites residents to mark on a map, where they are experiencing poor coverage or access. Simply go to [engage.vic.gov.au/connecting-victoria](http://engage.vic.gov.au/connecting-victoria)



Why not share your favourite pics with us? You could make front page news!

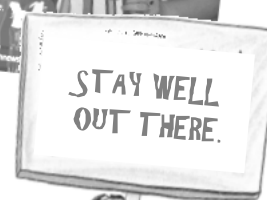
### OUR COVER

Marg Cooper's picture of Tweedle Dee and Tweedle Dum, captures the fun of Meredith's Big Morning Tea. (See Marg's report and more pics on page 8.)



## THIS MONTH...

We've got plenty for you to read, curled up in front of the fire this month. Stefania's got a recipe for some delicious chicken patties, another delightful column from Wendy, this time about the winter birds, what the Meredith Crocs are up to as well as some footy news from 110 years ago (is that still "news"?). You will also find plenty about local people and events. Stay warm and enjoy the read.



# 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, excluding GST, are as follows:

	B&W/Colour
Business Card	\$20.00
Quarter page	\$30.00
Half page	\$50/\$110
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A \$20 loading applies for preferred position. Please submit in jpeg format, if available.

Classifieds are **FREE** for small, personal notices from residents. Otherwise \$7.50 on invoice or \$5.00 if paid on lodgement. Community Groups can have a 1/4 page ad for free or a \$30.00 discount on larger ads. (conditions apply)

## SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you are outside our delivery area you can subscribe for \$35.00 p.a. plus GST (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)

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## 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 Production: *Don Atherton* Editor: *Jim Elvey*

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ADVANCE MEREDITH 5286 1291	FOOTBALL Seniors 0408 545 246 Juniors 0430 587 674
ANGLING CLUB 0419 248 660	GOLF CLUB 0407 795 342
B'BURN ART GROUP 0410 808 483	HISTORY GROUP 5286 8201
BLUE LIGHT DISCO 5286 1222	LANDCARE 0409 862 326
BOOK CLUB 5286 8201	MEMORIAL HALL 5286 1545 0409 662106
CFA 000 for fire calls Elaine 0409 861 296 Meredith 5286 1502 Morrisons 0417 770 765	MEREDITH LIONS 0491 061640
CHILDCARE 5286 0700	MOTORCYCLE CLUB 0437 009 250
COMMUNITY CENTRE 5286 0700	PLAYGROUP 5286 0700
CRICKET Elaine 0448 291074 Junior (U16,U14,13) 0448 291074 Meredith 5286 1434	POLICE PADDOCKS 5286 1273
CUBS & SCOUTS Anakie 52819497	RSL - 5286 1452
ELAINE HALL <a href="mailto:elainetownhall@gmail.com">elainetownhall@ gmail.com</a>	SENIOR CITIZENS 5286 8232
	TENNIS Elaine 0448 291 074 Meredith 5286 1211
	SEW 'N' SEWS 5286 0700
	FRIENDS OF THE BRISBANE RANGES 5286 1252

## ..or start something.

If you have a special interest you would like to share with like minded people, let us know



"If you only do what you know you can do- you never do very much."

- Tom Keause

# emergency

Police, Ambulance, Fire (from mobile phone)	000 000 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 a/h emergency	1300 363 036 0408 508 635
Ranger	52207111
	or 0409 830 223
Bannockburn Vet a/h emergency	5281 1221 0407 811 222
Golden Plains Animal	5281 2226
Pets and Horses 24/7	0421 617 238

## Justices of the Peace

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

# services

<b>CEMETERY TRUST</b> 5286 1550	<b>MATERNAL &amp; CHILD HEALTH</b> 5220 7230
<b>HALL HIRE</b> Meredith Memorial 5286 1545 Elaine Mechanics <a href="mailto:elainetownhall@gmail.com">elainetownhall@ gmail.com</a> Elaine Rec Res 5341 5703	<b>PRE-SCHOOL</b> 5286 0722 <b>PRIMARY SCHOOL</b> 5286 1313 <b>RECREATION RESERVE</b> 0429 315 575
<b>LIBRARY VAN</b> 5272 6010	



## Church News



### Meredith Uniting Church

Services have recommenced. 11.00 am 2nd Sunday each month. Enquiries:  
Rev. Paul Sanders 0407 833 515 5341 2440

**Catholic Archdiocese of Australia** Elaine -5341 5544

**Serbian Orthodox** - 5341 5568

### Worship on Sundays in the Anglican Parish of Inverleigh+Bannockburn+Meredith:

9.00 am Holy Communion St Paul's, Inverleigh  
11.00 am Family Communion. St John's, Bannockburn  
5.00 pm Prayer and Praise Epiphany, Meredith  
Find us at: [www.goldenplainsanglican.org](http://www.goldenplainsanglican.org) or  
[office.ibm@goldenplainsanglican.org](mailto:office.ibm@goldenplainsanglican.org)  
The Revd Dr Timothy Smith  
PiC Anglican Parish of  
Inverleigh+Bannockburn+Meredith

### St. Joseph's Catholic Parish of Meredith

Contact Details:

Parish Priest: Fr. Charles Balnaves (Mob: 0417 319 556)

Office Phone: 5286 1230

Office open Wednesday & Friday 9.30am to 4.30 pm

Mass Times

Bookings not required for Mass unless you have a large group.

Current COVID rules apply (density, hygiene, masks, distancing).

Masses at St. Joseph's Live Streamed on Facebook:  
"Catholic Parish of Meredith St Josephs"

Tue. 9am St. Mary MacKillop Church, Bannockburn  
Wed. 11am St. Joseph's, Meredith  
Thu. 9am St. Mary MacKillop Church, Bannockburn  
with School  
Fri. 11am St. Joseph's, Meredith  
Sat. 6pm St. John the Baptist, Winchelsea  
Sun. 9am St. Mary MacKillop, Bannockburn  
Sun. 11/7 and 25/7, 11am St. Brigid's, Anakie  
Sun. 25/7, 4 pm Sacred Heart, Inverleigh  
Sun. 4/7 and 18/7, 11am St. Joseph's, Meredith

August 8th, 11am Bannockburn, St. Mary MacKillop Church Dedication Mass (bookings required)

Other Sacraments:

Reconciliation, Anointing, Baptisms, Matrimony, Funerals call: 5286 1230 for details.

Sacramental program (Reconciliation, Eucharist, Confirmation) will be operating. Call the office for details/ timing/ enrolment.

## Program To Get Girls Active

Girls in Golden Plains will have more opportunities to get active thanks to Council's new *Move your way* program.

Golden Plains Shire Council secured a \$9,750 grant from VicHealth's Reimaging Health Grants program to fund the co-designing and delivery of a movement program for local teenage girls aged 12 to 15 years.

The *Move your way* program will provide participants in Years 7 to 9 with opportunities to participate in non-structured, non-competitive physical activity. It will address the barriers girls in this age group may experience when looking to get active, including fear of judgement, lack of confidence and absence of alternatives to structured, competitive-based sport.

Through in-depth consultations, the program will be co-designed and driven by participating girls, and tailored to the time, type and styles of activities they want to try. The program will feature regular feedback from participants to ensure it is meeting their needs and ideas. Activities will cater to all skill levels, offer flexibility in participation, and build a supportive, welcoming and inclusive environment to ensure accessibility.

Mayor Cr Helena Kirby says Council welcomed the grant and is excited to offer this program to combat physical inaction in local teenagers.

"Evidence shows that 92% of Australian teens do not meet the Physical Activity Guidelines of 60 minutes a day, and females are disproportionately represented in this data. This is often attributed to lack of confidence and fear of judgement among others, and *Move your way* is all about trying to remove some of these barriers.

"*Move your way* will encourage girls Years 7 to 9 to try innovative activities such as pom-dance, RnB-Zumba and hip-hop yoga, all while supporting them to build confidence, social connections, learn new skills and increase their physical activity levels. They will also have an active role in designing the whole program, to tailor it to their needs and expectations.

"Council is looking forward to running this great initiative thanks to grant funding from VicHealth."

The *Move your way* program will run in Bannockburn in Term 1 2022.





## The Hub Happenings..... .....From the desk of Leah

By the time you get this, we are well into School Holiday mode and whilst there are no children in the Centre for Occasional Care or Kinder, I will be found somewhere around the Centre. The school holidays give me a great chance to catch up on paperwork and prepare for the coming term or in these holidays, prepare for all these awesome activities!

**What's on in July** – Get out those Diaries, because there are activities GALORE!

**POWER SAVING BONUS – ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?**  
The Meredith Community Centre is assisting our Community Members in claiming the Power Saving Bonus – this is a \$250 rebate for those people on an eligible payment. All you need to do is pop into the Centre with your Power Bill (either original PDF or hard copy) and your Centrelink CRN or DVA number and we can apply. Give me a call to confirm your eligibility. This is running until January 2022!

**WESTVIC STAFFING IS COMING BACK!** Jenny from WestVic Staffing Solutions will be in the Centre on July 14 from 9-12 to assist with Training in Employability skills, Employment and Training providers, Financial solutions, Health and Wellbeing services and Community Service providers, just wander in, or feel free to give us a call to book. – It was great to see people popping in whilst Jenny was here to get advice, so come on in and take advantage of this service! It's FREE and it may just get you where you need to go!

**CREATIVE A PLENTY!** Allie Robinson is a Meredith based mixed-media artist working predominantly with polymer clay, alcohol inks and wire. Allie has a wealth of knowledge that she wants to share with lots of personal tuition in the following classes!

Polymer Clay – Saturday July 10 & Saturday October 2 – 1pm Start

Introduction to Wire Wrapping – Saturday July 24 – 1pm

Make a Tree Life Pendant – Saturday August 14 – 1pm

Introduction to Alcohol Inks – Saturday August 28 & Saturday October 23 – 1pm Start

Make a Wire Wrapped Cuff – Saturday September 11 – 1pm

All of these classes begin at 1pm and conclude at 4, just \$75 per person!

**POTTERY!** We also introduce Mel Everest from Claymart Studio in Geelong, Mel is an experienced potter and has recently graduated in Ceramics at Federation University of Ballarat, with high distinction grades. Mel will be taking Pottery Classes here at the Centre. Mel and I were thrilled to be able to firstly offer a hand building class before Mel got her hands on 3 wheels! This means we are also offering a beginners Wheel Throwing Class! Mel will guide you in your journey of creativity using clay as your medium.

So if you would like to learn how to throw clay the following classes are on offer:

Beginners Pottery Wheel Throwing - \$300 for 10 hours – All Inclusive!

Saturday 9.30- 12 - July 10, 17, 24 & Aug 14

Saturday 12.30- 3 - July 10, 17, 24 & Aug 14

Thursdays 12.30-3 - July 15, 22, 29 & Aug 20

Fridays 12.30 - 3 - July 16, 23, 30 & Aug 21

Beginners Pottery Hand Building - \$300 for 10 hours – All Inclusive!

Fridays 9.30 – 12 July 16, 23, 30 & Aug 21

**FREE PILATES TASTER!** – Our Pilates Taster was moved due to the Covid Shutdown and is FULL. Thank you to everyone who expressed an interest! – The class begins on July 15 at 1:15.

### YOUTH GROUP

We would like to welcome the Youth of Meredith into the Community Centre for a pop up Youth Space happening during Term 3, beginning July 21! This Space will operate on Wednesdays, from 3:30 to 5:30 offering activities and complimentary food and drinks for attendees. This will be facilitated by the Golden Plains Shire Youth team. Keep an eye out on Facebook for the launch!

**YOGA** is on Mondays and Thursdays – if you are interested in joining Ane, jump onto Facebook and join the Meredith Yoga group. Or give me a call and book a place! All you need to do is BYO Mat and water and is just \$15 payable on the day to Anne.

**STEADY FEET** is on Wednesday Mornings at the Community Centre. This wonderful group of ladies will welcome you into their group of exercise with open arms and fabulous balance. Just \$10 per session, this is run by YMCA. Rumour has it these ladies are quite often socialising afterwards at our local eateries, enjoying each other's company!

**PLAYGROUP** – No need to book, just come on down to the Community Centre at 9.30 on a Thursday and join the fun. Janina and Penelope are fabulous hosts and there is nothing quite like the sound of baby Penelope laughing! You can also join the Playgroup page to keep up to date with what is happening and connect to other Parents in the area – just look up Meredith Playgroup, it's just \$2 per family per week

**IPADS** – We have one mini Ipad left! It has been amazing to see the confidence of those who have taken an Ipad grow. A mini Ipad is perfect for avid readers at it fits perfectly into your hand. Give me a call if you would like to snap this up for loan!

### GARDENING

Has lockdown seen you in the garden looking puzzled? That's ok, coming up we have some gardening workshops which may teach you just what you need to know. Give me a call to learn more, or check out Facebook for the upcoming events!

So that's it from me for July! Remember to come on down to claim your Power Saving Bonus. Even if you only claim part of the Pension or Government Allowance, you are still eligible. And it goes to your bank account, not to your electricity supplier! So what are you waiting for? Looking forward to seeing you soon!





# What's On



**COMING UP!**  
**Pilates Taster!**

Thursday July 15 - 1.15 - 2.15 - 4 Weeks - FULL

**Polymer Clay Jewellery with Allie**

Saturday July 10, 1 - 4pm - \$75

**Beginners Wheel Throwing with Mel**

4 Week Classes - 4 Dates Available - \$300

**Hand Building Pottery with Mel**

Friday July 16, 9.30 - 12 - 4 Weeks - \$300

**Introduction to Wire Wrapping with Allie**

Saturday July 24, 1-4pm - \$75

**Fermentation with Narelle**

Monday July 26 - 10am - \$120

**Make a Tree of Life Pendant with Allie**

Saturday August 14 - 1-4pm - \$75

**Rose & Fruit Tree Pruning with Jaclyn**

Friday July 23 - 11am - 12pm - \$10 per person

**Intro to Horticultural Therapy with Jaclyn**

Friday July 23 - 12.30 - 1.30 - \$15

**Spring Preparation with Jaclyn**

Friday August 20 - 11am - 12pm - \$15

**WEEKLY EVENTS**

**Tai Chi - \$15 per session**

Tuesdays @ Meredith with Sandra - 9.30 - 10.30 am  
Tuesdays @ Bannockburn with Desma - 9:30 - 10.30 am  
Thursdays @ Teesdale with Desma - 9.30-10.30 am

**Steady Feet - \$10 per session**

Wednesdays with Ane - 9.30 - 10.30 am

**Yoga - \$15 per session**

Mondays with Ane - 5:15  
Thursdays with Ane - 12:00

**PLAYGROUP IS BACK!**

Thursdays - 9.30 - 11.30

\$2 per Family



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www.facebook.com/MeredithCommunityCentre  
4 Russell St. Meredith Vic. 3333 Ph. 5286 0700

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

**OCCASIONAL CARE**

SESSION TIMES  
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WEDNESDAY - 9:15 - 2:15  
FRIDAY - 9:15 - 2:15



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MASTER BUILDER



# Big Morning Tea in Wonderland

Marg Cooper



The Meredith Memorial Hall was really transferred into a Wonderland for the Biggest Morning Tea on June 15, 2021. One's first impression was that the hall was full of stuff, that it was bright, that it was fun and that some creative people had done a lot of work. From above hung collections of flowers, leaves, greenery and glittering, shining, sparkling objects like lanterns, baskets etc from long wooden branches, hung horizontally. On the stage a low table was set up for a tea party, two larger chairs flanked the table and were occupied by rabbits, novelty items were arranged in front of the scene and a big green lawn hanging on the back wall, featured empty photo frames with Alice and the rabbit standing by. The nine large round tables were covered with a different coloured, bright tablecloths overlaid with a lace tablecloth, and on each a centre arrangement of candles or lamp, surrounded by myriads of interesting knickknacks and mushrooms. Each chair had beautiful white lace tied around its back. Two long tables in the alcove displayed many beautifully wrapped items for the silent auction and on another table were numerous raffle prizes. The walls were decorated with playing cards, games and a country picture, a backdrop for photos of the guests in their costumes. Outside were some decorations to welcome the crowd and even some finery in the toilet. What a delight!

Many people dressed up - Alice in Wonderland with a blonde wig and a gold mask, a butterfly that used to be a caterpillar, Tweedle Dum and Tweedle Dee with helicopters on their peaked caps, some Mad Hatters with tall decorative hats, a playing card with large cardboard cards back and front, triplets from Elaine with bright, curly wigs and tulle skirts, the white rabbit with his large pocket watch and the Queen of Hearts who very ably hosted the day. What a wonder!

The program included games most of which necessitated getting off your chair to throw coins into a teapot, pretending to be a teapot or a cup or opting to be a Heart, Diamond, Spade or Club, raffles, door prizes, the silent auction and tea and delicious food. Liz Bufton former Vicar of Church of the Epiphany at Meredith spoke about her journey with cancer. She compared it to falling down the rabbit hole. Her message for the day was that "we don't have to wait to decide to be happy!" What a great message!

Mary, Doris, Denise and Hilary should be congratulated on the décor, the program, the food and the organization. Congratulations also to Gwen Eddy for the beautiful wonderland backdrop and to Lindy Allison who created a sense of Alice in Wonderland with her whimsical installations and fun filled hanging gardens and quirky one-off table pieces and a themed entry foyer.

Prizes were given to Leanne Dunn for Best Outfit and Maureen Diffey for Best Hat. The Major Raffle prize was won by Liz Bufton, second prize by Simone Dunne and third prize by Claire Kelly. The profit was \$2,800 for the fight against cancer. What a great effort!



*Some more guests at the Mad Hatter's Tea Party. Doesn't it make you wish you were there?*







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## Croc Report

*Mick Devlin*

The Moorabool Valley Masters Football Club is an over 35's Masters football club located in Meredith. We have players from around the local community and a number of players from the Geelong region. We promote men's health, both physical and mental and community spirit. We enjoy a run around and a beer and everyone is welcome.

We have only managed to play 3 games this season due to COVID restrictions.

Our first game of the year was against Echuca Emus at Meredith. The Crocs got to pay tribute to our departed former players Troy "Zinger" Elzinga and Adrian "Spook" Talbot and in true Masters football spirit, the Echuca Emus joined in our pre-game service, which was led by our president Mick Rooney. It was a great game and the mighty Crocs were victorious. Special mention to our newest Crocs, Joel Washington, Nev Cornwell, Larko and Badge, whom we hope will be with us for many games to come. A great effort from the Meredith school principal, Steven Trotter for umpiring once again and the couple of young blokes who offered to do the goals and score board. All in all, a great day.

Our second game the Crocs travelled all the way to Nambrok in the Wellington shire (near Sale) to take on the Wellington Warriors. A great effort just to field a team for this game, although under manned, the mighty Crocs put up a fantastic effort and against all odds came out victorious (no scores were kept but we felt we won). I would like to say the game was played in true Masters spirit, but I think masters spirit was put aside to make way for the competitive spirit we all still have. We were a man down in the first 5 mins with big Scotty Cowie going down with a leg injury, but we managed to fill the gap he left and push on. Thanks to the couple of Warriors players who played the whole game for us. Best players for the

day were: Daryl Sid Jones, Nev Cornwell, John Peterson, Joel Washington, Mick Devlin and Big Badge. The bus ride was a bit quiet on the way home mainly due to Scott Cowie being a bit sore. Another great game.

Our third game of the year saw the Crocs host Gippsland Tigers at Meredith. Our great clubman John Peterson played his 100th game for the Crocs. This is a fantastic effort considering we only play around 10 games per year. It was a fantastic day once again and Masters football was the winner (as was the Crocs). Thanks to the Gippsland Tigers for making the trip. Although undermanned the Tigers put in a great effort. Special mention to Scott Nelson, Steven Trofin and Zac for playing the whole game for the Tigers. Also a special mention to the legend of the Crocs, Daryl "Sid" Jones for breaking the club games record with 157 games. What a great effort and what a great bloke. Best players: Joel Washington, Nevada Cornwell, John Peterson, Shaun Lewis, James and Badge. Great to see another local joining the Crocs as we welcomed Scott Thompson for his first of many games.

We have 5 games remaining for the season. As always, anyone is welcome to come down and get involved in any capacity. We are always looking for players and all are welcome. Training is Wednesday nights and games are every second Sunday.

If anyone is interested in playing or volunteering or would like any more information, please contact the below:

Mick Devlin (coach) 0413609863

Mick Rooney (President) 0408545246

Thanks very much to our Local business support who provide all the best player awards each game;

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- Farm Gate Shop Elaine
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easyanddelish



## Chicken, spinach & feta patties

Prep & cook time 20 minutes

Serves 4

### Ingredients

- 400g chicken breast mince
- 1 egg, lightly beaten
- 250g cooked spinach, drained & chopped
- 1/2 cup panko breadcrumbs
- 50g feta cheese crumbled
- 2 tablespoons sweet chilli sauce
- 2 teaspoons mixed dried herbs
- 2 tablespoons chopped flat leaf parsley
- 1 teaspoon dried chilli flakes
- 1 small garlic clove, crushed

### Method

Combine mince, egg, spinach, breadcrumbs, feta, sweet chilli sauce, dried herbs, parsley, chilli flakes and garlic in a large bowl. Season with salt and pepper.

Shape into 12 patties.

Lightly spray a large non-stick frying pan with oil and heat over medium heat. Cook patties 3-5 minutes each side or until golden and cooked through.

Serve with extra sweet chilli sauce.

*Stefania*

## Council Supports Youth Training

### Media Release

Golden Plains Shire Council is supporting young people and communities across the Shire with opportunities for connection and training during the upcoming school holidays.

School Holiday Youth Spaces will be offered in three locations during the upcoming winter break, with young people aged 12 to 18 years encouraged to attend. The Youth Spaces will operate from 1 to 5pm on: Thursday 8 July at Meredith Community Centre, 4 Russell Street

Council's Youth Programs and Spaces are designed to improve access and connection for young people in Golden Plains Shire, providing safe, inclusive spaces for youth to connect, make new friends and learn valuable professional skills.

The free School Holiday Youth Spaces will be supervised by Council's Youth Development Staff and provide young people with a space to catch up and meet new people, while offering a range of activities, music and healthy food and drinks.

Council's Youth Development team will also be offering opportunities for young people to learn professional skills during the school holidays, with registrations open for Barista Skills and First Aid. These sessions will be open to young people aged 15 and over who are actively seeking work.

The practical and fun Barista Skills training will be held from 3.30 to 6.30pm on Wednesday 29 June at Coco's Espresso Crew in Bannockburn; and a blended First Aid training course will be offered with an online component and an in-person session at the Bannockburn Cultural Centre from 1 to 4pm, Tuesday 6 July.

Golden Plains Shire Mayor Cr Helena Kirby encouraged local youth and families to take advantage of the activities available during the school holidays.

"The School Holiday Programs are a great opportunity for young people to connect and meet new friends, while developing valuable skills, in a safe and inclusive environment.

"Council is committed to providing opportunities for young people to build capacity and learn professional skills that better equip them for the future. These supervised spaces and programs are inclusive and designed to appeal to the strengths and interests of young people across the Shire, while focusing on the importance of connection, personal development and community."

To register for the School Holiday Youth Spaces, Barista Skills training or First Aid, contact Council's Youth Team at [youth@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@gplains.vic.gov.au).

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## From the Mayor



Cr Helena Kirby

Advocacy is a key priority of Council and over the past few months we've had several great funding announcements for Golden Plains Shire.

The Federal Government's Budget 2020/21 included \$2.6 million for Golden Plains in Phase 3 of the Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program. In total, the fund has delivered more than \$5 million for

local communities and has been invested in projects across the Shire.

The Victorian Government and Council will partner to deliver the \$550,000 playground upgrade and active recreation project in Ross Creek. The State Government also announced \$420,000 to upgrade the Meredith Skate Park and build new BMX trails, as well as an exciting project to restore the Lethbridge Station building as a community hub.

A new \$3.1 million stormwater infrastructure project funded by the Victorian Government and private business will be built to open up Stage 2 of the Bannockburn Industrial Estate. With an additional 21 hectares, existing local businesses can expand and new businesses will relocate or open, which means more local jobs for Golden Plains.

These announcements were all made within weeks, yet they are the culmination of months and years of Council sharing the stories of Golden Plains Shire with State and Federal Governments. Even if your town is not on this list, every community benefits from every dollar Council secures, as it allows us to put Council's Budget into unfunded projects in our smaller towns.

In 2021, Council is proud to be building a record number of local projects – new bridges, widening roads, upgraded playgrounds, new youth facilities, better skate parks, new lights and irrigation on sporting fields.

It's truly a wonderful time to live in Golden Plains Shire.

### Public Holiday: Melbourne Cup

At its May meeting, Council resolved that Golden Plains Shire observe Melbourne Cup Day as a public holiday for the next four years.

This is a change from the previous arrangement of the north of the Shire observing Ballarat Show Day and the south of the Shire taking Geelong Show Day as public holidays.

Council's decision followed public consultation undertaken from 24 February to 18 April, with submissions from 95 community members favouring Melbourne Cup Day, as observed in most Victorian municipalities. In 2021, the shire-wide public holiday is on Tuesday 2 November.

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INFORMATION PAGE

### Join the Community Engagement Register

Join the Community Engagement Register to receive Engage, Council's monthly engagement e-newsletter.

Complete the simple web form at [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/community-engagement-register](https://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/community-engagement-register)

Email [communityengagement@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:communityengagement@gplains.vic.gov.au)

For information or answers to your questions, call 5220 7199 and speak with Council's Communications and Engagement team.

### COVID-19 Grants

Twenty-three Golden Plains community groups have been awarded COVID-19 Quick Response Community Grants in the program's second round.

Council awarded a combined \$46,036 to the successful groups, adding to \$20,899 distributed to 16 community groups in the first round of grants.

The program is funded by the Victorian Government's Community Activation and Social Isolation (CASI) initiative.





# healthSAVE pharmacy

## Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

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Phone: 5281 1519

### Be prepared this flu season (Vaccination Clinic)

We now have the 2021 influenza (flu) vaccines available.

Our pharmacists, Scott, Priji & Tracey are accredited to provide and administer flu vaccinations (10 years & older) & whooping cough vaccinations in the pharmacy. Our vaccination clinic is open during the following times:

Monday: 10:00am - 6:00pm	Tuesday: 10:00am - 6:00pm
Wednesday: 10:00am - 6:00pm	Thursday: 9:00am - 4:00pm
Friday: 10:00am - 6:00pm	

'AFTER HOURS' flu clinics will be available too. Follow us on Facebook to see when these will be happening.

Everything is done from start to finish within the pharmacy. It is requirement for your safety that you need to rest in the pharmacy for 15 minutes after your vaccination has been administered so please allow extra time for this.

#### \* Flu vaccination cost

- No prescription is required from your Doctor
- \$25 (\$15 for the flu vaccination + \$10 for the administration of the vaccine by one of our accredited pharmacists)
- FREE flu vaccine + \$10 for the administration by one of our accredited pharmacists if you fall into one of the following categories:
  - (i) Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children aged 6 months to <5 years.
  - (ii) Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander persons aged ≥ 15 years
  - (iii) All persons ≥ 65 years
  - (iv) All persons ≥ 6 months who have certain medical conditions which increase the risk of influenza disease complications; for example, severe asthma, lung or heart disease, low immunity or diabetes
  - (v) Pregnant women

#### \* Whooping Cough vaccination cost

- No prescription is required from your Doctor
- \$47 (\$37 for the whooping cough vaccine + \$10 for the administration of the vaccine by one of our accredited pharmacists).
- FREE whooping cough vaccine + \$10 for the administration by one of our accredited pharmacists, if you fall into one of the following categories:
  - (i) pregnant women from 28 weeks gestation during every pregnancy
  - (ii) partners of women who are at least 28 weeks pregnant if the partner has not received a pertussis booster in the past 10 years
  - (iii) parents/guardians of babies born on or after 1st June 2015, if their baby is under 6 months of age and they have not received a pertussis booster in the past 10 years.

To secure a time that best suits you we recommend that you make an appointment through the pharmacy. You can either phone the pharmacy on 5281 1519 or you can bookonline through our FaceBook page <https://www.facebook.com/bannockburnpharmacy/>

You can also just walk in but there may be a wait if someone else is already having a vaccination done.

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

## Vaccination Clinic – flu & whooping cough vaccinations



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PHOTOS OMITTED FROM ONLINE PUBLICATION







# FREE Meredith Community Bush Dance & Talent Show Saturday 21st August

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**Talent Show** e:advancemeredit@gmail.com for registration form.



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Organised by Advance Meredith Association

'This project has been funded by the Golden Plains Shire Council in partnership with the Victorian Government's Community Activation and Social Isolation initiative (CASI).'

# Misinformation and Community

*The Revd Dr Timothy Smith  
Anglican Parish Priest*

I have been regularly receiving the Fact Checker from RMIT bringing fact to misinformation regarding coronavirus claimed on social media and within the public sphere. It is an interesting word misinformation. The Collins Dictionary defines misinformation as 'wrong information which is given to someone, often in a deliberate attempt to make them believe something which is not true.' So, why isn't it just called a lie? The same dictionary defines a lie as information not believed by the one who states it with the intention the hearer will believe it. The difference, therefore, has something to do with what the person who is speaking believes. If they tell you something they believe to be true, but is not factual, it is misinformation. If they tell you something they do not believe themselves, it is a lie. The intent of what they are claiming, however, is the same; it is to convince you to believe what they want you to believe.

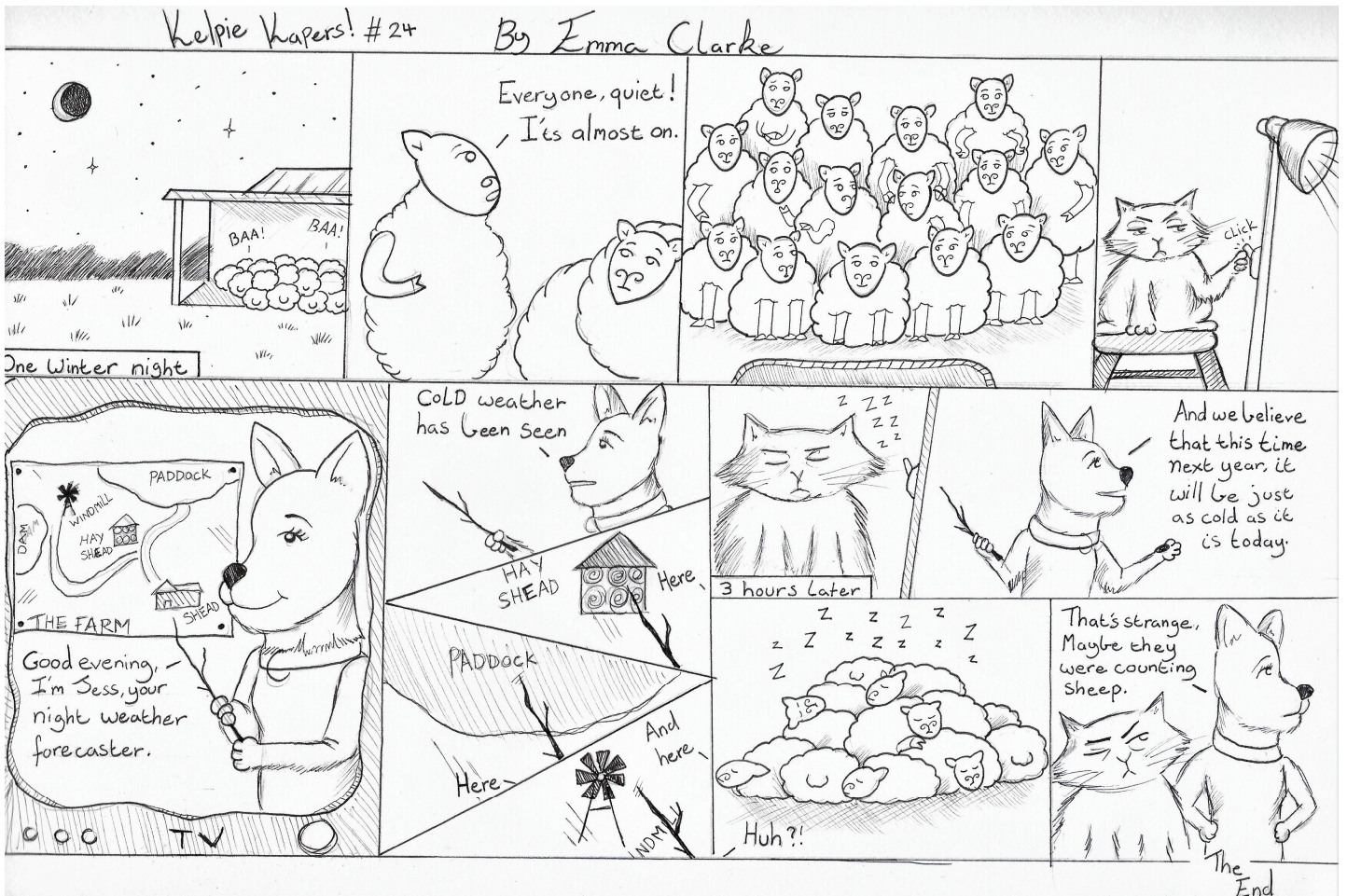
This is important to consider as we struggle living in our communities. When we are talking with another about what is going on in our lives, our family members, and our activities, this is good gossip. When someone tells us information about another person they know is not true in order that we might believe what they are saying, this is the kind of gossip damages community.

Misinformation, information we believe to be true but is not fact that we tell others, is also damaging to community. If we hear information about another person it is always good, no matter how uncomfortable it may be, to check that the information is true before we even considering telling anyone else, because this strengthens community.

An important aspect of Christianity is good community and the Bible addresses this issue of damage to community through misinformation and lies in the language of the tongue. (James 3:5-6) A mentor once said, "If you are not talking to a person with whom you have a problem, you are a part of the problem." Likewise, if we are not sharing the facts within community we are damaging community whatever our opinion on matters might be.



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## is the Newsletter on...



The Newsletter Committee thinks the purpose of the Newsletter is...

- To facilitate community discussion and communication
- To promote community action and involvement
- To foster a sense of community.
- To provide a service to district residents and promote businesses trading in the district.

## But what do YOU think?

We do it for our community, so it's important to us if you think we should be doing something different. Or could be doing something better.

Whatever your thoughts or suggestions, please let us know on our Facebook page or on [news@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:news@meredithnews.com.au).

**Go ON...SMILE!**



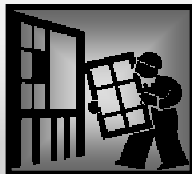
"A friend tricked me into going to Wimbledon by telling me it was a men's singles event"

- Angela Barnes

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## Kenneth to the Rescue.

On Friday, June 4th there was some drama at the Roadhouse when a truck accidentally mounted the guard surrounding the gas tank. The driver had tried to squeeze through between the building and the rail. The truck got stuck. Luckily Kenneth Medlyn was on the scene. He had knocked off from work to buy some lunch. He offered to deconstruct the guard rail. Using his set of tools he undid the bolts on the railing to free the truck. The driver then held the railing up while Kenneth reconstructed the guard. The panels were a little bit bent but the truck was undamaged. The driver was very grateful and paid for Kenneth's lunch and the Roadhouse staff were very grateful and gave him \$50 worth of fuel for his ute.



## Harley's Handstands

*Marg Cooper*

Last month it was reported in the Meredith Newsletter that the Government had announced \$420,000 to improve facilities in the Skate Park area for the young people of Meredith and that the project was initiated by local lad Harley Murfitt.

### Who is this lad?

Harley has lived in Meredith all his life with his parents and two siblings. His Nana lives next door. He attended Meredith Kindergarten and State School before starting at St Joseph's Catholic College in Geelong in 2021. He says that he is loving the challenges set for students at St Josephs and the variety of subjects.

He has played tennis and football, likes fishing, used to go to boxing sessions but now practices at home on the boxing bag in their shed or against Mum, rides his bike for kilometres beside Mum who runs over 65 kilometres a month, but his passion is riding his BMX bike. During a school holidays in 2019 Harley and his friend Max Love thought that a better Skate Park was needed in Meredith and a BMX Track. Headmaster Steve and Policeman Craig suggested they prepare a proposal for council which included photos of other facilities. Harley has had considerable experience on tracks including at Teesdale, Smythesdale, Sebastopol and Waurn Ponds.

Harley wants to be a Train Driver. His grandfather was a Train Driver as was his great grandfather. He intends to study engineering after Year 12 and then gain a traineeship with Vic Rail. He knows trains, follows the timetables. His Grandfather sends messages and he goes all over the country videoing trains, and he then uploads the videos onto his own You Tube Channel. His Dad usually takes him to sites so he can set up his camera on a tripod ready to video. He particularly likes to capture trains at the local train station and wishes he could help maintain the buildings and grounds so it doesn't become completely derelict. Maybe this will be his next project!

Harley is an admirable young lad. He speaks confidently, he has many interests and most of all, he cares. I'm sure that all were impressed who saw or heard him interviewed on Studio 10, Win News, ABC Radio and BTN after the announcement.

Harley tells that he was so excited by the announcement he ran around the house, doing backflips and handstands.



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It is approaching the end of a very wintry day. The rain has stopped, so I rug up and walk down to the creek. For much of the year, it is a series of pools with no water flowing between them. Today I can hear it before I see it, brown and rushing between the silver wattles on its banks, pushing over the tall brown reeds that grow on its bed. There is some shelter from the icy wind among the gums, wattles and banksias that were planted over 15 years ago. It is why I am down here in the valley. Small birds are here for the same reason. I hear their calls and see quick glimpses of a tail, a head or a back as they hop and feed in the wattle branches. Standing still and silent, I watch. Some of these birds have upright tails, a distinctive feature of superb fairy-wrens; brown tails for young birds, brown with a bluish tinge for females, and dark blue for the males, most no longer in their showy blue and black breeding plumage. Other birds are plumper, with a short tail sticking out behind and a white eyebrow. These are white-browed scrubwrens seeking a meal of insects. Behind me, bell-like chimes indicate the presence of a spotted pardalote. I will be lucky to see this pretty little bird, also with a white eyebrow, and white spots on its black head and wings, and a bright yellow throat if it is a male. I watch two white, black and yellow New Holland honeyeaters feeding from the yellow banksia flowers, then look up to the sky where a pair of magpies are being blown sideways as they flap hard to cross the valley.

When the birds aren't attracting my attention, my eyes are on the ground. Mostly, I am looking for fungi, but there are also pale green lichens and bright green mosses revitalised by the rain. An old log is a good place to find all of these. The cracks and holes in it provide homes for beetles, lizards and other small animals. Nearby, a little flattened circle of white caught on a broken stalk requires a closer look. It is a spider's egg sac, empty now, the spiderlings dispersed. Some will have been eaten by birds and lizards, others may have flown on silken threads to a new home, or be living in the log. Scratchings and narrow holes in freshly turned dirt beside the log are the work of an echidna, pressing its nose into the ground as it searches for ants. As I walk across the creek flat, I find an elongated pellet containing the remains of many shining black beetles. Larger birds cough up these pellets, a way to get rid of the indigestible parts of their meals. Perhaps it was one of the magpies that flew over earlier. Ahead of me, a dark shape is half hidden among the tussock grasses. It is a wallaby. We watch each other until I change my path to avoid disturbing it further, and it returns to feeding.

One of the pleasures of afternoon winter walks is the early sunset. Today it is too overcast for a colourful display, and the grey sky gradually darkens. On other days, I see the clouds tinged with pale orange well before sunset. The last of the sun's light turns treetops golden. After that, I have seen grey and pink clouds in the east, while the sun sinks in a fiery display of oranges and yellows behind a hill to

the west, tall trees silhouetted black in front of the colours. One warmer night when I was still out among trees shortly after sunset, beetles appeared as black silhouettes flying past me. Above them two small bats flitted and circled, hunting the beetles and other insects.

When the weather is gentler, I enjoy walking in the bush. Again, it is the fungi that attracts much of my attention. Most are varying shades of brown, but their different shapes and sizes provide interest. On a recent walk, I saw mushroom shaped fungi in oranges, yellows, reds and grey-blue, some growing on soil and others on wood. The birds were calling, but mostly staying hidden in the bushes. As it became gloomy, I saw superb fairy-wrens hopping among the leaves. Then, a slightly larger bird flew from the bushes to perch on a slender dead branch. My attention was caught by its black head, sandy belly, brown patch on its white throat and its long curved bill. It was joined by another, a pair of eastern spinebills, with beaks shaped to reach nectar at the base of long tubular flowers, such as the pink and white heath which was flowering nearby. The sky was gold behind the trees as I finished my walk.

While fungi and birds are highlights of my winter walks, there are other things to see and hear, signs of Spring to come. There are buds on the wattles, and leaves of sundews and lilies pushing up through the soil. The nodding greenhood orchids are just beginning to send up buds. Grey shrike-thrushes, already considering courtship, have begun their melodic springtime songs. They are among the treasures that I find on my winter walks. I don't know what I will find when I set out, but I know there are many things to discover, if I look and listen carefully.



The Newsletter is looking for someone to be our social media officer. If you are enthusiastic about, and competent in the use of social media, then it could be you we are looking for. It won't take much of your time and you will have the satisfaction of playing a useful role in an important community service.

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## In the School Garden

What an interesting season...our tomatoes hung on and on and on. We only just picked the last few tomatoes and pulled the plants out right at the end of June. This of course had implications for our winter plantings: we had two garden beds full of still productive tomato plants and winter veggies waiting to go in. We solved this by planting our pea seeds into a large seedling tray. Peas prefer to be direct sown where they are to grow so we will see how they go after they are planted out. It will be a gentle and careful exercise.

Now is probably a good time to talk about crop rotation - in other words, what is best planted after the last crop has finished? Tomatoes take a lot of nutrition from the soil so the next crop needs to replenish, in particular, the nitrogen. Peas are great for this as they are a legume. In the bed where we are watching our garlic sprout now, we will put tomatoes and capsicum at the end of the year because garlic is a light feeder.

This way, the same vegetable is planted in a bed only once every three to four years and this improves the health of all the crops.

The herbs are continuing to thrive, the parsley, olive herb and curry plant are hardy enough and the frosts we have experienced haven't done any damage. The rhubarb is very leafy but the stems are looking a bit spindly. This is the signal that it would like to be dug up and divided if we want the plant to flourish.



Shaylah, Celeste & Emma in the garden.

A much needed and well overdue job was completed recently - our garden shed. Shaylah, Celeste and Ella donned masks and gloves and dived into the dusty depths to give it a good clean. Everything came out and was brushed, shelves were dusted and the floor was swept. Like most other places in Meredith and surrounds, we had been visited by little creatures looking for nesting spots and something to eat so it was quite a big job and many thanks to the students for volunteering to do it.

The grade 5/6 students are continuing enthusiastically with their OzHarvest project. This aims to educate about diverting food from landfill. In Australia, one fifth of edible food is thrown away each year and that is worth about \$8 billion. Recently in class there was a search for recipes that can be adapted to use up items you already have in your fridge or pantry rather than buying new ingredients every time you cook. The students, with Mrs Daglas, hope to make a recipe book and this will be something to look out for.

One item which is most wasted in Victoria is the banana. When the skins go dark or even a bit black, they do start to look unattractive however, the darker they are, the sweeter they are and this makes them perfect for using in recipes.

Here are a few ideas for an old banana or two:

Peel, cut into pieces and freeze; pop into a blender and whiz up to make 'nice cream'

Add in some milk to the frozen pieces and maybe a spoonful of cocoa or peanut butter and make a smoothie

One favourite with everyone is banana bread and it is very welcome in a school or work lunchbox. Here's an easy recipe (Shaylah found it on taste.com) and a great way to use up very ripe bananas.

### Banana Bread

- 1 3/4 cups SR flour
- 1/4 cup plain flour
- 1 tsp cinnamon, ground
- 2/3 cup firmly packed brown sugar
- 2 overripe medium bananas, mashed
- 2 eggs, lightly whisked
- 1/2 cup skim milk
- 50g butter, melted, cooled

Preheat oven to 180°C. Brush an 11 x 21cm loaf pan with melted butter or lined with baking paper.

Sift the combined flours and cinnamon into a large bowl. Stir in the sugar and make a well in the centre.

Mash bananas in a medium bowl. Add the eggs, milk, and melted butter, and stir until well combined.

Add the banana mixture to the flour mixture and stir until just combined. Spoon the mixture into the prepared pan and smooth the surface. Bake in a preheated oven for 45-50 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean. Remove from the oven and set aside in the pan for 5 minutes.

Turn onto a wire rack to cool completely. Cut into slices and serve.

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## Vale to Owen Joseph Cook

27/3/1921 – 14/5/2021

*Marg Cooper*

A Notice in the Geelong Advertiser on May 25th, 2021 told that Owen Joseph Cook had died. He was the husband of Frances [Faye], loved father of Marie, Paula, Michael, Loretta, Teresa, Kevin, Kristine and Anthony, grandfather of fourteen and great grandfather of fourteen. A celebration of his life was held at St Bernard's with family and friends on Friday, May 21st.

Owen joined the SEC in 1938 as an apprentice Electrical Engineer, after he finished school at Christian Brothers College in St Kilda. In 1941 signed up for Army Citizens Military Forces. He had not been allowed to join up as he was working in an essential service. After 18 months he was advised to join the Air Force. He trained as a pilot in Launceston, Tasmania flying Tiger Moths before being sent with four others to Canada for advanced training. He started training at twenty-one years of age. He got his wings at Dunneville, Canada and was then sent to England for more training in twin engine Wellington Bombers and the Lancaster Bombers with a crew of seven. He became a member of No 75, New Zealand Bomber Squad. The 75 Squadron was based at Mepal near Ely in Cambridgeshire.

On his first war operation he went as second pilot with an experienced crew in a ten-hour night raid to Dessau in far East Germany. They were one of 800 planes which were in formation of three abreast at 20,000 feet. They bombed the target through 10/10 cloud cover and returned to England in cloud. A week before the war ended, April 29, 1945 he flew at 500 feet for the whole trip to Hague in operation Manna, to drop sugar bags of food into Holland as the Dutch were dying of starvation. In June 1945 Owen flew to collect POW's from France. After the war he came home through the Suez Canal on a modern passenger liner that had been requisitioned for war service and he was discharged in December 1945.

Owen and his wife Faye travelled back to England to be present at the unveiling ceremony of the Bomber Command Memorial on June 28, 2012 in Green Park in London. They were accompanied by their son Michael and his wife. More than 5,000 surviving airmen joined the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh and other members of the Royal family for the unveiling. The surviving airmen were aged between 85 and 97 years and consisted of veterans from Australia, New Zealand, Canada and other countries who served alongside British crews. [55,573 aircrew of Bomber Command lost their lives in WW11. This was almost half of the 125,000 men of Bomber Command.]

On returning to Australia after WW11 Owen worked on a Swan Hill property and married Frances Caelli from Swan Hill in 1953. They put in for several Soldier Settlement blocks around Ballarat before being allocated Block 21 on the Moranghurk Estate at Meredith. They moved to Meredith in 1955 with their first two children and lived in Wallace Street until the house was built on their block in Shelford Road. Owen said that he went to the farm block to repair his mind and body from the wounds of war. It was therapy! It was an interim step before the family moved to Geelong.

The farm was great but they had eight children who were to go to colleges in Geelong for their education so the family sold the farm in 1965. Owen worked in Real Estate before he bought a shop in Labuan Square in Norlane. It was a mixed business. He had five people working in the shop and all the children helped at some time, mainly at weekends. He kept his private pilot licence and would often hire a plane from Geelong Airport and take the family for a trip. He sold the Tattslotto Agency to the Newsagent in Labuan Square and closed his shop in 1986. Owen and his wife Faye moved to a unit in Belmont in 1996 and enjoyed their retirement by playing bowls, travelling and spending time quietly, gardening and reading car magazines on the back veranda in the sun. His family told that he had a passion for fast cars and tinkering under the bonnet. Owen said he had had a Fortunate Life.



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## Playground football rules

*Roy Hay*

I suspect that most football everywhere takes place under playground football rules, just like the majority of cricket in Australia is played under backyard cricket rules. I was reminded of this when an academic journal called for articles on informal sports. They wanted modern, scientific and theoretically informed papers, so my historical account of playground rules and the decline of Scottish football did not make it through their reviewing process. You should never waste a piece of work so I thought I might share some of my thoughts on the subject.

Playground football in Scotland was serious stuff. My good friend Jim Cassels, who was head teacher at Bellahouston Academy in Glasgow, sent me this picture of his school burning down while a football match continued on one of the school's pitches.

Bellahouston Academy on fire in March 1991, while football continues on a school playground. Photo. James Cassels, with permission.



Here in Victoria the equivalent of playground football is Australian football kick-to-kick, played in streets, gardens, waste ground, school playgrounds or anywhere a bunch of youngsters can congregate. My guess is that there is only one rule. The player who grabs the speccy gets to have the next kick. Otherwise it is a free for all, though I suppose if the ball is kicked out of bounds or a big black dog runs away with the ball, then one of the Scottish playground rules might come into play.

### Stray dog on pitch

An interruption of unpredictable duration. The dog does not have to make off with the ball; it merely has to run around barking loudly, snarling and occasionally drooling or foaming at the mouth. This will ensure a dramatic reduction in the number of players as 27 of them simultaneously volunteer to go indoors and inform the teacher/parent of the threat. The length of the interruption can sometimes be gauged by the breed of dog. A deranged Irish Setter could take ten minutes to tire itself of running in circles, for instance, while it may take up to fifteen minutes to corner and force a Jack Russell out through the gates. An Alsatian/German shepherd means instant abandonment.

Another useful rule covers the case where bigger boys arrive on the scene and disrupt the kick-to-kick.

A highly irritating interruption, the length of which is determined by the players' experience in dealing with this sort of thing. The Intruders will seldom actually steal the ball, but will improvise their own kick-about amongst themselves, occasionally inviting the younger players to attempt to tackle them. Standing around looking bored and unimpressed usually results in a quick restart. Shows of frustration and engaging in attempts to win back the ball can prolong the stoppage indefinitely. Informing the intruders that one of the players' older brothers is 'Mad Chic Murphy' or some other noted local pugilist can also ensure minimum delay.

I have to say that the copy of the playground football rules that we have on the SESA website is sexist, homophobic and violent, redolent of its times, and hence better consigned to the dustbin of history. <https://sesasport.com/playground-fitba-rules/> But some of it is also very funny and true to life as we experienced it growing up in Scotland and England. My friend Geoff Sleight, who was born in Yorkshire and had a trial at Manchester United in his youth, came to Australia in the 1960s. He played with the Prague club in Sydney and represented Australia in its first attempt to qualify for the soccer World Cup in 1965. He tells me my account of the content and operation of playground football rules in my academic draft article corresponds closely with his own experience.

Skill at local kick-to-kick, particularly the ability to take speccies, is no guarantee of progress to a senior football career in this country. Players I have spoken to in Scotland in connection with soccer and footy players in Australia always tell of more skilled players in the groups and teams with which they grew up. It took single-minded determination in all facets of the game and sheer persistence for my informants to force their way into the consciousness of recruiters for clubs and the AFL. Recruiters for soccer say that it takes about 10,000 hours of play in one's youth to develop the range of skills necessary to achieve a senior professional career. I don't know what the equivalent requirement is for footy and cricket in Australia, but I suspect it could be quite similar. So playground football or backyard cricket is not a waste of time, aside from providing the exercise, hand-eye and eye-foot co-ordination which our youth require and would benefit from in these days of computer games, lock-ups, and fast foods.

## A Serendipitous River Meeting

Roy Hay, who has written for us in the last few issues (including the delightful piece on this page), was the expert historian presenting Denise Drysdale with an account of her (rather barbarous) ancestors in 16th century Scotland, in an edition of "Who Do You Think You Are?" that aired on SBS late last month. (You can catch it on SBS On Demand). When contacted by the producers, he had to bow out because he was booked for an excursion on a Murray River houseboat. (Which he wrote about in our June issue.) Surprisingly, among Denise's ancestors was a shipwright who, after the goldfields passed their peak, moved to Echuca for work. So filming was scheduled for when Denise and Roy were both there.





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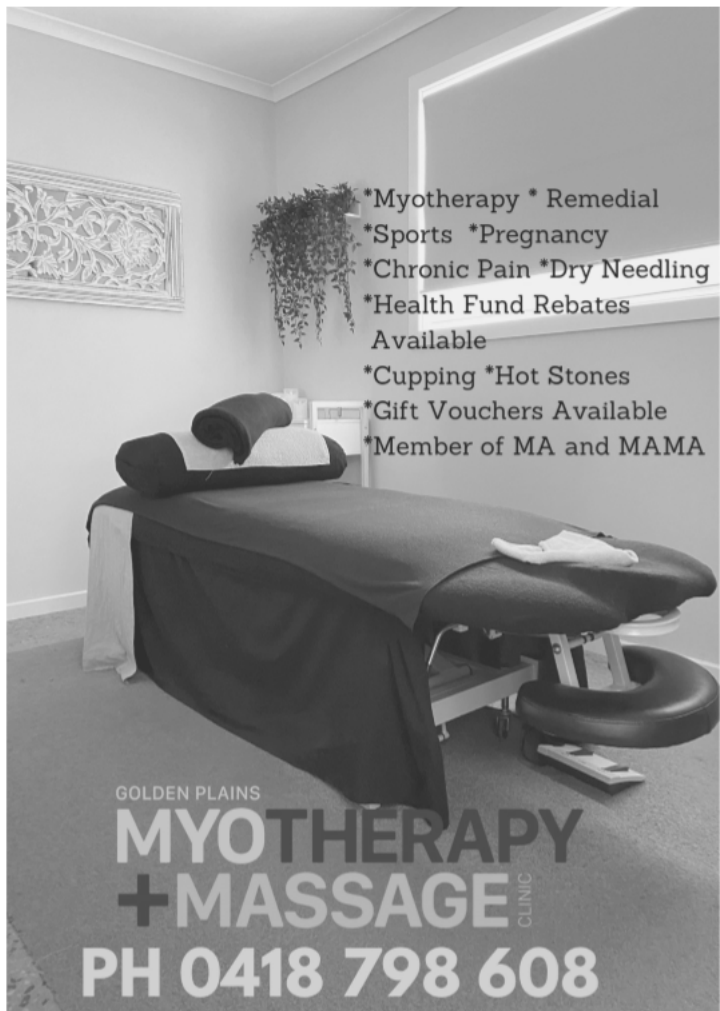
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## Marg's BOOK REVIEW

### “Kate Kelly, The True Story of Ned Kelly’s Little Sister” by Rebecca Wilson.

This biography tells about the life Ned Kelly’s little sister Kate and her role in the Kelly Gang and the evolution of their legend. The author claims that it is an astonishing story told in full for the first time. She wanted her to be remembered. In the grand scheme of things women like Kate didn’t matter. She was just a poor teenage girl from rural north-east Victoria, the daughter of an Irish ex-convict and sister of notorious outlaws Ned and Dan Kelly.

Author, Rebecca Wilson grew up in the Forbes region of NSW hearing stories about Kate Kelly, who spent the last years of her life there. For a decade the author researched the details of Kate’s life and Kate had been the subject of her art works. Eventually she felt she had to complete the telling of Kate’s story by compiling a biography.

Some years ago an article appeared in the Ballarat Courier that listed “Ten links between Ned Kelly and Ballarat”. Number four: “Ned’s last stand came about after policeman Alexander Fitzpatrick made unwelcome advances towards Ned’s sister Kate, one night at their Greta home. Ned’s mother Ellen hit Fitzpatrick over the head with a shovel and Ned shot him in the wrist. The fateful events of this night set Ned and his gang on their lawless rampage, which resulted in his death by hanging. Fitzpatrick had fathered, then abandoned a child to a woman who lived at Meredith, outside Ballarat.”

Anna Savage found herself pregnant to Fitzpatrick at the age of fifteen and he refused to marry her but her father, a solicitor, forced Fitzpatrick’s hand. [They had three children together.]

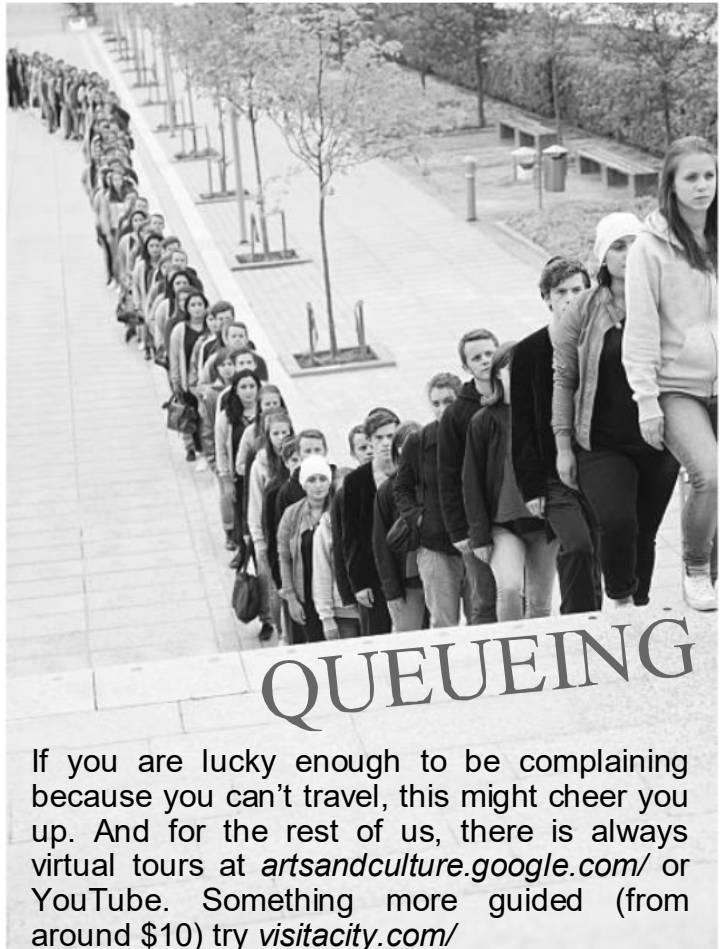
Of particular interest in this book is the claim that Fitzpatrick and Kate Kelly had been having an affair and that when Fitzpatrick visited the Kelly home under the pretence of arresting Dan Kelly in April 1878, it was a ruse to see Kate who had given birth to baby Alice three days prior. A plan had been hatched to cover up Kate’s pregnancy and Ellen was raising Alice as her own; a story as old as the wind.

According to the book, after the “Fitzpatrick Incident” at the Kelly home, the policeman was sent to Sydney to watch that the Kellys didn’t escape by sea. He was described as a “perjurer and a drunkard” and was discharged from the force in 1880 as his behaviour was deemed to have more in common with criminals than with police.

After Ned was arrested Kate and her family fought for his life by organizing a petition which apparently contained more signatures than the monster petition for women’s vote, they held street marches and protests and visited the governor and politicians.

After Ned Kelly’s execution Kate appeared at public gatherings around Australia. Huge crowds went to see her talk and ride and she helped to popularise the Ned Kelly story. Then she disappeared from the public eye. She moved to the Forbes area of NSW, took on a new identity and worked as a housemaid for relatives of the author’s family. But after a marriage, several children, a distant, drunken husband, depression, hopelessness and alcohol she was found dead floating in a lagoon on the outskirts of Forbes at the age of thirty five years.

The author relates that she was led on a wild chase through a maze of mythology, folklore and facts during her efforts to research, paint and write her remarkable and ultimately tragic story.



If you are lucky enough to be complaining because you can’t travel, this might cheer you up. And for the rest of us, there is always virtual tours at [artsandculture.google.com/](https://artsandculture.google.com/) or YouTube. Something more guided (from around \$10) try [visitacity.com/](https://visitacity.com/)

- London Eye: 2.5 hours.
- Sistine Chapel and Vatican Museums: 2 hours.
- Colosseum, Rome: 2 hours.
- Catacombs, Paris: 2 hours (up to 3-4 hours during summer)
- Eiffel Tower, Paris: 2 hours.
- St Peter’s Basilica, Vatican City: 1.5 hours
- Tower of London: 1.5 hours
- 8. Van Gogh Museum, Amsterdam = 1.5 hours
- Empire State Building, New York: 1.5 hours
- Notre Dame Cathedral, Paris: 1 hour (up to 2 hrs to visit the towers)



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## What's going on at the MCG?

We are the Events and Community Engagement Committee at the Meredith Community Garden. It is our job to manage the planning of events throughout the year with Tam, our leader. Our main event will be the launch of the garden in December. This will be all about showing the community what we have achieved during the year - essentially, this is the Grand Opening. There will be more garden beds and much more produce to show you. At the moment there is not a lot because it is the end of the summer season and we haven't got our winter crops in yet. We hope to have broccoli, peas, cauliflowers and cabbage.

Some of the things we are working on are: ways to promote the event, creating an invitation list, organising student presentations and special guest speakers, and hopefully some media to report on the day. There is a lot to do before December as well as joining in the working bees.

We look forward to seeing you at our launch.

Look out for the report from the 'Box Gang' in next month's Newsletter and they will tell you all about building the garden beds.

*Celeste, Goldie, Matilda, Megan, Savannah, Slater and Violet*

*Grade 5/6 Meredith Primary School*



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## it's HiStory

Meredith History Interest Group

### Book Launch:

The launch of the book *Pubs & Publicans of Meredith 1840-1960* has been postponed until Sunday, July 11th because of Covid restrictions. You are invited to come along to hear some stories of past Publicans and some of the history of Meredith's many pubs at 1.30 pm in the Memorial Hall. There are many stories of past Publicans and much history in the book that has been written by Kerrie Kruger that will be launched on the day. She has also produced a Pubs Walk flyer so you can take a walk and visit all the sites of former pubs. Register your attendance by July 5, [meredithhistoryinterestgroup@gmail.com](mailto:meredithhistoryinterestgroup@gmail.com), Marg 0408109389 or Kerrie 0409027359 or in person at MHIG 31 Staughton Street, Meredith.

### Steiglitz Photos:

We are currently collecting, sorting and printing photos of Steiglitz for a photo exhibition in October. If you have any photos that would be of interest please let us know. We would like to photograph or scan them. It is amazing how many photos there are of Steiglitz compared to how many photos we don't have of Meredith in the same era.

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*Pubs & Publicans  
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Researched & Compiled by K.S. Kruger

## BOOK LAUNCH

Come along to this free event and hear the stories of past publicans and learn about the history of Meredith's Hotels and Inns.

Due to Covid 19 capacity rules we have rescheduled this event.

**UPDATE** New Date  
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in person : MHIG 31 Staughton St Meredith

**IMPORTANT**

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Meredith History Interest Group  
This event is supported by the Golden Plains Council through its Community Strengthening Grants Program.

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### Golden Plains Strategy Meeting:

On Wednesday morning of June 16th a meeting was held at MHIG to solicit ideas for a Heritage Strategy for the Shire. Heritage has lately been added to the title of the Art and Culture Officer. Kim Biggs organized the meeting, it was facilitated by Deb Samson and attended by seven people. After several warm up exercises that got our minds focused on heritage we were asked to consider what steps we would take if an old tractor of national significance was found in a farmer's shed in our area. This made us think deeply as it is out of our usual zone. While we considered what authorities or experts should become involved it also highlighted what roles the shire should play.

### Street Nursery:

Lots of special plants at the moment: iris's, staghorn ferns, strawberries and yuccas. You may say Yuk, but when they grow tall and straight they are very elegant!

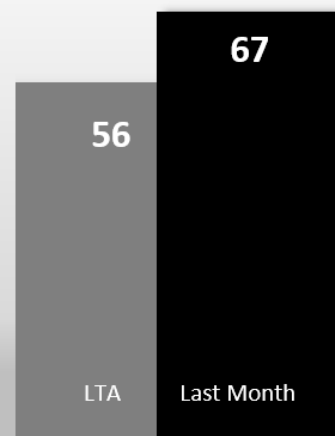
### Walking Around the World:

Mr George Schilling, the American champion pedestrian was in Meredith in 1899. He was attempting to walk around the world in four years for a wager of 5000 dollars. Conditions were that he had to start with nothing except a suit of old newspapers. He was neither to beg, borrow or spend. He left from New York in August 1897 and had to return to New York by August 1901. During a conversation at the Shire Hall he told that he had walked 13,000 miles and worn out 33 pairs of boots. He had 13,000 miles to travel in 22 months. He carried no clothes, no property excepting three books in his wallet. The books contained copies of the seals of the different cities and towns he had visited and presented quite a unique collection. He was missing his dog as it had to be quarantined in Sydney for 11 months. He was described as a fine specimen of an athlete, being about 13 stone 5 lb and was looking a picture of health. After getting the shire seal affixed to his book he left for Ballarat.

## the rain report




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## FROM THE ARCHIVES



### Football Photo

*Marg Cooper*

Photos of the Meredith Football Team posing in front of the Shire Hall were to be presented to J.M. Toohey, late Hon. Secretary and R.G. Stow, late President at a social and presentation at the Royal Hotel on July 14th, 1910.

At what was later described as a smoke social the President of the club Mr H. Davison occupied the chair and informed the guests that although the photos had not yet come to hand, it was rumoured that they were taken splendidly and the present would be made an act, if not in fact, so when they arrived, the recipients could proudly hang them in their drawing rooms.

The inscription on the photo presented to J.M. Toohey reads, Presented to J.M. Toohey Esq. by members of the Meredith Football Club for valuable service rendered as Secretary, July 19th, 1910.

Both men expressed their warmest thanks saying that the photos would enable them to gaze on features of those who had been connected with the club during their term of office.

The whole evening was spent in harmony with speech making and was one of the most enjoyable gatherings the club had held, everyone doing what they could to make things pleasant..

Mr and Mrs Bourke had the tables laid out very tastefully in their large dining hall and all the good things placed on them were of the best- pastry from Messrs Bell Bros and cigars etc from the emporium of Mr Rob't Bell.

The photo is of eighteen footballers, three officials, an umpire and a mascot.

Meredith colours were red and white but every wife or mother must have had a different pattern. The footballers are wearing an extraordinary array of vertical and horizontal stripes, materials, necklines and the chap on the right front has three colours in the stripes of his socks.

Well Wisher wrote a letter to the Editor of the Meredith Sentinel in August, 1910 with several suggestions to improve the game. One of his suggestions was that uniforms of clubs be what they ought to be, uniform. It seemed incongruous, even absurd to see all the colours of the rainbow displayed alike by two teams on a football oval. It hampers the judgment of players in quick passing. And the players were asked to be early and to look as nice as possible as the Meredith Team was to be photographed previous to the match on July 2.

*(Do you recognize anyone in the photo?)*



Presented to J. m. Toohey, Esq. by members of the Meredith Football Club for valuable service rendered as Secretary, July 19th 1910.



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## Youth Hub

### Media Release

Construction on the Golden Plains Youth Hub has officially started following today's sod-turning event with Gayle Tierney MP, Senator Sarah Henderson, Golden Plains Shire Mayor Cr Helena Kirby and Bannockburn & District Grants Chair Brett Cunningham.

The milestone was celebrated with students of neighbouring Bannockburn College P-12 including school captain Bridie Orr, and Principal George Porter and Deputy Principal Robyn Anderson.

The Golden Plains Youth Hub will be a vibrant facility that will provide inclusive, innovative and accessible programs and services for young people in Golden Plains. Located opposite the Shire's only high school, Bannockburn College P-12, the Youth Hub will support improved health, social, education and employability outcomes, and provide stronger connections between the local community and services young people need.

The \$562,000 project will be delivered with \$271,032 from the Victorian Government's Growing Suburbs Fund, \$100,000 for the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, \$100,000 from Bannockburn and District Grants, and Council's \$90,720 in-kind contribution of the portable building.

Mayor Cr Helena Kirby says it's been a collaborative effort to make the Golden Plains Youth Hub a reality.

"The Golden Plains Youth Hub is a wonderful project and it's very exciting to break ground on the construction today. We thank the Victorian Government, Australian Government and Bannockburn and District Grants for partnering on Council's vision for the Shire's first youth hub."

Quotes from Member for Western Victoria Gayle Tierney MP

"It's great to see the Growing Suburbs Fund delivering projects like the Golden Plains Shire Youth Hub, providing vital services to growing communities."

"This hub will be a place where all young people can come to relax, connect with peers and get advice and support if needed."

"I'm really pleased the Victorian Government has continued its support for our thriving community through projects like this. It will not only be a facility for Bannockburn residents, but for youth right across Golden Plains Shire."

Bannockburn and District Grants Chair Brett Cunningham said the Board is proud to partner with the Golden Plains Shire Council, Victorian and Federal Governments on this exciting major community project.

## New Dog Disease in Victoria

### Media Release

A dog in Horsham has tested positive for ehrlichiosis – the first detection of this disease for an Australian-born dog in Victoria. The dog came from the Northern Territory where the disease is established.

Victoria's Chief Veterinary Officer Dr Graeme Cooke urged all Victorian dog owners and veterinarians to be on the lookout for this new dog disease that is spread by brown dog ticks.

Dr Cooke said common signs of ehrlichiosis could include fever, lethargy, eye changes such as conjunctivitis, cloudy or red eyes; abnormal bleeding and swellings, small spots or bruising; and swellings on the body and limbs.

"When detected early, antibiotics may be used to treat the disease," Dr Cooke said.

"Prevention is crucial as there is no vaccine for the disease. Protect your dogs from ehrlichiosis by regularly checking them for ticks, using effective tick control and seeking veterinary advice promptly if they become unwell.

"You should regularly check your dog for ticks by running your fingers through their coat, on the skin, paying attention to the head, neck, ears, chest, between their toes and around their mouth and gums.

"Be particularly vigilant if you're taking your dog out bush and travelling interstate."

Ehrlichiosis was found for the first time in an Australian dog in the Kimberley region in mid-2020. Since then, it has spread around the country and now found in most states and territories.

"This is a notifiable disease in Victoria, which means it must be reported to the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888 when suspected," Dr Cooke said.

"If your dog is unwell or you find any abnormal bumps or ticks, make sure you promptly arrange to take your dog to your vet. Discuss with your vet the testing system in place for ehrlichiosis in Victoria.

"Put a tick in a clean resealable bag and take it to your local veterinarian to submit for identification. Freeze the bag with the tick first if you cannot take it to a vet immediately. If you are unsure about what is an appropriate tick control product to use, then consult your Veterinary advisor."

On rare occasions humans can become infected through the bite of an infected tick. Please seek medical advice if you feel unwell after being exposed to ticks.

For more information on ehrlichiosis (or e-canis), visit the Agriculture Victoria website or call the Customer Contact Centre on 136 186.





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## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

July 2021

### Moorabool North Wind Farm

#### Progress to date

- Installation of all fifty (50) turbines complete.
- Energisation of substation complete.
- Commissioning of fifty (50) turbines complete.
- Australian Energy Market Operator (AEMO) Registration complete.
- AEMO Compliance (Hold Point testing) commenced (75MW).

#### Look ahead

- AEMO Compliance (Hold Point testing) to continue – increased operations.

### Moorabool South Wind Farm

#### Progress to date

- Installation of all Fifty-Four (54) turbines complete.
- All access tracks, hardstands and substation complete.
- Energisation of substation complete.
- Pre-Commissioning of Forty-Five (45) turbines complete

#### Look ahead

- Road maintenance and repairs will continue as we monitor regularly.
- Ongoing commissioning of turbines.

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## Landscape and Visual Screening Program

Owners of residential dwellings within 4km of the Moorabool Wind Farm are invited to participate in a landscape and visual screening program.

This is to assist those closest neighbours in reducing the potential visual impacts of the project. All agreed works are undertaken by Moorabool Wind Farm at no cost to dwelling owners.

Expressions of interest will be accepted until 12 months after commissioning of the last turbine at either Moorabool North or Moorabool South Wind Farm.

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### Am I eligible?

To be eligible, a dwelling must be within 4km of a wind turbine at Moorabool wind farm and have views of at least one wind turbine within 4km.

You must be the owner of the property to be eligible for the program.

If eligible, with turbines visible within 4km of the dwelling, the screening program options will be offered to you.

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For further information visit:

[www.mooraboolwindfarm.com](http://www.mooraboolwindfarm.com),  
[info@mooraboolwindfarm.com](mailto:info@mooraboolwindfarm.com) or  
call: 1800 019 660.

