

August 2021

Meredith & district News

OUR FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER SINCE WE DON'T KNOW WHEN

inside



- Latest from the School Garden
- Roy Hay proposes an interesting thought
- Football - Now and then
-

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





**Celebrate.
Remember.
Fight Back.**

Geelong Relay For Life 2021

DATE: Saturday October 9th 2021

TIMES: 12 noon - 10pm (one day only this year!)

VENUE: St Albans Reserve, Boundary Road, Thomson.

What is Relay For Life?

It is a fun and moving event where we recognise and celebrate local cancer survivors, patients and their carers, honour and remember loved ones lost to cancer, and to raise money to help save lives.

Highlights include the Opening & Closing Ceremonies, the Survivor and Carer afternoon tea, the Candlelight Ceremony and Entertainment and Activities throughout the event.

How do I get involved?

Register a team of family and friends, or a work or a school team online at RelayForLife.org.au. You can also reach out to Anne Miller on 0439 007 960 for more information.



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SHOP 11 COUNTRY PLAZA, BANNOCKBURN



Community

The VIRUS and US

IT'S ABOUT TIME WE
ROLLED OUR SLEEVES UP.



We cut this column down to half a page thinking this was almost over. How wrong we were.

All I can say is thank goodness we live in Victoria where may have narrowly escaped the debacle which is now engulfing NSW. This is still a lesson for us in not becoming complacent and all of the usual requests apply. Also make sure you are getting information from reliable sources. Latest restrictions are listed at <https://www.dhhs.vic.gov.au/victorias-restriction-levels-covid-19>

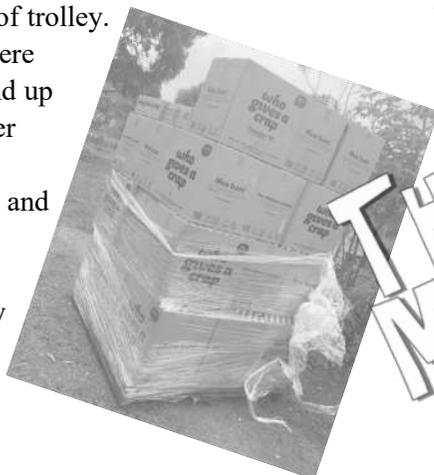
Did you find the time to take one of the virtual tours we had listed in last months newsletter.

What have you been doing with your time while in lockdown/s. Have you learned a new skill, binged on multiple shows, broken out the boardgames or jigsaw puzzles? Please drop us a message to tell us what you did.

Is this enough Dear?

A local family ordered \$1600 worth of toilet paper. The truck wouldn't pull into their yard because he thought he may get bogged :-), so it all had to be wheeled in on some sort of trolley. It was raining and they were scared that they would end up with \$1600 worth of paper mulch. The order was for friends and family also.

(A local family who, may wish to remain anonymous)



Meredith & District Community Bush Dance

21st August 2021

A **Free Bush Dance & Talent Show** is for the all residents of Meredith and District, to reconnect as a community.

Young & Old

New and long-term residents

All Welcome

Let our Spirits Shine in an evening filled with fun, music and laughter.

Includes Free Soup & Snags Dinner and Supper

Games. Prizes. Lucky Door Prize. Raffles

A Talent Show will be part on the evening, so register by emailing:

advancemeredith@gmail.com for your registration form.

Cash Prizes

Music Provided by: **TradJam of the Ironbark** play the music of their Celtic and Americana Roots.

They are motivated by the belief that music spreads love across the planet, and love bringing traditional music to the community.

A project of Advance Meredith Association funded by the Golden Plains Shire Council in partnership with the Victorian Government's Community Activation and Social Isolation Initiative (CASI).

Current COVID19 regulations will be followed.

Meredith Angling Club AGM

Bert Eldridge

The Meredith Angling Club will be holding their Annual General Meeting at their club rooms 22 Wallace street or the old RSL hall the meeting will be held on August the 8th starting at 11am until around 4pm

We will be having a BBQ lunch which will be followed by our trophy presentations for our club competitions during the past year.

We are still in the grips of what feels like a really cold winter. So curl up and enjoy our offering for August. I don't know about you but cold weather makes me crave comfort food, Stefania offers us some yummy tarts. Wendy gives us a fascinating insight into colour in nature. Roy asks "what lasts" Sadly we farewell 3 valued members of our community

THIS MONTH...

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 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
Full page	\$100/\$200

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

Accounts: Mike 0419 307044

accounts@meredithnews.com.au

Editorial: Jim: 0409 163169

news@meredithnews.com.au

WEB

You can check back copies and lodge comments at meredithnews.com.au

ONLINE PHOTOS

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

DISCLAIMER

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

Issue Production: *Peter Boer* Editor: *Pam Ridd*

connect

ADVANCE
MEREDITH
5286 1291

ANGLING CLUB
0419 248 660

B'BURN ART
GROUP
0410 808 483

BLUE LIGHT
DISCO
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BOOK CLUB
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CFA
000 for fire calls
Elaine
0409 861 296
Meredith
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COMMUNITY
CENTRE
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Junior
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Meredith
5286 1434

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RSL - 5286 1452

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CITIZENS
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Meredith
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SEW 'N' SEWS
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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	1300 363 036
a/h emergency	0408 508 635
Ranger	52207111
	or 0409 830 223
Bannockburn Vet	5281 1221
a/h emergency	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

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PRIMARY

SCHOOL

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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



"What matters most in life is often invisible."

Duane Elgin

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 or

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: Best Guess assuming COVID-19

Restrictions allow gathering. Check with the office or Fr Charles to find out what is happening with Masses on any particular day.

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

Congregation size may be restricted, possibly severely, so check ahead

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. 5 pm Vigil St. John the Baptist, Winchelsea

Sun. 9 am St. Mary MacKillop, Bannockburn

Sun. 1/8, 15/8, 29/8 11 am St. Joseph's, Meredith

Sun. 8/8. 22/8: 11 am St. Brigid's, Anakie

Sun. 29/8, 4 pm Sacred Heart, Inverleigh

8/8 Dedication Mass at St.Mary MacKillop Church,

Bannockburn, 11 am – If the Dedication Mass goes ahead. This will be the only Mass in the Parish that weekend and all parishioners are encouraged to register and attend <https://www.trybooking.com/BSMPO>.

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 for 2022.



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.

Give Pam a call on 0432 909156 to find out more.

Community Alert

We have just received a message on the grapevine that there is now a new Defib machine located at the Morrisons CFA shed. For more information contact Morrisons CFA members.



OUR COVER

This month's cover is a beautiful wattle taken by Cathy Boer. A harbinger of the change of season



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

The Hub Happenings....

From the desk of Leah

As we emerge once again from Lockdown, we have seen the beauty in what is our Community. A big thanks to the Advance Meredith Association for organising the drop off of biscuits. It was certainly a welcome surprise for our residents! Plus, the children have been out and about doing all sorts of good deeds, delivering flowers and eggs, all whilst tackling online learning!

If you were to attend a class during lockdown, keep a look out for your new dates on Facebook, some are still being worked out!

What is coming up?

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 August 11 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

Introduction to Wire Wrapping – Saturday August 7– 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!

Macramé – Anita is coming to Meredith to teach you all about Macramé! Come and join the Fun on Friday August 13 from 11am – just \$50 gets you in with a light lunch and all you need to create a beautiful wall hanging!

Fermentation with Narelle was rescheduled for August 30... this class is FULL, but I can take down your name for the next one!

Gardening - Unfortunately, our first 2 gardening sessions needed to be cancelled – but you can still come along to Spring Preparation with Jaclyn on Friday August 20 at 11am – just \$15!

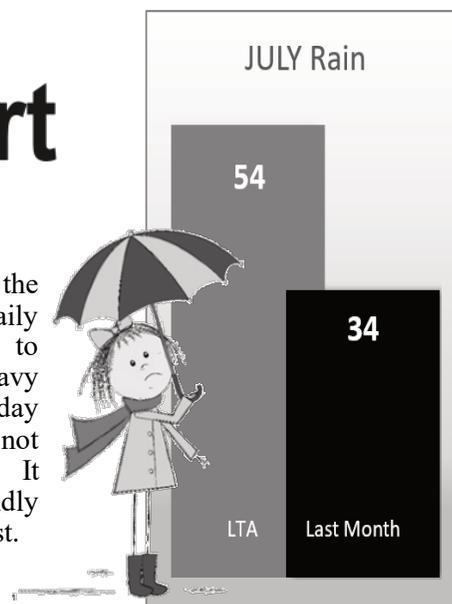
So that's it from me for August! As we sit at the moment we have a 10 person per room capacity limit,

so bookings are essential. Hopefully this will be short lived and we can get back to being a little bit more normal soon – Just remember you **MUST** also check into the Centre on arrival, we have a QR code and a book if you feel more comfortable doing it that way, wearing of masks is compulsory – and remember, if you are feeling unwell, stay home.

See you Soon! - Leah

the rain report

Because of the timing of the daily rain reports to BOM, some heavy rain on the last day of the month is not recorded here. It will be kindly donated to August.



FOR SALE

HYLINE BROWN (Isa Brown) Pullets

12 week old, sexed and vaccinated

\$23 each

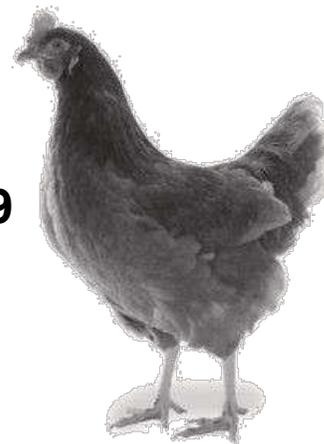
Delivery to Meredith

7th August

Call Kelvin on

0400 559 559

to Order



BALLARATCHOOKS
INFORMATION PAGE



Meredith **Community Centre**
working for our community

What's On



COMING UP - Book Now!

- Beginners Wheel Throwing with Mel**
4 Week Classes - 4 Dates Available - \$300
- Introduction to Wire Wrapping with Allie**
Saturday August 7 - 1-4pm - \$75
- WESTVic Staffing Solutions with Jenny**
Wednesday August 11 - 9am - 12pm - FREE
- MACRAME' with Anita**
Friday August 13 - 11 - 1.30pm - \$50
- Make a Tree of Life Pendant with Allie**
Saturday August 14 - 1-4pm - \$75
- Fermentation with Narelle**
Monday August 30 - 10am - \$120 - FULL
- Spring Preparation with Jaclyn**
Friday August 20 - 11am - 12pm - \$15
- Make a Wire Wrapped Cuff with Allie**
Saturday September 11 - 1-4pm - \$75

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 - Bookings Essential**
Mondays with Ane -5:15
Thursdays with Ane - 12:00
- PILATES - \$20 per session - Bookings Essential**
Wednesdays with Ane - 7.15pm
- PLAYGROUP IS BACK!**
Thursdays - 9.30 - 11.30
\$2 per Family



Join us on Facebook & Instagram
@meredithcommunitycentre



www.meredithcommunitycentre.com.au
learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au
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
MONDAY - 9:15 – 2:15
WEDNESDAY - 9:15 – 2:15
FRIDAY - 9:15 – 2:15



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In the School Garden

We are fortunate to have many people who contribute to keeping our school a vibrant part of our community. As well as the students, staff and parents, there are many friends of the school involved in this. One such person is Ralph: former parent, and staff member who has long been our 'go to' person. When something needs to be fixed, repaired or maintained, we all say: "Where's Ralph?" He's skilled with a hammer, drill, lawnmower and a great problem solver.

This newsletter, we would like to highlight Ralph's latest project.

About 10 years ago, when our new school buildings were completed, there was an odd shaped garden beside the stairs at the school entrance. Mrs Edmiston and her grade walked up to the Meredith Nursery, chose some suitable hardy plants and planted a garden that went on to flourish. Every summer the kangaroo paws put on an amazing display and the variegated strappy-leafed grasses were an evergreen edging. However, everything became a bit overgrown and weedy and the plants needed to be dug up and divided to ensure they continued to thrive. This job fell to Ralph who put in a remarkable effort to trim, then dig up the huge clumps and haul them out of the garden so they could be replanted. We are very grateful that Ralph didn't balk at this work as others before him had put it in the 'too hard' basket.

With the bed totally cleared, the older students moved in to separate the clumps, do a bit more trimming, barrow away the scraps and divide the plants ready for replanting. Mrs Edmiston's current grade, the Prep/Ones, had a wonderful time digging and carefully planting. It is always a happy and contented time working in the garden and another opportunity for all ages of children to work together. Finally all was done, for the time being, as news came of the most recent lockdown and school closure.

In fact, since the last newsletter, with school holidays and the closure, there have been only seven school days. Luckily, it can be a quiet time in the garden: the garlic continues to grow, the broad bean plants are getting taller slowly and the peas are sprouting.

The grevilleas along the school fence line in Russell Street start blooming in winter and after three years and a couple of good, rainy seasons, they are looking very colourful and bright on these dull, chilly days. They were planted by the 3/4/5 students when they were in prep, grades one and two and were initially guarded by sturdy stakes to prevent any accidental damage from wayward footballs or soccer balls. Next time you are out for a walk, call past and have a look at the display.

Next on our list of garden works is mulching the weeds, around the broad beans, to suppress them and enjoying reading the seed catalogue to plan our spring plantings. On our wish list are the tall, showy sunflowers, beautifully scented sweet peas, climbing beans, some interesting spaghetti squash and of course, tomatoes. This reminds us that it won't be long before pumpkin seeds have to go in and the Meredith Newsletter will be on the lookout again for any giant specimens. The Giant

Pumpkin Challenge of 2020 sponsored by this newsletter was a wonderful event and the pumpkins were spectacular. Look out for more news on this event in the September Newsletter.

With students having returned to school, here is a recipe for Golden Oat Biscuits. Perfect warm from the oven or as a welcome addition to lunchboxes.

Golden Oat Biscuits

4 Weet-Bix crushed 1/2 cup
wholemeal SR flour

1/2 cup rolled oats 1/2 cup
desiccated coconut

1/4 cup sugar 1/4 cup honey

100g olive oil

Combine Weet-Bix, flour, oats and coconut in a mixing bowl.

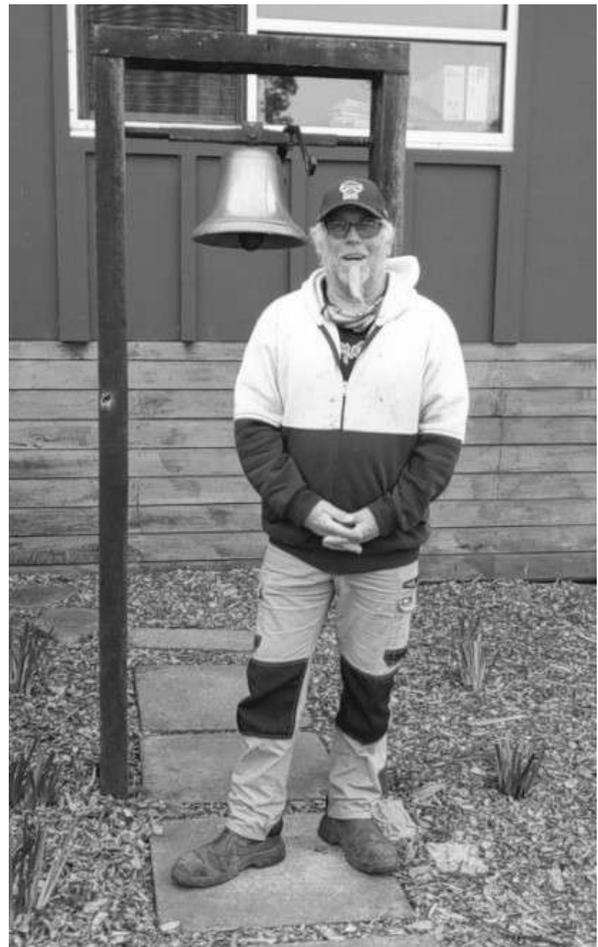
Place sugar, honey and oil in a small saucepan and heat gently till it comes to the boil and is well combined.

Add this liquid to the dry ingredients and mix well. Roll mixture into balls and press gently onto a lined baking tray.

Bake in a 180 degree oven for 15 minutes or until golden.

For a chocolatey version, add one tablespoon of cocoa to the dry ingredients.

(This recipe is from Julie Goodwin's Weet-Bix Lunchbox Snacks Cookbook)





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You may have used the walking tracks through the Police Paddocks. Nearly three Kms of constructed and cut grass tracks take visitors across and along this beautiful valley set in 20Ha of natural landscape.

But our small and aging team of mowing volunteers need help to keep the tracks open during spring and summer.

If you could spare a few hours over the next few months, and are comfortable using a heavy duty self propelled mower and/or brushcutter, please call Jim on 0409 163169 to register. You will need a vehicle with a tow bar and a trailer (or maybe borrow one from us) and be physically fit. You can work as often and at times to suit yourself. And we will train you in using the equipment.

Even if you only think you may be interested, please give us a call. There is definitely no obligation.



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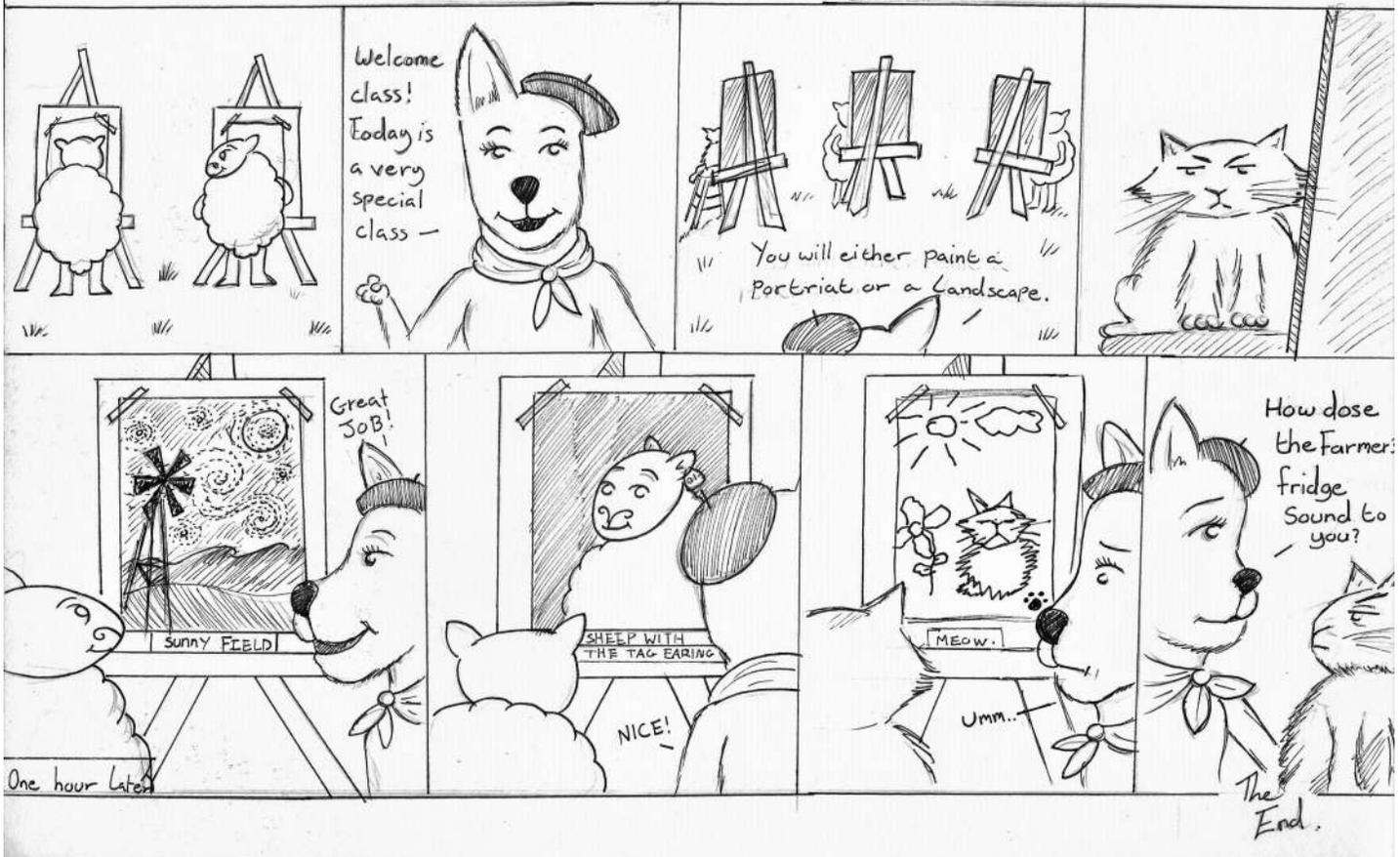
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By Emma Clarke





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easy *and* delish



Vale (Alice) Muriel Toohey formerly Bakes née Lewis 2/4/23 - 17/6/21

Janene Schillier (daughter of Muriel)

Passionfruit curd and coconut tarts

Prep & cook time 1 hour 15 minutes

Makes 12

Ingredients

- 1 cup desiccated coconut
- 1 egg white, beaten
- 2 tablespoons castor sugar
- 1/4 cup thickened cream, whipped



Passionfruit Curd

- 1/2 cup passionfruit pulp
- 1/2 teaspoon finely grated lemon rind
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 1/2 cup castor sugar
- 80g butter, chopped coarsely
- 1 egg lightly beaten
- 1 egg yolk

Method

1. Make passionfruit curd.
2. Preheat oven to 150. Grease 12 hole mini muffin pan.
3. Combine coconut, egg white and sugar in a bowl. Press mixture firmly and evenly over bases and sides of pan holes. Bake about 20 minutes or until browned lightly. Cool.
4. Fold cream into 1/2 cup passionfruit curd. Reserve remaining curd for another use.
5. Divide passionfruit mixture among coconut cases; top each with a little passionfruit pulp.

Passionfruit Curd

Press passionfruit firmly over a sieve over a small bowl. You will need a 1/4 cup passionfruit juice for this recipe. Combine passionfruit juice with remaining ingredients in medium heatproof bowl. Stir over a medium saucepan of simmering water until the mixture thickly coats the back of a wooden spoon, about 10 minutes. Cool; refrigerate 2 hours or until cold.

Stefania

Muriel was originally from Lurg near Benalla where she met John Bakes when he was in the RAAF. After WW2 they settled on the Larundel soldier settlement in 1952, on one of 12 blocks. Robert and Stuart came with them; Janene was born later. The farm is the last remaining settlement block still in the hands of the original family.

Muriel had been raised on an established farm surrounded by hills. The climate was rather different from “below the divide” where prevailing winds without shelter made pioneering a great challenge. Muriel established a beautiful garden by rolling the grass back in the paddock surrounding the house. Muriel and John loved trees and planted thousands. They also lost many to the inclement conditions. They used to take the family to the Ballarat Botanical Gardens in early days to experience the magnificence of the park like gardens and established trees. Muriel made gardens wherever she lived.

In 1979 Muriel semi-retired to Geelong and remained there until 2016 when she relocated to Ballarat. Muriel enjoyed doing crosswords all her life and was an excellent speller. Before television became part of home life the family played Scrabble. In her later years Muriel continued to exercise her mind with daily crosswords and was always agreeable to a game of her favourite “Bananagrams” or the more commonly played Scrabble.

Thanks to the locals who came to the Thanksgiving Service for Muriel held at St John’s Anglican Church Highton on 6 July 2021. It was a great comfort to Muriel’s family to see friends, going back many years paying their respects and relating their memories.

There were also many cards received articulating lovely memories of Muriel, as well as personal visits to her family.

Thanks to all.



John and Muriel Bakes



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From the Mayor



Cr Helena Kirby

Community groups are so often the heart of our communities, and Council is proud to support groups twice a year with our Community Strengthening Grants.

In late June, my fellow Councillors and I announced that 12 community events and projects received funding in the first round of this year's program. I congratulate all local groups successful in securing a grant from Council, sharing in \$44,531 in Round One, and we're so pleased to be able to support these worthwhile projects.

Applications for the second round will be open from 1 to 30 September. Council is running drop-in sessions to assist groups prepare, with workshops from 5 to 6.30pm on Tuesday 3 August at the Haddon Community Learning Centre and on Tuesday 10 August at the Bannockburn Cultural Centre. Three sessions were held during July in Rokewood, Smythesdale and Inverleigh.

If you have any questions about the program, please contact Council's Community Partnerships Officer at 5220 7220 or communitygrants@gplains.vic.gov.au.

Council is looking forward to seeing the exciting proposals and helping make them a reality.

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

Our pharmacists, Scott, Priti & 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 book online 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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Saturday:	8:30am - 1:00pm
Sunday:	CLOSED

Vaccination Clinic – flu & whooping cough vaccinations

What will last?

Roy Hay

Watching television personality Robson Green walk the length of Hadrian's Wall in the borderlands between Scotland and England, brought me back to a question that has revolved around in my brain for some years. Which of our current constructions will last as long as this ancient monument?



Hadrian's Wall milecastle at Haltwhistle. Photo: Roy Hay.

Closer to home we have rediscovered some Indigenous constructions that seem to have been around for a far longer time, and are now back in the news as historians debate whether our first inhabitants should be considered as hunter gatherers or people who in some sense 'farmed' the land they lived in. The eel traps at Budj Bim in the Western District, now on the World Heritage Register, are one focus of debate. Were they a constructed artefact or just put there, perhaps by geological forces, in the old times and later used by generations of people to assist their capture of this marvellous food source at the appropriate time of year?



Fish and eel canal at Budj Bim in Western District. Source: Victorian Archaeological Survey.

Drones have been used by a group of anthropologists to photograph what appear to be Aboriginal stone circles in the Simpson Desert suggesting that these might be part of a settlement.



Stone circles in the Simpson Desert. Mithaka Aboriginal Corporation via The Conversation.

Trying to read what these examples might mean is not simple. Their creation and use is almost certainly bound up in the cultural and religious life of our First Peoples, whose cosmology is only now beginning to be understood. Even in narrowly economic terms, were these permanent settlements or only ones which were used for part of the year or life cycle when food supplies were obtained nearby?

Coming back to more recent times, not long after Federation Square was constructed in Melbourne, I speculated how long it would last. Already we have had debates about potential changes and an attempt to plonk an incongruous commercial building in its midst. Melbournians have not been great constructors of squares as meeting places for the masses and focal points of the city and suburbs. Maybe the underlying reason was that the rulers of Melbourne did not want mass gatherings of people, except at sporting events in case they turned into demonstrations against the government?

Despite the Hoddle Grid none of the city intersections has become a great square, until the one at the Flinders and Swanston Street was created. Even that was highly controversial when it was opened.



Federation Square looking back towards Flinders Street Station. Photo: Roy Hay.

Though it has been embraced by many, it still has its detractors. Some of the original tenants felt that they had not benefited as much as they expected. I have to declare an interest because I am an Honorary Fellow at Deakin University—one of the current tenants—and Deakin seems happy with this central Melbourne location. The other campuses and facilities are in Geelong, Burwood, Warrnambool and further afield. The Koorie Heritage Centre and ACMI, the Australian Centre of the Moving Image, which claims to be the most visited moving image

museum in the world, are other institutions flourishing in Federation Square today, along with the Ian Potter Centre of the National Gallery of Victoria.

Plans to open up the square to the Yarra River should be implemented, as this has been one potential focal point that has been obscured up till now. It would also help if there was a more obvious flow towards Birrarung Marr both for its significance for the Wurundjeri people, and as the link to the sporting precinct beyond—the tennis centre and the Melbourne Cricket Ground. Perhaps the often talked about plan to roof over the rail lines beyond the current Flinders Street station would be the catalyst for this redevelopment.

Squares are living things and need to be nurtured and developed to meet changes in patterns of life and culture. They have been much underused during the current COVID pandemic, so the opportunity to revitalise Federation Square could be another highly visible aspect of the recovery from the current restrictions.

There are many other squares in regional Victoria that could also benefit from a face lift. One of the lessons we have learned in the last year or so has been the importance of community involvement to bring about changes that lift people's spirits. Breathing safe and better life into our public squares and similar venues would be one of the elements of that. I wonder if Meredith would benefit from a square? It might neatly interrupt the traffic flow on the Midland Highway with benefits to the local economy.

Just a thought.



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Vale to George Wilson Ray

11/11/1932 – 14/6/2021

Marg Cooper

George Ray was born at Horsham. His father died when he was a toddler so he lived mostly with his grandparents as a child. He enrolled at Ballarat Teacher's College in 1950, then had a change of mind and worked for AMP for 3½ years before his girlfriend Margaret, encouraged him to return to finish his teachers training, as a mature aged student at Toorak Teachers College in 1955. In Term 2 of 1956 George was appointed to Woodburn Creek State School. It was his second school in his teaching career, He stayed at the Royal Hotel in Meredith and drove out to the school in his little green Ford 10, often with a box of ferrets in the boot. After school he liked to try his hand at rabbiting but without much luck as myxomatosis had made its impact on the rabbit population over the previous 12 months and most warrens were pretty empty. The road past the school was gravel. The school committee built an adjoining craft room in Term 3 but George admitted to not using it as much as he should have. George described the students at Woodburn as really lovely intelligent students who could sing in harmony. In those days the monthly School Paper always had a new song on the back and it was a boon for the whole school. It would also have been beneficial that George had an extraordinary voice described as *like a deep river*. George and the students built a billy cart from old pram wheels and pieces of wood and with the addition of a sail made from a single bed sheet it became a land yacht. He described it in later years as a very poorly designed and executed billy cart with a mast at the front, designed to accommodate one intrepid student at a time. It worked surprisingly well and students had exciting rides up and down the gravel road with the wind hurtling it along. Finally, Marj Cooper headed off with a good gust of wind; her skirt got caught up in the left wheel and almost got ripped off. Needless to say what looked as though it might become a great lunchtime occupation had to be terminated but not before it inspired young students like Jeff Cooper who has enjoyed designing and building ever since.

Muriel and John Bakes took pity on George and for the last six weeks of the school year and allowed him to board at *Yoolburra*, as their Soldier Settler Block was called in those days. This helped him to stay sane and the Bakes became lasting friends

George married Margaret in 1957 and they had a family of Christine, Louise, Stephen and Phil. His last teaching post was at Nunawading High School. Family tell that he really began work after he retired from teaching. He set up a printing press in his garage and became the voice of community groups and advertiser for his wife's political career. He had curiosity and a streak of inventiveness. He was a maverick who made adventures happen. For his family a lot of this happened on a country block at Broadford that the Ray and Harrison families bought in 1970 and used for holidays. For the Woodburn Creek students, it was the land yacht they rode with the wind!



I'm not talking to myself, I'm having a parent-teacher conference.



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- To promote community action and involvement
- To foster a sense of community.
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Vale to Alison Mary Erwin 16/6/1920 – 22/6/2021

Marg Cooper

Alison attained her 101st birthday on June 16. She had celebrated her 99th birthday with family and friends in 2019 but unfortunately celebrations could not be held in 2020 or 2021 because of Covid restrictions. She died peacefully at Epworth Hospital on June 22. She was the loved wife of Des Erwin for 67 years, devoted mother of Ross, Susan (Russell), Ian, Robert and families, loved grandmother of nine and great grandma (Big Ma Ma) of twelve. A thanksgiving memorial service was held at The Hub in Hopkins Street, Winchelsea on Tuesday, June 29 at 1 pm.

Alison and her husband Des bought a 50-acre farm just south of Meredith town on the Midland Highway in the mid 1980's. Alison had been a teacher and Des drove his school bus to Geelong each day and back after school. Alison joined in many organizations including CWA, Red Cross, Church of England, Guides Support Group, Senior Citizens and made many friends in Meredith. She was very valued because she had skills, one of which was to write Banjo Patterson type poetry about local events and people. Her poems were compiled into a book so they would not get lost. [Available at MHIG.] She also loved acting, literature and crosswords. Sadly, in her later life, she suffered from macular degeneration which limited her participation in many of the activities that she most enjoyed.

Alison had met Des when she boarded with his family after she was appointed to teach at a school in the Winchelsea area. They married in 1946 and dairy farmed at Winchelsea until 1976 when they moved to Highton. But liking country life and animals they moved to Meredith. Alison and Des sold the farm at Meredith and retired to a new unit in Winchelsea in 2002. They commented that going back to Winchelsea was like going home.

Des died in 2013 and Alison continued to live happily in her unit with the help of family until she was admitted to the Epworth Hospital in Geelong a few days before she died.

Alison was my friend. I got to know her well after she employed me to weed her garden. We enjoyed talking over a cuppa about books, news, history and much more. Over the years she got to know our family and we got to know her family. She had what may be termed *a sharp mind* and was always very interesting to talk to. When Jeff and I visited her in early 2021 her son Ross was asking her the questions from the weekly quiz in the Geelong Advertiser. Ross said he was helping to stop her getting Alzheimers and she thought that Ross was asking her the questions to see how dumb she was. She certainly wasn't dumb, she had extraordinary general knowledge and interest in the world.



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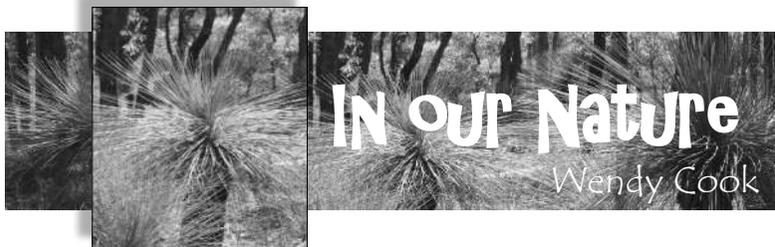
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There is a flash of blue in the short summer grass. It is a small butterfly, known as a Common Grass-blue. The shining blue of its upper wing surfaces is edged with brown, and probably helps to attract a mate. It is better camouflaged when its wings are closed, as only the dull grey undersides are visible. Blue is an uncommon colour in nature. A few plants, such as blue pincushions and flax lilies have blue flowers. The berries of flax lilies are also blue. There are species of dragonflies that display gleaming blue on their bodies. Among birds, blue is seen on the bright breeding plumage of male fairy-wrens, and is often seen on parrots, such as on the wing and tail feathers of crimson rosellas, but not many other birds show blue. Greens, browns, greys, yellows and reds are more often seen in nature.

Many of the colours that we see are due to pigments. We see leaves as green because of the pigment called chlorophyll. Chlorophyll in leaves absorbs visible light from the sun to make sugars for food. Chlorophyll soaks up all colours of visible light, except green. It reflects green light away from the leaf, so this is what we see. Blue light has more energy than red, orange, yellow or green light, making blue light the most productive for making food. This means that plants have not developed pigments which reflect blue light. It is the colour that is most useful to them, so they hang on to it and use it.

Even without blue pigments, there are some flowers that we see as blue. One is blue pincushion, a small indigenous bush plant which grows in groups. In late spring and summer, flower stalks arise from the soft green leaves. Each stalk holds up a flowerhead crowded with blue flowers, their petals overlapping, giving it a slightly shaggy look. These bright blue, or occasionally purple, blooms are very attractive to our eyes. To create a blue colour, plants can mix or alter pigments. They start with a red pigment called anthocyanin. Small chemical changes may be made to the anthocyanin, or it may be mixed with other pigments, or the acidity within the petals may be changed. It may take a combination of these to make the flower appear blue. This complex process is not yet fully understood.

Birds, butterflies and dragonflies have a different means of creating blue. Instead of using pigments, they have specialised structures on their feathers, wings or bodies. Butterflies have microscopic scales on their wings. On the scales of blue butterflies are ridges, shaped in such a way that they reflect all colours of light. By a trick of the way light travels, all colours apart from blue are cancelled out. As the butterfly's wings move, the way we see the blue light changes, creating an iridescent effect. Birds showing blue also have microscopic structures on their feathers, but the

type of structure can be different on different birds. There may be beads or plates and probably other shapes, as yet undiscovered. They use the same trick of light to cause the blue appearance. This type of colour is called structural colour, and is also used by some dragonflies to create a blue that shines brightly in sunshine.

These shades of blue, created by pigments or structural colour are eye-catching not only to us, but also to birds, insects and other animals. They can be used as a warning to suggest that an animal is poisonous, or as a colourful display to attract a mate. Recent research in Australia found that insects, especially bees, are strongly attracted to blue flowers. Although it is more difficult for plants to make the colour blue, it is worthwhile, as insects are more likely to visit the flowers and pollinate them. These flowers may then produce more seeds than they would if their colour was less attractive to insects. Flax lilies, a common Australian plant, takes advantage of the attraction of blue colours twice. Above clumps of long pointed leaves, they grow stalks of little blue flowers that attract insects. After pollination, their seeds develop inside bright blue berries. This time, the blue colour attracts birds, which eat the berries and spread the seeds in their droppings. This use of blue may contribute to flax lilies being widespread. Like other animals and plants that display blue, a colour that is not easily created and stands out against a background of more common colours, the flax lily uses blue as an advertisement. Although it is occasionally displayed as a warning, usually it aids in the reproduction of the next generation and the survival and continuation of the species.



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The 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.

Our first game back, after an extended break due to Covid, was against Wellington Warriors, this time on our home deck. Once again, the Warriors proved to be an extremely competitive opponent. The Warriors were a couple of players short, so the game was played with 16 players per side. A couple of our great Crocs players put their hands up to play for the opposition to ensure the game went ahead. It was a tough game on a very heavy oval. At the end of the day there were some sore bodies and heavy legs but once again the Crocs came out on top, winning by 2 points. It was great to see a few club greats return for their first game of the year, welcome back Mick Battye, David Pike and Gavin Carter. Club legend Daryl "Sid" Jones once again broke the club games record with 158 games. Best Players for the day were; Mick 'Batman' Battye, who kicked 5 goals straight, Craig 'Badge' Taylor once again had a great game all over the oval, Paul Nolan, John Peterson and Phillip 'Doopa' Cranach who all filled in for the Warriors and Mick Devlin. Steve Trotter again did a great job officiating the game and the afternoon tea was well received by all, thanks to Wendy, Megan and Jenny. Thanks also to Jai and Kale for doing the goal umpiring.

Our next game saw the Crocs once again to travel all the way to the Wellington Warriors home ground at Nambrok. We took on the Gippsland Tigers, who have relocated their home games to Nambrok due to the heavy flooding earlier in the year to their home ground. The Wellington Warriors also supplied a few top up players for both sides which allowed the game to go ahead. It was a great day and a great game of football. The Tigers showed how much they have improved over the last few years and kept the contest tight throughout the day. Once again the Mighty Crocs finished the day ahead on the scoreboard and I'm sure everyone would agree that no matter what the score was, we all enjoyed the day. Throughout the game there were some great individual efforts, Kelvin 'Vman' Vince running out from full back, Bruce Tabone and Lockie (Warriors player) both had a 2 on 1 contest and both showed tremendous effort to win the contest and Kevin Murray was leading and marking beautifully(he may have received a couple of phantom pushes in the back also). Best players for the day were, Darryl 'Sid' Jones who kicked five goals, was a focal point for our forward line and once again broke the club games record with 159 games. Craig 'Badger' Taylor once again dominated the ruck all day. Steven Troffin and Damien Priddle were rewarded for their great game with highly sought-after award, the Meredith Cheese. Another great day of masters football and a great bus trip home with a few beers, songs and entertainment from the Geelong Legend Kevin Murray. Thanks again for all who

made the game and to Mal 'Fingers' Holloway for driving the bus.

The last Wednesday before lockdown we were treated to a great training session which was run by Kevin 'The Geelong Legend' Murray at Murrays boxing gym in Geelong West. Kev has a great set up in the gym and he certainly put us blokes through a bit of torture. Although it was only a 35min session everyone who trained was absolutely spent by the end of it. It was a great training session and we will defiantly be doing some more sessions with Kev.

Lock down forced the cancellation of our game against Ballarat on the 26th of July. Our next game will be at Meredith on the 8th August vs Maryborough (pending restrictions). This will be our final home game for the year, so get down to the Meredith Rec Reserve around 1pm on Sunday the 8th of August and support the Crocs.

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

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Mick Rooney (President) 0408545246

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I am Weary ...

For nearly a year and a half we have lived with an invisible virus, which due to actions and reactions to combat it, is slowly bringing our way of life to a halt.

I thought I was doing okay, handling it and staying cheerful but this last lockdown has made me weary.

I am Weary

of not being able to plan
of being fearful
of worrying about everything
of acting cheerful.

I am Weary

of trying to be positive
of hearing complaints of being stuck at home
of not feeling connected.

I am Weary

of not seeing smiles hidden behind masks
of living in a world where people are scared to share.

I am Weary

of the small business owner's daily struggle's
of people complaining
of people being angry.

I am Weary

of living in a society where people are too busy to help
that our freedom has been lost
that the laughter is going
that our sense or purpose is being eroded.

I am Weary

that we are losing our sense of wellbeing of self, family,
and community.
that our elderly are scared to leave home
of the isolation.

I am Weary

of crying in the shower
of being scared of the future
of losing my spirit

I am Weary.

But

I will remember

that I can and I will live in the moment
that this too shall pass
that nothing lasts forever.

I will remember

to have faith that the best is yet to come
to enjoy the little things
to collect the moments.

I will remember

that to draw strength in the belief that my guardian spirits
will always be with me

that stars can't shine without darkness.

I will never stop trying and I hope that in my heart, that I
am braver than I believe, stronger than I feel.

And then I will know that hope will return

And I won't be weary anymore.



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Marg's BOOK REVIEW

Let me sing you gentle songs by Linda Olsson.

This is a beautiful book. It is so very gentle and delicately woven. Reviews call it *the landscape of friendship*.

The title is a line from a poem "My poor little child". Each chapter is headed by a few lines from Swedish poetry which subtly summarise the following chapter.

One bleak March evening in the wintry landscape of the Swedish countryside Veronika, a young writer, arrives in a small village in pursuit of stillness and solitude to enable her to come to terms with grief and loss and to complete a novel. She has rented a house on the outskirts of the village. Her arrival is silently observed by Astrid, her elderly reclusive neighbour who, in the safety of her home, guards dark family secrets and personal tragedy. As the icy winter gives way to spring the two women are drawn together. Over wine, music, picnics and stories the friendship develops and their kindnesses to one another forges a pathway for them both to return to a place of acceptance and love for themselves. Each chapter contains thought provoking lines from both Veronika and Astrid. For example, 'Veronika had moved to a house that didn't know her yet. She is writing a book that is of her but is not of her and that once it is born it has a life of its own. The author has to step back, let it free and hope it will fare well. Telling about her experiences had given them back to her.' Astrid said 'a day now seems longer than the entire life which went before, some of her clearest memories are of the briefest moments and that grief has its own organic processing time.'

Their friendship was described as *the kind of company that makes no demands*. They gradually told their stories when the time was right for both the teller and the listener and neither made demands on each other. On page 175 the first question was asked, *Are you frightened?* On page 197 the first comment was made from one to the other. The sensuous quality the author adopts to describe the place is stunning. You could feel the snow and in spring you could see the quality of the light, the wildflowers, the hillside hamlets and the running rivers.

In a letter that Astrid wrote to Veronika she imparts some wisdom including about love: *Love comes to us with no forewarning and once given to us can never be taken away. Love is not measurable. It simply is. The briefest brush with real love can sustain you for a lifetime*

Bookclub has resumed after a hiatus of eighteen months or so. This is the first book to welcome everyone back

Meredith Football Team 1910.

Marg Cooper

The photo of the 1910 Football Team includes 18 players. Thirty-Five players are named in Newspaper reports of the 1910 matches including *Son Mayo*, *Wobbly Dickman*, *Snowy Blacker* and *Shackles Bell*.

It appears that the teams playing in 1910 were Lal Lal, Elaine (Blue & White) Meredith (Red & White), Bannockburn, Inverleigh and Lethbridge. It also seems that there was no District Association as *Well Wisher* in a letter to the editor of the Steiglitz Miner Newspaper in August 1910 said "it had struck him that it should not have been inadvisable or impossible to form a District Association next season."

The first match of the season was played on May 14 when Lal Lal played Elaine at Elaine. After receiving refreshments at Miss Newton's the team returned to Lal Lal by train, disappointed but not disheartened. Meredith played their first match on May 21 when they played Lal Lal at Lal Lal. Mr R. Bell gave a pipe to be awarded to the best player of the season.

The first match at the Meredith ground was on May 28 when Meredith once again played Lal Lal.

In May an Inverleigh player broke his collarbone while playing at Bannockburn. He was conveyed to Geelong by the evening train for medical attention. (*Inverleigh seemed to play their home matches at the Bannockburn ground. This would have been so other teams could travel by train*).

In June an umpire threatened to *put down all rough play* and to stop play if the barrackers encroached on the ground. The invasion of the ground by well intentioned but excited participants is not to be desired. On July 2 Meredith took no barrackers to Lal Lal and to this some of the players ascribed their victory while others put it down to the captain's new Guernsey.

It was suggested that when players come by train it was of great benefit if the match started as soon as possible so the last quarter could be played in daylight. In June it was suggested that a boundary umpire would have been an advantage as the ball was a great deal out of bounds.

Teams were usually entertained after the match at Elaine at Randall's Hotel and in Meredith at Davison's Railway Hotel.

On September 24, undoubtedly the best man on the ground and at the same time the man who won the game for Meredith was Graham Colclough who, from start to finish, played a cool, dashing game. His coolness often got him out of tight corners.

The final match of the season for the Meredith team was played at Lethbridge on September 17, 1910.

The Newspapers didn't report on finals or an annual meeting but on Friday, October 7 a concert and dance was held at St Joseph's Hall. After the concert the hall was cleared for dancing to music supplied by Mr Pilkington and T Musgrove. J Moran was MC.



MOORABOOL Wind Farm

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

August 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 Fifty-Two (52) turbines complete

Look ahead

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

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.

Public Road Resurfacing at Moorabool South Wind Farm

Sections of Mount Wallace Ballark Road and Bungeelap South Road are expected to be resurfaced between mid-September and late November 2021. This may involve road closures and speed reductions along sections of the roads for a period of time.

Further information will be provided via local media, on the project website, www.mooraboolwindfarm.com, and to those registered for SMS notifications, closer to the time.

To register for notifications, please email info@mooraboolwindfarm.com with your mobile details and advise if you wish to receive an email or SMS notification.



For further information visit:
www.mooraboolwindfarm.com

info@mooraboolwindfarm.com or
call: 1800 019 660.



it's History

Meredith History Interest Group

Kerrie Kruger

A BOOK LAUNCH

ABOUT THE CHARACTERS, CONSTRUCTION AND CONFUSION, MURDERS, MAYHEM AND MISCHIEFS OF MEREDITH PAST.

After 2 false starts, and few days before Lockdown 5.0, the Meredith History Interest Group finally got to launch their newest publication- 'Pubs & Publicans of Meredith 1840-1960' researched and compiled by myself- Kerrie

On arrival there were complimentary drinks and beautiful fiddle music, The MHIG President welcomed all and then I offered the afternoons blessing..

'May peace bless your world and may you always have a few coins in your pocket to buy a pint or two'.

It all started in 2019 as a small research project about Meredith's pubs, to produce a flyer for a Heritage Pub Crawl to be co-hosted at the Bannockburn Library. (Now planned for September!)

And then along came Covid19 and the 2020 Stay at Home orders and well, the flyer grew as Trove and I became good friend as I researched, explored, and unravelled and suddenly I had 230-page book.

The book was published within the MHIG 'Bringing History Alive' project and the launch event with in the "Connecting the Past while Looking to the Future" project both supported by Golden Plains Shire's Community Strengthening Grants program.

Books are inanimate objects, but the words inside can transport you, they are not just about dates and places. They are our connection to the past, the present and maybe the future.

One thing I did learn was that due to the nature of history research, there are many stories, and they are often variable, contradictory, and conflicting and history is subject to constant revision and reinterpretation and that each generation looks at the past through its own eyes.

'The Pubs & Publicans of Meredith' sets out to offer a glimpse into the past of Meredith via the establishment of its Hotels & Inns. I choose to tell the story in a visual way with many reports, articles, photos, paintings and maps rather than pages of text. It shows that the history of Meredith is a tremendous story, a rolling narrative filled with great personalities and tales of turmoil and triumph.

I lived with the spirits of past publicans for many months, so, I called upon them to visit with us and share their journeys as publicans of Meredith's Hotels and Inns. Members of MHIG and other interested community members volunteered to dress up as some of our past publicans and tell their stories.

The book also tells of murders, deaths, and thefts. Police troubles and court appearances and a few sly grog tents or two

And then without further ado ... The publicans of years gone past announced

We are pleased to have had this time with you to tell our stories of our pubs when they were new,

We urge you to take a look inside this fabulous book,

Of the stories of mischief, mayhem, mystery from which you will learn of Meredith's history.

It's an astounding result with nothing to lack, we guarantee you will learn many new facts.

Of how lives were moulded, and town events unfolded.

Now it's time to raise our glass as we make this toast, to the book, The Pubs and Publicans of Meredith – launched ... at last.

Everyone the enjoyed a cuppa and slice, and even though we didn't know it a rare time to catchup before we were locked down again.

The End!

The book is available at Meredith History Centre in Staughton St for \$30.

PS I'd like to thank each & every person who helped out in bringing this book launch together.

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FROM THE ARCHIVES



The Convoluted Story of the Water Supply for Elaine, or, "So Near and yet so Far."

Water Supply at Elaine

The following is the report of Mr Gordon on water supply at Elaine:—"I have the honour to report that I inspected to-day that portion of the Lal Lal Association's works which could be utilised for the purpose of giving a supply of water to the inhabitants of Elaine for domestic purposes, and for supplying the boilers at the claims—for which the water pumped from the mines is quite unsuited. The works required would be:— The repairs of the flumes, to enable them to carry a small quantity of water; clearing-out and repairing about nine miles of the old race; cutting about six miles of new race, with branches, beginning at the Sheep Station Gully, on the old race; with the necessary crossings, &c. I think that, if advantage were taken of the return of labourers from the harvest, and if the work were done on the scale proposed, by piece-work, under local management, it could be finished in six weeks, at a cost of about £300. Nothing is included for compensation for land, as I was informed that the proprietors had offered to allow the race to be cut through their properties without compensation. Neither is anything allowed for compensation for taking the water from Fiskens dam.

I should mention that, in the event of the larger scheme for restoring and completing the whole of the works being entertained, the small works now proposed would be to some extent superseded. These are only proposed as an immediate remedy to the great want of water at Elaine and in that neighbourhood; and they would not—as the larger scheme would—supply Morrisons and Dolly's Creek, as well as Meredith and other places south of Elaine; but their cost bears so small a proportion to that of the larger works, that the expenditure of £60 or £70 more would seem to be more than counterbalanced by the immediate benefit to be conferred on the people. The inhabitants of Elaine say they are prepared to guarantee the maintenance of the works at their own expense.

— G. GORDON." The
Ballarat Courier (Vic. : 1869 - 1883; 1914 - 1918) **Monday 17 December 1877**

The Minister of Mines should not hesitate to give practical effect to the report from Mr Gordon which appeared in yesterday's Courier. The Elaine district is rich in quartz reefs; and, if nurtured by the Government, there can be little doubt would soon become a prosperous portion of the district. It labours under the drawback, however, of wanting water for

domestic purposes, and also to keep its machinery going—the water pumped from the mines being useless for either purpose—and until this drawback has been removed from the place, there is very little chance of Elaine forging ahead in proportion to its resources. It now seems, by what Mr Gordon states, that this difficulty can be overcome at a mere nominal expense. All that appears to be necessary is to utilise the works of the old Lal Lal Water Association, repair the flumes, clear out and repair about nine miles of the old race, and get about six miles of a new race cut with branches beginning at the Sheep Station Gully, and the whole of this work can be done for £300, the proprietors of the intervening land have offered to allow the race to be cut through their properties without compensation. This is a very small amount, indeed, to spend for the purpose desired, or to give a promising district an abundant supply of water. The Ballarat Courier (Vic.: 1869 - 1883; 1914 - 1918) **Tuesday 18 December 1877**

Several delegates attended at a public meeting held at Elaine recently to interview Major Smith in connexion with a water supply for the district met the Minister at Craig's Hotel to-day, and laid their case before him... Mr Connolly said the Elaine people had been promised water supply so often, and never got it that he was beginning to think they never would. The deputation then thanked the Minister, and withdrew. The Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1957) **Monday 31 December 1877**

THE BALLARAT GOLD-FIELD. Work on the Elaine field has been delayed for want of water, but there is hope now that a supply will be made available before long. For the proper working of the White Horse Ranges here, too, more water is wanted, and schemes for the supply are now under discussion. The Argus (Melbourne, Vic. : 1848 - 1957) **Wednesday 2 January 1878**

Despite the best efforts water never did come to Elaine – the mines closed down, partly through lack of water to aid in production, which led to the local population diminishing, which then resulted in the loss of vital businesses in the township – the bank, the restaurant, drapers, bakers, bootmaker, stores. This all hastened the de-population of the area and leaves us with the quiet little township we see today, showing few clues to the bustling history behind it.

Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group

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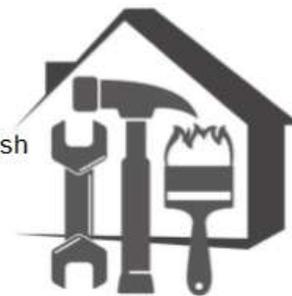
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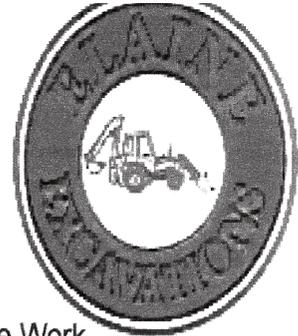
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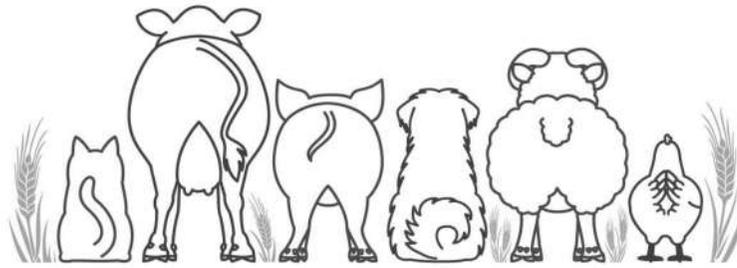
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eGAZETTE

Love the Gazette and want more local news?

Community members are welcome to sign-up to Council's new *eGazette* email newsletter.

The popular Gazette community magazine will continue to be published and delivered to local mailboxes six times a year. The *eGazette* will also be published six times a year, on the alternate months to the magazine, providing local readers with stories and news from across Golden Plains.

The first edition of Council's *eGazette* will be emailed to registered participants in mid-August 2021.

Want to sign-up for the *eGazette*?



Complete the simple web form at goldenplains.vic.gov.au/egazette



Email communityengagement@gplains.vic.gov.au



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

Residents can also stay up-to-date online by following Council on Facebook, Twitter, LinkedIn and Instagram, or by visiting goldenplains.vic.gov.au.

 5220 7111  goldenplains.vic.gov.au  enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au



GOLDEN PLAINS CommunityBus

Council is pleased to trial the new Golden Plains Community Bus service.

The bus is free for all passengers during the trial period from 20 July to 8 October 2021. A project of Council, the Golden Plains Community Bus trial is funded by the Victorian Government and a sponsorship from Buninyong & District Community Bank.

In the south of the Golden Plains Shire, the bus service will be provided in Teesdale, Inverleigh, Shelford, Bannockburn and Batesford, travelling to and from Geelong Waterfront every Tuesday.

In the north, the bus service will be provided in Linton, Scarsdale and Smythesdale, travelling to and from Delacombe Town Centre and Stockland Wendouree in Ballarat every Thursday.

All Golden Plains Shire residents are welcome to use the Golden Plains Community Bus service. The bus service will be operated under COVID-19 guidelines and all passengers must wear face masks.

There are limited spaces and booking are essential. To make a booking, call 5220 7151.

Printed copies of the timetable are available to pick up at the following locations:

Council's Customer Service Centres, 2 Pope Street, Bannockburn and 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale	
Linton Takeaway	Scarsdale General Store
Inverleigh General Store	Teesdale General Store and Post Office
Smythesdale Post Office	Ross Creek General Store
Bannockburn Post Office	Cape Clear Store

The bus timetable and maps are also available at Council's website: goldenplains.vic.gov.au.

For more information or to make a booking, call 5220 7151.



 5220 7111  goldenplains.vic.gov.au  enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au

