

October 2021

# Meredith & district News

OUR FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



## inside

- Vale Ronnie Read
- More from the Weed Warrior
- A new book for the history group
- Looking forward to new events



The GIANT Pumpkin Comp

IT'S BACK

For details  
...see page 7  
inside



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



# St Joseph's Windows

Marg Cooper

You may have noticed that as you age your body changes shape as some parts sag and loose skin develops. Over time gravity and weathering take their toll on windows too - especially lead-light windows which have more parts than normal pane windows.

In recent months, four of the lead-light windows in St Joseph's Catholic Church have been restored by Jason and Mark of Lara Glass. They are on the west and south of the church so have suffered most from the rain, wind, heat and cold. The copper wires attaching the window to bars on the inside let go. The lead oxidises and turns grey and expands slightly and releases its hold on each piece of glass and the timber beading rots. One window, when viewed from the side, had a large bulge in the centre, like a belly that had been subject to overeating for a long time.

One at a time the windows were removed from the church and replaced by a pane of clear safety glass. In the workshop at Elaine a stencil of each window was drawn, then the window was disassembled taking the glass from the lead, the glass was thoroughly cleaned, new black lead was installed and soldered, the glass was reassembled (a few new pieces of glass replaced some damaged pieces) and puttied and then it was scraped and polished several times before being reinstalled at the church. The process for each window was estimated to take over a



week. Mark says a lot of old windows are deteriorating and that there are fewer qualified people to repair them.

On Wednesday, September 1st, the fourth window was reinstalled. Using a glass sucker Jason and Mark removed the temporary glass from the south facing window in the foyer of the church, then lifted the restored lead-light window into position, carefully. It had travelled from Elaine on the floor of their utility on a thick, padded blanket. The copper wires were quickly tied to the metal bars on the inside of the window in the foyer to hold it in place, while an adjustment here and there was made to ensure all was straight, then new beading was cut and nailed with a nail gun and the job was done.

Most of the windows are probably well over one hundred years old. The present St Joseph's Church was built in 1890 by Smith Bros and R Dudderidge. The church was extended and the sanctuary enlarged by Messrs Alex. McDonald and John Vanstan, for the English Mass in 1966 (in the English Mass people actively participated). The windows that Mark suggested may have been made in England and shipped to Australia for the building, are mostly of a similar design. Father Charles explained that the windows with red colouring represent various ways of pointing towards Jesus and the windows which have blue colouring represent Our Lady through Jesus.

Lara Glass is preparing to create some huge lead-light windows for the Aman Cara Centre (Palliative Care) at Deakin University. A graphic designer is drawing up the patterns for the Australiana themed windows that will include lots of Australian birds.

## WE HAVE BUYERS LOOKING FOR PROPERTY IN YOUR AREA

Even with a snap lockdown, the market is extremely strong.

If you have been sitting on the fence about listing your home for sale during a pandemic, now is a great time.

Contact the Bannockburn team today on 5281 4444.



**DEAN  
WILSON**

M 0418 521 322



**JULIE  
KAYE**

M 0411 059 001



**ANDREW  
WILSON**

M 0452 498 254

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P 03 5281 4444 W [stockdaleleggo.com.au/bannockburn](http://stockdaleleggo.com.au/bannockburn)

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# The VIRUS and us

FOR ALL OUR SAKES,  
GET THAT JAB



Being thankful.

I started this column talking about all the gloom and doom around us but decided I would like to be a bit more cheerful for a change.

Although I am not a football follower, I was thrilled that Melbourne won the Grand Final. My wonderful dad was a demons supporter who I suspect may have been at their last victory. I remember as a child him heading off to the footy finals every year with his Gladstone bag packed with sandwiches and a thermos of tea. I hope he is smiling down on this victory.

I am thankful that we live in a time where technology makes it possible to keep in touch with our family and friends even though we are separated by the restraints we are under.

I am thankful that my family and I are all now fully vaccinated so we have a little more peace of mind for what is to come.



I hope you can find something to be thankful for too.

Our photo contributor Cathy Boer discovered a family who also be very happy with the football results.

If you do feel you need help please contact

Lifeline on 131114, Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636 or Kids Helpline 1800 55 1800

# THIS MONTH...

Our contributors have been busy creating interesting reading for you.

If you love using the police paddocks as your favourite outside spot find out about the uncertain future for this great community asset.

Advance Meredith has lots of plans and events.

There is more from our Weed Warrior. Mouthwatering recipes from Stephanie & the primary school kids and Wendy tells us all about a naughty freeloader



Did you know there are a number of Community Groups in and around Meredith who serve a vast array of interests. So no matter what your interest, there is no excuse to get involved in your local community.

Some of these are :

**Advance Meredith Association** - celebrating and supporting the amazing community of Meredith.

<http://www.facebook.com/3333Meredith>

**Bamganie Meredith and District Landcare Group**

<https://leighcatchmentgroup.org/bamganie-meredith>

**Elaine Hall**

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/elainetown.hall>

**Friends of the Brisbane Ranges**

Website: <https://www.fobr.org.au>

**Hands of Change**

Website: <http://www.handsofchange.org.au>

**Lethbridge Tennis Club**

Phone: 03 5281 7321

**Lions Club of Meredith & District**

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/meredithlions3333>

**Meredith Community Centre**

Website: <https://www.meredithcommunitycentre.com.au>

**Meredith History Interest Group**

Website: <http://www.meredithhistory.com.au/>

**Meredith Memorial Hall**

Website: <https://www.facebook.com/Meredith-District-Memorial-Hall-885108078348297/>

**Meredith Police Paddocks**

Phone: 5286 1273

**Meredith RSL**

Website: <http://www.rslvic.com.au/rsl-network/victorian-map-of-all-branches/meredith/>

Phone: 0438 528 612

**Senior Citizens of Meredith and District**

Phone: 03 5286 8232

**Sew N Sews** - A lovely group of ladies who meet on a weekly basis at the Meredith Community Centre to work on their own projects and socialize.

Phone: 03 5386 0700

There are also quite a few others listed on our main editorial page under the CONNECT column

# 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
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](mailto:advertising@meredithnews.com.au)

**Accounts:** Mike 0419 307044

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

**Editorial:** Jim: 0409 163169

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

## WEB

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

## ONLINE PHOTOS

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

## DISCLAIMER

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

Issue 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  
5286 1222

BOOK CLUB  
5286 8201

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

CHILDCARE  
5286 0700

COMMUNITY  
CENTRE  
5286 0700

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

CUBS &  
SCOUTS  
Anakie  
52819497

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

FOOTBALL  
Seniors 0408 545  
246  
Juniors 0430 587 674

GOLF CLUB  
0407 795 342

HISTORY GROUP  
5286 8201

LANDCARE  
0409 862 326

MEMORIAL HALL  
5286 1545  
0409 662106

MOTORCYCLE  
CLUB  
0437 009 250

PLAYGROUP  
5286 0700

POLICE  
PADDOCKS  
5286 1273

RSL - 5286 1452

SENIOR  
CITIZENS  
5286 8232

TENNIS  
Elaine  
0448 291 074  
Meredith  
0424754179

SEW 'N' SEWS  
5286 0700

FRIENDS OF THE  
BRISBANE  
RANGES  
5286 1252

# emergency

Police, Ambulance, Fire (from mobile phone)	000
Meredith Police Station	000 or 112
Police non emergency	5286 1222
Power Failure	131 444
Nurse-On-Call	132 412
Mental Health Advice	1300 606 024
Poisons Information	1300 280 737
Barwon Water	13 11 26
SES Emergency - flood & storm	1300 656 007
24 Hour Helpline	132 500
24 Hour Drug & Alcohol Counselling	1800 629 572
Kids Help Line	1800 888 236
24hr 5-18yo	1800 551 800
Golden Plains Shire a/h emergency	1300 363 036
Ranger	0408 508 635
	52207111
	or 0409 830 223
Bannockburn Vet a/h emergency	5281 1221
Golden Plains Animal	0407 811 222
Pets and Horses 24/7	5281 2226
	0421 617 238

## Justices of the Peace

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

# services

**CEMETERY TRUST**

5286 1550

**HALL HIRE**

Meredith Memorial

5286 1545

Elaine Mechanics

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

Elaine Rec Res

5341 5703

**LIBRARY VAN**

5272 6010

**MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH**

5220 7230

**PRE-SCHOOL**

5286 0722

**PRIMARY**

**SCHOOL**

5286 1313

**RECREATION**

**RESERVE**

0429 315 575

## ..or start something.

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



"Be thankful for what you have; you'll end up having more. If you concentrate on what you don't have, you will never, ever have enough."

—Oprah Winfrey

## 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**

#### **We welcome Father Joseph as our new Parish Priest from 6/10/21**

Contact Details:

Parish Priest Father Joseph mob. 0404 598 558

Office Phone: 5286 1230

Office open Wednesday & Friday 9.30am to 4.30 pm

#### Mass Times:

Bookings required: Mary 0424037542 at Meredith, Pat 52811354 at Bannockburn, Margaret 0418983005 at Winchelsea, Margaret 0493085163 at Anakie

QR check-ins, proper sanitizing/hygiene mandatory

Masks required

Wed and Friday . 11 am St. Joseph's, Meredith

Sat. 5 pm Vigil, St. John the Baptist, Winchelsea

Sun. 9 am St. Mary MacKillop, Bannockburn

Sun. 10/10, 24/10 11 am St. Joseph's, Meredith

Sun. 3/10, 17/10, 31/10 11 am St. Brigid's Anakie

Sun. 24/10, 4 pm Sacred Heart, Inverleigh

#### **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.



Jump online to find some fun ways to interact with friends or just make it up yourselves. Our family have been having a regular Trivia night where each person brings 5 questions of trivia.

If you have access to a Zoom room or many of the other online platforms many of the games we know and love are available as online apps. Charges do apply to some of them but probably less than you spend on a meal and a night out.

#### **Cards against Humanity**

Cards Against Humanity's website has downloadable versions of the Main Game and the Family Edition right on their website—because in these times, your favorite card game has gone digital. Simply scroll down to the section that says "Steal The Game."

<https://www.cardsagainsthumanity.com/>

#### **Uno**

The Uno app lets you partner up with one person in your friend group for a two-on-two game, or you can just play the game the classic way. You can even choose with rules you want to play with before you start the game, so say goodbye to those tricky schoolhouse rules that no one seems to know.

<https://www.letsplayuno.com/>

#### **A Virtual Murder Mystery Game**

Red Herring Games offers tons of inexpensive virtual murder mystery games right on its website. Simply download the game, send all of the participants the link, and get playing. Don't forget to come to the meeting in theme!

<https://www.red-herring-games.com/virtual-murder-mystery-games/>

#### **Scattergories**

It's everything you love about the game Scattergories, but online! Set up your game by choosing from topics like TV shows, things that can found in a desk, or even pizza toppings (can you tell I'm hungry?). Create the game and send a link to all the players to join. If you're the last person standing with words to add to the category, you win! No need to share your screen for this one since everything's located on the website.





# What's On



**COMING UP**

**Polymer Clay Jewellery with Allie**  
Saturday October 2 - 1-4pm - \$75

**Macrame' with Anita**  
October 8, 9, 15, 16, 22, 29 - \$50 per class  
Check our Facebook page for more details

**Fermentation with Narelle**  
Monday October 11 - 11am- \$120

**Food Prep with Mayan**  
12 October - 11-1pm - \$50  
13 October - 11-1pm - \$50

**Introduction to Alcohol Inks with Allie**  
Saturday October 23 - 1-4pm - \$75

**Gluten Free Baking with Mayan**  
26 October - 11-1pm - \$50  
27 October - 11-1pm - \$50

**Mosaics with Di - 2 Week Workshop**  
Saturday October 30 & November 6 - 9am - 3pm - \$70

**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

**Young Artists with Jen Jones**  
Thursdays 4:30 - 6.00pm - \$20 per session

**Playgroup**  
Thursdays - 9.30 - 11.30 - \$2 per family

To Book:

learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au  
www.facebook.com/MeredithCommunityCentre  
Ph. 5286 0700 / 0491 184 999

 Join us on   
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**OCCASIONAL CARE SESSIONS:**

MONDAY - 9:15 - 2:15  
WEDNESDAY - 9:15 - 2:15  
FRIDAY - 9:15 - 2:15



## Paddocks Management Uncertain

Ballarat Environment Network (BEN) has been the delegated manager of the Meredith Police Paddocks, a state government reserve, since 2007. The MPP Support Group, comprising local volunteers, was formed at the same time and operates under the auspice of BEN. It is dedicated to improving the site for community use and enjoyment. Recently BEN placed limitations on the Support Group, including no promotion of the walking tracks, making it near impossible for us to pursue this objective.

The Group recently learnt BEN had approached Golden Plains Shire, asking it to assume management of the site. Council refused to do so, notwithstanding its recognition of the site's importance and value to the community. It appears to have based its decision on officers' advice that it would bring a substantial financial liability, including \$50,000 per year to maintain, \$50,000 for fencing and drainage works and "hundreds of thousands of dollars" for bridges.

The reality is, nobody is asking for fencing or drainage upgrades, BEN spend around \$5,000 each year on weed and vermin control and the "bridges" (small pedestrian platforms) are estimated to cost \$1,500 each. Moreover, while they would make the walking tracks safer for

visitors and the volunteers mowing the tracks, they are optional. In any event, the Group planned to raise money to fund them.

Council has wrongly judged the site to be a liability, when in fact it is an extraordinary asset offering significant environmental, historical (pre and post white settlement) and recreational value. All of this, for a modest annual outlay.

It is regrettable that neither BEN nor the Shire saw fit to consult with the community group before its determination, as councillors would have been better placed to decide on what role it might play on behalf of the Meredith community.

We now know that BEN wants to hand responsibility for the site back to the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning. The Support Group has arranged an onsite meeting with the Department's regional director to ensure community interests are accommodated in deciding the future of the site. The Group has also written to the Mayor of Golden Plains Shire, expressing its concern about the lack of consultation, and suggesting more realistic management expenses.

We will keep the community informed of any further developments.

*Meredith Police Paddocks Support Group 5286 1273*

# GIANT PUMPKIN SEEDS



## The Meredith Newsletter Giant Pumpkin Challenge

Would you like to enter the Giant Pumpkin Challenge?

Take a free packet of seeds from the Community Pantry at the back of the garden on the right.

Plant in October or November.

Judging next April.

**GOOD LUCK!**

## GIANT PUMPKIN GROWING TIPS

Pumpkins are hungry feeders so dig in plenty of compost and well rotted manure into a wide area where they will grow, and make a mound.

Choose a sunny spot, pumpkins will need 4-5 months of warm growing conditions to ripen.

Press 2 or 3 half a finger deep holes in the mound and put one seed in each and cover with soil.

Look out for seedlings after a week or two and you can remove all except the strongest seedling

Feed with liquid fertiliser every 2 weeks

More tips next month

### Meredith Golf Club

**Free membership** - for all residents of Meredith and surrounding area for the months of November and December 2021.

Come and enjoy the start of daylight saving in the tranquil surroundings of your local Golf course, on any day, at any time.

To accept this offer please call the numbers below to register your details:

Peter - 0407 795 342, or

Denis - 0428 289 313

Regular social golf is played on Tuesdays at 9:30 (ladies) and Sundays at 10:30 am (men).

No handicap needed, come and enjoy the fun, regardless of experience

# The Morning Meredith Shook

by Nick Kruger

At 9:15am on Wednesday the 22nd of September an earthquake shook most of the state of Victoria, including our little town of Meredith.

I was having a late breakfast when the house started to shake, the shaking lasted only a few seconds, but felt like ages and it was a bit scary, as I had no idea what was happening. Mum said it was an Earthquake.

We checked on the internet and the epicentre was reported to be in the Alpine National Park, which is in the high country of Victoria. There were three quakes recorded near Woods Point, the first a magnitude of 5.8, the second 4.0 and the third a 3.1 magnitude quake.

Earthquakes are the vibrations caused by rocks breaking under stress. The underground surface along which the rock breaks and moves is called a fault plane

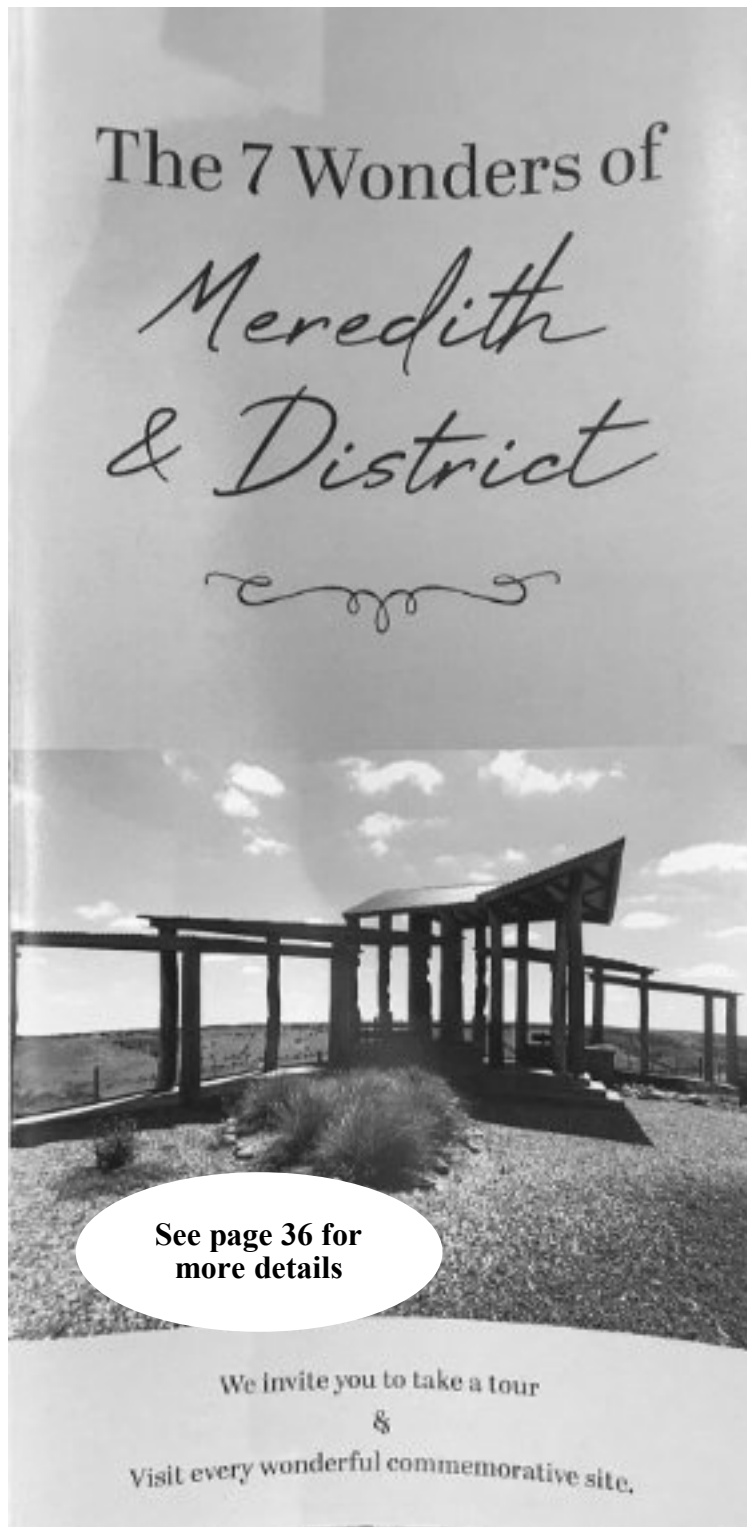
Geoscience Australia estimated the fault line was 5 kilometres long by three kilometres wide and at a depth of about 10km. Geoscientists believe that that earthquake is probably the result of tectonic plate pressure transferred from New Zealand. They also predicted that there may be more aftershocks in the coming weeks.

It is said that animals can sometimes detect an earthquake coming, but up my dog slept through the whole thing!

# Gorse Control

It is now the time to start thinking about controlling Gorse on your property. In late 2019 and early 2020 we ran a series of articles providing you with valuable guidance to assist you. The newsletter has now put that information into a useful reference document posted on our website. All of the information with links can be found on our ONLINE EXTRAS page and can also be downloaded as a pdf document. <https://www.meredithnews.com.au/online-extras/>

The link will also be posted on our facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/MeredithNewsletter>



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# easy *and* delish



## **Pork with Mustard & Cider Vinegar**

**Prep 5 mins Cook 10mins**

**Serves 2**

### **Ingredients**

- 1 tbsp olive oil
- 300g pork medallions, or tenderloin trimmed and cut into 6 slices
- 2 tsp wholegrain mustard
- 2 tbsp full-fat crème fraiche
- 1 tbsp apple cider vinegar
- 10g bunch fresh parsley finely chopped

### **Method**

1. Heat oil in a non-stick frying pan over a moderate heat. Season the pork and cook for 3-4 minutes or until starting to brown. Turn and fry on the other side for a further 3-4 minutes or until just cooked through.
2. Meanwhile, mix together the mustard, crème fraiche and vinegar in a small bowl. Add half the parsley, a pinch of salt and a generous amount of ground black pepper.
3. Reduce the heat and pour the mustard sauce over the pork. Stir to incorporate any cooking juices. Add a splash of water and simmer 1-2 minutes, or until the sauce is hot.
4. Remove from the heat, scatter the remaining parsley over the top and serve with freshly cooked green veg or veg of your choice.

*Recipe from: The Fast 800 Easy*

*Stefania*



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- Agribusiness Consultant
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- Commercial Lawyer
- Internal Accounts Officer
- Receptionist/Administration

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

300B GILLIES ST N BALLARAT VIC 3355

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



### Our Business Service Units:

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Financial Planning

Legal

Loans & Finance

Marketing



Our 12 Steps to Success

## We Need YOUR HELP to Keep our Walking Tracks Open.

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. You will need a vehicle with a tow bar and a trailer and be physically fit. You can work as often and at times to suit yourself. And we will train you in using the equipment.

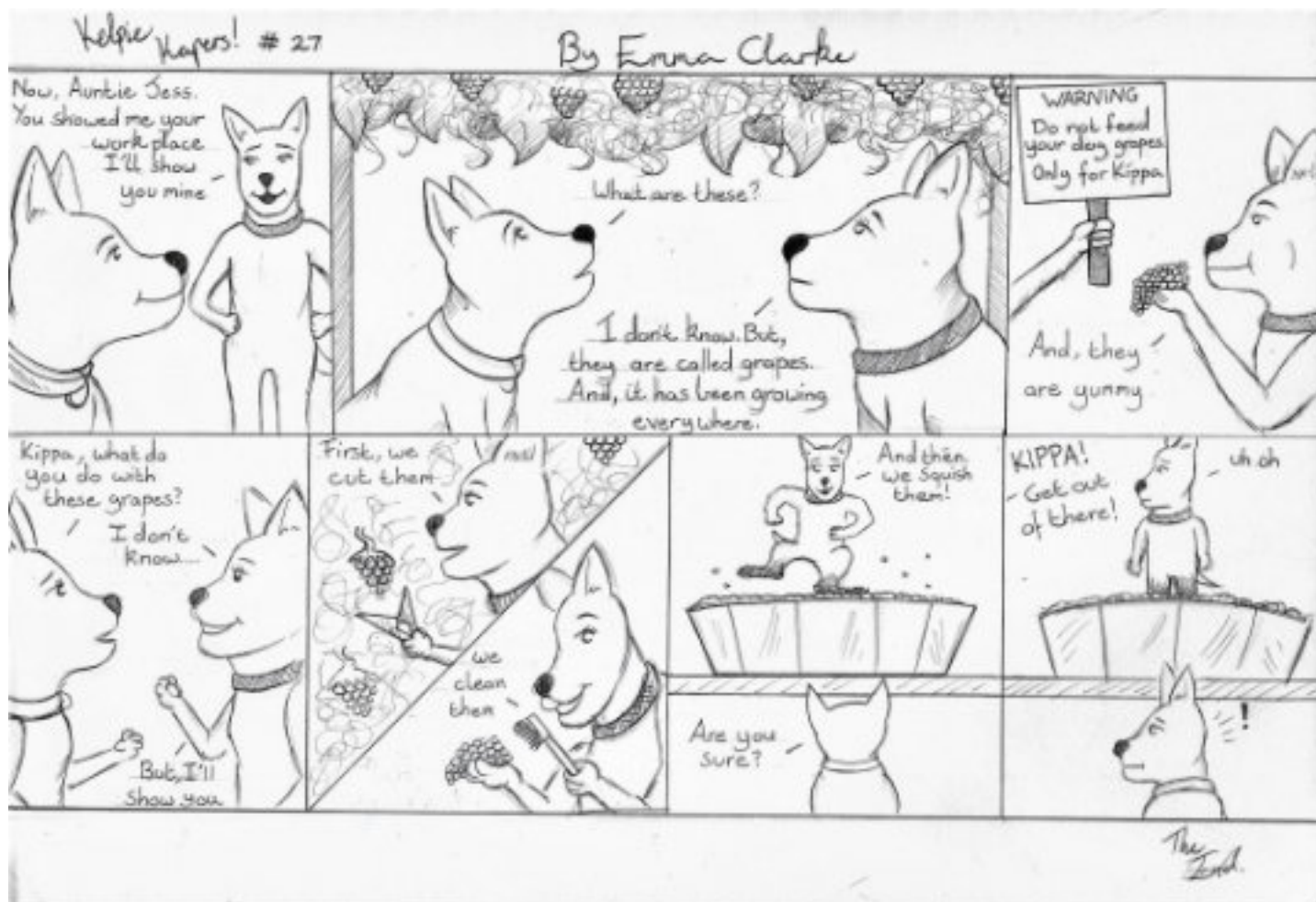
Even if you only *think* you may be interested, please give us a call. There is definitely no obligation.

## Meredith benefits from Federal Funding

In a media release on September 30th the Golden Plains Shire Council CEO Eric Brasilis announced the endorsement by council of a number projects under the Australian Government's Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program (LRCI). Two of these will benefit the community of Meredith. They include the Meredith-Shelford Road Widening Stages 4 and 5 and the Meredith Interpretive Centre Septic System. The report said "the septic system for the public toilets at the Meredith Interpretive Centre requires replacing, particularly given the expected increase in use due to the increasing popularity of the neighbouring community garden. This project will include the decommissioning and removal of the existing system and the installation of a new treatment and dispersal system."

Many local residents will also be aware that the toilets also struggle to meet the demands of use during both of the music festivals so this announcement will be a welcome one.

Mr Brasilis said once these important projects receive final approval from the Federal Government, Council looks forward to delivering them over the next two years.





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Hello Again,

Well, it was a quiet month for AMA members, (excluding restrictions and earthquakes) it's hard to plan meetings, not to mention hold a meeting within the current covid19 restrictions.

We have some good news. The Grant for the community dance/concert has been extended to the end of December, so we are now considering a Christmas themed event in early December. We will keep you updated in the newsletter and on our Facebook page. (coordinating the bush band who are based in Melbourne, proved to be an extra stress, so we will reschedule them for another event next year – covid19 willing).

We hope you have planted your sunflower seeds; we are planning a small bit of seed bombing (Seed bombing is when people throw capsules containing seeds and fertilizers at vacant areas) to bring smiles to locals and those travelling through Meredith.

Also don't forget to participate in the giant pumpkin contest – I know that members of AMA and History group had much enjoyment last year in growing their pumpkins!

All Hallows Eve or Halloween is at the end of the month, I wonder if Meredith will have a few visitors in the last week of October?

We will start planning the Christmas sheep mustering this month and the decorating of Christmas corner will be held in late November. Please contact us if you are interested in being involved in either of these projects or watch for post updates on our Facebook page.

Don't forget that AMA is also the local body that holds the Golden Plains Shire's Community Seed money. As a community we receive \$7500 each three years to spend on projects that benefit Meredith community. The Community Coordinators (of which many are members of AMA) oversee the allocation of funds, so if you have a community project or event you need some funds, please contact us with your proposal.

We meet formally monthly, but sometimes more often if we have a project on the go.

Follow us on Facebook: Advance Meredith Association to stay up to date on community events.

President Louise 0427 779 113 or Secretary Kerrie 0409 027 359

#stayconnected #staypositive #staysafe #shoplocal  
#supportcommunity #smalltownbigspirit



Cr Helena Kirby

## From the Mayor



GOLDEN PLAINS SHIRE

**Golden Plains is a beautiful place to live all year round but there's something extra special about our Shire in Spring.**

As the days get warmer, the native flora is blooming and we see more of our unique Australian wildlife enjoying the new season, too.

Council is excited to launch the return of Spring in the Shire, our community photography competition held every two years. I encourage residents of all ages to grab their camera and enjoy exploring our Shire and capturing those special images. Reviewing the entries is a great honour and I look forward to seeing the Shire through the eyes of our participants again this year. For information, visit Council's website.

As I write this message, regional Victoria has just emerged from another lockdown and we are hoping these new freedoms will last as our vaccination rates climb and Christmas approaches. Over the past 18 months, Council has established more options to deliver our many operations and services and continue to find new ways to stay connected with residents and businesses. Last month, Councillors held another online Conversation Post to chat with residents and we returned to virtual Council Meetings this past month., livestreamed into homes across the Shire.

We believe that keeping our community informed and connected is more important now than ever. Council has committed to a range of communication and engagement option for all residents and if you haven't discovered them yet, we hope you'll consider taking a read.

All our Council and Golden Plains' news is published on Council's website: [goldenplains.vic.gov.au](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au), and all residents are welcomed to follow Council's social media pages on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. This year, Council introduced two new newsletters: *Engage*, the monthly community engagement publication and the *eGazette*, a digital community magazine published every second month. All you need to sign up for these publications is an email address and every copy will be sent straight to your inbox. Full details can be found below.

For those who prefer printed news, Council continues to publish the *Gazette* magazine and deliver it to local mailboxes. We also publish a Council News page in the *Golden Plains Times* every week.



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

# healthSAVE pharmacy

## Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

6 High Street  
Bannockburn, VIC 3331  
Phone: 5281 1519

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

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

Our pharmacists, Scott, Prtti & 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**

## Weed Warrior

Marg Cooper

Our property had three main areas where horehound was a major problem.

1. Eastern Ridge of the valley where the weed has been eradicated and sheep now happily graze.
2. Flat area around the main dam where I have run over the weed with the ride on mower prior to the horehound getting to seed head stage. This is only a delaying tactic but better than not doing anything. This can be repeated to buy time until you are ready to tackle the area in the future, when time and resources exist.
3. South Western Ridge of the valley. Since the last edition of Weed Warrior in the September Newsletter all mature horehound plants have been dug out of the ground and taken to the burn pile.

All of the broadleaf weeds, cape-weed, docs, spear thistle, variegated thistle and juvenile plants of horehound have been sprayed with selective herbicide.

In the same order as problem 1 above, soon the sheep will be put in there to clean up that paddock.

The next weed to tackle is the serrated tussock in the bottom of the valley. It will be tackled in the same way. Dig out the mature plants then follow up with the correct spray on the new emerging young tussocks next Autumn.

If you find that you can't get to the weeds to remove them, make an effort to retard them and stop them setting seed. This is a major step as you won't have the next batch of seeds spreading out all over your land.

Methods to stop seeding down of new seed stock:  
Horehound – slash prior to seed heads forming, remove by hand, lop heads of plants off and burn.

Spear thistle – remove by hand, lop off spear/trunks, spray prior to seed spike.

Docs – lop off seed stalks, spray prior to seed spike.

Serrated Tussock – whipper snip prior to seed heads forming, remove by hand, spray with recommended chemical.

Cape-weed – spray with selective herbicide prior to flowering, graze out, slash prior to flowering.

There are a lot of other weeds in the district that other people may be battling. If you follow the format from the September Newsletter and tackle a section at a time then the job won't be overwhelming. Remember that putting it off, year after year is not the answer. The problem won't go away. It will simply manifest into a major problem for yourself and the local environment. So, while there is still time before this year's seed heads set, *Roll up your sleeves, Get active and see the fruits of your labour.* You will soon see that it is all worth the effort when the area you have been working on is free of weeds and your land is more productive. You will then have sweet grasses where the weed bank used to be.

Remember that 200 acres of land with 50 acres of weeds means that you only have 150 acres of productive land and this productive land will diminish every year left untreated.



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## Friendships—long distance and local

Roy Hay

In these days of restrictions and lockdowns, some long-distance friendships are a great solace and source of inspiration. If we cannot visit our next-door neighbours then those on the other side of the world can be summoned up, thanks in large part to modern technology. Email, Zoom, Facebook and other social media platforms—even old-fashioned letters and cards—come into their own. Though social media gets a bad name for the trolling and abuse that it facilitates, there is no doubt that it is a boon to those of us who just want to remind friends, that we are still alive and inquire after their health and activities and members of their clans. I'm one of the very lucky ones to have retained friendships as colleagues, students and teachers have spread around the globe. Others with whom we haven't been in contact for decades have managed to track us down and have sent news of their doings and sometimes photographs. Others we know have managed to hold class reunions from their schooldays in those parts where social gatherings are still permitted.

Our extended family is probably quite typical of migrants to Australia. We arrived in 1977 to a post for me at Deakin University in Geelong. Our parents are no longer with us. Now, in addition to a daughter in Cairns and a son and his family in Sydney, I have nieces in Melbourne, Wellington in New Zealand and Essex in England. My wife has a cousin in Perth, WA. Some folks we know, who came from larger families, could field football teams of close relatives. At the other extreme, we know several people who lack these connections and I hope that we can act as friends and neighbours and provide some social contacts where these are welcome. You have to respect their privacy if that is their preference, of course.

We were extraordinarily lucky when we arrived in this country. An Irish couple who looked after the students at the University absorbed us into their family. He and I set up the soccer team at Deakin, while a common interest in folk music and dancing got us involved in the Port Fairy festival, then only in its second year. That interest led to a meeting much later with one of the editors of this newsletter, whose partner was recently awarded her doctorate by the university. Jan Wozitzsky, one of the original Bushwhackers, was performing in Stieglitz one evening and as we stumbled through the dark to find the half-time refreshments we struck up a conversation and this column is one outcome of that meeting.

I've mentioned a couple of friends in a previous column. Angela Cassels was a student in the very first tutorial I taught at the University of East Anglia in 1967. She and her husband Jim had two daughters in Australia at one point—one in Queensland and the other in northern New South Wales. Mum and Dad would come to Australia most years and spend time with the families. Then when they were grand-parented out, they would visit us in Teesdale and later in Bannockburn. While my mother-in-law, whose story you may have read in last month's

*Meredith News*, was still on the go we would return to Scotland regularly to see her. Then we would catch up with the Cassels on the Isle of Arran in the Firth of Clyde where they lived or in Glasgow. COVID has disrupted that pattern, but we are regularly in touch by email with added exchange of photographs.

I've recently been reviewing a marvellous book by Wray Vamplew, a fellow academic I have known since we were very young economic historians in Edinburgh and Glasgow universities. The *Games People Played* is a most evocative history of sport ranging from the seventh century BCE, when the king of Abyssinia held fake lion hunts, to the drug abuses in sports today. Wray Vamplew played cricket with Geoffrey Boycott at school and ran him out one day when they were batting together! He also came to Australia to Flinders University and then went back to the UK to run the pioneering Sports Studies Centre at De Montfort University. The book is not written for his academic peers but for the intelligent sports fan and everyone will learn something from it.

Wray and Janice Vamplew have a son and his family in Ballarat so they retain a strong Australian connection, while their daughter Ailsa shares her name with our daughter.

They say that blood is thicker than water, but friendships can be durable and very close. In a disarming remark in her introduction to Indigenous life in Australia, Professor Marcia Langton says, that if a genealogical link can't be traced, we have other ways of establishing relationships. But that is an issue for another column.

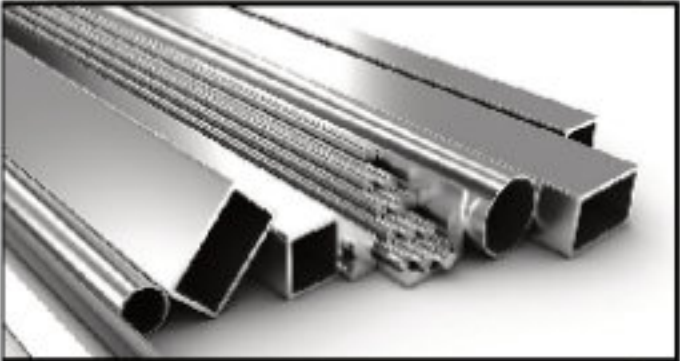


*The Cassels and the Hays in Blairquhan Castle, Ayrshire, Scotland in 1983. Photo: Roy Hay.*

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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!**



Who's idea was it to sing "Happy Birthday" while washing your hands? Now every time I go to the bathroom, my kids expect me to walk out with a cake.

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## In the School Garden

Rain...warmth...hail...heat...frost...yes, it's Springtime. Sometimes we've had all of these in one day. The good news for gardeners is that warm soil is on its way and that means time to plant those seeds.

First of all it's a perfect time to get ready for the Newsletter GIANT PUMPKIN CHALLENGE. Free seeds are available in the Community Pantry behind the Community Garden. If they have run out, give the school a call (5286 1313) and we'll replenish the supply or arrange to get some to you. Check out the planting tips in this newsletter, get your soil ready, plant and watch them grow.

Other seeds to go in now, or over the next couple of months, are BEANS, BEETROOT, CARROT, RADISH, LETTUCE, CORN and POTATOES. We have put in a small potato patch at school using the no dig method. Scatter the potatoes on the ground, cover with a thick layer of straw fluffed up and give it a good water. Sprinkle with a few handfuls of blood and bone and a little potash; next is a thin layer of any animal manure (we find old sheep manure is best and if anyone has some spare, we'd be very grateful for a couple of bags at school), water again and after about three weeks the first growing tips will appear. The most important thing about this process is to keep the potatoes well covered and in the dark at all times. If sunlight gets to them they will turn green and poisonous.

Our PEAS have not been a success this season: peas like to be planted directly into the ground as seed however the school was closed, because of a lockdown, throughout the optimum pea planting season so we tried starting them off in a large seedling tray. When they were eventually planted out, there was too much root disturbance which has led to very small and spindly growth. Out they will come and the bed will be ready for a summer crop of something else.

Let's talk TOMATOES. These need warm soil and sunshine but we have such a short growing season like that here. Not having a hot house at school to start seeds off, we usually purchase a punnet of small seedlings in September and pot them up. That way they have room to grow on in a sheltered, sunny spot and are ready in late October to plant out in the garden. Remember when planting yours to put them in deeper than they were in the pot, they will form extra roots along their stems and this will anchor them into the soil.

It's a rewarding time watching the plants: we have our eyes on the BROAD BEANS planted as seeds by the Prep/One children back in April; the Grade 2/3/4 GARLIC is growing and we are looking forward to our garlic bread feast in December; the STRAWBERRIES are leafing up beautifully and our wonderful RHUBARB is always at the ready whenever we feel like muffins or a crumble.

The spare beds have either had compost added, or a thick mulch spread to control the weeds, ready for planting. We are getting excited for giant pumpkins,

corn, sunflowers, basil and more - such a wonderful and productive time.

The past month has been one of remote learning for most of the school - the prep/one/twos had a short return before the holidays - therefore the GRADE 5/6 COMMUNITY GARDEN activities have been on hold and likewise, the OZ HARVEST PROJECT. The students, staff and parents have learnt what it is to go into, and out of, sharp lockdowns and to do the very best they can. While they certainly miss coming to school and learning together, and seeing their friends, there are high hopes for fourth term with lots of gardening and no interruptions.

The Grade 5/6 students would like to share another of their OzHarvest recipes with you that they enjoyed baking with Kym. (Anyone try last month's Chicken and Zucchini Nuggets? Let us know if you did.)

This one is great for swaps - no pears? Maybe you have apples or tinned pears. Perhaps try substituting some of the flour for oats, and the addition of some coconut would be tasty. Want to make it dairy free? Use oat, rice or soy milk. How about adding a few nuts or choc chips? Check your pantry for packets with bits and pieces in them. Enjoy!

### Pear Muffins

1 cup plain flour	1 cup wholemeal flour
1/3 cup brown sugar	3 tsp baking powder
1 tbsp cinnamon	1 cup diced or grated pear
2 eggs	1 cup milk
1/3 cup oil	1 tsp vanilla

1. Preheat the oven to 200 degrees.
2. Grease a muffin tin or line with muffin papers.
3. Add the flours, brown sugar, baking powder and cinnamon to a large mixing bowl and stir or whisk to combine then add the pear.
4. In a smaller bowl, whisk lightly the eggs, milk, oil and vanilla.
5. Pour the wet ingredients into the dry ingredients and stir till just combined.
6. Bake for 20 minutes.





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## IN OUR NATURE

Wendy Cook

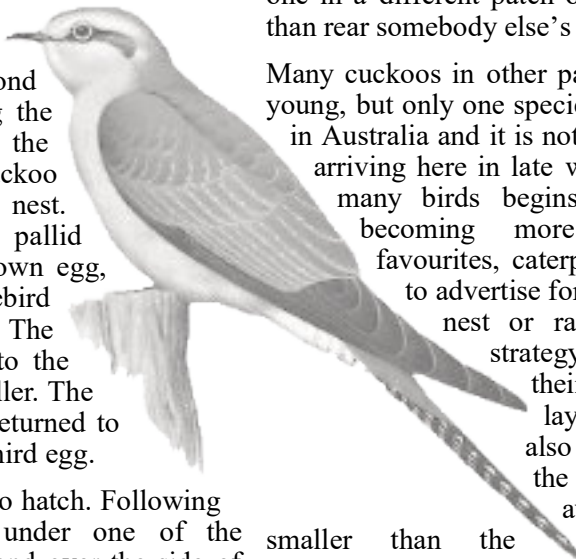
The wattlebird flew in short hops from branch to branch, seeking food for the demanding fledgling which followed her. Red wattlebird fledglings are browner and duller than their parents, with a smaller pink-red wattle below their face, but this young bird was different. Its plumage was mottled and striped in black and white, with a dark throat and a black stripe around its eye. The parent didn't notice. She was only aware of the fledgling's begging calls as she and her mate attempted to satisfy its hunger.

It was the wattlebirds' first breeding season, and it had started well. In a fork high in a swamp gum, they constructed their nest of twigs and bark with a soft lining of grasses and feathers. The female laid a creamy egg with brown speckles. They had heard the loud calls of a male pallid cuckoo, a series of sharp whistled notes rising in pitch, repeated regularly. Several

times, they had chased the cuckoos away. After the female laid her second egg, she left the nest to feed among the honey-scented gum flowers lower in the tree. Her mate chased the male cuckoo when he came too close to the nest. Perhaps, that was when the female pallid cuckoo quietly visited and laid her own egg, before removing one of the wattlebird eggs and dropping it to the ground. The cuckoo's egg had similar markings to the wattlebird's egg, but was slightly smaller. The wattlebird didn't notice it when she returned to her nest. Two days later, she laid her third egg.

The pallid cuckoo chick was the first to hatch. Following its instincts, it struggled to get under one of the wattlebird's eggs, then pushed it up and over the side of the nest. It removed the other egg, and would have done the same to any baby wattlebirds. It began calling for food. Pallid cuckoos lay their eggs in a range of different bird's nests, including honeyeaters and robins. A cuckoo chick can make calls similar to the chicks of several species. It varied its call, until it found the one that was most like a baby red wattlebird. Its foster parents, the wattlebirds, responded best to this, and brought it most food when it called with this sound. Initially, the featherless chick looked similar to a wattlebird chick. As it grew, it developed the black and white feathers of a young pallid cuckoo. Although it no longer looked like a chick of the parent birds' species, they continued to feed it. Eventually, the chick left. Most young birds gather with birds that look like their parents. Young cuckoos recognise that they are different, and listen and look for birds that make calls similar to their own (when they are not begging for food) and have plumage similar to their own.

While the wattlebirds were busy above, a superb fairy-wren (often known as a blue wren) built her grassy nest in bushes below the swamp gum. She included soft mosses



and sheep's wool she had found in a nearby paddock. Her nest was roughly spherical with an entrance on one side, big enough for the wren to enter, but far too small for the large grey pallid cuckoo or a fan-tailed cuckoo with its trilling call. However, a Horsfield's bronze-cuckoo with its iridescent green back and brown and white stripes across its chest can just squeeze in. All the nearby wrens had heard its long descending whistle as it called during the day and sometimes at night. When they saw it, they all attacked until they drove it away. Even so, the Horsfield's bronze-cuckoo sneaked into the wren's nest when she was absent, lay its egg and remove one of hers. Some birds can identify a foreign egg in their nest and desert it, but the wattlebirds had not had sufficient experience as parents, and the fairy-wren's nest was enclosed and gloomy. She had another strategy to detect cuckoos. Before her eggs hatched, she called to them using her own unique call. She taught the same call to her mate and other wrens who would help feed her chicks. When the cuckoo egg hatched, the chick pushed out her eggs, just as the pallid cuckoo chick had done in the wattlebirds' nest. To be fed, superb fairy-wren chicks need to include their mother's unique call in their begging. The cuckoo chick did not learn this call. Its call was wrong, so the fairy-wren abandoned her nest. She would build a new one in a different patch of bushes, and start again, rather than rear somebody else's chick.

Many cuckoos in other parts of the world raise their own young, but only one species, the pheasant coucal, does this in Australia and it is not found in Victoria. Cuckoos start arriving here in late winter as the breeding season for many birds begins. Insects which they eat, are becoming more plentiful, especially their favourites, caterpillars. They use their loud calls to advertise for a mate. While they don't build a nest or raise their own young, there is a strategy involved in choosing a host for their chick, having an egg ready to lay at the right time when the host is also laying eggs, and sneaking into the nest while its occupants are away. Often the hosts are far smaller than the fledgling chick they eventually find themselves feeding. After the breeding season has finished, the cuckoos leave and migrate north. While cuckoos are only here for part of the year, they are found in northern Australia, the closest parts of Asia and some Pacific Islands all year round.

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## Their Last Ride – The Fallen Jockeys of Australia. (part 2)

Review by Marg Cooper

John H Payne in his book *Their Last Ride* documented the death of John Carroll as a result of a fall at the Meredith Races in March 1866.

Five Races were listed on the program for March 15, 1866 including The Maiden Handicap of 15 sovereigns, for all horses that have never won an advertised race above £15, one and a half miles, The District Plate, of 20 sovereigns, mile heats for all horses, the bona fide property of residents within 13 miles of the township of Meredith for three months previous to the races., The Handicap Steeplechase, The Forced Handicap of 15 sovereigns, two miles and The Consolation Handicap of 15 sovereigns, one mile and a half. In one report the winner of a Hack Race was named.

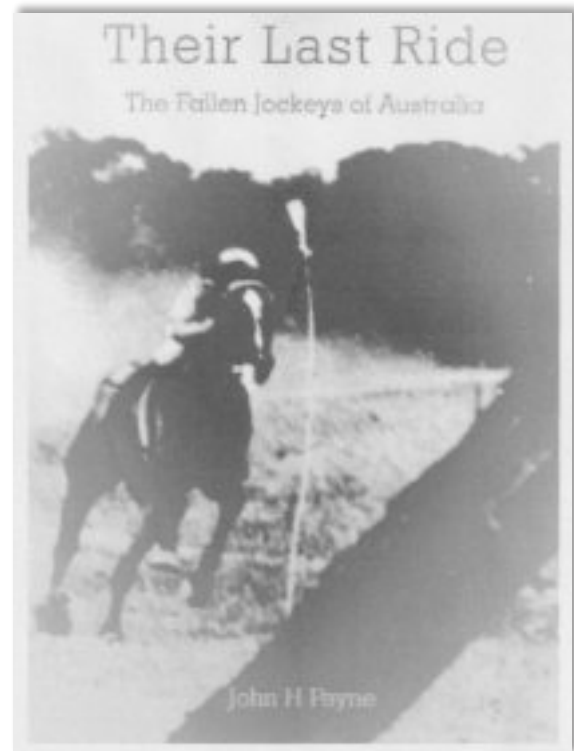
The Ballarat Star reported on March 17, 1866 that the Meredith races that took place on Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> March were decidedly the best that had ever been held in the district. Mr Nugent was the Hon Secretary, Mr Silvester acted as starter and Mr Connelly as clerk of course. The Stewards were Messrs J Haimes, J Boyd, D McNaught, J Bell and Graham. The Judge was Mr F Griffiths. The course was only three-quarters of a mile from the township. Messrs Nugent and Gosling had a pavilion on the ground and a pavilion was also erected for the comfort of the stewards and jockeys.

The Geelong Advertiser of March 16 reported that the Handicap Steeplechase was the race which had been looked forward to throughout the day as it was expected to be an exciting affair between Mr Smith's *I Want It*, Mr Cameron's *Hopping* and Mr Clarence's *Mormon*. A capital start was effected, *I Want It* making the running with *Hopping Jack* in close company. Both horses took their leaps in splendid style. *Mormon*, it was soon seen would be nowhere in the race. It was impossible to see how many times the two leading horses changes places at the rear of the course owing to the timber. *Mormon* threw his rider and on coming into the straight running the first time around *Hopping Jack* had a strong lead which he maintained past the judges stand and any odds would have been laid that he would prove the winner. Such however was not the case and at one of the fences at the rear of the course he misjudged his distance and rolled right over leaving *I Want It* to go the remainder of the course by himself.

The Newspaper also reported that in The District Plate the six starters got off well together. *Boy in the Morning* got a slight lead, he was however soon pulled up by *Gay Lass* with *Limerick Lass* close up. At this stage of the race *Boy in the Morning* threw his rider although the fact was scarcely known until the end of the race. Meantime the horses came to the post as follows; 1. *Gay Lass*, 2. *Limerick Lass*, 3. *Deerfoot*.

In the evening a supper worthy of a king was served up at Gosling's Hotel and was done full justice to by over fifty guests.

John Carroll was also in Gosling's hotel at the time, being conveyed there from the race course after his horse, *Boy in the Morning* swerved, and seeing that he must either jump off or knock his head against the branch of a tree, jumped off and in so doing was kicked by the horse. He was admitted to hospital in Geelong on March 18 but died the next day from a fractured spine.



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## Vale to Ronald Francis Read 18/2/1934 – 6/9/2021

Ronnie grew up at Gnarwarre and was the one of the youngest of the 11 children of John (Jack) and Violet Read. He went to the local rural school but for about 5 years, because of the war, they often didn't have a teacher. Instead, the children would go rabbiting. Ronnie considered himself a great rabbitier who was not very well educated.

Ronnie's father was 'Boss of the Board' for Stocko's of Adelaide. When Ronnie was 14 years of age he started as a one of three board boys - picking up fleeces and sweeping the board for 10 shearers. There were 30,000 sheep to be shorn on the first station he worked at just out of Broken Hill. Ronnie worked as a board boy for five years before he started as a learner shearer. He got a learner's pen in one of Chris Mooney's teams at *Boabula* in the Riverina. During WW11 Chris Mooney of Meredith had five machine shearing teams and one blade shearing team.

Two years of National Service saw Ronnie at Puckapunyal and Port Fairy from 1952. In his later years he was very proud to attend functions in the blazer and beret of the National Servicemen's Association of Ballarat.

Ronnie followed the work in shearing sheds for 10 to 15 years, rarely coming home. When Don Fleming, for whom Ronnie was working, retired as a shearing contractor Ronnie took over his team and his contracts. He ran that team for over 20 years, mainly working within 50 km radius of Geelong. He was always called on to judge shearing competitions at the Geelong Show and other places. At that time Ronnie lived in Geelong with his first wife Flora (Ryan) and their family.

Ronnie then became a farmer on his block at Cargarie. He transformed it into a very productive and attractive property. He met Joyce when he and the Elaine publican visited her at her house in Mt Doran to see if they could help after she was robbed. From then on they met at the Social Club at the Elaine Pub on Friday nights. Sometime later, after they got to know each other a bit, Ronnie asked Joyce to dance. They'd go dancing on Saturday nights. Joyce tells how they'd gallop around the floor and she was sure that the others at the dance were amazed at their energy and dancing style. They had great fun! When Ronnie's house burnt down at Cargarie he went to live with Joyce at Mt Doran until his newly built house was ready. They then set to work the farm, build more sheds and establish a beautiful garden. They married in 1999 at the Registry Office in Melbourne - telling their families after the event!

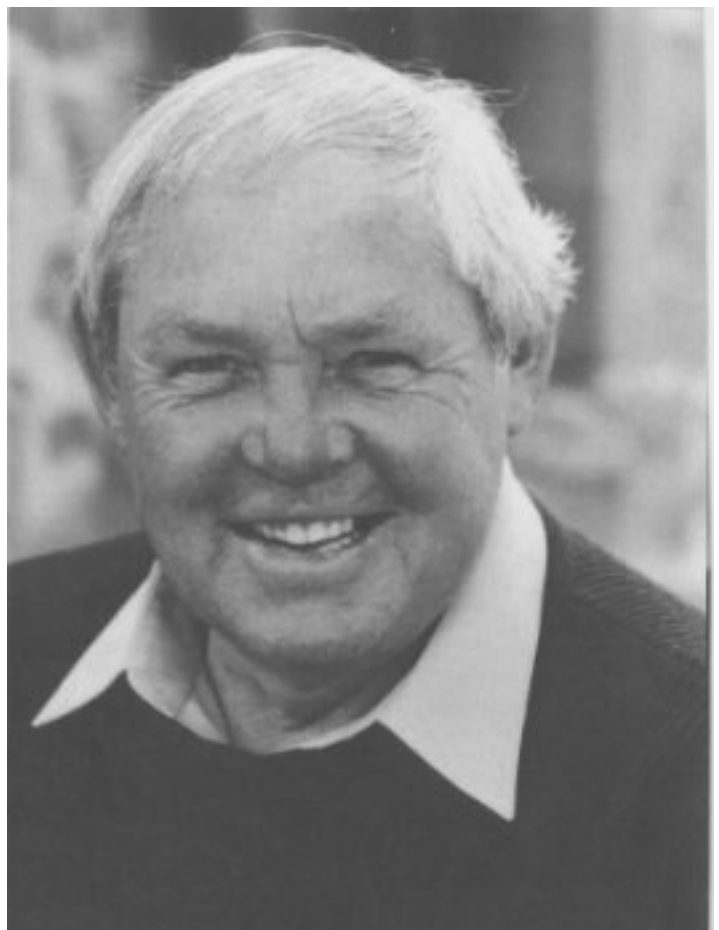
Joyce is a keen gardener and kept extending the garden until Ronnie told her she couldn't go any further outwards. She then built more garden beds within the space. Ronnie loved to help but he pruned everything with the chainsaw to his height and in a square shape. He also loved to spray. The area sprayed around trees got bigger every year and if he sprayed the edges of garden beds, many times the plants inside the bed also died.

Ronnie was a great worker. He was short with a very strong upper body. He was strong, determined, sometimes stubborn and seemed to have no 'off button'. One year he baled 645 round bales of hay in hot summer weather. Because of a malfunction with the baler he had to get off the cab-less McCormack tractor after each bale was made, go around the back of the baler, pull the string down and tie it to the second string that was down. He did that 645 times! And by then he'd had both knees and one hip replaced. He loved machinery and at one time had five tractors, four quad bikes and lots of other machinery.

His son Peter described Ronnie as a tough, dynamic footballer and a good sportsman. He especially liked to watch cricket and football but would watch any sport that was on television. He had his own television in the bedroom so he could watch sport every night. He also liked to encourage young people to play sport. To this end he helped improve and maintain facilities at Elaine Recreation Reserve and helped train juniors at the Elaine Fire Brigade. He didn't cook at home but was the designated barbeque cook at most functions in Elaine.

Joyce and Ronnie had many overseas trips. He loved meeting people, and people enjoyed being with Ronnie because he always had a grin on his face, a gleam in his eye and a laugh ready to erupt. He was a larrikin who loved a bit of fun and a laugh or two. He described himself as a 44 gallon drum on legs.

*Joyce would like to thank everyone who sent cards, telephoned and sent flowers to her. She is most grateful.*



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## Marg's BOOK REVIEW

### The Rain Heron by Robbie Arnott

What an imagination the author has to create a story about a 'rain heron' - a bird made of rain. It is incorporeal\* - made of water though it can be netted and caged. *The bird flashed into being, falling as thick rain into itself, right in front of him, on the other side of the glass. Bubbles rose from its back. Its beak opened and I heard the sound of a breaking wave. The bird preened, flapped and then just as quickly as it had appeared, it came apart in a spray of hanging mist. He has imagined a creature, exquisitely beautiful. After the bird was captured in a cage it was covered with a black cloth. Beneath the black cloth the shape was barely discernible and it didn't seem to be moving. But then another fork of lightning flashed and when it did the cage gave a small shake. Not the lurch of something disturbed, but a settling, something like contentment. The edges of the cloth flared upwards. The cage rocked, then settled as its curtain corrected itself. When the corresponding thunder followed the cloth fluttered again, this time pushed by a waft of happy vapour. And when later in the book the bird is captured again by throwing ink into the approaching cloud. The ink met the mist in a wild, brilliant confluence. The liquids merged in the air, and began to spit and roil as they raced through a swirl of colours, forming the vague shape of a cloud.*

The book is described as being when human greed collides with the eloquence of nature. It is set in an unnamed country following a coup. A fugitive woman living in the hills is pursued by the military as they believe that she knows the location of the Rain Heron. Presumably her superiors want to use the captured bird's power to alter the seasons and who knows what else.

Interestingly the first section of the novel is headed 'Part O', placing it outside the main narrative structure. It is a short fairy tale that prefaces the main story. The author scatters several acts of gratuitous violence amid the pages including the plucking out of eyeballs, some murders and shooting in the neck.

There are superb descriptions of nature and weather. The novelist evokes a landscape that is both startlingly immediate and mysteriously otherworldly. One of the characters tells what his family farm was like after rain: *The ground would soften and squelch, the worms and bugs that lived in the dirt would squirm to the gasping surface. Their appearance would summon hungry frogs. Small eels would join them, gliding from heavy streams over the wet soil and grass. The glisten of frogs and eels would bring long-legged waterbirds to feast on them-murderous egrets, picking their way through the muddy banquet. Their bills darted, their bellies ballooned, and for some of them flight became an obvious discomfort.* [The next chapter

mentions invertebrates, birds, rodents, marsupials, raptors etc] *Under heavy rain the farm thickened with life and death.*

It could be categorized as a fantasy, a myth, eco fiction, an urgent thriller or even as a lyrical tale. It is a novel containing rich symbolism. The characters are mostly cold with only hints of emotional feelings. Essentially it is a novel illustrating the fact that civilizations like to control the natural world.

(\*incorporeal - without material form, substance or existence)

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## it'S HISTORY

Meredith History Interest Group

### Steiglitz through the Lens:

You are invited to a display of Steiglitz Photos that we have called *Steiglitz Thru the Lens* at the Meredith Hall on Saturday and Sunday, October 30 and 31, 10 am to 3 pm. Luckily there are many photos of Steiglitz from 1868 onwards, mainly thanks to Mr H E Boardman. Many are taken from the New Chum Hill and give an overall view of the town. Tony Scott has researched the buildings of Steiglitz and has been able to date most of the photos according to what buildings are there at a time. So, in the display you will be able to see Steiglitz in its glory days and Steiglitz in decline. In a number of photos, he has also identified each building.

### Beremboke:

Our intrepid researcher Jan McDonald has trawled through Trove (old Newspapers on line) for every reference to Beremboke and saved them in chronological order. Interesting reading and a marvellous history of a **district**.

### Elaine Railway Station:

Mr Tait, Chief Commissioner of Railways promised that on his yearly tour he would alight at Elaine and inspect the station. The reporter lamented the fact that Mr Tait wasn't at the station on Friday when a fair block occurred; there being two goods trains at the station and the 8.35 am from Geelong standing about 200 yards south. The train was crowded with Geelong and Melbourne oarsmen making their way to Ballarat for the Ballarat Regatta and some of them had the disappointment of seeing their boat stuck up at Elaine when the passenger train was cleared. There were more than a dozen farm wagons, loaded with chaff, waiting for trucks and several loads had to be sent to Geelong and Ballarat by road. The pressure was so great that the

stationmaster had to call on his wife to attend to some of the inquirers while he was attending to the trains.

*From Steiglitz Miner, March 6, 1908.*

A good deal of business is now transacted at the local station. About 1000 parcels are received every month and on New Years Day 100 tickets were sold, 79 being for the Lal Lal Races.

*From Steiglitz Miner, January 8, 1909.*

A casualty train came to Meredith late on Saturday night with a gang of 12 men to remove the broken trucks off the side of the permanent way, near Spicers. The steam crane soon had the broken parts in the trucks brought to convey the debris to the Newport workshops for repair. The work was completed by 12 o'clock on Sunday morning and after dinner at the Railway Hotel the party returned to Melbourne at 1 pm.

*From Steiglitz Miner, January 29, 1909.*

### Calendar for 2022:

Once again a calendar is being produced. It will be for sale later in the year and will make an ideal Christmas gift. The 2022 calendar celebrates stone buildings in Meredith & District - some you may never have seen before. Some are intact and some are in a state of disrepair. Profits from sale of the calendar go to MHIG.

### An Inquest:

The body of a man was found by the roadside near Stoney Rises, near the 18 milepost in June 1865. He was lying on his back with a corn sack over his face. The sack contained a billy can and a pannikin. There was a match box in the billy and a pipe was in his pocket. He was described as a tramp who went up and down the road living on charity. Mrs Chamberlain of Stoney Rises said that he called himself Edward Perkhams but he was generally known as *The Old Man*. He often called at her house for food and he had told her that he had served 7 years in Van Dieman's Land and had been 14 years in this colony.



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## Golden History at Elaine

*Pam Ridd*

Growing up in Ballarat I have always been aware of our golden history, but a recent history class through the Ballarat U3A and some genealogical exploration in my own family has broadened my understanding of the wider extent of gold exploration in Elaine and surrounds. It seems obvious when it is pointed out that the main route to the goldfields in Ballarat was via Geelong because of the difficulty of traversing the Pentlands in the early days. Therefore, the search for gold was certainly occurring not only in Ballarat but more broadly in any promising location between. My husband who grew up in Elaine recalls some mines north of the highway and a lot of old mullock heaps and evidence of mining around Morrisons.

After discovering my Great Grandfather Mark Harry Henley was a mine manager at Elaine in the 1870's for seven years. It prompted me to investigate further. I found an article on Trove specifically referring to mining in Elaine

**THE NEW GOLDFIELDS AT ELAINE.** Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 1873 (From the Melbourne Leader.)

“IT is only within the last few weeks that Elaine has attracted the attention of the general public, although gold digging has been carried on in the immediate locality for many years, in fact more or less ever since Hooley and his mates discovered the Steiglitz goldfield in 1854. The fact of Clark and Baldy having lately secured a cake of retorted gold weighing 404 oz., as the reward of a few weeks' work by the use of pick, shovel and windlass, has done more than anything else to make the name of Elaine popular throughout the district. The new reef at Elaine has already been traced and proved for about three miles. It commences about half a mile from the railway station, and trends in nearly a northerly direction, inclining to the west. Gold has been found at from within a few inches of the surface to a depth of 130 foot, beyond which it is impossible to proceed without the aid of machinery to pump out the water. “

The article lists 21 claims in the vicinity. “These twenty-one claims give employment to about 120 miners, the average being six to a claim. Mounds of auriferous stone and earth of various sizes are now lying on the surface of each of these claims waiting to be crushed, both of the crushing machines being at present at a standstill undergoing enlargement and alteration in order to meet the growing requirements of the miners. The cost of crushing varies from 7s 6d to 12s 6d per ton, exclusive of cartage, according to the quantity and nature of the quartz. As nearly all the claims are contiguous to the machines the cost of carting is not great, in some cases not more than sixpence per ton. The Pioneer machine was erected some nine years since, and is now having new machinery, engine-house and boiler erected in the most approved and substantial manner. Mr. Leo is the proprietor, and he hopes to get steam up in about a week, and he has now large orders on his books for crushing. This machine has crushed during the last twelve months over 1000 tons of quartz the average being slightly over one ounce to the ton. The Enterprise crushing machine is the property of Messrs. Batters, Kay, Mercer and Bonderson, and is now undergoing thorough repair, and having many additions

made to it, which are expected to be finished next week. This firm has also any quantity of orders on the books. The rule observed here is the well-known one of Hobson first come first served. Up to the present time gold mining has been carried on at Elaine in a legitimate and bona fide manner; there has been no gambling, and no wild speculation. Every claim has paid its own expenses from the first crushing, and the result is a contented, industrious, well-fed and well-clothed population.”

The article goes on to describe how speculators are moving in on the claims and gentlemen purchasing larger pieces of land and preventing miners from trespassing on them. You can find the whole piece at

<https://trove.nla.gov.au/newspaper/article/63228276>



Goldmining at Elaine, about 1860. The horse-powered whim winches buckets of ore and water to the surface.

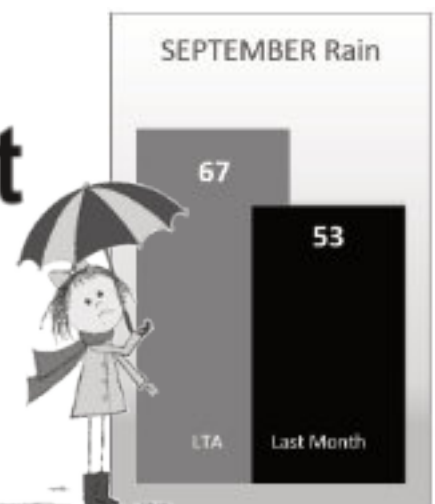
## Did you know!

### Your dog knows when someone isn't trustworthy.

You may be able to tell when your furry BFF is thrilled to see you, but your dog probably knows even more about you and other people than you do about them. Not only do dogs have innate instincts to protect their humans, but a 2015 study published in the journal *Animal Cognition* suggests that pups can even tell if a person is untrustworthy based on their behavior.

## the rain report

Because of the timing of the daily rain readings, some rain on the last day of the month is not recorded here.



## Landcare News



### Bamganie-Meredith

*Nerida Anderson*

#### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The annual general meeting for the Bamganie-Meredith Landcare Group will be held at 7:30pm on Wednesday 20 October 2021. The meeting will again be held via ZOOM due to the ongoing COVID-19 restrictions. You are very welcome to join either online or by phone. Please email Maddie at [meredithlandcare@gmail.com](mailto:meredithlandcare@gmail.com) if you would like to attend the AGM and we will send you the ZOOM link.

#### DUNG BEETLE DAY SATURDAY 6 NOVEMBER

You may have heard of dung beetles, but did you know that the mighty little beetle plays a vital role in our productive grazing systems? Dung beetles bury animal dung in the soil and in so doing improves the structure of the soil, allowing the movement of water, nutrients and carbon into the root zones of pasture plants. Burial speeds up decomposition of the dung and reduces breeding opportunities for flies and other parasites, improving animal health and productivity, not to mention improving human comfort! Dung beetle activity helps sequester carbon in the soil, while also helping to reduce nutrient run-off into waterways. What is there not to like about dung beetles!

The Barrabool Landcare Group, in conjunction with Southern Farming Systems (SFS), is planning a field day at Inverleigh in early November to showcase dung beetles and how to identify them. The results of field trials conducted across southern Australia by SFS will also be discussed. This will be a free event, with financial support from the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority and Australian Government through the Regional Land Partnership Large Farms.

Arrangements are still being finalised in line with COVID-19 restrictions. Contact Kaye Rodden 0438317499 for more information, or to save a place.

#### CALCULATING CARBON ABATEMENT OPPORTUNITIES: WEBINAR TUESDAY 12 OCTOBER

While there is an increasing interest in reducing carbon emissions, there are different Emission Reduction Fund (ERF) methods for calculating potential carbon abatement on farms. It is often difficult to know just where to start, or to know what options there are for farmers to take part in the carbon market.

Developed by the CSIRO, LOOC-C, pronounced 'Look-see', is an online tool to help farmers explore carbon market options and potential opportunities from carbon-reducing activities on their land. LOOC-C is a map-based tool using an emission factor database to estimate

potential carbon abatement produced by undertaking various tree or soil carbon activities.

Agriculture Victoria is running a webinar featuring LOOC-C team member Dr Stephen Roxburgh at 12noon on Tuesday 12 October. In the webinar Dr Roxburgh will introduce the LOOC-C app and explain some of the background to it. For more information or to register for the free webinar go to <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources/event-listing/a-look-at-looc-c-carbon-abatement-calculator>.

Can't wait for the webinar? Go to <https://looc-c.farm/> and use the map interface to explore carbon abatement options for your farm business.

#### LANDCARE WEBINAR SERIES

The Landcare Webinar Series brings together people interested in sustainable land management and conservation activities to showcase the rich diversity of knowledge, passion and expertise within the Landcare community. The webinars are hosted by a facilitator, with speakers presenting information to help people manage environmental issue in their area and to support community resilience.

For more information about the webinars, or to register go to <https://landcareaustralia.org.au/national-landcare-conference-webinar/>

For more information about the Bamganie Meredith Landcare Group including meeting dates please see our Facebook page or contact us at [meredithlandcare@gmail.com](mailto:meredithlandcare@gmail.com).

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Snap lockdowns, changes to our freedoms and cultural fabric, lost levels of education and economic destruction.... Wow, no wonder we are all feeling weary and just OVER IT ALL...

But you know what, times of hardship and the collective need for survival has occurred throughout human history and we need to remind ourselves of that. We shall survive and even thrive as we slowly adapt to our new normal lives.

Maybe we need to look at this period of time as a reboot time, a time to be resourceful, as we combine logic and practicality, with garden magic to sustain ourselves, our families and communities.

*"I must go forward where I have never been instead of backwards where I have." — Winnie the Pooh*

Did you know that in Europe during the Middle Ages, small children would run around in the fields and clap blocks of wood together in order to scare away the birds from eating the harvest – no harvest no food for winter. These children were called "crow-scarers" and keeping the birds away was a full-time job. Though after the plague struck, leaving fewer children around, the farmers decided to try to stuff old clothes with straw, placing a turnip or gourd on top as a head, mounting these figures in the fields. This method worked, of course, and soon these human-like figures were used instead – Scarecrows.

It is thought that the birds are scared off also because of the smell of humans that linger from the clothes of a scarecrow.

Japanese farmers have also used scarecrows in the past, however, they would hang old rags, meat, and fish bones on their creations. Amazingly the smell itself was enough to keep not only birds but all creatures away from their crops!

German farmers used to make wooden witches for their fields because they believed the witches would draw the evil spirit of winter into their bodies.

Scarecrows remained a part of the farmers' tools until after World War II when they realized they could accomplish more by spraying their crops with pesticides like DDT. But this stopped in the 1960's when it was discovered it was bad for us!

Scarecrows still guard fields around the world during the growing season. Today some farmers use technological scarecrows instead of straw and wooden figures, technological scarecrows like reflective film ribbons tied to plants to create shimmers from the sun or automatic noise guns that are powered by propane gas.

Maybe placing a scarecrow on your front porch or at the edge of property enhanced with a little magical boost, can strengthen spirits against the negativity and uncertainty that is currently part of our Covid 19 lives.

*"The things that make me different are the things that make me." — Winnie the Pooh*

A protective stone such as hematite inside its body, will help ground and protect us. It strengthens our connection with the earth, making us feel safe and secure. It endows us with courage, strength, endurance and vitality.

You can also stuff your scarecrow with protective herbs like:

Violets, which symbolize honesty, protection, dreams, healing, remembrance, and determination. Thistles to represent overcoming adversity and difficult situations. It's a symbol of resilience. In Celtic regions, the thistle represents devotion, bravery, determination, and strength. Honeysuckle predominantly viewed as a symbol of happiness or Fennel to prevent negativity and provide protection from harmful spells.

A scarecrow in your production garden may help protect your crops from birds but there are also certain plants that seem to hinder or maximise each other growth and since we want to ensure maximum yield it is good to know which to plant or not plant together. Here are a few to keep in mind.

Now, Beans do not do well with members of the onion family, such as onion, leek, chives and garlic. Beans and carrots complement each other, giving each other nutrients that encourage growth

Tomatoes and corn fight each other for soil nutrients if planted too close together. Tomatoes also don't like cabbage or potatoes. Instead, pair with lettuce, which will be shaded and keep the soil moist for the water-loving tomatoes.

Potatoes and sunflowers don't get along because sunflower seeds contain a toxic ingredient that prevents potatoes from growing fully.

Asparagus and garlic, these two incompatible plants share the same need for nutrients in the soil, and asparagus is a real quitter if it can't get everything it needs. Your best bet is to give asparagus its own bed with no competition.

Celery and carrots, both need water and shade, and seek a taller leafed-out companion like beans to keep the soil moist. Use thyme as a companion to celery, which will

smother weeds and moisten the soil.

**Cucumber and Rosemary** The cucumber can take on the flavours of strong herbs, so keep rosemary, basil and sage away.

**Lettuce and Garlic**, garlic hinders many plants, including producing chemicals that wilts lettuce in place. Keep lettuce away from garlic’s cousins, too — onion, leeks and chives. Instead, plant lettuce next to either carrots or radishes. The shallow roots of quick-growing lettuce won’t disturb the root crops.

**Pumpkins and Corn**, the Pumpkin like to sprawl and snake up corn’s thick stalk. The two vegetables are harvested at different times, so they won’t compete for precious water in the late summer.

**Comfrey** – Comfrey roots grow deep into the ground, helping to pull nutrients and minerals from the soil. Because it’s such a vigorous grower, comfrey out competes weeds. Freshly cut comfrey serves as rich, nitrogen-rich mulch. Be sure to plant comfrey where you want it, because once established, it’s probably going to be there for a very long time.

**Nasturtiums** – Nasturtiums are believed to discourage

codling moths, a scourge that can plague several fruit trees, including apples. Plant nasturtiums seeds at the base of trees.

**Hyssop** – Hyssop is an attractive herb with a bitter aroma that discourages pests and is a great companion plant for all types of fruit, including berries.

**Lavender and Rosemary** – both smell great, but the aroma confuses pests and often sends them packing, and both attract pollinators.

**Fennel** – Fennel is a herb that attracts parasitic wasps, beneficial insects that help control a number of pests. Dill, mint, basil and coriander provide similar effects, and you can also snip a bit of these herb plants for use in the kitchen or in your scarecrow.



So, don’t aim to just survive lets thrive, lets plant, build and create some memories for self, family and community, leave the negativity behind, sunshine is free and so is laughter..

*“Sometimes, if you stand on the bottom rail of a bridge and lean over to watch the river slipping slowly away beneath you, you will suddenly know everything there is to be known.” – Winnie the Pooh*

*Kevvie*

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## Foundation Stones, Plaques, Sculptures & Signs of Meredith & District

Marg Cooper

A new book. A book that documents all of the outdoor memorials. A book that is for sale at Meredith History Interest Group for \$20.

I started taking photos and gathering information of memorials, and discovered that there were many more than I had anticipated and thought they needed documenting, so we have a record of them in one place and forever. No doubt there will be some that I have missed. Please inform me of them so they can maybe added to later editions.

The memorials have been installed for important reasons by enthusiastic, interested people at that time. For example, the Memorial Gates at the entrance to the Recreation Reserve at Lethbridge are named the Burrow's Laird Memorial Gates in memory of Martin Burrows and Hector Laird both of whom lost their lives in WW1. The dedication ceremony took place on Sunday, October 1, 1961 and the gates were opened by Premier of Victoria the Honourable H.E. Bolte, MLA. Lists of the men who served the Empire in the 1939-45 War are on the pillars of the gates.

The memorials are scattered around the district. From a plaque on a rock at Hunts Bridge at Mt Doran that records the opening of the bridge on December 16, 1997, to plaques on rocks on the Mt Egerton/Bungal Road erected by the Ballan Shire which record that John Wallace and George Egerton were early settlers in the region. A plaque near a tree on the She Oaks/Maude Road that records that the tree was planted in honour of John Richards who was KIA on 6/7/1918 in WW1.

Some have been lost. The Foundation Stone laid by the President of the Meredith Shire in May 29, 1878 at the site of the new Shire Hall in Meredith has not been found. In a cavity under the Foundation Stone a document was installed: there was a huge assemblage of the inhabitants of the district at the event. The engraved, silver trowel that was handed to Cr Henderson to lay the stone was seen and photographed by Lyndsay Fink years ago. A plaque at the Lethbridge Lake was unveiled with due ceremony in 2005 but all the writing has disappeared.

Some have moved. Beside the Elaine Hall are several trees with plaques. Some of these were moved from the State School after the school closed.

Several places/things in the district should have some sort of display/information so that the public are able to recognize their significance!

A flyer has also been produced for a self-drive tour of seven sculptures in the district. It is called *7 Wonders of Meredith & District*. Included are *Path of the Ibis*, *Larundel Estate Soldier Settlers Plaque*, *Woodburn Creek State School Plaque*, *Woodburn Creek State School Sculpture*, *Bamganie WW1 Sign*, *Moranghurk*

*Soldier Settlement Plaque and Bunjil Wedge-Tailed Eagle Sculpture*. A map is included. You can start from any *Wonder* and drive a round trip to see them all. Maybe have a picnic on the way. Free flyers are available with Heritage Walk flyers at the entrance to the History Centre.

### FROM THE ARCHIVES



#### NEWS AND NOTES.

What promises to be a very serious case of stabbing (observes the Geelong Advertiser), occurred at Wallace's beer-shop at Lethbridge on Sunday evening. From what we can gather, it appears that a number of men were drinking, that, as a natural consequence, they got drunk; that a melée ensued, in the midst of which a man named McGuigan was severely stabbed in the chest. Had the incision been half an inch from where it was, Dr Reid states that the man would have been killed. Had the police-men the right to enter a beer shop on a Sunday, without the order of a magistrate or sub-inspector, when they know that Sunday trading is being carried on, it is probable this fracas would not have occurred. *The Ballarat Star (Vic. : 1865 - 1924) Wednesday 22 June 1870*

#### THE LATE AFFRAY AT LETHBRIDGE. TO THE EDITOR OF THE ADVERTISER.

SIR, — With reference to a report in your paper of Tuesday, of a fracas at Lethbridge, on Sunday, in which a man named McGuigan was stabbed, the true version is as follows:—

Two men having a small contract came to the house on Sunday evening, about six o'clock, to make some arrangements with men in their employment, among whom was McGuigan. After their business was concluded, one of the men first-mentioned wanted to pick a quarrel with McGuigan, about some old grievance; from this arose the fight between the two, in which McGuigan was stabbed. Any person, from your report, not knowing the house, would imagine such occurrences were frequent;

whereas I can defy any person to prove a like occurrence, or even a quarrel on Sunday or any other day, in the Lethbridge Hotel, for the last thirteen years. By inserting this you will oblige yours, &.,

James Wallace, Lethbridge, June 21st, 1870.

*Geelong Advertiser (Vic. : 1859 - 1929) Thursday 23 June 1870*  
*The Lethbridge Hotel was on the south-west corner of the Midland Highway and Russell st., Lethbridge. J.McD. Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group*



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# MOORABOOL Wind Farm

## COMMUNITY UPDATE

October 2021

### Moorabool North Wind Farm

#### Progress to date

- Up to 75MW (27 turbines) operating

#### Look ahead

- AEMO Compliance (Hold Point) testing to continue – increased operations, later this year

### Moorabool South Wind Farm

#### Progress to date

- Pre-Commissioning of all Fifty-Four (54) turbines complete

#### Look ahead

- AEMO Compliance (Hold Point) testing to begin later this year, leading to operations

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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.

---

## Public Road Resurfacing at Moorabool South Wind Farm

Sections of Mount Wallace Ballark Road and Bungeellap South Road are being resurfaced, beginning in early October 2021. This involves road closures and speed reductions along sections of the roads for a period of time. These works have been delayed due to the construction industry shut down in Metropolitan Melbourne.

Further information is provided on the project website, [www.mooraboolwindfarm.com](http://www.mooraboolwindfarm.com), and to those registered for SMS notifications. To register for notifications, please email [info@mooraboolwindfarm.com](mailto:info@mooraboolwindfarm.com) with your mobile phone details.

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## Moorabool Wind Farm Contact Details

The Moorabool wind farm Information Centre at 120 Inglis Street, Ballan is now closed permanently. The team at Moorabool are still available to respond to questions, queries, or complaints. To contact us or to register for future electronic project updates please use the following methods:

- 1800 019 660
- [info@mooraboolwindfarm.com](mailto:info@mooraboolwindfarm.com)
- via Helen Kennedy, Community Engagement Manager at [helenkennedy@goldwindaustralia.com](mailto:helenkennedy@goldwindaustralia.com)

## Community Fund May 2022

The next funding round will open in May 2022. Guidelines are available on the project website.



For further information visit:  
[www.mooraboolwindfarm.com](http://www.mooraboolwindfarm.com),  
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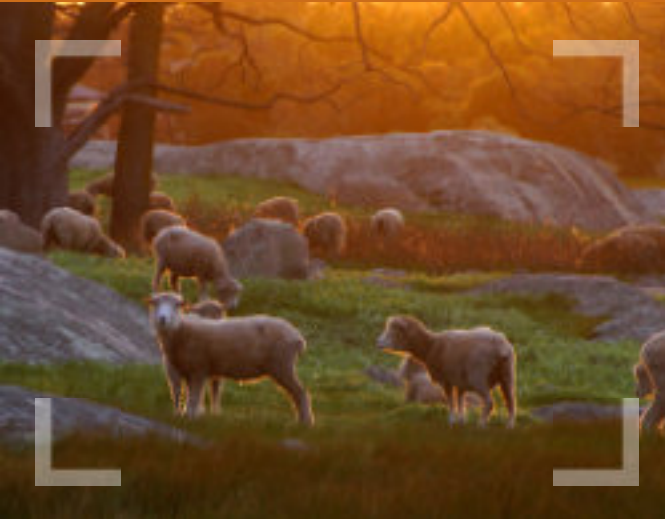


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# Spring in the Shire

## Photography Competition



## The Spring in the Shire photography competition is back.

This year's competition theme is:

### What we share

Photographers of any skill level are encouraged to capture the theme and enter the competition, which runs from 13 September to 31 October.

This year's categories are:

- Major Prize (18 years and older)
- Young Adult Prize (13 to 17 years)
- Junior Prize (Up to 12 years)

The winners of the Major and Young Adult Prizes will each receive \$300, with the Junior Prize winner taking home \$200. Council is proud to partner with Stockdale & Leggo Bannockburn and Healthwise Pharmacy Bannockburn to offer these great prizes.

**Entries are now open and close at 11.59pm, Sunday 31 October, 2021.**

Images must be no greater than 10MB, be submitted with a title and short caption, and have been taken in Golden Plains Shire within the last 12 months.

For Terms & Conditions and to enter, visit [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/springintheshire](https://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/springintheshire)

Photo: Lyn Steele - Living the Dream!  
2019 Spring in the Shire Finalist



# COMMUNITY STRENGTHENING GRANTS ROUND TWO 2021



## Is your community group looking for funding for a project or program?

Applications open 1 September for the second round of Golden Plains Shire Council's Community Strengthening Grants Program 2021.

Grants of up to \$10,000 are available in four categories:

- **Healthy Active Living** – to support recreation, sport, health and wellbeing projects
- **Creative Community** – to support arts and culture projects
- **Environment and Sustainability** – to support projects that improve the environment
- **Community Safety** – to support projects that equip communities to be safe and resilient

Groups must match the amount of funding sought, either in cash or through in-kind contributions, such as volunteer work on the project. Applications are open until 12pm, Thursday 30 September, 2021.

For more information and to apply for a Community Strengthening Grant, visit [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/grants](https://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/grants) or contact Council's Community Partnerships Officer at 5220 7220 or email [communitygrants@gplains.vic.gov.au](mailto:communitygrants@gplains.vic.gov.au).

