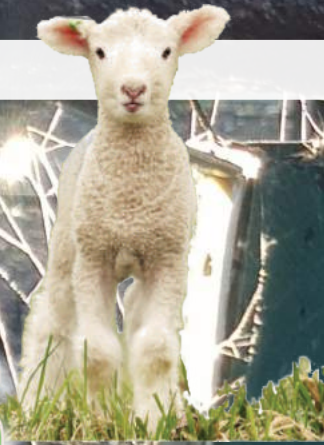


March 2022

Meredith & district News

OUR FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



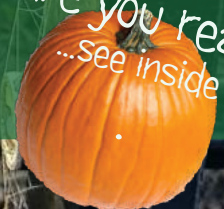
It's Autumn

inside

- We welcome some new contributors this month as well as all of our popular regulars.
- The heart of the community op shop news from Lindy
- Art on the farm at Glenairlie
- Join the new Meredith Urban Sketchers



Time for the judging
Are you ready
...see inside



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



GOLDEN PLAINS COMMUNITY FAIRS

APRIL 2022

In April, Golden Plains Shire Council partners with the Victorian Government to present the Golden Plains Community Fairs.

Enjoy live music, local food, market stalls and learn more about bushfire and emergency services in Golden Plains with the CFA, Victoria Police and more!

The free community fairs will be held in conjunction with two popular market events in the north and south of the Shire: the Golden Plains Farmers' Market and the Smythesdale Country Market.



SATURDAY 2 APRIL
10am to 3pm

**Farmers' Market and
Golden Plains Community Fair**
Bannockburn Heart,
corner High and Milton Streets

**SMYTHESDALE
COUNTRY
MARKET**

SATURDAY 16 APRIL
10am to 3pm

**Country Market and
Golden Plains Community Fair**
Smythesdale Green,
Glenelg Highway

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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 & Jim Elvey,

NEWS & VIEWS

Subject to the conditions outlined below, contributions accompanied by the contributor's name (which will also be published) and contact details, are most welcome. Please email to news@meredithnews.com.au or deliver to the Meredith Community Centre.

DATES AND DEADLINES

The Newsletter is distributed on the **first Thursday** of the month (except January). All ads and submissions must be lodged by 9.00 am on the **last Thursday** of the preceding month, but earlier is **really** appreciated.

ADVERTISING

Advertising in the M&D Newsletter is a great way to let district residents know about your business. Contact us for full details and lodgement forms. Rates are as follows:

	B&W/Colour
Business Card	\$20.00
Quarter page	\$30.00
Half page	\$50.00/\$110
Full page	\$100.00/\$200

Note: A \$20 loading applies for preferred position. Please submit in jpeg format, if available.

Classifieds are **FREE** for small, personal notices from residents. Otherwise \$7.50 on invoice or \$5.00 if paid on lodgement. Community Groups can have a 1/4 page ad for free or a \$25.00 discount on larger ads. (conditions apply)

SUBSCRIPTIONS

If you are outside our delivery area you can subscribe for \$35.00 p.a. (11 issues) and get the Meredith and District News posted to you anywhere in Australia.

CONTACT US

Advertising: Ian 0409 016815
advertising@meredithnews.com.au

Accounts: Mike 0428 861274
accounts@meredithnews.com.au

Editorial: Jim: 0409 163169
news@meredithnews.com.au

WEB

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

ONLINE PHOTOS

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

DISCLAIMER

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

Issue Production: Peter Boer Editor: Pam Ridd

connect

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ANGLING CLUB
0419 248 660

**B'BURN ART
GROUP**
0410 808 483

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Morrisons
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SEW 'N' SEWS
5286 0700

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5286 1252

ELAINE HALL
Elainetownhall@gmail.com

..or start something.

If you have a special interest you would like to share with like minded people, let us know and we will help you get it started.

emergency

Police, Ambulance, Fire	
(from mobile phone)	000 or 112
Meredith Police Station	5286 1222
Police non emergency	131 444
Power Failure	132 412
Nurse-On-Call	1300 606 024
Mental Health Advice	1300 280 737
Poisons Information	13 11 26
Barwon Water	1300 656 007
SES Emergency - flood & storm	132 500
24 Hour Helpline	1800 629 572
24 Hour Drug & Alcohol Counselling	1800 888 236
Kids Help Line	
24hr 5-18yo	1800 551 800
Golden Plains Shire	1300 363 036
A.H. Emergencies	0408 508 635
Ranger	5220 7111 or 0409 830 223
	5281 2226
Golden Plains Animal Pets & Horses	5281 2226 0421 617 238

Justices of the Peace
Mr Don Atherton. 0409 869 960
Mr Paul Ryan Elaine 0409 861 296

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Michaela Settle MP STATE MEMBER FOR BUNINYONG
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Meredith **Community Centre**
working for our community

What's On



COMING UP

2 Day Workshop with Jen Jones - \$250

Rescheduled with Date to be Confirmed

2 Day Mosaic Workshop with Di

Date to Be Confirmed - Pop Your Name Down Now!

Visible Mending with Di

March 28 - 10.30 - 11.30 - \$5

Young Artists Club with Jen Jones

Thursdays 4:30 - 6.00pm - \$200 per term

Macrame with Anita

March 25 - Wallhanging - 11.00 - 2.00 - \$50

Fermentation with Narelle

March 28 - 11.00 - 2.00 - \$120

There's lots more!

Keep an eye on our Facebook Page or give me a call to join the mailing list!

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 - 10:00 - 11:00 am

PLAYGROUP - Thursdays

9.30 - 11.30 - Starting Soon!

Join the Meredith Playgroup Page on Facebook for Updates!

BCYF - AOD/Mental Health

Wednesdays at the Community Centre

This service will be via a referral and self-referral

Interested in a Sewing Group?

We are looking for members to join a new group who will eventually look into sewing for Charity!

To Book:

learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au

www.facebook.com/MeredithCommunityCentre

Ph. 5286 0700 / 0491 184 999



Join us on



Facebook & Instagram

@meredithcommunitycentre

OCCASIONAL CARE SESSIONS:

MONDAY - 9:15 - 2:15

WEDNESDAY - 9:15 - 2:15

FRIDAY - 9:15 - 2:15



Church News



Meredith Uniting Church

Services have recommenced. 11.00 am 2nd Sunday each month. Enquiries:

Rev. Paul Sanders 0407 833 515 5341 2440

Serbian Orthodox - 5341 5568

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

9.00 am Holy Communion St Paul's, Inverleigh
11.00 am Family Communion. St John's, Bannockburn

5.00 pm Prayer and Praise Epiphany, Meredith

Find us at: www.goldenplainsanglican.org or

office.ibm@goldenplainsanglican.org

The Revd Dr Timothy Smith

PiC Anglican Parish of

Inverleigh+Bannockburn+Meredith

St. Joseph's Catholic Parish of Meredith

Contact Details:

Parish Priest Father Joseph mob. 0404 598 558

Office Phone: 5286 1230

Office open Wednesday & Friday 9.30am to 4.30 pm

Mass times :

Tue and Thurs 9 am St Mary MacKillop, Bannockburn

9.30-10.30 am Fr Joseph available for enquiries

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

First Friday of the month Exposition, Adoration, Benediction will be held and Reconciliation available, 10.15 Meredith, followed by Mass.

First Sunday of the month

Family Mass, 11 am, Bannockburn

Youth group

Sun. 13/3, 27/3, 12.15 followed by lunch, Bannockburn, contact Monique 0432 040 906

Friday 4/3 World Day of Prayer, Uniting Church, Meredith 10.30 am

Sat. 19/3 ST. JOSEPH'S Day, Meredith 11 am, bring a plate

Sat. 6 pm Vigil, St. John the Baptist, Winchelsea

Sun. 11 am St. Mary MacKillop, Bannockburn

Sun. 13/3, 27/3, 9 am St. Joseph's, Meredith

Sun. 6/3, 20/3, 9 am St. Brigid's Anakie

Sun. 20/3, 4 pm Sacred Heart, Inverleigh

Tues. 22/3, Sacramental Enrolment, Bannockburn 7 pm

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.

2022 World Day of Prayer

This year's celebration of the World Day of Prayer will be held at the Uniting Church in Meredith on Friday, 4th March at 10.30 am. All the local churches come together each year for this service, so if you belong to any church or no church, you are most welcome to join us.

This year the focus is on England, Wales and Northern Ireland, and the service has been produced by members of those communities.

Please come and join us on 4th March at 10.30am at St. Andrews Uniting Church. Morning Tea will follow the service.



The Great Giant Pumpkin Challenge

Are you ready for the Giant Pumpkin Challenge measure up?

Prize categories are:

Largest Pumpkin (circumference)
Heaviest Pumpkin

For

Adults

Children - up to kindergarten

Prep, Grades 1 and 2

Grades 3/4/5/6

Also

Best Decorated Pumpkin of any type using natural materials

For

Adults, Children (all ages)

When: Friday 13th May at School at 1pm



COMMUNITY

Meredith Memorial Hall AGM

Residents of the district are welcome to attend

WHAT- The Hall's AGM

WHEN - Monday 28th MARCH at 7.30pm

WHERE- Memorial Hall, 61 Staughton St Meredith

WHY – The Election of Committee for 2022

AND – To present the Annual Financial Report.

Visitors are welcome to attend to learn more about the Hall.

Hall Bookings/Secretary – Sandra

H: 52 861 545 M: 0409 662 106.

Birth Announcement

Ethan Dominik Hoffman

A numbers man...picking 02-02-2022 at 2.32pm for his grand entrance.

Missing the perfect 2s by 10 minutes.

Ray and Sandy Hoffmann (nee Halle) would like to thank all the doctors and staff at University Hospital Geelong and UCFW for all their terrific work.



Meredith Senior Citizens

Written by Jim Hynds

Our next function is a lunch at the Memorial Hall on Monday, February 28. New Members are welcome.

We would like to extend our condolences to Don Hodge and his family on the passing of Hope. I first met Hope soon after Linda and I came to live in Coopers Road when she drove up the driveway on a cold, wet, windy day. She was collecting for Red Cross and asked us for a donation. We became friends.

Hope joined Senior Citizens and at one stage she was President, Secretary and Treasurer and there were only about 8 members. She was a stalwart and kept the seniors going. Linda had joined straight after her accident when she was 36 years old on the recommendation of her doctors. Hope coerced me into also joining after I retired from work. Then I became President and Hope was Secretary/Treasurer. We canvassed for members and the numbers grew again and Hope organised Mystery Tours which were very popular.

Hope was a typical farmer's wife. She didn't like to spend money. She explained that the seniors might need the money for a rainy day. I told her that we were seniors and there weren't many rainy days left! We kept in touch even after she left Meredith. She will be sadly missed.

OUR COVER

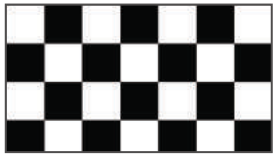


Our cover this month is a stri picture of a spider web spangled with dew.

Thanks Mick Devlin

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





meredith POLICE report

James HOBBS | Senior Constable 37267.
Meredith Police Station – Station Commander.
Western Region, Division 3.
p. (03) 5286 1222 | dx. 214329 |
e. james.hobbs@police.vic.gov.au

With the Summer holidays behind us, the kids back at school and most of us back to the grind, I just wanted to say thank you, and applaud the conduct of most throughout the “silly season”.

I have received a number of complaints regarding “hoon driving” around the Meredith township and towards Coopers Bridge. This driving will not be tolerated, and will be continued to be monitored heavily. I can not stress enough the importance of safe driving. Obvious sanctions for such driving are inclusive of penalty notices, Court

appearances and seizure of vehicles. Again, the road is utilised by us all, so please show the utmost respect and courtesy to others.

With the children back at School, I also ask that we continue to be mindful of the changing school zones. I am well aware that this issue does not stem from the local road users, rather vehicles travelling through. But again, this will also be monitored for the health and safety of the children and their parents and guardians taking them to and from school.

Stock theft and firearm theft continue to be a matters of growing concern throughout the state. I ask that all firearms are secured properly and accordingly. And in terms of stock, that we look out for our neighbouring properties, and that any suspicious vehicles or persons be reported.

Again, I thank the Meredith Community. Drive Safe, Play Safe.

I bought a Presbytery

As told to Marg Cooper by Drew

When I bought two houses, next door to each other on Ballan Road at Meredith in July 2021 I didn't know that No 6 Ballan Road or the house closest to Coolebarghurk Creek had been the Catholic Presbytery.

When I began renovating it, I noticed that it was old, having thin boards behind the wall lining that were installed for lathe and plaster. It had tall sash windows that went from floor to ceiling, with a large entrance hall, and very high ceilings with decorative cornices. There were no built cupboards, and it had cement troughs in a back room that was the laundry.

I believe that the house may have been modernised in the 1980's, with new plaster being installed in some rooms, an art deco fireplace front of slate being installed in the lounge, a lower false ceiling in the bathroom and a wall between the kitchen and lounge being removed.

I have repaired, painted, replaced some of the wooden framed windows, removed the false ceiling, installed robes in the three bedrooms and revealed the Baltic pine floorboards. The brick front fence that was clad with slate, which I have dismantled, but saved the bricks to build a path to the front door from the nature strip. I am trying to retain the character of the house, while making it practicable and suitable for modern life. Also the large orange shed that spanned across several blocks behind the houses has been sold to a local. You may see it erected somewhere else in Meredith in the future.

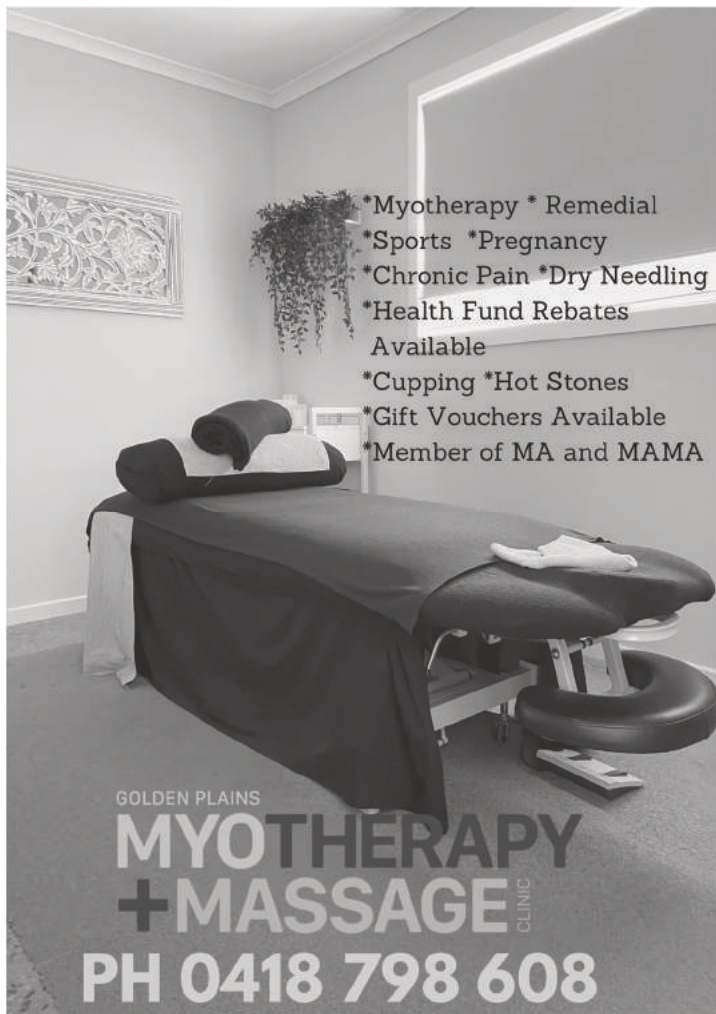
I called at the Meredith History Centre to ask about the houses that I bought. They told me that No 4 had been shifted from Box Hill in 1960. Brian and Elaine Stanley lived in this house for 50 years before moving to Bannockburn in 2010. The house at No 6 had been St Josephs Presbytery and had been bought by Maurice and Gwen Stanley and relocated to Ballan Road in 1962. Maurice died in 1981 and Gwen died in 1991. The house



remained empty until it was sold in 2010.

The presbytery was built in 1878. It was built of Lethbridge bluestone with Waurin Ponds freestone facings at a cost of £800. The foundation stone was laid by Rev. Hegarty on September 19, 1878. Mr Crawford of Geelong was the masonry contractor and Joseph Watts the architect. The house was remodelled in 1898/99 with the bluestone being removed and replaced with weatherboards as it was felt that the bluestone made the building too cold. The bluestone was advertised for sale and sold to Mr Charles Davies who built a house, off Taylors Road with it. The current brick presbytery was built in 1961.

Father Hegarty was the first Parish Priest at Meredith, appointed in March 1875. It is reported that he rented premises on the corner of Staughton and McLeod Streets. *He had his hands full in attending to his large mission and his solicitude for the people and genial nature made him a great favourite with all classes.* He was appointed Parish Priest at Sale in 1878 so may have not lived in the presbytery he initiated. If he did live in it, it was only for a short time!



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52861550 or 0427300742



The deadline for
 copy is

**9.00 am on
 the last
 Thursday**

of the preceding
 month

easy *and* delish



Green Chicken Curry

Prep & Cook Time 30 mins

Serves 4

Ingredients

- 3 tablespoons green curry paste
- 2 tablespoons fish sauce
- 400mls coconut cream
- 700g skinless chicken breast, diced

Method

1. Heat a large non-stick frying pan over a medium heat.
2. Add chicken a saute for 2-3 minutes until just golden.
3. Add the curry paste and fish sauce and toss to coat the chicken.
4. Reduce the heat, and add the coconut milk.
5. Simmer for 10 minutes stirring occasionally until cooked. Season to taste.

Add all sorts of seasonal vegetables like green beans, snow peas and strips of red capsicum, carrots and zucchini. Stir through some bamboo shoots right at the end so they are warm, but retain crunchiness.

Serve over rice and English spinach.

Recipe from: 4 Ingredients Keto

Stefania

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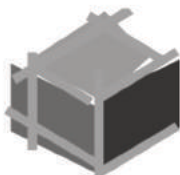


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Our 12 Steps to Success

THE HEART OF A RURAL COMMUNITY

Lindy Allinson

Not so long ago, the heart of every small community was their church. Though that was then.

Nowadays, it might be the school. The Community House. Or even the local pub.

For me, no matter where I've travelled around the world, it's always the Op Shop. Usually run by local women, their oddball collections of treasures awaiting discovery are donated by local families. The buildings themselves are invariably a run-down part of that town's history. And those shopping there are usually all neighbours. So to me, an Op Shop always feels like the true beating heart of any community I find myself in. Each unique, like the little town it reflects.

Meredith's Op Shop is no exception!

St. Joey's Opie may be old, and rather ramshackle, though its little building has housed everything from school & Tai Bo to Friday afternoon shared lunches. And now, thanks to the dedicated couple who run it (Hilary & John), it's also filled with warmth, laughter and a great big welcome... for all.

Although I live in Steiglitz, it was their friendliness during a random visit there which, not so long ago had me offering to "organise the books." Since then, I've watched this hardworking couple make a difference to people's days. Seen their smiles inspire laughter. And been witness to their genuine warmth, truly helping keep the chilly cold of loneliness at bay for many. As you can tell I love Hilary & John dearly, and it's because of them I happily chose to stay on after having licked the mountain of books into shape.

Like most women, I wear many hats. Volunteer's one, artist another. For we arty types, lockdown meant no

exhibitions, resulting in endless pent-up frustrations. So imagine my joy when Hilary & John allowed me full creative freedom to 'tweak' the Opie's clothing room out back. With overalls, paint brushes and excited ideas just bursting to escape, I had an absolute ball.

Hence this little article. For the St. Joey's Opie Team would like to announce the opening of your newest local shopping experience –

THE DRESSING ROOM!

Just received a party invite at short notice? Need something special to brighten up your wardrobe? Or lockdown saw you rediscover your love of crafts, and need new supplies? Then come to The Dressing Room... at least before you look elsewhere.

You'll find the 'nicest' items here. Jewellery, clothing, shoes to name a few. While if you're needing something to wear on the farm, be comfy in at home, or hunting up an item out of season – head into the back container. It's still being revamped, though is brimming with treasures too. When finished this little space will need a new name – ideas anyone?

Oh, and did I mention the wealth of electrical goods available? Coffee makers, popcorn machines, juicers... you name it, we have it. And thanks to Dennis, each one's safely tagged & tested. With prices that can't be beaten!

Before I go, with school holidays just around the corner – Hilary & John wanted to remind every parent, grandparent & kid out there – **ALL CHILDREN'S BOOKS ARE FREE!**

We're open both Wednesday & Friday, between 10 – 4 pm. So remember, if you're looking for a treasure, need to refill the craft box, or simply want to share a laugh with a truly lovely couple (the laughs & smiles are free!), then come on down to the heart of Meredith - St. Joey's Opie.

With big smiles to everyone!



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Art on the Farm

April 2-3, 9-10.

Glenairlie Homestead

370 Taylor Rd, Meredith

When we moved here to Meredith district, it was obvious that many locals have a great interest in the art world, with many practicing artists grinding away in their own country workshops and studios.

Here on our farm, we found ourselves with a beautiful heritage Shearing shed looking for a new life; the sheep having moved on. It was natural then that we looked to using this space to display some of our creative friends' work. The plan is to present a varied selection of works by four artists we know and love.

Our inaugural annual Art Exhibition will be held on the first two weekends of April. Four artists have been invited to display their work in and around the old Shearing Shed.

Michael Clark -Acrylic on canvas, Birds and the Environment @mikeclarkartist

Jacki Staude -Metal sculpture, 3D.
www.jackistaude.com.au

Mandy Moyle -Nature and Seaside images on canvas
@mandymoyleart

Ro Cook – Printmaker using natural dyes and Materials www.rokoco.com.au

You are invited to join us at Glenairlie for a BYO Picnic, and a stroll through the Hay and Shearing Sheds. Images can be viewed on @glenairlieevents Pages on Instagram and Facebook.

Note: Sales can be negotiated directly with the Artists, NO commissions apply.

editors note: "see some selected images on the back page"

The Queen Bee who went to the Dance Concert

Marg Cooper



On a hot day recently Rob and Heather Kent picked up a Queen Bee from an apiarist at Mt Duneed. She was to replace an old Queen Bee in one of their hives. They were heading to a Dance Concert where some of their grandchildren were performing and realised that if they left the Queen Bee in their vehicle all afternoon, she would get too hot and probably die. So, Heather put her in an insulated shopping bag with a cold pack and took her to the concert, discretely placing the bag under her seat. When they took her out of the bag at home they thought that they may have actually made her too cold but all was well!

The Queen, who had a dab of paint on her back to distinguish her, was in a small plastic box and was accompanied by about five other bees to look after her with some honeycomb to eat. Apparently when you remove the old Queen from a hive you open the end of the plastic box and place the plastic box in the hive. The bees eat their way through the honeycomb, out of the box and establish themselves in the hive and by the time they do that both the new Queen and her carer bees and the bees in the hive have accepted each other.

Linton Town-wide Garage Sale

Sunday 27th March 2022

8 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Free maps at takeaway from 8 a.m.

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Marg's BOOK REVIEW

THE GODMOTHERS

By Monica McInerney

An entertaining novel from a popular and productive Australian novelist, Monica McInerney. It is her 12th novel and its settings journey between Australia, Scotland and Ireland.

Eliza Miller is the only child of Jeannie, a wild and unpredictable, single mother, who escaped troubles at home, by travelling and working overseas before returning to Victoria and raising her daughter. Jeannie constantly told Eliza stories about her life and family but these tales changed with each telling and Eliza found it difficult to distinguish the truth from fiction. The identity of her father was one of the many questions Eliza longed for a truthful answer. Jeannie had promised to tell her when she turned 18.

Eliza also had two godmothers, lifelong friends of Jeannie, Olivia and Maxie. They treated Eliza to twice yearly trips with them to exotic locations and played a very important role in her life, financially and personally. At the

age of 17 they were there for Eliza when tragedy struck and she needed them most. The timeframe of the book commences 13 years later and flashbacks to past occasions and stories fill in the background.

The main character, Eliza, is likeable and realistic and you do feel sympathy for her and her situation. The other characters are a varied selection. Maxie is an actress in a television soap opera settled in London. Maxie is arranging to marry her partner, Hazel. Olivia is managing a family hotel in Edinburgh with her 2 stepsons, Alex and Rory and trying to cope with her husband's progressive dementia and her malicious mother-in-law, Celine, who resides in the hotel. There are also Emmet, who is understanding and caring of Eliza, precocious Sullivan, unforgiving Sheila, Emmet's mother and Lawrence, the hotel manager. Many of these later characters are passing figures who we don't really get to know very well but who knit the story together across the changing settings. The touch of romance at the end was predictable but the mystery of Eliza's father is an unexpected twist.

A real positive for Eliza is that, despite her unconventional, disruptive and erratic childhood, her love for her mother and her mother's love in return, was never in doubt....."I'm not a mistake.....I was loved. I loved my mother very much. I miss her every minute of every day."

The book is very readable and for fans of McInerney, it is a modern tale of family, friendship, secrets, promises made and broken, lies and hope. It is feel good fiction, a pleasant holiday escape.

Reviewed by Bev Elshaug

Dog tales



Name: Jinxy

Breed: Black lab/golden retriever/ cattle dog/minature bull terrier cross.

Special feature: A nose that can sniff out koalas up gum trees and ears that can hear a packet of biscuits being opened in another building.

Place of origin: Rescue dog from a farm.

Pet hates: Bullants always biting her feet and the ensuing foot stomping dance.

Favourite toys: Green rubber crocodile as pictured. Balls, balls and more balls.

Naughtiest deeds: Drooling. Pretending to look starving while being 4 kilos overweight.

Favourite pastimes: Eating, chasing balls, swimming in the dam, being dried with a towel, watching The Dog House on TV.

Obsession: Balls and food.

Owner: James



healthS+VE 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, ~~Priti~~ & Tracey are accredited to provide and administer flu vaccinations (10 years & older) & whooping cough vaccinations in the pharmacy. Our vaccination clinic is open during the following times:

Monday: 10:00am - 6:00pm

Tuesday: 10:00am - 6:00pm

Wednesday: 10:00am - 6:00pm

Thursday: 9:00am - 4:00pm

Friday: 10:00am - 6:00pm

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

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

*** Flu vaccination cost**

- No prescription is required from your Doctor

- \$25 (\$15 for the flu vaccination + \$10 for the administration of the vaccine by one of our accredited pharmacists)

- FREE flu vaccine + \$10 for the administration by one of our accredited pharmacists if you fall into one of the following categories:

(i) Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander children aged 6 months to <5 years.

(ii) Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander persons aged ≥ 15 years

(iii) All persons ≥ 65 years

(iv) All persons ≥ 6 months who have certain medical conditions which increase the risk of influenza disease complications; for example, severe asthma, lung or heart disease, low immunity or diabetes

(v) Pregnant women

*** Whooping Cough vaccination cost**

- No prescription is required from your Doctor

- \$47 (\$37 for the whooping cough vaccine + \$10 for the administration of the vaccine by one of our accredited pharmacists).

- FREE whooping cough vaccine + \$10 for the administration by one of our accredited pharmacists, if you fall into one of the following categories:

(i) ~~pregnant~~ pregnant women from 28 weeks gestation during every pregnancy

(ii) ~~partners~~ 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.

Pharmacy Features:

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- Glasshouse Fragrances
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- Ear piercing
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- ~~Medela~~ (we hire Breastpumps)
- ~~MooGoo~~
- ~~Roogenic teas~~
- ~~Natio~~
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- ~~Sukin~~ Organic Products
- Diabetes Australia Agency -NDSS
- Giftware for all ages
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- Home Medicine Reviews
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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



Our Police Paddocks – What Next?

Local volunteers continue their efforts to secure support for Meredith's Police Paddocks. The most serious threat to this state government owned *Conservation and Recreation Reserve*, is the neglect of weeds. Gorse, one of the most environmentally damaging of the several rampant species on the site, is re-establishing over a large area and periwinkle, a vigorous and blanketing weed, continues to spread its footprint. When Ballarat Environment Network (BEN) suddenly relinquished its managing role at the beginning of spring, neither DELWP, the state department with responsibility for the site, nor Council, the only other agency with resources to help maintain this important community facility, stepped up to fill the gap. (Council does maintain comparable facilities in other communities throughout the Shire.)

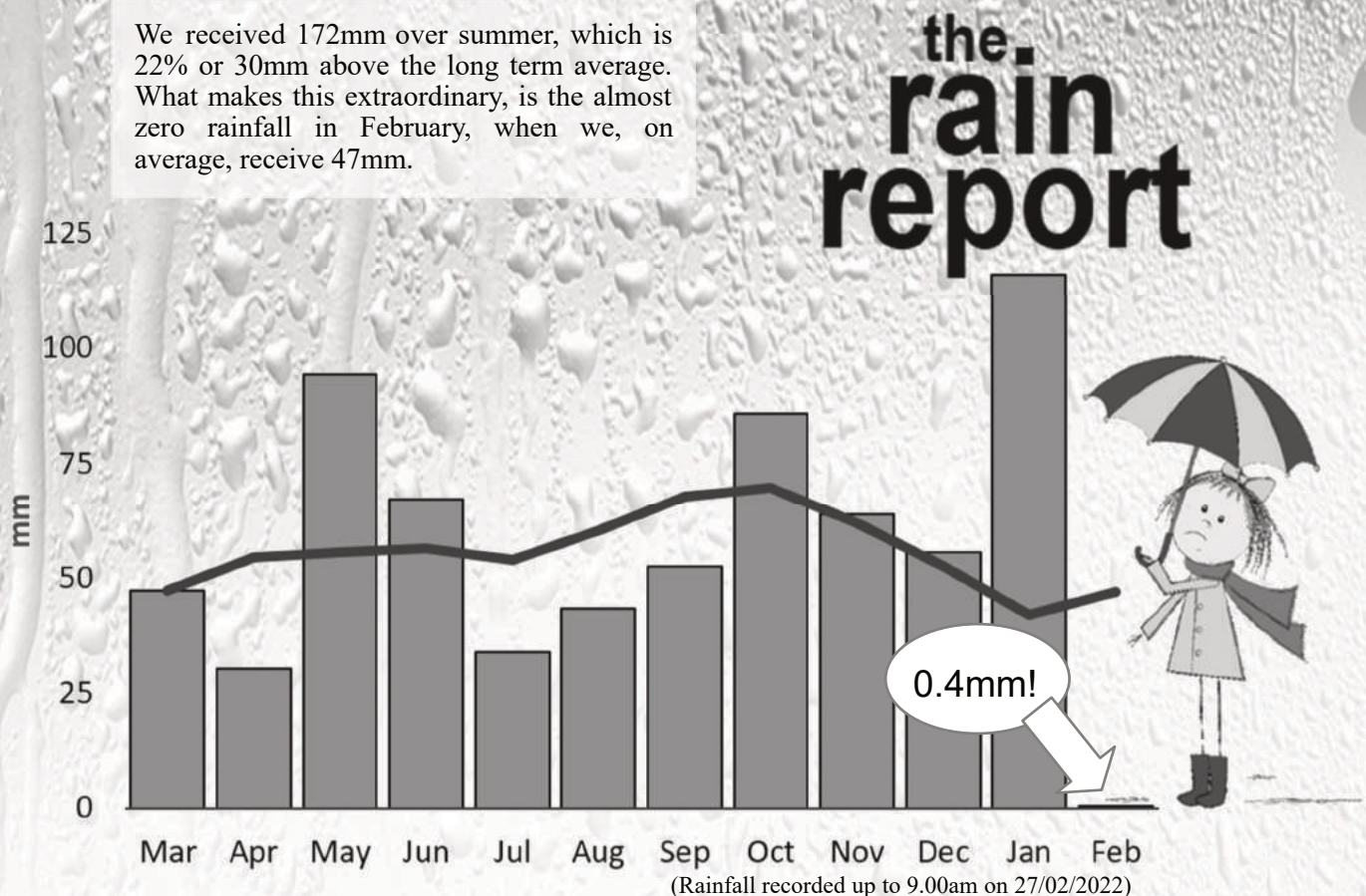
It goes without saying, the task of getting on top of the weed mass has grown considerably during this period of inactivity.


We were pleased that DELWP did slash the western boundary, covering a much bigger area than usual. It is unfortunate it damaged some of our plantings and used such heavy equipment after a wet season, leaving deep wheel tracks. As well as the environmental impact, it will make future maintenance more difficult.

We continue to make representations to Michaela Settle MP, DELWP and the Shire, in the hope someone will come to the rescue of this important environmental asset.

We are sharing with you, this article intended for publication in the Meredith and District News. While we have been grateful for the opportunities given to outline the needs of the Group and, more importantly, the Police Paddocks, we continue to be frustrated by the rampant growth of highly invasive weeds, adding considerably to the task of recovery.

We remain hopeful all agencies with an interest in the site and the community will collaborate to find a means of giving this important environmental site the level of care it needs and would be pleased to hear of any progress toward this end.





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From the Mayor



Cr Gavin Gamble

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

In 2021, my fellow Councillors and I awarded 28 grants to local community groups as part of the Community Strengthening Grants Program. I congratulate all local groups successful in securing a grant from the Council, sharing in \$ 119,522 across both rounds. We're so pleased to be able to support these worthwhile projects.

Applications for the first round of Community Strengthening Grants in 2022 will be open from 1 April to 2 May.

To support community groups in applying for a Community Strengthening Grant, Council is running drop-in sessions across the Shire. Community members are encouraged to stop by and discuss their project ideas. The Meredith session will be on Thursday 31 March 4 to 5.15pm at the Meredith Community Centre. For those who cannot attend in person, two online --drop-in sessions will be held from 5 to 7pm on Tuesday 15 March and Tuesday 5 April. A link will be shared on Council's website on the day of the session. If you have any questions about the program, please contact Council's Community partnerships officer at 5220 7111 or communitygrants@gplains.vi.gov.au. Council is looking forward to seeing the exciting proposals and helping make them a reality.



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Renew or register
 your pet by
10 APRIL

Local pet-owners will have received their annual animal registration renewal notice in the mail in February.

Under the Victorian Government's *Domestic Animals Act 1994*, all dogs and cats over the age of three months must be registered by 10 April. This is the same date every year and in 2022, the final payment date is a Sunday.

To renew a pet's registration for 2022, residents can simply review the notice

received in the mail and pay the registration cost by any of the ways listed, including:

- In-person at Council's Customer Service Centres: 2 Pope Street, Bannockburn and 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale
- By BPAY
- Over the phone at 5220 7111
- Or through Post Billpay.

Residents can also sign-up to a payment plan via BPAY to break up the cost of their pet registration by calling Council's Customer Service team at 5220 7111.

For more information, including what to do if you no longer own the pet on your notice, visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au.



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 Bannockburn, VIC 3331

19 Heales Street,
 Smythesdale, VIC 3351

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

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In the School Garden

Even though we had a wonderfully wet January, we still needed to keep an eye on our **watering regime**. With school being closed over the holidays, we had families cheerfully volunteering to water our gardens. Our main vegetable gardens are all wicking beds so this is not a daily task as it can be with more traditional beds. Wicking beds have a reservoir of water at the bottom just like a large self-watering pot. These only need to be filled once a week and it cuts down on water loss due to evaporation, gives the plants a steady supply of moisture and makes what could be an onerous task, a pleasant hour or so.

With **tomatoes**, under watering or inconsistent watering can lead to blossom end rot, so our wicking beds help the plants to stay hydrated and stress free. Speaking of tomatoes, ours are only just starting to show signs of ripening. The plants have grown sturdily into wonderful bushes but most of the fruit is still green. Our hopes to start the year with tasty bruschetta, featuring our tomatoes and garlic, will have to wait a few weeks longer.

Luckily, the **rainbow chard**, **French red-veined sorrel**, **strawberries**, **rhubarb** and **herbs** continue to produce and we had an excellent bed of **lettuces**.

How are your **Giant Pumpkins** growing? The Giant Pumpkin Challenge sponsored by the Meredith Newsletter will be held on Friday 13th May at school. Remember there is a category this year for the best decorated pumpkin of any type so, if your pumpkins did not grow into giants, there is something for you, too.

Around our flagpole at the front of the school, the **Gallipoli roses** have put on a magnificent display with beautiful and abundant deep red blooms. This garden was designed and planted a few years ago by Miss Pritchard and her grade. The roses are flanked on either side with **rosemary** plants that signify remembrance. Unfortunately one of our very large rosemary bushes has died and we can only think it must not have enjoyed all the summer rain. Has anyone else experienced this? Luckily, rosemary is really easy to grow by cuttings so we will do this and replant in the near future.

Have you heard about the **Geelong Libraries' Seed Library**? This operates from the **Bannockburn Library** and also the **Golden Plains Mobile Library**. You can borrow up to three packets of seeds, plant them in your garden, harvest seeds when your plants have matured and donate them back to the library. If you are a little tentative about growing from seeds, the Library has a huge collection of

resources which includes books, magazines and links to useful information and demonstration videos. For more information, go to www.grlc.vic.gov.au

Some easy to grow and productive seeds to plant in March are **bush beans**, **broad beans** and **radishes**. You could also give **beetroot**, **carrots**, **lettuce** and **spinach** a go.

Our **zucchini** plant at school has yet to come into full production however, if you have zucchini already, there are loads of recipes for fritters, soups, pickles, cakes, bread and muffins that will eat their way through your crop. OzHarvest has a delicious recipe for a **Cheesy Zucchini Frittata** that you will find with other lunchbox ideas, at education.ozharvest.org under "**recipes**". The grade 5/6 students follow the OzHarvest Program and when our zucchini grow and the chooks are back and into full egg laying, this frittata could be on the menu.

Happy gardening during these enjoyable Meredith and district autumn days.



This is Tyson. His family helped out with the watering over the school holidays.



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it'S HiStoRy

Meredith History Interest Group

Annual Meeting:

The Annual Meeting is to be held on Sunday, February 27, 2022. After the formal procedures a DVD of *Coopers Road* will be screened for the first time. This project was funded by the Buninyong Branch of the *Bendigo Bank* and produced by David Law of *DVD Memories*, Ballarat.

A report of the meeting will be in the next Newsletter.

Mystery Items:

Every week this year we have displayed a photo of a mystery item on our Facebook Page. The photo posted on Tuesday, February 8 was of a bow saw that features an ingenious method of tensioning the blade by twisting a stick in a twisted rope.

If you have an item you think would be of interest and a bit mysterious, please send a photo and an explanation and we will post it.

Meredith Post Office Sign:

In 2000 when the Post Office moved from 56 Staughton Street to the Top Shop or 44 Staughton Street a large sign saying *Meredith 3333* was also shifted. Sometime later the Post Office Department issued generic signs to all Post Offices and the plain *Meredith 3333* was taken down from off the shop. Pat and Derek Dodson ran the Top Shop at that time. When they sold the shop and moved to southern Tasmania they took the sign with them as a keepsake. In January 2022 when they came from Tasmania to visit their son and family in Bendigo they brought the sign back to Meredith with them on the ferry and presented it to MHIG. It is made of metal, measures about 4 feet by 1 foot and has large lettering.

Murder in the Cupboard:

Bev took a mouse trap home from MHIG on Tuesday, February 15th to catch the only mouse she has ever seen in her home. On the following Thursday she showed us a photo of the mouse caught in the trap in her cupboard but there appeared to be blood everywhere! It had gnawed at some patty pans, nibbled at the coconut and then munched at the red food colouring before knocking it over! Not blood everywhere but red food colouring!!

Fatal Coach Accident:

Bolster's cab had been upset at the Moorabool Bridge in November 1895. Bolster, the driver and Powell, a passenger were unconscious. George Gilbert Sen. was conscious and moaning terribly. Both Bolster and Powell were placed upon stretchers and taken to the guard's van [of the train at Meredith] and the other four were made as comfortable as possible in one of the carriages.

John Bolster who was 24 years of age had sustained concussion of the brain and the poor fellow expired the following morning. He had been driving for his father who owned the cab, for about 6 weeks. He was a total abstainer

and was looked upon as a good driver.

The other injured ones left for home after being attended to are George Gilbert Jun., George Hillstone, W Menzies, T Soper and H Anderson.

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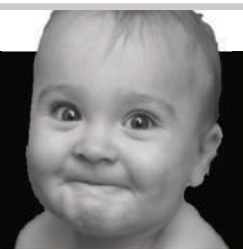
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FROM THE ARCHIVES



THE BALLARAT DIGGINGS.

Having recently paid a visit to these — the earliest of the Victorian mines — some sketch of the journey is here presented:—

“Leaving Geelong early one morning...At Dunlop's Inn, late O'Meara's eleven miles from town, we found an excellent breakfast and civil treatment. From this place we had an intelligent and agreeable companion, who was returning to his Eureka party, from a fortnight's spell at home with his family. A coffee-house, seventeen miles from town, commands a noble view of the Moorabool valley. The casuarina and the vesicular rock continued to monopolize the road. The Muddy Water Holes, twenty-one miles from Geelong, really contained, at the time of our call, some muddy liquid. An enclosure near marks the grave of a man who died there suddenly some months ago.

After walking thirty-one miles, we were glad enough to take up our quarters at the "Golden Fleece," formerly kept by Rice, but now by a lucky digger, named Watson. The supper was first rate, and the charge in these days, but moderate. The

accommodation, however does not seem to be adequate to a diggers' road. There were but two small bed-rooms. The one we occupied was amply provided with ventilation by means of the cracks in the door and a vacant pane in the window. It was evident that the object for which this house, like most others, was established was simply to sell the greatest possible amount of grog, and not afford accommodation to travellers. We admit the difficulties of the times, and we believe our host does the best for his guests according to the means of the place.



Throughout the night, we were kept awake by the ravings of a poor wretch in the drinking room, who was just entering into a fit of delirium tremens, the result of a two days' debauch. He was an old man, who, according to an informant, had borne a respectable character as a farm servant. Like the rest, he went to the diggings, and unfortunately for him, he got ten pounds weight of gold. He was then on his way to town. The gold dust was in the hands of the landlord, and before the poor fellow left a considerable diminution of the pile would take place. Leaving at daybreak, we journeyed over a hungry looking soil, lightly covered with stunted wattles, gums, and honeysuckles. At forty miles from town, the blue flag of a coffee tent was seen beside a large water hole. A family on their way up, were encamped near it; and the mother was observed beside the pool vigorously rubbing the chubby face of a sturdy little one.

The country had now improved again. No surface rock appeared for miles. The verdure was good.

One mile from the blue flag rose the Burnt Bridge Coffee Tent. A fine running stream, gentle rises, plenty of grass, and a white-gum forest, give considerable attractions to this quarter. We had a generous half-a-crown breakfast. Three miles beyond, we stepped over Corduroy Bridge, leaving a marsh to

our left. Splendid lightwood trees were upon the rising ground. A cattle station was then passed through, the grim head of Mount Buninyong hanging over us. At the end of our fifty miles walk, we entered the prettily situated township of Buninyong. "...

Geelong Advertiser and Intelligencer (Vic. : 1851 - 1856) **Saturday 22 January 1853**

Travelling

Roy Hay

I married a geographer, so she is a whiz with maps. She can read the terrain, and find the best way to go to some of the unlikely places to which we travel for work or pleasure. Using a combination of her mobile phone and its map app, and some hard copy maps and atlases, she can find our way to the various places on our travels, now somewhat circumscribed, on the backroads of Victoria. We go further afield when it is permissible.

We have a collection of old paper maps. In the United Kingdom we relied heavily on the Ordnance Survey inch-to-the-mile maps, and in Australia we have the centimetre-to-the-kilometre equivalents. That means I get early warning of bends in the road, level crossings, fords, steep climbs and descents. She can read the contour lines and all the other geographers' marks, which are opaque to me most of the time.

We seldom spend our journeys on the main roads of the state, preferring the less travelled ones where possible, though my wife is very leery when I turn on to dirt roads in our car or even the ute.

What frustrates my wife is my sense of direction. It is by no means infallible, but I can often find our way to our destination, because I have a feel for the direction in which we are travelling or have a memory of previous journeys and short cuts, some of which turn out to be rather longer than shorter, I must admit. Like many males, I hate being driven and am happy to drive all day, though now I am less comfortable driving after dark, especially on unfamiliar roads. We do much less of that these days, with journeys nearly always planned to end in daylight.

I also tend to drive as fast as the speed limit and terrain will permit. This makes it difficult for my wife to read road signs when we are looking for a turn-off in rural Victoria where many roads lack destination signs and have only tiny road names, most of which refer to someone's name or something generic, like Tall Tree Road or Third Creek Road. That is spectacularly unhelpful to all but locals. Most maps do not have these local names on them.

Satnavs and the wonders of in-car electronic maps have transformed some direction finding, but they are not always reliable. I was on my way on my own to Steiglitz (rhymes with piglets) one evening when my satnav told me to turn right and led me to the road to Ballan and a stretch of bush, not the township. I had actually been within a kilometre of my destination when I was led astray. I found a bush track that luckily led me back to the township and Scott's Hotel where Jan Wozitsky, formerly of the Bushwhackers, was performing. It was there that I met the editor of the *Meredith News*, and one of the outcomes of that meeting was the chance to write for this splendid publication.

When we arrived in Australia in 1977 we spent quite a lot of time exploring the rural parts of the state. One early trip took us to Gariwerd, then better known as the Grampians, the latter name attributed to the mountain range by homesick Scots, though it looks very unlike the original. In Scotland the Grampians have been eroded into rounded though rugged mountains, that are great for walking and

climbing in summer, less so in winter.

We turned off the main road south from Halls Gap to Dunkeld intrigued by a sign labelled Mafeking. A metalled road narrowed, became dirt, then had grass growing in the middle and finally came to an unmarked end. The only visible signs of what had once been a flourishing gold-mining community were a picnic table, a tap and standpipe, several holes in the ground and a warning to be careful as hidden holes were a trap for the unwary. The name obviously related to the Boer War when the Mount William or Mafeking gold field sparked a rush in the early years of the twentieth century.



Miners at Mafeking. Photo: W Hale Studio. Museums Victoria.

Mafeking was also an extreme example of another phenomenon we discovered on our early journeys in regional Victoria. We were often puzzled when we went looking for the old centre of modern townships. It took us a while, and some coaching by a couple of former colleagues at Deakin University who had an interest in such things, before we realised that the mobility of the built environment was such an important feature here. Old buildings that had become redundant in their current location, especially those made largely of wood, might be loaded on to jinkers and transported somewhere else where their life could be extended.

Other trips led us indirectly to the discovery of some of Victoria's hidden rural wineries. We had little idea of extent of the revival of an industry that had been decimated or worse by phylloxera around the turn of the twentieth century. Even in the 1970s when we arrived in Australia we were stunned to realise that Victoria was the producer of marvellous vintages. In Scotland from where we had come, Australian wines were seldom, if ever, on menus or in off licenses (take-away liquor stores). Now, when we return to the United Kingdom, they are ubiquitous and wonderful.

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Around the UK in 80 Days

by Christine Stevenson (reviewed by Marg Cooper)

Christine Stevenson says that she is not a tourist or a traveller or a holidaymaker. She doesn't yearn for the open road, or the next destination, there is just one country she really wished to see and that was the mainland of the United Kingdom. She wouldn't want to live there because it would lose its magic, but to visit has been one of her life's great pleasures.

She also tells that she has been yearning for this trip for half her life. But marriage, children and life got in the way. A few decades slipped by and her wish came true in 2010.

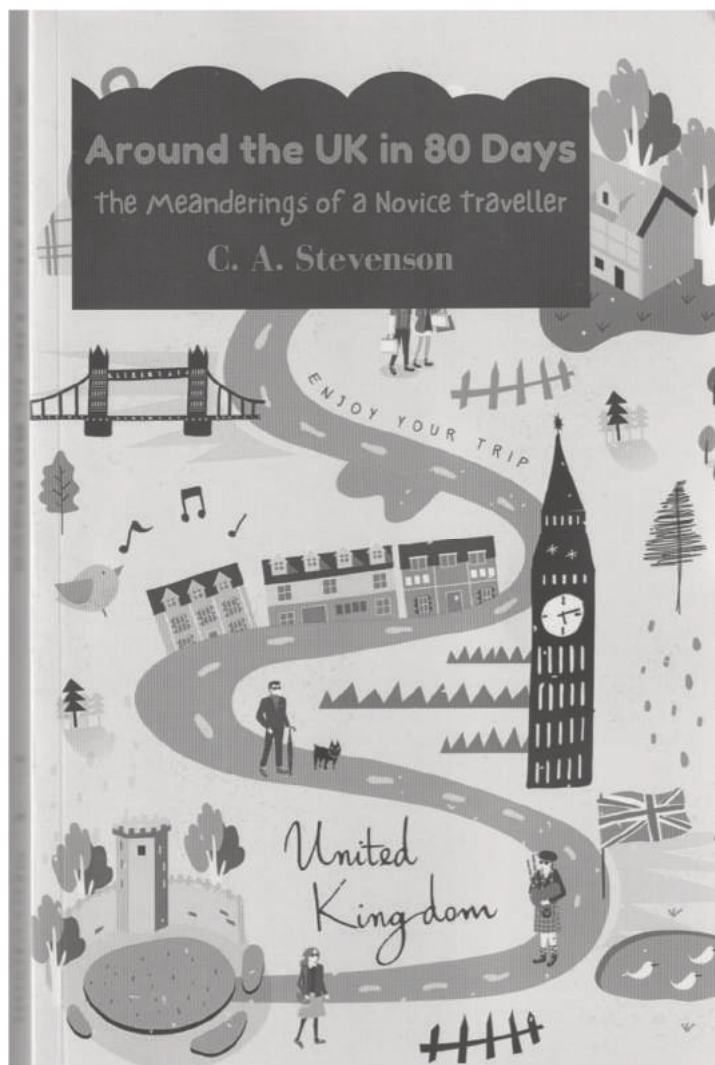
For about 12 months beforehand Christine planned for the trip. She researched fold up bikes, attractions, accommodation, travelling methods and times, tickets for British Rail and National Trust etc. She also re-read many of the books she had read in her childhood to familiarise herself with the authors and the settings of the stories. She says that people of our vintage were reared on English Literature and to travel back to England, felt like going home.

Christine, a retired, single female travelled alone, never got vaguely lonely, didn't turn on a television while she was away, wrote 5 exercise books of notes and wrote 43 blog posts. She hired a car and bravely tackled the freeways, travelled by train, but the bike made the trip so much better. Often, she'd park the car outside a village, unfold her bike from the boot and then cycle around, experiencing village life from the ground. She often took a thermos, bought a fresh bread roll and a banana [delicious bananas from the Bahamas] and sat observing, while she ate.

Because her blog posts were well received, Christine decided to write a book of her trip. *Writing about it, keeps it in your mind.* She has written a fabulous book, managing to balance her trip experiences with history, with literature, with scenery and with herself. It is a book that anyone could read and enjoy. When asked who she aimed the book for, she replied that it was for arm chair travellers or for travellers to bring back memories of their trips. Most importantly it has allowed Christine to experience her trip for 10 years after the event. Most people arrive home from a trip and start planning another destination, and more or less forgetting their last trip!

The book is neat, of a convenient compact size, has a fun, artistic cover, has bright white, clean pages, easy to read type and the chapters flow as the adventure takes place. While attending a writing course at the Gordon Institute Christine met the author and lecturer Jill Blee, who lives in Ballarat. Christine and Jill regularly met at Back Creek café in Meredith to edit the chapters. Christine has lived in Geelong for the last 36 years but previously lived on a farm at Bamganie where Diane and Roy Ritchie later lived.

In the acknowledgements Christine describes the book as *this rambling effort*. I thoroughly enjoyed the ramble around England and recommend it to all. The first print was for family, and friends. She intends to have a reprint, and to have the books for sale at various places including Meredith.



The girls who gave you the 'Creatives' column in the Meredith News for the last two years, Kerry and Amanda, invite you to come along to the new Meredith Urban Sketchers on Tuesday April 5th 10am-1pm.

Bring a comfy seat, sketchbook and pencils, crayons, watercolour paints, felt pens, whatever you like, and sit and sketch around Meredith. Bring a thermos of coffee too (and a hat and aerogard!).

Meet at the Hall at the end of Staughton Street at 10am. Our sketches will then be published in the Meredith News the following month.

Everyone is welcome, ladies, gentlemen and anyone craving to get out and do something and connect with people again. No need to register, it's also free so just turn up. 'No experience needed.'

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Gynaecologist: Dr Sai Rathnyake

New patients welcome

Croc Report

Mick Devlin

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

Welcome back for new season of Crocs football. Last year wrapped up with our annual end of year presentation day. It was a beautiful Sunday afternoon. Blacky and Uncle Doug were absolutely amazing with the afternoon entertainment, as always and we even had a visit from our local policeman, James.

A big congratulations to all the award recipients: Life membership Mick Battye & Damien Priddle, Best Clubman Mick Devlin, 100 game club, Colin Mullane and John Peterson, Games record holder, Daryl Jones, Coaches award, Craig Taylor and as always clubperson awards to Wendy and Kev B for all their great help throughout the year.

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

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We have 5 home games this year so save the dates below and get down to the MCG and support your local team:

10th April vs Gisborne @ Meredith

15th May vs Maryborough @ Meredith

26th June vs Bendigo @ Meredith

24th July vs Kerang @ Meredith

7th August vs Melton @ Meredith

Players Wanted

Training has kicked off for this year and the team is keen to get a full season in. We are always looking for new players to come and join our great club.

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

Mick Devlin (coach) 0413609863

Mick Rooney (President) 0408545246



Moorabool Valley Croc 2021



Did you know!



Spaghetti, confetto, and graffito are the singular forms of spaghetti, confetti, and graffiti.

<https://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/graffito>

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Vale to Lorraine [Lorrie] Mary Kent 16/11/1929 – 18/11/2021

Lorrie Jones was born at Narrabri and was older sister to Shirley. She went to school at Narrabri West. It seems her family were farmers and hoteliers and musical. She said that her grandfather played the bones, her father played the mandolin and piano accordion, Barney played gum leaves and they sang on the veranda at evening time. Lorrie herself won a Talent Quest on 2GD.

Lorrie was booked in to board at Methodist Ladies College in Sydney, but when the school closed after the Japanese submarines attacked Sydney she went to a Convent at Mudgee. Even though she had been confirmed Church of England she became Head Girl and often lead prayers. She was a born leader.

She passed Leaving Certificate and wanted to be a nurse, but her father disapproved. She was awarded a scholarship to become an Infant Teacher and chose Manly Migrant Camp School for her first appointment.

Lorrie married Alan Ingram in 1952 and had 2 sons, Stephen and Michael. They later divorced and in 1960 she married Fred Honeyman, Fred already had a son Robert from his previous marriage and Lorrie and Fred had a son together, David. Lorrie taught at many schools but when Fred became ill Lorrie bought a Kindergarten where she had 40, 2–5-year-olds, daily. After Fred died in 1984, Lorrie and her mother moved to Tasmania to help get a hotel, owned by her uncle, back on track. Lorrie stayed on after the hotel was sold and opened a boatique [a pun on boutique] which sold nautical themed items and later she had a fashion shop in Hobart.

In 1988 she went on a trip to China organized by University of the Third Age. Jack Kent was also on that trip and came home with Lorrie attached. Jack, a school teacher had bought the farm *Nioka* at Meredith, sometime after his wife Judy died in 1983. He had 2 teenage girls still at home and thought it wise to get them out of the city. They lived at *Hill View*, on Shelford Road.

After her marriage to Jack, Lorrie bought the property *Kiah* which was over the road from *Hill View* and *Nioka*. She deemed the Soldier Settlement house to be too small so gutted it, remodelled it and extended it. She has been described as an accumulator. Whenever she moved, her sons disposed of several truckloads of stuff even though she wanted to keep everything.

While at Meredith she started a business she called *Kwik Spin Wool*. She provided everything people needed to create from wool, her own wool from the property. It was mainly a mail order business, but at one time when it outgrew their house she rented the brick building in Meredith, that had previously been Elders and is now Back Creek Café, and ran her business from there. She had huge quantities of raw fleeces, spun wool both natural and dyed by Lorrie and equipment needed by the customers like wheels and looms. She sent a lot overseas and apparently her products were always beautifully presented. She sold the business to a local from Steiglitz.



When Jack became feeble they moved to Grovedale to a large 5 bedroom house which she managed to fill. She had travelled extensively and although some of her collecting was of common items like magazines a lot was beautiful and interesting. Lorrie was very involved in the Church of England, Senior Citizens and Probus at Grovedale which she continued when she moved to *Abivale Retirement Village*.

She was forthright, wasn't scared to voice her opinion, she was strong willed, nothing stopped her, she was willing to change direction and accept new challenges and she made the best of every situation.

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Vale to Ida Hope Hodge

Hope was a very caring and kind person.

She was born on November 4, 1936 in Bairnsdale, the second child of William and Ida Blenerhassett. She had an older sister, a younger sister and a step brother. She went to the local one teacher rural school at Bengworden and after Grade 8 she went to Bairnsdale High School, completing Year 11. During the week she was a boarder with Miss Balfour who was a dressmaker.

When she finished school she worked on the family farm with her brother, as her father was severely affected by arthritis and was only able to direct the work. Hope's childhood was rather challenging, as her father was ill and her sister needed special care.

Hope met Don Hodge, who came from Buchan, at a sheep show in Bairnsdale, where her family were showing merinos. They married on December 30, 1961. After their marriage they lived with Hope's, by then widowed mother, at the Bengwarden farm, before moving to the Riverina where Don was an overseer. Hope drove the school bus and delivered the mail. They then moved to Walla Walla, with their 3 daughters where Don managed a property, and then to Mt Mercer where Don managed St Gabriel's Hereford Stud at the Homestead, in 1979. In 1980 they bought a house and land from Martin Nolan at Cargarie, but continued to live at Mt Mercer for some time.

Hope had a long involvement with community organizations. Her earliest association was with Red Cross, joining Junior Red Cross at her Primary School in 1952. Hope continued this association at Meredith doing Red Cross Calling for many years. [Her 56 years' service was recognized with a Laurel Wreath.]

She volunteered at Meredith Primary School as a classroom assistant, she was a netball coach, [the netball team she coached at Walla Walla School was a finalist in the zone championship which was played at Yass] a member of CWA, Meredith Senior Citizens, Community House Committee, Recreation Reserve Committee, Brownie/Guide leader and played and coached some of the juniors at tennis.

For a number of years Hope cared for some small children at Grenville while their parents were at work. She also sold Bessemer cookware, Hobbytex, Avon and Tupperware, over the years. Family said that she was an exceptional embroiderer which transitioned into a love of many crafts.

She and Don had a Hereford Cattle Stud for many years which they showed at various shows successfully. They sold their house at Cargarie and most of the land and built a new house on the back of the block. They lived there for several years in semi-retirement before moving to NSW and then back to Sebastopol. Sadly Hope developed Alzheimer's and spent her last days in Aged Care not far from their home in Sebastopol.

Hope died on January 22, 2022 and a service took place at Meredith Cemetery on Monday, January 31.

Hope, she so graciously embodied her name.



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Golden Pens - Write Side Up

G'day from the **Golden Pens - Write Side Up**. We are a group of Golden Plains writers who meet every fortnight at the Bannockburn Library. We saw the call out for stories for this newsletter and we thought we could help out. The following story was written as a homework subject comprising of 3 subjects, in this case it was an argument, a pen and an owl. It is great to hear all the varied pieces that are written when using the same prompts for everyone. The author of this story is Wendy Spall. We hope you enjoy it.

We can be contacted via our email which is goldenpens4@gmail.com

An Argument, A Pen, An Owl

By Wendy Spall

"Why are you using my pen?" I asked my husband as I noticed him scribbling on some paper.

"What do you mean? He retorted back to me as he looked down at the pen in his hand.

"Since when is it your pen?"

"Since I bought it off my brother. It's my pen because it is a fountain pen, and being a fountain pen the nib on said pen will wear to my shape of writing, if someone else uses it they will wear the pen another way, it's like wearing someone else's shoes!"

"Well, I never heard of such a thing" he sneered.

"Just because you haven't heard of it, doesn't make it wrong you know!"

"Oh shut up and have your pen back, I didn't like it anyway."

"Then why did you start using it?" I asked

"Because it was there! Satisfied now?"

Craig was getting angry, so I didn't push it any further, instead I asked about what he was doing.

"I was just doodling"

"Show me what you've drawn?" Hoping that that would ease the tension between us after the argument.

"Oh, it's nothing, I was just doodling as I said."

I got up off my chair and walked over to where he was at the table, I looked at the page and in amongst the many and varied lines and squiggles there were a pair of beady eyes staring directly at me. As I looked further into the picture I could make out the outline of a bird, but not just an abstract, this bird had form and feature, the eyes were detailed to stare at the observer whilst the feathers around the face were delicate and precise. As I looked at the image closer I could make out the tiny feet wrapped around a slender branch and the wings neatly folded alongside the body. I was taken aback at the beauty that my husband had instilled into this line drawn bird made with my fountain pen, the softness of his rendition of an owl mixed in with aimlessly drawn lines. Lost in his thoughts his fingers

played and the results were staggering. I turned to look at my husband of many years and I searched his eyes for signs of this ability of his, to turn a squiggle into a piece of art. He asked me what I was doing and I just pointed to the picture of the owl.

"How do you do this?" I asked pleadingly

"Do what" he threw back at me.

"Look, just look at what you have doodled, the form, the structure, the beauty of that bird."

"Oh don't be silly" he said. It's just aimless scribbling, nothing important."

"Oh it might be just lines on a page to you, but to anyone else it is superb, a faultless image of nature's gift. What you take for granted, others might kill for."

"Well thank you for the compliment, but really it is nothing."

"Can you replicate this talent you have for doodling if you concentrate and try?" I quizzed.

"No, I don't think so, I used to try and it never looked any good."

"You are my husband of hidden talents, and as far as I think, you should just lose yourself and draw anytime you like, even with my pen!"

And we ended the conversation with a kiss.

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COMMUNITY UPDATE

March 2022

•Moorabool North Wind Farm

Progress to date

- Up to 75 MW (27 turbines) operating

Look ahead

- AEMO Compliance (Hold Point) testing to continue – increased operations, in 2022

•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 in 2022, leading to operations

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.

Visit www.mooraboolwindfarm.com or contact us for more details.

Moorabool Wind Farm Community Fund 2022

Moorabool wind farm is seeking members of the local community to collaborate in determining how the fund for 2022 will be distributed to community-based projects. Members of the Moorabool Wind Farm Assessment Panel evaluate each application and make recommendations to Moorabool Wind Farm on how the benefits of the project should be shared.

If you are interested in working together with Moorabool wind farm on the community fund assessment panel, please complete an Expression of Interest Form at <https://www.mooraboolwindfarm.com/community/community-fund-and-sponsorship/expressions-of-interest/>. Applications close 31st March 2022.



Recycling and waste bins at Gordon Primary School, made possible by funding in 2020.

To date, Moorabool Wind Farm has invested more than \$450,000 in the local community through its community funding, local sponsorships, and community partnerships.



Ballan Golf Club Bridges made possible by funding in 2020 and 2021.

The third Round of the Moorabool wind farm Community Fund will open in May 2022. For details on the Guidelines and how to apply, visit www.mooraboolwindfarm.com

To contact us or to register for future project updates and newsletters please use the following methods:
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The dragonfly hovered near the water's edge, his black and yellow body bobbing, his wings a blur. His four wings, two in front and two behind them, could all move independently, controlled by muscles attached to the bases of his wings. As he hovered, the front wings moved up while the rear wings moved down, flapping continually in an alternating pattern which allowed him to conserve energy. He was watching for a female to enter his territory to mate, but he also needed to guard his space from other males. As one approached too close, he changed the pattern of his wing beats, so that all four wings flapped together, maximising lift. His wings shimmered in the sun as he darted above the water, using their independent movement to change direction abruptly as he followed the other male, chasing him until he left the area.

The dragonfly's wings were strong and flexible, made of two transparent layers of membrane, strengthened by a complex pattern of black veins. The vein at the front edge of each wing was strongest, helping him to cut through the air. Close to it, towards the end of each wing was a darker denser area, which added weight to the wing tip and improved the stability of his flight. The veins also helped to protect his wings from damage. If a tear occurred in a wing, it would not spread beyond the surrounding veins. He needed his wings in good condition, not only to patrol his territory, but also to find food and shelter and escape from predators. Dragonflies were one of the first groups of insects to evolve and have become strong flyers and fearsome hunters of other insects. The male's wings and flight muscles were the technology that allowed him to survive, but technology changes over time. More recently evolved insects use different strategies to enhance their flight.

Just outside the dragonfly's territory, in a tree beside the water, was a grey fantail, a small insectivorous bird watching out for an insect to eat. He launched himself from a branch towards a passing butterfly. The brown and black patterns on the undersides of the butterfly's wings made her well-camouflaged when she perched on the ground among dead leaves, with her wings held together above her body, but in flight she was far more obvious. The grey fantail flew close and tried to catch her, but the butterfly's flight was erratic and she was never quite where the bird anticipated. The muscles attaching her wings to her body could change the angle of her wings helping her to manoeuvre through the air. These muscles were not used to power her flight. Instead, muscles within her body changed her shape. As they pulled the top of her body downwards, her wings moved up, generating lift. This upward stroke was easy and energy from it was stored within an elastic hinge in her body, ready for the downstroke. Again, muscles changed her shape, her back bulged and her wings

moved downwards using the stored energy to push through the air. This method of flying is common to most insects and requires less energy than the dragonfly's flight.

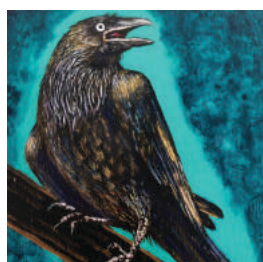
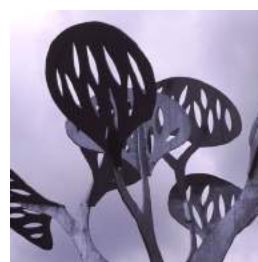
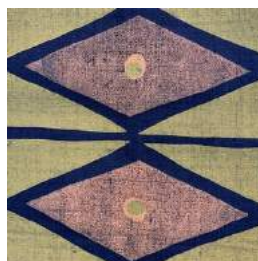
The butterfly's wings were unusual among insects, as they were very large in proportion to her body. While many insects use bristles or hooks to hold the front and hind wings together, so that they work as one, the butterfly achieved a similar result by having an area of overlap. As she raised her flexible wings above her body, they formed a cup shape. The air between them was pushed backwards, helping to propel her forwards. The grey fantail soon decided that the effort of chasing and catching the butterfly was not worthwhile for the size of the meal he would gain. He returned to his perch to await the next insect to fly past.

On a branch lower in the tree, a beetle prepared for flight. She raised the brown shiny wing cases on her back, to reveal one pair of membranous wings, carefully folded, and protected by the hard wing cases. She rotated her wings forwards, unfolding them ready for flight. Her wing cases helped to generate lift as she took off. They remained open and clear of her wings allowing them to move freely, but created drag, reducing the aerodynamic efficiency of her flight. She flew in a straight line without the unpredictable twists of the butterfly's flight. The grey fantail saw her, predicted her flight path, flew down towards her and easily caught her in his beak.

The dragonfly, butterfly and beetle show a few of the variations in wings and flight that may be found among insects. There are many others. Flies have one pair of wings with structures behind them called halteres which help with balance during flight. There are small insects that use rising air currents to assist their flight. Insects that spend their lives in one place without moving far, or in a hidden corner, have no need to fly. These groups of insects may have small wings, no longer useful for flight, or no wings. The only ants that grow wings are queens and their partners. They use them in mating flights after which the males die, and the females shed their wings in preparation for their underground life. There are many ways in which wings aid in the success of insects, and although not all of them can fly, wings have contributed greatly to their survival as the largest group of animals on Earth.



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