

Meredith & district News

SEPTEMBER 2022



OH
NO...it's
SPRING
again!



inside



- See Heather's unusual collection
 - Wendy tells us about disguises
 - Congratulations James & Janie Knight
- ...and the usual Much More!



Meredith & district News



The Meredith and District News is published by a volunteer sub-committee of the Meredith Community Centre comprising: Jim Elvey, (general editor and chair) Dawn Macdonald, Stefania Parkinson, Ian Penna, Mike Palmer, Sue Higgs and Alex Hyatt. Production is undertaken by alternating teams comprising Pam Ridd, Peter Boer, Don Atherton and Jim Elvey.

NEWS & VIEWS

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

DATES AND DEADLINES

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

ADVERTISING

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

	B&W/Colour
Business Card	\$20.00
Quarter page	\$30.00
Half page	\$50/\$100
Full page	\$100/\$200

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

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

CONTACT US

Post Office, Meredith, 3333

Advertising: Ian 0409 016815

advertising@meredithnews.com.au

Accounts: Mike 0419 307044

accounts@meredithnews.com.au

Editorial: Jim: 0409 163169

news@meredithnews.com.au

WEB

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

ONLINE PHOTOS

We do not publish children's photos online.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

DISCLAIMER

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

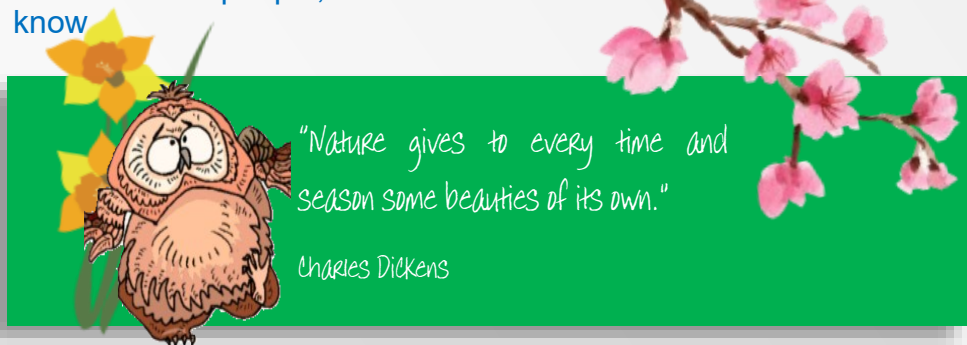
Issue Production: Peter Boer Editor: Pam Ridd

connect

ADVANCE MEREDITH 0409 027 359	FOOTBALL Seniors 0408 545246 Juniors 0430 587 674
ANGLING CLUB 0419 248 660	GOLF CLUB 0407 795 342
B'BURN ART GROUP 0410 808 483	HISTORY GROUP 5286 8201
BLUE LIGHT DISCO 5286 1222	LANDCARE 0409 862 326
BOOK CLUB 5286 8201	MEMORIAL HALL 0409 662106
CFA 000 for fire calls Elaine 0409 861 296 Meredith 5286 1502 Morrisons 0417 770 765	MOTORCYCLE CLUB 0437 009 250
CHILDCARE 5286 0700	PLAYGROUP 5286 0700
COMMUNITY CENTRE 5286 0700	POLICE PADDOCKS 0409 163169
CRICKET Elaine 0448 291074 Junior (U16,U14,13) 0448 291074 Meredith 5286 1434	RSL - 5286 1452
CUBS & SCOUTS Lethbridge 0435 042077	SENIOR CITIZENS 5286 8232
ELAINE HALL elainetownhall@gmail.com	TENNIS Elaine 0448 291 074 Lethbridge 52 817 321 Meredith 0424754179
	FRIENDS OF THE BRISBANE RANGES 5286 1252
	SEW 'N' SEWS 5286 0700

..or start something.

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



"Nature gives to every time and season some beauties of its own."

Charles Dickens

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 a/h emergency	1300 363 036
Ranger	0408 508 635
	5220 7111
	or 0409 830 223
Bannockburn Vet	5281 1221
Golden Plains Animal	5281 2226
Pets and Horses 24/7	0421 617 238

Justices of the Peace

Mr Don Atherton. 0409 869 960

Mr Paul Ryan Elaine 0409 861 296

services

CEMETERY TRUST 5286 1550	MATERNAL & CHILD HEALTH 5220 7230
HALL HIRE Meredith Memorial 5286 1545 Elaine Mechanics elainetownhall@gmail.com Elaine Rec Res 5341 5703	PRE-SCHOOL 5286 0722 PRIMARY SCHOOL 5286 1313 RECREATION RESERVE 0429 315 575
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MOORABOOL Wind Farm

 Goldwind

COMMUNITY UPDATE - September 2022

OPENING SOON: Moorabool Wind Farm Community Fund Round Four

- Round Four of the Community Fund will open for applications on **Monday 12 September**.
- Moorabool Wind Farm is pleased to support projects and organisations that will provide lasting benefits to the local community through our annual Community Fund.
- Due to the timing of turbine commissioning, we have an additional round of funding available in 2022. From 2023 onwards, we will have a single annual Round.
- Further information is available on our website – scan the QR code or visit: www.mooraboolwindfarm.com/community/community-fund/



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. An invitation to the program is required to be advertised for 12 months after commissioning is complete as part of our project planning approvals.

This program is designed to reduce the potential visual impacts of the project for our closest neighbours. 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.



For more information, please visit: www.mooraboolwindfarm.com

To contact us or register to receive project updates via email, get in touch: info@mooraboolwindfarm.com or 1800 019 660.

FOOD SWAP AT

MEREDITH



A food swap is an event where members of a community share homemade, homegrown, or foraged foods with each other.

Date: Saturday, 1st October 2022

Time: 9:30am to 12:30pm

Place:

Meredith Sharing Shed - 10 Wallace Street, Meredith

Tables will be available to place your items or bring your own table.

Please RSVP your place to:
chris@handsofchange.org.au OR 0411 174 804



COMMUNITY

Meredith Tennis Club AGM

The AGM was held Wednesday 3rd August at the Meredith recreation reserve. Thank you to everyone who served on the committee for the last 12 months. The positions were declared vacant and were filled as follows:

President: Maddy McColl

Vice President: Melita Cordie

Secretary: Meg Hay

Treasurer: David Osbourne

Thank you to those that have agreed to serve on the committee as general members.

The new season for the Buninyong Tennis Association will commence 8th of October and we are looking for Junior and Senior Players! If you or someone you know wishes to be part of a team please contact Maddy McColl 0424754179 or email meredithtennis2020@gmail.com. Registrations close 20th September 2022.

On 17th September, we will be holding a family fun tennis day with a bbq and organised matches for all ages. Please join us for some fun social tennis.

Meredith Seniors

Jim Hynds

The Seniors held their Annual General Meeting on Monday, August 8 at the Memorial Hall. After welcoming members the President Jim Hynds moved that the AGM get underway and called for reports from Office Bearers. President Jim Hynds reported as did Secretary Robyn Blackman and Treasurer Carol Broadhurst. The reports were accepted by the members, so we then moved on to the election of Office Bearers for the following year.

All positions were declared vacant before the following were elected:

President, Jim Hynds

Vice President, Joy Fox

Secretary, Robyn Blackman

Treasurer, Carol Broadhurst

Lunch Officer, Nancy O'Brien

Hall Attendant, Heather Banks

Games, Linda Hynds

On behalf of the Committee I would like to take this opportunity to thank members for their great support over the previous year. I would also like to thank the Committee Members for their support given to me.

We can only hope that during the next year there will be no bans and we will be able to organize events and hold them, confidently.



Editorial

Expanding our News

We try to balance editorial content with advertising. This not only makes for a more interesting newsletter, it helps us stay on a financially sustainable footing. Nonetheless, the Newsletter's Committee is keen to improve coverage of developments and events in our communities. While some of our regular and occasional contributors do this, we see a need to recruit some "reporters" who will keep their eyes open for anything in their district that might be of interest to our readers. That's why we are running an invitation for would-be reporters to register their interest with us. If you, or someone you know may be interested, please contact us.

Meredith Tennis Club

It's that time of year again, Meredith Tennis Club is open for training.

Training will be held on Thursday's, commencing on the 25th of August.

Times are as followed:

4pm-4:30pm.

4:30pm- 5pm.

5pm- 5:30pm.

To register your child, please call

Maddy McColl on 0424 754 179 or email meredithtennis2020@gmail.com

Don't forget that the Meredith Tennis Club is also looking for Junior and Senior players for the 2022/2023 season! Season commences 8th October 2022. **Registration closes 20th September 2022.**

HEATH MAINTENANCE

Fred Heath

0400 045307

fred.heath67@gmail.com

- Home and Property Maintenance
- General Repairs
- Window Replacement
- Carpentry and Woodworking



Church News



**DEDICATION OF ST. MARY
MACKILLOP CHURCH,
BANNOCKBURN**

Mary Foster

On Sunday, August 7th the Catholic Parish of Meredith celebrated the Dedication of our newest church, St. Mary MacKillop, Bannockburn.

Following the arson attack which destroyed the previous church of St. John the Evangelist, the new church was named after Australia's first saint. Completed in 2019, under the guidance of former parish priest, Fr. Charles Balnaves, Covid 19 lockdowns caused the Dedication Ceremony to be postponed numerous times.

It was with great joy, then, that Fr. Joseph Panackal, Parish Administrator, invited Fr. Charles back to celebrate this, for many, a once in a lifetime occasion. Presided by the Archbishop of Melbourne, Peter Comensoli, invited clergy and guests, together with current and past parishioners saw a very full church with standing room only. All were enthralled by the varied aspects of the ceremony, rich in beauty and tradition, together with the worship offered and enhanced by guitar, violin, mandolin and organ. Refreshments and fellowship concluded a wonderful evening.



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 :

No weekday masses during September

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. 11/9 and 25/9, 12.15 followed by lunch, Bannockburn, contact Joanne 0451 818 596.

Sat. 5 pm Vigil, St. John the Baptist, Winchelsea
Sun. 11 am St. Mary MacKillop, Bannockburn

Sun. 11/9, 25/9, **9 am** St. Joseph's, Meredith
Sun. 4/9, 18/9, **9 am** St. Brigid's Anakie

Sun. 18/9, 4 pm Sacred Heart, Inverleigh

Other Sacraments:

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

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



- Complete Bathroom Renovations
- Rain Water Tanks
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call Nathan
0408 996 721
PGsolutions.info@gmail.com

Meredith based 

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I'M HERE TO HELP.

PLEASE CONTACT ME FOR ANY ASSISTANCE

Michaela Settle MP
STATE LABOR MEMBER FOR **BUNINYONG**

📍 15 Main Road, Bakery Hill VIC 3350 📞 5331 7722
✉ michaela.settle@parliament.vic.gov.au 📱 MichaelaSettleMP



Meredith **Community Centre**
working for our community

What's On



BCYF - Wellbeing Counselling

Wednesdays at the Community Centre
1300 022 293

Mums & Bubs

Movement, Mindfulness & Meditation with Jade

Tuesdays - 10am - \$10 per class

Adult Classes Coming Soon!

For Kids!

Movement, Mindfulness & Meditation with Jade

Prep - Grade 4 - Tuesdays - 3.30pm - \$10 per class

Grade 5 - Year 10 - 5pm - \$10 per class

Digital Essentials with Leah

Come and have fun learning about your device!

Friday September 9 - 10am - 2pm

\$20 per session - bookings essential!

Coming Soon - Starting in TERM 4

Singing Lessons for Groups and Individuals

Adult Art Classes

Watercolour Classes



Mini Masterchefs
MEREDITH

SCHOOL HOLIDAY PROGRAM
Funded by VicHealth
FREE

27-30 September

Group 1 - 9.30 - 1pm (4 sessions)

Group 2 - 1.30 - 5.00 pm (4 sessions)

Bookings Are Essential as places are limited

Jen Jones - 0408 461 559

Tai Chi - \$15 per session

Tuesdays @ Meredith with Sandra - 9.15 - 10.15

Wednesdays @ Bannockburn with Desma - 9:30 - 10.30

Thursdays @ Teesdale with Desma - 9.30-10.30

Steady Feet @ Meredith - \$10 per session

Wednesdays - 10:00 - 11:00 am

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



Landsdale Southdown Sheep Stud

Marg Cooper

To *Sheepvention* at Hamilton in early August, James and Janie Knight took eight of their stud sheep. Their sheep won every class that they were entered in bar one. They were delighted and brought home a swag of ribbons. In 2016 they started breeding stud rams for their own use. They then realised that they enjoyed the exercise, they had good stock and that selling rams could be another aspect of their farming. So, in 2019, they became more serious and competed at their first show at Geelong where they won Champion Yearling Ram.

Due to Covid all shows during the past two years were cancelled, but this year they have competed at Bendigo, Ballarat, Hamilton and will compete at Geelong in October, where Southdowns will be the feature breed. They expect that up to ten Southdown studs will compete at Geelong show, probably the biggest showing of that breed.

Showing sheep requires a lot of preparation and planning. One must breed the sheep, select the best of those sheep, have the sheep shorn expertly a certain time before the show (for example; for the Geelong show they have to be shorn by the end of August). They also train the sheep to stand quietly in a small pen all day, to be tied up, to be led by a halter and to stand solidly for judging. James says that Southdowns are b.....s to lead!

For *Sheepvention* the sheep had to be penned by Friday in the huge sheep pavilion and returned home on Monday. James and Janie were at the pavilion by 6.30 am each morning to feed, water, groom, clip, brush down and ensure

all animals were calm, before parading for the judges. James said that by the time a sheep has been paraded in a number of different classes they are tired and they may not stand up solidly or they can become cantankerous.

Southdowns are a good prime lamb sire because they are hardy, early maturing, mother their lambs well, have multiples and produce lots of meat. They are sometimes called a *meat machine*.

Competing at shows is good advertising for their stud and a good way to compare their stock with other stud stock. James' father Rod is exceptionally good with sheep and has helped them enormously as have personnel from other studs.

Landsdale are holding their second on-property sale of rams and some ewes on October 20, 2022. They have an Open Day on Sunday, October 9. They hope to display the ribbons they have already won at the five shows they have competed at, in the woolshed on those days.



BUTCHER, BAKER & UNDERTAKER MEREDITH OF YESTERDAY

Come along and explore the past trades and businesses of Meredith Township.

Where was the undertaker?

Who was the bootmaker and what happened to his son?

Where could you hire a horse & buggy, buy some sweets, or purchase a tin teapot?

10am to 4 pm - Sunday 25th September
Meredith Memorial Hall

Static & Interactive displays. Talks. Staughton St self-guided walk. Kids activities.

All Welcome - Gold Coin Donation

Presented by Meredith History Interest Group
Funded by the Golden Plains Shire Council Community Grants Program





Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

6 High St

Bannockburn VIC 3331 Phone: 5281 1516

Be prepared this flu season (Vaccination Clinic)

Our pharmacists, Scott, Pritti and 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 10.00 am - 6.00pm	Tuesday 10.00 am - 6.00pm
Wednesday 10.00 am - 6.00pm	Thursday 9.00 am - 4.00pm
Friday 10.00 am - 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 a 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 required from your Doctor
- \$25.00 (\$15.00 for the vaccine + \$10.00 for the administration of the vaccine by one of our accredited pharmacists)
- Free flu vaccine + \$10.00 for the administration by one of our accredited pharmacists if you fall into one of the following categories:
 - i) Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander children aged 6 months to <5 years
 - ii) Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander persons > 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 required from your Doctor
- \$47.00 (\$37.00 for the vaccine + \$10.00 for the administration of the vaccine by one of our accredited pharmacists)
- Free whooping cough vaccine + \$10.00 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 last 10 years.

To secure a time that best suits you, we recommend that you make an appointment through the Pharmacy. You can either phone the Pharmacy on 5281 1519 or you can book online through our Facebook page. www.facebook.bannockburnpharmacy You can also just walk in but there may be a wait if someone else is already having a vaccination done.

Pharmacy Features

- medAdvisor
- Vaccination clinic
- Glasshouse fragrances
- Circa Home
- Ear piercing
- Nose piercing
- Medela (we hire Breastpumps)
- MooGoo
- Roogenic teas
- Natio
- Designer Brands
- Sukin Organic Products
- Diabetes Australia Agency - NDSS
- Giftware for all ages
- Passport photos
- Webster - paks
- Home Medicine Reviews
- Free gift wrapping

Trading Hours

Monday:	8.30 am - 6.30pm
Tuesday:	8.30 am - 6.30pm
Wednesday:	8.30 am - 6.30pm
Thursday:	8.30 am - 6.30pm
Friday:	8.30 am - 6.30pm
Saturday:	8.30 am - 1.00pm
Sunday:	CLOSED

Vaccination Clinic - Flu and Whooping Cough vaccinations

In the School Garden

Mrs Garden

The wattles and grevilleas are blooming, the daffodils and other spring bulbs are starting to flower, the days are getting longer and we have many reasons to be outside in the garden.

The grevilleas at school along the Russell Street fence line were planted by the Grade 4/5/6 students when they were in Prep/1/2. They have bushed up very well and always provide some gentle late winter colour. However, there were a few gaps, so the six current Prep children went out, accompanied by some of the older students, and each put in a grevillea. It was wonderful to have the strong diggers to make the holes and also to pass on their planting knowledge to the younger ones. The grevilleas have great names like: Firecracker, Honeyeater Heaven, Jelly Baby and Gold Rush. One plant was a little 'leggy' so we had a pruning lesson while we were there. Often, native plants are thought to be 'plant and forget' but they benefit from a light prune to keep them healthy and in good shape. Out in the bush, the kangaroos and wallabies do the pruning but in gardens a snip with the secateurs or even the shears is a great idea.

Essential winter pruning is needed on roses each year otherwise they become a tangled, woody mess with fewer flowers. Charlie and Jacob set out with the secateurs and wheelbarrow, wearing thick gloves, to tackle our four rose bushes around the flagpole. Our roses are a hardy, repeat blooming type and they certainly put on a lot of growth each year. We started by taking out any branches that were growing towards the centre of the bush, then cut off any thin, spindly growth and finally shortened each branch by about a half to a third. This way the plants are open to air flow, reducing any black spot issues and are also able to put their energy into the remaining branches to ensure good, strong growth and plenty of flowers. While the pruning was going on, it was a lovely time to chat and enjoy each others' company.

There was some space around the beetroot so we put some curly parsley seedlings in the gaps. We usually grow Italian parsley but this year we are trying curly parsley, just as tasty and pretty looking.

The seed potatoes are in a dark spot 'chitting'. We are waiting for them to start sprouting before they are planted out sometime during this month. In cold climates where growing seasons are short, potatoes are chitted to give them a head start before they are planted. We grow ours using the lasagna method: the potatoes are placed on the ground and covered with layers of straw, green clippings, sheep manure, a sprinkle of blood and bone and then watered. As they grow, we will use more straw to mound up around them. What will Kym and the OzHarvest students do

with them? Maybe a potato salad or some spicy oven cooked wedges.

In the meantime, the OzHarvest cookers have been making their own pizzas. These are quick, easy, fun to make and very tasty, and come highly recommended. The recipe is from Clean Eating With Kids.

OzHarvest Cooking Group Pizzas

2 cups white or wholemeal self raising flour

1 cup full fat plain yoghurt

Mix flour and yoghurt together until it comes together.

Turn out onto a floured board and lightly knead.

Divide into four and flatten each into a small disc.

4. Top with tomato paste or passata and your favourite toppings.

5. Bake for 10-15 minutes in a pre-heated 200 degree oven.



*Pizzas
Jack,
Matilda,
Savannah,
Max*



*Jacob and
Charlie -
pruning roses*



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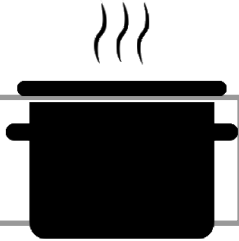
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*Our 12 Steps
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Ham & Goat's Cheese

Frittata

Prep Time 15 mins Cook time 50 mins

Serves 4

Ingredients

- 2tsp unsalted butter
- 120g baby red potatoes, thinly sliced
- 1 bunch thin asparagus, cut into 2cm pieces
- 1/2 leek, thinly sliced
- 2tsp finely chopped fresh thyme
- 100g chopped lean ham
- 6 egg whites
- 3 eggs
- 60g soft goat's cheese, crumbled

Method

1. Pre-heat oven to 180 C.
2. Melt butter in a 25cm ovenproof non-stick frying pan over medium heat. Cook potatoes, covered, stirring occasionally for 10 minutes. Add asparagus, leek and thyme, and cook, covered, for 5 minutes or until potatoes are tender and asparagus is just tender. Stir in ham and cook for 1 minute or until heated through.
3. Whisk egg whites in a medium bowl until combined. Season with salt and pepper. Pour egg mixture into pan and spread evenly over ham and vegetables. Reduce heat to medium-low and cook, without stirring, for 14 minutes or until edges are set.
4. Bake for 12 minutes. Sprinkle with goat's cheese. Bake for a further 3 minutes or until cheese is melted and frittata is set in the centre. Serve cut into wedges.

Recipe from: Spring WW

Stefania

FOR SALE

HYLINE BROWN (Isa Brown) Hens

12 week old, sexed and vaccinated

\$23 each

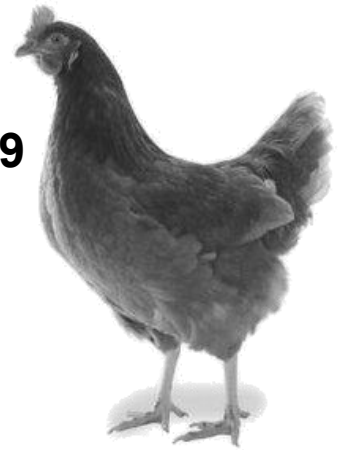
Delivery to Information Centre, Meredith

Sat 17th Sept

Call Kelvin on

0400 559 559

to Order



BALLARATHOOKS

LINE DANCING

ELAINE HALL

SUNDAY 2ND OCTOBER

1.00PM to 4.00 PM

Beginners Welcome

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And come join us

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Admission \$10

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Normal Trading Hours Monday - Friday 9am - 5.30pm

Saturday 9am - 12noon

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In contrast to the frigid conditions for our outings of the previous two months glorious sunshine greeted our group of sketchers as we reached the Courthouse carpark in Steiglitz on the morning of Tuesday 9th, August.

With a plethora of options we dispersed in all directions with Richard and Mandy (going large scale) tackling a view of the old hotel whilst Ingrid, Louise and Peter all used various mediums to draw versions of The Drapers' house. Kerry, Ros and Sam viewed the Courthouse itself from a range of angles. Jan and Marion focused on capturing the essence of specific eucalypts with Marion demonstrating the magic of coloured pencils.

The next plein air outing for the Meredith Sketchers will be on the second Tuesday (the 13th) of September. We'll be returning to Steiglitz, going directly there to meet in the Courthouse carpark at 10 am. Bring drawing equipment, a chair, hat and a thermos.

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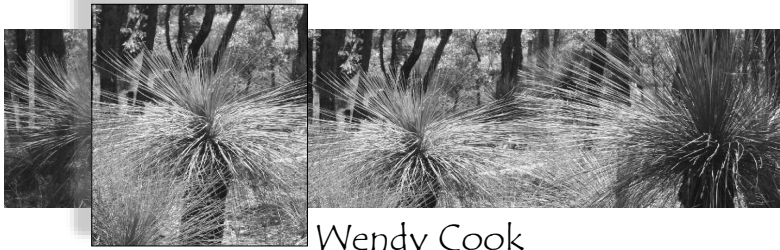
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Wendy Cook

It is a late winter afternoon, overcast and still. I stand silently on the gravel road surrounded by bush and birdsong. I see browns of sturdy stringybark trunks, fissured grey bark of blackwood wattles, pale grey manna gum branches stretching up, dull green eucalyptus leaves, and brown clusters of empty curly wattle seed pods among brighter green wattle leaves. The soil is covered by the greens of grasses and lily leaves and grey-brown leaf litter. Among the browns, greys, and greens, it is hard to see the birds. I attempt to locate them by listening to their calls. A flash of red demands my attention. It is the breast of a male scarlet robin perched on a slender branch. His brightness shows boldly against the strongly contrasting black and white of the rest of his feathers. I notice movement among the grasses, where small brown birds hop seeking insects or seeds. My quiet patience is beginning to pay off. Two white-throated treecreepers walk up a stringybark trunk pecking at the bark in their search for spiders and bugs, their white throats the most obvious portion of their mostly dark brown plumage. The robin flies to the ground in his own search for insects, and again his striking colours draw my eye. He returns to a perch and behind him I notice a touch of gentler colour, a flush of pink on his mate's breast. She is much less showy with grey and white feathers, far more useful as camouflage when she sits on her cup-shaped nest. Her colouring serves a practical purpose, while his is designed to attract female attention, to prove that he is the fittest father for her chicks. The bolder his colours, the more risk of being seen by a predator, and the faster and stronger he must be to stay alive.

The robin, like some other birds, uses colour as an advertisement when seeking a mate, but mammals do not. Many mammals have poor colour vision, while birds can see an extensive range of colours, including ultraviolet light which is not visible to people. It is possible that the white-throated tree creeper's plumage may contain attractive colours which they can see, but which I cannot. Various groups of birds see colours differently, and some plants have evolved flowers to take advantage of colours preferred by certain birds. Honeyeaters, the major group of birds that pollinate Australian flowers, are attracted to a particular shade that we see as red. Other birds may not notice it, but if you have a grevillea in your garden with red flowers, it will be full of honeyeaters at flowering time.

Flowers have other ways of using colour to send messages to their preferred pollinators. A bloom that to us appears to be white or yellow, can look very different with the colour vision of a bird or a bee, which can see ultraviolet light. To them, the flower may appear to have a dark centre, or the centre may glow in bright yellows and reds and be surrounded by dull petals. The middle of the flower is providing a clear message, which says 'here is the nectar and the pollen.' Once the flower is pollinated, it may produce a fruit. As we do, birds can use the colour of fruit as an indication of ripeness. There are other ways in which bright colours can provide information. They can be seen as

a warning. A beetle can protect itself from being eaten by tasting unpleasant or containing chemicals which make a predator sick. This is only useful if the predator knows not to eat the beetle. Colour can provide a clue. A bird that sees a bright orange beetle may know to avoid it. It may have been taught this by its parents or it may have eaten one previously. Once the bird has learnt to avoid bright orange beetles, it will avoid all similar looking beetles. Beetles that taste good can mimic the same colour. This gives the bird the same message, that it is not good to eat. The bird will avoid eating both types of bright orange beetle.

Another way to use colour as protection is to startle the predator. A brown or green frog blends in with its surroundings. When approached by a predator, it can sit still and hope to be unnoticed. If the threat, perhaps a heron, comes closer, some frogs can use a different tactic. As they hop away from the approaching sharp beak, they show the underside of their legs or belly. It is common for these to be bright red or orange or yellow. The surprise as the bird sees this, can give the frog an extra second or two in which to escape. The heron may now be looking for the bright colour it saw, while the frog is again only showing the well-camouflaged top of its body.

It is not only prey animals that can use bright colour to their advantage. Flower spiders are common, but rarely seen, as they wait motionless on a flower petal. Some have patterns of red, green and brown which provide camouflage. Others are brightly coloured, but are the same colour as the flower upon which they sit. They may slowly change colour to blend better with their background. While this makes them difficult for spider-eating birds to find, it also keeps them well-hidden from their insect prey. As a bee lands on a flower, attracted by the conspicuous markings it sees guiding it to nectar, a flower spider pounces. It holds the bee in its spiky front legs, injects venom into its head and soon has a meal. After eating, it returns to its stationary inconspicuous place among bright colours.

Back on the road, I continue to watch the birds. I turn in response to a sharp call behind me. It is another small brown bird, a thornbill. I notice its movement as it jumps between the twigs of a golden wattle, but what really catches my eye are the small tree's first brilliant yellow flowers. I wonder how the thornbill sees them. Does it see them as yellow or in a totally different way? How would they appear to a bee or a spider or a beetle or a wallaby? As the colours of spring emerge in the bush or in your garden, imagine how different animals view them. You are all looking at the same scene, but seeing it differently, and receiving different messages from the bright colours.



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More on Lasseter

Peter Hooper

I was interested to read *Lasseter: A Gold Legend Begins in Colac* written by Marg Cooper. I knew of and was interested in Lasseter for reasons that will become apparent.

The first reason was the same reason why *Lasseter: A Gold Legend Begins in Colac* appeared in the *Meredith and District News*. Lasseter originated from Bamganie and ended up in Meredith, so an interesting piece of history of local interest. I even live in Bamganie not far from where Lasseter was.

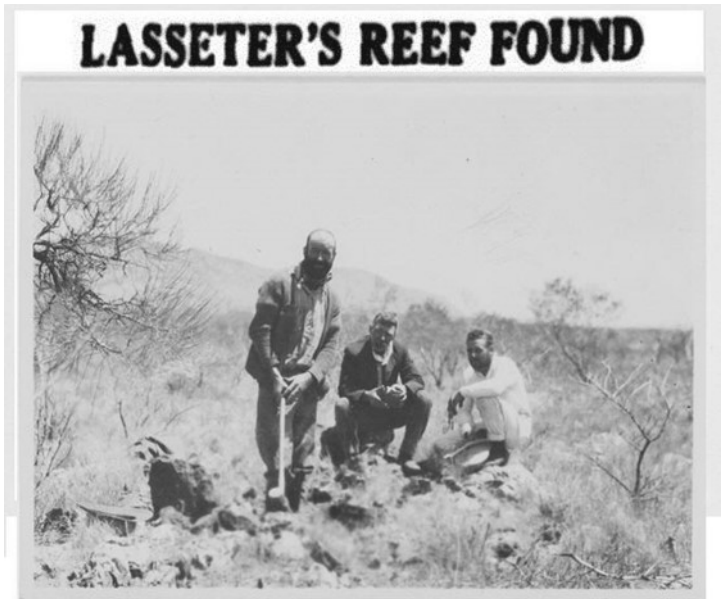
A second reason was that I grew up in Alice Springs. I was fortunate enough to be taken by my stepfather, the late Colonel Lionel Rose, on many trips working in various parts of the Northern Territory in his role of Northern Territory Chief Veterinary officer. In 1951, at about 60 miles south of Alice Springs, we called in to what you might call a rough shack on the top of a rise above a very dry patch of country. Inside, living on his own, was an unkempt-looking elderly man. He had a large moustache and other grey whiskers, and grey hair. His name was Bob Buck. Although seemingly on his own, I heard later he was a member of a family that owned or managed some large cattle stations, Henbury and Middleton Ponds, about 50 miles further out. I don't think Bob was employed at the time we called.

Bob Buck was a true bushman, well known for that reason. In those days, there were few people travelling around the bush compared with the huge number of tourists nowadays. I remember, earlier that year, 1951, my stepfather and I struggled to reach Ayer's Rock and Mt. Olga by car because there was hardly any track. I climbed the rock and there were very few names in a jar next to a cairn on the top indicating rarity of visits. Buck went further, deeper into the desert west, obviously by camel. And the year he went into the desert was much earlier, prewar in 1931. Much later, I now know he spent most of the remaining years of his life in Alice Springs, mostly in the Stewart Arms Hotel, 100 metres from where we lived.

The story of Lasseter, Harold Bell or Lewis Lasseter, was well known in Alice Springs. He was a prospector and declared that, in 1930, he had found a massive gold deposit several hundred miles west of Ayer's Rock in the Petermann Ranges. In 1931, he returned to the site. His late return was noted so a group was sent to find him, headed by Bob. My stepfather knew about Bob's connection with Lasseter so he asked him what he knew. I remember distinctly the reply. "Why I buried the bastard!" Bob had apparently succeeded. Lasseter's body was later transferred to the Alice Springs cemetery.

Clearly, there has been and will continue to be great interest in Lasseter. Apart from the book Marg Cooper describes, Amazon lists a half-dozen books written about him. Doubts have been expressed about how honest was Lasseter. He may have simply been trying to raise cash for more expeditions.

An intriguing article appeared in the *Australian Geographic* of a claim of a recent rediscovery of Lasseter's gold reef. An "Australian explorer Bill Decarli believes he's found Lasseter's reef to the east of Alice Springs near the Northern Territory–Queensland border". If this was the case, I can't remember Bob saying anything other than the reef was at the accepted western side of the Northern Territory, 500 miles away. Bill identified a reef similar to what Lasseter described. He doesn't appear to have found much gold to date after ten visits.



Frank Green, standing. Bob Buck, centre. Brandon-Cremer, right. at Lasseter's Reef, 12/10/1931

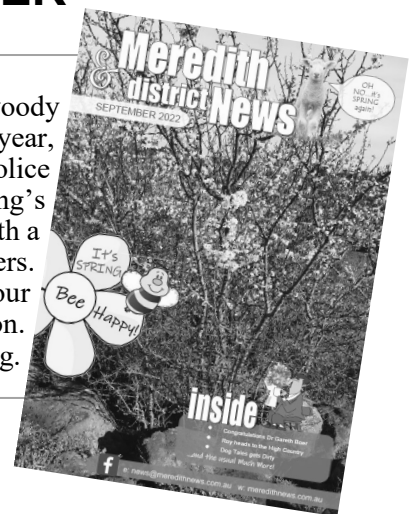
This photograph and one other taken by Talbot, (using Brandon-Cremer's camera) and Talbot's notes are the only authentic records of a quartz reef that purports to be Lasseter's Reef.

Title, 1930 CAGE expedition led by Lasseter, Central Australian Gold Exploration. Call No, PXA 633. Album ID, 823820. D/O No. a1809203.



OUR COVER

After looking like a woody skeleton for most of the year, this "feral plum" in the Police Paddocks joins in Spring's celebration of new life with a cover of pretty white flowers. Jim Elvey's photo marks our first issue for the season. Enjoy your spring.



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Dog tales



Name: Dolly

Breed: Jack Russell x Mini Foxy

Special feature: I am tiny and cute, people mistake me for a puppy. I love greeting everyone, jumping in their cars and on their laps. I give great cuddles.

Place of origin: my parents are Gismo and Lucky. I was born in Winchelsea

Pet hates: travelling to Geelong in the car as I sometimes vomit

Favourite toys: toy unicorn, any soft toys, rocks, leaves and sticks

Naughtiest deeds: scratching when wanting attention, not listening, and running off down the creek hunting for rabbits

Favourite pastimes: sleeping in bed under the doona, following my owner around everywhere because she is my best friend. Playing with my brother Timothy and the cat May.

Obsessions: Rabbits and toys

Owner: Judith



Have a chat with your dog and tell us what you find out. And a favourite pic of course. Shaggy or not, everybody loves a dog story.

Early days of football in Meredith

Roy Hay

There is a brief mention of the children from the New Chum and Steiglitz schools playing football in January 1867 as part of the New Year celebrations, but it is 1880 before regular match reports of football involving a team from Meredith begin to appear. Games were often reported by a newspaper correspondent, but at other times the *Geelong Advertiser* relied on someone who attended a match for its copy, so local bias could affect what the readers learned about a game. One match between Meredith and Elaine was obviously a tough encounter, according to the writer, with Elaine being responsible for most of the rough play. Local rivalry between the two townships added spice to many encounters.

It was an *Advertiser* correspondent who reported on everyone turning out for the celebration of Queen Victoria's birthday in May 1883. A suburban Melbourne football club failed to appear for a game, so a scratch match was organised among those who were present and this was followed by a concert in the Shire Hall, with the object of raising funds to erect a fence around the oval.

By 1893 there was a local league with five clubs—Elaine, Lethbridge, Meredith, Steiglitz and Leigh Road. Elaine won that year, with Meredith in third place. Quite often full team lists were reported and the club might be represented by several members of one family. Against Teesdale in July 1892 Meredith had three Bradys, and two each of Armstrongs, Morans and McPhersons. Teesdale capped this with four Wilsons and four Munros.

Most local match reports were quite brief, sometimes only the result would be given, but there are others where quite a long column appeared, with some interesting detail about the play and the players. Usually, the umpire's performance would be mentioned, often with what became a formula as 'giving every satisfaction', though there is sometimes criticism that he was lacking or inconsistent in control.

In addition to league matches, games against visiting teams from Geelong and further afield took place, and the *Advertiser* recorded little bits of interesting detail. When Chilwell from Geelong came to Meredith in August 1884, it was noted that 'The match was played on the cricket ground, and as a part of it had recently been ploughed, and sown with grasses, though heavy for running on, it was splendid for falling'.

Just to give some contemporary flavour, here is a match report from 1907:

MEREDITH v. LETHBRIDGE.

A match between the above clubs was played on Saturday to decide the premiership of the district, and resulted in a good game, perhaps the best seen at Meredith for some years. The contest was arranged and carried out in a better spirit than usual in country matches. The umpire sent by the Geelong Junior Association (W. Aspinall) took charge of the

game in a manner that soon settled anything like rough play. As the players saw the umpire had the strength of the game, they started to play football, and played it well. The result of the game was in favour of Meredith, and, although by the points it seemed an easy victory, the game was very good, luck coming more often to the Meredith men than to their opponents. The final scores were Meredith, 10 goals 16 behinds (76 points): Lethbridge, 4 goals 2 behinds (26 points.) The goals for Meredith were kicked by G. Colclough (6), Jas. Brady (2), S.F. Grant and R. Dickinson. All the Meredith men were on their best behaviour, and played well, the best perhaps being Graham, Colclough, Jim Brady, T. Brady, J. Sharp, S. F. Grant, Joe Brady, Les. Colclough and R. Dickinson. The pick of the Lethbridge players were McGillivray (2), M. Goggin, McAdam, Laird, Jim Saunders, Watson and Scanlon. The visitors were welcomed and entertained by the Meredith team at tea, after the match, at Mrs. Davison's Railway Hotel, and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. During the season just closed Meredith lost two matches, and the Lethbridge Club three matches.

Geelong Advertiser, 24 September 1907, p. 4.

There was a hiatus during the First World War, but the club was revived in April 1922. J. Mooney was elected president with Messrs. N. and J. Mathieson, R. Grant, E. Marchmont, and H. Bell vice-presidents, and Mr. C. Mooney, secretary. Football clubs were often the glue that held local communities together during tough times. At the start of the winter season, metropolitan newspapers like the *Weekly Times* or the *Sporting Globe* would report enthusiastic feelings as the clubs geared up for the game:

Players and supporters of the six clubs in the Matheson Cup (Meredith) Football Association, are looking forward to a good season. There is little doubt that record crowds will witness the opening matches today (Saturday). The main attraction is between Bannockburn (last year's premiers) and Lethbridge, on the Lethbridge ground. Lethbridge have erected new dressing rooms and a memorial pavilion on the oval. They also have fenced the oval. Meredith open their engagement at Lal Lal and are hoping that their new recruits will prove worthy substitutes for their former stars.

Weekly Times, 8 May 1926.

According to the Australian Football website, the club was disbanded in 1981, though now a group of senior footballers have resuscitated the code playing as the Crocs! They seem to have recaptured the spirit of the early game. Their match reports in the *Meredith News* are always interesting reading and they are attracting crowds to their games once again.



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Marg's BOOK REVIEW

Foal's Bread by Gillian Mears.

The author grew up in rural New South Wales and remembers floods in the rivers. She says that she was practically schooled in the saddle and it is obvious in the book, that she has an aching affinity for the country landscape that the book describes. *For all the doom and darkness it explores, the book is a thrilling celebration of all the things beloved to me on earth. These include horses, salt of the earth farmers, floods, rivers and the old showgrounds of northern NSW.*

Mear's subject is the golden era of show jumping. Aussie rules show jumping between the wars was a tough, backwoods sport, in which riders and horses risked their necks clearing obstacles up to eight feet high.

Set in hardscrabble farming country Foals' Bread tells the story of two generations of the Nancarrow family and their fortunes as dictated by the vicissitudes of the land. Roley Nancarrow is the 1926 high jump record holder for NSW. He seems to have developed his extraordinary, cat-like equilibrium after being struck by lightning as a child. Later in his life while riding out in a storm he is again hit by lightning though this time it seems to have the opposite effect. The book follows the struggles of Roley and his wife Noah, their children and in-laws. Although Noah prides herself on her ability to detect animal defects, she is powerless to explain the progressive paralysis afflicting her husband.

The sound of horses' hooves turns hollow on the farms west of Wirri. If a man can still ride, if he hasn't totally lost the use of his legs, if he hasn't died to the part of his heart that understands such things, then he should go for a gallop. At the very least he should stand at the road by the river imagining that he's pushing a horse up the steep hill, that leads to the house on the farm once known as One Tree.

Noah is a strong character and an amazing horse woman, but she is haunted by the memory of casting her illegitimate child, born before she met Roley, adrift in a flooded river in a butter box. The family tensions, running a farm, seeing the demise of show jumping and country myths and superstitions result in her finding solace in the bottle.

Foal's Bread is a bleak, raw story of loss, hardship and love. It is a bitter, sweet love story. Even the Foal's Bread Roley gives to Noah as a good luck charm seems not to work. [Foal's Bread is the lump of tissue found in the mouth of some new-born horses and believed to deliver good fortune.]

Gillian Mears certainly writes about what she understands. Her riding career was curtailed by the onset of multiple sclerosis at the age of 31.

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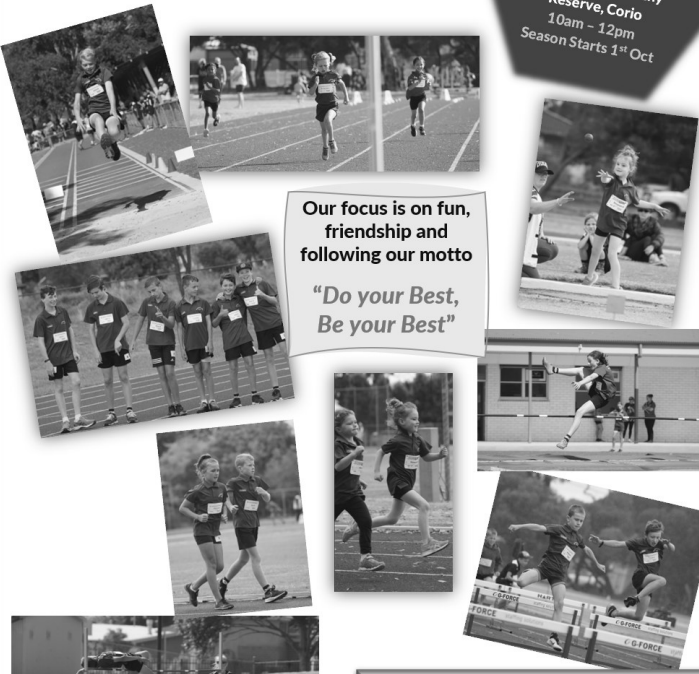
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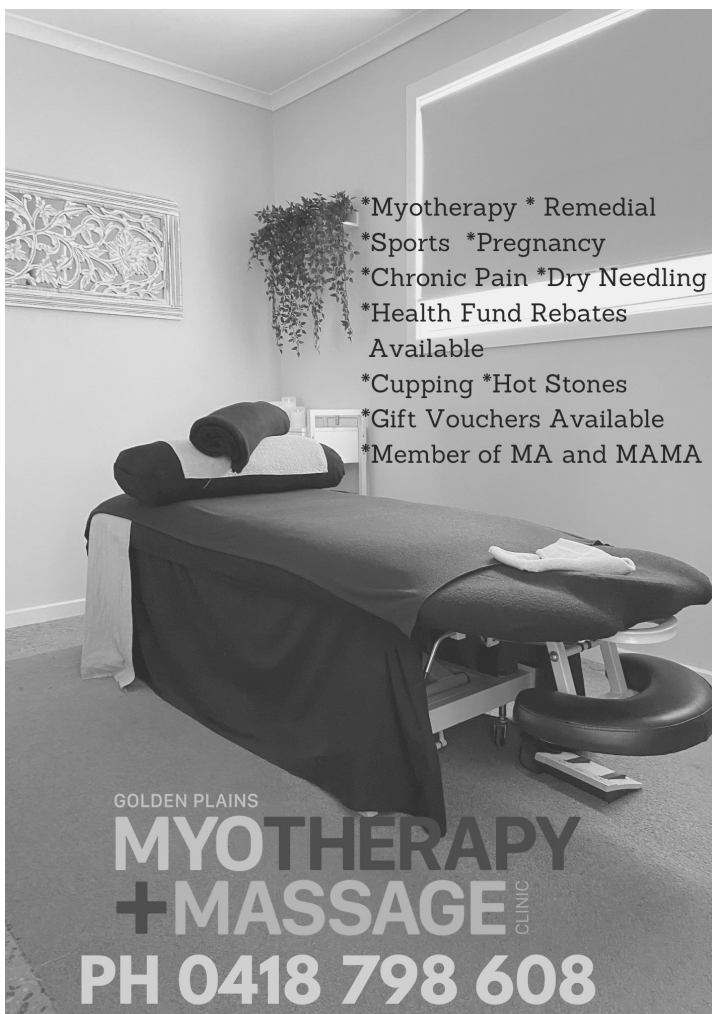
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Meredith Memorial Hall

Heather Kent

You will all know the Meredith Memorial Hall located on Staughton Street near the Railway Line. It originated in 1906 as a Mechanics Institute built on land donated to the people of Meredith by the Railways. It was extended and modernised by Public Appeal over the years 1947 to the completion in 1958 when it was renamed The Meredith and District Soldiers Memorial Hall, a Grand Ball was held and the then Premier of Victoria, Henry Bolte re-opened the Hall.

Over the years it has held many Balls, Dinner Dances, Fund raising events, weddings, funerals, parties and gatherings of the people of Meredith, as well as the Meetings, school events, elderly citizens groups and Anzac memorials.

Unlike most Public Halls and facilities the Meredith Memorial Hall is not owned by, nor is it a legal responsibility of the Shire Council. It is one of very few Town Halls to be owned and managed by the local people. There are three Trustees who stand in for the people of Meredith and District and who appoint a Committee of Management.

The Committee of Management is responsible for the maintenance and raising the funds to keep the Hall operating. As the original building is now well over 100 and the extensions close to sixty years old, this is a constant requirement.

Fund raising in todays world with Covid etc. is not an easy exercise, but luckily the Hall is one of the Tuckertent Committee members.

For those who are new to Meredith, the Tuckertent is a grouping of seven community organisations: the school, kindergarten, cricket club, football, tennis club, golf club and the Hall who share the work, the fun and the funds raised by providing the barbecue food at the Meredith and Golden Plains Musical Festivals each year, (barring Covid) and will again this coming Festival. Members of each organisation plan and maintain the Tuckertent, a specially built facility at the festival site, and provide food with the aid of our army of volunteers, almost continually to the festival goers during these events.

The fund raising from the Festival has provided the community organisations with much needed money to keep them going without the constant need to continually ask for money directly from the residents of our district. The Hall has particularly benefitted from the Festival funds as we cannot maintain the Hall just from the Hire charges, which we need to keep to a level that the community can afford.

The Committee of Management of the Meredith Memorial Hall meet four times a year, we are a friendly but aging group and are looking for local people, who would be interested in joining our committee and to take an interest in helping to our Hall functioning, for the benefit of our Community. After all it is owned by the people of Meredith and District . That is YOU and all of us.

Hope to see you at our next meeting of the Hall Committee on 26th Sept. 2022 at 7.00 pm at the Hall.

We're looking for volunteer

REPORTERS

If you live in our readership area, know what's happening in your community and like writing, then you may like to join our team as a volunteer reporter. We publish every month except January and you decide how much time you put in. (There is no requirement to make a contribution every month.) And we will provide you with some guidelines to get you started. Drop a line to news@meredithnews.com.au for some more info, or to get your questions answered.



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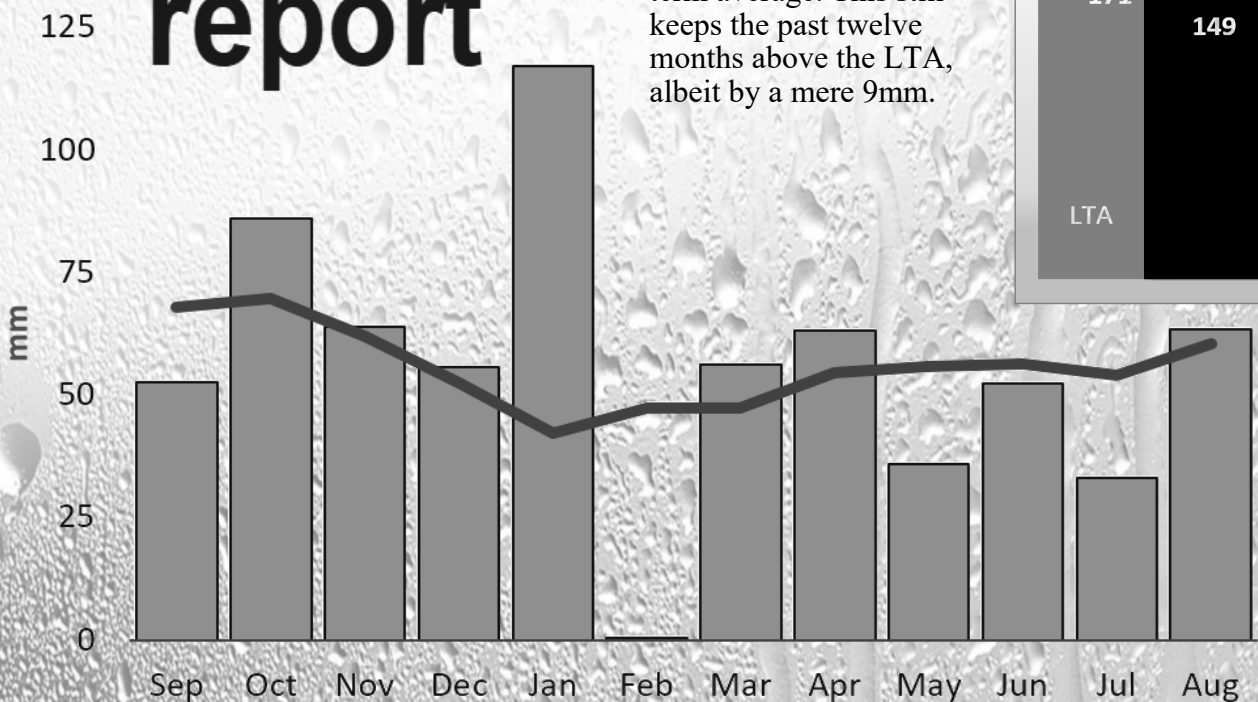


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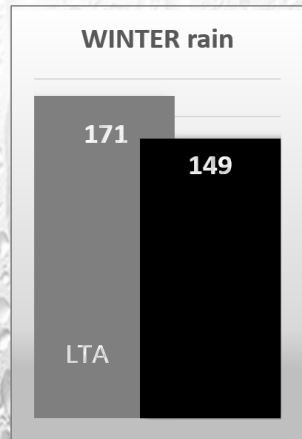
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the rain report



Winter registered 149mm (to 28th August) which is 87% of the long term average. This still keeps the past twelve months above the LTA, albeit by a mere 9mm.



I bought the ruins of a Manse.

Doreen as told to Marg Cooper

In 1972 my brother Leslie Richard Lowne (called 'Boy' or 'Weeties') and I bought two blocks of land from Elsie Caroline Wells. One block or Allotment 12A on the corner of McLeod and Grant Streets was 5 acres 22 perches and the other block or Allotment 13A was next door in Grant Street of 6 acres 2 roods and 32 perches. On the east side of Allotment 12A was an unused road, half a chain wide, of 0.45 acres which we rented. We also leased the water frontage north of Allotments 18A and 19, Section A. In 1985 this cost us \$30 annually.

We were tenants in common in equal shares but in 1975 I proposed to my brother that we subdivide so I could run stock myself but he didn't agree. When my brother died I inherited his share. Our sister Myrtle is currently running her rams on the blocks.

Written by Doreen Thompson (Lowne)

The Free Presbyterians built a wooden church in Meredith in 1860. This was sold for removal to Mr O'Bryan who relocated it to the south/east corner of Wallace and Staughton Streets and used it as a hay and corn store. In September 1869 the new bluestone church opened in what is now Creamery Road. In May 1863 the Free Presbyterians bought Allotments 12A & 13A and buildings for £130 from Mr Patrick O'Keefe as premises for the Free Presbyterian Minister.

It is reported that the first Minister, Mr MacPherson was then a bachelor, and lived with James William Reid and his family at his property *Woodbourne*.

A manse was erected at Morrison about 1860 on land donated by Hugh Morrison, but after lots of dissension and legal proceedings between the Presbyterians and Free Presbyterians, the Presbyterians gave the Free Presbyterians £200 which was used to renovate the buildings on the land bought from Patrick O'Keefe. *The Free Presbyterians thought that the Presbyterians openly encouraged apostasy and treachery.*

The manse was occupied about October 1864 by Mr MacPherson, the first resident Christian Minister in Meredith.

The Glebe at Meredith was sold to A.E. Wells in 1937 for £16 per acre. The land fronts the Coolebarghrk Creek on the south side. Two rows of trees, remains of stone walls and some flowering bulbs are the only evidence of occupation on the land that remain today.

A Trip to Goulburn

Marg Cooper

Annette Moodie's father bought a navy blue A Model Ford, Sports Coupe with a grey canvas top in 1935. It was his first car but he was its second owner. The car features a dickie seat which is comfortable to sit in but hasn't got a roof, a wind screen that opens to let air in and side windows that wind down. Her father was on the relieving staff of the Union Bank and travelled around a lot so a friend of his arranged the purchase for him. When he went to WW11 the car was deregistered and put on blocks in a farmer's shed in Marnoo. The car was originally registered VIC 36-744.

When he came home on leave in 1943 he re-registered the car in his future wife's name, Annette's mother. The car was re-registered on 22 September 1943 as VIC EH-222. The car is still fully registered and still has the same number plate.

Annette was always interested in cars starting with a Cyclops pedal car. She supposes that she was mechanically inclined and maybe she would have worked in that field if she had been born at a later time, when women did become mechanics. Her first independent transport was a motorbike.

Annette is a member of the *Model A Ford Club of Victoria* and the *Model A Ford Club of America*. There are 193 members of the Victorian club and many members have more than one Model A Ford. Every two years there is a National meeting of enthusiasts and their cars. In 2020 the rally was to be in Ballarat but was cancelled due to COVID. This year it is in Goulburn in NSW where 163 cars are entered. The 100th Anniversary of the Model A Ford will be celebrated in Geelong in 2028 with a National Rally. There are a number of cars travelling from Ballarat to Goulburn, Annette is travelling with three other cars from Ballarat and they plan to meet up with two cars from Melbourne to complete the journey to Goulburn for the September Rally. The trip will take three days with a top speed of 70 kph.

The rally is held over a week with many activities including bus trips to tourist attractions for the attendees, a welcome and farewell dinner and a compulsory run. Annette doesn't foresee any problems but is aware that an A Model Ford is not easy to drive. They have no power steering, the clutch is heavy, they have mechanical brakes and the accelerator is in the middle of the brake and clutch pedals but she is looking forward to the challenge. She does not dress up in period costume as some people do, but she does wear a dust coat at times to keep her clothes clean.

Annette is a member of MHIG with her relations, the McLeod family, having lived at Meredith in early days and she is bringing her Model A Ford to *Meredith of Yesterday* on Sunday, September 25.

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it'S HISTORY

Meredith History Interest Group

Meredith of Yesterday or Butcher, Baker & Undertaker:

You are invited to come to along and explore the past trades and businesses of Meredith Township on Sunday, September 25 at the Meredith Hall from 10 am - 4 pm.

Where was the Undertaker?

Who was the Bootmaker and what happened to his son? Where would you hire a horse and buggy, buy some sweets or purchase a teapot?

The day will include static and interactive displays, talks, a self-guided walk along Staughton Street to discover where businesses were and activities for children.

Lots of interesting items are being collected for the day. For example, for the Bootmaker we have lasts, hob nailed boots, old shoes with metal pieces nailed on the toe and heel, a glue bottle that was used to glue new soles on shoes and much more. Look forward to lots of discussion, research, memories and excitement!

94.7 The Pulse:

On Tuesday afternoons from 2 pm Bernard Ryan hosts *The Blurb* on Geelong Community Radio. He focuses on books and writing; interviewing authors, reviewing books and chatting about related subjects.

On August 2, Marg Cooper was his guest talking about Meredith History Interest Group and recent productions which included *The Pubs and Publicans of Meredith* written by Kerrie Kruger, *Foundation Stones, Plaques, Sculptures & Signs of Meredith & District* compiled by Marg Cooper, the flyer for the self-guided trip to see *The Seven Wonders of Meredith & District* and the book compiled about the early history of property now known as *Graysons*. Bernard is always interested in what is happening in Meredith because as he said, "When I was a kid, nearly every weekend we visited Meredith to see my grandparents or the Nolan family". He is an avid reader and a keen reviewer of all sorts of books. One he recommended on August 2 was a recent National Geographic that featured art works through history that had been inspired by Jesus.

Potaskie / McDonald Family:

Recently a very interesting family history compiled by Marie Purcell was brought to the History Centre. It involved John Potaskie who was a Russian speaking Pole who was sentenced to 7 years transportation for larceny of goods and chattels, in England in 1802. It is claimed that he was the first and maybe the only Polish convict. He was first sent to what is now Sorrento on Port Phillip Bay to found a settlement with Lieutenant Collins, to forestall occupation by the French. Part of the compliment aboard the ship *Calcutta* were 308 convicts, 17 wives and 18 children.

Collins was unhappy with the site in what was southern New South Wales at that time and so the convicts were transported to Tasmania in 1804.

Potaskie's daughter Catherine married Edward McDonald who was also a convict who had arrived in Tasmania in 1819. Their son Joseph McDonald and his wife settled in Meredith in 1881-82 and their children married into many early families including Milledges, Bradys, Le Maitres, Stows and Dunlops. Their son W.W. McDonald was a bootmaker in Meredith.



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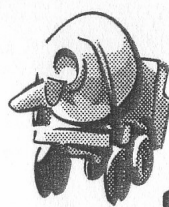
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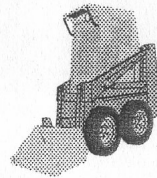


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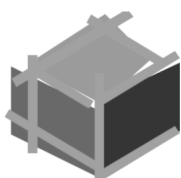


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Coolebarghurk Creek

Man Changes the Landscape:

Marg Cooper

As we know, when rain falls the water flows naturally over the land, into depressions to make puddles and then when they overflow the water runs on, down along gutters or drains into creeks and then into rivers.

But when man started building tracks and roads, buildings and other infrastructure the natural flow of rain water was interrupted so new flows were created. And thus, to protect what they had built, men constructed and manipulated the flows.

Because a lot of water that flows into Coolebarghurk Creek comes from south of the Midland Highway between Elaine and Meredith, there are now three large culverts that allow water to flow under the highway. The first one is about 100 metres east of Le Maitres Road, the second one is just west of Doyles Road and the third is just west of Boundary Road. They are all made of concrete and seem to be bigger, the closer they get to Meredith.

Locals describe how some water from the Elaine/Mt Mercer Road flows to a culvert near the Elaine fire station, down a gutter on the south side of the railway line, through a culvert under the railway line and then under the highway through the culvert that is east of Le Maitres Road.

Of interest also is that water from in front of the shops at Elaine flows in gutters and eventually into the Coolebarghurk Creek, but water from behind the shops flows into what I have heard called Boozey Creek and eventually flows into Tea Tree Creek or Stoney Creek.

One wonders what early attempts were made to allow traffic to travel all year round on what is now the Midland Highway. More research may reveal that there were some stone crossings, planks across the road or bridges. Certainly, in Meredith near to the Golden Fleece Inn, there was a crossing of stone, either natural or man made, we do not know, where the horses, bullock drays and foot traffic to Buninyong and beyond, crossed the creek.

Most water-flows in the town of Meredith are in drains on the side of streets/roads but there is an interesting flow of water through Allotments 1H and 1G on the corner of Ballan and Slate Quarry Roads. Water from both those roads comes to a junction on Slate Quarry Road and then flows diagonally across the blocks to the creek. The easement bisects the land and runs just behind the house. The sheds are on the other side of what former owners have made into a water feature. They have lined some of it with large rocks and planted garden along the edges.

Tracking where water flows in the big picture is difficult. Some old timers had keen observation. Herb Parkinson knew that water falling west of a clump of pine trees on Boundary Road would flow to Woodburn Creek and water falling on the east of those trees would flow to the Coolebarghurk Creek.



IS YOUR COMMUNITY GROUP PLANNING ON APPLYING FOR A COMMUNITY GRANT?

Council is supporting community groups through the application process, with five Community Grant drop-in sessions to be held across the Shire in September to provide the opportunity for local groups to discuss their project ideas and learn more about the application process.

The details of the Community Grant drop-in sessions are:

- Meredith Community Centre, 4 Russell Street: 3 to 5pm, Monday 5 September
- Rokewood Mobile Library, Ferrars Street: 11am to 1pm, Thursday 8 September
- Bannockburn Library, 25-27 High Street: 3 to 5pm, Tuesday 13 September
- The Well, 19 Heales Street, Smythesdale: 10am to 12pm, Friday 16 September
- Online: 6.30 to 7.30pm, Thursday 22 September

Applications for Council's **Community Strengthening Grants** (Round Two) and the inaugural **Berrybank Windfarm Community Grants** programs will be open from 9am, Thursday 1 September until 2pm, Friday 30 September.

Community groups planning to apply for either grant program are invited to attend the Community Grant drop-in sessions.

For more information about the Community Strengthening Grants program, Berrybank Wind Farm Community Grants Program or drop-in sessions, visit goldenplains.vic.gov.au or contact Council's Council Planning and Grants Officer at 5220 7111 or communitygrants@gplains.vic.gov.au.



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G'Day from the penners for the first month of Spring. Before we know it, we will be turning the clocks forward an hour and whinging about how hot it is. But in the meantime we are still rugged up in our winter woollies and trying to catch any rays of sunshine that peep through the clouds. Early spring is a lovely time of the year, I call it the time of yellow, wattle is in bloom and the daffodils have burst forth from the ground making everyone feel happy and sunny.

If you feel a desire to write please come and join us when we meet every fortnight on a Thursday afternoon at 1:30pm at the Bannockburn library. We can be contacted via our email address goldenpens4@gmail.com

This month's story is from Wendy Spall who seems to have had trouble finding a subject for this month's writing, we hope you enjoy her story.

It was my turn to submit a piece for the local newsletter, but after scrolling through many already written pieces I was just not happy with any of them. They were all too long or the subject not suitable, or just not good enough, according to my opinion. So, what to do? Well, just write a piece! How easy is that I thought. So, I sat down at my computer and thought about what I could write. I scratched my head and delved deep to find a suitable subject, but nothing came. Writing is always subject to your moods and if you don't feel like it then no amount of head scratching or deep thinking can make you think of words that are fit to be shared. After many minutes of staring out the window at the sunny day, watching the wind rustling the canopy of the great gum trees that adorn my backyard, my mind was still empty. With the radio on in the background I could still hear the many and varied birds that flit around my plants, chasing insects or savouring the sweet nectar that is being produced at the moment. One of my favourite bird's songs has returned with the promise of spring and I will often stop whatever I am doing just to listen to the melodious warble of the Grey Shrike-Thrush. I often see him or her dancing along the front veranda, looking for his dinner, or prancing around the herb garden outside my bathroom window looking around sharply. The marvellous thing about this bird is if you whistle his tune at him, he will return the same and I must admit to have had running conversations with one of these birds for minutes at a time, even though my whistling leaves much to be desired, if only I knew what we were saying.

But staring out the window and listening to the birds is not helping me with my task and I must be serious. I must produce a worthy story as so many people are relying on my words to entertain them. After a break for lunch and a cup of tea I make it back to the keyboard with a renewed desire to make the letters sing, but another glance out the window reveals a day that has turned 180 degrees and it is now no longer sunny but raining, and my mood has also turned from optimistic to drab and deary like the weather. Oh inspiration, where have you gone? As the rain continues to tumble down, I feel bereft, the curse of writer's block is a constant and sometimes unavoidable hazard for those who choose to write and share thoughts and musings, and must be borne with patience and understanding, no matter how frustrating. But I struggle on, surely, I can find something to write about. As my wood fire burns brightly and the room begins to warm, my thoughts become distracted and I start to think about what I should have for tea when I hear the Beatles song "Paperback Writer" coming over the airwaves, I think how ironic is that? But all I want to do is write a short piece, not a paperback novel!

I feel I must give up; my thoughts have deserted me and no amount of head banging and scratching seems to make any difference, maybe it's just not going to happen today, maybe tomorrow I'll be filled with inspiration, maybe tomorrow I will have a brain wave and the words will flow, maybe tomorrow...

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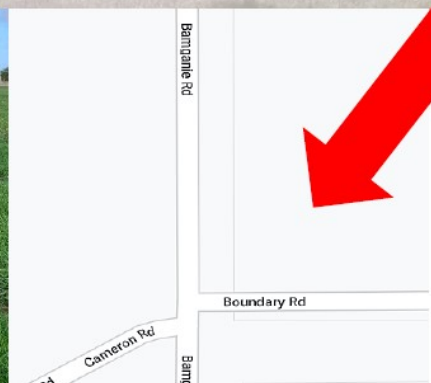
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Sheep Blade Shear Collector

Heather Henderson

I began the collecting of sheep blade shears some 15 years ago when I came across a box of items belonging to my late grandfather. A leather sheath holding a set of blade shears caught my eye and sparked my interest in blade shears, having been raised on a sheep property.

Never in my wildest dreams did I think I would now have a collection of over 700 blade shears from around the world! The majority of Australian blade shears were shipped out from Sheffield England to Australia. We had a lot of German made sheep blade shears here as well; and some from South Africa.

Over time I have also acquired old sheep & wool industry related items such as drench funnels, branding irons, woolshed fans & fly catchers and signs.

Displaying has taken me to various parts of Qld, NSW and SA attending heritage weekends such as the Jackie Howe Festival at Jondaryan Woolshed Qld, the Blades of Glencoe (Mt Gambier) SA, the Blackall Qld 150 Year Celebrations,



Wentworth Rally NSW, Millmerran Camp Oven Festival Qld, Tara Camel & Heritage Weekend Qld, Allora Heritage Weekend Qld and Oakey Old Machinery Rally Weekend Qld.

I am displaying some of my collection at the Meredith History Interest Group's *Meredith of Yesterday* on September 25. Come along and see what I have collected.

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