

Meredith & district News

SEPTEMBER 2022



OCTOBER 2022

OUR FREE COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



inside



- Daniel's 10 Premierships
 - Cleaning Country with a Cool Burn
 - ...and *new!* • How to get Cheaper Cat Fees
- ...and the usual Much More!



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

WOODBANK WHITE SUFFOLKS

Celebrating 21 Years of Breeding Studstock Est. 2001

AWSA Reg. No. 494 Brucc. & OJD Accredited

29th OCTOBER

We are very pleased to have reached this milestone and seen our constant improvements to the breed. Having incorporated Top Genetics from leading Studs in the industry through AI programs and Natural breeding. Our breeding focus has been to improve Carcass traits such as Intramuscular Fat, Eye Muscle depth incorporating Breed Phenotype with a straight backline, good length and strong pasterns. **Lambplan** is an Industry tool which helps us to adjust and improve carcass traits.

To celebrate, this year we are opening up **"ONE DAY PRIVATE SELECTION SALE/ SILENT AUCTION"**. **35 RAMS** Will be divided into four lots with reserve prices of \$1400, \$1200, \$1000 and \$800. Starting at 11am for viewing and submission of your requested Lots to start by 12.30pm. Rules of sale will be provided on the day. We welcome buyers and anyone who would just like to come and look at what we are doing here at "Woodbank".

For more details contact -

David Hutchinson 0439 310 202 or Leonie Guinane 0400 850 306
559 Meredith-Mt Mercer Rd. Meredith.

FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE on the day, Tea Coffee and Soft drink.

We would love to see you all there!



SIRES USED

Pictured Somerset "Locky" 190152
Purchased for \$7,800. First lot of his rams
on offer this year.

Waratah "Des" 150165

Detpa Grove "Chill" 170506.

Community Bank · Buninyong

Small town. Big Bank.

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As one of Australia's biggest banks, our heartland remains firmly local. As does our focus on you and the quality banking products you need.

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**BANK
LOCAL**

 **Bendigo Bank**

Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879 A1455027 OUT_2165041, 22/06/2021

MOORABOOL Wind Farm



COMMUNITY UPDATE - October 2022

APPLY NOW: Moorabool Wind Farm Community Fund Round Four

Moorabool Wind Farm is pleased to support projects and organisations that will provide lasting benefits to the local community neighbouring the wind farm through our Community Fund.

A portion of the Fund is dedicated to scholarships - applications are welcome from local community members undertaking studies from any age, for any level of education (e.g. primary, secondary, tertiary).

Fund guidelines and the application link can be found at the QR code or:

mooraboolwindfarm.com/community/community-fund



SCAN ME

COMMUNITY FUND & SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATIONS CLOSE 5:00PM, SUNDAY 9 OCTOBER

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 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.

Get in touch with the team for more details.



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

Meredith & district News



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

NEWS & VIEWS

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

DATES AND DEADLINES

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

ADVERTISING

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

	B&W/Colour
Business Card	\$20.00
Quarter page	\$30.00
Half page	\$50/\$110
Full page	\$100/\$200

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

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

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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

CONTACT US

Post Office, Meredith, 3333

Advertising: Ian 0409 016815

advertising@meredithnews.com.au

Accounts: Mike 0419 307044

accounts@meredithnews.com.au

Editorial: Jim: 0409 163169

news@meredithnews.com.au

WEB

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

ONLINE PHOTOS

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

DISCLAIMER

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

Issue Production: Peter Boer Editor: Pam Ridd



connect

ADVANCE MEREDITH
0409 027 359

ANGLING CLUB
0419 248 660

B'BURN ART GROUP
0410 808 483

BLUE LIGHT DISCO
5286 1222

BOOK CLUB
5286 8201

CFA
000 for fire calls

Elaine
0409 861 296

Meredith
5286 1502

Morrison's
0417 770 765

RSL - 5286 1452

CHILD CARE
5286 0700

SENIOR CITIZENS
5286 8232

COMMUNITY CENTRE
5286 0700

TENNIS
Elaine
0448 291 074

CRICKET
Elaine
0448 291074

Junior
(U16,U14,13)
0448 291074

Meredith
5286 1434

SEW 'N' SEWS
5286 0700

CUBS & SCOUTS
Lethbridge
0435 042077

FRIENDS OF THE BRISBANE RANGES
5286 1252

ELAINE HALL
elainetownhall@gmail.com

FOOTBALL
Seniors 0408 545246
Juniors 0430 587 674

GOLF CLUB
0407 795 342

HISTORY GROUP
5286 8201

LANDCARE
0409 862 326

MEMORIAL HALL
0409 662106

MOTORCYCLE CLUB
0437 009 250

PLAYGROUP
5286 0700

POLICE PADDOCKS
0409 163169

RSL - 5286 1452

SENIOR CITIZENS
5286 8232

TENNIS
Elaine
0448 291 074

Lethbridge
52 817 321

Meredith
0424754179

SEW 'N' SEWS
5286 0700

FRIENDS OF THE BRISBANE RANGES
5286 1252

emergency

Police, Ambulance, Fire	000
(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 emergency 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	PRE-SCHOOL 5286 0722
Elaine Mechanics elainetownhall@gmail.com	PRIMARY SCHOOL 5286 1313
Elaine Rec Res 5341 5703	RECREATION RESERVE 0429 315 575
LIBRARY VAN 5272 6010	

..or start something.

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



Horse racing is animated roulette.

Roger Kahn



COMMUNITY

Meredith Tennis Club

Bridget Dyer

Unfortunately our family day was a complete wash out with all the rain that we had. We expect to reschedule to next year when the weather is a bit more predictable and hopefully much, much nicer.

We are so please to announce that we have six(!) teams competing in the Buninyong District Tennis Association this year. This means that there will be junior tennis on every Saturday in Meredith along with a sausage sizzle. The season will begin on the 8th of October at 9am.

In addition to our six teams, we are also running a beginners competition that is aimed at 6-7 year olds. This orange ball competition will, as the name suggests, use orange balls, which are 50% of the compression of a normal tennis ball. This slows the ball down so that people with little legs have time to get to it and hit it back over the net. Children playing will be mentored and taught the rules of tennis, whilst having fun and playing in competition against other children with similar abilities. We have a few spots left, so if you do have a little person who would be interested, please contact us via email at meredithtennis2020@gmail.com or via our Facebook page.

We also have a senior team playing again this season and have high hopes for these super stars. Wish them luck as they compete on a Saturday afternoon all over the district.

Thursday social night will start on 6th of October. To play on social night an entry fee of \$5 per adult and \$3 per child will be charged. This covers the cost of the lights and bbq that is provided. Children under 3 play and eat free.

Tennis coaching will also start on the 6th, with a twist. We are pleased to announce that the older children in our later sessions will be sharpening their skills and knowledge of the rules with a mini competition: 'The Sanderson Cup'. Two prizes have been very kindly donated by the Sanderson Family. Nike drink bottles, tennis balls and Nike hats are the grand prizes for the two individuals who win the most games! Full details will be on our Facebook page. Please follow us to keep up to date with all of our news.



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.



**The Meredith
Newsletter
Giant Pumpkin
Challenge**

Would you like to enter the **GIANT PUMPKIN CHALLENGE**? Here's how...

- Take a **FREE** packet of seeds from the Community Pantry behind the shed.
- Plant in October or November (Tips on the back of the packet.)
- Judging next April

Seeds kindly donated by Mr Fothergills.
(Thank You Mr Fothergill!)

GOOD LUCK!

Meredith Seniors

Jim Hynds

The Seniors met at the Meredith Hall for a luncheon on September 26. We were lucky to be invited to see the display mounted by Meredith History Interest Group that they called Meredith of Yesterday.

The display boards highlighted businesses that had been in Meredith including Butchers, Bakers, Undertakers, Livery Stables, Blacksmiths, Saddlers, Nightmen and the Creamery. In front of each board was an array of objects representing that trade including a butter churn, butter pats and a wooden stamp to put your brand on the block of butter, in front of the Creamery board. Unfortunately, the A Model Ford and several displays brought to the hall by collectors had been packed up but there was plenty for us to see and reminisce about.

Well done to the historical group for putting the display together and thanks to them for allowing us a special viewing on our meeting day.

After the viewing we sat down for lunch from a huge array of sandwiches and a huge array of cakes supplied

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

Parish Priest Father Joseph mob. 0404 598 558
 Office Phone: 5286 1230
 Office open Wednesday & Friday 9.30am to 4.30 pm

Mass times

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

Other Sacraments:

Reconciliation, Anointing, Baptisms, Matrimony, Funerals call: 5286 1230 for details.
 Sacramental program (Reconciliation, Confirmation) will be operating. Call the office for details.

If we are missing a church offering services in our district, please contact us at news@meredithnews.com.au

OUR COVER



Sometimes our little trickle creek looks like a river. Like last month, when Ralph Holtz took our cover photo of the Coolebarghurk from the Ibis Walk.

Thanks Ralph



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



We've met *Feral Cheryl* before. In fact, because she pops out every September when the Cats make it to the finals. You have probably seen quite a bit of her over the years, out the front of Debbie and Ralph Holtz's home on the highway.

This year she's especially excited (although she doesn't look it) having lifted the silver.



Kerry Thomson

Another glorious day greeted the Meredith sketchers as we returned to Steiglitz on Tuesday 13 September. Our group was joined for the first time by Robert, Robert and Suzanne and Sherrin (who, previously, had done very little drawing though is creative in other ways!) making 14 of us on the day.

Again we used a variety of mediums, paper sizes and perspectives/compositions to produce interesting observations from numerous vantage points around Steiglitz. Robert had additional assistance from a random, roaming local chook which managed to leave her prints on his work when he put it on the ground to get something else! Louise came well prepared with a pencil outline drawn from a photo that she'd taken the previous outing and, using a palette knife and paint, added wonderful colour and texture. The rest of us stuck predominantly to black and white (ink, pencil, charcoal) except Mandy who added a dash of blue to the bold charcoal of the valley including Suggs Cottage.

We had a wonderful morning followed by a cuppa, chat and discussion of the work produced.

Our next get together will, once again, be at Steiglitz from 10 am until noon on Tuesday 11 October. Come and join us - bring drawing materials, chair and thermos.

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 October 14 - 10am - 2pm

\$20 per session - bookings essential!

Coming Soon - Starting in TERM 4

Singing Lessons for Groups and Individuals

Adult Art Classes

Watercolour Classes

get online week **JOIN US FOR LUNCH**
WEDNESDAY OCTOBER 19
11.00 - 1.30
17-23 Oct 2022

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL - 5286 0700 / 0491 184 999

BRING IN YOUR DEVICE AND ASK QUESTIONS, GET SOME HELP WITH GOOGLING, SHOPPING OR FACEBOOKING.. LEARN HOW TO SPOT A SCAM AND LOTS MORE FUN!

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

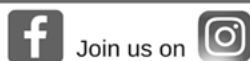
Wednesdays - 10:00 - 11:00 am

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



Close Encounters with the Queen

Jan McDonald, Meredith History Interest Group

After 70 years reign, the death of Queen Elizabeth signals the end of an era. She may have appeared as a remote monarch in a very distant land, but not many realize that there was local interaction as well.....

Queen Elizabeth II visited Australia 16 times, some of these visits to the Geelong and Ballarat area.

In 1954 the Queen and her entourage had lunch near Lethbridge. She was on a train travelling between Geelong and Ballarat, and it was organized for the train to stop a mile or so south of Lethbridge so that all could dine without the rock and roll of the train on the tracks. It is said that this spot was chosen as there were no roads nearby and security could be better maintained for the stationary train.

In 1988 a class of Lethbridge Primary School children, with their teacher, John Tantau, were bussed into Moorabool street, Geelong, to entertain the Queen with their bush dancing. Checked shirts, pinafores, jeans and boots were the call of the day. This memory must have been latent in the mind of at least one student – thirty years later he was watching “Dancing with the Stars” with his wife when he suddenly announced to her that he had danced for the Queen. Of course, she didn’t believe him. Upon reflection he wasn’t sure where that memory had come from either. To solve the problem he had to ring his mum and ask her – “Yes, son, you did dance for the Queen.”

Around the time that our dancers were dancing, local dog, Spud, came to the fore by demonstrating his prowess at rounding up sheep in Moorabool street. Upon the Queen noticing the watch attached to his paw she asked what that was all about. Spud’s human, at that time from Maude, explained that it was so he could go around the sheep clockwise. The queen picked up that it was a digital watch – and she laughed and laughed. A memorable photo was taken by young Geelong photographer, Darren Lyons. It was not often you saw the Queen behave so spontaneously.

So, yes, Queen Elizabeth ate lunch at Lethbridge, watched students from Sheoaks, Maude and Lethbridge dance, and laughed at the sheepdog from Maude.



Photo courtesy of the Geelong Advertiser

Help protect our livestock

Whether on a farm or kept as a pet, emergency animal diseases like foot-and-mouth disease pose a significant threat to our animals, industries, and environment.

Here’s how you can keep your livestock safe:

- Ensure your Property Identification Code (PIC) details are up to date.
- Have an up-to-date biosecurity plan in place for your property.
- Check if your potential visitors have been to a country where foot-and-mouth disease is present.

To find out more call Agriculture Victoria on 136 186 or visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/fmd

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA



While on matters regal, the best story we found in the avalanche of recollections over recent weeks, was a small story in The Guardian. It recalls two American tourists who encountered the Queen and her minder our for a wander, in less than full regalia, close to a village near Balmoral Castle. The tourists inquired if her house was nearby, to which she replied it was. “*And have you ever met the Queen?*” they continued. “*No, but he has.*” she replied, gesturing toward her companion.

IS it YOU We're LOOKING For?



We’re looking for a treasurer, so if you are OK with numbers and computers and able to trade around 12 hours each month for some very rewarding community volunteering, you could be the one. We will train you in the process and the very user-friendly software we use.

To find out more, PLEASE drop a line to Mike at accounts@meredithnews.com.au



MEREDITH MUSIC FESTIVAL TICKET ALLOCATION FOR LOCALS

An allocation of tickets for The 30th Meredith Music Festival is available on a first-come first-served basis for locals living between Elaine and Lethbridge to purchase from Back Creek Cafe (1/27 Staughton Street) from 10am on **November 11th** until sold out. 3 per person limit.

Please bring proof of residential address (Meredith, Elaine, She Oaks or Lethbridge address). CASH sales only. For more information contact us via auntym@mmf.com.au.

NEW IN TOWN?

If you have moved to the area since we last held a festival at the Meredith Supernatural Amphitheatre (March 2020), feel free to get in touch with Aunty Meredith via auntym@mmf.com.au. We would be happy to give you a call and a rundown on what the festival entails.

The festival website is www.mmf.com.au and information for locals is available at www.mmf.com.au/locals.

Thanks Everyone!

- *Myotherapy * Remedial
- *Sports *Pregnancy
- *Chronic Pain *Dry Needling
- *Health Fund Rebates Available
- *Cupping *Hot Stones
- *Gift Vouchers Available
- Member of MA and MAMA

GOLDEN PLAINS
MYOTHERAPY + MASSAGE CLINIC
 PH 0418 798 608

Part of Your Community.

Inverleigh resident and Funeral Director, Ebony Hovey can assist you with your enquiries and funeral care needs.

Ebony is available to guide you through funeral planning and arrangements as well as provide obligation free funeral advice and information.

...for a life worth celebrating.

Tuckers
 Funeral & Bereavement Service
www.tuckers.com.au 5221 4788

Captain's 10th Premiership

Marg Cooper

Bannockburn were the underdogs, massively! During the Geelong and District Football League season Bannockburn lost to Inverleigh twice - including by 4 points on Anzac Day and in the first final. Then, on Grand Final Day, although they held a slight lead for most of the match, a massive 81 points were scored during the last quarter. Goal for goal was scored and the win was not a sure thing until the final siren when Bannockburn led by 4 points.

It was the second season for Daniel Measures playing for Bannockburn and his first season as Captain. He attended Auskick as a youngster, played Under 18's and then started playing senior football aged 14 years in Alice Springs where he grew up. He played Nationals for Northern Territory against other states, playing with and against several players who now play for AFL teams.

Daniel plays on the back flank and his job is to take a man and keep him goalless. He is a good kick around the ground but it's something different when lining up to kick through the goalposts, unlike his father who was a really good full forward and still holds the goal kicking record at Alice Springs. His father still coaches a team at Alice Springs. Daniel has considered coaching but enjoys mentoring other players, like a backline coaching role on the field.

His life changed dramatically when he accepted a football scholarship to attend Melbourne Grammar School in Year 12. He found it quite intimidating moving from Alice Springs to such an elite school, but he embraced the chance for a good education, then followed his year there with five years at university studying for a Bachelor of Health Sciences. The weather was also a bit of a challenge with only two summer days that year over 40 degrees and of course a very cold winter.

After having a couple of years not playing football, a friend asked him to play with his team at Queenscliff. Daniel had never heard of Queenscliff but his life changed forever when he met Lucy Banks at a nightclub, later moved to Meredith, became a family man and part of the team at Woolabrai.

Daniel enjoys ultra-running and in May 2022 competed in the Larapinta Trail Run in Central Australia. About 40 started the half run of 128 km and about 20 finished



including Daniel. He began running at 9 am on Saturday and finished at 6.30 pm on Sunday. He loved it but admits it was the hardest thing he has ever done. He has built an obstacle course out the back of his home, the footy team visited for pre-season fitness and bonding. He hopes to develop this enterprise and have female football players and netballers train there in the future.

The 2022 Premiership was Daniel's 10th. He was part of three Premiership Teams in Alice Springs, three at Queenscliff, three at St Joseph's in Geelong and now, one at Bannockburn - so far. He is a very talented athlete!

Congratulations also to Lucy. Although she hasn't played netball for eight years she came fourth in the GDFNL vote count for D Grade and came first in the vote count for the Bannockburn D Grade team.

Situation Wanted

Experienced shearer (25 years) available for small mobs sheep/ alpacas.

Worm treatment, vitamin grinding, drenching, hooves trimmed, lice injections, teeth

Shane Dunne 0448 291074



The deadline for copy is

9.00 am on the last Thursday

of the preceding month



Bannockburn Pharmacy Newsletter

Proprietors: Scott Wilkes & Damian Bennett

6 High St

Bannockburn VIC 3331 Phone: 5281 1519

Your local healthSAVE pharmacist in Bannockburn is located at 6 High street, Bannockburn, 3181. We are easy to find as we are close to the local shopping centre. Our highly trained and friendly staff have been helping the local community for over 11 years. We are here to listen to your health concerns and offer confidential, expert advice to answer all your questions. Parking is easy, with plenty of spots available at the shopping centre.

- Wheelchair access available.
- Located close to public transport.

Your regular pharmacist here at healthSAVE pharmacy Bannockburn is Scott Wilkes. Our team of trained staff are committed to giving professional advice, and answering any questions you might have about health. Our priority is a healthy community, and we aim to provide great value service year-round.

Services We Offer

- | | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| • Accredited Quality Care Pharmacy | • Equipment Hire | • Naturopath |
| • Aged Care Services | • Flu Vaccinations | • NDSS Sub Agency |
| • Baby Health Care | • Free to join loyalty club | • Parcel Point |
| • Bioceuticals | • Haircare Products | • Passport Photos |
| • Blood Pressure Monitoring | • Home Delivery Service | • Personal Medication Packs (Webster Packs) |
| • Complementary Medicines | • Home Medication Review | • Prescription Reminder |
| • Diabetes Agent (NDSS) | • Home Mobility Aids | • Pharmacotherapy Program |
| • Dispensing Services | • Immunization Service | • Photo Kiosk |
| • Document Certification | • Local Deliveries – Free | • Professional Pharmacist Advice |
| • Home Healthcare Products | • Makeup | • Return of unwanted Medicines |
| • DoseAid Packaging | • Machine/Aid Hire | • Skin Care |
| • Ear Piercing | • Medical Equipment Hire | • Vaccinations |
| | • Medication Packaging | • Vitamins |
| | • Methadone Treatment | • Weight Loss Management |
| | • Natural Health | • Wound Management |

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

CALL IN AND BROWSE OUR GREAT RANGE OF PRODUCTS



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.

7th August: The Crocs took on Melton at Meredith for our last home game of the year. We had great numbers and started the game with 7 on the bench. Melton had a very strong side and made us work hard all day. In the end the Melton boys were victorious but had to work hard for their win. Our boys battled hard all day, but were just not good enough. There were some great individual efforts all over the ground and the following players were awarded our best for the day: Mitch Troy, Scotty Thompson, Cowie, Johnny Peterson, Mick Murray with some fancy footwork, Craig Taylor, and for his first award of the year Mick Smith, with his best game for the Crocs so far. Another great day and great crowd of locals and footy fans.

21 August: The Crocs travelled to Sunbury for the final game of the year. With the huge Sunbury oval we could have used a few more blokes on the bench, but we still manage to field a team and have a couple of spares. It was a great day and a great game of football. The game was played in great spirits and the Sunbury team was a top bunch of blokes. A great 3rd quarter from Sunbury saw them take the lead and look like they were going to cruise to victory. But in true Crocs spirit we never gave up and fought to the very end. Unfortunately despite our efforts, just fell short going down by 7 points. A thoroughly enjoyable day. Best for the Crocs: Sid Jones, Johnno(hamstring) Greenwood, Shaun Faulkner, Scotty Nelson, David Pike, Craig Badge Taylor and Paul Stewart. Thanks very much to Macca for driving the bus and thanks to the Ballan Pub for hosting us on our long bus trip home which was enjoyed by all.

The Crocs has a group of players heading over to Adelaide representing Vic Country in the AFL Masters national Carnival in Sep/Oct. Look out for next months Croc Report for a report on how we went.

On the 3rd Sep we held our end of year and 20 year function at Meredith Hall. It was a great night and the entertainment by Riversnake was just what a bunch of old blokes like us love. We had our president, Mick Rooney give a great speech and also heard from the inaugural coach, Gus Primmer, and they both spoke about the history of the club. The night was MC'd by Paul Nolan who did a fantastic job and a handful of people were gifted some tokens of appreciation, along with some beautiful words from one of the original Crocs, Daryl Sid Jones. Two of the favourites of the club were honoured on the night, Steven Trofin was awarded Life membership and Wendy was awarded a cash gift which was donated by all the players and members for all her efforts over the last 20 years. The band being the great blokes they are, also chipped in \$100 of their payment to add to Wendy's gift. Others acknowledged on the night for their contributions throughout the year were: Meg Devlin, Kylie Waites, Kev Battye, Ang and Fingers. Scott Thompson was awarded the coaches award and Mick Devlin the Best Club person award. Thanks to Damian and Claire Kelly, for donating

some great prizes for the raffle, Meredith Dairy for the wonderful hampers and Terry Hart for the gift voucher. Also thanks to Rachel Young for taking some great photos on the night.

On a sad note we lost one of new players a short time ago, Paul 'Birdman' Stewart. Although he had not been at the club very long, he made a huge impact and really embraced the masters football culture. Paul fit in from the very first moment he rocked up. He was always reliable and was a great footballer. The club would like to pass on our deepest condolences to all of Paul's family and friends. He will be missed.

As a club we promote mental as well as physical fitness, and as a team we are always there to look after our mates. So I ask all of you, if you aren't feeling right, let someone know. If your mate doesn't seem themselves, ask them if they are OK. You are never alone.

Thanks to all the players, officials and supporters for another great year of Crocs football. We recruited some fantastic blokes this year and look forward to seeing them get back to club next year and keep the Crocs kicking on for many more years to come.

Thanks very much to our Local business support throughout the year;

Royal Hotel Meredith

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Meredith Dairy

Reduced Fees for Cats

Media Release

Cat owners in Golden Plains Shire with a dedicated cat enclosure can now apply to have their animal registration fee halved.

A new initiative outlined in the Golden Plains Shire Council Budget 2022/23, the reduced fee of \$24.50, or \$12.25 for applicable concession card holders, is available to residents with a cat enclosure separate to or attached to the home, where cats do not roam outside of the enclosure.

The reduced fee is applicable immediately for new registrations and will apply to current registrations when renewals are due in April 2023. This does not apply to owners of fertile cats.

Council, in partnership with the National Desexing Network, are also continuing to offer a subsidised desexing program to help prevent unwanted cats. Residents on pensions or low income or with too many cats to afford to desex will receive free desexing, microchipping and first year registration.

For further information on the subsidised desexing program, residents can phone the National Desexing Network on 1300 368 99. If eligible, they will be issued a desexing voucher and can then contact the vet to make an appointment.

Golden Plains Animal Hospital, Smythesdale Animal Hospital and Bannockburn Veterinary Clinic are all participating in this program for Golden Plains Shire residents.



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- 2 tablespoons icing sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- 1 teaspoon finely grated lemon zest
- 2xchocolate coated cream filled biscuits

Method

1. Combine gelatine and 1 tablespoon of boiling water in a heat proof jug. Stir with a fork until gelatine has dissolved. Set aside for 5 minutes to cool.
2. Process cream cheese, ricotta, raspberries, icing sugar, vanilla and lemon zest in a food processor until smooth. Add gelatine mixture and pulse to combine. Pour evenly into 4 x 1/2 cup (125ml) capacity serving glasses. Refrigerate for 4 hours or until set.
3. To serve, place biscuits in a reusable snap-lock bag or between two sheets of baking paper and roughly crush with a rolling pin. Top cheesecake with biscuit crumbs and extra raspberries.

Recipe from: Success



I Bought Synot's Shop

Dean Zitter, as told to Marg Cooper

In 2022 I purchased 43 Staughton Street with a plan to open a furniture shop. Making furniture is my passion. I am a carpenter by trade, currently travelling long distances to work but my dream is to create wooden furniture in a workshop in the back yard and sell from the shop.

Previously I was living in Werribee which became altogether too busy. When I saw the advertisement for a house/shop complex with a workshop attached, in a country town, I knew that I wanted to live and work from there.

But my plans may take time to come to fruition! I will have to renovate the house starting with the foundations. I have started painting the front of both the shop and house and have found at least four different paint colours. It appears that the wood around the windows has been cream, green, white and back to cream.

I have been told that Rick and David did a lot of work, especially on the shop section which they ran as a lolly shop. What fun to have a lolly shop in Meredith! Tina, the next owner, had the shop completely renovated into a two-bedroom house. It is very comfortable and is almost too nice to be turned back into a shop.

I have asked the Meredith History Interest Group how old the buildings are. They do not know but I suspect that it may have been built in the 1870's. I am going on the design and the fact that I have found hand made nails when replacing some bottom weatherboards.

And from Dean: On the north/west corner of Staughton Street and Read Streets there was once a big building or shed that was known to the locals as the Ark. It was called that because a lake surrounded it. It was owned by Synots. In 1903 and 1908 A Synot was listed as a storekeeper on the north side of Staughton Street. This would have been Arthur Synot, brother to John Cook Synot. It seems the business of A Synot closed by at least 1913.

John Cook Synot was listed as a farmer until about 1921, when the voting roll lists him as a storekeeper and owner of a house and land. He died in 1946, aged 81 years and from 1948 Miss A Synot is listed as a storekeeper. Ada was one of the three daughters of John and Victoria Synot. She was born in 1900 and locals say she helped her father in the shop before taking over the business after he died. She continued to serve the Meredith community for upwards of twenty years until the shop closed.

As well as selling a huge variety of food, drapery, boots, tin and enamelware, wire, grease and much more at lowest bedrock prices they also bought all farm produce for the highest cash prices. Presumably you could take bags of wheat to sell and, in exchange, buy flour, jam, sugar, block cake, biscuits, tapioca and sago at the same shop.

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 in our NATURE

Wendy Cook

As winter ended, some of our roadsides were adorned with mounds of perfumed creamy flowers. Strands extended outwards across the ground, over young trees and small bushes. Curtains draped from branches or fences, all decorated with creamy-yellow flowers, each with four long narrow petals, sometimes tinged with dusky pink. This plant is a climber, small-leaved clematis, related to clematis plants grown in gardens. It blooms at the end of every winter, but this year it was especially showy and vigorous, climbing, scrambling and expanding its territory over bushes and fallen branches. It may smother a few of the plants that it covers. After pollination, its flowers change to clusters of fluff, giving the clematis a second common name, old man's beard. A seed is attached to each feathery strand, which is designed to fly on the wind. Although this year is particularly good for the clematis, its expansion will be limited. Insects will feed on it; wallabies and possums will munch on its leaves. It is an indigenous plant, meaning that it was found in this area before the arrival of Europeans, when the land was cared for by Indigenous people. Those animals that keep it under control are also indigenous. Nature keeps the balance and we can enjoy this year's glorious flowering of clematis.

In a few places, a different creeper covers the ground and bushes, twining, climbing and smothering with leaves darker and more densely packed than the small well-spaced leaflets of the clematis. If damaged, it resprouts from underground roots. It forms a thick layer over the ground so that other plants cannot grow. Blue bell-shaped flowers give it its common name of bluebell creeper. Birds and foxes eat its dark cylindrical fruits. They may travel several kilometres before leaving droppings containing the seeds. Here the seeds remain, ready to germinate if the ground is disturbed. Bluebell creeper is a native plant, but it is indigenous to south-west Western Australia. That is where it belongs, where it has animals, insects and possibly fungi to control it. The word native means that it grows naturally somewhere in our country, but in Victoria it is not indigenous. It is an attractive plant sold in nurseries. It is planted in some gardens where it may climb up veranda posts or on fences, and is appreciated by its owners. Its fruits are enjoyed by local birds, who then distribute its seeds in other places they visit, such as other gardens, roadsides and bush.

In a garden, if weeds are allowed to grow and spread, they can crowd out or smother the plants that we value. The same happens in bushland and on roadsides with indigenous vegetation. When weeds take over, we lose the beauty of our indigenous wildflowers. We also lose food, habitat and nesting places for indigenous mammals, birds, reptiles, frogs, insects and other small creatures. Plants such as bluebell creeper growing outside the garden are called environmental weeds. Nurseries can often give advice on which plants may become environmental weeds and how to prevent this happening. They can still be

grown in gardens, but require extra care, such as removing the fruits from bluebell creeper before they mature.

Bluebell creeper is not the only environmental weed growing locally, and not all of them began as garden plants. Some are pasture grasses or weeds in pastures or crops, which have spread from farmland into neighbouring bush. Others, such as blackberry and gorse, were introduced by European settlers, who saw them as useful or familiar plants in a country where so much of nature was unfamiliar or unknown. To be a successful weed, a plant needs to grow well in disturbed habitats. Once they have arrived in an area, by seeds or in soil that has been moved, or in dumped garden waste, they need space and a chance to grow. This opportunity may come with the removal of other plants, or disturbance of the soil, or a fire. Plants that become weeds are fast to take advantage of these conditions. Disturbing or turning the soil releases nutrients, which they can absorb quickly so that they can grow faster than other plants. They can then take over, reducing access to light, nutrients and water for their neighbours. Plants that become successful weeds are good at spreading by seeds, or by growing new plants from underground rhizomes, or sprouting roots and leaves where their stalks touch the ground. As with weeds on farms or in gardens, once environmental weeds are well-established, it is not easy to completely remove them. Our best options are to prevent the spread of weeds, to avoid disturbing indigenous plants and soil on roadsides or in bushland, and to watch carefully for new plants appearing in an area. If they are identified as weeds, it may be possible to remove them before they become well-established.

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In the School Garden

Mrs Garden

As the rain continues and the weather warms up, there is growth everywhere in the garden. Just before the end of term school break, we had a wonderful whole-school afternoon in our gardens. There were flurries of activity in the vegetable patches and other areas around the school. Weeds aplenty were barrowed to the greedy chooks who reward us daily with eggs. Call into the office if you'd like to buy a box of eggs from some very well-loved hens, especially if you'd like to try the recipe below.

One of our large garden beds needed some rejuvenation and we are using the lasagna composting method. First we broke up the giant bale of straw and layered it over the weeds then put some soil on the top. There are lots of worms in there and we are relying on them to work busily for us. We would love some sheep manure to help the process along, if you can provide any, we would be very grateful as this is the spot where our giant pumpkin seeds will go later in the month. Many thanks to Judith for organising the materials and coordinating the workers, and the Wood family for the donation of the straw.

Helping us in the garden were some hard-working parents and also Hazel the lamb. Hazel has been around the school in recent weeks supervising all sorts of happenings, particularly in the Grade 2/3/4 area. She has assisted in choosing books for the children to read, joined in class work and followed Miss Pritchard around after school while she prepared for the next day. When feeling a bit worn out, she would retire to her comfy bed under the office desk.

The 2/3/4 students, with Miss Pritchard's guidance, also planted up some bee-friendly gardens to place around the school. Some beautiful scented, flowering plants were potted up and decorated with colourful stones along with little water reservoirs. These will encourage some wonderful pollination in our vegetable gardens. Often we leave some plants such as broccoli, silverbeet, lettuces and parsley to go to seed when we have the room. As well as attracting the bees, they can act as a decoy for any pests as they chew on these old plants and leave the new ones alone.

Remember to get your seeds for the Giant Pumpkin Challenge. They are available at the school for school families and from the Community Pantry beside the CERT shed in Russell Street for the wider community. This is sponsored by the Meredith District Newsletter and also this year by Mr Fothergill's who kindly donated the seeds. With another wet season predicted there should be lots of growth. Let's see if the 59kg one that John grew last time can be beaten.

As well as concentrating on your giant pumpkin, there are a few other plants that will grow well in this area

if planted during October: seeds of beans, beetroot, carrot, leeks, peas, potatoes and parsnip can go in. It's a good idea to get zucchini seeds going but keep them sheltered and warm, and the same with capsicum, chilli and tomatoes. At school we keep them, and our tomato seedlings, in pots under a veranda in a sunny spot till we plant them out in November when the soil has warmed up.

As hens are starting to lay again and we have plenty at school, this month's recipe for frittata is another OzHarvest one. There is plenty of broccoli around at the moment and this is a great recipe for any tired looking vegetables past their best.

OzHarvest Easy Cheesy Frittata

ingredients

- 1/2 tablespoons olive oil
- 1/4 onion, diced
- 1 clove garlic, finely diced
- 1 cup mixed vegetables, chopped or grated (fresh or frozen)
- 1 cup spinach, silverbeet or kale
- 3 eggs
- 1/4 cup milk
- 1/2 teaspoon mixed dried herbs or 2 tbsp chopped fresh parsley
- 1/4 cup cheese, grated
- Olive or canola oil
- Salt & pepper

1. Preheat oven to 180oC. Heat oil in a medium frypan and cook onion and garlic for 2 minutes.
2. Add mixed vegetables and cook another 3 minutes stirring occasionally.
3. Add spinach and cook until just wilted.
4. Meanwhile, crack the eggs into a mixing bowl.
5. Add the milk, herbs, salt and pepper into the eggs and whisk together.
6. Grease a small baking dish or loaf tin generously and add the cooked vegetables into the dish and pour over egg mixture. Top with cheese. Place baking dish in oven for about 25 minutes or until cooked through.



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Cleaning Country

Julie Cameron (first published at meredithdairy.com)

The Australian landscape has evolved and adapted because of fire. Indigenous people of our land used low intensity fire to create an open vegetated landscape. These fires controlled the thick understory, removed dry dead grass (biomass) and stimulated new plant growth, especially grassland plants. The Traditional Owners refer to cultural burning as “Cleaning Country”. In 1770 as Captain Cook sailed his ship along the Australian east coast, he described seeing plumes of smoke from numerous slow-moving fires. He commented on the sparsity of trees and prevalence of grasslands, much of which today is thick scrub.

Inland explorer Charles Sturt wrote in 1830: *“the land is managed by small mosaic burns producing diverse grasslands and grassy woodlands of varying ages, enabling habitat for a diversity of wildlife.”*

7th of September is National Threatened Species Day, which highlights the appalling loss of native biodiversity and ecosystems in Australia. A recent State of the Environment report has illustrated the urgency to protect and conserve what remains of our natural ecology. Changes in land management since European settlement and the cessation of Aboriginal practises has enabled biomass to build up in the landscape. This, along with dominant species and weed invasion has changed the vegetation cover resulting in major loss of biodiversity. Thick understory has also fuelled wild fires which have caused further, often catastrophic loss of native plants and animals.

The Meredith Dairy farm spans many acres and includes areas of significant biodiverse Grassy Eucalyptus Woodlands and Temperate Grasslands. Numerous endangered plant and animal species have been identified on our farm. We wish to promote, protect and restore these beautiful, endangered species and their landscapes.

Last month members of the Corangamite Catchment Management Authority held a workshop to promote the benefits of ecological burning on a grassland site near the

dairy. Wadawurrung Traditional Owner **Blair Gilson**, Natural Resources Manager **Dale Smithyman** and Fire Risk Manager **Greg Harry** demonstrated cool, mosaic burning. They showed how to safely burn grasslands without damaging assets including natural assets. The slow-moving flames removed the dry biomass, including weed species and was cool enough to avoid burning green plants, low hanging branches and leaves.

Traditional Owner Blair Gilson spoke about protecting the trees, especially scarred trees as they are *“the mother of our native landscape, have cultural significance and are home to a vast array of animals.”* He explained how the white smoke stimulates the tree to release seed and protects leaves from disease. As the smoke lifted into the towering eucalyptus, a diverse array of beetles, spiders and flying insects were scamming from the bark, even though they and their habitat were in no danger.

At Meredith Dairy our vision is to *“Produce Food Sustainably”*. Cultural Burning is yet another tool in our armoury to manage our land without compromising natural biodiversity. We hope to reverse the degradation of our unique Australian native ecosystems, bring back the grassland plants, birds and animals and restore the landscape as seen by our First Nations people.



Above: Greg Harry teaches the workshop about the principles of cool burning. Below: The slow burn demonstration.



Global Congress visits Steiglitz

Wendy Cook

The excitement began way back in February when Friends of Brisbane Ranges received a phone call from John Arnott, Manager Horticulture at Royal Botanic Gardens Cranbourne. The 7th Global Botanic Gardens Congress was to be held in Melbourne at the end of September. John was organising tours for the Congress to showcase Victoria's botanic gardens, plants and culture. One tour was to visit Ballarat Botanic Gardens. On the way home, he hoped that they could explore the wildflowers of Brisbane Ranges, with the Friends as local guides. After discussions and zoom meetings, a site was selected - Bert Boardman Recreation Area at Steiglitz, which is always a great place to see Spring wildflowers. The long drop toilets were to be part of the cultural experience!

John and his colleague, Chris, came to Steiglitz and we walked the route that we proposed for the Congress delegates. There were few wildflowers to be seen, but standing on a narrow track surrounded by stringybarks, grass trees and sunshine, John was delighted with our selection. Loraine and Shelley from Williamstown Botanic Gardens were chosen to be the leaders of the bus tour

which was to visit Ballarat Botanic Gardens, Lambley Gardens and Nursery, and Steiglitz. Two weeks before the tour, we met them at Steiglitz. They are delightful ladies who loved the location. They are horticulturalists and not familiar with our wildflowers, but are keen to learn.

Finally, on Sunday 25th of September, the big day arrived. It was perfect, no rain, no wind and lovely sunshine. After lunch, six members of Friends of Brisbane Ranges and four members of Geelong Field Naturalists Club met at Bert Boardman Recreation Area, enjoyed the wildflowers, then assembled to meet the bus. As well as Loraine and Shelley, there were nineteen delegates from the Congress. Most were from other parts of Australia, a few were from Melbourne, and a few from overseas.

After an Acknowledgement of Country and a short talk outlining the history of Steiglitz and the Brisbane Ranges, we introduced them to our wildflowers. The walk took a long time as tiny orchids were found and wattles, peas, heaths and other flowers were examined and admired. There were many questions about the trees and smaller plants, as well as other topics such as koalas, and the dieback that is killing our beautiful grass trees. Countless photos were taken of flowers, especially the orchids, but also the delicate leaves of sundews with their sticky hairs for catching insects. When the walk was over, everyone had enjoyed the day. Before returning to the bus for a trip back to Melbourne, one delegate was heard to say "We saved the best till last!"



Solo Motor Homers

Marg Cooper

On Tuesday, September 13 about twenty Solo Motor Homers arrived in Meredith for a three-night stay. It was quite a sight to see the all the motorhomes parked outside the Meredith Hall.

The Solos chapter in Victoria is called the *Eastern Rosellas*. The many chapters in other states are all called by different bird names. They run under the auspices of CMCA (Campervan and Motorhome Club of Australia). The organization is described as a support network for solo travellers.

Once a month the Solo Motor Homers have a trip and stay over, usually in a small country town in Victoria. They find that small towns are more welcoming than big towns. The group likes to support the small towns where businesses are often battling, and they like a spot where they can park together and walk to facilities and attractions. Most motor homes are self-contained but they like a room in which to socialize and have access to a toilet. They find that caravan parks are too expensive. About 70% of members are women. Twice a year they have a rally somewhere in

Australia for all the Solo Chapters, when anything from 200 to 300 motorhomes owned by solos gather for a week.

Melva, who drove down from Ballarat, said that when a person is solo they have to make the most of their life. With solos you don't need a travelling companion. Although all the solos are so different and are from different backgrounds, they have a lot in common including a love of travel and it is a great way to make new friends and have fun. Myra was the organiser for the stay at Meredith. She selected and negotiated for the venue. She discovered attractions and facilities, especially food venues and she initiated entertainments such as dancing, board games, cards and jig saws. Sometimes they have a theme night. Morning and afternoon tea is provided.

Camped outside the Meredith Hall were two male members of the Solo Motor Homers. John had only joined in March 2022. He travelled from Eltham to Meredith, with this being his fifth outing with the chapter and he was driving a 7 seater, 4 wheel drive truck. It looked like a man's outfit, somewhat out of place amid the neat, clean, white motor homes.

We hope you enjoyed your stay in our town!



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Jim Elvey

Our resident naturalist (and very, very readable columnist) Wendy Cook has been doing a bit of bird spotting in the Paddocks over the last few months, and identified over 50 different species. All but a few are native birds, demonstrating the site's importance as a biodiversity reserve. You can check out all 57 sightings at <https://ebird.org/australia/hotspot/L2531640>

Of course, birdlife is especially active during spring, so be sure to make a visit. You will also enjoy seeing the Coolebarghurk Creek, which runs the length of the site through a very attractive valley, in full flow.

If you would like to get involved with our Group and get even more enjoyment out of the site, let us know. We arrange work plans for group or individual activity aimed at making the site a great experience for visitors. (Right now, we need people who love spending a bit of time behind a mower or beside a brush cutter - we have both.) To get involved, or just be kept up to date on issues and activities, (and just get involved if and when it suits you) text Jim on 0409 163169.

Local MP, Michaela Settle, has recently written to the Minister for Energy, Environment and Climate Action, seeking a solution to the continued inaction on weed control. We understand DELWP continues to seek a suitable managing agency for the site, but we are pressing for some intervention in the interim. (It is now over a year since Ballarat Environment Network relinquished site management responsibilities.)

Some good news to end on, the Committee that produces Meredith and District News, has agreed to meet the fuel and maintenance costs associated with our equipment. Even though this is only a few hundred dollars a year, neither DELWP nor Council would meet this cost, so we are especially grateful. Thank you, Newsletter!

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A Love Affair with Cars

Roy Hay

I was never a petrol-head but I have had a lifelong interest in motor cars. Long before I went to primary school in Scotland Alec Stewart, who was billeted with us during the Second World War, had me intrigued with the workings of a car and its engine. I am told that I could recognise and name the major engine parts before I could write my name. My parents did not have a car of their own until long after I had left home for the Royal Air Force, where I had a small share in an ancient Rover. I have only a couple of memories of this vehicle. Sending up sparks when the car bottomed out on undulations on the A1, between London and Henlow in Bedfordshire, as six or more of us returned to base after a show in the West End is one of them. The other is of being stuck in a multi-mile traffic jam in Doncaster, as we tried to cross the bridge in the centre of the town. We took turns to inch the car forward while the other occupants repaired to a roadside pub for liquid refreshment.

Another of my air force mates had a sit-up-and-beg Ford Popular, that we drove to Scotland via the Lake District and the Kirkstone Pass. Being 'engineers', we remembered that reverse gear was actually lower than first, so we reversed the car up the hill until we saw that oil from the engine was running down the crank for the starting handle. Somehow, we got over the summit and on our merry way.

When Frances and I were married we borrowed her father's Hillman Imp and drove to Oxford on honeymoon where we found a flat to rent, and she was interviewed for and accepted a teaching post with the local education authority. I had a place at Balliol College, and began research on the papers of the British Treasury on the early years of what became the welfare state. The papers were to be consulted in the Public Record Office in London, though they were stored at an off-site facility at Ashridge in Hertfordshire not far from Whipsnade Zoo. Each day I would turn up at the PRO having ordered some files the day or two days previously. Sometimes a single box would occupy me for a week. Other days there would be no relevant material, and I would have to find another library in which to work on other books and sources.

Another student at Oxford was an Australian, Caroline (I cannot recall her surname) who had a Peugeot station wagon. She had coke-bottle glasses and would drive the vehicle with abandon through narrow gaps that I would not have risked going through on a bicycle, as she drove us (me and another student Boutros Abu Manneh) to Ashridge, where there was a little research room and we could have as many boxes as we wanted. Coffee was supplied in the morning and afternoon, by congenial staff who were delighted to have the company, a much more sensible system.

Though my wife and I were as poor as church mice when we were first married, we managed to scrape together £65 (\$130) to buy an Austin A30, XWL88, named 'Fred'. Now we could drive ourselves to Ashridge, and during the school holidays Frances would practise her three-point turns and reversing in the narrow private roads around the research facility. When it came time to go for the test for her driving licence, I suggested she have a few proper

lessons from a driving school, using a similar vehicle to the A30. After her first lesson she told me there was an S on the steering wheel and on her first trip across the city she did not get out of third gear. Since the A30 had only three forward gears and the Simca had four, this was perfectly explicable. But she got through her test first go and did a solo circuit of the roads around our flat to



celebrate.

Roy and Frances Hay and 'Fred' in Bardwell Road, Oxford in 1966.

To begin with Frances would get a bus to school but once she passed her test she drove there. She had a lucky escape one summer day, when because she has one of the rarer blood groups, she was summoned to the Radcliffe Infirmary from school for an emergency donation. Having given her armful, she was walking back to the car when she fainted in the car park, collapsing at the foot of an astonished ambulance driver who was polishing his vehicle. Luckily, she had not made it to the car. After a reviving drink and having explained her presence (and the fainting) in the grounds of the hospital, she recovered quickly and drove home none the worse.

Fred was replaced by the first of a whole series of Minis—cars, vans, station wagons—while we were in the United Kingdom.

The last of these, a lovely blue wagon, was sold to neighbours in Lochwinnoch where we lived prior to coming to Victoria and Deakin University in 1977. We have only had one Australian Mini (a van), which we bought so that one of our nephews could use it when he visited us. Since then, we have had multiple cars and vans made by Suzuki. I think we are up to eleven now and the current one might well see us out unless we decide to go electrical. That is a story for another time.



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Marg's BOOK REVIEW

The Silent Listener by Lyn Yeowart

This literary debut is based on personal trauma suffered by the author when growing up in rural Victoria. She must have had a dreadful childhood.

In the book, eleven-year-old Joy Henderson lives in constant fear of her father. She tries to make him happy but as he keeps reminding her, she is nothing but a filthy sinner destined for Hell.

Her father George is a pillar of society, a church elder, a local musician and much admired in his community. But at home on his isolated dairy farm he is a tyrant who abuses his wife and children and leaves them physically and emotionally scarred to the point that when Joy returns as he is on his deathbed, she is still afraid of him. Her spirit is broken repeatedly by her father's reign of terror. The fear and pain do not always come from the physical violence. They also suffer psychological torture while waiting for him to come to inflict punishment.

The reader is propelled back and forth between the 1940's when George married Gwen and he started his reign of terror, to the 1960's when Mark and Joy are children, to the 1980's when her father is dying and Joy returns to nurse/seek revenge.

Joy has synaesthesia, a neurological gift which, at the most basic level, means she sees images, textures and colours associated with words. Often the images she sees when she reads words, overpower her brain. This condition is a source of much delight for Joy and allows her an escape. She is given a book by friends, in which she records vibrant images associated with certain words but this valued possession is destroyed by her father in a fit of rage.

Another interesting character in the book is Joy's sister Ruth. Ruth, the perfect child, continually talks to Joy but her form and history are only revealed towards the end of the book.

For Senior Constable Alex Shepherd who investigates how George does die, the death revives memories of an unsolved case still haunting him of the disappearance of nine-year-old Wendy Boscombe in their town in the 1960's. This adds mystery to the novel as the author slow drip feeds snippets of information until the shocking final turn of events.

Joy has eels writhing around in her stomach. The imagery used by the author is a very effective device to describe how Joy felt when she was feeling anxious, especially when her father was around.

This book has an ever-evolving storyline which captures attention. Some of the book is disturbing but when Joy starts to enact little revenges on her father like swapping the powder in her father's migraine tablets for bi-carb soda, we urge her along. She is not going to be 'The Silent Listener' anymore!

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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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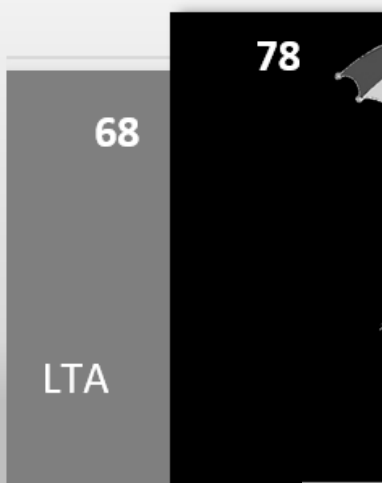
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NOTICE OF CLOSURE - OCCASIONAL CARE

DEAR COMMUNITY,

IT IS WITH REGRET WE ANNOUNCE THE CLOSURE OF OUR OCCASIONAL CHILDCARE SERVICE.

THE MEREDITH COMMUNITY CENTRE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT MADE THE BUSINESS DECISION BASED AROUND NUMEROUS FACTORS. FIRST AND FOREMOST, IT WAS BASED ON THE FINANCIAL VIABILITY OF THE OCCASIONAL CARE SERVICE AND THE IMPACTS WHICH CENTRE BASED RATIO REQUIREMENTS HAVE HAD ON THE SERVICE. THIS, COUPLED WITH THE INTRODUCTION OF 3-YEAR-OLD FUNDED KINDERGARTEN IN 2023 WOULD PLACE CONTINUAL SEVERE FINANCIAL HARDSHIP ON THE SERVICE WHICH CAN NO LONGER BE SUSTAINED.

THE MEREDITH COMMUNITY CENTRE IS FUNDED UNDER THE STATE GOVERNMENTS NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES COORDINATION PROGRAM, THIS FUNDING ALLOWS US TO RUN PROGRAMS AND SERVICES FOR THE COMMUNITY.

THE FUNDING FOR THE OCCASIONAL CARE SERVICE IS THROUGH THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENTS CHILD CARE SUBSIDY AS WELL AS PARENTAL PAYMENTS. DUE TO THE IMPLICATIONS THAT RATIOS HAVE ON THE SERVICE, ALONG WITH OUR LIMITED LICENCE, THE SERVICE WAS NOT RECEIVING THE FUNDS REQUIRED TO COVER ITS DAY TO DAY RUNNING, IMPACTING GREATLY ON THE VIABILITY.

THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT ARE AWARE OF THE IMPACT THIS HAS ON THE FAMILIES IN THE COMMUNITY AND DO APOLOGISE FOR THE INCONVENIENCE.

THE OCCASIONAL CARE SERVICE WILL REMAIN OPEN TO FAMILIES UNTIL DECEMBER 16, 2022.

Whistler's Cottage

Marg Cooper

There is a cottage and shop in Inverleigh called Whistler's Cottage. The front yard of the cottage is filled with sculptures, made mostly from rusty corrugated iron and barb wire, wood from pallets and branches, adorned with a touch of paint here and there. The theme of most is Australiana and range from sheep in a yard to an eagle feeding her young in a nest, blue wrens on a barb wire fence and chooks. There are big chooks, little chooks, roosters and chickens on fences and stand-alone chooks. The sculptures are rustic but portray an authentic country feel. The display is chaotic and it is hard for the eye to take in, but the artistic talent is clearly evident.

The creator, John Henderson, bought the cottage in 2005, a couple of years before retiring after 22 years of teaching at Moolap State School. He wanted something to do in his retirement and this included some land to make a garden and space in which to create and sell. He also wanted to have the opportunity to become involved in a small community. For years he ran the shop, buying and selling old wares, but then offered the shop to Gerard to run if he would also sell John's sculptures.

Every day John makes at least one piece, all of them unique. He is inspired by nature and gets excited by rust, shapes and wire. He works with basic hand tools, usually working out in the open.

John grew up at Meredith. He remembers it was a vibrant community and that he loved his childhood there. His father Bill,

was Headmaster of the State School from 1956 until 1970. He was "Mr Henderson" at school, and John received the strap for misdemeanours at school just the same as other students.

John and his brother were golf orphans. Both his parents played golf, which involved a lot of after game socialising in those days, and were also very involved in the community. They lived in the school house which was a great place to live. There was space to roam, to go rabbiting with ferrets and later spotlighting, climb trees, swim at Morrisons, play tennis, hitchhike to Stonehaven to play Under 18 football, ride bikes, go fishing and to roam all day and come home when it got dark.



A weekly highlight was the Youth Club held in the Memorial Hall on Friday nights with games, gymnastics and table tennis. He remembers the first day he carted hay when he was fifteen years of age. When he got home his father carried and put him in a bath and massaged him as he had a cramp in every muscle of his body. He remembers with affection several Meredith characters including Bernie Kerger, Ned Watts and Jack Powles. His football idol was Gerald Beck who was Headmaster of Woodburn State School but he also loved to watch the West Brothers who were very talented footballers. He had a great group of young friends. His grade at school had about thirteen students and the school had about seventy students, most of them children of Soldier Settlers.

As well as creating sculptures in Inverleigh John rides his bike, gardens, plays with his dogs, writes poetic prose and chats with passers-by. He is an institution in Inverleigh.

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it's History

Meredith History Interest Group

Lasseter – A Gold Legend Begins in Colac:

You are invited to the History Centre on Thursday, October 13 at 10.30 am to listen to Alan Doyle, the author of the new book about Lasseter's years in Colac, talk about how those years influenced his future. Lewis Lasseter of Central Australian gold fame lived in Bamganie with his family until he ran away to relations in Colac. Apparently, his father William [Johnny] remarried after Lewis's mother died and Lewis didn't get on with his stepmother. Remains of the house where they lived on Woodburn Creek are still there. His father was a shearer, a labourer, worked for Ward's Livery Stable driving a horse and buggy to Steiglitz and Morrison and painted carriages. He also painted landscapes including one of his house on the creek.

Meredith of Yesterday:

A wonderful display of information and objects related to former tradesmen and the trades that were carried on in Meredith between 1850 and 1950. There was an extensive display of people's collections including rabbit traps, horse gear, blacksmithing tools, shearing hand shears, butchering requirements and Meredith Railway. Ladies' skills were also demonstrated with spinning, patchwork, embroidery and sewing. Children enjoyed folding cardboard to create a Velocity Train, French knitting using a bobbin made for us by Bannockburn Men's Shed and decorating and spinning tops. A self-guided walk was popular to follow the map and signposts to see where businesses were and to enjoy a complimentary cup of coffee at any Meredith Eating Establishment.

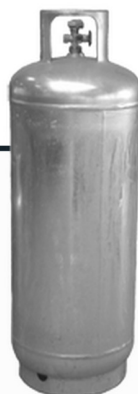
A lot of research was undertaken by many people to establish what businesses were in Meredith at what time and where. A lot of time was taken in collecting for and mounting displays and a lot of time and energy was taken to exhibit. Thank you to all who helped, from Annette who brought her 1930's car and Anne at the start of the alphabet who prepared lunch for the helpers, to Wally towards the end of the alphabet who brought in a collection of horse gear, and talked about his volunteer blacksmithing task, [more about that in next month's Newsletter] and all the people in between.

Book Launch of Steiglitz Photo Book:

This book that includes all the photos [and more] that were exhibited at the MHIG event in October last year is being launched at the old Steiglitz Hotel, Regent Street on Sunday, October 30 as part of the Back to Steiglitz Celebrations. Everyone is welcome to come along, to hear about the photos, the book and the pub and buy a copy of the book. How fantastic to have so many good photos of the former gold mining town! While you are in Steiglitz you may like to compare photos from the book to what is there today.

Bread at Elaine:

In 1877 a letter to the editor of the Ballarat Courier protested against the bakers of Elaine charging 2d higher for the 4lb loaf than bakers in Ballarat. The writer also inferred that the Elaine loaves were 3-6 oz short of weight. He thought that the bread should have been cheaper at Elaine than *in* Ballarat because of cheaper fuel, plenty of water and little rates at Elaine. The letter was signed A. Miner.



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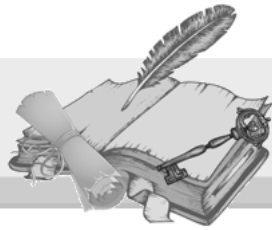
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FROM THE ARCHIVES



Marg Cooper

It seems that the township of Meredith has always had problems with drainage and this year (2022) I have heard people again complaining of water lying in their yards and in front of their premises.

On June 25, 1908, An Onlooker wrote a letter to the Editor of the Steiglitz Miner Newspaper: Sir, There is a lake situated in Staughton Street and in front of Mr Kenedy's front gate in which a man fell in and nearly drowned. The Meredith Shire Council has been asked repeatedly to drain it without avail. Perhaps when some more serious incident takes place, they might stir themselves and wake up to their responsibilities in this matter. I may also state that only for timely assistance tendered by Mr Kenedy who dragged him out of the water, he would undoubtedly have drowned.

On July 3, 1908 A ratepayer wrote a letter to the Editor of the Steiglitz Miner Newspaper: A letter in your last issue has evidently aroused officers of the Meredith Shire Council to some sense of their duty in the lake referred to in front of Mr Kenedy's house.

But, lo and behold what is being done to improve it is sludge taken out of contaminated and rotten side drains of the main street and deposited in the above mentioned pond and converted into a quagmire and consequently a breeding ground for vermin and euphorbia to accumulate in the pond as the warm weather of spring and summer sets in. I wonder if the rate payers on the north side of Staughton Street who I think pay their rates should put up with such filth thrown at their doors.

In the Town Talk Column of the Steiglitz Miner on July 10, 1908: We inform Inquirer that Lake Kenedy has

subsided two or three inches during the past week. Shooting and fishing has been prohibited owing to the shores being surrounded by business places. We believe that there is movement to nominate Mr Kenedy for the medal of the Royal Humane Society. We doubt whether the lake will be stocked with fish – it depends whether the Geelong Society's Agent will visit the lake and report upon it.

At the Meredith Shire Council Meeting in July 1908 it was reported that Mr Kenedy wrote drawing attention to the un-ornamental sheet of water opposite his premises. An inspection was made during the lunch adjournment when it was decided to drain it and fill it with gravel.

In the Town talk Column on August 7, 1908 tenders were invited for several works including filling up Lake Kenedy.

Apparently Mr Croft drained it and filled it with gravel.

As the lake is now a thing of the past, The Mechanics Institute is disposing of the yacht. For particulars write to Mr Deans, Hon Sec.

In the Town Talk of the Steiglitz Miner on September 4, 1908 the columnist was pleased to announce that another lake had sprung into existence in the main street since Lake Kenedy had been drained. *The name of this piece of water is Lake Sentinel and it is owned by the Shire Council. Owing to the spot being a cow camp previously, fish cannot live in it, but it's a beauty!*

Leaving the topic of lakes in Staughton Street the Council were also concerned with dams or waterholes in the town.

The Geelong Advertiser of October 17, 1889 reported that Dr Hardy, the Shire Health officer recommended filling of a waterhole adjoining the stables of the Royal Hotel for sanitary reasons.

Because there was no town water supply until the 1970's many town blocks had small waterholes for stock and garden water.



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Vale to Robert (Bob) Edward Fitzpatrick

Marg Cooper

Bob was the son of Patrick Peter Fitzpatrick and Eileen Grattidge and grew up in Yarra Street Collingwood. He attended Abbotsford Convent until Year 8 and said that the nuns were very handy with a ruler. He was a fanatical Collingwood Football Club supporter and when he was young he used to do the score board when Collingwood played at home. In 1954 he represented Victoria in the Schoolboy Rugby Team but never mentioned to his friends in VFL dominated Collingwood that he was playing rugby.

Bob was a member of the Abbotsford Pedal Club for years and a member of Hartwell Motorcycle Club through the 1960's. He raced in road races, hill scrambles and enduro events using the same motorbike, but modifying it for the different disciplines. He was so keen that he raced wherever there was a race meet.

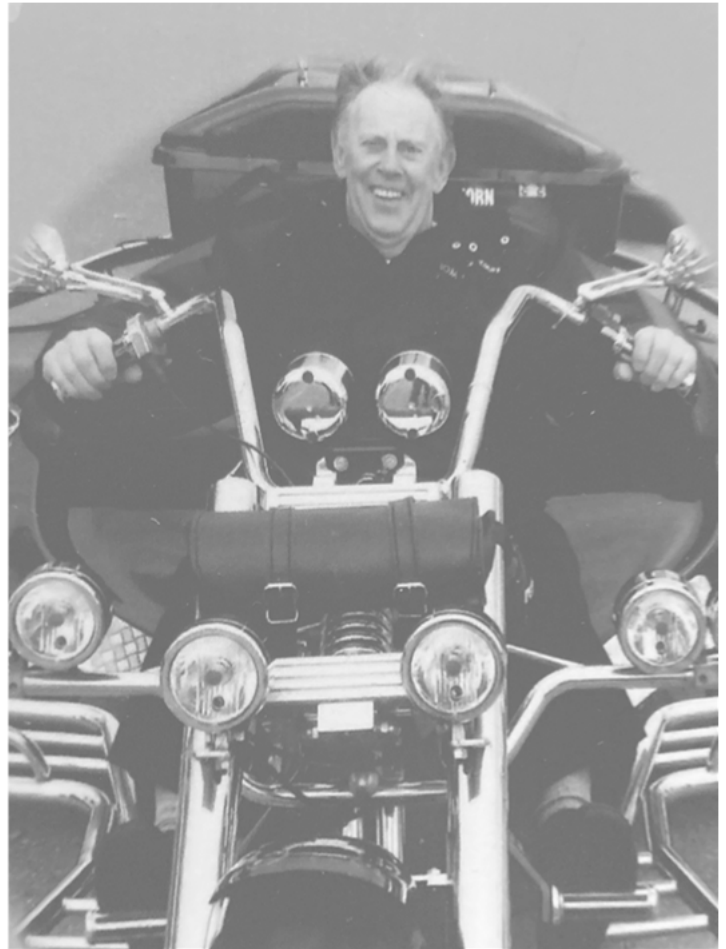
Straight out of school from the Convent, Bob was apprenticed to a Small Motor Mechanic at Findlay's Motorcycles. On completing his apprenticeship, he did several jobs unrelated to mechanics before being employed as a motor mechanic at Morrie Quincey Motors in Fawkner, then the place became Northern Motors, then Cheeney Motors then finally Mantello Motors. Bob stayed in the same workplace the whole time, although it changed ownership many times. In about 1980 Bob became the Foreman/Service Manager then the Vehicle Tester before retiring at 65 years of age. He had an awesome ear for mechanical noises in a car, he could diagnose major issues by driving a car. Bob loved Holdens.

Bob married Irene Kelly in 1963. They lived in Briar Hill and had four children. Although they loved each other they couldn't live together, so later on they separated but remained married and kept in regular contact right until Bob's passing.

After Bob retired, he moved around a bit before settling in a unit on his daughter's property at Morrisons. He lived there for over 10 years and during that time became well known in the district. He delivered meals on wheels, was maintenance man at St Josephs, joined Senior Citizens and became a member of Buninyong Men's Shed. Bob was not one to sit still. He was always making or fixing things and 'got stropky' if his mates took long lunch breaks. Bob was known as the Paparazzi at family functions. He loved to take photos and when in the Nursing Home, his daughter Robyn took some of his collection in for him to write on them and identify who the people in the photos were. It kept Bob busy during this period.

In 2010 he travelled to Egypt in a tour group for his first overseas trip and in 2011 he travelled to the Isle of Man. The Isle of Man TT Motorbike Races was Bob's Holy Grail. It was Bob's dream to race in the TT races over there. He managed to ride the circuit on a trike motorbike as a passenger.

Bob was affectionately known in the district as *Bob The Builder*. He was always happy, friendly and always doing something. His motto was *Work Hard, Do the Best that You Can, Measure Twice, Cut Once*.



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Vale to John [Jack] Herbert Boardman 17/9/1931 – 28/8/2022

Marg Cooper

A service was held to commemorate the life of Jack at Bannockburn Presbyterian Church, led by Pastor Matt Deroon on Friday, September 9 at 2 pm. The hearse then made its way to Steiglitz Cemetery for the committal service, via She Oaks past Jack’s former home and the town of Steiglitz where the bell of St Paul’s Church was rung in Jack’s honour.

Jack was the son of Herbert and May Boardman. They lived on the Boardman farm at Long Gully until moving to a farm at She Oaks in 1941. Jack attended both Anakie and Steiglitz schools, but to get to either was a long bike ride over hilly terrain, so when the family moved to She Oaks it was a relatively short, flat ride to school. Two years at Geelong College followed before Jack came home to work on the farm.

Family recall that he should have studied engineering, as he had a great interest in how things worked and loved to invent, adapt and build machines. It started with a mechano set he played with when a child, National Geographic magazines he devoured, a love of radios and CB’s and electric fences.

Jack joined the CFA at Anakie when he was 14 years of age, was a foundation member of Maude CFA in 1977 and was Captain for 14 years. At his funeral the family accepted a special award for extraordinary service to the CFA. He knew the bush intimately and had had experience of fires in the bush, and so was a valuable

CFA member, although he had a healthy disrespect for authority and didn’t like (so called) experts.

Jack married Mary Brown on 8/10/1955. They built a new house on part of the family farm, had four children, have nine grandchildren and several great grandchildren. Sadly, Mary died after 52 years of marriage and in a way Jack *lost his rudder*. He wasn’t used to doing domestic chores and planning, preparing and cooking was not in his repertoire.



He was an avid historian and started recording oral knowledge about 1965. His father, Bert Boardman, had a lifelong interest in local history and was always relating some historical information to Jack and others. One day he asked Jack a question about *Aunt Polly* and Jack couldn’t answer him. Jack suddenly realized that he needed to take notice and record what his father and other locals knew, as they would not be around forever.

He firstly wrote his notes on sheets of paper and had collected six folders of paper when in 1997 he bought a computer. Jack evolved a system of cataloguing his huge collection of history on his computer so he could cross reference and find information. Towards the end of his time at She Oaks, Jack was determining the locations of many important historical sites on his GPS. In August 2018, he went to live in Tannoch Brae Aged Care Home, because of his Alzheimers. The family said that Jack loved

motorsports and valued hard work, although they were never sure just how much farming he did! Jack was a font of knowledge and taught without actually giving lessons, loved a chat but was never one to end a conversation. He was always interested in and curious about his surroundings and couldn’t drive anywhere on a direct route! The meeting room at Maude has been named in

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G'Day from the penners for the lovely month of October. As I was reviewing this article and getting it ready to send, I thought it might be good to add a small piece about the death of our head of state, Queen Elizabeth 2nd. Not everybody agrees with our continuing attachment to the Commonwealth state of nations but either way I think everybody would agree that what this superb woman has managed to achieve in her life is nothing short of spectacular. To commit to a life time of service and to be able to keep that commitment is truly a unique thing. May she rest in peace.

Our group is going ahead with full steam at the moment with some great stories and poems being written each meeting. We are an eclectic lot with many different aspects on life, which sometimes causes much merriment and laughter, which is a joy to us all. With us all being retired and busy with other things we have a good diversity of opinions and pastimes that we can call upon in our writings. We have a photographer, a model car builder, a couple of us volunteer at Sovereign Hill regularly, and of course we all are gardeners of one sort or another.

We have produced 3 Anthologies since 2016, which are all available from the library. Titled, Snowflakes on the Plains, Gathering Gum Leaves and Pearls on the Plains. We are always marking good writing if we think it's worthy of inclusion in our next book.

This month's contribution is from Peter Wilding, an interesting piece written from the aspect of a small but yummy thing. We hope you enjoy it.

We can always be contacted via our email account, goldenpens4@gmail.com and we meet at the Bannockburn library every 2 weeks at 1:30pm. If you would like to see what we are all about just drop us a line and all our details will be returned to you promptly.

Until next month it's cheerio from the penners.

A Broken Watch

Night had fallen. The folk of Peppermint Castle had withstood the onslaughts of another day, though their numbers were sadly much reduced. They looked forward to a quiet night, for who knew what tomorrow might bring? Another day of fending off the marauding band of Sweet-Tooths, no doubt. Hopefully it would be less traumatizing than today.

The guards stood watch on the battlements. Well, they'd squeezed out the End, which was promptly shut after them, and climbed up to the top of The Box. They looked out over their world. The Room, it was called. The last of the Sweet-Tooths had gone off to bed, out of sight, and The Room was in darkness. All was quiet.

Chewy turned, and looked at her fellow guard. She really liked Crunchy. He made her feel all gooey inside, and she thought that perhaps he might like her too. She sighed. It was so boring, standing watch here at night. Nothing ever happened, though tradition had it that sometimes a Sweet-

Tooth might get up in the middle of the night and come hunting. It was usually the young, or the very elderly. With a spirited defence they could be fended off, and would wake up in the morning thinking the battle was all a dream. She shuddered. Surely not! Wouldn't everyone like to have a good night's sleep? She knew that she would.

At that moment, Crunchy turned, and saw her looking at him. He smiled, and walked over.

"Boring, isn't it?" he said.

"Yes. Cold too, now that the heating's gone down for the night.", Chewy responded, with a fake shiver.

Crunchy took a step closer, and reached out. Chewy melted into his arms. Their hug went on and on.

Suddenly they heard a sound. Footsteps approaching! They tried to separate and go back to their guard posts, but they were stuck together. Their watch was broken. The Sweet-Tooth approached. It was an elderly one, easily fended off. They struggled to separate themselves, but Chewy couldn't become unstuck. Crunchy turned, and tried to look ferocious. But it was no use. That put Chewy at the forefront of the battle. He wanted to defend her, but she was stuck to his front. Her back faced the enemy. They both knew better than to do that.

The elderly Sweet-Tooth said, "Fancy someone leaving one out for me! Oh look! Two stuck together. Yum!"

He reached out. And that was the end of Chewy and Crunchy.



If we didn't have the internet
...we would never know...

- ☺ On average, 12 newborns will be given to the wrong parents daily.
- ☺ Donald Duck comics were banned from Finland because he doesn't wear pants.
- ☺ Because metal was scarce, the Oscars given out during World War II were made of wood.
- ☺ The number of possible ways of playing the first four moves per side in a game of chess is 318,979,564, 000.
- ☺ There are no words in the dictionary that rhyme with orange, purple and silver.
- ☺ The name Wendy was made up for the book Peter Pan. There was never a recorded Wendy before.
- ☺ The very first bomb dropped by the Allies on Berlin in World War II killed the only elephant in the Berlin Zoo.



COMMUNITY GARDEN

FOOD SWAP

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

When: 1st Saturday of every month from 9:30am to 10:30am

Where: Meredith Sharing Shed - 10 Wallace Street, Meredith

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

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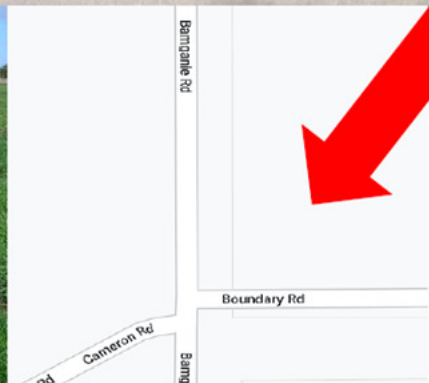
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NOMINATIONS
OPEN

**Nominations are now open for
the Golden Plains Shire Council
Community Awards 2022.**

The GPSC Community Awards 2022 formally acknowledge extraordinary individuals and community groups who make an outstanding contribution to Golden Plains Shire.

The GPSC Community Award 2022 categories:

- Citizen of the Year
- Senior Citizen of the Year
- Young Citizen of the Year
- Community Impact Award (community event, project, group or team)

Nominations for the GPSC Community Awards 2022 close: 5pm, Monday 14 November, 2022

TO SUBMIT A NOMINATION:

- Visit Council's website at goldenplains.vic.gov.au.
- Visit Council's Customer Hubs:
2 Pope St, Bannockburn or 19 Heales St, Smythesdale

For more information about the GPSC Community Awards 2022, email communityengagement@gplains.vic.gov.au or call 5220 7111.





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Rene was brilliant in communicating with us throughout the whole process- from preparation of the property to go onto the market, through to maintaining diligent contacts between us, potential purchasers, conveyancers and inspectors. Rene was exceptional in campaigning to get us the best possible price, always displaying his knowledge about his craft through his counsel.