

# Meredith & district News

OCTOBER 2025

OUR **FREE** COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



## inside

- Ambulance Vic CEO Visits Meredith
- Nominate Your Community Hero
- Back to Steiglitz on this Month

DO OUR TINY  
SURVEY AND YOU  
COULD WIN A \$50  
VOUCHER.



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





# 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) Ian Penna, Nerida Anderson, Amy Medley, and Ian Leighton. Production is undertaken by Peter Boer, Don Atherton and Jim Elvey.

## NEWS & VIEWS

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

## DATES AND DEADLINES

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

## ADVERTISING

Advertising in the M&D Newsletter is a great way to let district residents know about your business. Rates, excluding GST, are as follows:

	B&W/Colour
Business Card	\$20.00
Quarter page	\$30.00/\$50
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

You can subscribe to get the Meredith and District News posted to you anywhere in Australia for what it costs us to send it - \$59.50p.a. (11 issues)

## CONTACT US

Post Office, Meredith, 3333

**Advertising:** Ian 0409 016815

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

**Accounts:** Ian Leighton 0428132880

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**Editorial:** Jim: 0409 163169

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

## WEB

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

## ONLINE PHOTOS

We do not publish children's photos online.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

## DISCLAIMER

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

## FEEDBACK

Yes please! Send it to [news@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:news@meredithnews.com.au)

Issue Production: Peter Boer Editor: Jim Elvey

# connect

ADVANCE  
MEREDITH  
0409 027 359

ANGLING CLUB  
0419 248 660

B'BURN ART  
GROUP  
0410 808 483

B'BURN MENS  
SHED  
0407 835 731

B'BURN SOFT  
TENNIS  
0409 236 420

BLUELIGHT  
DISCO  
5286 1222

BOOK CLUB  
5286 8201

CFA  
000 for fire calls  
Elaine  
0419 767982  
Meredith  
5286 1502  
Morrisons  
0417 770 765

CHILDCARE  
5286 0700

COMMUNITY  
CENTRE  
5286 0700

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

CUBS &  
SCOUTS  
Lethbridge  
0435 042077

ELAINE HALL  
53415575  
0409861296

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

MEREDITH SEWING  
GROUP  
0491 184 999

MOTORCYCLE  
CLUB  
0437 009 250

PLAYGROUP  
5286 0700

POLICE  
PADDOCKS  
0409 163169

RSL - 5286 1452

SENIOR CITIZENS  
0407 683 892

TENNIS  
Elaine  
0448 291 074  
Lethbridge  
52 817 321  
Meredith  
0424 754 179

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	0408 508 635
Ranger	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

**HALL HIRE**

Meredith Memorial

5286 1545

Elaine Mechanics

53415575

0409861296

Elaine Rec Res

5341 5703

**LIBRARY VAN**

5272 6010

**MATERNAL &  
CHILD HEALTH**

5220 7230

**PRE-SCHOOL**

5286 0722

**PRIMARY**

**SCHOOL**

5286 1313

**RECREATION**

**RESERVE**

0429 315 575

## ..or start something.

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



"To plant a garden is to believe in tomorrow"

- Audrey Hepburn






HELPING WITH THE COST OF LIVING  
**FREE STATE WIDE  
PUBLIC TRANSPORT FOR VICTORIANS  
60+ ON WEEKENDS**

We're making statewide public transport free for Victorians 60+ on weekends.

From 1 January 2026, Victorians with a Seniors Card can experience even more of our state – without the extra expense.

Go and see this beautiful state!

**Michaela Settle MP**  
**Member for Eureka**

 [michaela.settle@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:michaela.settle@parliament.vic.gov.au)  5331 7722  /MichaelaSettleMP



## UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT

Open Mon- Fri 9am -5pm & Saturday 9am-4

All welcome, Farmers, Hobby Farmers, Handymen, Handywomen, Backyard Warriors, young and old.

### CHAINSAW REPAIRS AND CHAINSAW SHARPENING

- Horse feeds, chaff, hard feeds and more
- Pet Supplies
- Lick Blocks
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- Cat Foods
- Chook pellets
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- Tools
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- Nuts, bolts, clips, fasteners
- Chemicals

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

**Phone 5341 5665**

Free quotes. And if we haven't got it, we'll get it for you.

5264 Midland Highway Elaine, Vic, 3334





# ***Come and Join the Meredith Cricket Club!***

***A GREAT FAMILY FOCUSED, AND FAMILY INVOLVED  
CLUB FOR YOU, YOUR PARTNER AND CHILDREN TO  
JOIN***

***Training Times (Thursday Nights)***

***Juniors 4:30PM***

***Men and Women 5:30PM***



***For more info,  
Contact***

***0418 178 513***

***Or***

***DM our Facebook or  
Instagram***

***Hope to see you soon,  
RAM IT!!***

***Proudly Sponsored By***

**meredith  
dairy**



**RB SELLARS**  
RURAL OUTFITTERS

**TW**  
TOTALLY  
WORKWEAR



## 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 5536

Daily services: Matins 8.00 am, Vespers 6.00 pm.

Divine Liturgies on Saturdays & Sundays 10.00 am

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

8.00 am Holy Communion St Paul's, Inverleigh

10.00 am Family Communion. St John's, Bannockburn

5.00 pm Prayer and Praise Epiphany, Meredith

Find us at: [www.goldenplainsanglican.org](http://www.goldenplainsanglican.org) or

office.revdrtim@hotmail.com

The Revd Dr Timothy Smith

PiC Anglican Parish of

Inverleigh+Bannockburn+Meredith

### St Josephs Catholic Parish of Meredith

Winchelsea, St. John the Baptist, 5pm Sat. OCT. 4, 11, 18, 25  
Meredith – St. Joseph call Parish office 52861230

Bannockburn, St. Mary MacKillop, 11am Sun. OCT. 5, 12, 19, 26

Inverleigh – Sacred Heart, 4pm Sun. OCT. 19

## OUR COVER



We can't let a Spring go by without celebrating the many beautiful wattles that burst into colour this time of the year around our district. This picture, taken by Cathie Boer, is a fine example.



*Send us your fabulous photos - you could be front page news!*



Meredith **Community Centre**  
*working for our community*

## What's On This Month



### Term 4

Village Academy – with Jade & Chiara

Wednesdays

3.30 – 5.00 – Meredith Locals

4.00 – 5.30 – For out of Town Friends

Chill Out Hour Available from 5–6

Prep to Year 9

Goddess Mums & Kids

Thursdays at 2.10 – 3.10

Kinder Kids with Jade – Wednesdays – 2.10 – 3.00

\$15 per session, payable by Term

### CHATTY CAFE

**NOVEMBER 18 – 11.30 – 1.30 – LIGHT LUNCH**

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL**

### GET ONLINE WEEK

**TUESDAY OCTOBER 21 – FREE EVENT –**

**11.30 – 1.30 – LUNCH PROVIDED!**

**BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL**



To Book:

[learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au](mailto:learnlocal@meredithcommunitycentre.com.au)

[www.facebook.com/MeredithCommunityCentre](https://www.facebook.com/MeredithCommunityCentre)

Ph. 5286 0700 / 0491 184 999

### THE MEREDITH MART

OUR CHRISTMAS FOOD DRIVE IS HERE – LET'S MAKE SURE NO TABLE IS EMPTY!

CANNED GOODS – SOUP, VEGETABLES, FRUIT, BEANS

DRY GOODS – PASTA, RICE, CEREAL, FLOUR, SUGAR

CHRISTMAS FOODS – CAKE, CUSTARD, VEGETABLES

TOILETRY ITEMS – SOAPS, TOOTHPASTE/BRUSHES

**BRING YOUR DONATIONS INTO THE OFFICE BEFORE DECEMBER 3!**

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO NEEDS SOME HELP?**

**NOMINATE THEM NOW FOR A CHRISTMAS HAMPER!**



### The Power Saving Bonus – \$100 for Concession Card Holders!

From 25 August, concession card households can cut their energy bills with a new round of the \$100 Power Saving Bonus.

Come on into the Centre with your Power Bill and Your Identification and Bank Account Details and we will get you \$100 back into your account.

### TAI CHI – \$15 PER SESSION

**TUESDAYS @ MEREDITH WITH SANDRA – 9.15 – 10.15**

**WEDNESDAYS @ BANNOCKBURN WITH DESMA – 9.30 – 10.30**

**GENTLE EXERCISE @ THE COMMUNITY CENTRE FOR OVER 65'S**

**THURSDAYS @ 9.15 – 10.15 – \$10**

### PLAYGROUP

**THURSDAYS**

**9.30am – 11.30am**

**\$2 per family**



Join us on

Facebook & Instagram

@meredithcommunitycentre





# Recreation



## Meredith Tennis Club News

### Girls Connect Recap

We recently hosted our Girls Connect event to bring together local girls aged 12–17—many of whom go to different schools and catch different buses. Fourteen girls from eight schools joined us for a night of fun, featuring two rounds of Kahoot quizzes, Vibe Tennis, dinner, fancy drinks, a sundae bar, and a rollerball perfume-making workshop with Meg from Devlin's Ridge Naturals.

Huge thanks to Meg for sharing her skills, and to Maddy Reynolds for running Vibe Tennis and organising the food and drinks. Kahoot winners scored a lunch voucher, generously donated by The Rustic Ram.

This event was proudly sponsored by the club, but with over forty teenage girls in the area, we're keen to host more and are looking for sponsorship partners to help make that happen. If you are interested in supporting future events, please contact Bridget on 047 888 2773.

### Men's Mental Health Hit

Our Men's mental health night has continued to have positive feedback from participants, who had a hit and a laugh while connecting with community and we are hoping the warmer weather will bring new players! The next session will be held **Tuesday, 7th October 2025, from 6 to 7 pm**. Afterward, continue catching up over dinner and a pot at the Royal Meredith Hotel.

### Saturday Summer Competition

Our teams have all been entered and we have seven junior teams and one senior team! We are always looking for fill ins, so if you still would like to play please reach out!

### Spring Competition

Our next social night competition will be in October and will run for 7 weeks. We currently have 21 teams across three divisions! As always, dinners will be available and there will be cash prizes for the winners.

Registration forms can be obtained from [meredithtennis2020@gmail.com](mailto:meredithtennis2020@gmail.com). This event has only three spots left, so get in quick.

### Game on, Buninyong!

On 12th September, Meredith Tennis Club played a key role in organising the **Game On, Buninyong!** event at the BDTA courts. The day featured food trucks, Fast Four tennis, pickleball, and the local police using radar guns to measure the fastest serves.

Meredith members had a standout showing:

Fast Four Doubles Comp: David Fox & Hugo Murray tied for first place

Fastest Male Serve: Luke Evans

Fastest Female Serve: Lisa Fraser

Fastest Junior Female Serve: Savannah Thompson

A special mention goes to Amelia Dyer, who came straight from school camp and spent the evening selling raffle tickets. Her enthusiasm and commitment made the club proud.

Thanks to the generous support of local businesses including Meredith Farm Store, The Royal Hotel Meredith, Sweet Sage Farm, The Buninyong Hotel, Red Lion Hotel, Carboni's, Rebel Sport, Golden Point Hotel, Peter Joyce Tennis, and Open Pro Tennis Academy. Your contributions were greatly appreciated by both organisers and prize winners!



## @ LAL LAL

### Family Market

The annual Lal Lal fund raiser family market is on Sunday 26 October 2025. 9am - 2pm at Lal Lal Hall and surrounds

### Lal Lal P.S. 150

The Lal Lal Primary School 150 year celebrations will be held on Saturday 15 November at Lal Lal Primary School 2pm to 8 pm - All Welcome

## MEN'S MENTAL HEALTH SOCIAL TENNIS

**TUESDAY 7th OCT**

**Join us for a Men's Only Mental Health Social Tennis Night**

- A relaxed, no-pressure evening where you can swing a racquet, share a laugh, and connect with other local legends.
- 6PM – 7PM @ Meredith Tennis Club, Wilson Street.
- After the match, head over to The Royal Hotel Meredith for dinner.
- Free pot with any meal – because you've earned it!

**Contact Trev - 0403 095 275 - for more information**

**Proudly Sponsored by Meredith Tennis Club**

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## COFFEE

Small	Medium	Large
\$4.50	\$5.00	\$5.50

Cappuccino

Latte

Flat White

Mocha

Long Black

Chai Latte

Hot Chocolate

**Instant Coffee, Tea, Chai Tea** \$3.50

Milkshakes \$9.50

Thickshakes \$12.50

Chocolate | Vanilla | Caramel | Strawberry  
Blue Heaven | Banana | Lime

Iced Coffee

**Small** \$6.50

**Large** \$8.50

**Decaf** \$0.50

**Extra shot** \$0.50

**Alternative milks** \$1.00

Soy | Almond | Oat | Lactose Free

## OPENING HOURS

**Monday** 6am to 7pm

**Tuesday** 6am to 7pm

**Wednesday** 6am to 7pm

**Thursday** 6am to 7pm

**Friday** 6am to 7:30pm

**Saturday** 7am to 7:30pm

**Sunday** 8am to 7pm

PHONE 03 5286 1556

Select option 4

26 Wallace St Meredith

Mortimer's  
Petroleum



## MEREDITH ROADHOUSE Take-Away Menu

*Fish  
and  
Chips*



Friday and Saturday  
Nights

## TOASTIES

Bacon and Egg \$6.50

Bacon and Egg Roll \$8.00

Bacon, Egg and Cheese Muffin \$7.50

Ham and Cheese \$4.80

Ham, Cheese, Tomato \$5.50

Bacon, Egg Breakfast \$9.00



## HAMBURGERS

**Cheese Burger** \$11.50  
Double Cheese, Sauce, Pickles

**Plain Burger** \$11.50  
Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato Sauce

**Hamburger with the Lot** \$13.50  
Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato, Bacon, Egg, Onion, Sauce

**Steak Sandwich** \$15.80  
Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato, Bacon, Egg, Onion, Sauce

**Chicken Schnitzel Burger** \$10.80  
Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato, Mayo

**Chicken Chili Wrap** \$13.50  
Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato, Sweet Chili Sauce

**Veggie Burger** \$7.50  
Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato, Sauce

## FRESH SANDWICHES

Ham and Cheese \$4.50

Ham, Cheese, Tomato \$4.70

Ham, Cheese, Pickle \$4.50

Egg, Lettuce \$4.80

Ham, Salad \$7.50

Chicken Salad \$8.00

## FRESH ROLLS

Salad \$8.20

Ham, Salad \$8.50

Chicken Salad \$8.70



## FRIED FOOD

**Hot Chips- Bucket** \$3.00

Small Bag \$4.60

Large Bag \$7.20

Flake Battered \$9.00

Fish Battered \$4.00

Squid Rings \$0.90

Crab Stick \$1.20

Battered Sav \$4.00

Battered Burger \$4.60

Chicko Roll \$3.00

Spring Roll \$3.00

Mini Spring Roll \$1.60

Dim Sims- Steamed/Fried \$1.20

Chicken or Pork Dim Sims \$2.00

Potato Cakes \$1.40

Chicken Wing Dings \$2.20

Chicken Garlic Balls \$1.60

Chicken Strips \$2.20

Kransky \$3.50

Hot Jam Donuts \$1.20

**Chips and Gravy**

Small \$6.50

Large \$10.00

Cheese +\$1.50

EXTRAS

Beetroot, Pineapple \$1.00



## Cobbity

*Michaela Holroyd, as told to Marg Cooper.*

My father, Michael Gibbs, bought 160 acres of land in what is now Betsons Lane in Elaine, and also leased some land there after he sold 300 acres of his farm at Lara. He wanted some property with a later season and more rain. The average rainfall at Lara was 18 inches with what seemed like, two good seasons followed by two years of drought.

The Elaine property, which my mother Ruth named *Cobbity*, had an old weatherboard house with hessian and paper walls, timber shingles on the roof and a large population of possums and rats, but it had a superb shearing shed and a good hay shed. The family only lived in the house during hay making and shearing. Later my sister lived there while she was at Teachers College in Ballarat, but mostly it was our party house. Dad allowed parties on the proviso that we clean up, don't wreck anything and if there was any trouble we weren't to call him.

Dad and Mum ran Angus cattle and Corriedale cross Poll Dorset sheep at Elaine. At Lara it was cropping and sheep and Angus cattle. Later Dad and my sister ran a very successful Angora goat enterprise. Dad's work ute or paddock bomb, was a little old green 1952 Austin ute, that we called Ollie Austin and was kept in the shed on the farm. Next to the outhouse or outside dunny.

Ollie Austin was a crank start and to cope with the frosts, we had to put a woolly blanket over the distributor cap after each use. A family of mice lived in the blanket and kept that motor warm in between farm visits.

Dad bought the Elaine property from Athol Smith. Apparently Athol had bought it at auction from the Lugg family after Lizzie Betson [who was related to the Luggs] died. It is told that she got word from her mother at Elmore to come straight away because her mother was sick. Lizzie literally, went straight away and never came back leaving all her belongings in the house. The Pitcher family leased the land from Lizzie Betson after WW11 and locals remember that Donald McNaughton ploughed it all when his brother-in-law, Athol Smith owned it.

Michael Gibbs was a quiet achiever. He only swore at the dog in the sheep yards or if the bull jumped over the fence. He grew up on a dairy farm and moved around a bit before buying at Lara in 1961. For ten years, from 1972 he drove the yellow Falcon ute back and forward to *Cobbity*, often with my mother and all their five children on board. He also worked at the Ford Motor Company in Geelong as a metallurgist in the stamping plant. He was a good father, husband and businessman, never stopped working and died after suffering a stroke at the Geelong Stock Yards.

He also had a kind heart. When Kevin Ryan's house burnt down in 1975 he allowed the Ryan family to live in the house rent free.

His kind heart agreed to hosting a hay ride to Cobbity for my 16<sup>th</sup> birthday party. We put barley straw bales in the farm truck with the stock crate on and a tarp over the top. I have fond memories of that party, but being winter it was cold. With both the wood stove and the open fire burning, we thawed out and had a great time.

## Thank You

from the Sketchers

Approximately three years ago the "Brisbane Ranges Sketchers" group was formed. The formation of the informal group was the initiative of Amanda Hyatt and Kerry Thomson and championed by the "Meredith and District News" committee.

The objective was to provide our community with an opportunity to meet once a month to sketch local scenes, buildings, people etc. No previous artistic experience was required and it was open to everyone. It became an amicable and non-competitive group who chatted, enjoyed each other's company and created work depicting our wonderful environment. Coffee and biscuits were always in abundance and the display of the morning sketches and paintings always produced friendly discussions. Lunch usually followed at a cafe or more recently at a pub. Kerry kindly wrote up these paint-outs for publication in the monthly Meredith Newsletter. It was through the Newsletter that locals and visitors to the region read about our exploits and had the opportunity to join the group.

From humble beginnings of 5 sketchers, the reputation of the group rapidly grew to include approximately 20, including those from Meredith, She Oaks, Steiglitz, Bannockburn and Geelong. Even inclement weather did not deter the enthusiasm of the group, who upon such occasions met in community halls and participants' sheds sketching still life, figures and portraits.

The success of the group has resulted in the initiative being adopted by the Bannockburn Art Group and GPARTS and consequently the disbandment of our group.

Congratulations Amanda and Kerry for your initiative, generosity, good nature and efforts which resulted in the groups success. We always looked forward to the paint-outs and will miss them.

*Members of the "Brisbane Ranges Sketchers".*

*thank you*

### GORSE - Stop the SEED!

Gorse is **NOW IN FLOWER** so it's a great time to cut and paint or spray your outbreaks large or small

help stop the seed. Start with one plant - it all helps

Visit [vicgorsetaskforce.com.au](http://vicgorsetaskforce.com.au) for information and inspiration:

(September "field demonstration day" coming soon to help anyone)

**Tackling gorse takes effort but doing nothing means it just gets worse**







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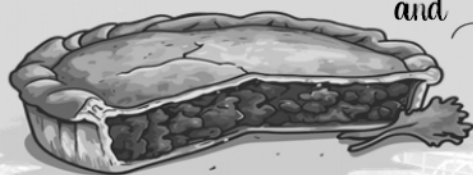
*Our 12 Steps  
to Success*





A. Crumble's

# eats and treats



## French Apple Cake

### Ingredients

- 2 eggs
- 150g caster sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla
- 125ml vegetable oil
- 150g plain flour
- 1/4 tsp salt
- 1 tsp baking powder
- 4 medium apples, peeled, cored and cut into 2cm pieces
- 2 tbsp demerara sugar

### Method

1. Heat oven to 170° fan-forced (190° conventional)
2. Grease and line a 1.2 litre loaf tin
3. In a bowl, lightly whisk together the eggs and sugar, then whisk in the flour, salt and oil
4. Gently fold in the flour, salt and baking powder to form a batter
5. Stir the apples through the batter and pour into the tin, scatter the demerara sugar on top
6. Bake for 45-50 minutes or until a skewer inserted into the centre comes out clean
7. Cool for 10 minutes then remove from the tin
8. Serve warm or at room temperature

*Recipe by Adam Liaw "The Age Good Food"*

We made a French Apple Cake using four apples, sugar, oil, eggs and flour. The apple peeler makes a slinky, it gets all the seeds out, and the peel and the core. You put some of the ingredients in and mix it with the whisk and then you put more in and gently mix it with the spatula. It goes in a loaf tin and then in the hot oven. Afterwards the chooks were happy to see us coming because we fed them the peels and the cores.

*Alarik, Ziggy and Aayan, Prep/One*

### And Some Feedback...

*I love the recipe and will contact the school for eggs- amazing!*  
- Alyson



*From Top: Ziggy, Aayan and Alarik immersed in their work; Ziggy and Aayan enthralled by the magic of an apple peeler/corer.*





## Elaine NOW.

Marg Cooper

Matt Cooper has a passion for photography and is keen to learn how to use a camera and a computer to produce interesting photos. Previously he has taken photos of Lake Wendouree and has produced greeting cards for sale.

Recently his support worker Lee Considine noticed that MHIG is collecting photos of Elaine and District for an exhibition. He rang and asked if it would be OK for them to shoot some photos of Elaine NOW to contribute. As well as collecting photos of times past, it is important to document the NOW, so if you see a couple of chaps out photographing around Elaine you may like to give them some tips on photo opportunities.

Lee retired from being a support worker in Geelong area, after 30 years, but has continued to support Matt because they get on so well, and because Matt is keen to learn skills that Lee has and they enjoy each other's company. Their relationship must be special as Lee lives on the Bellarine Peninsula, close to the surf and Matt lives in Ballarat. Matt also has an interest in cars, Collingwood and keeping fit.

Some of Matt's photos will be exhibited at the Elaine Photo Exhibition on October 18 & 19 at the Elaine Hall. Hopefully, he will have greeting cards for sale to help fund that new, super, duper camera which he wants to buy.



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

Are you interested in booking a car boot site  
or indoor stall contact Bev 0438 514 176

**MEREDITH  
CAR BOOT  
SALE**

Saturday October 25  
10:00 AM until 3:00 PM

Advance Meredith  
Association Inc.  
SMALL TOWN BIG SPIRIT

## MORRISONS OPEN DAY

Morrison's Fire Brigade would like to welcome everyone to their

### OPEN DAY

**26 October between 11am and 2pm**

for an opportunity to see our new, renovated shed. Come and meet and greet your local CFA members at 552 Elaine-Morrison's Rd, Morrison's.

There will be fun activities and a chance to explore our tankers and new Field Command vehicle.

All ages are welcome to this great, fun day.

Make sure to bring your appetites as there's a sausage sizzle and soft drinks available at a small cost (sorry no eftpos). We hope to see you there.

*If you're interested but require further details contact Kenneth on 0407926412.*



Sunday, 26th October

### PROGRAM

- 10 am** Various displays - St. Paul's Church  
Art Exhibition - St. Thomas Church,  
Home-cooked foods & cuppas - Sugg's Cottage,  
Raffle tickets, car clubs, stalls & tatting displays,
- 10.30** Sausage Sizzle opens - Sugg's Cottage.
- 11 am** First tour - 'Around the town'  
'Most Like Owner' dog competition - St. Paul's  
Performance Art - randomly around the town.
- 11.30** Children's Reading Session, Sugg's Cottage,  
Children's Poetry recital - St. Paul's Church.
- 12.00** Band 'The Inklings' - Sugg's Cottage  
Kids Games - Sugg's Cottage green.
- 12.30** Second tour - 'The Cemetery'
- 1pm** Aussie poetry recital - St. Paul's Church,  
Performance Art - around the town,  
Youngest & Oldest Attendee competition &  
prizes - St. Paul's Church.
- 1.30** Raffle draw & Guessing Lolly Jar winners  
announced - St. Paul's Church.
- 2pm** Third tour - 'Steiglitz Wildflowers'  
Bannockburn Ukulele Band - Sugg's Cottage





## Do the Meredith News Tiny 2 Question Survey...

Next year is our 50th Anniversary. To help us decide our direction after that, we would like you to tell us what you think about the News by answering just TWO questions. You can fill out the form below and drop it at the Post Office by the end of the month or, even easier, scan the QR code to complete the survey on your phone.



### 1 How often do you read the Meredith News?

- ☐ Every month, thoroughly
- ☐ Every month, but just a little
- ☐ Occasionally (every two or three months)
- ☐ Rarely (less than three times a year)

### 2 Which parts of the Meredith News particularly interest you? Tick all that apply.

- ☐ Local news - events that have happened, including school report, police report
- ☐ Regular columns
- ☐ Local community information - what people are doing in the community
- ☐ Local history, including stories about people or events in the past
- ☐ Information about the local environment, natural history
- ☐ Information about clubs and activities
- ☐ What's on - future events
- ☐ Stories and poems
- ☐ Services available - advertising
- ☐ Other (please describe)

THANK YOU



OPTIONAL: Any other comments or suggestions?  
(Attach your response if you need more space)

## DON'T FORGET...

If you would like to go into the draw to win one of the three \$50 vouchers, fill in your contact details below:

Name:

Email:

Phone:

...and you could win one of 3  
**\$50**  
VOUCHERS

## Brigade Readies for Fire Season. (You Can Too.)

While the Meredith Rural Fire Brigade responds to emergencies year-round, extra training and preparation are now in full swing ahead of the fire season.

Recently, our members took part in a training exercise at Cooper's Bridge, refreshing vital skills in pumping, drafting, map reading, fire behaviour, hazardous trees, entrapment drills, and radio use. We've also checked and tested our equipment to make sure everything is in top condition when it's needed most.

### What can you do to prepare?

While the brigade is getting ready, here's how you can prepare for summer:

**Prepare your property:** Clear dry grass, twigs, and loose bark from your yard. Move woodpiles and store flammable liquids well away from the house.

**Have a plan:** Know what you'll do for each fire danger rating and be ready to act early. Decide if you'll stay or leave, where you'll go, and what you'll take with you.

**Stay informed:** Download the VicEmergency app, set up your watch zones, and keep an ear on emergency broadcasters such as ABC.

For more tips on how to prepare, visit the CFA website: [www.cfa.vic.gov.au](http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au)





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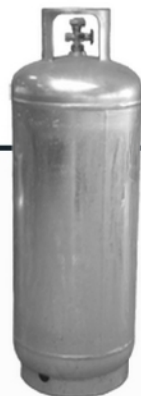
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Vanessa's



# FLOWER FARM FILES

Dig in. Grow well. Bloom beautifully.

## Out in the Garden, Outside Now

Spring rains and warmer weather mean growth is everywhere—but not all of it is welcome. Grass and weeds are taking off, and weekends have become the familiar rhythm of *mow, sleep, repeat*. Whether it's riding on or push mowers, the sound of cutting fills the garden and farm.

Amid the maintenance, there's beauty to enjoy. Magnolias and azaleas are flowering in full colour, creating eye-catching displays across garden beds and borders. Camellia petals are still carpeting paths, adding a soft, fragrant layer to the earth beneath. Meanwhile, our Highland cattle are happily grazing nearby, keeping the paddocks low and adding a calm, gentle presence to the busy spring scene.

### On Our Farm

October is a busy month behind the scenes. Right now, our main tasks include:

- Growing seedlings for the upcoming season, ensuring they're healthy and strong before planting out
- Ordering annual plugs to fill empty beds and keep displays vibrant
- Completing the division of our dahlias
- Preparing beds with compost and soil amendments such as lime, blood and bone and fertiliser to provide a rich, well-balanced foundation
- Sowing green spring manure on resting beds to improve soil structure and fertility

Installing weed suppressant layers by laying strips of cardboard in rows and covering with woodchip mulch (thanks to the local powerline arborists for the extra supply!) Make sure the cardboard is overlapping to prevent weeds coming through.

Our Highland cattle play a part too—while they aren't allowed in the flower beds, their grazing helps keep surrounding paddocks tidy, and their slow, steady presence reminds us to pause and enjoy the view between jobs.

### Things You Can Do Now

#### Start Seeds

October is perfect for sowing seeds. Plant directly into beds or raise seedlings in trays. If your seedlings have already started growing in a sheltered spot, thin them out—calendula, for example, benefits from extra space to ensure mature plants thrive.

#### Weeding

Keep weeds under control by pulling, mulching, or using other preventative methods. Regular attention now saves work later and helps your desired plants flourish.

#### Dividing Perennials

Divide perennials and remove dead wood. Lavender, rosemary hedges, and salvias respond well to trimming, producing stronger growth and more flowers. Don't prune

to hard into the hardwood – keep it to the soft wood

### Feeding Roses

Roses are hungry in spring. A good feed supports new growth, encourages plenty of blooms, and helps plants recover from winter. Be patient with aphids – the ladybirds will be arriving shortly

### Citrus Care

Avoid pruning citrus now—the pruning window has passed. Cutting back at the wrong time can attract citrus gall wasps, leaving unsightly bumps and weakening the tree.

### What to Plant This Month

#### Vegetables & Herbs:

- Direct sow: beans, carrots, radishes, beetroot, lettuce
  - Plant seedlings: tomatoes, capsicum, chillies, zucchini, pumpkin (protect from frost)
- Herbs: basil, parsley, coriander, chives

#### Flowers & Ornamentals:

- Annuals: petunias, marigolds, cosmos, salvias
  - Perennials: echinacea, and other summer-flowering varieties
- Bulbs: tulips and lilies for autumn bloom.
- Other Tasks:

- Mulch young plants to conserve moisture and suppress weeds
- Continue composting and feeding established plants

Don't be too hasty to cut your early bulb foliage off. Give the plant time to conserve energy back into the bulb to bloom again next year

### Looking Ahead

October is all about momentum. Growth is rapid, the garden is filling out, and the fruits (and flowers) of your early-season work will start to appear soon. By staying on top of mowing, weeding, feeding, and seedling care, you'll set yourself up for a productive and beautiful season.

With the Highland cattle grazing nearby, spring blooms in full display, and seedlings taking root, October is a month to roll up your sleeves, enjoy the energy of the season, and appreciate the little pleasures that come with life on the farm.

## TEST'N'TAG

All plug in electrical items can be tested and certified safe.

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Contact Meredith Maintenance  
(Licensed Tester)

**5286 1550 or 0427 300742**



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Wendy Cook

Flowing along the northern and eastern edges of Meredith is a small creek, Coolebarghurk Creek. It begins its journey south of Elaine amidst paddocks. When it reaches Meredith, it is a line of pools, often with a dry reedy channel between them, unless recent rains cause it to flow. Beside the creek is a gravel path, following a route originally used by the Wadawurrung people, who walked quietly beneath the trees lining the creek, hunting ducks or eels. If they were on a journey, they may have chatted with family and friends as they walked. The name Coolebarghurk is believed to be based on their words, meaning "man's track by the creek". Later, the track was used by Europeans on their travels between Geelong and Ballarat, on foot or horse, or in wagons. Now, part of it is a peaceful place of trees and birds known as the Path of the Ibis.

If you wish to take this gentle walk, you can begin outside the Meredith Community Centre. Turn downhill and you will see the gravel path leading you towards the creek. Pause to take note of the trees that you pass. One displays clusters of gumnuts below its leaves. From the next, hang ribbons of bark, swinging in the breeze. Chirping and chattering sounds from higher up, let you know that small birds are among its leaves, although you may not see them. Ahead is a statue of a bird's neck and head, its long beak curving downwards, typical of an ibis. Around its base grow thick clumps of native tussock grass, surrounded by tiles designed by the local school children and professional artists when the Path was established in 1990. There is another ibis statue further along. You can walk around them and study the tiles. They show birds, mammals, reptiles, frogs and insects, many of them creatures that lived in or close to the creek. If you keep your eyes and ears open, you will find that some of them remain.

When you reach the creek, stop and look around. Growing beside the water, three gum trees close together give a shady peaceful feel. If you watch for a while, you may see birds among the branches, or superb fairy-wrens, tails pointing upwards, hopping across the mossy ground. You can observe the different shapes and sizes of the gum leaves, and the bushes that grow here. There are tea trees with dull grey-green leaves and round furry seed pods. Hop goodenias with bright green leaves have yellow flowers in spring. Layers of leaves and bark on the ground create a moist place for insects and worms to hide. Long green leaves of water ribbons lie on the surface of the pool. In autumn and winter, you may find fungi growing here and elsewhere near the path.

Walk downstream towards the shelter with its attractive metalwork designs. It is a good place to sit and watch and think. It is surrounded by more animal tiles, and beneath the wooden seat is a surprise. The course of the creek follows gentle curves, often lined with trees, some native and some deciduous trees from other lands. In places, pools

of water reflect leaves and branches, and on sunny days, the clear blue sky. Here, you may hear frogs calling for a mate. In other parts of the creek, rushes grow, their brown stalks and leaves rustling with the wind. Among them, small birds go about their lives, feeding and nesting, out of sight of human eyes or the eyes of predatory birds high above. Listen to the different calls of each species. If you wait quietly, you may see the birds emerge from their hidden world and hop among the branches of trees nearby.

These trees support forms of life apart from the birds. Insects and spiders live on and under their bark and leaves. Many have lichens on their branches and trunks, patches of grey or green, or miniature bushy clumps of bright yellow. The bark of gum trees may be rough and full of hiding places, or smooth and creamy, or coloured in several shades of brown and grey. None are old enough to have formed hollows, which are crucial homes and nesting sites for many mammals and birds. A few nesting boxes in the trees could help the local wildlife.

Two of the trees look different. Dark green and appearing to have needles rather than leaves, they are sheoaks. These needles are branchlets, with tiny brown leaves in well spaced rings, so small that they are difficult to see. The wind in their leaves makes a gentle whooshing noise as if blowing through something hollow. If you study these two trees you may notice a difference between them. One has little woody cones and the other does not. The one with cones is a female tree, with bright red tufts of flowers which develop into cones after they are pollinated. The other tree is male. Its flowers grow in brown catkins on the ends of its branchlets. The pollen from these is spread by the wind, some of it reaching the female.

Near the second sheoak that you pass, are rocks which allow you to easily cross the creek to an open grassy area. In the neighbouring paddock grow a few old trees, poplars, fruit trees and a conifer, which mark the site of the first hotel in Meredith, dating from the 1840s. When you return to the path and continue downstream, you will soon meet the slender branches of a weeping willow, hanging in front of you. In winter, they are yellowish and bare with brown buds sprouting delicate leaves as spring approaches. In summer, they form a green curtain to push through. Beyond, is the modern world of bitumen road and cars. Here, you have choices. You can turn right towards the highway; or walk straight ahead along Champ Street, and continue following the journey of the Coolebarghurk Creek through the Meredith Police Paddocks, as its valley deepens; or you can return through the swishing green willow curtain to the Path of the Ibis.

While your walk is short, the path of the water beside you is far longer. After passing Meredith, it winds its way to join the Moorabool River near Sheoaks. From here, the water that flowed past Meredith continues to travel downstream, combining with the waters of the Barwon River at Fyansford on the western edge of Geelong. Now, in a wider, deeper channel it flows through the city's parklands and beyond, to reach Lake Connewarre and finally the saltwater of the river's estuary at Barwon Heads, before entering Bass Strait.



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Community Strengthening Grants Program



## Farm Drought Grants

Golden Plains Shire is one of the Local Government Areas declared for Farm Drought Grants. You can check your eligibility by visiting the dedicated web page by either typing in the truly ridiculous website address below, or scanning the QR code we have provided.

[ruralfinance.com.au/globalassets/ruralfinance/grants/on-farmdroughtinfrastructure/farm-drought-support-grant-guidelines.pdf](http://ruralfinance.com.au/globalassets/ruralfinance/grants/on-farmdroughtinfrastructure/farm-drought-support-grant-guidelines.pdf)



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Michael Riseley



### IT REALLY HAPPENED

On 1/6/1966 the British GPO issued a set of 3 stamps to celebrate the start of the soccer World Cup. Amazingly after many weeks of competition England won the final. So on 18/8/1966 the GPO reissued the 4 penny stamp from the set but overprinted with the words "England Winners". The soccer mad public said Yes Please and stocks were sold out within 2 days. Britain's biggest stamp dealer, Stanley Gibbons Ltd, had ordered and did receive a huge number of these stamps direct from the GPO. The day after the GPO announced that stocks had sold out, Stanley Gibbons started selling their supply of the overprinted 4 penny stamps for 2 shillings 6 pence each. This was a rather healthy mark up of 750%. They rationed their customers to only 4 stamps each. Who says there is no profit in philately!

The world's first adhesive postage stamp the 1 penny black was issued 1/5/1840. The stamps were printed in sheets without perforations and with very narrow blank paper margins between the stamps. When the sheets were cut into individual stamps, it became very random indeed in respect of the margins. Whilst all Penny Blacks are now quite valuable, the question of how valuable depends a lot on how many and how good are the margins around the stamp. Ones with 3 neat margins are rare and ones with 4 good margins are very rare.

The design on the Penny Black was open to a competition which received 2,600 entries. But none were deemed suitable. So it was decided to use the profile portrait of Queen Victoria which had already been used on the 1837 Coronation Medal when she took the throne at age 18. The Queen was very pleased with the stamp's portrait. So much so that this same portrait was used on Great Britain stamps throughout her 60 year reign.

The Penny Black revolutionised postal communications. But it did have an inherent problem - the colour. Post Offices normally used black ink when postmarking the mail and it was often difficult to determine if the stamp had been postmarked and if so, at which Post Office. In 1841 the colour was changed to reddish-brown and was used for the next 15 years. Subsequent stamps were issued with the same portrait but in different designs, colours and denominations.

On 28/1/1999 the US Postal Service issued a pair of quite beautiful stamps celebrating Love. The thought was they would be used to post wedding invitations and reply cards. They also issued a Valentines Day stamp. These stamps were launched at the main post office in the city of Loveland in Colorado. This city became known as America's Sweetheart City.



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# 49...and counting.

In our lead up to our celebration of Meredith News' 50th year of publication, we have been exploring the many components to its production and distribution. This month our roving reporter, John Merlo, talks to Ravinder Rebbas (we all know him as Ravi) at the Meredith Post Office. It is one of around a dozen commercial and other premises that kindly help us distribute the newsletter to our district readers. Thank you to you all. - Ed.

One of the most important distribution points for the newsletter is the Meredith General store and Post Office, right in the centre of town.

In many ways the store is the beating heart of Meredith, and we're fortunate that this vital business has a proprietor who has a real passion for the town.

Ravi is a great personality, a real family man, and is developing the business with amazing energy.

Ravi, originally from the Indian city of Hyderabad in Telengana State, has been in Australia for 16 years, and says he feels right at home in Meredith.

At the moment Ravi commutes daily from his present home in Geelong, but intends to make Meredith his permanent home as soon as possible.

Even at this early stage he's made many improvements to the business and is pleased at the effects it's already having on the substantial investment he's making.

Ravi says that being an important outlet for the newsletter helps him in getting to know the locals - as well as the many 'out-of-towners' who stop in at the store as they travel the busy Midland Highway.

**Next Month** We get to the last link in the chain - you, the readers. If you would like to pass on to us your impression of the newsletter now or over the years, please send it through to [news@meredithnews.com.au](mailto:news@meredithnews.com.au) - Ed.



## Jess and Asher's Monthly Puzzle

*Spring*  
**Word Search**

Can you find the words hidden in the puzzle?

C	S	N	W	A	R	M	N	G	O	W	D
C	P	L	A	N	T	K	O	R	T	U	O
A	B	L	T	B	T	G	O	E	I	R	C
N	W	E	O	L	A	R	B	E	E	I	R
O	B	Y	M	O	S	F	N	U	D	C	E
L	E	G	U	S	F	B	C	E	D	K	B
A	L	B	R	S	T	T	R	U	S	S	M
S	L	D	B	O	K	I	I	A	G	U	E
R	R	P	R	M	W	E	C	T	I	N	V
S	P	R	O	U	T	S	T	O	R	N	O
D	F	C	O	N	F	O	V	L	U	Y	N
A	S	S	E	P	T	E	M	B	E	R	E

CANOLA	GREEN	WARM	NOVEMBER
BLOSSOM	SUNNY	PLANT	BUDS
SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	SPROUT	GROW



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## Marg's BOOK REVIEW

### Da Vinci's Last Supper

by Paul Arrowsmith.

*His gait was long and purposeful, while his reddish-brown hair and beard speckled with streaks of grey, flapped in the wind. A tall man, standing head and shoulders above many of his peers, Leonardo was undeniably handsome. His appearance often aroused envy in less attractive members of his sex, while women on the other hand had been known to swoon in his presence. His fingers were slender and calloused at the tips and when he shook your hand he did so firmly, perhaps too firmly for lesser men. Below the furrows of his forehead his strikingly blue eyes could convey either the calm of wisdom, or that a riot of thought was taking place inside his extraordinary brain.*

There are many books written about Leonardo Da Vinci and his painting of *The Last Supper*. Paul Arrowsmith claims to have written *The Forgotten Tale*. Da Vinci's constant search for new ways to reveal the world through art defined the Renaissance and set an artistic standard for centuries to come. In this book the author shows Da Vinci within his time and lets the reader learn a bit about the man behind the genius.

Leonardo was commissioned to paint *The Last Supper* in the former refectory of Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan. All did not go to plan. In this book, the reader is dragged into the political and religious upheaval, violence and scandal of the 1490's, that beset Leonardo while creating his masterpiece which measures 29 feet x 15 feet and depicts Jesus at his last meal with his disciples, before he was betrayed. The painting took Leonardo and his team of assistants about three years to complete and they didn't use traditional paints but experimented with an oil based medium. Apparently, the painting did spoil fairly quickly but recent restorers have discovered wonderful details such as what food was on the table.

Of particular interest to Paul Arrowsmith is the identity of the man who Da Vinci chose to paint as Jesus. Da Vinci chose actual people to pose for the characters so they were realistic. It is believed that members of Sforza's court (he commissioned the work) posed and that James the Lesser and Thomas are based on Da Vinci himself. In a notebook it was written that a certain Alessandro Carissimo from Parma was the model for Christ's hands. In this book Alessandro is an out of work weaver who after he is chosen starts to believe that he is indeed Jesus. This does not go well for him and he reappears at the end of the book to pose for Da Vinci as another completely different character.

Viewing the painting from left to right there is Bartholomew, James (the eventual head of the church in Jerusalem), Andrew, Peter, Judas and John. On the other side there are James (the son of Zebedee), Thomas, Phillip, Matthew, Thadddeus (sometimes called Jude) and Simon. We are told that nothing in Leonard's painting is trivial!

This book offers an engaging and unusually intimate view of one of the great icons of western art and the historical context in which it was created. It was not a peaceful time, violence was rife and the church officials delighted in accusing and punishing or killing anyone whom they thought was a threat to their agenda.

### Bookclub:

The Bookclub in Meredith has been meeting continuously since the 1980's and believe it or not, some original members still dutifully or delightfully read the allotted book each month and meet to talk about that book.

## HEATH MAINTENANCE

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Compiled by Michael Riseley

1. This purple flower shrinks with shyness.
2. This little green vegetable can really whistle.
3. This bloke kept many couples high and dry.
4. His speciality is the morning grind.
5. Harass a hunting dog.
6. In Madrid she had a nose reconstruction before Rita.
7. This black and white horse is in the sky with no hair.
8. No day in the storm could be a famous nurse.

Answers -

1. Violet 2. Pea 3. Noah 4. Barista 5. Hound 6. Senorita 7. Piebald 8. Nightingale



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## Meredith CERT welcomes Ambulance Victoria CEO

Ambulance Victoria (AV) CEO Jordan Emery recently visited members of the Meredith and District Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

A widely respected healthcare leader and clinician, Jordan began his CEO role on 30 June, moving across to AV from his chief executive role at Ambulance Tasmania. Jordan has previously led operational and clinical services at NSW Ambulance and has worked in global mental health in New York and East Africa.

Meredith and District CERT member Martin Peters said it was excellent to have the CEO in town.

“As a very busy person in charge of an organisation with over 8,000 employees, we were very fortunate Jordan was able to meet with some members of our team – both past and present,” Martin said.

“We were able to discuss some of the challenges we face, such as recruitment and retention of our first responders.

“It was a fantastic opportunity, both for Jordan and the Meredith crew, to learn more about each other in a relaxed environment over a casual morning tea.

“Also in attendance from AV was the Golden Plains senior team manager, our area manager and one of the MICA paramedics from Geelong who trained some of our earliest team members nearly 18 years ago!”

The Meredith and District CERT comprises of a group of dedicated volunteers, who respond to medical emergencies in Meredith and the surrounding communities.

Volunteers need no prior medical experience, only a willingness to learn and a full driver licence. All training and equipment is supplied by AV. On completion of training, volunteers receive a nationally recognised qualification in emergency medical response.

## GET ON a CERT

If you're interested in helping make a difference to people's lives in the community, learn more about becoming a first responder at Ambulance Victoria, visit:

[ambulance.vic.gov.au/become-first-responder](https://ambulance.vic.gov.au/become-first-responder) or email [Meredith.teamleader@ambulance.vic.gov.au](mailto:Meredith.teamleader@ambulance.vic.gov.au)

For general inquiries, contact Ambulance Victoria Media Liaison (03) 9090 5582 or [media@ambulance.vic.gov.au](mailto:media@ambulance.vic.gov.au)



## Nominate Your Community Hero

*from Media Release*

Golden Plains Shire is calling for nominations for its 2026 Community Awards .

Nominations for the 2026 Community Awards opened on Wednesday 1 October and are available in four categories: Community Hero of the Year, Senior Community Hero of the Year, Young Community Hero of the Year and Community Group Award.

Your nominations will help us celebrate the hard work, passion, and dedication that makes our community so special. I highly encourage residents to nominate an individual or community group that truly make a difference in the community. Nominations can be made up until 5pm, Friday 28 November 2025 at [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations](https://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/consultations).



L to R: Cameron Sibeijn, Aliesha Roberson, Martin Peters, Lynn Heard, Dave Reus, Jordan Emery, David Mackay





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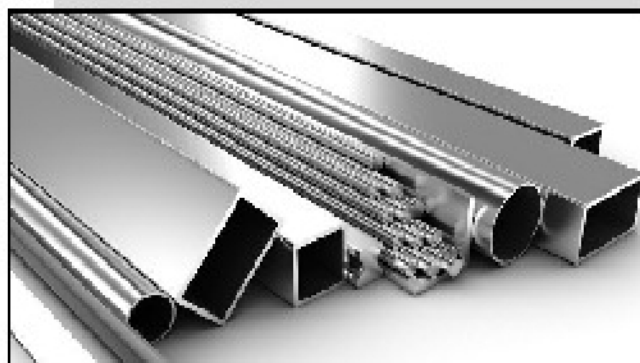
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## it's History

Meredith History Interest Group

### Elaine Photo Exhibition:

This much looked forward to event will be held at the Elaine Hall on Saturday, October 18 & Sunday October 19, 2025 from 10 am until 3 pm.

The opening ceremony will be on Saturday, October 18 at 1.30pm.

MHIG has been collecting photos all year. We have been collating the photos, printing photos, mounting photos, arranging displays and gathering information.

Be warned that this exhibition will be an extravaganza of photos. Please allow yourself time to look around at all the different categories that you are interested in. Please allow yourself time to talk to others and reminisce or to tell us stories about the photos.

### Old Newspapers:

Newspapers can be used for many purposes after they have been read for news. Many will remember that newspapers were cut or torn, hung on a nail or a length of wire in the outside dunny and used as toilet paper.

Recently an old page of a newspaper, folded lengthwise to a width of approximately one inch wide was donated to MHIG. It was a page from the Geelong Advertiser of 1957. Apparently, a gentleman tried on a hat at St Josephs Op Shop and it wouldn't fit his head but he discovered that a length of newspaper had been put around the inner ring to pad it out. He removed the newspaper and wonderful, it fitted and he bought it.

Someone else said that when his parents emigrated to Australia in the 1950's they bought a cover for a pouffe in the Suez Canal. It was found recently that they had stuffed it with newspapers.

### Calendar:

The Meredith Calendar for 2026 is ready to go to the Printer. The theme is Old Posts on the side of roads. You may remember that before plastic posts on the edges of roads there were cement or wooden posts with reflectors on them. I believe that they are called Guide Posts. A few of them remain including seven down Coopers Road and quite a few in Steiglitz township. Most of them have been left to show motorists where culverts are. Photos of posts on gravel roads don't make for exciting photos but I have managed to find enough wooden or cement posts with buildings in the background. Looks good. Watch out for the calendars when they are for sale. A great, inexpensive Christmas gift and a keepsake of Meredith.

### Facebook Page:

For the past two years we have posted a photo of a Mystery Item each week plus other posts advertising events of interest. The Mystery Items have received a lot of conversation.

The History Facebook page could be bigger and better. Are you the person to take it to a new realm? If you would like a hobby please let us know.

## A Photographic Exhibition

### Elaine Thru The Lens

18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> October

10am - 3pm

Elaine Hall

Meredith History Interest Group

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### MEREDITH MUSIC FESTIVAL TICKET ALLOCATION FOR LOCALS

The upcoming Meredith Music Festival sold out in August, not long after tickets went on sale.

There is, however, an allocation of tickets available on a first-come first-served basis for locals living between Elaine and Lethbridge. Tickets can be purchased from the **Meredith Roadhouse (26 Wallace Street)** from 10am on the 11th of November until sold out. 3 per person limit.

Please bring proof of residential address (Meredith, Cargerie, Elaine, She Oaks, Mount Mercer or Lethbridge address). Card sales only.

The 33rd Meredith Music Festival will be held from the 5th to the 7th of December, 2025, at the Meredith Supernatural Amphitheatre.

If you have any questions, please contact Aunty Meredith via [auntym@mmf.com.au](mailto:auntym@mmf.com.au).

## Steiglitz Comes to Life Again!

Lindy Allinson

While Steiglitz streets no longer ring with the hustle & bustle of 3000 residents, they will soon be filled with the laughter of hundreds. All enjoying the fabulous **'BACK TO STEIGLITZ REUNION' on SUNDAY 26TH OCTOBER 2025** from 10am until 2pm.

Friendly dogs on a leash are welcome, and you can enter your pet in the 'Most Like Owner' competition. We even have yummy home-made dog treats.

Vintage car clubs. A community art exhibition - with works for sale & Performance Art by Angela. Gumbboot throwing competitions. The hills will echo the music of 'The Inklings,' and a Ukulele band. Barrie will recite retro Aussie poetry, with prizes for the annual Oldest and Youngest Female & Male Attendee prizes.

Our best local cooks are ready with mouth-watering country fare, a sausage sizzle and our famous Steiglitz home-made lemonade. There are Lolly Guessing Jars and a variety of stalls, historic displays and tours, displays by Spinners & Weavers and the Tatters & Quilters and Raffle Prizes.

It is an important fundraiser for the town, (proceeds go straight into repairing & maintaining ALL this town's early gold-rush buildings) but no silly prices. In fact most activities are 'donation only', including our home-made foods, so you can afford to bring your whole family. (We have no electricity or credit card facilities, so cash only please!) Come and relax, unwind & enjoy this wonderful event, in its equally wonderful setting.

*The program for the day is on page 11 in this issue and for more information visit [backtosteiglitz.org.au](http://backtosteiglitz.org.au) or ring me, Lindy, on 0470 208 086.*

We're looking for a new...

### NEWSLETTER CO-EDITOR

Here's a chance to play a key role in one of the district's foremost community projects. If you can commit several hours every second month, use MS Word or Publisher, are a reliable, team player by nature and willing to learn, you could play an important and rewarding part of this highly successful operation. Email us at:

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

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## GP Shire's Gazette Goes Digital



The Gazette will no longer be printed. If you would like to receive it in digital form, register at [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/form/e-gazette](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/form/e-gazette). Or use the QR code.

## High Tea at Werribee Mansion

Marg Cooper

The Art Girls went to Werribee Park Mansion on Saturday, September 20 to celebrate the birthday of Yvonne Gulle. A special event for a special member of the Art Group.

Werribee Park Mansion is grand and was built in 1877 from basalt and sandstone for the Chirnside family, who made their money from wool. The mansion became a Catholic Seminary in the 1920's and was bought by the State Government in 1977.

We were served High Tea in Joseph's Dining room. This is part of the Lancemore Mansion Hotel and is named to honour the previous occupants, the Catholic Church. We would have felt really grand if we had sat around the dining room in the mansion, but St Josephs had been built on the side of the mansion, and had many features of the original building, like high ceilings and tall windows that overlooked the parterre garden.

We sat at a table beautifully set with a crisp white tablecloth and serviettes, silver cutlery and fine china. Prosecco was poured for each, three-tiered cake stands were delivered to the table for those with special dietary requirements, and for the others, and tea was poured continuously. We were looked after like kings or queens by the staff who were so attentive and obliging.

The food included ribbon sandwiches, sausage rolls, oysters served in their shells, scones, jam and cream, macaroons, a type of custard in shot glasses, little sweet pastries and more. The food was finely crafted, a feast for the senses. Some of our group tried to determine the flavourings used, which included rose water in the scones and saffron in the custard.

We hope that Yvonne enjoyed this special treat. We could have also explored the mansion, the rose garden, the orchard, the open range zoo, the cliffs by the Werribee River, Shadowfax Winery and the equestrian events.

Happy Birthday







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*G'Day from the Golden penners for October. The year is spinning by and the warmer weather is trying to grace us, giving us glimpses of what is to come.*

*The wattle has come and gone and spring blooms are starting to fill the air with their delightful scents. Spring is indeed a lovely time of year. If you feel the need to spring clean your mind and wash away the winter blues you could try joining our group. We meet every fortnight for fun and writing at the Bannockburn Library at 1:30 for an hour and a half of jolliness. We accept all new comers without exception and you would be made most welcome. Our October meetings are the 9<sup>th</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup>.*

*This month's story is from Gail Griffin, we hope you enjoy it.*

*Regards, Wendy.*

### **A Guilty Pleasure**

The office retirement party for Alison was in full swing. Still sober, unlike those around her, she looked around the room and observed what were now, her former workmates, downing copious amounts of alcohol and canapes, while gyrating to the loud music being played by the DJ. She knew she'd miss their camaraderie but at the same time, she knew it was time for her to go.

Approaching Alison was her closest colleague and best friend, Sue. Tipsy, with a drink in hand, she leaned in and shouted above the din, 'So what do you want to do with your retirement?'

'Haven't given it much thought,' answered Alison.

'What? You haven't got a plan?' asked Sue.

'Nope. Haven't had much time to think about it with work being so full-on, especially these last weeks. Been trying to compose and implement a succession plan; not a retirement plan.'

'Are you for real?'

'Apparently, I am.'

With that, Sue grabbed Alison by the arm and hastily dragged her from the office to the vacant, quiet reception area. Both of them plopped themselves down into the nearby visitors' chairs. Turning to face Alison, Sue asked, 'What do you need right now?'

'Mmm. What do I need right now, you ask? I don't know...' Alison responded. 'What do you think I need?'

'I think you need a guilty pleasure to kick off your retirement.'

'That's a bit self-indulgent, don't you think?'

'No, I don't. I think it's more like self-preservation. Forty-five years of full-time work while raising a family is no mean feat. We women deny our own needs to keep the peace. We deserve to give ourselves some self-care, especially at our age.'

'I thought a guilty pleasure was something that other people thought was a shameful thing. Or something overdone. Or something that would prove to be embarrassing if other people found out about it...'

'Maybe, but who cares what other people think? They're not in the driver's seat of our lives. We have the power to determine our own future. We need to have a deeper connection with our own needs and desires. That's the only way we can then form deeper connections with others and guarantee self-preservation.'

'I seriously don't know if I've got time for any more connections in between tennis, choir, French lessons, gardening, MBS Expos, walking the dog... I did wonder though if I could enrol in an Open University course... Maybe, U3A... You and I both know what the pundits say: Connection, connection, connection!' Alison mused. At that point, she tuned out. Her mind elsewhere, she was envisaging being in a lecture theatre or group learning environment, surrounded by like-minded souls. She'd always loved learning.

'Earth to Alison,' ventured Sue.

'Hmm?'

'Where were you? Not here, that's for sure,' laughed Sue, as Alison stood and excused herself.

'Sorry, Sue. Got to go.'

'Go? Go where?'

'Go and organise my guilty pleasure before I change my mind or talk myself out of it.'

'What? Now?'

'Yes. Now. No time like the present. I'm off to organise a cleaner who can come every week so I don't have to do any housework, any more...' Rising up from her seat, Alison turned, blew Sue a kiss and exited the reception area, laughing and predicting, 'I can just hear Mum now when I tell her what I'm doing...'

'What do you think she'll say?'

'I don't have to think. I can already hear her saying, "It must be nice to have enough money to afford a house cleaner. But then, I'll never know, will I?" Such a shame she's so sour on life.'

'Ha. Don't bother justifying your decision and, remind her that jealousy's a curse!' added Sue, as she rose and returned to the party, delighted that Alison was on the road to retirement.



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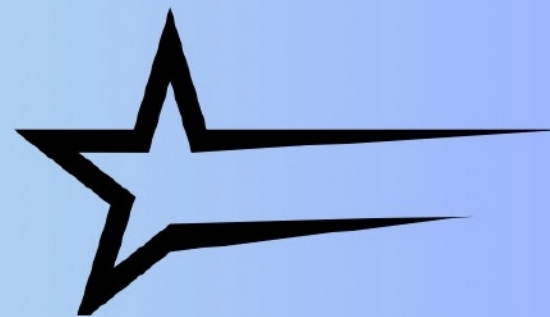
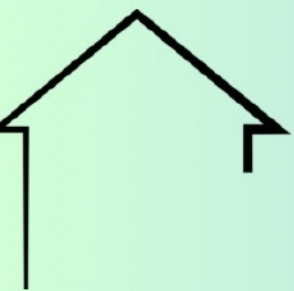
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## Celebrating Children's Week

*from Media Release*

Children's Week is a national celebration that recognises the talents, skills, achievements and rights of children.

To celebrate Children's Week, Council will be hosting an Intergenerational Recycled Art and Craft session on:

- Monday 20 October from 10.30 to 11.30am at the Inverleigh Public Hall
- Tuesday 21 October from 10.30 to 11.30am at the Bannockburn Library

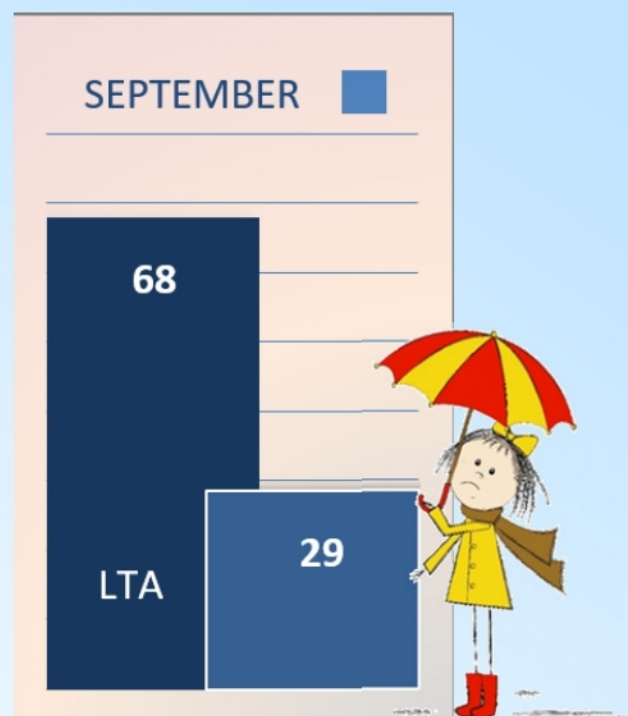
Facilitated by Firefly Wellbeing, these activities will provide families, carers and children the opportunity to craft a windchime that sings for child rights.

Register at [goldenplains.vic.gov.au/events](http://goldenplains.vic.gov.au/events) or by calling 5220 7230.

Council's Children's Services team will also be running activities at the Golden Plains Mobile Library on Thursday 23 October in Meredith from 9.00 to 10.30am



## the rain report



*Includes rainfall to 9.00 AM, 28th September.*



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