

Meredith & district News

OUR **FREE** COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



JULY 2026



CELEBRATING
50 YEARS
OF PUBLICATION

...BUT IS IT
OUR LAST?

SEE PAGE 6

inside



- Meredith Muster: 100 horses, 10 days.
- The BIG Morning Tea report.
- The Little Grey Fergie that did...and did.

LOOK BACK LIFT OUT INSIDE

e: news@meredithnews.com.au w: 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 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
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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

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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We do not publish children's photos online.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

FEEDBACK

Yes please! Send it to news@meredithnews.com.au

Issue Production: Peter Boer Editor: Jim Elvey

connect

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Barwon Water	1300 656 007
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Golden Plains Shire	1300 363 036
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Justices of the Peace

Mr Don Atherton. 0409 869 960

Mr Paul Ryan Elaine 0409 861 296

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- Unknown



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Church News



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Serbian Orthodox - 5341 5536

Daily services: Matins 8.00 am, Vespers 6.00 pm.

Divine Liturgies on Saturdays & Sundays 10.00 am

Anglican

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 or

office.revdrtim@hotmail.com

The Revd Dr Timothy Smith

Catholic Mass Times July 26

Winchelsea - St. John the Baptist @ 5PM Sat. JULY 4, 11, 18, 25

Meredith - St. Joseph @ 9am Sun. JULY 12, 26

Bannockburn - St. Mary MacKillop @ 11am Sun. JULY 5, 12, 19, 26

Inverleigh - Sacred Heart - @ 4pm Sun. JULY 19

Thank you Owen Cook for this striking photo of one of our beautiful local residents, the superb blue fairy wren. This is a fitting subject, as Owen's mother Wendy, this month shares her encounters with this delightful bird.

OUR COVER



If you have taken a photo you think would make a great cover, send it to us at news@meredithnews.com.au



Meredith Community Centre
working for our community

What's On This Month



CHATTY CAFE

WE ARE COMBATTING LONELINESS!

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL FOR CATERING - BY JULY 17

0491 184 999

WEDNESDAY - JULY 22 - 11.30 AM - 1.30PM

COMMUNITY DROP IN -

TALL TREE WIND FARM INFORMATION SESSION

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 5 - 7.30 AM - 12.30 PM

SINGING GROUP

EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO BELT OUT A TUNE!

COME JOIN THE FUN!

TUESDAY NIGHTS - 7PM- WITH KYM

WEDNESDAY MORNINGS - 10.30AM

AT THE COMMUNITY CENTRE

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THE MEREDITH MART

MONDAY - 9AM-1PM

TUESDAY - 9AM-1PM

WEDNESDAY - 9AM-3PM

THURSDAY BY APPOINTMENT



WE ARE NOW TAKING DONATIONS OF NEW WITH TAGS CLOTHING!

ALL SIZES

PLEASE DROP THEM OFF TO THE OFFICE - NO USED ITEMS PLEASE

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

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PLAYGROUND

CURRENTLY TAKING A BREAK

11.30AM

\$2 PER FAMILY

EDITORIAL



It's our 50th year of publication.
IS IT ALSO OUR
LAST?

Jim Elvey, Chair/Editor, Meredith Newsletter

Where to from here? The Newsletter could have a bright future – it is an attractive format with interesting content over a range of topics provided by a group of talented and dedicated columnists. We have effective arrangements in place to distribute the 1,000 copies produced every month. It has strong advertising support to meet the costs of production as well as a willing and capable committee and production and support team that work to meet the monthly deadlines. And we get quite a bit of positive feedback from readers, so we know it is valued.

The one missing element is a succession plan. Our efforts over the last 18 months to recruit a new editor have yielded no offers and I, the editor of the last 20 years, do not wish to continue in the role beyond the end of this year.

So, its fiftieth may also be its final year of production.

OR...

If you or somebody you know may be interested in continuing the Newsletter beyond its 50th year, or have any ideas for an appropriate replacement, please get in touch. We can even provide some funding to support a suitable initiative.

The Committee that oversees the newsletter production will be considering all these factors over the remainder of the year together with any feedback we get from the community. Even if you don't see a role for yourself, we are still interested in your ideas and suggestions. You can contact me on news@meredithnews.com.au. Add a phone number and I will call you back.

The future of **Meredith News** beyond 2026, is in your hands. Just as it should be.

We will likely hold a PUBLIC MEETING next month to explain options, answer questions and hopefully rally some support for its continued production. Please give some thought as to how you may be able to help secure the Newsletter's future.

Tennis Club News

Maddy McColl

Another autumn competition has come to a close, featuring three divisions and tight competition throughout. The winners in each division were: Bridget Dyer, Andy Clarke, and Kate Alford in Tightly Strung; Hugo Murray and Charlie Thompson in Boys from the Bush; and Liz McColl and Lachlan Dyer in the Long Shots. Congratulations to all—each team took home a cash prize.

Important dates ahead: on August 1st we'll hold grading day. If you're interested in joining a team on Saturdays, you're welcome to come along, have a hit, and enjoy a complimentary BBQ. For more information, please visit our Facebook page.

Our AGM will be held on August 5 at 7:00 pm at the Meredith Recreation Reserve. We are seeking people to join the Committee. If you'd like to learn more about the club and how you can help, please contact us via our Facebook page or at meredithtennis2020@gmail.com.



Winners are... Long Shots Liz McColl, Lachlan Dyer



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Biggest Morning Tea

Kym Ivory
President AMA



On Saturday, 30th May we gathered as a community to raise money for a much-needed cure for cancer. Advance Meredith Association in conjunction with St. Joseph's Parish hosted the day. It was an almost packed hall which delighted us no end.

Our MC (well, that was me) guided and navigated the day's events, including introducing the "Beaut Ukes" Ukulele ensemble from Bannockburn, who played 2 sets of great Aussie and Country songs. With everyone joining in, it was wonderful.

Our guest speaker was from Malawi, Africa. She is a personal friend of mine. We heard her cancer journey via a recording. It was an amazing look at how treatment happens in a developing country, Malawi being one of the three poorest countries in the world. It was a heartfelt, moving account and such a massive difference to treatment here in Australia.

Our quiz answers were questioned, and opinions ran wild, but we got to the end with no harm done (I'm sure all is forgiven, but perhaps not forgotten yet!) Someone guessed the lolly jar contents (601), counted by yours truly.

With over 70 silent auctions, plus guessing games and Trivia, I am delighted to say that it was our best effort yet. With the help of so many local donations of time, food, prizes and energy, we raised \$3,669.00.

It was a stripped back version this year. We went back to our roots. Everyone in our community who was asked to contribute, just did so without hesitation. Sincerely, thank you so much, you are incredibly special.

Thank you so much to our sponsors, we are always appreciative of anything you give. We would like to thank Louise Corral, Old Woodshed Tinsmith, Meredith Dairy, Mortimer Petroleum, Sorelle Café, Meredith Royal Hotel, St. Joseph's Parish, Meredith Farm-store Cafe, and of course our silent anonymous donors.

Until next year, huge thanks and we will happily do it all again...



Notice of AGM

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of **Meredith Community Tucker Tent Inc** will be held on Wednesday, the 15th of July 2026 at 6:30pm at the Meredith Community Centre, 4 Russell Street, Meredith.

Any communications to tuckertent@gmail.com

Clockwise from top-left, Aniela and Kath, Denise and the gathering being entertained by the "Bannockburn Beaut Ukes."

Photos by Cathie Boer.



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Hours:-

Mon - Fri 8.30am- 5.30pm

Sat 8.30am-1pm

Please note - closed Sundays until further notice

A. Crumble's



Carrot Cake Cookies

from "My Lovely Little Lunchbox" *

Ingredients

55g (1/4 cup) rapadura or brown sugar
 225g (1 1/2 cups) wholemeal flour
 1/4 teaspoon baking powder
 1/4 teaspoon bicarb soda
 45g (1/2 cup) rolled oats
 1 1/2 teaspoons cinnamon
 1/2 teaspoon mixed spice
 1 egg
 1/4 cup maple syrup
 100g coconut oil, melted and cooled slightly
 1 large carrot, grated (approx 1 cup)

** some small adjustments have been made to the original ingredients list - we have used less maple syrup and a little more coconut oil*

Method

Preheat the oven to 160° fan forced and line 2 large baking trays with baking paper.

Place the sugar, flour, baking powder, bicarb soda, oats, cinnamon and mixed spice into a large bowl and mix to combine with a whisk.

Add the egg, maple syrup, coconut oil and carrot and mix to combine with a spatula.

Use a small spring-release scoop to scoop balls onto the baking trays.

Bake for 12-14 minutes or until golden. Allow to cool for 5 minutes or so before placing the cookies on a wire rack to cool completely or enjoy one slightly warm.

Top Tip

There are plenty of carrots around at the moment, the cold weather causes sugars to be released in the plants so they are sweet to eat.

Often, bags of "juicing carrots" are available. These are carrots that don't fit the supermarket ideal: perhaps they are too large or small, they might be a bit misshapen or have a piece broken off. They are perfectly good for eating and are usually much, much cheaper and perfect for these cookies.

Alaric, Jack, Marlee and Oscar who are in Prep/One did a wonderful job making these cookies for their grade. They expertly peeled, grated, chopped, weighed, measured, whisked and stirred then scooped the mixture onto the baking trays. They noted that these would be perfect to pop into lunchboxes, and would also like to mention that if you are short of eggs, call into school for a freshly laid dozen from the much-loved school hens.

Here we have a 5,000 word essay on commitment and concentration.



Marlee (above) again, with Jack (left) and Oscar (below).



Jack (above) and Alaric (right.)



SENIORS FESTIVAL 2026

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Golden Plains Shire Council is inviting community groups, businesses, and organisations to express their interest in hosting an event for the 2026 Victorian Seniors Festival.

The Victorian Seniors Festival will take place from 1 to 31 October, celebrating ageing and providing

opportunities for older adults to connect and engage with others.

Each year, Council coordinates a program of events aimed at promoting an active, healthy, and connected lifestyle. This program includes a variety of community and Council-led activities.

Ways to get involved:

- Host an open day.
- Host a "come and try" session for an existing activity offered by your business or community group.
- Provide a discounted or free activity.

Expressions of interest must be submitted by **Friday 31 July 2026**. Contact Council's Community Inclusion Team on 5220 7111 or email enquiries@gplains.vic.gov.au.



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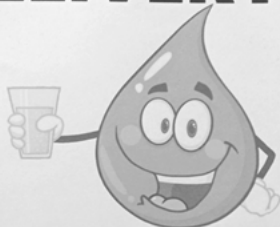
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The Meredith Muster

By Naomi Benney

'There was movement at the station.....' That is the famous first line in Banjo Patterson's poem 'The Man from Snowy River', there was definitely movement around Elaine, Morrisons and Meredith in late April/May this year.

Michael and I are involved with a group of like minded Horse Trail Ride enthusiasts, and have been participating in an annual 10Day Ride since 2003. The 10Day ride is located in a different location each year in either NSW, SA or Vic, the first ride was in 1986. We get to see a range of spectacular countryside across these states when we go on these rides, and this year the riders got to see the wonderful areas surrounding our home town of Meredith.

This year's ride named 'Meredith Muster 2026' (MM2026) was run by the Smythesdale Trail Riders Club, which is affiliated with the Australian Trail Horse Riders Association (ATHRA). The MM2026 was held over 3 camps in Morrisons, Elaine and Meredith. Originally the ride was going to start from Bangamie, however the recent fires put an end to that plan, luckily we had a plan B venue, as you can imagine camping with over 100 horses and riders needs some planning and space.

Along with riding our horses, we also enjoyed daily happy hour get-togethers, nights around the fire, other activities included trivia, bingo, movie nights, dress up day, hog dog & sausage sizzle lunches, brecky, welcome dinner, two-up on Anzac Day, Nav rides and mystery games.....there was a lot going on.

There is always a daily muster each morning where we discuss the day's ride/activities, along with raffle draws and daily fines for anybody who may have done anything that the rest of us will get a laugh out of, and there was plenty of laughing, which is testament to the wonderful bunch of people in our group.....no offence was taken. There is even perpetual trophies for the rider and camper who made us laugh the most.

The first day saw us ride into Pioneer Park in Meredith from our Morrisons camp. Anthony (local Policeman) and associates stopped the traffic for us to cross the road safely both before and after lunch, this was very special and much appreciated.

We held our own Dawn service on Anzac Day, which Michael Rooney performed as emcee. Mick did a fabulous job, focusing on the Australian animals in war, which was very moving and appreciated by all in attendance. We had one of our riders and his horse

dressed up in WW1 gear, as well as a horse with a WW1 pack saddle. There was also a display of military medals, stories, magazines, flags etc. We enjoyed a bacon & eggs breaky, then went for a ride in the afternoon, followed by a very fun game of 2-up with fake money, in the end it was an all in pot and the winner went home with a prize.

Our colour day was Silver, and with nearly everybody getting in on the action it was a very blingy day. We had silver cowboys, spacepeople, knights in armour and many other inventive costumes, there was a lot of tinsel about. Horses were also dressed in silver, and we all rode the day on our bedazzled steeds in our silver outfits. Prizes were awarded for best effort and effect.

Our movie night, complete with popcorn, was Pharlap. We decided to dedicate this night to the horses and driver that recently were involved in the horrific accident on Slate Quarry Rd.

Along with the multitude of other activities, we also managed to ride our horses each day. The rides took us along back roads, paddocks and through bushland. The days averaged between 15 to 25km riding per day.

Through our raffles and fines, a fabulous amount of \$9,500 was raised and shared to the following recipients, Breast Cancer Research, Bannockburn SES, Morrisons CFA & Meredith Community Centre.

This ride would not be possible without the wonderful support of some amazing local businesses that assisted us with donations and or support. Our neighbours and friends who allowed a mob of horses to ride over their paddocks are amazing people and we can't thank you all enough.

The people on this ride are an awesome bunch that we have gotten to know over the many years of attending these rides and each year there are also new people to meet and greet. The fact that they are all ready to help out the ride and each other, along with the wonderful people who volunteered their time and effort both before and during this event attests to this ride being an amazing event.

We finished off the ride with a fabulous band, a night of dancing and a catered meal.

We get to ride our horses, take in and explore different scenery, camp with friends, participate in fun activities and raise money for charities, looking forward to doing it all again next year.....where ever it may be.....





Vanessa's

FLOWER FARM FILES

Dig in. Grow well. Bloom beautifully.

July on the Flower Farm: Preparing New Beds for Spring

July in the Ballarat region can feel like a quiet month in the garden. The days are short, the soil is cold, and many plants are sitting still until the weather begins to warm again. But while there may not be much happening above ground, July is a very useful time to prepare new garden beds for spring.

On the flower farm, this month is all about getting ahead. Rather than waiting until the busy spring season, we are preparing new beds now using a combination of solarisation, weed mat and mulch. These same methods can also be used in a home garden, whether you are planning a cut flower patch, a vegetable bed, or simply trying to get a weedy area under control.

The first step is to choose your growing area. Look for a spot with good sunlight, easy access to water and enough room to work around the bed comfortably. In Ballarat's winter conditions, the ground can be wet and heavy, so try not to work soil when it is too soggy. If soil sticks heavily to your boots or tools, it is usually best to wait for a drier day.

Once you have chosen the area, clear as much existing growth as possible. Remove large weeds, grass clumps, rocks and any old plant material. You do not need to make the bed perfect, but reducing the bulk of the weeds before covering the ground will make the next steps much more effective.

One useful method is solarisation. This involves covering the soil with long plastic so sunlight can warm the ground underneath and help weaken weeds and weed seeds. In the Ballarat winter, solarisation will work more slowly than it does in summer, but it can still be helpful, especially if the plastic is secured tightly and left in place for several weeks.

For a home garden, you can use black builder's plastic, old greenhouse plastic or any sturdy sheeting. Water the soil lightly before covering it, then pin the plastic down well around the edges using bricks, timber, rocks or garden pegs. The better the contact between the plastic and the soil, the more effective it will be.

Weed mat is another practical option, especially for paths or areas you want to keep tidy. On the flower farm, we use weed mat to define rows, suppress grass and make new beds easier to manage. In a home garden, weed mat can be useful around berry rows, flower beds, vegetable patches or young trees.

Mulch is one of the simplest and most helpful things you can add to a garden bed. A good layer of mulch helps suppress weeds, protects the soil from winter rain and wind, holds moisture, and slowly improves soil health as it breaks down.

For home gardens, pea straw, lucerne, sugar cane mulch, wood chips, leaves or well-aged compost can all be useful,

depending on what you are growing. Keep mulch a little away from the stems of plants, as piling it too high can cause rot. For new beds, aim for a generous layer, but leave space where you plan to sow very small seeds.

July is also a good time to think about soil improvement. Before covering or mulching your bed, you can add compost, aged manure or organic matter to help feed the soil before spring planting. You do not need to overcomplicate it. Even a few barrows of compost spread over a new bed can make a big difference.

The main lesson from the flower farm this month is that spring success starts in winter. A little work now can mean fewer weeds, healthier soil and easier planting later. So if you have a patch of garden you have been meaning to tackle, July is a great time to begin. Clear it, cover it, mulch it and let time do some of the work for you.



Congrats on putting together a great collage of community-celebrating content in your June edition. I picked up a copy after our first ever lunch in Meredith, and armed with a tub of the fabled goats cheese, headed home and tossed it on the kitchen bench for later browsing.

Maybe it's contextual - I'm recovering from a few health probs and found myself reading it page by page with a fresh view. What I perceived constantly as I read was a feeling of a close knit group of people enjoying life and enjoying the feeling of a genuine community - no matter how tough things are out there.

I've never responded to a newsletter before.

You've done a great job!!!

Mike

PS: even found a local tradie through your ads!

My youngest daughter, Megan, picked up a copy of Meredith News a few days ago. Is there something it doesn't cover !!! Wonderful reading !!!

Jan

Jan also submitted some drawings and poems for our use. You will find one of her poems on page 35 in this issue. - Ed.



How healthy is your home loan?

With the current cost of living, there's never been a better time to review your home loan.

We'll look at your rate, term, repayments, and equity, giving your loan a full check-up to make sure it's still right for you and your current needs.

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Catherine KING MP

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR BALLARAT

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(03) 5338 8123

EMAIL
Catherine.King.MP@aph.gov.au

WEB
www.catherineking.com.au

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Authorised by Catherine King MP, 5 Lydiard St Nth, Ballarat, VIC 3350

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worked quickly.”

Margaret

“

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It's our 50th Anniversary

THE LOOK BACK LIFT OUT



1976
to 2026

Insights...

Using Marg Cooper's notes as a starting point, we trace some of the changes in format over the past 50 years.

A Production Chronology

- The Meredith Newsletter started in 1976 as an occasional newsletter to parents at the Meredith State School, and soon becoming a weekly publication available to the community.
- In the early 1990's publication became fortnightly, however in 1994 a new committee planned to return to the newsletter to weekly printing, before finally becoming a monthly publication in 2006.
- In the early days volunteers typed the articles which included reports from town organisations. Early editions frequently contained requests for volunteer typists.
- The Newsletters were typed onto a punched through paper master and printed onto foolscap sheets of paper using a Roneo machine or Gestetner. This process required hand collation and stapling pages together.
- For the first 25 years or so the size of the publication ranged from 2 to 12 pages of foolscap or A4 stapled together in the top corner. In 1983 the newsletter was printed on thin rough brown paper. White paper wasn't used again until 1986.
- In 2006, with a new editor, it changed from a fortnightly publication, to twice monthly.
- It changed again in 2007, to become a monthly publication and saw a substantial increase in size to about 24 pages.
- By 2010 the issue size was usually in the order of 40 to 48 pages.
- The first colour photo appeared in the August 2002 edition.
- In December 2009 the first fancy cover was produced, in black and white, with the first colour cover was produced for the Christmas edition in December 2010.
- Three coloured covers were produced in 2015; by 2018 all covers were coloured.
- The style and format became settled from this point on, with colour advertising starting to appear, and more columnists recruited to match the increased advertising.

What You Think.



Cathie Boer, one of our Roving Reporters seeking the views of residents on the Newsletter, asked newcomer, Annie Wild, for her thoughts on our community publication.

(If you would like to share your views, get in touch at news@meredithnews.com.au.)

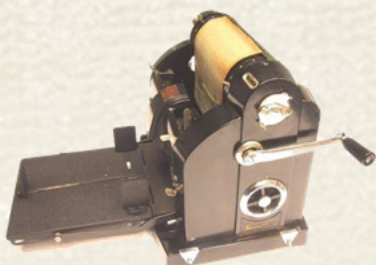
Annie has been in Meredith for 6 months. She moved in on the day of the bushfire, but after 3 hours decided to spend the night elsewhere! She loves being here, and finds everyone she has met to be very friendly.

When she has been able to get a copy, she reads everything, including ads and history articles.

The newsletter helps Annie find out what's happening, and she likes to support local businesses. She finds the police report very interesting, and likes learning about the district.

She sees the newsletter's role as entertainment, and connecting community.

Thanks Annie. We're really pleased you are enjoying living here and enjoying our community newsletter. - Ed.



The Words We've Left Behind.

Snippets from 2001 to 2005

50 Years of a Count

The move to monthly publication in 2007, and the consequent drive to offer more content, brought with it a significant and enduring change. While it still carried news of events and activities, we see regular contributors. Marg Cooper, who has written prolifically for us ever since, started submitting articles each month, and then resident, Molly Flood gave us a regular column.

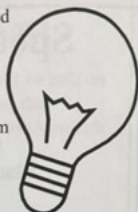
Lights On... 4th May

Most present day residents will be amazed to learn that Meredith was connected to electricity as recent as 1959—one of the last in the State.

The opposite page reproduces a page from the Weekly Times celebrating the event. You may even recognise some of the people and names.

It is incredible that such a vital utility, and one that few would recall living without, has only been available for less than 50 years. (But then again, we are still waiting for sewerage!)

It is understood the switch used for the turning on ceremony is still held in the district.



7 December 2006

Tree Guard Project in Meredith

Readers may know that the Tree Guard Project started back in 1998 when the Meredith Town Team {a small group of people who work to make Meredith a nice place to be} decided to plant trees in Wilson Street and to put tree guards on them.

An invitation went out to local people to weld a tree guard to specifications, from materials supplied to them, then to decorate the tree guard, individually and artistically with any materials they had. Most country people have a collection of scraps of steel, old tools and old machinery etc, but were not used



Liz and Peter Nemstas' decorated tree guard, which forms part of the latest stage of this great community project.

Are You Willing and Able?

You might be the person we need to keep the Newsletter a fortnightly publication. The five essential prerequisites are

- Time - around two to three hours is required at least one month to "finish off" an issue.
- Computer/keyboard skills - We use MS Publisher but competency in MS Word migrates pretty well. More particularly, you will need to be comfortable with capturing and transferring text/ graphics in various formats from emails, other software, etc. and task such as burning CD's
- Creativity - Along with writing occasional original articles, you will need to competently edit the work of others to improve the sense of it or to fit available space without losing that sense. A knack for design, selection and placement of clip art etc, would also be useful.
- Judgement - Choices need to be made and decisions taken that will call on your judgment. (We have adopted a comprehensive publication guideline to assist in this.)
- Communication Skills - You may be called on to tell somebody we cannot publish their submission or negotiate some changes. This requires tact and clarity.

So why would you want to do it?

It really is fun and being part of the team that produces this high standard publication provides a good deal of satisfaction. If you have the skills and would like to get more involved in your community (or would simply like to find out more) contact Jim Elvey on 5286 1273.

OR

Maybe you could help by just following up a few local stories (there are plenty of leads), taking some photos or doing a little word processing. We would love to hear from you.

2 November 2006

Another Local Winner

On Saturday 7th of October at the Perth Royal Show, the National Final of the Meat Breeds Junior Judging was held. The winner from each state final competed for the National title, with local resident Chantel McEwan from Victoria the eventually winner, the NSW representative in second and Queensland in third. Chantel McEwan a final year Bachelor of Education student is an avid Poll Dorset exhibitor working with her parents on their Poll Dorset Stud, Southern Land in Meredith. Chantel who has no formal judging experience rates her skill acquisition as a result of selecting the show team and selecting animals for their specialised breeding programs on the stud. At the event the competitors were required to judge a group of four Poll Dorsets and four Border Leicesters, which were selected by an overseer's panel. Competitors then commented orally on a group of their choice. Chantel of course commented on the Poll Dorset group, placing them in the same order as the over judge. Chantel enjoyed the trip to Perth and is eagerly awaiting her first judging appointment. The competition is run by the Federal



National Meat Breeds Junior Judging champion, Chantel McEwan displays a victorious smile after her success at the Perth Royal Show

2 November

A Monthly Newsletter?

At a meeting last month, the Newsletter Committee decided to change to a monthly publication from 2007 unless we can recruit an expanded production team. We would welcome volunteer "journalists" photographers or keyboarders. In particular we need somebody to take final responsibility for at least one of the two issues each month. (See "An

Meredith & district News

...goes m

After nearly 34 years of continuous publication Meredith and District News - which started as a small weekly publication, before becoming a fortnightly and then a twice monthly issue in 2007 will join the majority of Victoria's newspapers to become a monthly.

The decision was taken after an appeal for assistance with production and careful consideration of options over a period of time by the Newsletter Committee. It is a positive move that will ensure the Newsletter's long term viability and assist in the continued production of an interesting and readable local newsletter.

We look forward to our relaunch in February (there will be no Newsletter in January) with a revised layout. We also hope, over coming time, to bring you wider coverage of local news and events, but will still want you, the reader, to let us know of any items or issues of interest that catch your notice. That's how community newspapers really work!

17 August 2006

New Wall for Memorial

"Some residents may have noticed the work around the Memorial Hall over the last few months with the replacement of the weathered wall. The wall has been damaged by weather over the years. The hall committee was given a grant by the Plains Shire to assist with the replacement of the wall and many hours of volunteer work were put in to ensure that the job was completed. The job was completed with support from Parkroad Timber and Coates Hire to have kept with the budget. The hall committee has also recently painted the exterior of the hall to complement the recent additions and renovations. This task will be completed when the weather warms up. The hall is ready for the next 100 years to serve the residents of Meredith as a special place for those family and community activities. Secretary Sandra Pearce



Geoff Hardy, Project Supervisor completed the west wall replacement well done by the committee.

February 2009

You will read in the adjoining snippet, an erroneous reference to the length of time the newsletter had been published. Somewhere along the line, we formed the view it was established in 1972. It was only when, in 2021, we held a meeting with members of the Meredith History Interest Group to start planning our significant anniversary, that we learned it was launched in 1976! So, we had to put our party hats away for a few more years. - Ed.

New Phone Directory for Meredith.

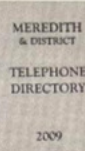
By Craig Trickett

The 2009 edition of the Meredith & District Phone Directory is now available for collection from the Corner Store, the Café, the Roadhouse and the Community House. Feel free to drop into one of these locations and pick up your 'free' copy of the directory.

I would like to thank the many residents who took the time to peruse the draft copy of the Directory during last September and October and advise of changes, deletions and additions. We now have a comprehensive listing of over 600 phone numbers in the region. (The last phone book was printed 8+ years ago!!)

Thank you also, to the small number of community orientated businesses that sponsored the printing costs of the phone book. The booklets are sitting by the telephone, in many of the households throughout the district, so there will be some good exposure over the course of this year. Please support the businesses that support the community.

Hopefully next years edition will have more information and resources for the residents of Meredith and surrounds.



Not Mushroom Inside

Jim Elvey

July 2009

Alison Pouliot writes an occasional article for this newsletter on local fungi and related issues. At a recent workshop she told a story, in a discussion about the dangers of eating wild fungi, of a couple who made a meal of their wild harvest.

They fed some leftovers to their cat and, when they notice it violently vomiting, took themselves off to the emergency department to have their stomachs pumped out.

On returning home they were greeted by a litter of kittens!



May 2007

Community Ecumenical 'Pray for Rain' Service

Last Friday evening saw a gathering of locals at the Meredith Hall which started with a short ecumenical service led by Father John Haines. This was followed by an enjoyable social time at which the Meredith Minstrels and the Meredith based Mid Life Crisis band entertained everyone. Supper was served during the night which would have to be rated as another success for our great community, with the positive show of support for all touched by the current drought. Moreover, it rained that night!

Feb 2008

Meredith Christmas Lights Competition

by Diane Ritchie



Thank you to all those who decorated their houses and businesses with lights, decorations and painted sheep to help make Meredith festive and welcoming for Christmas 2007.

Winners of the Christmas Lights Competition run by the Meredith Town Team were:

House in town 1st:	Wheeler Family Wilson Street.
House in town 2nd:	Michael & Casey Foster Staughton St.
Honourable Mentions:	Dianne and David Hucker, Mcleod St.
	Janelle Brereton Lawler St.
Best Business :	Foxy's Garden Products Midland Hwy
Best country House:	Kim Primmer Family Boundary Road
Best decorated sheep:	Pam Crowe Creamery Road.

Molly's Column

The Trouble with Scones

I have an odd relationship with humble scones. They aren't my favourite food. I'd prefer a big wedge of chocolate cake with my cup of tea any day. But there are certain times – usually rainy afternoons, or after watching a Miss Marple mystery on the ABC, when I want scones, warm out of the oven, with a little scrape of jam and a huge amount of sweetened cream.

I can't afford to use precious petrol driving to the nearest bakery, and besides, that would be a bit lazy when I could just make them at home. I have an oven, I have recipe books, and almost every recipe book has a simple scone recipe. Well, they look simple, at least. All I have to do is follow the instructions and in no time I'll have a lovely batch of light fluffy scones hot out of the oven, right?

●ong. Very, very wrong.

I can drive a car. I can plug a Playstation into a tv without anything blowing up. I can do the groceries and send text messages at the same time. I can even replace a modem in the computer hard drive (admittedly, the computer is now held shut with tape). Once, I understood the intricacies of working out simultaneous equations, though the exact method has slipped my mind just now. My parents probably wouldn't believe it, but I can operate a washing machine, which is more than I can say for certain others of my age. In short, scones should not be that much of a challenge.

Abridged - May 2008

Our new Council

February 2009

Council elections last November not only reduced the number of Golden Plains Shire councillors from nine to seven, it also ushered in a new form of representation, when the former Ridings were abandoned to create an "unsubdivided" municipality for electoral purposes. This means that all seven councillors were elected by the whole of the voting population. It also means that all seven are our "local councillors", having been elected to represent the whole Shire.

Former Councillors Des Guinane and Jenny Jones were unseated while Alwyn Parker did not stand. Rokewood's Helena Kirby is the one new councillor.

Contact details for all councillors are on the following page, together with an abridged version of the statements they gave the Victorian Electoral Commission to accompany voting material.

FOOTNOTE

We captured the councillor statements using "optical character recognition" software which always stumbles over a few words and phrases. In this exercise, for example, it interpreted "shire" as "satire" and "local government" as "loaf government" Naughty little gremlins! - Ed.

Celebrating our

50th Anniversary
1976 to 2026

Our Cover Story

The Changing Face of our Covers
2006 to 2010

This period ushers in some notable changes. We splashed out on a coloured cover for our last bi-monthly issue and introduced the first lamb mascot (drawn by the editor) in the front page banner of the first monthly issue. As a counter to its reduced frequency, it also doubled in size to 24 pages plus.

Meredith & district Newsletter

We go Monthly in 2007
21st December 2006



Merry Christmas Everyone!



Meredith Visit from HMAS Ballarat Crew Members

Earlier this month Meredith Community House was fortunate in having some crew members from the HMAS Ballarat to come and construct two new cubby houses, for the Meredith children that come to Playgroup and Childcare. The Community House was one of the organisations chosen, through the auspice of United Way, as part of the commitment that HMAS Ballarat make to keep in touch with Ballarat and district communities while they are in port in Melbourne. The crew members, two females and four males, who all have various tasks in the Navy, enjoyed spending some time with crew members that they really never got to

work with on board. They come from all States of Australia, and said they loved coming out into the country to do something so different from life at sea. The ship has just returned from service in the Gulf, and had called at Perth and Melbourne, returning to Sydney last Monday.

Seasons Greetings to all our Readers

Not everyone celebrates Christmas, but we can all value the opportunity to gear down a little and focus more on those we value most in our lives.

It is also a time for communities to come together in a spirit of shared experience.

The team of volunteers who prepare, publish and distribute the newsletter free of charge to the residents of Meredith and surrounding districts, heartily thank you for your support over the past year and look forward to continuing this important community service in 2007.

However you spend the Festive Season, we wish you a safe, happy and peaceful time.



Crew Members from HMAS Ballarat in front of part of the play group structure they assembled for the Community House.

Any NEWS or VIEWS - email mchnews@netconnect.com.au or drop it into the Shop! Or phone 52861274 / 52861273

Meredith & district News

Our Community Newsletter since 1972



FREE to all good people!

February 2007

The Drought and Our Water Supply

Strong water restrictions continue in Meredith, as in the whole Geelong region supplied by **Barwon Water**. How much water do we use in the region and what is the condition of the town's water resources in the current drought? **Barwon Water** staff answered these questions.

Barwon Water supplies 'town water' to Meredith from the Moorabool river. A pumping station on the river north-east of Meredith fills a service basin a couple of kilometres north of the town, and after treatment this supplies Meredith, Lethbridge and properties south towards Sheffield and Bannockburn. The system is separate from **Barwon Water's** network of pipes and channels taking water to Geelong.

The use of Moorabool river water by local residents, agriculture and industry varies through the year. In winter, it is about 0.7-0.8 megalitres per day (ML - million litres), while in summer it is about 1.5 ML per day. Until recently, the Moorabool's natural flow has been sufficient to satisfy these demands. To supplement Geelong's water supply in 'normal years', **Barwon Water** would also release some of its share of the water in Lal Lal reservoir on the West Moorabool river, then pump it out at She Oaks.

However, these are not 'normal' times, and in October last year, the Moorabool's 'natural' flow fell below the pumping station's intake for the first time. To maintain a useable flow, **Barwon Water** began to release some of its entitlement from the Lal Lal reservoir on the West Moorabool river specifically for Meredith. **Barwon Water** learnt how much water gets lost from the river before reaching the pumping station through evaporation, filling dry sections, seepage and human use. It currently releases about 28 ML per week from Lal Lal, which gives Meredith and region enough to meet the local weekly use of 10.5 ML.

Continued on Page 16

The Newsletter's Journey

With the changes ushered in with this issue, most notably the change to monthly publication, it is timely to reflect on the Newsletter's origins.

Laurie Manning, a Meredith PS principal during the 1970's, was a community minded fellow and very interested in Meredith and its history. He printed snippets of local history in the school newsletter leading to several local people asking for the school newsletter. That was the birth of the Community Newsletter although it has undergone many changes since.

Early on, Laurie asked if anyone knew what were the three newspapers in the district in the 1890's? Next week the answers were the symbols of *The Popper Head*, *The Star* and *The Sentinel* which became the masthead for quite a while.

A well used feature to avoid meeting clashes, was the "Date Grabbers" column which later became the "Claim Stakers" and is our current Diary.

The paper was a two sided foolscap, usually with the second side not full, then it grew, the content was left at the Meredith PO, collected on Friday afternoon and typed on was stencils, taken to school Monday morning and produced. Later it was collected at the Top Shop when the PO closed, where proprietor Peter Bongiorno was a willing supporter. (A tradition carried on still at the General Store.)

There were no commercial ads initially as the school stood the minimal cost. At some stage it was decided by the school council committee that any large sales like hay etc. should be paid for creating many debates on whether to

Continued on Page 16

Inside this issue....

- Community Contacts NEW
- Maude Landcare
- Rainfall Chart and Analysis
- Using Grey Water
- New You Resolutions

...and more

Any NEWS or VIEWS - email mchnews@netconnect.com.au or drop it into the Shop! Or phone 52861274 / 52861273

Meredith & district News

Our Community Newsletter since 1972



December 20

Produced by volunteers and FREE to you

...wishes you and your loved ones a

Merry Christmas & a Happy New Year

Michael and Casey's Wedding

by Mary Foster

Amidst much excitement in the Foster household, Saturday, Nov. 17th dawned bright and sunny but as the day progressed the clouds rolled in and the predicted showers arrived. This was not to put a damper on the preparations as Michael rushed himself to wed Casey Toward at Rhyllwood Grange at 4pm.

In fact by the time he arrived at Ballarat, courtesy of Mark Young's Ford Falcon Cobra, the skies were blue and the sun shining. Michael was attended by brother Allen as best man and best friend Gary Sanford and could not keep the grin from his face as he waited in the picturesque gardens for his bride to arrive.

Before too long, there was a hall in the excited chatter of the many guests as ring-bearer, Robbie Foster and flower-girl, Georgia Breen began the procession. They were followed by bridesmaids, Darcie Toward and Bae Bartolo, who looked lovely in deep wine coloured dresses with matching jewellery and fascinators in their hair.

(Continued on Page 14)



Michael Foster of Meredith and his new bride Casey Toward in their wedding dress and suit.

Christmas in Meredith

SUNDAY 9th DECEMBER
Free Community BBQ at the Rice Reserve
5:00pm-7:30pm
Followed by
Community Christmas Carols
at the Meredith Memorial Hall
Full details on page 13

Any NEWS or VIEWS - email mchnews@netconnect.com.au or drop it into the Corner Shop or phone 52861274 / 52861273

in this issue....

- Xmas/New Year Arrangements
- Tony Scott's Steiglitz History
- The Ten Pound Pom
- Aussie Jingle Bells

plus Community and Sports News, Contacts, Regular Columns and much more!

Get Ready for Summer...

with our articles on fire and snake safety in this issue. (and look out for water wise tips in next month's MSD News.)

Meredith & district News

Our Free Community Newsletter since 1972

Steiglitz has a Birthday Party

By Linda Gillies

On Sunday 26th October Steiglitz will celebrate 140 years of 'Back to Steiglitz' days. This year the committee has organised a Festival that will run from 10 am until approx. 4 pm. There will be the annual Catholic Service held in the historic St Pauls church, Historical Society (now used by the Steiglitz displays, raffles, a street actor, lots of food, an art exhibition, the first ever Steiglitz Billy Cart Race and many more attractions.

A bus from Meredith has been organized for transport for anyone who would like to come to do as well as a lot of learning about the history of the area. The bus will pick up in Meredith from the Festival at around 3.30 pm. Wheelchair access is available in the bus.

BOOKINGS FOR BOTH WAYS ARE ESSENTIAL and can be made by ringing me on 52 819 390. (You may need to leave a message).

A great day is promised as Steiglitz was such an important part of this district in the gold rush era, and it is so good to know that the current residents and committee feel so enthusiastic about their early days.

Each year many 'older' ex residents return to renew friendships and see what has happened the area. Did you know there is still a Power connected to Steiglitz...this would have to be one of the few areas in Victoria that still uses generators etc!

The costs for the day will be kept to a minimum, so please come and enjoy a Festival with a difference. We hope the Back to Steiglitz Association has a great day and good weather for this very special historical event.

Get Ready for Summer...

with our articles on fire and snake safety in this issue. (and look out for water wise tips in next month's MSD News.)



The Steiglitz Courthouse will be open for inspection, and will host displays of early history.

Book Launch
by Mary Cooper
Sunday, Oct. 26th
Meredith Memorial Hall
2-4pm (Official Launch 3.15pm)
Afternoon tea provided
RSVP Friday Oct 17th
Ph 52861248
(Catering purposes)
All welcome
Come along and celebrate the rich history of many of the local women in the Meredith District

in this issue....

- Town Team Makeover
- CROC's Presentation Night
- One of Long Ago Hoteliers
- Thank You CERT
- Dry Moorabool River Under Scrutiny
- School Camps Reports
- Byrback Expands

plus Community and Sports News, Contacts, Regular Columns and much more!

E: mchnews@netconnect.com.au
W: www.meredith.net/steiglitz

October 2008

Meredith & district News

Our Free Community Newsletter since 1972

Meredith Anzac Service 2009

By David Jones

The weather was kind for the ANZAC Service this year and although there were a few showers early in the morning (much appreciated) the sun shone as the march proceeded to the Cenotaph for the laying of wreaths.

The Service in the Meredith Hall started with a recorded story narrated by 'The Australian Flag' which was well received by the gathering. During a relatively normal ANZAC Service, with all singing being supported by Dawn Macdonald on keyboard, the guest speaker from Fort Quenscliff related some of his Service experiences together with his understanding of the ANZAC traditions from Meredith Primary School, Lachlan Cameron and Bree Heam, recited their thoughts on the meaning of ANZAC and this was followed by the senior students from the School presenting a moving rendition of 'We Are Australians' supported on guitar by Headmaster Doug Cations.

The march to the cenotaph was kept in order with a selection of marching tunes played on the pipes by local resident Donna Murrell. Thanks to Donna and one hopes she will continue to play at future ANZAC Services.

On a sad note we learnt that one of our more senior RSL members, Phil Spiefvogel, who was the Sec/Treasurer of Meredith RSL for more than 30 years, passed away on Sunday following his attendance at the Service. Condolences are extended to Tom and Joy.

More pictures on page 6 and a 'Letter from the Front', page 18.

A Good Time Under the Hammer

By Di Roche

Once again the Annual Meredith Community Village clearing Sale/Auction, which started its life as the St. Patrick's Day Auction, was voted a great success and a great community day by the very large crowd that attended. In fact, attendees agreed that this year's crowd was the biggest we have had in its eight year history on this site.

A very large amount of goods was offered for sale and for this we thank you, our supporters. The weather in the early morning was overcast and drizzly but the afternoon cleared to be bright and sunny. Those attending enjoyed the relaxed country atmosphere and the wonderful food, plant and fruit and vegetable stalls as well as craft, children's books and of course the wonderful bargain hunter's delight - Granny's Treasures. This year run by our fantastic CERT Team. Our sincere thanks go to the very generous and co-operative staff of Elder's Geelong and Ballarat as well as the many community members who set up beforehand for days, worked on the day, provided the food and afterwards cleaned up the site.

A very special thank you to John Diffeys who coordinated the auction sales, collection and setup under what was for him a difficult time - thank you John. But very importantly thank you to the community for your ongoing support. We hope you will be rewarded soon with the commencement of the building of the first units in Meredith Community Village.

in this issue....

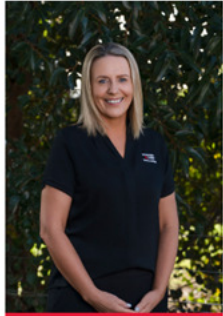
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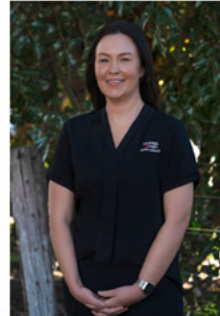
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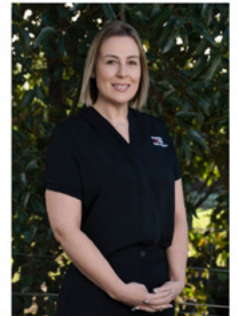
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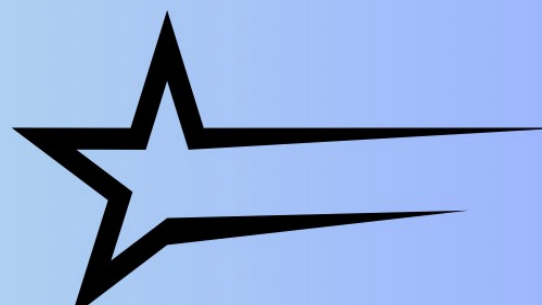
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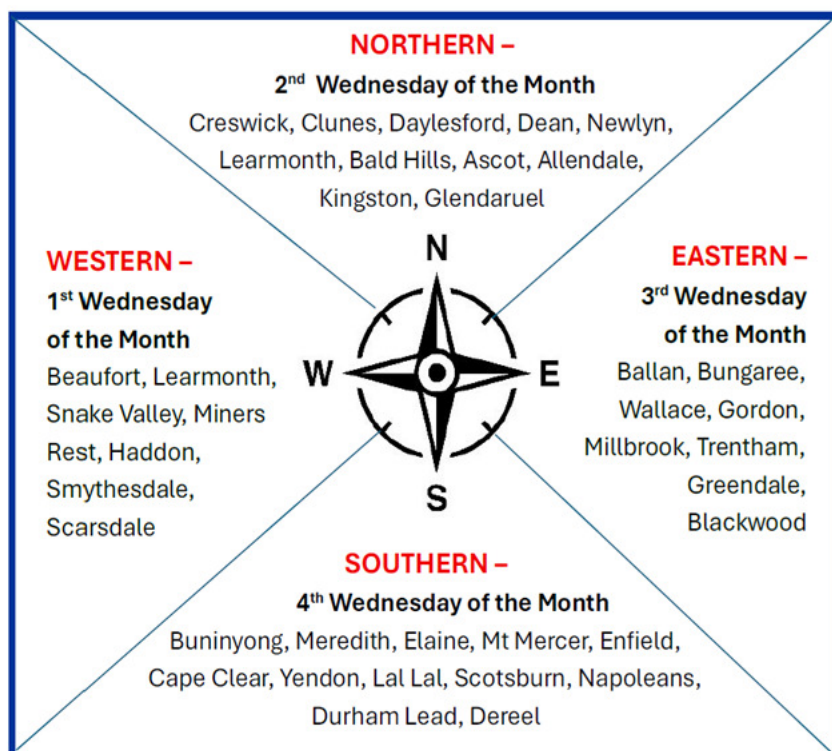
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Marg's BOOK REVIEW

By Bev Elshaugh

THE VANISHING HALF

Brit Bennet

Needing a small paperback for travel but with no expectations, I picked up an unknown novel borrowed from a friend, *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett. It is a multi-generational story of identical twin sisters, Desiree and Stella Vignes, living in Mallard, Louisiana USA in the 1950's to 1990's. Mallard is a town but not a town, more an area that's impossible to find on a map. It is however exceptional in southern America, in that it's inhabitants are light-skinned – "A town for menwho would never be accepted as white but refused to be treated like Negroes". As the bright girls grow up, they are removed from school by their mother to be domestic maids for local landowners. Over time and unhappy with their lives, Desiree plans for them to run away to New Orleans where they work in a laundry. When Stella loses this job, Desiree persuades her to apply for clerical work. With little hope of success but with her light skin, Stella is mistaken for a white girl and is offered the position. This places her on a radically different life path in which she marries her boss, has a white daughter, disappears from her former existence, friends, family and lives the life of a privileged white person, though simultaneously living a lie and constantly fearful of discovery. Alternately, Desiree marries a black man, has a "blueblack" daughter and returns to Mallard to escape her violent husband.

The Vanishing Half has a complex plot, spanning several historical events and exploring numerous themes like "racial passing", relationships both personal and family, racism, trans gender identity, family violence and deception. It develops a deeper level when the twins' daughters serendipitously meet and begin to play a larger part in the story.

The story doesn't follow a linear timeline but goes back and forth and moves around the lives of the different characters. I loved the characters, all of whom were trying to find their place in a society that was so structured yet fractured. Their humanity, their flaws and struggles are beautifully told in a flowing, atmospheric style. I have never read a novel about someone who crossed over races and the book explored the theme of racial power that is still significant today. It reminds us of what little progress we seem to have made worldwide today.

Brit Bennett is an African American writer, born in 1990 and based in Los Angeles. She was born and raised in Southern California and the story setting developed after her mother told her of a place like Mallard. Her debut novel was "The Mothers", a New York Times best seller and *The Vanishing Half* was released in 2020. It is her second novel and is classified as historical fiction.

I was slightly disappointed with the end of the novel though as in life, not everything is as we would like. It left me feeling that I needed to know more about their lives, but perhaps that was purposely left for me to decide. It raised a lot of issues to consider, not all covered as successfully as others (eg Reese's gender passing), but for me it was an open window into Southern American society in the mid 20th century. A thought provoking, topical and powerful novel gently and compassionately written.

Entertainment during school holidays



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Shark Tale
June 30



Paddington
July 7

3.00 pm

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Refreshments Included



Compiled by Michael Riseley

Trivia Questions

Which OZ bands are these the lead singers.

1. Judith Durham
2. Billy Thorpe
3. Bon Scott and then later Brian Johnston
4. Jimmy Barnes
5. Peter Garrett
6. Michael Hutchence
7. Glen Shorrock and then later John Farnham
8. Stevie Wright.

Answers

1. The Seekers 2. The Aztecs 3. AC/DC 4. Cold Chisel
5. Midnight Oil 6. INXS 7. Little River Band 8. The Easybeats.

A True Story

Three long time friends were recently doing an overnighter at the beach house belonging to one of them. That meant two of them shared a bathroom, so one felt it necessary to warn the other he shares his wife's toiletries bag. He was surprised to see the level of shock this drew from both his friends, which only deepened when he produced the pink floral bag containing his razor and toothbrush.

They produced their (separate) dark blue bags as evidence of normality. To help clarify the point, for their poor, hapless friend, one of them consulted "Hudson" his AI companion. (A sort of New Age *Imaginary Friend*.)

Here's how that conversation went:

Hey Hudson a good friend of ours has revealed that when he and his wife go away they share a toiletries bag. We find this slightly disturbing, what do you think?

Sharing a toiletries bag as a couple is probably more common than you think - especially for people who travel a lot, like to pack light, or have been together for years. One bag for toothpaste, shampoo, sunscreen, deodorant, chargers, medications etc can be pretty practical.

Where people tend to split into camps is around the *degree* of sharing:

- **"Efficient and normal" camp:** "Why carry two of everything when we're going to the same place?"
- **"Absolutely not" camp:** "There are boundaries in civilisation, and one toiletries bag is one of them."
- The real dividing line is usually:
 - shared toothbrush? universally alarming,
 - shared razor? mildly concerning,
- one combined bag with separate items inside? fairly standard,
- one person unknowingly using the other's mystery face cream? dangerous territory.

So I'd rate your disturbance level as understandable, but probably a touch harsh unless they're both rummaging

Hmmm, but the shared toiletry bag is decidedly feminine in appearance, being floral pinks

That changes the sociology of the situation slightly - but only slightly.

There are really three possibilities here:

- He has surrendered completely to practical efficiency "There is already a perfectly functional toiletries bag in this household. Why would we own two?"
- He is operating at peak husband energy Meaning he contributes approximately one toothbrush and a shaver to an otherwise highly curated travel ecosystem assembled by his wife.

- He genuinely likes the floral pink bag, which is also entirely legitimate and arguably shows a level of self-confidence many people never reach.

What makes people react isn't usually the sharing itself — it's the image of a grown man unzipping a bright floral cosmetics bag at an airport motel and retrieving his deodorant from beside moisturiser and tweezers with zero hesitation.



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MONEY Matters

with Sandy Hoffmann

PRACTICAL ADVICE FOR MANAGING YOUR MONEY



New Financial Year, Are you comparing Apples to Oranges!

You know the idiom “compare apples to oranges”. The saying used when describing two items that are fundamentally different and cannot be evaluated on the same criteria. In other words, things that should not be compared or measured against each other. Tax Returns fall into this saying.

I strongly support talking about finances with family, friends and professionals. There is a lot to be gained with transparency and honesty rather than trying to keep up with the Joneses. But that anxiety of talking with others doesn't seem to be the same with tax returns. Have you ever listened to conversations regarding tax return outcomes and someone say they work in the same job earning the same pay but confused because one had a higher refund or a payable compared to another. This is the typical comparing of apples to oranges and here is why:

There are so many factors that contribute to the tax payable and then on how much tax you actually did pay during the year that unless all the information is provided one cannot compare one tax return to another. For example:

- Did you forget to tick the box about tax-free threshold when you started a second job and therefore have more tax withheld throughout the year?
- Does the other person you are comparing yourself to have more children and or does one of you have private health insurance and how many days within the year did you hold it for?
- Did one of you contribute to superannuation as a tax deduction?
- Did one of you decide to study more in the field of your work and therefore also have a higher deduction?
- Is there income from other investments, like shares and then are there franking credits (tax the company has already paid on your behalf)?
- Does one of you have an investment property and was it positive or negatively geared? If negatively geared this would reduce your tax payable.
- Did one of you or both get Centrelink payments but then one chose to pay tax on this income and one didn't?

And the list of differences goes on and on.

So my advice if you choose to take it is, if you are in the same job doing the same work, ask about deductions they have claimed. Consider if you also had these kinds of deductions and kept the relevant receipts. Then speak with your Tax Agent. But note of warning... just because someone else has claimed a tax deduction doesn't mean it may be valid. Remember to follow the ATO guidelines because they have up to 5 years from the date of lodgement to audit you and they will apply penalty interest if all is not

in order. If it sounds too good to be true it probably is.

Sandy's Household Hack of the Month

Our local op shop could save you money and give you some entertainment.

Have you been to the local op shop yet? If not, then go there before you decide to go to the shopping centre, you may find what you are looking for and the local volunteers are so lovely.



It is winter and as such I like to crochet, knit and do creative crafts. Nothing beats being inside with a warm fire, talking with family while being creative. I found some yarn and the crochet hook size I needed and now I am ready to get back into it this year.

Or if crafting isn't your style maybe a good fiction or non-fiction book. There are hundreds of books sitting on the shelves.

My last treasure was a binding cover illustration of a book which caught my interest; it was a great book of which the author is writing the last book this year. So, throughout this year we made it a family treasure hunt to find the rest of the novels whenever we are out and about.

Hope you find what your looking for.



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After 50 years of continuous publication the Meredith Newsletter is in grave danger of closing down at the end of the year.

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or Jim on 0409 163169**

the Philatelist

Michael Riseley



NARCOTICS TAX

You don't need a mirror to tell you things change. In USA the 1918 Revenue Act was introduced to raise taxes on certain items to help pay the cost of WW1. One of these was the Narcotics Tax. This tax was payable by all drug importers, manufacturers and producers. It came into effect 25 February 1919 and was a one cent per ounce tax on substances such as opium, coca leaves and their derivatives. These included morphine, codeine, and heroin. And cocaine.

Payment was made by purchasing a specific Narcotic Tax stamp and affixing it to the package. Initially the first stamps used were existing revenue stamps that were overprinted with the word Narcotic. Later in 1919 special Narcotic stamps were designed and issued. According to the regulations of the Act, Narcotic stamps had to be purple in colour and come in 4 sizes with various denominations.

Strict records were kept by the District Tax Collector and the stamps could only be sold to a registered business. The Act stated that each bottle, tube, package or box needed to be sealed with the appropriate stamp before leaving the business. Also the stamp had to be carefully cancelled recording the company's registration number, the District abbreviation and the date of cancellation. It had to be done in red or black ink to show clearly against the purple colour of the stamp.

In 1963 Wyeth Laboratories marketed a new product called Tubex. It was a long narrow disposable glass tube filled with medication and a hypodermic needle attached. It was a great success with doctors and hospitals because it was less expensive and more convenient than sterilising and reusing needles and syringes.

But it needed a new Narcotic stamp design and a very narrow and long stamp was issued. These were very difficult to use and this difficulty, along with strong business lobbying was one of the reasons that the Narcotic Tax was repealed in 1971, and Narcotic stamps were no longer used.

As you could imagine, many many millions of Narcotic stamps were issued and are quite common in collections these days. A very good copy is only worth a dollar or two. But to a stamp collector, it is not just the value of the stamp but the story behind it.



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(from "The Overstory" by Richard Powers).



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Catalogue:

When a document, a photo, or any item comes to MHIG and is deemed valuable for our collection, we catalogue it. This involves filling out a catalogue sheet (of paper) with an individual number for that item and details such as size, quality, description and storage place. On the catalogue sheet every name in that item that one could use as a reference to look for it is also recorded. The item is then labelled with its individual number, where it is stored and the data on the catalogue sheet is entered into a database on our computers.

The aim is to be able to find all the items that come into our collection.

A very enthusiastic young volunteer historian is, at the moment checking that everything on our data base is actually stored where it says it is and that everything stored has been catalogued. This is a huge job as MHIG has over 30,000 entries on our data base.

Open Day:

In 2016 after eight years roaming around other buildings in Meredith, MHIG moved into the old Shire Hall at 31 Staughton Street. When we started the History Group in 2008 we knew that there were plans for the Kindergarten to move to new premises from the old Shire Hall and we wanted it to be our home, because it was in an ideal position in the centre of town and it had huge historical value.

At our Open Day on Sunday, August 23, 2026 we will celebrate 10 years of our occupation of the old Shire Hall which we now call the History Centre.

Better Farming Train:

Although the weather was cold and showery a large crowd from the Meredith district visited the Better Farming Train. The Meredith Railway Station was decorated with flags by the members of the Meredith Progress Association. Councillor G Elliott (President of MPA) welcomed Dr Robertson and his staff. Dr Robertson thanked the people for their welcome. Mr Melany spoke on behalf of the Victorian Railways and the Railway Commissioners. Several people then presented lectures on: Feeding of Cattle, Feeding Pastures, Sheep & Wool, Poultry Feeding, Child Welfare and there was a cookery and needlecraft demonstration. Several champion pigs were exhibited and the feeding of swine was explained.

This report was published in The Argus on December 10, 1925.

Philanthropy:

Is defined as actively making an effort to promote human welfare and advance the well being of others by voluntarily donating time, talent or treasure.

MHIG welcomes philanthropy in any form,

The Little Grey Fergie

Marg Cooper

This rally held over three days on the King's Birthday weekend, commemorated the iconic Little Grey Fergie tractors that were used to build levee banks, and save the town from flooding in 1956. On Sunday, June 7 the tractors rolled into Wentworth township and parked in the main street for all to see. There were approximately 150 TEA20 tractors in varying condition, with different implements on the back and drivers of all ages.

Seeing the tractors brought back many memories. When Jeff Cooper left school and started to work on the farm, his father bought a TEF grey Fergie. It was no good or, as Jeff presumes, it was too old so he swapped it for a TEA which proved to be very useful. It replaced the horse called Clyde. They bought a 3-furrow disc plough from Jeff's uncle Bertie Barnett who at that time had a property on Deans Road. Jeff drove his father's Fergie around to get it and then he ploughed a paddock and a crop of oats was planted with a 12-run seed drill that was bought from Arthur Elliott who had a farm on Bamganie Road. Jeff remembers driving his father's Fergie through the Burnt Hut paddock, at the back of Gordon Elliott's to get the seed drill.

When the oats were ripe Jimmy Musgrove and his son Les came over from Bamganie Road with their little grey Fergie with a binder on the back. Les sat on the binder and tipped a lever to drop enough sheaves on the ground to make a stook while his father drove the tractor. They also ploughed and sowed crops of oats for Henry Bolte at Kialla, and made and cleaned out dams using the Fergie scoop. Jeff remembers stopping on the way home from school to watch two tractors with scoops going in and out of a dam. He thought they looked like mosquitos.

My father also bought a little grey Fergie in partnership with his brother and later bought one for himself. My father used it mainly for going around the paddocks to check on his stock. This was the era before every farmer had a ute. I often went with him and stood either on the carry-all and held onto the back of the driver's seat or stood on the axle and held onto the mudguard. Dad always had the wheels rotated which gave more stability on hilly ground. He carted hay, wood and cast sheep on the carry-all, and sometimes dragged a sled especially for carting lengths of wood home. He would then cut the wood up on a saw bench using a belt from the belt pulley on the back of the tractor to drive the saw bench. Jeff said that there was a Fergie saw-bench available that mounted straight onto the 3-point linkage and it could be lifted and moved easily.

Apparently they had the same motor as the Vanguard Car, were very maneuverable and reliable and lots of them are still going strong.

The little grey Fergie was aptly celebrated at Wentworth.



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*This is the heading to a
lead article on the CFA
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the article in full at:*



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Wendy Cook

The superb fairy-wren was changing. He had spent a few months as a little brown bird, with blue only on his long tail. Like a female, his head and back were brown and his front white, but his tail was a bolder shade of blue and his beak was black. The beaks of the females were dull orange with the same colour around their eyes. Now, well before the start of the breeding season, he was moulting and changing into his showy blue and black plumage, demonstrating the reason for his other common name, blue wren.

He was one of the older birds with the health and strength to take the risk of changing colour early, for which he would be rewarded. The females would notice and remember. Once they had built a nest with their long-term partner, he would be the one that they would sneak off to visit at dawn. He would be the father of some of their chicks. Most of the superb fairy-wrens were not faithful to their mate, but together they would care for their nest of eggs and baby birds, sometimes aided by young helpers, who were usually males. The older male and his mate would also raise a nest full of chicks. He would be the father of some of them, and of some of the young birds in nests in neighbouring territories, as well as chicks from territories further afield. This season, he might father more babies than any other male in the area, by proving his fitness to the females now.

The process of moulting took the male two weeks. The feathers on his wings, belly and tail did not change. On the rest of his body, new feathers grew, pushing out the previous dull ones. He changed a few feathers at a time, appearing mottled for a while. First, black feathers appeared near his eyes. Next, iridescent sky blue could be seen mixing with brown on his cheeks and the top of his head. The back of his neck became black with a stripe through his eye to his beak. On his upper back, more sky blue feathers shone among the brown. Dark blue patches grew and spread across his throat and chest, and finally his lower back became black, highlighting the now complete areas of lighter blue feathers on his head and upper back. When his moult was finished he looked magnificent and showed off his beauty, so that the other wrens were aware of him.

Being bright and beautiful came at a cost. It takes a lot of energy to grow new feathers. His sky blue iridescent feathers faded more quickly than brown or black feathers, and so needed replacing regularly. Growing them early meant extra months in which he would have to maintain them. He was more obvious and easily seen by everyone, including predators. The male was aware of this and responded especially quickly to alarm calls from the sentinel bird on lookout duty. He scanned his surroundings more often than when his plumage was brown, ready to hide in a bush where he was safer. Sometimes, he foraged for food there while the rest of his group remained in the

open. They felt safer when he was nearby, as they also knew that hunting birds or animals would see him first. His vigilance took time away from searching for food, but he remained fit and strong. It proved to the females that he was superior to the other males, and that he would be the best father for their chicks.

As the spring breeding season approached, the other males also changed into attractive breeding plumage. The females built their nests close to the ground in dense tussocks of grass, or in bushes. They found grasses, moss, bark and spiderweb to build a dome with an entrance two-thirds of the way up the side. Inside was a lining made of soft grass, seeds, hair, and feathers from other birds. Now, the females were ready to lay their speckled eggs. They remembered which male had changed his colours first. He had hidden dawn meetings with several of those from nearby nests, and with some from further away, as well as breeding with his mate. She laid four eggs. After the babies hatched, he helped to find food for them, as did two young birds that they had reared last year. Their assistance allowed him more time to seek out other females. In most nests, the chicks were a mix of those fathered by the male looking after them, and those whose father was caring for young birds at another nest.

When the chicks were two weeks old, they left the nest. The male and the helpers continued to feed them for a few weeks until they were independent. The female helped for a week, then built another nest and laid three more eggs. In one breeding season, the group could rear three batches of young birds. Finally, when breeding



season was over, the male began to moult again, along with all the other coloured males. Gradually, the showy black and blue plumage was discarded as the feathers were pushed out, and for several days the male had a mottled appearance of blue, black and brown. Then, he was in plain colouring again with no need to show off, and no need to spend extra time looking out for danger. For a few months, life would be more relaxed and he could be an inconspicuous member of the flock.

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Vale to Lyndall Stuart Warren McLean 13/2/1944 – 26/4/2026

Lyndall grew up at Drik Drik. His mother, Adele, had been a teacher at Drik Drik and his father, Colin, had grown up there on a farm. In 1948 they bought a small block of land and built a house on a corner which became known as McLean Corner.

Lyndall went to Drik Drik Primary School and later to Portland High School before securing a job at the Bank of NSW in Portland. In 1963 Lyndall married Kate Hawker and they had four children. Lyndall worked as a truck driver in the Portland area for ten years from 1963 carrying loads, including rocks, milk and grapes. In 1973 he joined the Commonwealth Police and the family moved to Canberra. After two years he left the Commonwealth Police and joined the ACT Police but in 1979 the Commonwealth Police and ACT Police amalgamated and Lyndall became a foundation member of the Australian Federal Police. He attained the rank of Sergeant and remained with the AFP until 1993. He loved being a police officer and was proud to have served. During his time in Canberra Lyndall and Kate divorced. He later married Jeannie who had two children. Sadly, Jeannie died in 1988. Lyndall's children remember her as a great step-mum.

In 1994 Lyndall purchased an ex-soldier settlement farm on Bamganie Road at Meredith where he ran cattle. He moved there with his then partner, Penny, and her daughters Emma and Kate. The girls went to local schools and Penny and Lyndall became friends with many in the district.

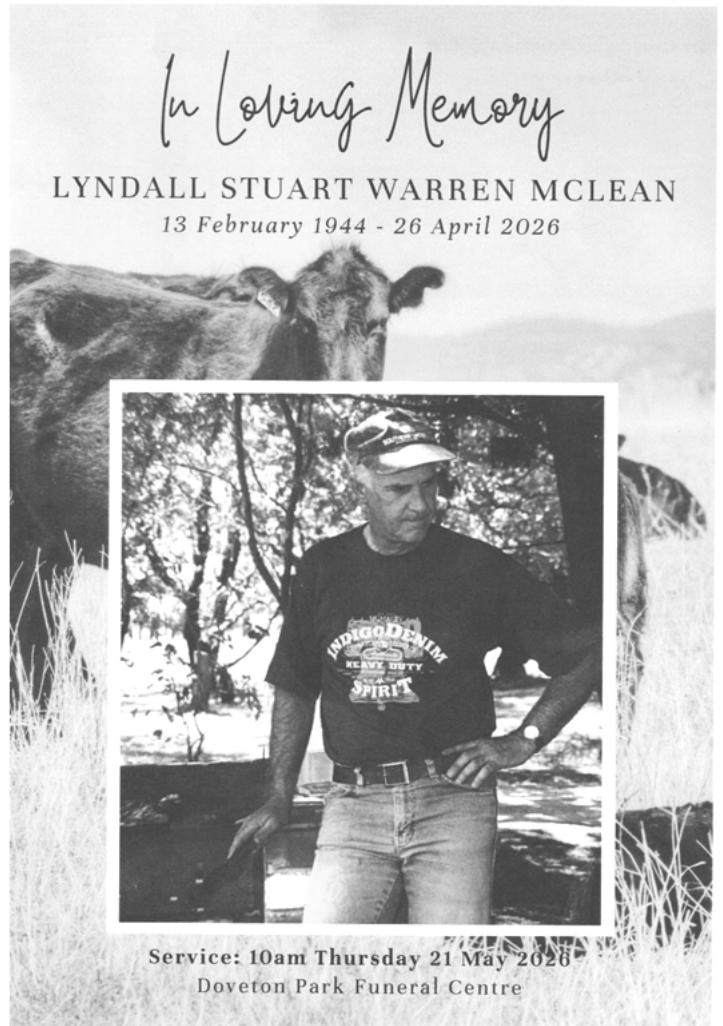
In 2002 Lyndall suffered a heart attack. He recovered well but the physical demands of farming became too much so he sold the farm in 2004 and moved to Black Hill in Ballarat.

Lyndall and Penny's relationship ended in 2005 and he moved to a house in Wendouree in 2006. In that year he became friends with Rosemary and their friendship grew into a relationship that lasted over twenty years. They travelled widely, enjoyed researching family history, which was a passion of Lyndall's, eating Asian, Japanese and Italian food and visiting members of his extended family.

Rosemary cared for Lyndall in his home after he was diagnosed with Alzheimer's, staying by his side during some of the toughest years of his life. When he later entered Kirralee Nursing Home, she never stopped caring for him.

A service was held at Doveton Park Funeral Centre in Ballarat on Thursday, May 21 to remember Lyndall.

His ashes were interred at Drik Drik Cemetery where he will rest with his father, mother and his two sisters Mary and Helen, among the people who shaped his earliest life and held a special place in his heart.



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G'Day from the penners for July. As we enter into our second month of winter, we hope you are all keeping as warm as toast. Things are going well at the group and we expect our new book 'Between Fencelines' to hit the printers mid-July. We are all looking forward to seeing it in print finally and, of course, everyone will be invited.

In the mean-time we can be contacted via our email goldenpens4@gmail.com or you can pop into the library. Our meeting dates for July are the 2nd, the 16th and the 30th.

Our story this month is from Karen Naylor, Enjoy.

Witchetty Grubs.

Mimi hurried Kirrilly along, she knew what the cool wind gusts meant. A windstorm was coming! Mimi had spent most of her life on Munga Thirri Country, it was her home and she could read its signs as easily as a city dweller could read road signs. Kirrilly and Mimi needed to hurry because food was getting low and they needed to dig up as many witchetty grubs as they could to ensure enough tucker after the storm passed.

Kirrilly lived with her mother in an isolated community on out skirts of Adelaide. This would be the first time she had made the long journey to her grandmother's country. For Kirrilly this would be a great adventure, one she had been looking forward to for a long time. To Mimi it was a sacred duty to teach her granddaughter the culture, lore, customs, beliefs and spirituality created during the dreaming. Kirrilly already knew these stories but there was something different when Mimi told them. They carried weight, they were personal.

They lay on their backs on the ground looking up at the milky way in all its glorious splendour in one of the clearest skies on the planet. Mimi's voice connected her to her culture, she could feel the thread connecting her to her past. Kirrilly's mother had taught her how to gather bush tucker but in a casual way, most of their food came from supermarkets. There were no supermarkets here on country so if you wanted it you had to find it or make it.

The dilly bag was almost empty at the end of their journey. Mimi would need Kirrilly's help, her granddaughter, knowing this, moved as fast as she could without being told. They worked fast and efficiently, Kirrilly proving to be a very fast learner with natural talent for the work. After a windstorm, acacia trees were easy enough to find, but it was almost impossible to find the tell tail cracks in the ground that led down to the roots where the witchetty grubs were, if all the cracks in the ground had been covered in the red dirt after a windstorm.

Kirrilly had her own digging stick, one of her grandmothers had given her. Mimi used a crowbar these days, making the digging so much easier. It had caused Mimi some internal conflict at the time but, the extra witchetty grubs she dug up with it quietened her inner voice! She was grateful now as the two dug quickly and silently alongside each other. Mimi's granddaughter easily found the cracks with her young eyes signalling where the fat creamy grubs with their little brown heads fed inside

the acacia roots. Grandmother and granddaughter would not go hungry!

Let the wind blow...

Australia Fair

Australia Fair, I love thee
The dear land of my birth;
To me thou art the sweetest,
The brightest spot on earth.

I love the leafy gullies
Where palm and fern trees hide,
The tall gum-trees that clamber
On many steep hill-side.

I love the ferny pathways
Where wattle blossoms fall,
While, in the dreamy distance,
The bell-bird rings his call.

Dear southern land Australia,
Wherever I may roam,
My heart will turn forever
To thee, my native home.



Poem by Maybanke Anderson

Source: Victorian Readers Fourth Book HJ Green Government Printer Melbourne
First edition print 1930 Reprint 1986, 1989
Submitted by Janene Schillier

Want to get into some Old School

SOCIAL MEDIA



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Grief

She sits he stands
one hand on her shoulder.
A priest is saying something
about Limbo and babies.
A walker whistles his dog
away from sniffing the fresh dirt
under a wind-lifted corner
of the artificial grass cover
that magnifies the reason
it's there.

Friends family
street-neighbours
and that quiet woman
who sleeps in her car
will huddle round
the wake-table
mulling and munching
leaving nothing
that's sweet.

Later
he will enter
that blind-down room
close the door behind him
to gently rock the cradle
and weep
an envisioned eulogy.

She will stare
into the night
like a shot mother wolf
emptied of bulk and kick
listening for the howl
of a milk-thirsty pup
somewhere anywhere
out there.

He will
put on that storm-grey jumper
his mother knitted
and back from back
in their marital bed
close his eyes and listen
to winter slapping
poems of loss
against the window.

© - Jan Price

This poem was kindly contributed by Ballarat poet, Jan Price



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*Sports *Pregnancy
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A LITTLE MORE OF Our Cover Story

Meredith & district Newsletter

2nd February 2006

A Century Partnership

Festivities will mark the Meredith Memorial Hall's 100th Birthday in March this year which represents a century of service to the district's residents.

Through all this time it has been managed by volunteers. Current secretary Sandra Pearce says there is a need



...its Grand Old Lady turns 100 this year.

for more representatives on the Committee of Management.

It will hold its Annual General Meeting at 7.30 pm on Tuesday 28th February 2006 so please come along if you would like to play a useful role in running this important community asset.

Over the years the Memorial Hall has been a significant hub to the people of Meredith and surrounding areas in bringing people together in a very pleasant and friendly atmosphere to celebrate and conduct many functions.

The birthday celebrations in March will be a significant event in the life of the town as people come together to hear old stories, see people they haven't seen for some years and to have fun all in the one place at the same time.

The Hall's wooden walls have had a number of renovations over the last 99 years and 2006 will see more works continue to ensure the Hall has another 100 years to give to the community of Meredith.

We would like to hear from any people interested in joining the Hall Committee. Nomination forms are available from the Secretary. The Hall Committee meets 4 times a year. If you are interested in finding out more about the Hall, please contact Sandra Pearce. Phone. 52861545.

Together we can keep this significant Community Asset alive and fresh for another 100 years.

Newsletter DEADLINES

Next edition copy and ADS due on Thursday 9th February.

ALL ADS & EDITORIAL must be emailed to mchnews@netconnect.com.au or lodged at the Community House or the Meredith Corner shop by no later than the above deadline.

SPORTS RESULTS: News of sports events over the weekend can be emailed or lodged at the Community House up to 9:00 AM on the Monday of the publication week.

Broadband at Last!

Although we have not yet received official confirmation, providers are ringing signatories to last year's petition to sell broadband plans based on advice that the Meredith Exchange has been broadband enabled and should be functional sometime in February. This is great news for residents who live within five kms of the Exchange who regularly use the internet for business or recreation.

Many district towns, including Lethbridge, were "broadbanded" months ago.

Any NEWS or VIEWS - email mchnews@netconnect.com.au or drop it into the Shop!

We have the room, so here's a few more front pages from our focus period this issue.

A move to offset printing in 2009 brought the first margin free, full-page photo covers. The 2009 Xmas cover also points to the innovation sometimes called upon when a suitable cover photo hasn't been forthcoming. In this instance, the editor hurriedly assembled a collection of seasonal ornaments. Problem solved!

And sometimes, when you print in sets of four pages, you have to find an extra page of content - like this one. :-)



Meredith & district News

April 2009

Our Free Community Newsletter since 1972

Major Water Supply Upgrade Announced

from Barwon Water Media Release

Barwon Water's Board late last month signed off on a \$7.4 million project to improve water supply to Meredith. A pipeline connecting Meredith to the Lethbridge tank, which is supplied by the Moorabool water treatment plant, will be built to cut the township's reliance on flows in the drought-stressed West Moorabool River.

The Moorabool water treatment plant is supplied from Barwon Water's Upper Stony Creek storages, which are Great Dividing Range.

The project has been brought forward in Barwon Water's capital works program in response to the ongoing drought, deteriorating water quality and the significant cost of carting water to Meredith.

Barwon Water Chairman Roger Lowrey said the corporation had identified "as a matter of urgency" a new supply flows and caused high salinity in the West Moorabool. Indeed, water has had to be carted intermittently from Lethbridge to Meredith because we were unable to draw supplies from the river.

"Carting water is not sustainable and a decision has been made to service the town from the Moorabool water treatment plant. This will ensure a more reliable and secure supply," Mr Lowrey said.

A new pump station will be built at the Lethbridge tank site on Medina Road, with an 11.5 kilometre pipeline connected to the Meredith clear water storages. Work is expected to begin in mid-2010, with commissioning in mid-2011.

"Not only will this project provide supply security, it will also result in improved water quality for Meredith's residents who have endured higher salinity for many years," Mr Lowrey said.

The Lethbridge tank was constructed in 2007 as an emergency measure to reduce demand on the Moorabool River. A pump station, 300,000-litre storage tank and four-kilometre main were constructed to supply Lethbridge from the Moorabool water treatment plant instead of the Meredith system.

Barwon Water will continue to cart water to Meredith to supplement low flows and water quality until the improvement works are completed.

Community House Extension Open

by Joan Brick

The Meredith Community House was thrilled to have the new extension to their facility officially opened by Geoff Howard, MLA on Sunday, March 15th. A number of local government representatives together with other local and state representatives were also present to join in the celebration. The extension was made possible with funding provided through a state government grant that also funded an update to computer facilities.

The extension as well as the updated computer facilities will ensure that the Community House is able to meet the needs of members of the district communities through an expression in the variety of



House Director Joan Brick with local MP, Geoff Howard, MLA

classes and activities that are offered. A note of thanks was extended to all those associated with the project especially two district residents, Ian Hoggan, the architect and Andrew Armstrong, the builder.

More on p.15 & 23

in this issue....

- Bushfire Appeal Wrap Ups
- Jim Duggan - a Life So Far
- Living with Millipedes
- Cemetery Tour and Book Launch
- Community Venue Auction Update

plus Community and Sports News, Contacts, Regular Columns and much more!

E: mchnews@netconnect.com.au
W: www.meredith.net/newsletter



Meredith & district News

October 2008

Our Free Community Newsletter since 1972

Steiglitz has a Birthday Party (and you're invited)

By Linda Allison

On Sunday 26th October Steiglitz will celebrate 140 years of 'Back to Steiglitz' days. This year the committee has organized a Festival that will run from 10 am until approx 4 pm. There will be the annual Church Service held in the historic St Pauls church, the Catholic Church (now used by the Steiglitz Historical Society) will be open, bus tours of the area, displays, raffles, a street actor, lots of food, an art exhibition, the first ever Steiglitz Billy Cart Race and many more attractions.

A bus from Meredith has been organized for transport for anyone who would like to come to Steiglitz and join in for the day. There will be lots to do as well as a lot of learning about the history of the area. The bus will pick up in Meredith from the Community House at 9.30 am and will leave the Festival at around 3.30 pm. Wheelchair access is available in the bus.

BOOKINGS FOR BOTH WAYS ARE ESSENTIAL and can be made by ringing me on 52 819 390. (You may need to leave a message).

great day is promised as Steiglitz was such an important part of this district in the gold rush era, and it is so good to know that the current residents and committee feel so enthusiastic about their early days.

Each year many 'older' ex residents return to renew friendships and see what has happened the area. Did you know there is still no Power connected to Steiglitz....this would have to be one of the few areas in Victoria that still uses generators etc!

The costs for the day will be kept to a minimum, so please come and enjoy a Festival with a difference. We hope the Back to Steiglitz Association has a great day and good weather for this very special historical event.

Get Ready for Summer...

...with our articles on fire and snake safety in this issue. (and look out for water wise tips in next month's M&D News.)



The Steiglitz Courthouse will be open for inspection, and will host displays of early history.

Book Launch

"Significant Women of Meredith" by Margaret Cooper

Sunday, Oct. 26th

Meredith Memorial Hall

2-4pm (Official Launch 3.15pm)

Afternoon tea provided

RSVP: Friday Oct 17th

Ph 52861348

(Catering purposes)

All welcome

Come along and celebrate the rich history of many of the local women in the Meredith District

in this issue....

- Town Team Makeover
- CROCS Presentation Night
- One of Long Ago Hoteliers
- Thank You CERT
- Dry Moorabool River Under Scrutiny
- School Camps Reports
- Byteback Expands

plus Community and Sports News, Contacts, Regular Columns and much more!

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TALL TREE WIND FARM Mobile Office Drop-in Sessions

Following the decision that the proposed Tall Tree Wind Farm will require an Environment Effects Statement, we are pleased to announce that we will be launching a Mobile Office in 2026.

Monthly drop-in sessions: Over the coming months, our project team will be in the local area. Community members are welcome to drop in, ask questions, and learn more about the project.

1:1 technical discussions: If you have a technical question or would like a dedicated conversation with the project team, we can book a one-on-one session with the relevant specialist. Please note this will be limited to availability, so may not be available on the same day.

MOBILE OFFICE LOCATIONS AND SCHEDULE

Engagement dates and locations will be provided via the Community Hub. Please scan the QR code to view the schedule for upcoming events.



CONTACT US

Feel free to get in touch for more information via email talltree@acciona.com or call our free helpline on **1800 283 550**.

You can also visit our online community hub to find out more about our project at community.acciona.com.au/talltree.

COMMUNITY FUND COMMITTEE

MOORABOOL Wind Farm

info@mooraboolwindfarm.com | www.mooraboolwindfarm.com

The Committee is established to review and consider applications submitted to the Moorabool Wind Farm community Benefit Fund Program.

Have questions?
Visit our website, scan
the QR code or write to us

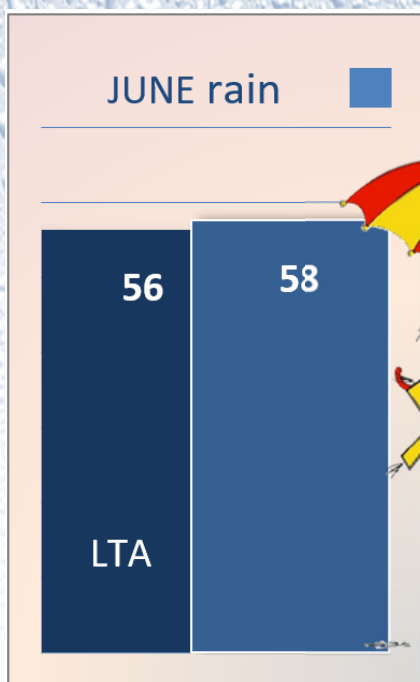


If you want to join
the committee,

EXPRESSIONS OF
INTEREST OPEN
UNTIL 15 JULY



the rain report



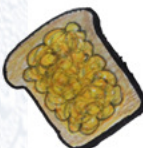
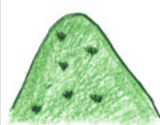
(Rain recorded up to 9.00 am 28/06/2026)

Jess and Asher's

REBUS PUZZLES

Can you solve these visual word puzzles?

Take your time and think creatively!

	SECRET	 Jack	Ban ana	
1.	2.	3.		
	SGEG TOAST	Chair	sister	
4.	5.	6.		
+dress	H I L L	Arrest You're		
7.	8.	9.		

1. _____	4. _____	7. _____
2. _____	5. _____	8. _____
3. _____	6. _____	9. _____



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Take-Away Menu

Toasties

Bacon and Egg
Bacon and Egg Roll
Bacon, Egg and Cheese Muffin
Ham and Cheese
Ham, Cheese, Tomato
Bacon, Egg Breakfast

Fresh Rolls and Sandwiches

Ham and Cheese
Ham, Cheese, Tomato
Ham, Cheese, Pickle
Egg, Lettuce
Ham, Salad
Chicken Salad
Salad

Fried Food

Hot Chips + Gravy
Flake Battered
Fish Battered
Squid Rings
Crab Stick
Battered Sav
Battered Burger
Chicko Roll
Spring Roll
Mini Spring Roll
Dim Sims- Steamed/Fried
Chicken or Pork Dim Sims
Potato Cakes
Chicken Wing Dings
Chicken Garlic Balls
Chicken Strips
Kransky
Hot Jam Donuts

Hamburgers

Cheese Burger
Double Cheese, Sauce, Pickles
Plain Burger
Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato Sauce
Hamburger with the Lot
Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato, Bacon, Egg, Onion, Sauce
Steak Sandwich
Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato, Bacon, Egg, Onion, Sauce
Chicken Schnitzel Burger
Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato, Mayo
Chicken Chilli Wrap
Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato, Sweet Chilli Sauce
Veggie Burger
Lettuce, Cheese, Tomato, Sauce

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