Ex Students from Merriwa Central School Graduate

On October 24 and 25, five ex students of Merriwa Central School graduated from their chosen courses at Armidale UNE.

Amylee Knight (Morgan) Class of 1995 - Bach of Education, Primary
Elizabeth Lemen (Osmond) Class of 2000 - Masters of Education (Special Education)
Emily Wightman - Class of 2009 - Bach of Exercise and Sport Science
Keirra Hourn - Class of 2008 - Bach of Education, Primary
Micah Kiely (absent) - Class and Dux of 2009 - Bach of Geoscience

Continues page 3
HORSE SPORTS

Clancy Martin is a very valued and busy member of our Merriwa Central School Equestrian Team has been very busy over the past few weeks when it comes to horse sports. Clancy travelled to Calrossy Horse Sports Day on Friday October 17 to represent our school. Clancy picked up first in the Boy Rider 12 years. Supreme Champion Boy Rider Under 14 years, second in the Pair of Riders, third in the Hack, first in the Flag Race, second in the Barrel Race and the Running T. Clancy did a fabulous job once again and came away with a big smile on his face when he was awarded Champion Point Score for the 12 Years Boys Age Group.

Clancy and his family then headed to the Inter Schools Horse Extravaganza on Saturday 18 and Sunday October 19. This is a newly formed event put together by a band of hard working horse enthusiasts which was held at the magnificent AELEC in Tamworth. It included sporting events, show jumping, dressage, riding and hack classes just to name a few events. With approximately 30 in his age group Clancy once again showed his talent as a wonderful horseman and collected a swag of ribbons over the two days. His results were - Saturday - fifth in the Working Horse Challenge, first - Flag Race, second in the Bending Race and the Scudeho and fourth in the Barrel Race. This gained Clancy Reserve Champion Pointscore 12 years for Saturday. Sunday saw Clancy finish the day on another high note placing first in the Bottle Race, Two Flag Race, Diamond Flag and the Bonfield Bounce. Just to top of his successful few days he was awarded Champion Pointscore 12 years for Sundays competition.

Congratulations to Clancy on his results at these two events and a big thank you to Clare for taking Clancy to represent our school in his chosen sporting field.

Kellie Porter
Horse Sports Coordinator
Merriwa Ringer
**Principal Report’s**

**ENTERING SCHOOL GROUNDS**

It is a condition of entry onto school grounds that all visitors must report to the office to sign in. This is to ensure the safety and wellbeing of staff and students. In the case of an emergency we require accurate records so that we can identify everyone who is on school grounds at that time and respond accordingly. If you need to drop lunch off for your child please do so at the front office and it will be passed on. If you would like to speak with a member of staff for any reason our office staff can arrange a meeting time for you.

**FORMAL ASSEMBLY**

Our Secondary Formal Assembly has been postponed by a week due to a HSC exam. The new date for the Formal Assembly is Monday November 10.

*Adam Johnston
Relieving Principal*

**EX STUDENTS FROM MERRIWA CENTRAL ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS**

Continues from page 1...

Merriwa Central School would like to take a moment to congratulate all five ex students for their accomplishments. It is great to see so many working towards their future.

**A bit more information about two of our students..**

Amylee Knight finished her Year 12 in 1995 and then returned to do her HSC again in 1997 so that she could gain the results she needed to study at university. Amylee started her Bachelor of Education (Primary) in 2008 at the University of New England. She studied externally while working four days a week and raising four beautiful children.

Elizabeth Lemen started her Masters of Education (Special Education) in June 2012 and finished in June 2014, after being lucky enough to received a Scholarship from the Department of Education. She has always had a great passion for working with children with Special Needs and wanted to pursue this career further.

*Tina Taylor*

**Coming Events**

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| Monday 3 | • Year 4-7 Great Aussie Bush Camp excursion, leaving Merriwa Central School at 7.30pm  
• Year 12 Work Placement - all week |
| Tuesday 4 | • Year 4-7 Great Aussie Bush Camp excursion  
• Kindergarten Transition – 9.00am-1.00pm  
• Secondary Super 8’s Cricket tournament – Dubbo, 7.00am-6.00pm |
| Wednesday 5 | • Year 4-7 Great Aussie Bush Camp excursion, returning at 5.00pm  
• P and C meeting – Merriwa RSL Club, 7.00pm-8.30pm  
• Year 11 Visual Arts excursion – Sculptures by the Sea, Bondi Beach, 6.00am-7.00pm |
| Friday 7 | • Primary assembly – Fife band will present their item, 9.15am |

**Primary News**

**STUDENT OF THE WEEK**

Congratulations to our latest Students of the Week. They have all received books courtesy of our P and C who continue to support the weekly award. Well done to:

| Year Kindergarten | Skye Watson (absent) |
| Year 1/2          | Logan Brazier        |
| Year 2/3          | Jack Mobberley       |
| Year 4/5          | Thomas Bates         |
| Year 5/6          | Gordon Bradley       |

**GRANDPARENTS DAY**

Wow! What a fantastic morning we had last Friday, with more than fifty grandparents, parents and friends joining us to celebrate! The library was overflowing during our formal assembly, where special awards were presented, and Year 5/6 entertained everyone with their very own “Grandparents’ Rap”.

**EX STUDENTS FROM MERRIWA CENTRAL ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS**

Continues from page 1...

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Tina Taylor
Afterwards, grandparents visited classrooms, and enjoyed a tasty morning tea, prepared by Mr Creamer and his Year 7/8 Food Technology students. All staff and students were very proud to welcome such a happy and interested group of grandparents – we think we have the best grandparents in the world!

Sharing writing and drawing about grandparents

Kate Jones
Assistant Principal

SPECIAL AWARDS

Many students entered artwork and photography into the Merriwa Springtime Show which was held during the holidays. We were very proud to hand out awards on Friday to students who achieved certificates for their entries. Every year more and more students create interesting and creative pieces to enter into the show and we can’t wait to see what students create for next year’s show. Well done to all the award winners!

AUSIE BUSH CAMP

Next week students from Years 4-7 will be going to Aussie Bush Camp. They will depart Monday November 3 and will return Wednesday November 5. If you have any questions or concerns please see Miss Laurie by Friday afternoon. We hope everyone has a fun time at camp!

Rebecca West
Assistant Principal

PREPARING FOR KINDERGARTEN

PERSONAL AND SOCIAL SKILLS

Social skills and independence are as important as academic achievement when starting Kindergarten. When children start Kindergarten they continue to develop these skills that will assist them to make friends, strengthen bonds with others and enjoy the school environment. There are several behaviours that children starting kindergarten are beginning to develop, including:

- adapting to less familiar settings and new experiences
- finishing a task, and tidying up afterwards
- playing cooperatively with other children – sharing and taking turns
- sitting still to listen to a story for an increasing amount of time
- curiosity about the world and school
- using the toilet independently
- sharing an adult’s attention with several other children
- participating in imaginative play

When children start Kindergarten they won’t always have each of these behaviours under control, which is part of what they will learn at school. The transition program running this term, is an important part of building children’s confidence and understanding of being part of a class. Transition supports children towards developing relationships with other children and with teachers at school. During the transition program children will develop more confidence navigating the expectations of school life.

Judging by the transition session last week, there are many capable and considerate children coming into Kindergarten next year. I was thrilled to see their skills, maturity and attitude towards learning. They all impressed the teachers with their level of concentration and delightful personalities. I can’t wait to watch them blossom at school next year.

Kara Allison
Instructional Leader

DISCO

Tonight the P and C will be holding a ‘Fancy Dress Disco’ from 4.00-6.00pm for primary students. The entry fee will be a gold coin and there will be snacks and drinks available to purchase. There will be some prizes for great fancy dress and awesome dancing too!
**Secondary News**

**TECHNOLOGY AND APPLIED SCIENCE DEPARTMENT NEWS**

The TAS Faculty has been hammering along thus far this term. With a little over six weeks of school left for 2104 the final finishing touches for reports and assessments are streaming in thick and strong. Hopefully each student is striving for maximum achievement right through to the end and will get the results they desire.

The HSC students are virtually finished their last ever school exams and can now breathe a sigh of relief – with everything they can possibly do for great marks being done. There is now nothing they can do but wait. I encourage them to have a break, distress and relax. I implore their parents to give them space, relax and then put them to work around the house, if they’re bored!

**THE WORKSHOPS**

Year 7/8 Tech Timber has completed most of their safety testing and recently started work on their First Aid boxes. They’ve been busily chiselling out rebate joints, planing chamfers and making as much mess as possible over the past few weeks. We recently moved onto the Information Communication Technology (Computing) section of Tech, with the introduction to Computer Aided Drawing/Drafting on the schools computers. It’s challenging for these students, learning how to design, draw and create objects in three dimensions on a screen. They are starting to like the Google SketchUp program though some still have trouble understanding the concept. I’m looking forward to the moment the ‘penny drops’ and letting them race off into the program, drawing, designing, painting and importing things as they specifically want it, limited only by their own imaginations.

Year 10 Metal and Timber students have been putting the finishing touches on their individual Major Projects that they’ve been working on for nearly two terms. Hopefully they’ve been using their time effectively to demonstrate what they’re capable of with no set limitations and the ability to manage their own time and resources. Some have achieved this remarkably well, others not so much. That will effectively be evident when they bring their projects home, or a pile of sticks! Craig Walker’s table has turned out exceptionally well and he should be proud of his outstanding efforts. Jake Barry-Diehm’s coffee table constructed from recycled pallets also turned out very well.

The Cold Chisel and Nail/Centre punch sets that Year 9 has been making in Metalwork have turned out pleasingly well. One outstanding performance was by Caleb Withers and pleasing efforts from Cody Towell and Hamish Cameron have been challenging to keep up with.

These same boys along with Corey Naime and Bailey McNaught have been busily keeping me on my toes in Woodwork. They are eager students with very strong practical abilities. Hopefully they have the eye for detail and patience to create the impressive results they deserve.

The start of Year 12 for the Metal and Engineering boys has seen the commencement of another competency task. They’ve been meticulously creating the components for a marking gauge on the lathes. Clara Pieffke (exchange student from Osnabrück, Germany) has brought some welcome female influence to the class. I hope she enjoys her time with us and learns some valuable, practical life skills.

My Year 12 Timber students have thus far been planning the design, shape and material composition of their Major Design Project. It is

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**Favourite Subject:** Art and Tech

**Extra-Curricular activities:** Enjoys playing touch football locally

**Favourite Activity:** Coming first in all her events at the last Athletics Carnival and being age champion.

**Year Advisor’s Comment:** Alana is a high achieving mostly quite young lady that is a pleasure to have in the year group. She is very sporting by nature and is not afraid to get involved in male dominated games of soccer at lunchtimes. She is able to hold her own against the boys and is often seen embarrassing them when she gets the ball off them.

She should be proud of her achievements this past year and is hopefully looking forward to a very relaxing Christmas holiday.

Andrew Duncan
Year Advisor

**Student of the Week**

Alana Smith
Year 7
Why I want to be in ROAR? I want to be in ROAR to build up my self confidence and respect

What is my favourite subject: Wood, Maths, Food and Metal

What is my favourite sport? Football and Soccer

What is my favourite team? St George

Favourite Player: Neville Costigan

Best Sporting Achievement: Running cross country at regional

Who inspires you and Why: Dad

Advice to young players: Set your goal and keep trying because you can never fail.
The Merriwa Central School Steer team competed in the 2014 Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza at White Park, Scone on Friday, Saturday and Sunday. There were close to 300 head of cattle competing and over 700 students parading in hot conditions over the three days. Representing Merriwa Central School were Miranda Boland, Tiesha Keogh, Skye Nicholls, Madison Swan and Craig Walker from Year 10 and Hanna Byfield, Hamish Cameron, April Eipper, Tylor Keogh, Bailey McNaught and Matthew Porter from Year 9.

On Friday we competed in the School Steer Competition, with our two paraders being Craig Walker and Tiesha Keogh. This competition is only for those 30 head of cattle that are provided by Waverley Station for schools to compete with. Our steer, Arrow was then paraded in the steer class by Matthew Porter. We were very pleased to receive a third for his presentation.

Saturday was the open competition and both steers Beau (led by Hamish Cameron) and Arrow (led by Craig Walker) were paraded in their respective weight classes. There was some stiff competition and whilst our steers were well prepared they were unfortunately not successful in gaining places.

The younger paraders competed in the afternoon with Hanna Byfield and Tylor Keogh representing us in the 14 years competition. The girls made a fantastic effort in their heat but unfortunately did not place.

On Sunday the students participated in the junior judging event in the morning, judging sets of heifers, steers and bulls. The competition then rounded off with the parading classes for our 15 and 16 year olds. April Eipper, Skye Nicholls and Matthew Porter represented us in the 15 years competition and while they were commended by the judge they unfortunately did not place. Miranda Boland, Tiesha Keogh and Madison Swan represented us in the 16 years competition. Madison was place second in her heat and went through to the finals. Whilst she did not secure a placing she finished within the top third of the competitors, which was a very pleasing result.

We now await the results of the carcase competition which will be released on Wednesday.

There are a number of people who have helped out in a variety of ways this weekend and I would like to thank them for their contributions. Thank you to Barbra Eipper, Maria Abra, Jamie Keogh, and Amy Nicholls for willingly driving students to Scone and back and a big thank you to David Cameron for transporting the steers to Scone.

Andrew Duncan
Acting Head Teacher

CALLING FOR PARENT HELPERS – MANY HANDS MAKE LIGHT WORK

Our school has recently purchased a range of new guided reading books that will be used during guided reading sessions in the classroom. Each book needs to be covered with clear contact to ensure they last through sticky fingers and excited page turning.

If you are able to assist we are holding a working bee.

Date: Wednesday November 5
When: 11.30am-1.00pm
Where: Primary Campus Library

All are welcome, Mums, Dads, Grandparents, Parents of Kindergarten 2015, the more the merrier. We would love for you to come along and have a coffee, chat and cover some of our great new resources. Hope to see you there!

Kara Allison
Instructional Leader
Once again I would also like to thank Mr Col Bates for his donation of Beau to the school, he was a treasure.

It was also lovely to have three past team members over the weekend. Their presence was extra special and their assistance invaluable. It was also wonderful to have so many parents join us to support the team over the three days of competition.

On a personal note I would like to express how proud I am of the 2014 steer team. Their commitment and team work over the course of the program this year and particularly the past three days of competition has been amazing. They all worked without complaint in some very hot and trying conditions. In particular I would like to congratulate my ‘head groom’ Bailey McNaught for his untiring efforts throughout the event. It is the little things that are done behind the scenes that make it run well. We had a lot of laughs and of course some tears but I am very proud of them all and look forward to next year’s steer program.

Lois Harrison
Steers Coordinator
MY GALLIPOLI STORY UPDATE

Let me just start by letting you all know, I am Breanna Goodear and last year I was accepted as one of twenty students in the Hunter Valley to attend the the 2015 Centenary of the landing at Gallipoli on April 25 at Anzac Cove. This is of course, an absolute honour and I am tremendously looking forward to all the experiences and sense of awareness that will come as a result of this and I look forward to reporting back after the event.

The first Sunday of the last school holidays, marked the beginning of my student tour groups trip to Canberra. Sunday was travel day. We all cheered as we crossed the Australian Capital Territorian border. It was quite like crossing the Mexican border, exciting and adrenaline pumping. Once arriving in Canberra we climbed Mt Ainslie and ooh-ed and ahh-ed at the Nations Capital. After descending the mountain, we were taken to Anzac Parade and we saw all the monuments for the various conflicts and divisions of the Australian Defence Force.

The next day was Monday, the day we visited the National Archives and Parliament House. When the group arrived, we split into partners and had to research - using real, hardcopy documents- a soldier who was killed on the Gallipoli Peninsula on April 25. Then we got a tour of the Archives’ on-display exhibit, during which we saw the document of the Constitution with the Queens’ fading signature, Royal seal and all. Parliament House was a hoot! The most mentionable part was when we got to sit in on Question Time for the House of Representatives. We were in the same room as the Prime Minister, Tony Abbott! Question Time is quite entertaining - there really isn’t anything quite like the sound of politicians yelling at one another in disagreement.

The part we all continue to joke about was when the Member for Jagajaga had to be removed for being too disruptive, how rebellious of her.

Tuesday September 23 was our final full day in Canberra and we used our time wisely to visit the Australian War Memorial. We were given an hour long talk and tour about various things throughout the memorial including Lancaster Bombers and their pilots as well as Victoria Cross recipients. Following this, a lady from their library showed us the various forms in which they kept information: maps, photographs and journals with surprisingly little official documents being kept there (as they are mainly kept at the Archives). We were then given time to use their database to find more information on our Soldier. After that, we were given the opportunity to walk around their galleries to observe the displays. At 4.45pm we attended the Last Post Ceremony and watched the Piper and Bugler play as wreaths were laid.

Wednesday was home time. Admittedly, I napped a little on the way home...

This was an extremely valuable experience. Our group were able to experience a new way of thinking by listening to the ways of other people. A special mention should go to our “trooper” bunch of chaperones who pulled this all together, hip hip hooray!

Something I didn’t mention was the way we all bonded, playing card games together cramped in a tiny room, sharing in-jokes and personal thoughts and through this our ‘group’ became a ‘family’. This trip to Canberra was just a small insight to what we’ll be experiencing next year, spending almost every waking minute together, participating in conflict related tours and of course, being a tourist! Many people don’t understand that this tour isn’t just based on the wars. Sure that’s the main focus but we also get to bond with a diverse group of people, experience new, different and exciting cultures and reap the rewards of knowledge as we expand on what we know.
Keep a lookout definitely in May next year for my return report, and maybe I’ll make another appearance even sooner than that! Thank you Merriwa.

Breanna Goodear
CAREER EVENTS

AFTRS Summer School - January 5 to February 6

REECE Plumbing School Based Traineeships - Year 10 and 11 students will work one day per week. Apply for positions in your area: http://asba.sherpanetwork.com.au/jobs/

International College of Management Sydney Aspiring Education Foundation Closes December 5 Three Equity scholarships up to a value of $49,000. Consideration of accommodation scholarships for eligible applicants to a value up to $15,000 each per annum. http://www.icms.edu.au/scholarship-type/new-domestic-students

International College of Management Sydney Domestic Student Professional Scholarships Program Closes October 31. Covering tuition fees and/or accommodation. Visit http://www.icms.edu.au/scholarship-type/new-domestic-students. ICMS has partnered with the NSW Rugby League to offer a unique industry sponsored professional scholarship valued at over $30,000 for a student starting at ICMS in February 2015. Professional Scholarship program rewards high performing and community orientated students. With numerous partner institutions including ANZ Bank, HOSTPLUS, Hugos Manly, Manly Council and now NSW Rugby League to provide industry placement scholarships, offering practical as well as financial incentives. Find more information http://www.icms.edu.au/scholarships/ or contact Rebecca Wise on (02) 9466 1030.

Electrical Apprenticeships Opportunities in the Sydney Metropolitan and surrounding areas NECA Group Training is a major employer of electrical apprentices in NSW and they are looking to employ over 100 Electrical Apprentices to start between November 2014 to January 2015. The opportunities are with Electrical Contracting and Communication companies in the Sydney Metropolitan and surrounding areas. An assessment test will be conducted to assess English, Math and Science Skills. NECA Group Training are an Equal Opportunity Employer, and Indigenous Australians are encouraged to apply. To apply, head to http://www.necagt.com.au/ → Apprentices → Employment with NECA Group Training. Phone: (02) 9744 2754; Attn Donna/Amy Email: mailto:apprentice@necagt.com.au

Apprentice Match provides employers, apprentices and trainees Australia wide with an apprenticeship and traineeship job matching service. Those looking for apprentices and traineeships can register with Apprentice Match for free. You will be required to fill in some personal details, answer some questions about what type of apprenticeship/traineeship you are after as well as submit your resume. Apprentice Match will then contact you if there are any vacancies that match what you are looking for. For more information, visit http://www.apprenticematch.com.au/

If you require any further information about careers please contact me at school.

Jane Hegarty
Careers Advisor

MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL P AND C

P AND C DISCO – FANCY DRESS
Who will be the best dressed?
All children from kinder to Year 6 are invited to the P and C’s fancy dress disco on Thursday 30 October from 4.00pm to 6.00pm in the Primary Library at Merriwa Central School Primary campus.

Snacks and drinks will be for sale

TRIVIA NIGHT
You are all invited to Merriwa Central School P and C Trivia Night
When: On Saturday November 22 – 6.00pm for 6.30pm start
Cost: $5.00 per person
Tables of 8.

Bookings can be made at Max’s Country Cuts.
Everyone Welcome to attend even children.
We are looking forward to seeing everyone there for a fun night.

GENERAL MEETING
Next P and C meeting is Wednesday November 5 at 7.00pm – Merriwa RSL Club.

GRANDPARENTS DAY
We hope all our Grandparents had a great day on Friday at our Grandparents day at the Primary Campus. I have been told how yummy those choc chip biscuits were and what great items were put on by all students.

Gaynor Blackadder

Merriwa Ringer
Harry has earned the title of ‘Student of the Week’, for his consistent positive attitude and enthusiasm for learning.

Last week, during Active After School (AAS), Harry demonstrated improvement in his Frisbee throwing skill because even though his throwing technique didn’t start well, he never gave up until he got it right.

Harry also takes pride in his work and during handwriting activities; Harry has been slowing down more regularly and concentrating on his neat bookwork and formation of letters.

Congratulations Harry and keep up the fantastic effort!

LET’S GET TO KNOW THE STUDENT OF THE WEEK A LITTLE BETTER…

What is your favourite sport or hobby? Football, because you get to kick, pass, and tackle. The Bulldogs are my favourite team. I am their biggest fan

Do you have a favourite song or singer? Red Foo because he is funny

If you could have a superpower, what would it be and why? Flying, so I could see everything.

If you were stuck on a deserted island and could only take three things what would you take? I would take a boat, a helicopter and a jet so I could get home.

FROM MRS GRINHAM’S DESK

This week I have been at the state principal’s conference in Sydney. It has been an excellent learning experience and it was wonderful to network with colleagues from all over NSW.

Meanwhile at school Miss. H and Mrs. N have been providing quality teaching and learning experiences for the students.

A reminder that school starting and finishing times for Term 4 are 9.00am and 3.00pm. It is important that students are at school at 8.45am every day ready to assemble at 9.00am, come in a clean school uniform and have all necessary equipment with them.

It is also important that you are here on time to pick up students, or make alternative arrangements with a family member or friend. Staff are unable to take students home.

We are currently updating our School website, please feel free to have a look at our photos etc. All notes will be added to the website for your convenience.

ABSENCES

Please be reminded that if your child is away from school we ask that you send in a note stating the reason.

CASSILIS RELAY ROCKSTARS!

Wow, what an achievement!

CONGRATULATIONS CASSILIS PUBLIC SCHOOL

Cassilis Public School and Community are extremely proud of our relay team that came third in the state small schools relay at Homebush last Thursday.

Excitement buzzed in the stands as the final began from parents and community supporters who made the journey to Sydney to support the team.

Following are the children’s comments and thoughts on their state athletics achievement.

Mrs Nairne
FIRST RUNNER - COREY MCLENNAN

“This is my first year in the relay team at state. I was very pleased to get a medal and impressed at how fast I ran last week. I enjoyed having so many people there to support me. It was a great experience and good fun to spend time with my teammates.”

SECOND RUNNER - THOMAS NASH

“I would like to thank the sponsors of our relay team the Cassilis CWA, Cassilis Bowling Club and the anonymous community member for their generous donations that helped us get to Sydney to compete.

I have been a member of the relay team for the past three years and finally we have had success in bringing home a medal. I could hear our families and supporters screaming from the stands. I was very excited to see Brady cross the finish line third.”

THIRD RUNNER – SARAH NAIRNE

“This is my third year in our relay team. I would like to thank Mrs Nairne our manager/trainer for helping us to win our bronze medal. Without her help we wouldn’t have made it to this level.

To receive a bronze medal at State athletics has been the highlight of my primary school years. Standing on the podium I was filled with pride at my team’s and my own personal achievement. Now one of my dreams have been fulfilled.”

FOURTH RUNNER - BRADY NAIRNE

“I am so excited and proud of our team and myself on our achievement of winning a bronze medal at state level. I would also like to thank the sponsors, spectators and everyone else that helped us to make this wonderful achievement.

I have been representing Cassilis Public School in the small schools relay at state for the past four years. During this time we have had some ups and downs (more downs than ups) but finally this was our lucky year and we came home with a medal.”

MATHEMATICS IN ACTION

This week in Mathematics students have been looking at shapes with a focus on Symmetry (A line of symmetry is a line that divides a figure into two congruent parts, each of which is the mirror image of the other). Here are some examples of some creative symmetrical patterns created by students using Pattern Blocks.
Kindergarten Report

Last week the students of St Joseph’s participated in intensive Gymnastics lessons. Each year students learn the skills needed for gymnastics through qualified instructors. This year Penny and Nardia from PCYC Taree conducted the lessons. Each stage experienced a varied level of skill set. Kindergarten learnt the initial skills of many gymnastics routines and movements such as the ‘bunny hop’ which forms the foundation for a handstand, and practised the movements of their hands and feet when doing a cartwheel. As the age of the students increased, so did the exposure to more advanced gymnastics skills.

In addition to our classes taking part in lessons, the opportunity was also available for our 2015 Kindergarten class and their buddies. Last Tuesday the two groups joined together to share an afternoon tea and the 4/5 class got a chance to assist their buddies in learning some shapes and movements in Gymnastics.
As the term quickly rolls on there are many transitions beginning to take place. We have had many orientations involving our 2015 Kindergarten students. While this has taken place students in other grades have also experienced what learning will be like next year by ‘moving up’ a class to experience what 2015 will hold. These transitions allow students to build positive relationships with their peers. In January of this year, a fortnight before school commenced for the year, the staff provided students with an opportunity to build their learning environment. The teachers have voiced their interest in providing this opportunity again. The tentative date for our Building Learning Communities day is January 19, 2015. We would love to have as many students join us on this day so please make a note in next year’s calendar!

We will be holding our final transition for 2015 Kindergarten students this coming Tuesday, November 4. We will have a final parent information session on this day also. The parent session will commence at 11.00am and should take approximately an hour. There will be information presented by the Cancer Council’s Eat It To Beat It program and a Speech Pathologist from Hunter New England Health, as well as an overview of school routines and procedures. We look forward to meeting with the parents of our future Kindergarten class.

Samantha Kerr
Early Stage One Teacher

BEEF BONANZA

Five of our students - Olivia McLean, Kristy Walker, Angus Higgins, Jake Pike and William Stair braved the extremely hot conditions over the weekend when they competed at the annual Upper Hunter Beef Bonanza.

On Friday the school challenge was held. We started out the day with Willow weighing in at 442kg. Olivia and William both competed in parading, showing off their skills in handling Willow. Kristy then led Willow in the Steer Challenge, where Willow was judged against the other school steers. All five students entered the Junior Judging competition, in which William Stair finished second place and Angus Higgins finished in fifth place. We finished the day with our steer being re-weighed. His weight of 445kg put him into the light to middle weight category.

Over the weekend, the students returned to compete in the open competition. On Saturday Angus started out leading Willow in the Steer Challenge. Then all students paraded, with Kristy being selected for the finals. She was awarded highly commended for her efforts.

We finished the weekend with the Junior Judging. All students (along with 120 other primary students) competed in this competition. They had to judge steers, heifers and bulls. Unfortunately they were not selected for orals.

Overall the weekend was great, with the students all trying their best. Of course, competing in a competition like this would not be possible without all the help we received.

Thank you to:

• Mr and Mrs Walker - for the tremendous amount of time you took out of your schedule to train our steer. Thank you for also sharing your knowledge with the students

• Mr T, Allie May and Destiny (from Muswellbrook HS) for taking care of our steer overnight at Scone and for assisting the students with the grooming and care of the steer

• Waverly Station - for supplying the steer and a pallet of feed. Thank you for trusting our students to take care of your stock

• Major sponsors of the UH Beef Bonanza

• The committee of the UH Beef Bonanza

Samantha Kerr
Early Stage One Teacher

Sandy Hollow Public School

Merriwa Ringer
• The parents of the children on the team. You have often had short notice regarding training sessions, but have been happy to accommodate our demands. Thank you also for sharing the driving over the weekend.

**STEWART HOUSE**

Jacob Marsh will be travelling to Sydney to spend two weeks at Stewart House. He will have the opportunity to go to the beach and visit many well-known attractions in Sydney. I am sure he will have a great time.

**NUT FREE WEDNESDAY**

Thank you to all parents who have been making a huge effort to comply with our nut free policy on Wednesdays. I understand that it is sometimes quite difficult to purchase products that are nut free, so over the next few weeks, we will try to share a list of possibilities as well as some recipes for nut free alternatives.

It is most important that when checking the labels that you not only check the list of ingredients but also the warnings below this - any food containing the warning THIS FOOD MAY CONTAIN TRACES OF NUTS, will not be allowed to be eaten at school on Wednesdays.

Staff have requested that parents please send in the list of ingredients if repackaging the food into containers or snap lock bags. If staff are unable to clearly identify that the food is nut free, it will be removed from your child’s lunch box and returned to them at the end of the day. We will provide replacement food in the form of a sandwich so that your child does not go hungry.

Please feel free to call into the school and discuss any issues or questions you have with staff.

**CAPTAINS SPEECHES**

All Year 5 will be invited to nominate for the following positions: Boy and Girl Captain; Boy and Girl Vice Captain; two x Sports Monitor; Library Monitors.

Nomination forms will be due in on Monday November 3, with speeches being held on Friday November 7. Voting will take place after the assembly. Parents and community members are most welcome to come along and listen to the speeches. The assembly will start at 9.15am.

**Weekly Awards**

• **Katie Pike** - consistent application.
• **Jackson Stair** - contribution to discussion in writing.
• **Jacob Marsh** - excellent descriptive writing.

• **Kristy Walker** - active listening.
• **Camell Hinze** - application in all areas.
• **Steven Allen** - giving great answers during discussions.
• **Rowdy Walters** - great work in maths.

**STUDENT OF THE WEEK**

Jake Pike - applying knowledge of sentence structure to writing.

**SPORTS PERSON OF THE WEEK**

Ayden Marsh

**KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION 2014 - WEEK 4**

The Year 5 students Amy Thompson, Jacob Marsh, Abby Cooper, Hunter Marsh, Jake Pike, Angus Higgins, Isabella Walla and Kristy Walker are the new Kindergarten’s buddies. They are all being very thoughtful ensuring that their buddy enjoys their day at school.

They also take on the role of group leaders during Peer Support each Wednesday afternoon.

This weeks’ session began focussing on what we should do if we find an activity difficult. How do we ask for help?

Firstly the children learn it is important to try on your own. Then if it is too difficult they need to say “I need help”, using a nice voice. Finally they need to say thank you to the person who helped them.

**WIZARD OF OZ**

Last Thursday the children in Year K/1/2 travelled down the yellow brick road to visit the “Wizard of Oz” in the Emerald City.

The Hunter School of Performing Arts in Broadmeadow presented the stage show to celebrate the 75th anniversary of the film, involving more than 260 of its students.

Merriwa Ringer
All Year 3 to 6 students performed on stage as principals and ensemble members of two alternative casts. 100 secondary students were members of the orchestra and an offstage chorus as well as providing the technical backstage team. They were also involved in building the shows sets.

The colourful characters engaging story and memorable songs in the Wizard of Oz enabled our children to become completely engrossed and thoroughly entertained.

A special thank you to Megan Turner, Anita Hinze, Jeannie Harris and Peta Higgins for transporting the children to Newcastle.

Pauline Bullock
Class Teacher

2/3 CLASS NEWS

This term in writing we are studying informative texts. The focus for the past two weeks and next week is learning to write a description. During this time we have focused on what a description is and the structure needed to write one. All children have identified the grammatical features needed to write a description and how these can be used to make their own writing more interesting and informative.

In English our focus is on the fable “The Frog at the Rainbow’s End”. During this time the class will be learning about myths, characters and settings. We will also learn about how the author uses grammatical features such as adjectives, verb, nouns and noun groups, adverbs, pronouns etc. to orientate the reader.

During mathematics Year 3 are studying the investigation “Top Team”. In this investigation, students will create enjoyable team activities that improve athletic skills. Measuring, timing and scoring these activities allow students to make real use of the maths concepts they have learned. Writing the instructions for the activities creates a meaningful link between literacy and numeracy.

During mathematics Year 2 are studying the topic “Waterwise Me”. This investigation involves students working with family members to collect and record data on shower water usage. Students will perform calculations using litres and the four operations to explore information, analyse, hypothesise and think about how their household can more efficiently use water.

Tammy Parker
Class Teacher

Christina Darlington
Principal

We are looking forward to our excursion to Lue Pottery tomorrow. We will be enjoying a wonderful session on pottery sculpting and then a trip to Mudgee to enjoy an afternoon at Robertson Park with McDonalds for lunch. This follows our work with clay throughout the year and our understanding of the product. To begin with it was difficult to refine manipulative skills to work with a firmer texture and smaller amount of product. Now the children are producing small pots, snails and worms from the air dried clay and I know that our experience tomorrow will renew interest and extend skills in working with clay. Very exciting.

Transitions to school are going well and we have been discussing the children’s buddies and school activities. The topic of change and friendships have been of interest to the older groups as we have been exploring relationships.

Enrolments are coming along for 2015 and I have noted that quite a few incomplete forms are being returned. Please ensure that each page is signed and dated at the bottom. Also a birth certificate and immunisation record is required to be provided again, the reason for this is that our enrolment records must remain intact for the year and there may be updates and changes to immunisation that must be provided. In short this is a huge administrative process and although I realise this is a little redundant for most, I appreciate your cooperation in providing all requested documentation for your child. On that note we have some place available On Monday for children in the year before school group and the Pre-School starters group on Tuesdays. If you are interested in a place for next year, please give me a call on 6548 2083.

Orientation evening will be November 17 at 5.00pm If you are a new family to our Pre-School or are just interested in what the Pre-School could offer you and your child please come along. Just RSVP the Pre-School prior to the date on the number mentioned.

Our policy review this month is Emergency and Evacuation procedures the draft policy is available at the Pre-School and we encourage you to take a copy and add your input for consideration.

You may have noted that our daily reflection has been a little different over the last couple of weeks we are trying some new ways to incorporate the reflection as part of our programme, this is all in
the name of efficiency and time management as we streamline all the chores throughout our day that impede our work on the floor with the children.

Leah Folpp
Pre-School Coordinator

O
Anglican News

Regular Church Services - page 32
Phone: 0429 996 769

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY
Women’s Guild meeting - first Thursday monthly
November: 2.00pm
Messy Church - Parish Hall - Last Friday monthly
October to November: 3.30pm
Men’s breakfast - Parish Hall - Third Saturday monthly
October to November: 7.30am

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
October 31: Messy Church “Things that go bump in the Night”
November 3: All Souls day service 6.00pm
November 9: Rev’d Glen’s next Sunday service
December 14: Carols in the Park.

We pray for all in the community, for rain to water the earth, for our neighbours with whom we live and work and play. For all who are disadvantaged, for our families, our friends and for ourselves. We give Thanks for the pastoral care given by Rev’d Pat in our community. Help us to persevere to build true community with enlightened minds, welcoming hearts and souls that thirst for reconciliation. Stir up within us the fire of your Holy Spirit; and pour into our hearts your greatest gift of love, so that we may love you and our neighbours as ourselves.

Rosalie Drew

Merriwa Rotary Club

THE MELBOURNE CUP IS ALMOST UPON US

Everyone is invited to the Rotary Merriwa Sweep and Calcutta night on Cup Eve, Monday, November 3 at the Sports Club.

This is always an enjoyable, lively and entertaining night.

All proceeds of this year’s gathering will go to Gummum Place Hostel to assist in their efforts to raise funds for the purchase of NIGHT CALL equipment for the Hostel residents.

Those who cannot make it to the dinner can buy Sweep and Calcutta tickets from the Newsagency, the Pharmacy and from Rotarians who will be selling tickets in Bettington St. in the days leading up to the Cup.

Help a good cause...and maybe help yourself!

The Rotary Club of Merriwa Inc invites you to:

Melbourne Cup Calcutta Night
Monday November 3
7.00 for 7.30pm
At the Merriwa Sports Club.

Mark Smith

Shire Notes with Cr Ron Campbell

COME ON UP

It is pleasing to see the new billboards at Aberdeen promoting Lake Glenbawn with “Catch Up!” and at Wingen promoting our fabulous horse heritage with “Saddle Up!” These are based on the new Upper Hunter Country “Come on Up!” branding that was launched in July. A new billboard near Merriwa will promote the sheep and wool industry and Festival of the Fleece with “Flock on Up”. Council is also investigating further billboards at our western and northern entrances to the Shire. The updating of the billboards with these promotional signs will encourage people to visit and stay awhile in this magnificent Upper Hunter and explore the wonders of the area. All of the towns and districts in the Upper Hunter have many events and attractions to be enjoyed.

OFFICIAL OPENINGS

The town of Murrurundi has the opening of the restoration of the Swinging Bridge was on Saturday, October 25 at 2.30pm, one of many events during an action packed day in Murrurundi.
The official opening of the Strathearn Villas on Gundy Road Scone was also held on Saturday, October 25 at 12.30pm. This opening was another example of the progressive nature of development in providing modern age care facilities in our Shire.

**TIDY TOWNS**

Last year’s winner was Nundle so the festivities and celebrations are held in that town. It is certainly worthwhile to attend these celebrations and to see how other towns enhance the environment, upgrade facilities and generally improve their towns. Council has been notified by Keep NSW Beautiful that at least one town or project in our Shire has been selected as a finalist in this year’s Sustainable Communities Program. These activities will take place in Nundle from November 7 - 9.

**CHILDREN’S WEEK**

Various activities to celebrate Childrens Week were recently enjoyed in different ways throughout the Shire. Last Saturday Upper Hunter Family Day Care, Scone Out of School Hours (SOOSH) and the Early Learning Centre hosted children’s activities at the Town Square in Scone. Many children enjoyed their faces being painted and doing craft etc. The only restriction being the age limit; babies to 6 years old. Many adults would have enjoyed the face painting to make us look better in our advancing years. These events are an indication of just how good it is to live in towns in the Upper Hunter.

**SNAKES**

With the warm Spring weather there has been a noticeable increase in the sightings of snakes who appear to be very active and at times aggressive. In warm weather the Brown Snake, generally the most common in our area, moves very quickly when aroused and can be very frightening. All snakes are a necessary part of our ecological system and are best to be avoided if possible.

**DOGS**

Every week there are photographs in the local newspaper of dogs that have been caught and are in the Council Pound. These are not wild dogs but are domesticated pets that appear to have been abandoned by their owners for whatever reason. An animal needs food to survive and sometimes resorts to scavenging garbage bins or whatever resulting in scattered refuse. It is sad to see dogs abandoned as a dog is a very faithful, loyal pet and friend. It should be noted that legally, it is the owner’s responsibility to house and feed their dogs and to ensure they are microchipped, registered and restrained.

**AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS**

These celebrations give an opportunity to recognise the good community work that takes place in our Shire. If you know of someone you’d like to nominate, forms are available at Council’s Administration Offices in Scone, Merriwa and Murrurundi and Shire Libraries, can be downloaded from the Upper Hunter Shire website or you can also submit your nomination online at Council’s website www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au. Nominations close November 21.

**MENTAL HEALTH**

Black Dog as it is sometimes referred. This is an issue that affects many people directly or indirectly with many cases never reported or even known to their closest associates. It is a difficult subject to discuss or even to the most confident admit that they are finding difficulties coping with life. Many challenges in life can cause depression; the loss of employment, the uncertainty of job security, drought conditions, for farmers watching livestock lose condition and sometimes die, all of these cause emotional stress that I believe many of us have experienced at some point in our lives. An alarming statistic is showing the increase in young people and children with depressive tendencies. Help is available through Lifeline - Phone 13 11 14 - Kids helpline 1800 551 800.

**Cr Ron Campbell**

**Merriwa Springtime Show**

**PHOTOGRAPHY RESULTS**

- **Best Entry Open Classes 1-7** - Chris Miller
- **Best Entry 18 years and Under, Classes 8-14** - Rolanda Clout Collins
- **Best Entry 16 years and Under, Classes 15-21** - Teianna Taylor
- **Best Entry 12 Years and Under, 8 years and Under, 5 years and Under** - John Magner
- **Best Entry: Spirit Of Rural Life Classes 5,12,19,25 and 29** - Chris Miller
- **Best Entry Open Classes 4,11,18 Challenge Classes** - Natalie Ghigglioli
- **Most Outstanding Single Exhibit** - Chris Miller
- **Encouragement Award** - Mike Wong, Darcy Taaffe, Jodie Mulholland and Teresa Hogan

**Tash Taaffe**

*Merriwa Ringer*
Peter and Libby Walker were presented with gifts on behalf of the Merriwa Sporting Shooters Association (MSSA) on Friday for their significant contribution to the Merriwa sporting range.

MSSA founding member Bob Telfer said the gifts were a small token of appreciation for the generous support the family had provided to the club namely through a ‘peppercorn’ lease of the grounds where the sporting range now stands.

“A group of us got together in 1991 to start a shooting range in Merriwa that was far enough away from town but still easily accessible.

“One of the Walkers paddocks was ideally situated and they kindly offered us a lease in 1991 for $1 a year over 5 years to get us started - and we have been there ever since.

Mr Telfer said receiving the initial lease was the boost the newly formed club needed to ‘get off the ground’.

“We wanted to combine three clubs (pistol, rifle and shotgun) into one which hadn’t been done before in NSW.

“There was a lot of paperwork to get through and a lot of negotiation which took us several years.

“The amalgamation was eventually completed in 1994 and since then we have worked together to improve the infrastructure and landscaping at the range.”

Mr Telfer thanked the Walker family for their vital contribution to the club which has since grown to support more than 200 members.

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Like most other portraits, you need to think about how you will approach both technique and subject. As in Portrait Photography, focus on the eyes and try to be on eye level with them. It can be difficult to get the pets to cooperate, but with a little bit of ingenuity and lots of patience you can get fantastic shots.

If you’re photographing someone else’s pet, have them lead the animal’s vision towards you, even if it means having the owner standing right behind you. If it’s just you, have a squeaky toy or some noise to draw their attention to you, right at the time of clicking. To be ready for that special moment, you need to have your composition set and focus locked on their eyes.

**LIGHTING**

Regardless of whether you are doing formal or informal portraits, if your photographing indoors, you will need to have good lighting, or a speedlight. The speedlight will give more light than your inbuilt flash and will not only fill in the shadows, but help freeze the subject. If your photos tend to come out a little blurry, even with a tripod, it’s because there’s not enough light and to compensate, the shutter speed slows down. You need to improve the lighting so you can increase your shutter speed for those crisp and sharp images.

Using indoor lighting, never point your flash directly at the subject and keep in mind that a flash, unless used properly can frighten them. Point your speedlight at the ceiling, so that it reflects back a more natural and even light. If the ceiling is quite high, you could use a diffuser on your flash. If you don’t own one, try a white transparent cloth. Reflectors are great for filling in shadow areas, but at the same time you don’t want harsh light directed straight at them.

Suzie Kirk
Merriwa Hospital Auxiliary
MELBOURNE CUP GARDEN LUNCHEON

The Merriwa Hospital Auxiliary invite our community members to attend our annual Melbourne Cup Garden Luncheon to be held on Tuesday, November 4, starting from 11.30 am. Our luncheon this year will be held at ‘Kingslyn’ with our hosts Col and Gaye Bates. We invite you to bring along your friends and enjoy the beautiful garden and lovely trees at ‘Kingslyn’. The property is at the very end of Depot Road.

Tickets are available at Di’s Clothing at $20.00 per person. The luncheon will be catered for by the members of the Hospital Auxiliary which means there will be a scrumptious array of wonderful food to tempt you and to increase that waist line. The sweets are to die for! This year we ask that you BYO drinks.

There will be $1.00 and $2.00 sweeps available on the day. There will also be prizes for ‘Best Hat’; ‘Best Dressed Lady’; ‘Best Dressed Couple’; Bribing the judge will not be tolerated (though I hear he is partial to a nice cold beer!) and the judge’s decision will be final.

All proceeds from the day will go to purchasing equipment for our local hospital M.P.S. So come along, bring your friends, your parents, your neighbours and enjoy a relaxed day in the tranquil setting at ‘Kingslyn’ while raising money for our great hospital. Don’t forget to BYO DRINKS. Get your tickets from Di’s Clothing asap so we know how many we are catering for.

See you at our Melbourne Cup Garden Luncheon. Dress up or dress down, your choice. As long as you are comfortable, you will be very welcome.

For more information please contact me on 6548 8560.

Elaine Sparrow

CONGRATUALTIONS
EMILY WIGHTMAN

We wish to congratulate Emily on the completion of her Bachelor of Exercise and Sports Science and Diploma in the Sciences. Graduating from UNE on Saturday, October 25. Job well done!

Congratulations also to Micah Kiely and Keirra Hourn.

Wightman Family

CONGRATUALTIONS
KEIRRA HOURN

Congratulations on completing a Bachelor of Education, Primary. Graduating from Armidale UNE on Friday October 24.

All your hard work has finally paid off.

Love and best wishes from all the family.

Suzie Kirk

LOST

Mobile phone Samsung Galaxy Smart phone.

Merriwa CBD

Sim card holds essential information

Reward is on offer.

Any information on the whereabouts, please contact 6548 2595 or 0400 951 049.

Bernadette Kearney

Sue’s Christmas Lunch
FREE CHRISTMAS LUNCH

Don’t have Christmas alone.. come and have it with us!

Four meats and salad with all the trimmings at the Anglican Hall, December 25 from 12.30 pm. All are welcome and all helpers get a free lunch.

Scott Beavan

The Merriwa Community News is available to charity groups or non-funded, not for profit organisations and anyone wishing to advise of a special event (birthday/anniversary/etc). If you would like to make use of this free service, please contact us prior to 12.00 pm Mondays.
Australian Hearing

Australian Hearing will be visiting Merriwa Pharmacy on Wednesday November 5 between 11.00am – 3.00pm.

Merriwa Pharmacy will be making 20 minute appointments for people who would like their hearing checked.

This is a free community service for people over 18 years. Please call 6548 2213 to book your time.

Linda Brindle

Pink Ribbon Morning Tea

FUNDRAISER

Thank you to all who came and enjoyed our morning tea on Saturday October 25.

In total we raised $500.00. This includes $100.00 from the market stall held by Tasty Treats by Tess on October 18 at the Merriwa Markets.

A special thank you to the lovely ladies who helped in the kitchen and with the clean up.

We look forward to organising another fundraiser next year.

Tess Williams

Merriwa Cricket Club

CRICKET CLUB DAY/NIGHTER

Come and enjoy the clash between Merriwa 1 and Merriwa 2 when they go head to head in a friendly day/nighter on Saturday November 1.

Food and beverages will be available to purchase from the canteen.

So why not bring the family down to Oval 1 and grab something to eat and enjoy the evening supporting your local cricketers, game will start around 4.00pm hope to see you there.

The Cricket Club would also like to thank our sponsors for all of your support this season.

Sonya Drury

Merriwa Iceburgs

The Merriwa Pool water temperature has now reached 22 degrees. Time to get your season ticket and get in the water. You know you’ll feel better when you do.

Robert Smith

Community Notice Board

Merriwa CWA

FASHION PARADE

“DRESS FOR LESS AT TRINITY MARKETS”

Light lunch will be provided for $6.00 per person. Proceeds to go to Kaleidoscope at John Hunter Hospital.

When: Thursday October 30 at 10.30am for 11.00am
Where: CWA Rooms, 159 Bettington Street

All are welcome to attend.

Enquiries to: Barbara Campbell on 6548 5135 or 0428 485 131.

Robyn McAlister

Operation Christmas Child

It is collection time for Samaritan’s Purse shoe boxes for this year. A big thank you to all who have contributed to this worthy cause.

A special thank you to the Men’s Shed in particular, Pat Quigley for making the wooden cars for the boys boxes and to Lenore for all the bags and pencil cases as well as shirts and caps that you have provided towards this project.

Thank you to all the people who have donated money towards postage and those who have contributed in any way to this cause. A special thank you to Rosie and Ava for giving up time in the school holidays to help pack shoe boxes.

You can contact me on 6548 2142.

Carol Bowman

Closed for Refurbishment

Brody’s Cutting Edge will be closed for refurbishing from Tuesday November 4 and re-opening Tuesday November 11. Thank you for your patience.

Brodie Jones

Messy Church

When: October 31

We look forward to seeing you all again refreshed from your holidays at 3.30pm in the Parish Hall, with the theme “Things that go Bump in the Night”. Should be lots of fun and learning!

Rosalie Drew and Messy Church team

Rosalie Drew and Messy Church team

Light lunch will be provided for $6.00 per person. Proceeds to go to Kaleidoscope at John Hunter Hospital.

When: Thursday October 30 at 10.30am for 11.00am
Where: CWA Rooms, 159 Bettington Street

All are welcome to attend.

Enquiries to: Barbara Campbell on 6548 5135 or 0428 485 131.
TOYS FOR TODAY

There are so many cheap toys on the market that we are constantly tempted to buy. The problem with cheap versions of toys is that they are not designed to be played with very long or very enthusiastically before they break or fall apart. Quality is as important as price, and we have some very high quality toys in stock right now.

Viking Toys - This great range of toys for younger children (1-5) is fantastic. There are planes, trucks, cars, and more. They are made of strong, durable plastic that is safe to put in the dishwasher (the easiest way to clean toys ever!). This range of toys is of high quality and will be long-lasting.

Orbit Tennis - I am sure that most of us can remember playing with one of these when we were kids. They are great for teaching hand-eye co-ordination and a healthy competitive streak. This toy comes with chrome-plated top pole and powder-coated base pole, so this orbit tennis set will withstand a lot of wear and tear. This particular set has been around since 1966 (when things were still built to last) and has stuck to its original swivel arm and coil design. The set includes a tennis ball on a nylon cord and two bats. They are great in any backyard (even for the grandparents backyard) take up little space and allow for hours of entertainment.

GUARDIAN ANGELS

We have expanded our range of Fantasy Crystal Rainbow Makers to include Guardian Angels. They are based on the different Birthstones. They are all made in England and are of superior quality. Each crystal comes with its own bag and is a perfect gift for a loved one.

LAY-BY

Do not forget that we can do a lay-by for you. This makes a lot of sense, especially as we are leading up to Christmas. There is a $5.00 minimum deposit for a lay-by and for adding to a lay-by. Regular payments are necessary (weekly, fortnightly or monthly) and you can start one at any time during the year.

SCRUMPTIOUS!

The front covers of two of our latest magazines are so edible it will make you drool. Festive flavours and deliciousness have never been more fun.

Taste features the most amazing Cherry Ripe Cake that looks like the most amazing diabetic coma-inducing cake ever made. It also includes naughty and nice burgers, BBQ ideas, make ahead desserts and 10 ideas to get ahead for Christmas.

Family Circle has the most mouth-watering no-bake ice-cream cake with salted caramel, popcorn and toffee. There are so many Christmas ideas included that you will be filled with inspiration. There are amazing pavlovas, traditional with a twist, sides, desserts, feasts, finger food and a step-by-step cooking school for those who have never done a Christmas Dinner before.

PHONECARDS: all cards are now available including Telstra, Optus and Vodaphone Cash or Eftpos only

Neville and Leanne Hook

Merriwa Pharmacy

THE SILENT PANDEMIC

Diabetes has been described as the silent pandemic. There are approximately 1.1 million Australians living with diabetes, and around 100,000 new diagnoses each year. An estimated 280 Australians develop diabetes each day. Indigenous Australians are three times more likely to have Type 2 diabetes compared with non-Indigenous Australians.

There are also ‘hidden’ consequences of diabetes. Research shows that for every person diagnosed with diabetes, there is a carer who also ‘lives’ with the disease in a support role. This means that an estimated 2.2 million Australians are affected by diabetes every day.

The financial cost of type 2 diabetes is estimated at $10.3 billion. Of this, carer costs are estimated at $4.4 billion, productivity losses at $4.1 billion, health system costs at $1.1 billion and $1.1 billion due to obesity.

A reduction in type 2 diabetes will result in cost savings for the health budget, increased participation and productivity in the workforce, and better health outcomes for Australians.

Worldwide, new data show that a staggering 350 million people are living with diabetes. In Australia, studies show that nearly one in four Australian adults either has diabetes or ‘impaired glucose metabolism’ which is associated with a substantial risk of diabetes and heart disease.

There is an urgent need to promote the issues
surrounding this pandemic. The minds of the general public, of practitioners and researchers, of the media and politicians, should be focused on diabetes and related chronic diseases. There is also a need for increased understanding of the economic and societal issues of diabetes and its complications, including the escalating costs to individuals, families, workplaces, and governments.

Clearly diabetes is a serious health crisis, but it’s not all bad news. Up to 58 percent of cases of type 2 diabetes can be prevented, and good blood glucose control and maintaining a healthy lifestyle can significantly improve complications associated with diabetes.


Weight management is an essential part of diabetes management. The resulting problems of obesity are well known – not only type 2 diabetes, but also cardiovascular (heart and blood vessel) disease, social exclusion and low self-esteem. Your local pharmacy is your health destination, so talk to them about how to lose weight.

There are many other things your local pharmacy can offer to help manage diabetes. A Diabetes MedsCheck provides an in-pharmacy review for people with diabetes. The review focuses on type 2 diabetes medicines management, monitoring devices, education and self-management. It aims to optimise use of medicine, blood glucose monitoring and blood glucose control. This is achieved through improved compliance with diabetes medicines as well as training and education.

In addition, you can get more information on diabetes and how to maintain a healthy weight from Merriwa Pharmacy. Self Care Fact Cards available include topics such as Diabetes Type 1, Diabetes Type 2, Blood Glucose Monitoring as well as lifestyle topics such as Weight and Health.

Visit your local pharmacy on World Diabetes Day, November 14, and find out how they can help you manage your diabetes and general health.

We have loads of new giftware just arrived. Get in early and layby now for Christmas.

Robert Smith

Max’s Country Cuts
131 Bettington Street Merriwa
Ph/Fax: 6548 2375

This week’s specials at MAX’S COUNTRY CUTS Friday October 31 and Saturday November 21 and early next week while stocks last.

- Corned Silverside $8.99kg
- Crumbed Steak $10.99kg or 2kg for $20.00
- Thin Sausages $6.99kg or 2kg for $12.00
- Yearling Rump Steak $18.99kg

**Max’s Country Cuts – Buying Local**
**Supporting Local**
**Employing Local**

Support the butcher that supports Merriwa

We are now taking orders for Christmas

Come in and order a choice of our own prepared and smoked:

- Hams
- Smoked Legs of Lambs
- Smoked Chickens

They are all smoked and slow cooked right here at Max’s Country Cuts, our hams and smoked legs of lambs are smoked and cooked for up to 15 hours, for a delicious and tender Christmas treat at only $8.99kg you can’t go wrong.

Don’t leave it to long, get in and order today so you don’t miss out on our high quality, locally produced Hams for Christmas.

We will also have available all your roast pork needs with Legs, Shoulders and the always popular Rolled loins, plain or seasoned with delicious apricot and macadamia or mango and pistachio seasoning.

Max, Yvonne and the crew at Max’s Country Cuts
Alexander Downs is proudly 100% Hunter Valley owned and operated. From our paddock to your plate - Quality Guaranteed
Beef and Pork delivered to the Upper Hunter every second Friday

SPECIAL
Crumbed Lamb Cutlets $3.60 each
Crumbed Steak $9.50/kg

We are now taking Christmas Ham and Pork orders, please call 6548 5170 to order.
Delivery Friday 7.11.14

Please place orders by 5pm Mondays for Friday delivery. For Order Forms
Phone: 6548 5170 or 6548 5008. Fax: 65485181.
alexanderdowns@bigpond.com

Merriwa Auto Electrical
AIR CONDITIONING
All vehicles including trucks and machinery can be done, at our workshop or we’ll come to you!

UHF’S
We have a selection of GME and UNIDEN UHF’S to suit your needs.

LED LIGHTS
Need new driving lights? Or work lights? We have a selection of LED Driving light bars as well as LED Worklights for any purpose, or we can get it in for you!

Come down to 30 Bow St Merriwa and see for yourself!
Contact us on 6548 2114.

Michael and Sally Hagley

Community Adverts
Come dressed for the races on Melbourne Cup day at Sandy Hollow Tourist Hotel

- Receive a complimentary drink before lunch
- Prizes for best dressed
- Sweeps
- Free lunch from 1.00pm
- Courtesy bus available
- Full TAB facilities

A great time is assured, full of fun and racing
Ph. 6547 4595 or find us on facebook/sandyhollowhotel
Merriwa Show Livestock Handling Farm Safety Day
Merriwa Showground
Thursday, November 13 from 9.30am
FOLLOWED BY THE ANNUAL SHOW WRAP-UP BBQ at 6pm

HANDS-ON WORKSHOPS throughout the day:
- LIVESTOCK & LOW STRESS STOCK HANDLING
- QUAD BIKE SAFETY
- TRACTORS & FARM MACHINERY - CHAIN SAW OPERATION
- LIVESTOCK DISEASES & PREVENTATIVE HEALTH MEASURES

Featuring a series of interactive workshops designed to engage the local community presented by Tocal College - NSW DPI, a highly regarded Registered Training Organisation, and Hunter Local Land Services.

The AIM of our Merriwa Show Farm Safety Day is to reduce on-farm injuries through greater awareness of best practice techniques, safety issues and available training options. All our local Upper Hunter High School Ag & Primary Industry students are invited to attend as we strongly believe farm safety education must begin with our youth to fully engage our local community.

FREE BBQ - $500 SAFETY REBATES - TRAINING & SMALL BUSINESS ADVICE

The WorkCover NSW $500 Small Business Safety Rebate will be offered to eligible small business owners/farmers attending a safety session - COME along & CLAIM a $500 safety solution rebate!

REGISTER your interest to ATTEND for catering Ph 6548 7272 or Email - springhills@bigpond.com or Facebook - Merriwa Springtime Show

Supported by

The Merriwa Ringer
is proudly published by
MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL
Address: Bow Street, Merriwa, NSW, 2329
Tel: (02) 6548 2119
Fax: (02) 6548 2534
Email: merriwa2-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Web: www.merriwa-c.schools.nsw.edu.au
ALL MATERIAL DUE 12 noon MONDAYS

DISCLAIMER
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POSITION VACANT
CASUAL POOL ATTENDANT
MERRIWA

The Role
Council is seeking motivated and flexible individuals to undertake the above position. The primary role of this position is to provide a high standard of supervision of Council’s swimming pool and to ensure a clean, healthy and safe environment.

What you will need
All applications for this role will be considered. However preference will be given to those that hold a current Pool Lifeguard Certificate including oxygen resuscitation, national pool lifeguard licence, or be in the process of acquiring one, and a senior first aid certificate. Good interpersonal skills, experience and commitment to customer service are essential. Council is willing to provide training for preferred candidates where necessary.

Salary Range: - $854.70 - $923.10 per 38 hour week plus 25% casual loading, in accordance with Council’s salary system. Other conditions are in accordance with the Local Government (State) Award and Council’s policies and procedures.

Closing Date: 4pm on Monday 10 November 2014.

Enquiries and Further Information: Tony Swallow on 6540 1155.

How to Apply: Visit the positions vacant section on Council’s website www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

Upper Hunter Shire Council is a smoke free workplace and an EEO employer. Drug and alcohol testing is a condition of employment.

Waid Crockett
General Manager

MEET WITH MAYOR
MICHAEL JOHNSEN

Mayor Michael Johnsen will attend the Merriwa office of Upper Hunter Shire Council on the fourth Wednesday of each month. His next visit is scheduled for Wednesday, 26 November 2014.

If you would like to make an appointment to meet with Mayor Johnsen on any issue please contact Robyn Cox at the Scone office on 6540 1126 or send an email to rcox@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

Development & Environmental Services Committee
Tuesday 11th November 2014, 10.00am

Works & Technical Services Committee
Tuesday 11th November 2014, 1.00pm

Finance Committee
Friday 21st November 2014, 1.00pm

Extra-Ordinary Council Meeting
Friday 21st November 2014, 3.00pm

Ordinary Council Meeting
Monday 24th November 2014, 5.00pm

All meetings are held at Council’s Administration Centre, Scone, unless otherwise stated.

P: Robyn Cox  6540 1126

KEEP INFORMED THIS SUMMER

KEEP INFORMED THIS SUMMER
494 Giants Creek Road Sandy Hollow  $745,000.00
Situated just 5km’s from Sandy Hollow this 40 acres property is very well established. Fronting Giants Creek it has very good water from the creek and a bore plus 75,000 litres of fresh water storage. The fencing is in excellent order with 4 paddocks and very good pastures. The land is flat and ideal for cropping, or grazing. There is a large machinery shed, a small open shed, cattle yards, a 3 bay garage and a long list of machinery including a tractor and slasher is also part of the sale. The homestead and yards are extremely well maintained. There are 4 big bedrooms all with built ins and the main with ensuite and walk in robe. There is a formal lounge and dining room, a big open plan family room with a combustion fire, attached casual dining and a huge rumpus room. The kitchen has a dishwasher, electrical appliances and a pantry. The main bathroom is also large and there’s a 3rd toilet in the bathroom. The home has ducted RC Air Con throughout. The yard is fully fenced with established lawns and gardens with

8 Vennacher Street Merriwa  $270,000.00
This home has been completely renovated throughout and is like new. There are 4 big bedrooms all with new carpet and paint. There are 3 living area with the family/dining room leading to the kitchen. The kitchen is new and boasts plenty of cupboard space and electrical appliances. The two bathrooms are new as is the laundry. The house has been completely re-wired, re-plumbed, re-planted and re-carpeted. The yard is fully fenced and has a double carport. If you like older style homes but don’t want to do the hard work this one has it all done.

VIEW AT www.jtsrealty.com.au
OPENING HOURS:
FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY
10.00am-4.00pm
OTHER TIMES BY ARRANGEMENT
Ph (02) 6376 1220
or (02) 6376 1044 ah
16 Buccleugh St
Cassilis NSW 2329
ploughintocassilis@gmail.com

2015 ROSTO OLIVES
MERRIWA FESTIVAL OF THE FLEECES
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS
SATURDAY 6 JUNE 2015
A Family & Community focused event.
Phone: 6521 7046
e-mail: lgarment@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

Sponsor Renewal
for Term 4 are now due!
Please contact the
Merriwa Central
School on 6548 2119
for more information!
Thank you!

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Merriwa Branch & District Council
“a strong and united voice for our members on issues that affect their business, farms and families.”
President: Patrick Ryan 0428 485 090
Secretary/Treasurer: Alicia Higgs 0455 445 769
www.nswfarmers.org.au

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Thank you!
**Di’s Clothing Patch**

Clothing and Footwear for all the family

Mens and Ladies clothing

Children and Babywear

Shoes and joggers

Fashion Jewellery and Accessories

Handbags and Luggage

Bed Linen, Quilts and Towels

Hi Vis Work Wear, Boots and Hats

Digitised Embroidery Service

Names and Logos

For clothing, Caps, Towels

School Items and Work Place Uniforms

Quality Clothing Friendly Service

Affordable Prices

Phone: 6548 3023

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**Dr Noman Jawaad and Dr Cho Oo Maung**

Private Medical Practice

Cnr Brisbane and Mackenzie Streets

Merriwa

Monday – Friday 8.00am – 6.00pm

Also consulting in Denman

Monday, Tuesday and Friday 8.00am – 6.00pm

For appointments please phone

6532 5013

---

**Merriwa Central School P & C Association**

President: Jayne Cronin

Senior Vice: Christine Riley

Junior Vice: Yvonne McNaught

Secretary: Gaynor Blackadder

Treasurer: Anna Whaley

Meets the first Wednesday of each Month at 7pm, Merriwa RSL Club

---

**CWA**

Meets 2nd Monday of the month

at 10.00am in the CWA Rooms, 159 Bettington Street

Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Enquiries to:

President: Barbara Campbell

Phone: 6548 5131

Email: barbara911@gmail.com

Secretary: Robyn McClister

Phone: 6548 3274

Email: robyncwa@bigpond.com

---

**Merriwa Pre-School & Activity Centre**

Pre-School is for 2 – 5 year olds

Open Monday – Friday 9am – 3pm

Ph: 02 65 482 083

Email: merriwapreschool@tpg.com.au

MAC is open for 5 – 12 year olds.

Open Monday – Friday 3pm – 6pm & 9am – 5pm School Holiday time.

Ph: 02 65 482 082

Email: merriwamac@tpg.com.au

---

**Peter Lawler Pest Control**

For your protection and safety!

ABN 66 092 858 985 LIC 150 02974 003

Commercial and Domestic Services

$140.00 Domestic charge

PAYMENT on the day of treatment

Warranties Apply

Call PETER: Mob: 0428 482 332

After Hours: 02 6548 2332

Email: merriwapete943@gmail.com

7 Bow Street MERRIWA NSW 2329

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**Merriwa Ringer**

Meet each Tuesday at the Merriwa Ringer Club 7.00pm for 7.30pm

4 x 4 Maree for Hire 6548 2025

---

**AJ CONCRETING**

Stencil Pattern & Plain Concrete

Driveways, Footpaths, Carports, Garages & Patios

Lic. 136168c

Call Tony for a free quote!

0421 884 709 or 6548 2442

---

**MERRIWA INC.**

NON EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT SERVICE

We will get you to your appointments on time with special care.

Office hours are:

9.30 to 2.30 weekdays

Bottle Museum building or leave a message on the answering service for a call back.

Te/Fax 6548 2653

---

**RM Property & Livestock**

Roger Moore 0427 153446

Megan Moore 0400 653446

www.rmpropertyandlivestock.com

• Licenced Real Estate Agents
• Stock & Station Agent
• Licenced Auctioneer
• Livestock Marketing & Sales
• Property Management
• Clearing Sales

---

**Brodie’s Cutting Edge**

6548 2499

Saturdays by appointment only

---

**OFFERS PENSIONER DISCOUNTS, MENS AND LADIES CUTS, PERMS, COLOURS, FOILS, HAIR EXTENSIONS, SPRAY TANS, GIFT CERTIFICATES**

Phone: 6548 2499

OPEN TUESDAY TO FRIDAY

SATURDAY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

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4 x 4 Maree for Hire 6548 2025
Cassilis Public School

Relieving Principal: Jeanette Grinham
Cooalah Road Ph: 63761009
Cassilis NSW 2329 Fax: 63761005
cassilis-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.cassilis-p.school.nsw.edu.au

Merriwa Anglican Parish. Services
Holy Trinity St Columbia
Merriwa Cassilis
9.00am Sundays 11.00am every
10.00am Fridays 2nd and 4th
11.00am every Sunday
Short Bible Study
Contact: 0429 996 769
3.00pm Mon, Wed, Fri
Morning Prayer
Rev’d Glen Hughes - Supervising
Priest & Rev’d Pat Kirkby - Local
Priest

Merriwa Touch Football
Wednesday Nights
Junior and Senior Comp
President: Tina Taylor
Senior Vice President: Trent Cooper
Secretary: Barbara Eipper
Treasurer: Ainsley Mayben
For more information contact 6548 2124 after hours.

Merriwa Ringer

Cassilis Bowling Club
PH: 6376 1002
Open every day 5pm

St Davids Uniting Church
Vennacher Street
Merriwa
Service Times
1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays at
11.00am
3rd Sunday at 6.00pm
Contact
Pastor Ross Neville - 6545 1396
Pastor Richard Moors - 6543 1168
Peter Campbell - 6548 5126

Merriwa No. 2 Oval
(throughout Terms 4 & 1)
New Members Welcome!
ph: Tash Taaffe 6548 5002
e: tashholden@bigpond.com

Sandyhollow-p.School@det.nsw.edu.au
www.sandyhollow-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
Merriwa Sports Club

The Sports Club provides a wide range of benefits for members and guests.

Mondays - Happy Two Hour - 4.00pm to 6.00pm
Tuesdays - Rotary meets - 7.00pm for 7.30pm
Wednesdays - Social Darts - 7.00pm - Draw for partners
Thursdays - 6.00pm Bingo
Fridays - Happy Two Hour - 5.00pm to 7.00pm and free raffles and Cricket Club “Chook Wheel”
Saturdays - Monster Raffle drawn from 7.45pm, winners jackpot, dinner draw and Saturday badge draw
Sundays - Members badge draw plus three raffles choice of $25.00 meat or fuel vouchers

Last Sunday each month - Smorgasbord all you can eat Chinese entree, mains and desserts.

DON’T FORGET CHINESE SMORGASBORD SUNDAY NOVEMBER 30

Casual bowls and golf also available. Donations in honesty box.

Chinese/Australian restaurant open for lunch Wednesday to Sunday, 12 noon to 2.00pm. Dinner Tuesday to Sunday 5.30pm to 9.00pm. Closed Mondays, reopen 5.00pm Tuesday.

For bookings and take away - telephone 6548 3228.

WEEKEND RESULTS

Saturday Raffle October 25
Saturday Members Draw not won - Next week $130.00
Winners Jackpot won - next week $100.00

Free Tickets: No free tickets (Jackpot won)
Dinner: Jason Rosa
Bowls Raffle: Chloe

Sunday Raffle October 26
Sunday Members draw - No 384 not won. Next week $350.00

MENS BOWLS NEWS

Just a reminder if you are going to play club or district championships in 2015, make sure you have your names on the board and be financial, we will be closing off in early November, don’t miss out. Also don’t forget twilight bowls every Friday night starting at 5pm and social bowls at 1.00pm on Saturday. Also to the boys that travelled to Manning Point, great job apparently they are placing a road block to stop any more Merriwa Bowlers getting to their destination, thanks again. Could you also have a look at the board as there are quite a few games on in the Upper Hunter in the coming months.

Phil Rush

COMING EVENTS

Monday November 3 – Rotary Club Calcutta Night
Saturday November 22 – Trivia Night – details to follow
Saturday December 6 – Christmas Party – details to follow.

Julie Smith

Merriwa RSL Club

The Members Lucky Badge for $2050.00 was not won on Friday at 8.30pm, the number was 62. This week it jackpots to $2100.00. The 7.00pm draw for $160.00 was not won. The number was 431. This week it jackpots to $180.00. The 9.00pm draw for $320.00 was not won and the number was 724. This week it jackpots to $340.00. LTPS/13/04473

The Sunday Morning Badge Draw for $1050.00 was not won last week. The number was 212 and this week it jackpots to $1100.00. It will be drawn between 11.30am and 1.30pm and you must be present to win the money. LTPS/13/04473

The Friday 8.30pm badge draw and the Sunday badge draw both now commence at $500.00.

COMING EVENTS

The Bistro hours for the evening are now back to 6.00pm - 8.30pm.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE CLUB

MELBOURNE CUP LUNCHEON - 1.00pm Tuesday November 4, $15.00 per person – cold meat and salad plus dessert, bookings essential 02 6548 2295.

Prizes for best dressed male female and best hat - female.

HAPPY HOUR IS BACK - Friday 6.00pm to 7.00pm and Sunday 11.00am to 12 noon, $3.00 schooners and $2.00 middies, and starting this week $5.00 Corona’s.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE – Tickets are now on sale for the Clubs Christmas raffle $1.00 each.
Sporting
Merriwa Little Athletics

What a wonderful way to start the season with 30 kids at training on Monday night. A huge welcome to newcomers Cadence and Nicole Tudor, Logan West, Oliver Towell, Jackson Keane, Jayden and David McPhie, Zack and Paige Gear and Seraphina Taylor! Great to have you on Monday night and we look forward to watching your skills develop over the coming season.

‘Gold stars’ went to Grace Booth for powering down the runway to leap a gigantic 1.6 meters in the long jump, wow, you were flying Grace! Will Luke and Inara West for being ‘so happy’ to be back at Little A’s and keeping still just long enough to learn some new skills. To Jackson Keane and Gabby Nicholls for putting in a top effort in the 1500 and 400 metres, you both tried hard and ran right through to the end. Also to Olivier Towell for showing all the boys just what he can do on the track, go fast – so you’d better watch out Moore, Magner and Keane boys! To all the tiny tots congratulations for listening to your coaches and ‘having a go’ at all the elements of the obstacle course, you are amazing!

Special thanks to Sally Hagley, Ainsley Maben, John Cronin and Mark Morris for coaching the tiny tots, throws and jumps – your help is very much appreciated. Megan Moore for being on hand with registrations, Belinda Keane for helping welcome our new members, De Patterson and Richard Magner for cooking up a storm on the bbq and helping set up the new hurdles. And to all the kids, I love the way you all put the gear away at the end of training, I hope you do that at home too!

Don’t forget, if you want to compete in the Zone carnival in Cessnock next month we MUST HAVE your entries by tomorrow, Friday October 31. Check your emails for the event list and email Tash with your preferred events ASAP.

Still not too late to register, come on down and see if you like Little A’s down at the track 5.30pm Mondays. First two sessions are free!

After more information, why not contact me on 0458 574 015 or email: tashholden@bigpond.com

Tash Taaffe

Merriwa Tennis Club

TENNIS AUSTRALIA HOTSHOTS PROGRAM FOR JUNIORS

Tennis Australia has a specialised junior tennis program called “Hotshots”. It caters for juniors at all stages of development. We would love to get the program up and running in Merriwa so we are looking for people interested in coaching. Tennis Australia offers specialised training for coaches. We just missed a training evening in Singleton last week so we want to make sure that we are ready for the next one. You don’t have to be an A-grade tennis player in fact there are opportunities for high school students to become qualified to assist in a junior coaching capacity. Applicants over the age of 18 must complete a working with children application through the RTA. More information is available at www.hotshots.tennis.com.au

HOTSHOTS IN SCHOOLS

Hotshots also has a school based program. Schools that sign-up to the program are eligible to receive up to $1000.00 worth of free equipment. More information is available on the hotshots website or by contacting our local Tennis NSW representative Maurice Murphy mmurphy@tennis.com.au 0448 813 526

KEYS AND SOCIAL TENNIS

Keys to the tennis courts are available from Merriwa Pharmacy and Merriwa Cakes and Pastries. Social Tennis is on again this Thursday from 6.30pm

Robert Smith, aka Boris Becker
Merriwa Rugby League Football Club

Our AGM was held on Sunday and it was great to see all except one position filled. I’d like to thank the outgoing committee for a great and successful year especially with the introduction of League Tag in the Group competition.

The new Committee members are:
President: Mark Kirkland
Snr Vice President: Seth Morgan
Jnr Vice President: Justine Witney
Secretary/Treasurer: Matthew Morgan
Public Officer: Matthew Morgan
Grounds Manager: Mark Kirkland
Publicity Officer: Gaynor Blackadder
Canteen Coordinator: VACANT
General Committee: Kayla Mullen, Ben Morgan, Denny Gleeson, Don Gorman and Lee Cronin.

Congratulations, thank you and welcome to all committee members. I look forward to the upcoming season.

If you would like to join the Committee please come along to our next meeting on 10 November – 5.30pm at Merriwa RSL Club. We are looking for a Canteen Co-ordinator, if this is a job that you think you can do, please come along to the next meeting.

POSITIONS VACANT

Merriwa Rugby League Football Club has the following positions vacant for the 2015 football season. All applications to be posted to MRLFC – Secretary - PO Box 147 Merriwa NSW 2329 or email to mwarslclub@bigpond.com by Sunday November 30.

- Reserve Grade Coach
- Reserve Grade Manager
- League Tag Coach
- League Tag Manager
- First Aid Officers (more than 1 position)
- LeagueSafe (more than 1 position)

If you are interested in any of the positions you can be qualified or unqualified to apply, as long as you are willing to undertake a course to become qualified.

Until next time.

Gaynor Blackadder

Merriwa JRL and Netball Club

PLAYER PROFILE

Name: Cody Towell
Age: 15 years old
Team: Merriwa U/15’s
Favourite NRL Team: Bronco’s
Favourite Player: Benny Barber

What do you love about footy: Team work

Favourite moment playing for the Magpies: When we played Belmont at home, I thought our mateship was impressive.

Would you recommend football as a team sport? Why? Yes, playing Rugby league builds up leadership skills.

Review: Cody has an impressive attitude to the game of Rugby League. He is a great asset to the 15’s with his speed and agility. He is quick off the mark, proving too fast for the opposition resulting in plenty of try’s. He was selected for and played a trial match for the Newcastle Knights, and played very well scoring two tries. Cody is one of the brightest prospects for Merriwa in a long time.

PLAYER PROFILE

Name: Madelained Thrift
Age: 9 years old
Team: Merriwa Magpies

How long have you been playing Netball? One year
Favourite position: Centre

What do you love about Netball? My friends are there with me

Favourite moment playing netball: Winning a game

Do you follow the NRL? Yes, my favourite team is the Broncos’s

Would you recommend netball as a team sport? Why? Yes, because it’s fun and you get to run around.

Belinda Keane
** Interested in placing an advert in the Ringer? Contact Tina Taylor on 6548 2119. **

If you would like your event included in the community calendar or wish to claim a date, please call Tina at the Ringer so that your event is not missed!

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**Community Calendar**

**What’s happening?**

Send your calendar information in before 12 noon

Mondays to merriwa2-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OCTOBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 31</td>
<td>• Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm</td>
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<td>Monday 3</td>
<td>• Rotary’s Melbourne Cup Calcuttal Night</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 4</td>
<td>• Gummun Hostel Street Stall</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Saturday 15     | • Merriwa Markets - RSL Club footpath, Bow Street  
                  • Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - 7.30am |
| Friday 28       | • Messy Church, last one for 2014 - Parish Hall - 3.30pm |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DECEMBER</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 14</td>
<td>• Carols in the Park</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 20</td>
<td>• Merriwa Markets - RSL Club footpath, Bow Street</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>