Little A’s Championships

ENJOY ONE OF THE MOST COMPETITIVE RATES IN AUSTRALIA RIGHT HERE AT HOME!

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Hunter Mutual is a trading name of Community Mutual Ltd. ABN 21 087 650 360 / AFSL 241167 / Australian credit licence 241167.
Merriwa Youth Services would like to invite you to the Merriwa Family Pool Party.

Children under 12 years **MUST** be accompanied by an adult.

**DATE:** Friday December 19, 2014  
**COST:** Pool Entry Fee unless you are a season ticket holder  
**TIME:** 6.00pm till 8.30pm  
Canteen facilities available  
Tubes were kindly donated by the Merriwa Tyre Service

**Contact:** Justine  
Youth Services Officer  
0447 610 915

**HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!**
Primary News

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

As the term gets closer to finishing we have found students are still making wonderful improvement in the classroom. Last week we awarded books to students who have demonstrated great effort and development in class. Well done to the following recipients:

Kindergarten: Isaac Constable
Year 1/2: Jackson Whitby
Year 2/3: Ildiko Tashman
Year 4/5: Logan Pike
Year 5/6: Nikki Anshaw

SWIM SCHEME

For the last two weeks Primary students have participate in the School Swimming and Water Safety Program. This is a learn to swim program that develops water confidence and provides students with basic skills in water safety and survival. Students were able to participate in swim lessons over ten days and have shown wonderful improvement in swim skills and water safety. We hope all these skills continue to improve over the summer swimming season. We would like to thank Mrs Moore for all her wonderful work coordinating the program and Mrs Osmond who coordinated swim lessons at the pool. Also a very big thank you goes to all the swim teachers and volunteers this year, without you the program could not run; Hannah, Zoi, Jill, Jane, Leanne, Gemma, Brooke, Julie, Keirra, Maria. Even our work experience student, John Cronin, and practicum student, Ben Wright, joined us in the pool to help with lessons. We are very grateful to have such dedicated staff and community!

Coming Events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>DECEMBER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 5</td>
<td>Primary assembly – All classes will present their Christmas items, 9.15am</td>
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<td>4C workshop – Trade Training Centre</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 11</td>
<td>Disco - Year 6 to 12 - 7.00pm-9.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 15</td>
<td>Secondary formal assembly – Great Hall, 8.55am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 16</td>
<td>K-2 Presentation Day – 9.30am</td>
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<td>3-12 Presentation Night – 7.00pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 17</td>
<td>Last day for students</td>
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<td>Reward activities and Out of Uniform day</td>
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<td>Thursday 18</td>
<td>School Development Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19</td>
<td>School Development Day</td>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>JANUARY</th>
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<td>Tuesday 27</td>
<td>Staff return for 2015</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 28</td>
<td>Students return Year 1-12</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 29</td>
<td>Kindergarten students first day at school</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 3</td>
<td>School photo day</td>
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</table>
One of the greatest mathematicians of all time, Carl Friedrich Gauss once said that: ‘it is not knowledge, but the act of learning, not possession but the act of getting there which grants the greatest enjoyment’ and what an enjoyment this year has been in Mathematics at Merriwa Central School. Our students have been working hard this year and in between completing their final examinations and assessment tasks we have investigated some very interesting mathematical ideas.

Year 7 and 8 have been working hard at developing their numeracy – which in the age of the calculator is an important skill to still have. They’ve also been working on developing their problem solving and algebra which again are fundamental skills for any mathematical tool box. I have been impressed with the level of hard work that has been displayed by Stage 4 this year and I am looking forward to seeing them carry that on through into 2015.

Students in Year 9 have for the first time begun to study much harder mathematical concepts requiring them to think more deeply and creatively. We have been working hard on the theory of Quadratic Equations taking a much more analytical approach to the properties of certain physical constructions such as natural circles, parabolic arcs and catenary curves. Students investigated the structure of the Golden

**CHRISTMAS ASSEMBLY**
This Friday December 5 at 9.15am, Primary will hold their Christmas assembly where all classes will present their last item for the year. We hope you can all attend.

Rebecca West
Assistant Principal

**YEAR 1/2 VISIT**
On Thursday November 20, Year 1/2 were very fortunate to have a visit from Mr Mark Smith. We have been learning about how to be safe around medicines as part of our Health unit. Mr Smith is one of our local pharmacists and has many years of experience as a health professional, caring for his local community. Mr Smith had many interesting stories to tell the students about the invention of various medicines and vaccines and the impact of these on the health of the world’s population. The children asked the most amazing questions and we thoroughly enjoyed our afternoon of learning. Thank you Mr Smith for sharing your knowledge!

Sally Hagley
Support Teacher

**KINDER REPORT**
This term in Science we have had much enjoyment learning about our class pet hermit crabs and their needs. The students enjoy taking the hermit crabs out of their tank and watching them crawl around. They have shown a keen interest in caring for the hermit crabs and they have become an important part of our class.

We have had a couple of busy weeks with swim school and the students have worked really hard this week to get all their work completed.

They are highly excited about starting Christmas activities next week and have been working towards this all term.

I have had a wonderful year working in the Kindergarten classroom and have thoroughly enjoyed watching the children learn with such enthusiasm and grow in knowledge. I am very proud of how hard the Kindergarten class have worked this year. They are to be congratulated on the achievements they have accomplished. Well done, Kindergarten!

Michelle Willis
Kindergarten Teacher

**BOOK COVERING WORKING BEE**
Last Friday was the last working bee to finish the covering of new books that were purchased for guided reading and home reading. Thank you to Cassie Constable for giving up time out of her day to help with the covering. It was greatly appreciated. These new resources will be a fantastic addition to our collection of readers and I am looking forward to using them with our students next year.

Kara Allison
Instructional Leader

**MUSIC STARS**
The 2014 Music Stars program will end this Friday December 5, and will recommence early in 2015, depending on numbers enrolled. Josh and the team wish to thank parents for their support, and well done to the children who have participated enthusiastically throughout the year.

Kate Jones
Assistant Principal

**SECONDARY NEWS**
One of the greatest mathematicians of all time, Carl Friedrich Gauss once said that: ‘it is not knowledge, but the act of learning, not possession but the act of getting there which grants the greatest enjoyment’ and what an enjoyment this year has been in Mathematics at Merriwa Central School. Our students have been working hard this year and in between completing their final examinations and assessment tasks we have investigated some very interesting mathematical ideas.

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Merriwa Ringer
Gate Bridge and the physical tensions on the cables holding it in place.

This term, Year 10 have continued to work hard and busily prepare themselves for Year 11 Mathematics courses. It has been very pleasing to see how hard Year 10 have been working on consolidating all of their understanding and how they have taken responsibility for the challenges that will lie ahead for them in Senior Years. I am looking forward to seeing them continue this hard work in 2015.

Year 11 have made the transition into Year 12 quite smoothly and have been working hard on Household Mathematics and Finance. They too have been preparing themselves for their first HSC level assessment item due in week 10. Mrs Meyer and I are eagerly awaiting the student presentations on the different personal credit cards that they have researched.

I would like to also take this time to congratulate our eleven Quicksmart graduates for 2014. Congratulations to Secondary students Elaina Sormaz, Alkira Tritton, John Whitby, Chelsea Borradaile, Brodie Grady, Celeste Proctor, Lachlan Walker, Hannah Riley and Tamasyn McNaught and Primary students Tiara-Anne Edens-Rosa and Thomas Bates who have all now successfully graduated from the program. Quicksmart is a highly respected and valuable program that our school offers students who may be struggling in the basic operations of Mathematics. If you feel that your child would benefit from the program, or you would like some more information about it please contact the school.

I would also like to make a special mention to Breanna Goodear, James and Elizabeth Hagley and Dean and Madison Swan who have without fail attended every single Mathematics Help Session since inception this year. Their overall improvement in Mathematics is evidence of their commitment to their studies and I would like to congratulate them individually for their hard work. A reminder to all that Mathematics Help Sessions have concluded for 2014 and will recommence in Term 1, 2015. Students who would like to attend these sessions must collect a permission note from me then must be returned before they can attend the session.

Finally I would like to say a big thank you to all of the people at Merriwa Central School for making my first year here very rewarding and enjoyable. I would like to wish all of the staff, students and all of the members of the wider community a very safe and happy Christmas and I am looking forward to a very successful and academic 2015.

As Einstein once said: ‘Pure Mathematics is, in its way, the poetry of logical ideas.’

Patrick Lomax
Mathematics Teacher
Why I want to be in ROAR: It can help me with sports and other things

Favourite subject: Science

Favourite sport: Football

Favourite team: Bulldogs

Favourite player: Don’t really have one

Best personal sporting achievement: First try in football

Who inspires you and why: My Mum because she never gives up

Who inspires you and why: My Dad because he doesn’t give up

Advice to young players: Never give up your goal, always try
Year 5/6 Report

What an awesome term it has been for our Year 5/6 leaders at St Joseph’s.

We have had a fantastic excursion, as well as success in literacy and numeracy, and are now preparing to farewell our Year 6 leaders as they take their next big step to high school.

Four students travelled to Newcastle to attend the Newcastle Herald School Newspaper Awards Ceremony at Hunter Stadium. Our small class of fourteen students had huge success with Clancy Moore and Eliza Peebles winning Highly Commended for Best Editorial on the effect wild dogs are having across the Hunter. Ty Riley’s accompanying cartoon saw him also win Highly Commended for Best Editorial Cartoon.

Our day was capped off by winning Highly Commended in the Best Overall Primary Newspaper category: there certainly were four very excited students and one very proud teacher with a tear in his eye. About seventy primary schools from across the Hunter compete in this competition and to win Highly Commended a school or individual is placed in the top five of the entrants, so this is a big achievement for a small school.

As reported in last week’s Ringer, we had more success in the NSW Permanent Mathematics Competition with 50% of our class winning a Merit or Distinction. Our Literacy blocks allow students to learn in a number of highly effective ways and I have also noticed a big improvement in all students’ confidence and ability in Mathematics throughout 2014.

The last week of October was also a big one for us as we attended our excursion to Coonabarabran.

The excursion certainly was “out of this world”.

The first night we camped at school and Mr Geoff Oldman came and did a presentation for the students on Space and allowed students to look through his telescope at the moon and other planets and stars. He showed us how to find the Southern Cross as well has other constellations. This was a terrific night and we worked well as a team to cook and clean up.

The next morning we were on the Cowan’s bus travelling to Coonabarabran. Our first stop was the Coonabarabran Information Centre where we were able to look around at lots of different artefacts relating to animals, fossils and space.

After this we went to Siding Spring Observatory where we saw the largest telescope in Australia and learnt about how it functions and what it can see. We learnt the best times to look at space and lots more interesting information. Our guide was Donna from Coona Astro Adventures who was very knowledgeable and passionate about astronomy (she has discovered two comets) and answered any questions we had. She was extremely impressed with the quality of questions the students were asking. She also allowed us have a look at the sun through her own telescope.

Our next stop was a rock show of sorts - we went to Crystal Kingdom, and we learnt a great deal about the different kinds of rocks and crystals found in the area.

After we settled into our accommodation, had a swim and enjoyed dinner, we were entertained by Peter Starr (yes that is his real name), he gave us a wonderful presentation, then we looked at planets and the moon through his powerful SLR telescopes. We could see the craters on the moon.

The next day we went for a bushwalk through the Warrumbungles National Park. It was amazing to see how the regrowth of flora had occurred...
since the terrible bushfires went through last year. The bushwalk was challenging enough but we all made it back in one piece.

We returned home a very tired class but Mr Morris had us working hard writing journals the next day. Thank you to Mrs Whale and Mr Magner for accompanying us on this inter-galactic excursion.

Our Year Six leaders have been preparing for the next big step in their education by attending Year 7 orientation days at various high schools. Before they go however, they will attend the Year 6 Retreat, a day of reflection of their primary school life, then of course the Year 6 Mass and Graduation Dinner which we are all busily preparing for.

I will be very sad when the Year 6 students walk out of St Joseph’s as students for the last time. I wish Eliza, Clancy, Ty, Matt and Nick all the best in their high school lives and future. Thank you for making 2014 so memorable.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK 8

Kindergarten - Matilda Cronin – for the dedication she has shown to improving her writing skills

Year 1/2 - Fiona Tomy - For fantastic effort in participating in swimming

Mikayla Telfer - For being a good friend to others

Year 3/4 - Will Henderson - For his great understanding of 2D shapes

Madelaine Thrift - for her great attitude and participation in Religion lessons.

Year 5/6 - Clancy Moore - for showing maturity and leadership when working with others

Darcy Moore - for a fantastic ability to work with algebra

Principal’s Awards - Thomas Hunt - being focussed and completing great writing.

Sienna Baber - Being kind and caring on the playground.

Mark Morris
Year 5/6 Teacher

EVENTS FROM PAST WEEKS
 preparing activities for The Mini Fair including making and painting keepsake boxes and creating his stall poster. He made two different soma puzzles for the video conference with Darcy Road on Friday and waited patiently during school photos for his individual photo. Brady is always kind and well-mannered to others and should be congratulated on his efforts. Keep up the fantastic work, Brady!

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

What is your favourite sport or hobby? Football

Do you have a favourite song or singer? Scotty McCreery

If you could have a superpower, what would it be and why? To be invisible so I could sneak in and out of places like Santa.

If you were stuck on a deserted island and could only take three things what would you take? Water, Food and a phone.

**TOWN LIBRARY VISIT**

Last Friday, students enjoyed a visit to the town library where they enjoyed a story called ‘Are We There Yet?’ and completed activities relating to identifying and labelling the states and landmarks of Australia. Despite the heat, students had an enjoyable afternoon and their afternoon was topped off with a refreshing ice block.

A huge congratulations and thank you to our children, parents, grandparents, friends and community members that came along and supported our Mini Fair this week. We raised an amazing $650.00 which will certainly allow the students to purchase a wonderful gift for the school and enjoy a fabulous year six farewell.

**CHRISTMAS PLAY CHANGE OF DATE!**

The annual Christmas play date has changed from the December 4 to the December 11 at 9.30am at the Catholic Church!
VISIT FROM THE RURAL FIRE SERVICE

CASSILIS RODEO!

The Cassilis Public School P and C is once again doing the Rodeo Gate Roster in 2015. On Saturday January 31 we will man the gates and as this is our major fundraiser for the year we need everyone to help out for a couple of hours. All money earned goes directly to the students and this year it will go towards upgrading the play equipment.

Please, as many helpers as possible on the day will be great. All parent names will go directly onto the roster and other willing volunteers would be greatly appreciated.

Please call Kathy on 6376 1013 to put your name down.

SCHOOL UNIFORMS 2015

If you require school uniforms for 2015, please contact the school by December 1 so payment can be arranged and uniforms can be ordered and available before the start of Term 1.

Jeanette Grinham
Relieving Principal

Well its ‘Beginning to feel a lot like Christmas’ at the Activity Centre with all things Christmas happenning. The Children have designed and made their own Advent Calender and were very eager to opened the first one on Monday. This week they will be starting on their gifts for Mum and Dad and also making our own wrapping paper and decorating the room for the silly season.

We have been swimming on Tuesdays and Thursdays and both children and educators are enjoying the cool down of an afternoon in this warmer weather. We will continue to swim two days a week for the rest of the term. So if you are sending your children either Tuesday or Thursday, don’t forget their swimmers and $2.20 entry if you don’t hold a season ticket. The holiday program is ready and there are lots of exciting things happenning. It includes a few visits to the local library for craft and a visit to a magician. Also during the holidays we will be visting the pool each morning from 9.00am til 11.00.

Please check your work rosters and book your children in for holidays asap so that we can staff the centre accordingly.

REMINDER - Merriwa Activity Centre will be opening on December 18 and 19 as school finishes on December 17 so if you have some last minute shopping to do here is your chance. On December 19 is our Christmas party we will be holding this at the pool from 9.00am til 11.00am it would be great to see everyone there, so call and book your children in.

We have an update on our chickens, THEY HAVE HATCHED! So now to organise a cage for the centre, we are all looking forward to meeting our new feathered friends.

Advent Calender designed and made by children

Natalie Hourn
Merriwa Ringer
CALENDAR OF EVENTS

December 7: Nine Lesson’s and Carols and Parish Christmas Party which is “Bring and Share” meal in the Parish Hall after service - 6.00pm

December 14: Carols in the Park.

This week we have reeled with the untimely and devastating news of the death of Philip Joel Hughes 25, the wonderful amazing and integral part of our Cricket future.

His amazing achievements have been shared by us all who follow cricket and those of you who just see the news headlines. “Another 100 for Phil Hughes brought up with a six”. What an amazing journey he had and now for it to finish as it has. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, the Cricket world and Sean Abbott the bowler who was just playing the wonderful game of cricket at the amazing SCG .

I found this prayer which I think is all that Phil Hughes aspired to, we saw his cheeky smile, we saw his determination and we saw his team spirit and His love for the game of cricket. Players Prayer.

God, let me play well but fairly.
Let competition make me strong but never hostile.
Forbid me to rejoice in the adversity of others.
See me not when I am cheered, but when I bend to help my opponent up.
If I know victory, allow me to be happy;
If I am denied, keep me from envy.
Remind me that sports are just games.
Help me to learn something that matters once the game is over.
And if through athletics I set an example, let it be a good one. Taken from “God be in my Sport” University of Notre Dame.

Rosalie Drew

MHEG

ENID HOLT: A STALWART OF MHEG AND OF MERRIWA

This week is the last for Enid as a resident of Merriwa. She has been an integral part of our community and many of it’s organisations and we will miss her.

MHEG was formed in 2011 by an enthusiastic group of Merriwa people concerned about the future of our land and the health of our community due to the rapid expansion of coal and coal seam gas mine exploration. One of those community members was Enid whose professional expertise as a journalist, brought our concerns and aims to the attention of the media and the public.

Her genuine concern for the environment and the well being of future generations spurred her on to tireless action.

Some of the other organisations she has been involved with include the Merriwa Show, the Merriwa Progress Association, the Merriwa Tourism Committee, Holy Trinity and Trinity Markets.

Enid has always shown herself to be a true friend as well as a team member.

We feel that Enid will take every opportunity in the future to speak out when she sees an injustice anywhere.

Our prayers and thoughts go with her in her new home.

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Ted Finnie
Merriwa River RFS
CHRISTMAS FUNDRAISER
Ham/Wine and Cheese raffle with lucky door prizes and 40 plus draws on the night.
Where: Merriwa RSL
When: December 18
Tickets on sale at 6.30pm for 7.45pm draw
Cost: $1.00 per ticket
Prizes include: 47 inch TV, Kindle and a 7 inch tablet which will be drawn on completion of the night.
Bring along your family and your friends. Everyone welcome.
Table reservations contact Marlene Rogers 0431 614 034.

Merriwa Senior Citizens Assoc.
MOVIE
On Thursday December 11, members and friends are invited to have lunch (own expense) in the restaurant area of the Merriwa RSL Club from 12 noon followed by the screening of a lovely movie in the Squatters Room commencing at 1.00pm (gold coin donation).
All are welcome to attend.

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 12.30pm. All are welcome and all helpers get a free lunch.

Thank You
We would like to thank all those involved who attended the grassfire at ‘Collaroy Station’ on Tuesday November 18, and would like to extend our great appreciation for all your help and efforts.
Andrew and Sandy Wallings Wallings Pastoral Co Pty Ltd

Jean Price
Merriwa CWA CRAFT DAY
Junior cooking and craft day Saturday December 6 at the rooms 159 Bettington Street. Start is at 10.00am and finishing at 2.30pm.
Cost for the day is free. Lunch will be provided. Non membered juniors are to be accompanied by a parent or guardian.
CWA Christmas meeting and lunch at 39 Marquet Street. Meeting is at 10.00am followed by lunch. Partners and former members welcome.
Phone Jean on 6548 2456 for catering.

Merriwa Community Gardens MEETING
Where: Merriwa Sports Club
When: Thursday December 11 at 7.00pm
We need to get a committee together at this meeting. There has been been a lot of interest in getting these gardens happening. This may be the last chance we have. We understand that it’s a busy time of year but if you could spare an hour it would be greatly appreciated. Thank you. Contact Teressa on 0437 944 353.

Teressa Williams

Merriwa RSL Sub Branch CHRISTMAS PARTY
Where: Merriwa RSL Club, Jackson Room
When: December 14
Time: 12.00 noon
We will be holding our Christmas Party directly after our monthly meeting. We would like to see members and wives for this occasion. Thanking you.

Bob Baihn

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 12.00pm Mondays.
Community Notice Board

In Loving Memory

NATHAN ELLIS
SEPTEMBER 5, 1986 - DECEMBER 5, 2013

One year has gone so fast,
You are always in our hearts.
The stars are shining for you Nathan..
You are so deeply loved
Always remembered and
So sadly missed.
Love Always

Dad, Mum, Rebecca, Renae, Karlie, Tabatha,
Lisa, Blake and Bradley Ellis

Put Out Your Bats

408 - PHILLIP JOEL HUGHES
- 408

63 Not out

SCG 25/11/14

Thank you God, for letting
Phillip Joel Hughes play
cricket well but fairly.
Thank You for letting
competition make him
strong but never hostile.

Thank You for forbidding him to rejoice in the
adversity of others.

Thank you, that you showed him how to be
humble, and that all of the cricketing family, the
wider community and the world would see him,
not when he was cheered, but when he would
bend to help his opponent up.

If Phillip knew victory, thank you Lord for allowing
him to be happy;

If he was denied, Phillip never showed envy.

He was always mindful that sports are just games.

Thank you for showing Phil Hughes how to learn
something that matters once the game is over.

And if through cricket Phillip Joel Hughes set an
example, then we Thank You Lord.

Amen

I want to thank Max McNaught for helping with
the arrangements at short notice.

Thank you to all who ‘Put out their bats’ in
rememberance.

Rosalie Drew

Congratulations

Congratulations to Lauren Redgate for being
the 2014 Joint Winner of the Jenny Rose Trophy
for ‘Consistency in Presentation and Attendance
at Rally Days’ for Denman Pony Club. Well Done
Lauren!

Bronwyn Redgate

UNE is hosting the

ConocoPhillips
Science Experience
13-15 January 2015
for all year 9 and 10 students
who are looking for a
hands-on science experience

Register at:
scienceexperience.com.au
Contact: Richard Willis
p: 02 6773 2615 or
e: rwillis@une.edu.au

Merriwa Ringer
Community Notice Board

St Anne’s Parish

St Anne’s Parish is conducting a Christmas hamper raffle, with all proceeds raised going directly to our Parish.

Tickets are $2.00 each or three for $5.00 and will be drawn December 20 at 12.00 midday.

For those unable to attend the draw, the winner will be advertised on the Parish noticeboard.

CCI has kindly donated this hamper valued at over $150.00.

Mark and Jane Smith
Sue Shearman, Kay Burgess and Margaret Witney
for St Anne’s Parish team

Merriwa Rotary Club

At our Rotary meeting this week we welcomed reports from five young Merriwa district people who have recently attended Rotary youth programs. Tom Hagley has attended RYLA (Rotary Youth Leadership Awards); April Eipper, Breanna Goodear and James Hagley have attended RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) while Craig Walker attended RYCAGS (Rotary Youth in Crops, Agronomy, Grain and Seeds). These courses have been organised and run by dedicated Rotarians and have inspired these young people with confidence and enthusiasm.

Mark Smith

Merriwa Tourist Welcoming Centre

CHRISTMAS GIFT IDEAS

Another year has bitten the dust and it is that time of year again! What to buy for the folks for Christmas?

With summer well and truly upon us we need to consider buying our presents without having to go out in the heat, travel too far and most importantly buy nice gifts without having to take out a bank loan!

Well – look no further than the Tourist Welcoming Centre. We have so many interesting gift ideas, items you would not find in any other shop. The Centre has wonderful gifts to cover every member of the family starting with grandpa and grandma down to the great grand kids and anyone in between.

We are open 7 days a week from 9.30am to 2.30pm, so come in and look for yourself! On behalf of the members of the Centre I wish one and all a wonderful Christmas with plenty of rain!

Edith Shipway

Merriwa Touring in the Park

The combined Christian Church’s invite you to join us on Sunday December 14 at 7.00pm at Apex park for Christmas Carols in the Park.

Our Theme this year will be “The value of our Young Children and the protection from the weather elements”.

This Year we will be joined by the Central School Choir along with our local musicians to entertain and encourage you to join in our singing.

This years proceeds from the sausage sizzle and drinks will go to the Merriwa Pre-School to help fund the Shade cover over the playing area at the Pre-School.

If inclement weather prevails, the carols will be held in the School of Arts building, Bow Street, Merriwa.

Look forward to seeing you there.

Cr Ron Campbell

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Edith Shipway

Merriwa Ringer
there are many children around who could do it for me - the perfect stocking filler for them.

PICTURE BOOKS

A picture book is never a bad gift idea. A child is supposed to have read, or been read, over 1000 stories before they start school. We can help these kids by giving the gift of a picture book. They will never be wasted, and offer hours of entertainment as they can be read over and over again. One of my favourite stories, which is also a game, is What’s the Time Mr Wolf and is available now. Come in and look at out collection - there is something for every child, and they are all at very affordable prices.

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

Neville and Leanne Hook

Merriwa Tyre Service

This week we would like to talk about servicing of your vehicle and the benefits of having it serviced regularly. Even if your vehicle does not do a lot of kilometres and only runs around town your engine oil still needs to be changed and your vehicle needs to be checked over for wear and tear such as steering components, brakes, suspension, all fluids in your vehicle, tyre pressure, tyre tread and your lights need to be checked regularly.

If you drive your vehicle on long trips most of the time, then the manufacturers service recommendations can be followed with confidence, but if you only do short trips all the time then we would recommend that you have your car serviced every six months regardless of the kilometres travelled.

If you tow with your vehicle a lot we would recommend that you have your car serviced under the severe conditions recommendations in your service book or about every 10,000kms.

By servicing your vehicle regularly you’re more likely to find problems before they become a very pricey problem.

Servicing your vehicle improves the life and performance of the vehicle and usually gives you a problem free ownership of the vehicle.

Merriwa Tyre and Service Centre is equipped and qualified to service and repair all makes and models of vehicles, and we can even carry out service book servicing of vehicles under new car warranty. With Christmas soon approaching and people getting ready for their Christmas holiday trips, now would be a perfect time to service your vehicle.
vehicle and have it all checked out.

With an extensive range of spare parts and a great team we can deliver you with the service you require and deserve.

For all your servicing needs or inquires drop in and see the experienced team at Merriwa Tyre and Service Centre.

Your vehicle will thank you.

**ALSO NOW IN STOCK**

**Can-Am Commander Side by Side ATV’s**

With the Following features:

- Safety
- Larger Carrying Capacity
- Seating for Two
- Comfort
- Shade
- Powerful and fuel efficient

Drop in and test drive.

Debbie, Glenn and Brad Hunt

**Max’s Country Cuts**

131 Bettington Street Merriwa
Ph/Fax: 6548 2375

This week’s specials at MAX’S COUNTRY CUTS Friday 5 and Saturday 6 and early next week while stocks last.

- Legs of Lambs $8.99kg
- Whole Eye Fillets $24.99kg
- Steakettes $8.99kg or 2kg $16.00
- Honey and Black Pepper Pork 4 quarter Chops $8.99kg

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

Support the butcher that supports Merriwa

Don’t forget we are now taking orders for Christmas.

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

- Hams
- Smoked Legs of Lamb
- 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 treats at only $8.99kg you can’t go wrong.

**RECIPE OF THE WEEK**

**GREEK-STYLE SLOW ROASTED LEG OF LAMB**

**Prep Time:** 15min

**Cooking Time:** 2hr 30min

**Serves:** 6

- 2kg leg of lamb
- 1 tablespoon olive oil
- 2 teaspoons sea salt flakes
- 4 garlic cloves, thickly sliced
- 12 oregano sprigs
- 1 1/2 cups (375ml) chicken stock
- 1/2 cup (125ml) dry white wine
- 2 red onions, quartered
- 12 kipfler potatoes, halved lengthways
- 2 lemons, quartered
- 1 cup (175g) kalamata olives

1. Preheat oven to 180°C. Place the lamb in a large roasting pan. Drizzle with oil and sprinkle with salt. Use a small, sharp knife to cut small slits, about 2cm deep, over the surface of the lamb. Place a slice of garlic and oregano sprig in each slit.

2. Drizzle the chicken stock and wine around the lamb and cover with foil. Cook in preheated oven for 1 hour. Remove from the oven and spoon pan juices over the lamb. Arrange the onion, potato, lemon and olives around the lamb. Cover with foil and roast for a further hour.

3. Remove the foil and roast for a further 30 minutes or until lamb is golden brown and very tender. Remove from oven. Cover with foil and set aside for 15 minutes to rest.

4. Thickly slice the lamb and arrange on serving plates with onion, potato and olives and drizzle with pan juices. Serve immediately.

Max, Yvonne and the crew at Max’s Country Cuts
Merriwa Surgery

MERRIWA WELCOMES NEW DOCTOR

The Merriwa Surgery on Bettington Street opened its doors this week for the first time in a long time, with a permanent doctor in residence.

Dr Emad Jasem bought the practice last month and said he was looking forward to settling in to the community.

“My wife Bushra and five children (aged 16, 13, 8, 4 and 2) are very much looking forward to getting to know the people of Merriwa.

“I prefer living in a country town, which is where we have been for the last ten years in Surry, England.

“I have been in Australia since February, looking for the right practice to buy and was delighted to have found the Merriwa Surgery a few weeks ago,” he said.

Dr Jasem’s arrival has also been a great relief to practice manager Elen Salama, who has done a wonderful job juggling six locum doctors since her late husband Dr Ramses Salama fell ill last year.

“I am so happy to welcome Dr Jasem and his family to our town.”

“It has been a wonderful community for us and am sure the Jasem family will settle in very well.

“It has been a very difficult twelve months but with the surgery now sold, I can now look forward to starting a new chapter,” Mrs Salama said.

Dr Jasem started his career as a paediatrician before moving into General Practice ten years ago.

“For the last six years, I have specialised in emergency medicine and have just put my name down at the Merriwa Multipurpose Service.

“I try to strike a balance between family and work.

“When you are the only GP in town, sometimes life is not yours – its for the people and your patients.

“Although I do enjoy cycling, movies and reading as well as spending time with the family when I’m not at work.

“My family is still in Surry but will come out to join me in the New Year, we just have to find a house first.

“We are also in the process of employing staff for the surgery which will open Monday to Friday and in the future, on Saturdays,” he said.

Opening hours will be Monday to Friday from 8.00am-6.00pm. Merriwa Surgery will also be looking towards opening on Saturdays at the Surgery and On-call appointments in the coming future.

Contact for the Merriwa Surgery is 6548 2305 or fax 6548 2480.

Tash Taaffe

Dr Noman Jawaad Medical Practice

We are currently open five days a week.

MERRIWA

Dr Jawaad works Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 9.00am – 5.00pm

Dr Cho works Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 8.00am to 6.00pm.

DENMAN

Dr Jawaad works Tuesday 8.30am to 6.00pm and Friday 8.30am to 5.00pm

Dr Cho works Monday 8.00am to 5.00pm

For all appointments for Merriwa and Denman please phone 6532 5013.

Dr Noman Jawaad

Remember!

Get your articles and advertisements into the Merriwa Ringer

BEFORE 12.00am Monday.

Last Ringer is December 18
DEAR SANTA
For Christmas this year I would most love to see
Two plane tickets to Arizona placed under my tree.
You see my Aunt had a baby and my Nannie’s real ill
I haven’t the money to send both my sister and I, unless you will.
You can send us the cash, you can take us yourself
We can even fly there with your most responsible elf.
Oh please Santa, get us both there somehow.
We could wait until later, but it’s best to go now.
Nannies going through surgery, we’re not sure if she’ll live,
And well, where this is the season for everyone to give,
I only want to see her, yes, this is all I ask.
Is my Christmas wish such a difficult task?
When you get this and read it, think it over a time or two.
I know this is a hard decision, but I’m positive you’ve had a few.
Even if one ticket is all you can give,
Don’t worry.
I’ll send my sister and pray that dear Nannie will live.
I’m sorry I’ve been bad, next year I’ll try to be better.
You have a big job, so I oughta end this letter.
Have a Merry Christmas Santa, tell the elves and Mrs. Clause I said hi.
Thank you for your time Sir, now I must say good bye.
P.S. The milk is in a glass and the cookies on a tray.
You know where I live, so nothing more shall I say.
Source: http://www.familyfriendpoems.com/poem/dear-santa#ixzz3KEgXktJn
Family Friend Poems
DOOR KNOB SANTA

Santa needs to be coloured in, cut out and glued together to create a Christmas doorknob Santa

CHRISTMAS COUNTDOWN

20 Days to Christmas

CHRISTMAS WORD LADDER

Change one letter on each line to change "Bell" to "Mail"
FOR RENT
Two bedroom house with built-in wardrobes, air conditioned, verandah with lovely rural aspects
Close to main street
Phone 6548 2078

SANDY HOLLOW TOURIST HOTEL
ANNUAL Yabby Races
Saturday December 13 2014
From 12.00pm
BBQ lunch
Kids Entertainment including Face Painting, Juggling and Balloons
Even a visit from Santa!
Live evening entertainment
NON TAB meeting
All proceeds to Sandy Hollow Public School, Sandy Hollow Progress Association and the Westpac Rescue Helicopter
Come along for a fun day of racing
More Info?
Contact us on 6547 4416

Merriwa Ringer
**MERRIWA - MUSWELLBROOK TIMETABLE**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CT 2010</th>
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<td><strong>Bus One</strong></td>
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**Do you need transport to Muswellbrook for Work, TAFE, Appointments and Social activities?**

**TransCare** have a bus service operating Monday to Friday leaving Merriwa at 6.10am and arrives in Muswellbrook at 7.10am. It leaves Muswellbrook at 4.50pm and has you in Merriwa by 6.00pm. The cost is $8.00 each way. There is also a service leaving Merriwa at 8.35am which departs Muswellbrook at 1.45pm. **Bookings** are essential, contact **TransCare** 6545 3113, 8.30am to 4.00pm Monday to Friday.
REVAMP PLANS FOR UPPER HUNTER CBDS

Central Business Districts (CBDS) across the Upper Hunter may be upgraded as a result of Upper Hunter Shire Council establishing a new CBD Development Committee.

Mayor Michael Johnsen said the vision was to maximise the best features Scone, Aberdeen, Merriwa and Murrurundi have to offer residents and visitors.

“Shire wide plans also put Council in an optimum position to apply for future opportunities through NSW and Federal grants. We are planning for the future.

Interested residents are invited to submit Expressions of Interest on serving on the new committee which will include community members from each town as well as Deputy Mayor Wayne Bedggood and Cr Ron Campbell. Sub-committees will also be established in each town to assist in the planning.

Council’s Economic Development and Tourism Manager Sean Constable said a more coordinated focus on CBD redevelopment would be a more efficient way to improve facilities in town centres.

"Across the Shire we all need to consider how to accommodate new travellers like RVs, new retail experiences and making our towns more shopper-friendly."

The new Upper Hunter CBD Redevelopment Committee will prepare a brief for a study of CBD redevelopment in the Upper Hunter and oversee the creation of master plans by an independent expert consultant.

The Shire has had some CBD committees specific to single towns in the past, however they have become inactive.


Michael Johnsen
MAYOR

DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Development & Environmental Services Committee
Tuesday 9th December 2014, 10.00am
Works & Technical Services Committee
Tuesday 9th December 2014, 1.00pm
Finance Committee
Friday 12th December 2014, 1.00pm
Ordinary Council Meeting
Monday 15th December 2014, 5.00pm

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

HOLIDAY FUN

Merriwa CTC and Visitor Information Centre is pleased to announce that the centre will now be holding a CTC Techno Club during the Christmas school holidays for any interested primary school students from year 3 to year 6.

The Techno Club will be run during normal business hours, where participants will have many challenges and tasks regarding technology, with prizes to be awarded for the participants who best utilize technology.

There will be a one off payment of $12.00 for a holiday Techno Pass, which will enable the participant to utilize the centre at any time during business hours throughout the school holidays.

For more information, and to register, parents are asked to contact the Merriwa CTC and Visitor Information Centre.

P: Liam Garment 6521 7046

COUNCIL OFFICE CHRISTMAS CLOSURE

Council’s offices in Scone, Merriwa and Murrurundi will be closed from 12 noon Wednesday 24 December 2014 and reopen on Monday 5 January 2015.

Murrurundi, Scone and Merriwa Accredited Visitor Information Centres will close only on Thursday 25 December 2014.
**Lot 8 McCartney Street, Merriwa**  
$65,000.00

This 2023sqm block is ideal to build your new home. The block is flat for easy building. The vendors have had the soil tests conducted and engineering drawings will be supplied with the sale. Power, phone and town water are already connected to the block. A one bedrooms granny flat has been DA approved to be built should you wish to build this first then another home. With all the ground work done and a good location within easy walking distance to the main street this block is priced to sell.

**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 75,000L of fresh water storage. The fencing is in excellent order with four 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 three 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 four big bedrooms all with built ins and the main with ensuite and walk in. 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 third toilet in the laundry. The home has ducted RC Air Con throughout. The yard is fully fenced with established lawns and gardens with plenty of water to keep it green. This is one of the best presented properties you will see in the area and is well worth an inspection.

---

**EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

If you need assistance from

**Ambulance - Police - Fire** including Hazardous Incidents

**DIAL 000**

**Merriwa Phone Numbers**

Police (Administration Only)  6548 2437  
Police Mobile  0408 293 423  
Police Assistance Line  131 444  
Fire Brigade (Administration only)  6548 2005  
Hospital  6532 5000  
Rural Fire Service (Administration and Duty Officer)  1800 081 166

**SES Emergency Number**  132 500  
Merriwa Rescue Squad  6548 2538

---

**Peter Smith Tiling**  
Lic#193143c

**CARPENTRY**

**TILING**

**PLUMBING**

**ELECTRICAL**

**WATERPROOFING**

Complete Bathroom Renovations  
WE DO THE LOT FROM START TO FINISH  
YOUR BATHROOM SPECIALIST  
6543 2071
Your local team is:
Field Officer - Warwick Nairne  
6548 2175/0428 721 864
Biosecurity Officers -  
Stefanie McCowen  
6542 4429/0432 856 773
Craig Crooks  
6545 1311/0429 342 995
District Vet - Ross Kemp  
6572 2944/0428 688 693

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
ploughinntocassilis@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
email: lgarment@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

FABRICATIONS, FIELDSERVICE AND SALES
Specialising in Agricultural, Earthmoving and Mining

WORKSHOP  
FABRICATIONS  
AND  
ON-SITE FIELD SERVICE
On site repairs and Maintenance  
Medium to Heavy Fabrications  
MIG, TIG and Stick Welding

SALES
Welding Supplies  
Roofing Supplies  
Industrial Gas Supplies  
Bolts and Fasteners  
Fencing Products  
Power Tools and Welders  
Hand Tools  
Paint Supplies

Ph: 6548 2500  
Mob: 0407 468 560
29 Blaxland Street, Merriwa 2329
Email: sales@welderup.com.au Web: www.welderup.com.au

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Welding Supplies  
Roofing Supplies  
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Bolts and Fasteners  
Fencing Products  
Power Tools and Welders  
Hand Tools  
Paint Supplies

Ph: 6548 2500  
Mob: 0407 468 560
29 Blaxland Street, Merriwa 2329
Email: sales@welderup.com.au Web: www.welderup.com.au

Merriwa Ringer
Gummun Place
A place for ageing community members to enjoy life and receive the care that they need.
A rural relaxing lifestyle provided with care.

16 Room Low-Care Aged Facility
PHONE: 6521 7011

Hostel
14-16 Marquet Street
Merriwa
141 BETTINGTON ST
MERRIWA NSW 2329
PHONE:65482078  FAX: 65482063

CAN-AM *HUSQVARNA OUTDOOR PRODUCTS
*COOPER TYRES *MICKEY THOMPSON
*BRIDGESTONE *GOODYEAR/DUNLOP
*TOYO TYRES *MAXXIS TYRES
FULL MECHANICAL WORKSHOP

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Earthmoving
0417 506 769
6 Gooch Street MERRIWA 2329
Phone 6548 2246
russellsearthmoving@jrem.com.au
Fax 6548 2629

Dozers
Excavators
Trucks/Dogs
Water Trucks
Low Loader
Loader

EXCAVATION - EARTHWORKS - HAULAGE

59 Brook Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Merriwa Ringer
Proud to have serviced the people of the Upper Hunter since 1890

Practise Areas include:
Property Law/Subdivisions
Conveyancing
Accident Claims
Wills and Estates
Powers of Attorney
Criminal Law
Litigation & Court appearances
Business Law & Leases
Family Law
General Legal Work

Curtis Gan Lirving
Solicitors

59 Brook Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Russell’s Earthmoving
0417 506 769
6 Gooch Street MERRIWA 2329
Phone 6548 2246
russellsearthmoving@jrem.com.au
Fax 6548 2629

EXCAVATION - EARTHWORKS - HAULAGE

M NUTT CONTRACTING Pty Ltd
Bulldozers - Excavators - Grader - Front End Loader - Roller - Bobcat - Backhoe - Water Cart - Low Loader - Tip Trucks - Bulk and Stock Haulage - Castrol Distributor

53 McKenzie Street
Bh 6548 2004 Ah 6548 2125
Mob 0417 492 306
mnuttcontract@bigpond.com

Ph: 6548 2213

Gummun Place
Hostel
14-16 Marquet Street
Merriwa
A place for ageing community members to enjoy life and receive the care that they need.
A rural relaxing lifestyle provided with care.
16 Room Low-Care Aged Facility

PHONE: 6521 7011
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

Interested in Sponsoring?
Please contact Merriwa Central School on 6548 2119 for more information.

Thank you!
Merriwa Ringer

St Joseph’s
Primary School
Merriwa
A rich learning environment in a friendly Christian atmosphere
All enquiries welcome
Principal - Helen Whale
Ph 6548 2035
P&C President - Denmol Shannon
Ph 6548 2996

Merriwa Central School
Primary Campus: 6548 2101
Secondary Campus: 6548 2119
merriwa-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

SANDY HOLLOW
PUBLIC SCHOOL
Telephone: 02 6547 4521
Fax: 02 6547 4450
Email: sandyhollow-p.School@det.nsw.edu.au

Catholic Parish
Merriwa & Cassilis
WEEKEND MASSES
St Anne’s Merriwa
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday - Sat 6.00pm
2nd & 4th Sunday - Sun 8.30am
St Joseph’s Cassilis
2nd & 4th Sunday - 10.00am
Parish Priest - 6548 2086
St Vincent de Paul - 6548 3092

PH: 6376 1002
www.merriwashow.com.au
Tel: 0498 378 500

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

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

Merriwa JUNIOR LEAGUE AND NETBALL CLUB
President - Vice President: Andrew
Jamieson Secretary: Christine Sparrow
Junior Vice President: Elaine Sparrow
Treasurer: Andrew
Merriwa, the birth place of Pony Club....

Merriwa Rugby League
Football Club
President – Mark Kirkland
Snr Vice President – Seth Morgan
Jnr Vice President – Justine Wilney

Merriwa Bowing Club
PH: 6376 1002
Open every day 5pm

Merriwa No. 2 Oval
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday
2nd & 4th Sunday
MERRIWA TENNIS ASSOCIATION
President: Robert Smith
6548 2213
Secretary: Emily Hall
Treasurer: Krichelle Khan
Vennacher Street
Merriwa
Day - Night Competitions
Junior Competitions Court Hire

Merriwa Ringer

Clubs

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

Merriwa No. 2 Oval
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday
2nd & 4th Sunday

MERRIWA PONY CLUB
Established in 1946
Rally Day - Second
Sunday of each month
President: Clare Martin - 6548 2201
Secretary: Christine Sparrow - 0427 412 128
Treasurer:
Yvonne Mautta - 6548 2842

New Members Welcome
ph: Tash Taaffe 6548 5002
e: tashholden@bigpond.com

SANDY HOLLOW
PUBLIC SCHOOL
Telephone: 02 6547 4521
Fax: 02 6547 4450
Email: sandyhollow-p.School@det.nsw.edu.au

Club Tab, Club Keno
Darts, Sneaker, Pool
BBQ area and Kids Play area

Merriwa Ringer
The Members Lucky Badge for $650.00 was not won on Friday at 8.30pm, the number was 84. This week it jackpots to $700.00. The 7.00pm draw for $260.00 was not won. The number was 565 This week it jackpots to $280.00. The 9.00pm draw for $160.00 was not won and the number was 411. This week it jackpots to $180.00.

The Sunday Morning Badge Draw for $650.00 was not won last week. The number was 432 and this week it jackpots to $700.00. It will be drawn between 11.30am and 1.30pm and you must be present to win the money.

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

Merriwa RSL Club

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In last week’s Merriwa JRL and NC article it was incorrectly reported that the NRL and CRL sponsor the 2014 Under 14 year old boys selected to attend the NSWRL run Narrabeen Camp.

The players are selected from each club (by the club) who have an Under 14 side within the Hunter Valley Group 21 area and are in fact able to attend because of the generosity of Hunter Valley Group 21 Rugby League and Hunter Valley Group 21 Junior Rugby League neither NRL or CRL have any involvement.

Jane Walmsley
Secretary
HV Group 21 RL

Cassilis Bowling Club
Friday night Snack Bar
Affordable family meals.
Friday night raffles
Meat trays, Vegetable trays, Schooner Draw, Joker Draw, Members Draw and Vegetable trays.

PREVIOUS WEEK’S RESULTS
Friday November 29
Members Draw: $55.00 - Celia Ellingford – claimed - $50 next week
Joker Draw: $567 – Linda Lacey was unsuccessful – $620 next week.

COMING EVENTS
Sunday December 14 – AGM – free BBQ tea at 6.00pm for all meeting attendees – AGM commencing 7.00pm - decision must be made on the future of the bowling green.
Xmas Eve at the Cassbowl – Xmas raffles including hams, free food, free Xmas cheer.
Xmas specials – Willow Glen Chardonnay and Sauvignon Blanc at $9.00 per bottle.
Crown Lager stubbies - $45.00 per carton
Tooheys Extra Dry - $45.00 per carton
New Years Eve at the Cassbowl – Music by the Sly Pigs – BBQ available from 7.00pm.

Hilary Parker

Photography Competition
Entries close: DECEMBER 15 AT 12 NOON

Topic for the month is:
CHRISTMAS

The winning photo will receive a prize to the value of $50.00 from the monthly sponsor and this month it is sponsored by:
ZANNEART PHOTOGRAPHY AND STAY-N-PLAY PHOTOGRAPHY
PUBLISHED IN THE RINGER ON:
DECEMBER 18

The competition is open to amateur photographers of all ages.

Christmas Photo Challenge - six topics and two prizes:
1. Excited
2. Decorated
3. Just what I wanted!
4. Our tradition
5. Stuffed
6. Bah, Humbug!

This competition is one for the fun at heart with an additional $25.00 to the best selected collection (all fields must be covered to play for the additional prize money).

When sending in your photo, please label it with the title 1-6.

Email your photos to merriwa2-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

Merriwa Ringer
**Merriwa Touch Football Club**  
**MIXED COMPETITION SIGN UP**

The sign up sheets for the mixed comp are out and about and are filling up fast and the time is running out. If you are interested in playing and haven’t put your name down, then come to the desk on Wednesday night to get it in as this will be the last chance. No late names will be taken.

**GAME BEHAVIOUR**

This week the games ran a little smoother with most participants following the code of conduct. Lets hope the coming weeks can only get better and more enjoyable for all, keeping the spirit of enjoyment alive on the field.

**SAFETY AT THE SPORTS OVAL**

This week the committee would like to remind everyone of a few safety issues that have arisen in the past couple of games.

Firstly the issue of driving around the oval. When arriving and leaving the Sports ground, please travel at a safe speed. There are many children that are about on touch nights and are very hard to see when coming out from behind cars. At some of the speeds that motorists are arriving and leaving, it is only a matter of time before an injury will occur UNLESS you take just a moment longer to arrive and leave and use a more suitable speed for the night/day.

The second issue is glass on the oval. We realise that touch is a very thursty game and we hope that you are able to revitalise your thurst but the committee ask that no glass be taken past the white fence boundary at any point.

And as one last little reminder, please enjoy your choice to smoke from behind the white fence.

Tina Taylor

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**Merriwa Little Athletics**  
Continued from page 31

Jorji excelled in the 70m, missing out on first by 0.01 seconds but was delighted with her second while sister Darcy burned up the track to win the hurdles and her 100m heat, placing in long jump and the 200m.

One of the most astounding performances on the weekend was from Dylan Keane. Dylan was determined to qualify for regionals but made us wait till his last event, the 200 metres. With his older brothers stationed around the track for support, mum Belinda hollering from the start gun, dad Jason and the rest of the Merriwa crew lined at the finish line Dylan ‘lifted’ like never before leading from the start and thundering home to first place. We did have your back Dylan, but you were so focused and determined, you really ‘won’ that race on so many levels. Remember that feeling!

Special thanks to the wonderful support crew – the amazing parents and grandparents – carting them to Cessnock, keeping them all ‘fed and watered’, putting up and pulling down tents, taking care of younger siblings and cheering everyone along - it felt good to be part of ‘Team Merriwa’.

A slight hitch with the kind invitation from Denman to attend their Christmas party on December 10 - it clashes with St Joseph’s students awards night! Oops. If any MCS kids would still like to go, you are very welcome just let me know at training. We will hold our last training for the term on Monday December 15(as always, weather permitting!).

Tash Taaffe

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Remember!  
Get your articles and advertisements into the Merriwa Ringer  
BEFORE 12.00am Monday.  
Last Ringer is December 18

Tash Taaffe
**Merriwa Little Athletics**

Something very special happened on the weekend which our club can be very proud of.

Eight of our athletes travelled to Cessnock to compete against 12 clubs including five of the biggest regional clubs in the zone - Singleton, Cessnock, Maitland, East Maitland and Kurri Kurri - in the Hunter Zone Championships.

And I am delighted to report all eight athletes achieved a first or second place in at least one event securing them a place on the Hunter Zone team to compete at Regional’s in February. An incredible achievement for a country club of 30 kids against clubs of over 300 members!

Ben, Jackson and Dylan Keane, Clancy and Darcy Moore, Axul Hourn and Jorji and Darcy Taaffe all recorded personal bests in extreme weather conditions.

Ben slipped into the ‘team leader’ role inspiring younger athletes with his own great results and encouraging younger members in every event. He flew over the high jump to second place, took out the 400m with ease, came a very ‘good’ second in the 800m and third in the 1500m against some record beating competition and placed a fast second in the 200m.

Clancy Moore put his long legs to good use against a very talented field placing fifth in the 400m and 200m, third in long jump and topped his first zone carnival with a brilliant second in the high jump.

Darcy Moore was equally impressive taking home a personal best in the 200m, fifth in long jump and after a stellar run in the 800m a highly deserved second place.

Axul Hourn had a cracker first carnival jumping to second place in the long jump, First in the 100m and did a superb job holding his own in the high jump and 400m. Great work Axul.

Jackson Keane surprised us all – and perhaps himself – with some incredible throws that took him to first place in the javelin, second in the discus and third in the shot put. Looks like you have found your specialty Jackson!

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### DECEMBER

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 6</td>
<td>Merriwa Sports Club Christmas Party - 6.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 14</td>
<td>Carols in the Park</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 17</td>
<td>Last day of term for students at MCS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 18</td>
<td>Last Merriwa Ringer for 2014</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 20</td>
<td>Merriwa Markets - RSL Club footpath, Bow Street</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 24</td>
<td>Christmas Eve</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 25</td>
<td>Christmas Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 31</td>
<td>New Years Eve</td>
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### JANUARY

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 1</td>
<td>New Years Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 29</td>
<td>First Merriwa Ringer for 2015</td>
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**Interested in placing an advert in the Ringer?**

Contact Tina Taylor on 6548 2119.

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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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The **Merriwa Ringer** - Merriwa’s only Not-for-profit newsletter serving the community for 24 years.

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