Gummun Place Market Day a success

Gummun Place market well supported by locals. (Story on pg 35)

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Highlight your Community Event

The 2014 ROSTO Olives Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces 6, 7 and 8 June

OPENING NIGHT CELEBRATIONS

SPONSORED BY MERRIWA TYRE AND SERVICE CENTRE

Celebrate the Australian Wool Industry with a night of fun to be had by everyone at the Merriwa RSL Auditorium. Bring a friend, your family or come along by yourself and join in the opening night celebrations of the 2014 ROSTO Olives Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces bought to you by long time opening night sponsors Merriwa Tyre and Service Centre.

Be dazzled by Di’s Clothing Patch “Runway of Woolen Fashion” and see what local amazing products are produced by wool which can be purchased locally.

Merriwa’s very own ELECTRO DANCE PARTY SERVICES will entertain the evening SPONSORED BY COAL AND ALLIED.

Entry of $5 per person or $15 per family ticket, with children attending being the age of 5 years or older. Meals will be available through the RSL Bistro, and refreshments from the RSL bar. Bookings will be essential as seating will be limited.

Book your seats early with tickets available through the Merriwa Visitor Information Centre, Vennacher Street, Merriwa, or for further enquiries phone on 6521 7046.

Thank you for your sponsorship to date,

MAJOR AND NAMING RIGHTS SPONSOR
ROSITO Olives

MAJOR SPONSOR
Upper Hunter Shire Council

MINOR SPONSORS
Ausgrid
NBN Television

GOLD MAJOR EVENT SPONSORS
Merriwa RSL
Lenore’s Quilting and Martins Transport
The Campbell Family

SILVER EVENT SPONSORS
Curtis Gant Irving Solicitors
Hunter Mutual
Alexiam of Merriwa Preserves and Cookery
CWA Merriwa

BRONZE EVENT SPONSORS
Merriwa Pharmacy
Anthea Wright Veterinary Services
The Royal Hotel Merriwa
Merriwa Tyre and Service Centre
Falcon Grove Oils
Upper Hunter Fire Protection
The Welcoming Centre
Coal and Allied
Merriwa Auto Electrical

COMMUNITY AND IN KIND SPONSORS
Hunter Sports Group
Max’s Country Cuts
Tullymore Clydesdale and Shire Horse Stud
The Denman Hotel, Restaurant, Motel
RM Property and Livestock
James Constable
James Bettington

If you are interested in sponsoring a Festival event please contact;

P: Liam Garment 6521 7046
Primary News

STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

As usual our Students of the Week continue to impress teachers with their diligence. Comments made by the teachers last week included “this is a student who always uses their best manners and tries their hardest”, “this student presents their work with pride”, and “this student is trying hard to complete more work with each activity”. These comments are great and it’s wonderful to hear of such great learning occurring in our classes every week. Congratulations to last week’s book award achievers:

**Kindergarten Class:** Miriam Harrison

**1/2 Class:** Paige Whitby

**2/3 Class:** Jack Fairhall (absent)

**4/5 Class:** Tamika Drury

**5/6 Class:** Jamie Constable (absent)

CROSS COUNTRY

Last Friday the Primary students participated in their Cross Country Carnival which doubled as the Fun Run Fundraiser. We all had a wonderful day and the students were in good spirits as they cheered their peers on while running. Our 11 and 12 year old students ran 3km, 8, 9 and 10 year olds ran 2km and students 7 years and under ran 800m.

Students did a wonderful job of following the course and giving their best at running a long distance. The highlight of the day was watching our older students run onto the field to keep our youngest students going while they were tired. As they came upon the finish line you could hear our senior students saying “that’s it! You can do...”

Coming Events

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| Friday 21           | Secondary Cross Country  
                       | Primary Assembly - 9.15am  
                       | Senior Citizens visit, 10.45am  |
| Saturday 22         | Star Struck fundraiser - Car wash  
                       | Emergency Services building - 10.00am - 2.00pm  |
| Monday 24           | Secondary Formal Assembly - Great Hall - 8.55am  |
| Tuesday 25          | Primary/Secondary Parent/Teacher Interviews - Primary 3.30pm to 6.30pm and Secondary 5.00pm to 7.30pm  |
| Friday 28           | Primary Zone Cross Country  |
| Monday 31           | Yr 12 exams - continue until April 4  |

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| Wednesday 2         | Secondary Cross Country - Zone  
                       | P and C meeting – Merriwa RSL Club - 7.00pm  |
| Friday 4            | Primary Assembly - 9.15am  |
| Friday 11           | Rewards Day  
                       | Last day of Term 1  |
| Monday 28           | Staff return for Term 2, School Development Day  |
| Tuesday 29          | Students return for Term 2  |
Life in the Humanities Faculty continues to be very busy and students are working very hard in class, finishing off their first units for the year. Congratulations to the Year 12 students who worked conscientiously on their assessment tasks this term. Now it’s time for revision for the half yearly exams coming up in Week 10.

There are two major events coming up.

**SENIOR DEBATING**

Merriwa’s senior debating team (Lizzie, Courtney, Taylah, and Georgia) are debating against Maitland High’s two senior debating teams on Tuesday 25 March. I would also like to welcome the new junior debaters to our team, Abbey Dewson, Tarah Cox, April Eipper and Breanna Goodear and wish them luck in debating against our senior team at the school this term.

**Brianna Hall**

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**YEAR 4/5 CLASS REPORT**

Year 4/5 has had an excellent start to the year, with all students trying their very best in all subjects. I have also been extremely impressed with their cooperation and communication with each other inside and outside of the classroom.

In literacy we have been focusing on responding to and interpreting the different themes in the novel ‘The Boss of the Pool’ by Robin Klein.

Students have also enjoyed creating their own art portfolio this term and experimenting with a range of different techniques.

In Numeracy Year 4/5 have been working very hard on building upon their accuracy and speed using the program ‘Fast Maths.’

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**Secondary News**

**FACULTY NEWS**

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**Mrs Rebecca West**  
**Assistant Principal**

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**Year 4/5 CLASS REPORT**

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**Miss Talia Laurie**  
**Class Teacher**

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**SECONDARY NEWS**

**FACULTY NEWS**

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**Brianna Hall**

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**Merriwa Ringer**
**The Rotary Model United Nations Assembly (MUNA) is scheduled for the 23 and 24 May 2014. We are very excited to announce that we have registered again this year with a team which consists of Taylah Blackadder (Year 11), John Cronin (Year 10) and Leah Wright-Riley (Year 10) as a reserve.**

MUNA promotes international understanding and goodwill which is one of the objectives of Rotary International. It also provides students with the opportunity to learn about other cultures, increase their debating skills and meet other students from around the Upper Hunter region.

Prior to the Assembly in May, the team will undertake research based on the country they have been allocated and resolutions that will be debated and discussed in May.

We would like to thank the Merriwa Rotary Club for their ongoing sponsorship which has allowed students to participate in this great opportunity.

_Tessa Roe_

**STAR STRUCK**

So far the Star Struck girls from both Primary and Secondary have been busy fundraising for their upcoming performance in Newcastle this June. To date the girls have conducted a sausage sizzle at the swimming carnival, lolly guessing competitions, ice-cream stall and a cupcake stall. We are very thankful for everyone's support so far.

This weekend Star Struck will be conducting their biggest event, a Community Car Wash, at the Emergency Services shed on Bettington Street, this Saturday 22 March. Bring in your car, ute, truck or trailer and have it washed for $10.00 to help our Star Struck Primary and Secondary girls raise money for costumes, transport, food and accommodation. We really appreciate your help.

_Lana Grant, Rebecca Hopkins, Rebecca West, Talia Laurie_

Star Struck Coordinators

**DANCE PRACTICE**

Dance practice has been in full swing this term, preparing for our Star Struck dance auditions. The girls have put in the hard work and effort, and we’ll find out soon if we have been successful in gaining a spot in this rewarding dance experience! In the meantime, our fundraising has been going strong.

**PARENT TEACHER INTERVIEWS**

**TUESDAY MARCH 25**

Please phone to arrange a time to meet with your child’s teacher.
In class, our Year 9/10 Photographers are busy planning, filming and editing short 60 second films for the ‘My Story My Content Short Film Competition’, with the theme “Movies... Make a Difference”. There are prizes to be won and there have been many zombies on the loose during filming. Our Visual Arts students have also been busy experimenting with a variety of drawing media.

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**SCHOOL JERSEY AND JACKET ORDERS NOW DUE.**

Collect or download an order form today!

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**Favourite Subject:** PDHPE

**Extra-Curricular activities:** Touch Football in the local competition and Horse Riding

**Personal Best Achievement:** Getting my Cert II in Outdoor Recreation through Kurri Kurri TAFE

**Career Aspirations:** Personal Trainer

**Year Advisor’s Comment:** Paige is working hard at balancing her leadership role as School Captain with her school studies. She is determined to reach her goal as a Fitness Instructor. Her Year 12 class mates value her bubbly personality, kind, loving, fun and happy character. She is now busily preparing for her Half Yearly exams and setting goals for her future. Good luck for the rest of the year.

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**Writer of the Week**

“The anger continues. It is a fierce, controlling and cruel anger. It fights against all actions to control your mind. It fills your mind with irritated thoughts. It drips through your veins turning irrational thoughts into unthinkable actions. It executes any common sense left. It slowly and painstakingly builds its pressure... slowly pushing you to your limits making the anger unbearable. It drowns you. Its assault is everlasting. Its pressure suddenly snaps into a raging fury and it never stops.”

Luke Cronin
Year 9

**Career News**


The Construction and Property Services Industry Skills Council is pleased to announce the official launch of the website Industry Women Central. IWC is the place for women in, or looking to enter, the Construction and Property Services industries to go to collaborate, share ideas, and find out information on upcoming events and opportunities. It also provides access to education scholarships,
When did you start in ROAR? 2011
What is one of your Sporting goals for 2014? To win a Grand Final for Merriwa
What is one of your Academic goals for 2014? To hand in every assignment
What is one of your personal goals for 2014? To go to a Panthers match
How do you want to be remembered once you have left school? As a good person who had respect and learnt well.

OPEN DAYS
Charles Sturt University: MyDay Program for 2014
Albury-Wodonga
27 May: Community Health
11 June: Teaching and Education
Dubbo:
17 June: MyDay
Orange:
11 June: Agriculture
30 June: Orange
Port Macquarie:
26 June: InfoDay
Wagga Wagga
12 June: Teaching and Education
13 June: Agriculture
24 June: Nursing and Biomedical Sciences
24 June: Creative Industries
26 & 27 August: Creative Industries (Y10)
http://www.csu.edu.au/go/myday
UNE Open day May 2, 2014 - Secondary students in Years 11 and 12, along with their parents and friends, will be able to find out all they want to know about living and learning at the University of New England when the University stages its annual Open Day on Friday 2 May.

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

Jane Hegarty
Careers Advisor
Last week we celebrated Catholic Schools Week and what a great success it was. Mr Collins, the director of our Catholic Schools Office summarised the importance of this week thus:

The theme for Catholic Schools’ Week 2014, “More Than A Great Education” reinforces the importance placed in Catholic Schools of preparing young men and women for much more than a career or work opportunities on leaving school.

It emphasises that a Catholic school endeavours to provide a holistic experience for its students that will assist them in every aspect of their lives.

In particular it focuses on the spiritual wellbeing of the student using as its basis the life and teaching of Jesus Christ. The importance of receiving a quality education in the mainstream subjects that prepare these young men and women for their post school years is not diminished by this but is enhanced by it ensuring that their contribution to society will be one that focuses on selflessness, care for others and a commitment to the less fortunate in our society.

Our challenge as Catholic Educators is to ensure that we provide “More than a Great Education” for the young people in our care today and into the future. An education that provides them with a life model that will enable them to sustain our society as a just, fair and compassionate one for years to come. It is a challenge that we readily embrace.

St Joseph’s day will be celebrated on Wednesday in conjunction with Harmony Day. St Joseph is the Patron Saint of our school. We know that St Joseph was the foster father of Jesus. We also know he was a carpenter and that he took great care of Mary and Jesus. Joseph is described as a “just” man, a “compassionate” man and a “poor and humble” man. St Joseph’s Day is a perfect match for the theme of Harmony Day which is - ‘Everyone Belongs’. This means that all Australians are a welcome part of our country, regardless of their backgrounds. It’s also a time to reflect on our nation’s heritage, recognising the traditional owners of the land. Community participation, inclusivity and respect are the guiding principles of Harmony Day and indeed of St Joseph’s School. At St Joseph’s school we celebrate the diversity of enrolments that we have. This is true to our Gospel call to be a school for “all”. In fact, Catholic schools in Australia proudly enrol a very similar percentage of special needs students as the public school system. In addition, we seek to actively support the poor – in all the poor’s manifestations. Those who are
financially poor we assist through fee remission, those who are struggling academically, pastorally and emotionally we support through our pastoral support systems, through our faith formation and through active engagement with families. We are also proud to be an integral part of the Church, where the dignity of the human person is paramount for us, and where we offer a chance for children to come to know a God that loves them unconditionally and that our schools are a place of belonging – for students and for families.

The safety of our students is of paramount importance to us. For this reason no parent or visitor is to go directly to the classrooms – this includes the 5/6 classroom. A reminder to any person entering the school grounds – you must sign in and out at the front office. Thank you for your attention to this important procedure.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING AWARD WINNERS

Kindergarten - Aidan Hunt – For supporting others to make good decisions
Bethany Wightman – For displaying care and concern for others
1/2 - Cody Bates – For making responsible decisions
Helena Parker - Being able to explain to the class about proper nouns
Riley Melmeth - For great efforts in writing and spelling activities
3/4 - Thomas Hunt – for working well in Reading groups
Tia Magner – for her great work and persistence in Maths
5/6 - Darcy Moore – for his ability to recognise equivalent fractions
Nicole Martin - for demonstrating knowledge of location of apostrophes
Playground Champion - Olivia Collins – for sharing Uno Cards and creating a fun activity
Principal’s Awards - Darcy Moore - For being a hardworking and conscientious student

Patrick McLaren - For being a happy and friendly playground participant.

Mrs Helen Whale
Principal
WEEKLY AWARDS

- **Katie Pike** - displaying school values
- **Shanay Turner** - excellent effort in writing
- **Isabella Wallace** - fantastic effort in writing
- **Noah Adams** - participating well in PE
- **Isabella Pike** - listening well in class.

WORKERS OF THE WEEK

K/1/2 - Riley Borradaile and Kayden Adams
3/4/5/6 - Nickolas Roberts, Jackson Stair and Angus Higgins.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Olivia McLean - outstanding sportsmanship on the field

ROAR ROADSHOW

The ROAR roadshow will be visiting next Wednesday. All students Years K-6 will participate in a training session with the ROAR team.

GO GO GOLF

Our first session of Go Go Golf will take place on Friday 21 March. All classes will participate in both golf and putt putt sessions. Sharon Nott will be conducting the activities.

CASSILIS CROSS COUNTRY RESULTS

- **5 year boys** - first Harry Thompson, second Kayden Adams, third Noah Adams.
- **5 year girls** - second Isabelle Pike.
- **7 year boys** - first Lucas Stair.
- **8 year boys** - second Andrew Harris.
- **9 year boys** - second Dusty Dunn Turner.
- **11 year girls** - second Amy Thompson.
- **11 year boys** - first Angus Higgins.
- **11 year girls** - third Tylana Cox.
- **12 year boys** - second Jackson Stair.

Congratulations to our place getters and to all our students who tried their best. The students are to be congratulated for their behaviour on the day also.

Thank you to our teacher and parent drivers on the day.

Christina Darlington
Principal
We are a bit behind in our news so we are going going back a few weeks as we have a few thank you’s to say. Firstly to the Merriwa Branch of UHSC for their assistance in erecting the new fence. The children are enjoying the extra safe playing area that has been gained. A big “thanks” to Bruce for all the extra work he has put into making the Merriwa Activity Centre/Pre-School area so much more welcoming and so much nicer to look at. Thanks to the now disbanded Merriwa River Rally Association for their donation of $1000.00 to Merriwa Activity Centre. Money from the Rally Assoc. was also donated to Merriwa Little A’s and Merriwa Pony Club, we will all find the extra money very handy for future projects.

Another big thank you goes to the Merriwa community for supporting our fundraising efforts at the street stall and car washes which we raised $600.00. “Thanks” to Eva for selling 100 club tickets for us, what would we all do without people like Eva who are willing to give so much of themselves to our community. We will continue our fundraising efforts throughout the year, we have so many plans for our new playground and it all takes money. Just a reminder for those who frequently buy from Merriwa Hardware, you could also be helping out both Merriwa Activity Centre and Pre-School by asking to have your cash purchase put onto either of our loyalty cards. Our services work together and as the funds grow on the loyalty cards we are then able to purchase something for our service. We will thank you now in advance.

The children have been enjoying a variety of things over the past weeks. The wooden blocks have made a big comeback, with some great sheds and cattle yards being built and filled with vehicles and animals. The newly purchase circus/juggling equipment still comes out most afternoons, we are all getting better at spinning plates although the diabolos are getting the better of us. Any experts out there? We have been cooking, jumping hurdles, playing soccer, cooking some yummy afternoon teas and generally keeping busy.

Vacation care is looming once again, our program is complete and filled with some great activities. Our excursion will be to Lue Pottery. The children really loved our last visit there. They get their hands dirty in the clay which is then left there to be fired and collected later on. We will then go on to Mudgee for a picnic lunch at Mudgee’s beautiful Lawson Park and stop at Hands on Rocks on the way home. Another planned activity is a “camp out day” where we will set up tents, make damper and cook sausages over a fire and do some other camp type activities. More on that in the following weeks.

Over the next few weeks we have planned activities like craft, sport, group games and fire drills.
Congratulations Harry!

Week award for numerous reasons. Firstly, he brought in all his homework that he did while he was away from school. This included his home reading books and log book. By Harry continuing with his learning while he was away from school, he was able to settle back into school routine easily. Secondly, at PE lessons, Harry’s overarm throw on Tuesday was excellent and he very keen to participate. Thirdly, he worked really well with his partner on their Harmony Day poster. Harry was kind and enthusiastic during Active After School was an active participant in each activity and supported his partner. Harry consistently follows school rules and is a lovely and friendly student at Cassilis. Congratulations Harry on this award. You are a very deserving recipient.

Let’s get to know the Student of the Week a little better…

What is your favourite food? Apples
What job would you like when you are older? A sheepherder
Apart from your family, who is one of your role models? Brady because he is big and a good person
If you were given $100, what would you buy? A toy snake (remote control) to scare people
What is one thing that people may not know about you? I’m good at football
What has been your greatest achievement? Writing

A GREAT ROAR EXPERIENCE

Last Wednesday Mr Johnston and Merriwa Central School students (and some passed Cassilis students) Corey Nairne, Matt Hayden, Lachlan and come to visit for the morning to demonstrate the advantages of the ROAR program. ROAR is a sports based welfare program for male students from Year 6 through to Year 12. It is about working hard, physically and mentally. ROAR stands for respect, ownership, awareness and rewards. Students were encouraged to participate in sporting activities while working in two groups, younger and older children. All students enjoyed throwing, passing, having a try to store tries.

A game of Walla Rugby finished off the morning session. The message of ROAR was spoken to the students and they thoroughly enjoyed the morning. A huge thank you to Merriwa Central for this great opportunity!

It was also lovely to see some of our past Cassilis students doing a great job preparing food and catering for our Principal’s meeting at Merriwa last Thursday.
ANOTHER GREAT CROSS COUNTRY!

Cassilis was the proud host of another challenging run through the bush. We were joined by 140 students from Sacred Heart Coolah, Martindale, Sandy Hollow, Ulan and Wollar. All students did a brilliant job and should be congratulated. Even finishing the run is an excellent achievement.

Congratulations also to Jack Nairne, who came third in the 9 years race, Thomas Nash, who came second in the 11 years race, Brady Nairne, who came third in the 12 years race, Allira-Jayde Blyton, who came third in the 7 years race, Maddison Turner, who came second in the 10 years race and Sarah Nairne who came second in the 12 years race.

A successful and big event like the cross country is certainly a team effort and needs a lot of support and organising. Thank you to everyone who contributed.

Special thanks to the P&C Committee for providing the recess and lunch, Mike and Mrs A Nairne for setting up and marking the track, The Martin family (Ant and Barb) for the use of their land and slashing the track beforehand, the staff of our great school and all the parents and staff who either helped on the track or with the finishing line. We can’t wait for next year!

Student recounts will be in next week’s edition.

Katie Burgess
Principal
Last Saturday, 8 girls and boys attended a very successful junior cookery day at the CWA rooms. They cooked delicious Lemon Poppy Seed Muffins and Chocolate Chip Cookies. All participants will be presented with a certificate and cash prize kindly donated by Caroline’s Café.

Also Merriwa Branch CWA was excited to have their President, Aunty Barbara, present Emma Khan and Piper Cropper with their Junior CWA membership badges. If you would also like to become a junior member of the CWA please contact Barbara Campbell 6548 5131.

Trinity Markets

The end of summer clothing sale is now on at Trinity Markets. Come in and look for a bargain. We cater for all sizes from babies to adults. There are also bargains to be found.

At our recent Annual General meeting, secretary Enid Holt retired due to ill health and manager Karen Walmsley and assistant Jean Scott resigned their positions. We sincerely thank them all for the time and effort they spent in those positions.

Please remember, we do not have a drop off point for items for sale except by special arrangement or during shop opening hours.

Phone contact for Trinity Markets is now Olive Hancock on 6548 2323.

Thank you also to all our volunteers who have spent many hours in the shop during the past year and also to everyone who supports Trinity Markets.

Don’t forget our end of sale on now.

Greetings from the Trinity Markets volunteers.

Beatrice Voysey

Merriwa Ringer

To all our Patient’s we would like to thank you for your loyalty during the last couple of months. We are now open five days a week, Monday to Friday. For any enquiry or bookings please phone 6548 2305.

Influenza vaccines are now available at Merriwa Surgery. These are free for those 65 years and over and are available to everyone else on prescription. Wishing you all a healthy season. For bookings please contact the surgery.

Elen Salama and staff

“I enjoy all the community news, it keeps me connected. I read about the local businesses, schools and community groups.”

Linda Miller
Our hours currently are:

**MERRIWA:** 8.00am to 6.00pm Monday, Wednesday and Thursday
**DENMAN:** 8.00am to 6.00pm Tuesday and Friday.

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

Flu vaccinations are now available at our surgery. Any patient aged 65 years and over is entitled to a free vaccine. Individuals with Cardiac Disease, Diabetes, Respiratory Disease and Pregnancy are also entitled to a free vaccine. We also have flu vaccines available for sale at $15.00 each for anyone that does not fit the criteria. Please phone 6532 5013 to make an appointment.

Meredith Llewelyn, our practice nurse is in our surgery every Thursday. Meredith is available for pathology, immunisations and Antenatal checks.

Kerry Collins, our practice nurse is in Merriwa on Wednesday and Denman on Tuesday. Kerry is a registered nurse, a Diabetic Educator and a Clinical Nurse Consultant in Diabetes. She has many years of experience and is a great asset to our practice. Kerry is available for appointments on both these days.

We also have a Psychologist, Sharon Wells, from Scone visiting our surgery every second Monday. To see Sharon you do need a referral from Dr Jawaad.

**Merriwa District Progress Association Inc**

The special guests at the March meeting of the Merriwa Progress Association will be Councillor Michael Johnsen, Mayor of Upper Hunter, together with the new General Manager Waid Crockett.

Anyone in the Merriwa area with concerns to raise with Upper Hunter Shire Council should come along to the RSL on Wednesday March 26 at 6.00pm.

**Contact:** 0429 996 769

**Regular Church Services - page 25**

**DATE FOR YOUR DIARY**

Women’s Guild meeting - first Thursday monthly
March to November: 2.00pm

Messy Church - Last Friday monthly March to November: 3.30pm

Men’s breakfast - Third Saturday monthly March to November: 7.30am - this month it is 22 March

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

AGM: Holy Trinity 23 March at 10.30am

Messy Church: 28 March at 3.30pm

Palm Sunday: 13 April

Good Friday: 18 April

Easter Sunday: 20 April

Please call the parish phone 0429 996 769 for all matters that need to be attended to and Church Services times.

The season of lent is upon us.....

**40 DAYS - 40 WAYS TO LOVE LIFE THIS LENT**

11. Christians abstained from eating meat during lent. So consider joining millions of fellow Christ- followers around the world in this fast

12. Give up eating out for 40 days and donate the money you save

13. If you are really brave, try living on $2.00 - a day for 40 days, the way millions of families around the world are living every day

14. Give up your favourite little luxury purchases (chocolates, Itunes, magazines, books, shoes, specialty coffee, electronic gadgets, etc) and send the money you save to an organization that provides help to the victims of the Haitian earthquake

15. Walk, carpool, bike or bus it.

Bless our homes with the light of your presence. may the bright light of Christ shine within us and scatter any darkness that is around us.

**Contact:** 0429 996 769

Rosalie Drew
EMERGENCY+ A New Smartphone APP; to help people in emergencies.

This fantastic new app is called Emergency+ will help ensure all people in Australia are able to call the right number to get help in an emergency, and to understand what’s required of them when they make that call.

The app was developed with initial funding from FRNSW and a software developer ‘360 Entertainment’ in response to a number of problems experienced by emergency call takers and emergency service officers. Often mobile callers do not know exactly where they are when making calls to emergency centres. This means that call processing times are longer and call-takers are unable to take the next incoming call. Without an accurate location, emergency services personnel are also unable to dispatch resources or their arrival on the scene is delayed.

Research has shown that many people don’t know the NSW State emergency Services (SES) or Police Assistance Line (PAL) numbers. As a result non-emergency calls often take up emergency call-takers lines. The Emergency+ app uses the existing GPS functionality of smartphones to enable callers to give emergency call takers their accurate location. It includes SES and PAL numbers as options so non-emergency calls are made to the most appropriate number.

The apps information page includes details of other relevant national numbers such as Crime Stoppers and Healthdirect Australia. When activated, the built in accessibility features describe aloud what appears on-screen, so a caller can even use the app without seeing it.

I thoroughly recommend that everyone, including our younger drivers, downloads this free app today. Remember to look for the Emergency+ app, not the word ‘plus’ as this is different.

As we know by living in a rural area, if we have an accident on the road, we do not always know our exact location between country towns, whereas this app will give our exact location which in an emergency situation may be the difference between life and death.

NEW RECRUITS STILL NEEDED

If you are looking for a challenging and exciting way to help the local community, would like to learn new and useful skills, be part of a team, and live within 10km from Merriwa, then why not think about joining the Merriwa Fire and Rescue NSW service.

Males and females are needed to help fill our wonderful new Fire station, and upon joining you will enjoy the sometimes challenging experience as well as receiving a small remuneration for your time.

Please contact Captain David Redgate 0428 482 469 or Deputy Captain Annie Rodgers 0408 482 778 or go to our website and look at Retained Fire fighter recruitment; fire.nsw.gov.au

Deputy Captain Annie Rodgers

Our Annual General Meeting was held on Thursday 27 February, 2014. The new committee is:

President: Kay Taylor
Vice President: Julie Smith
Secretary: Elaine Sparrow
Assistant Secretary: Jan Cronin
Treasurer: Sue Cronin
Assistant Treasurer: Debbie Hunt
Delegate: Jenny Johnson
Program Officers: Louise Hunt and Margaret Wright
Publicity Officer: Elaine Sparrow.

Congratulations to the new committee and a special thanks was given to Debra Hunt who is having a spell from the committee after a continuous 20 years. Well done Debra and thanks.

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday 27 March 2014 and will be held at the Indian Spice and Grill – 7.00pm for 7.30pm, BYO drinks. The donation to our learning bags for the month of March will be pencils – lead or colour. If you can help, bring your donation to the dinner meeting. Attendance and/or apology to Elaine by Monday night 24 March, 2014.

Merriwa VIEW invite all ladies in our community to come along and join our club. Membership is $15.00 per year and we meet on the fourth Thursday of each month at different venues around Merriwa. Our meal each month costs $25.00 The VIEW money raised from our club is donated to The Smith Family who are a valued part of all VIEW Clubs. We are a friendly club with a very relaxed attitude. Our Dinner Meetings are a great way to come out and enjoy the friendship of women from our town, enjoy a meal that you haven’t had to cook, and have a relaxing night in great company. Think about joining VIEW, ask a friend to join with you. Give Elaine Sparrow a call for bookings or talk to any VIEW member.

Elaine Sparrow
Secretary
Merriwa Ringer
Open to all ages!
Families and singles come and enjoy
FRIDAY 11 APRIL
No. 2 OVAL MERRIWA

SESSION ONE - 6.30pm Wreck it Ralph (PG)
SESSION TWO - 8.30pm Jack the Giant Slayer (M)

STRICTLY ALCOHOL FREE EVENT
CANTEEN FACILITIES AVAILABLE  BYO RUGS/SEATING

FREE  COMMUNITY EVENT PRESENTED BY
UPPER HUNTER YOUTH SERVICES
A Letter of Thanks

The weekend of The Royal Hotel’s 100 Year Anniversary Celebrations seemed to be an appropriate occasion for us to research Family History links. Our party of eleven consisted of eight direct descendants of Edward and Flora O’Keeffe.

Staying at the ‘B&B on Bettington’ was a treat and we commend our genial hosts Peter and Pam Lott on the luxuriously appointed rooms and delicious breakfasts.

Friday night pizza has never tasted so good... traditional woodfire pizza at La Scaletta Pizzeria. Saturday we picked up some lovely handmade crafts and edible treats at The Gummun Place Hostel Market Day (even won a barrel of chocolates in the raffle)! The ladies shopped till they dropped at various stores in town and we all stopped for lunch at the RSL and after evening Mass retired for a delicious Dinner at The Royal.

The Historical Society and The Hut provided invaluable information as did the generosity of several lovely folk from St Anne’s Catholic Church.

So if you were scratching your head wondering “who are those crazy people and what are they doing?” as we trooped up the hill cameras in hand, that was us, reconnecting with your town, our past and having a thoroughly good time.

Thank you.

The O’Keeffe Family

Third generation descendants of Edward and Flora O’Keeffe (‘Charleville’ - prev located near Lawlers Lane)

In Memory
CHRISTINE ANN HARMS
2 JULY 1954 - 18 MARCH 2011

Dearly loved, sadly missed but forever in our heart!

Samantha, Jean, Jennifer, Tina and families

Merriwa Pre-School and Activity Centre
AGM AT MERRIWA RSL CLUB

When: 27 March 2014 at 6.30pm

Any person wishing to nominate themselves for a position must nominate by 6.00pm on meeting night.

To do this, you can contact Merriwa Pre-School to obtain a form and return it the secretary or address it the secretary and leave it in secretary’s pigeon hole at Merriwa Pre-School.

Gaynor Blackadder

Merriwa Rugby League Football Old Boys Club

Time to form Merriwa Magpies Old Boy’s Club.

Meeting to be held on Tuesday 25 March at the RSL Club starting at 7.00pm, ex players and officials needed.

Matt Morgan

Merriwa Bookies

Merriwa Bookies, an enthusiastic group of readers, meet at the town library on the first Thursday of each month at 7.00pm. Books are supplied to the group and there are no costs involved, just your time. The next meeting is on Thursday 3 April, we’d love to see you there.

Jayne Cronin

Mens Breakfast

Men of Merriwa, The next men’s breakfast will be this Saturday 22 March at the Parish Hall 7.30am.

We Look forward to seeing you all and don’t forget, bring a friend for a great morning of friendship and a hearty breakfast.

With Thanks,

Allen Reed

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.
Thank You

We would like to thank the Merriwa Community for all the support given to Basem, Sandra and I on the passing of our beloved husband and father. Words cannot express the feeling of sadness and loss but knowing the community were able to attend Ramses’ funeral, all the cards received and prayers was a great comfort.

Elen, Basem and Sandra Salama

Messy Church
MARCH

Unfortunately it was a damp start to our first Messy Church for 2014, but the rain was well received by our farming families in the district.

I hope you enjoyed the movie and catching up with everyone over dinner.

Our next Messy Church will be on Friday 28 March at the Anglican Parish Hall at 3.30pm.

The craft activities will centre around lent and Easter with some great Easter gifts for you to take home.

Carol Bowman
Messy Church team

Stephen Williams
(KNOWN AS DICK WILLIAMS)

Dick passed away 10 March at Killarney Vale nursing home. Partner of Pat, father of Vicki, Peter and Sharon and grandfather of seven.

Sleep in peace.

Pat Wright

Photography Competition

Entries close: 11 April
At 12 noon

Topic for the month is:
DRY AND DUSTY

The winning photo will receive a prize to the value of $50.00 from the monthly sponsor and this month it is sponsored by:

STAY-N-PLAY PRODUCE

Remember!
Get your articles and advertisements into the Merriwa Ringer BEFORE 12 noon MONDAYS.

Published First Week Back of Term 2
It is the lead-up to Easter and we have decided to give away something that will lead to a delicious, chocolate-filled Easter. Every full-size cookbook sold during the month of March will receive a FREE mini AWW Chocolate Classics cookbook. This mini cookbook is a must-have for any chocoholic (or anyone who cooks for one!) there are biscuits, slices, cakes and desserts that will have your mouth watering in no time. I can personally vouch for the deliciousness of the Golden Syrup Chocolate Cake with Fudge Icing (it is divine!!!)

Any cookbook will get you one of these, including Slow Cooker, Birthday Cakes Vintage Edition, Classic Retro Recipes, Party Food, Recipes From Around the World, Babies and Toddlers, The Cook’s Garden, Symply Too Good to be True, Weight Watchers and so many more. Cooking magazines and mini cookbooks are not included.

EASTER STORY COMPETITION

Do not forget that all primary students in Merriwa, Cassilis and Sandy Hollow are eligible to enter our competition for Easter. Students must write their own original story based on their favourite book character. The stories will be judged and prizes awarded before school holidays begin. All students must include their name, class, school and the book their character is from. The winners will receive a box-set of 14 Mr Men and Little Miss books. We cannot wait to see what the students come up with and we will be displaying them in the shop over the Easter break.

EASTER CARDS

We have a great range of Easter cards in store now. It is officially time to start thinking about all those we love, far and near, and a card is the first place to start. Come in and get one today.

MAGAZINES

Downunder - This is a must as there is a great article about Shire Horses featuring our very own Maurice Irvine. It is not often that a local gets such recognition, so come and see it today. There are also some lovely wedding photos of Trent and Kelly Cooper.

South Pacific Bowhunter - the latest issue of this semi-annual magazine is available now, and is popular among those who are fans of bow hunting and archery.

AWW Puzzle Book - the latest puzzle book is now in stock and has over 200 pages of any kind of puzzle you can imagine. There are 950 chances to win prizes and 250 puzzles to keep your brain active!

Nature and Health Annual Nutrition Guide - this is a great magazine for those who want to keep in shape or get healthy. It is full of great ideas to help you start a healthy lifestyle, as well as inspiration to keep at it. There are recipes for all-day energy, super foods, alternatives to milk, information about toxins, cholesterol, how to live longer and look younger by making wise food choices, how to detox naturally and healthily, and so much more. There is something here for everyone.

Central West Lifestyle - this beautiful magazine is full of great destinations just around the corner from us. There is a fabulous spread on Mudgee, filled with beautiful photography and interesting pieces that you may not know about. The Autumn edition has something for everyone - business, food, education, travel, events, local legends, stylish homes and gardens, beautiful clothes and so much more. As ANZAC Day draws near, there is a look at a local man’s tribute to the fallen.

SPECIAL NOTE: for anyone who is interested in learning more about the Merriwa Website, there is a meeting being held at the RSL Thursday 20 March at 6.00pm.

Provider of Telstra and Optus phones, SIM cards, phone and internet credit.

EFTPOS available.

Neville and Leanne Hook

Merriwa Pharmacy

On behalf of all at Merriwa Pharmacy, I would like to extend our condolences to Elen, Basem, Sandra and the extended Salama family on the loss of your husband, father and friend Ramses. The outstanding effort that our doctor and friend made for our community would not have been possible without your love, understanding and support.

It has been a privilege to work so long with a professional of such standard and calibre as Dr Salama. The great skill, dedication, compassion and good humour with which he approached his working life was evident to patients and colleagues alike. His work ethic and dedication to his patients over many years has been outstanding and has made all working around him aim a little higher
incurred, visual damage is mostly irreversible, and this has led to glaucoma being described as the “silent blinding disease” or the “sneak thief of sight”.

Glaucoma is the second most common cause of blindness worldwide. It is predicted that almost 80 million globally will have glaucoma by 2020, which will leave 11.2 million blind in both eyes. It is estimated that currently 4.5 million persons globally are blind due to glaucoma.

In addition to the fact that first-degree relatives have a very high likelihood of suffering from the disease, if someone in your family has glaucoma, you are almost three times more likely to have it yourself. And the risk of developing glaucoma increases as you get older. You are also at greater risk of getting glaucoma if you have diabetes or high blood pressure, if you are short-sighted or if you get migraine headaches.

In the early stages of glaucoma, most people experience no symptoms, even when losing their sight. Nevertheless, there are sometimes warning signs. Some people may notice a need to change their glasses more often, perhaps find it hard to see in dark rooms, lose wide vision, or have blurred sight.

Unfortunately, glaucoma can’t be cured but the serious consequences of glaucoma can be prevented if the condition is discovered soon enough; and early treatment, usually with eye drops to stabilise the pressure in the eye, can help avoid further loss of sight.

Glaucoma can be detected in a number of ways. An eye specialist or optometrist can measure the pressure of the fluid in your eye and the nerves and blood vessels in your eye can be checked for damage. In addition, your fields of vision can be tested for blind spots or sight loss.

Importantly, it has been estimated that more than 10% of visual loss from glaucoma is because the prescribed eye drops are not used properly. Whether this is due to occasional forgetfulness or a deliberate or accidental failure to follow the doctor’s directions, the unfortunate result is the same. So, check with your pharmacist that you’re using you eye drops to the best advantage.

Advice about glaucoma is available at Merriwa though the Glaucoma and Vision impairment fact cards which are available at Merriwa Pharmacy.

Robert Smith
Following the discovery of the New World the whole of South and Central America plus a large part of southern North America was soon colonised by Europeans with Spain annexing most of that area, including modern day Mexico and Texas. Exceptions were Brazil (Portugal), and the small colonies of British, French and Dutch Guineas north of Brazil. The Caribbean islands were also colonised, mostly by Spain, France and Britain. The ancient South and Central American peoples such as the Incas, Mayans and Aztecs were soon disposed of and the Spaniard Pizarro (b. 1476, d. 1541) has, justly or otherwise, at least historically been designated the chief murderer.

The first European settlers in more northern North America since Eric the Red and his brethren were the Pilgrims of Mayflower fame, and they established their first colony on the east coast of America at Jamestown in 1607. The Pilgrims went there to escape persecution in England because of their extreme religious beliefs though, as often happens in our less than perfect world, when they reached a place which one might think they would have been anxious to make persecution free, they themselves set about persecuting anyone who did not conform strictly to their religious views. This included such happy practices as burning witches, and the town of Salem, Massachusetts, deservedly or not, has lived down the centuries as one of the places in which such activities occurred.

However, it has to be admitted that the Pilgrims were not totally without heart or mercy because, if the victim confessed to being a witch, the Pilgrims would tie a bag of gunpowder round her (it was mostly a women) neck to hasten death. You might be surprised how many witches, truthfully or otherwise, chose to confess their unholy practices and thus receive gunpowder and a quick end.

Any fair minded person would have to agree that such use of gunpowder also had another worthwhile advantage, that is that, since the victim had confessed to being a witch, the Pilgrims knew with certainty that they had not unjustly executed an innocent person. As another aside, we are often mildly critical of the Americans because of their apparently peculiar spelling of some English words. One of these, for instance, is their spelling of “plough” as “plow”, yet strictly speaking they are more correct than we are.

The “plow” spelling came to America with the Pilgrims more than 400 years ago and, while the spelling in Britain and Australia has changed, in the USA it has not. Another example is the word “lieutenant” which we pronounce “left-tenant” and the Americans “loo-tenant”. Who is correct? Again, strictly speaking they probably are, since the “lieu” part of “lieutenant” is the French word “lieu” meaning “in place of” and here we still use the word at times on its own, and when we do so we pronounce it correctly as “loo”. It is also interesting that the French fiercely guard, or attempt to guard, the integrity of their language, and using such aberrations as “le weekend” are deeply discouraged. On the other hand, English has never hesitated to borrow countless words from other languages, including French, Indian and Chinese.

The original settlements gradually extended south down the east coast of what is now the USA till they reached Georgia and they eventually became the original Thirteen British Colonies of North America. The American flag began with 13 horizontal red and white bars to represent these colonies and later, as more came into being, the total number was also represented by an appropriate number of stars in a circle in the top left hand corner.

Later, probably as the number of states became too large to conveniently fit into the available circular space, they became lines of stars till they numbered 48, then with the advent of Alaska and Hawaii, the present day 50. Because the Thirteen Colonies were British Britain used them as bases for military operations and particularly the northern states like Maine, Vermont, New York and New Hampshire to fight the French who were in the process of colonizing Canada which is immediately to the north of those states.

Therefore there was much fighting taking place even in those days and not only with the Indian inhabitants who were being dispossessed of their land, but also the French, particularly in the Seven Years War between Britain and France (1756-1763). The culmination was when the British finally drove the French out of most of what they owned in Canada and the British General Wolfe with his army laid siege to Quebec where the French General Montcalm had holed up with his army. Montcalm was certain his position was impregnable, though of course history is littered with defeated Generals who believed their position to be exactly that, impregnable.

One good example of this was the German General Lyman von Sanders, one of the victorious Generals of Gallipoli (the other being Kemel Ataturk).

In 1918, he had his 10,000 German and Turkish troops dug in with artillery and machine guns to bar the approach to Palestine’s Beersheba. It appears he viewed the arrival of 2400 dirty,
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Max Wurcker

Don’t forget to get your Dry and Dusty photos in before April 11!
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Merriwa Ringer

ragged, thirsty Australian Light Horsemen without fear since he knew he was quite safe. Later, after the Light Horsemen had charged and put his army to flight, he is reputed to have said: “We knew we could not be defeated, yet we were. These Australians are not men, they are devils on horseback”.

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Merriwa Ringer
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 March 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 email rcox@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au.

APPRENTICE HEAVY VEHICLE MECHANIC

2nd Year Based at Scone Depot

Council is calling for applications from apprentices who have completed their first year as a heavy vehicle mechanic. We offer a learning environment that gives our apprentices exposure to a varied and diverse range of vehicles and plant.

The major tasks of this position will be:

- to provide fleet maintenance services to Council
- assist with repairs to plant
- general workshop maintenance

regular attendance at TAFE to obtain trade qualification

Potential applicants are encouraged to obtain further information regarding the position from David Boag on 0428 466 205.

This position has a salary range of $516.60 to $746.60.

Download the job description and application form or obtain a copy and further information to assist in applying for a position at Council by contacting Wayne Phelps on 02 6540 1160 during business hours.

Applications must address the skill requirements contained in the job description.

Applications close at 4pm on 21st March 2014. Applications must be in writing and addressed to the General Manager and may be sent by mail to PO Box 208, Scone, NSW, 2337; or fax to 02 6545 2671; or email to council@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTING OFFICER

Council is seeking a highly motivated individual with strong interpersonal skills and statutory financial knowledge to undertake the above position. The primary role of this position is to provide assistance to the finance manager in order for Council to meet its statutory requirements.

The position is a 35 hour per week position. The salary will be in the range of $1,033.40 to $1,211.70 per 35 hour week, in accordance with Council’s salary system. Other conditions are in accordance with the Local Government (State) Award and Council’s policies and procedures.

Download the job description and application form or obtain a copy and further information to assist in applying for a position at Council by contacting Wayne Phelps on 02 6540 1160.

Applications must address the skill requirements contained in the job description.

Potential applicants are encouraged to obtain further information regarding the position from Wayne Phelps on 02 6540 1160.

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MARCH COUNCIL MEETING

The next Council meeting will be held in the Council Chambers, Scone on Monday, 24 March commencing at 5pm. Public participation is scheduled at the beginning of the meeting.

Requests to address Council must:

- be received in writing by noon on the day of the meeting
- address a current agenda item

All members of the community are welcome to attend.

P: Robyn Cox 6540 1126
MEDIA RELEASE
12 March 2014

THE REWARDS OF READING

Eleven enthusiastic readers were recognised this week for their participation in the Upper Hunter Libraries Summer Reading Club.

The children recorded the books they had read in ‘passports’ which were returned to the library to follow their progress.

This year the theme for the Summer Reading Club for children aged 6 to 12 years was ‘Investigate’.

The successful readers were rewarded with Summer Reading Club certificates and $20 gift vouchers.

Hundreds of books are discovered by children in the annual program said Upper Hunter Library Co-ordinator Elizabeth Walter.

“You can’t start too early when it comes to encouraging children to read.” Mrs Walter said.

Most of the five Upper Hunter libraries also have activities for younger children and their parents as well.

Scone Library has:
- Baby Talk on Wednesdays from 10.30am
- Toddler Time for children 18 months to three years every Tuesday at 10.30am
- Activities for three to five year olds are held every Friday also at 10.30am.
- For more information on activities at your local library phone:
  - Scone Library 6540 1183
  - Aberdeen Library 6540 1303
  - Murrurundi Library 6540 1363
  - Merriwa Library 6521 7007
  - Cassilis Library 6376 1295
  - 6521 7050 or see their Facebook page www.facebook.com/MerriwaYouth.

Michael Johnsen
MAYOR

MERRIWA CTC & VISITOR INFORMATION CENTRE NEWS

The Introduction to Computers Office 7 TAFE Outreach course is well underway with 12 very excited and eager to learn participants. With this class being full and held every Wednesday from 10.00am to 1.00pm, no computer use is available to the public during this time, although computer access may be gained via the assistance of a staff member.

The Centrelink and Medicare Access point is however available for all Commonwealth Government Human Services enquiries.

FREE Wi-Fi access will be available at the centre during hours of operation only. From 9.00am to 5.00pm Monday to Friday and from 10.00am to 3.30pm on weekends. Outside of these hours Wi-Fi access will be turned off.

The centre is also pleased to announce that eight new computers with new larger screens have been purchased and will soon be installed at the centre. These computers will provide the community with the most up to date technology with faster internet speeds.

For the youth of Merriwa, a variety of new computer games are also being purchased for your enjoyment outside of school hours. Over the next twelve months more computer games will be sourced based on the feedback of the youth who utilize these new facilities.

The seniors of Merriwa will benefit from the centre’s recent success in gaining a government grant for one more senior’s computer which will be installed shortly. This computer will have Windows 8 installed onto it and FREE training will be made available to any senior wanting to learn in a one on one teaching environment.

Computer courses for the whole community will also commence shortly, to be held on various days and at various times to allow the majority of interested participants to attend. The class sizes will be small, with each lesson being 2 hours in duration covering what you want to learn.

For more information and to lodge your interest in participating in future courses, please call in personally or phone:

P:  Liam Garment 6521 7046
**Merriwa District Education Foundation**

President: Ivan Gant  
6376 1044  
Secretary: Jane Hegarty  
6376 1052  
Treasurer: Lesley Nixon  
6548 2225  
Supporting rural youth

**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: Aileen Hogan  
0455 455 760  
www.nswfarmers.org.au

**1273 Flags Road Merriwa**

$450,000

Situated on 104 acres this home has been freshly renovated with 4 big bedrooms, the main with an ensuite and walk in robe. A large lounge with combustion fire and an open plan family, dining, kitchen area. The kitchen is in excellent condition with dishwasher + walk-in pantry. Covered entertainment area overlooking the pool. Water is supplied via a bore, 66,000L of fresh water storage + 2 dams. Fenced into 2 paddocks both with water, triple garage + numerous smaller sheds.

**16 Gumman Lane Merriwa**

$85,000

Land for sale boasting outstanding views over Brindley Park and beyond to the mountains. 3684sqm in size there is ample room for the shed, a pool, the kids to play and your new home. The driveway is already constructed, water connected and power is at the boundary.

**5 McRae Street Merriwa**

$220,000

Well situated home with 3 big bedrooms, two with built ins + all with ceiling fans. 2 Living areas, living/dining area is large and has RC Air + combustion fire. The kitchen is in excellent condition and the bathroom has been renovated in recent years. Outside in the fully fenced yard is a lock up garage and carport. There is a private entertainment area coming off the living room.

From the JTS Realty Team - Jay, Tiffany, Jenny, Sofia and Jill. VIEW AT www.jtsrealty.com.au
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Secretary: E. Shipway
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NEIL HUNT 6548 2025

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Muswellbrook 02 6543 2433
Merriwa 02 6548 2205
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&F President - Dermot Shannon

Merriwa Central School
Primary Campus: 6548 2101
Secondary Campus: 6548 2119

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

Cassilis Public School
6376 1009

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

2013/14 season training from 5.30 to 7.00pm
Merriwa No. 2 Oval
(throughout Terms 4 & 1)
Enquiries to: Tash Taaffe
6548 5002 or email: tashholden@bigpond.com

LITTLE ATHLETICS
Merriwa Rugby League
Football Club
President – Matt Morgan
Snr Vice President – Mark Kirkland
Jnr Vice President – Lee Cronin

MERRIWA FITNESS CENTRE
Mondays 5.30Pm
Tuesdays 6.00am
Wednesdays 5.30pm
Personal Training at your own home or in the Gym also available
Other classes available
Annie Rodgers
0408 482 778

MERRIWA PONY CLUB
RALLY DAY 2ND SUNDAY
OF EACH MONTH
President: Clare Martin 6548 2201
Secretary: Christine Riley 6548 8584
Treasurer: Bronwyn Redgate

Merriwa RSL Club
Restaurant Snack Bar
Take Away
Lunch Specials Monday-Friday
Lunch & Dinner 7 days
Parties & Weddings a specialty
ATM, SKY CHANNEL
CLUB TAB, CLUB KENO
DARTS, SNOOKER, POOL
Friday - Raffles and 3 Members Badge Draws
Sunday - Raffle Members Badge Draw between 11.30am & 1.30pm - Jackpots $50 per week.
Club: 6548 2157
Restaurant: 6548 2295
For the information of members and their guests

Merriwa Pre-school
Our Centre is open Monday - Friday and caters for children 2-5 years.
Providing Quality Early Childhood Education
Enquiries Welcome
Ph 6548 2083
Fax 6548 2480

Merriwa Ringer

Advertise here!
Get your business seen supporting the Merriwa Ringer

Merriwa Touch Football
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Enquiries to: Tash Taaffe
6548 5002 or email: tashholden@bigpond.com

Little Athletics
Merriwa Rugby League
Football Club
President – Matt Morgan
Snr Vice President – Mark Kirkland
Jnr Vice President – Lee Cronin

Merriwa Sports Club Ltd 6548 2028
Golf, Bowls, Squash, Patt Patt, Darts, Pool, ATM and Club Keno
Opening Times:
*Monday & Tuesday - 4pm *Wednesday - Sunday - 12pm
Thursday Night 7:00pm Bingo
Friday 5:00pm - 7:00pm Happy Two Hours and Free raffles
Saturday - 7.45pm Monster raffles and members’ badge draw
Sunday: 5:00pm to 7:00pm meat voucher raffle and members’ badge draw.
The Sporties Chinese/Australian Restaurant 6548 3228
Dine in or Take Away. Banquets and Function catering available.
Lunch Specials
Lunch: Wednesday to Sunday,
Dinner: Tuesday to Sunday

Merriwa Tennis Club Association Inc
PRESIDENT
Loretta Cooper 6548 2679
SECRETARY
Rose Medcalf
TREASURER
Mark Morris
Day - Night Junior Competitions Court Hire

Merriwa Ringer

Advertise here!
Get your business seen supporting the Merriwa Ringer

Merriwa Rugby League
Football Club
President – Matt Morgan
Snr Vice President – Mark Kirkland
Jnr Vice President – Lee Cronin

Merriwa & District
LITTLE ATHLETICS
2013/14 season training from 5.30 to 7.00pm
Merriwa No. 2 Oval
(throughout Terms 4 & 1)
Enquiries to: Tash Taaffe
6548 5002 or email: tashholden@bigpond.com

Clubs
Cassilis Bowling Club
PH: 6376 1002

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Merriwa Ringer
The Members Lucky Badge for $750.00 was won on Friday at 8.30pm, the number was 654. This week it commences at $500.00. The 7pm draw for $440.00 was not won. The number was 123. This week it jackpots to $460.00. The 9pm draw for $280.00 was not won and the number was 485. This week it jackpots to $300.00. LTPS/13/04473

The Sunday Morning Badge Draw for $550.00 was not won last week. The number was 255 and this week it jackpots to $600.00. 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 Club now has a new juke box in the games room with over 15,000 selections and is up dated every two weeks with new songs.

Saturday 19 July 2014, The Beach Boyz Tribute Show.

Matt Morgan
Secretary/Manager

If you need assistance from
Ambulance - Police - Fire
including Hazardous Incidents
DIAL 000

Merriwa Phone Numbers

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police (Administration only)</td>
<td>6548 2203</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Mobile</td>
<td>0408 293 423</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Assistance Line</td>
<td>131 444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Brigade (Administration only)</td>
<td>6548 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital</td>
<td>6532 5000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural Fire Service</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>(Administration &amp; Duty Officer)</td>
<td>1800 081 166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SES Emergency Number</td>
<td>132 500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Rescue Squad</td>
<td>6548 2538</td>
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</table>

When reporting an incident to the Police, always request and record your Incident Reference Number

Cassilis Bowling Club

Friday night Snack Bar
Affordable family meals.
Friday night raffles

LAST WEEK’S RESULTS

Joker Draw: $737 – Paula Palmer - unsuccessful - $773 next week.

Bookings: Cassilis Bowling Club 6376 1002.

Hilary Parker

Merriwa Sports Club

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

Mondays - Happy Hour - 4.00pm to 5.00pm - Social Darts - 7.00pm
Tuesdays - Rotary meets - 7.00pm for 7.30pm
Thursdays - 7.00pm Bingo and Super 39
Fridays - Happy Hour - 5.00pm to 7.00pm and free raffles - nine prizes
Saturdays - Monster Raffle selling from 7.45pm, 40 prizes plus 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. Casual Bowls and Golf also available.

WEEKEND RESULTS

Saturday 15 March 2014
Saturday Members Draw no 130 won next week $100.00.
Winners Jackpot not won drawn next week $300.00.

Free Tickets: Nita Tudor
Dinner: Ken Bevan
Bowls Raffle: Dale Quinney

Sunday 10 March 2014
Sunday Members draw no 69 not won next week $300.00.

TRANSPORT SERVICE IS AVAILABLE FRIDAY

Don’t take the risk and drive when for $3.00 per person you can be chauffeured home.

To access the transport service you must book through the Sports Club to check availability of the service.
BINGO - NOTE CHANGE OF TIME
Every Thursday night commences 5.00pm. Tickets on sale at 4.30pm.
Win Sporties vouchers for meat and other business houses plus SUPER 39 $100 gift voucher.

DON'T FORGET SOCIAL DARTS
Mondays 7.00pm draw for partners. All welcome.

THE SPORTIES
Chinese/Australian Restaurant - Smorgasbord last Sunday in the month.
All you can eat entree, main and dessert.
$18 Adult $12 children under 12.
Shan and Jinna also have lunch time specials for $8.00.
Open for lunch Wednesday to Sunday 12 noon to 2.00pm. Dinner Tuesday to Sunday 5.30pm to 9.00pm. Closed Mondays. Reopens 5.00pm Tuesday. For bookings and take away - call 6548 3228.

THE SPORTIES ENTERTAINMENT LINE UP
Smorgasbord
Sunday 30 March.

John Rindfleish

LADIES BOWLS NEWS
On 11 March several cars of bowlers headed west for the Coolah friendship day. It was a most enjoyable day.
Cassilis will be holding the next friendship day. More details when they come to hand.
Our championships are still in progress with some very good games being played.

Beatrice Voysey

MEN’S BOWLS NEWS UNCLASSIFIED
I would like to start this report with some thanks, First of all to the Lady bowlers for purchasing our new mats, they worked; we had a very strong six nil win over the very strong Muswellbrook RSL Club, thanks Ladies, to Eva for as usual doing the Fifty club every Saturday, and to Ken and Garry for all the work on the green and surrounds, last of all to Des for his continual work ethics. It has been a long time since we have had a better bunch of blokes and Ladies associated with this club.

Teams for Saturday at Denman. 1 Phil, Jim, Garry and Max. 2. Greg, Ken, Allan and Jeff. 3. Kevin, Robert, Scott and Terry.

Phil Rush (Rabs)
Merriwa Pony Club

The Merriwa Pony Club has ‘lost’ numerous witches hats, PVC pipe and fittings used to mark out the dressage arena from the Pavilion in the last few weeks. If anyone knows where they have gone please return them to the showgrounds before this weekend as we desperately need them to run our two day show.

The Combined Training program will run this Saturday from 8.30am with A to F grade showjumping and dressage for all ages. There will be two rings at the Presidents Cup day on Sunday, an 8.30am start with rider classes, showjumping and sporting events.

Merriwa Pony Club members, please attend the Busy Bee to set up for our show on Friday 21 March from 4.00pm. We need help setting up for sporting, showjumping and the dressage rings. All help young, old, small and not so small greatly appreciated. Don’t forget to bring a slice or cake to share for morning tea both days.

Tash Taaffe
Publicity Officer

Merriwa Cricket Club

The cricket season has almost come to a close with the grand final being played this weekend in Scone. Unfortunately neither Merriwa side has made it to the grand final, however Merriwa Thunder put up a valiant effort on Saturday against Belltrees in the Final going down by one wicket.

The presentation will be held at the Merriwa RSL Club at a date to be determined.

The players and committee would like to say a huge thanks to our 2013/14 sponsors and hope they all come on board again next year. Without the support of these wonderful businesses Merriwa Cricket Club would not be able to field two sides.

- Merriwa RSL Club - Major Sponsor
- Frampton Freight
- Merriwa Sports Club
- Merriwa Pharmacy
- Max’s Country Cuts

I would like to offer an apology to the Merriwa Sports Club as they have been a sponsor for this season and many more prior to this one, and were inadvertently left off our list of sponsors. Thank you for your continued support and assistance when needed on game days.

Kate Blackadder

Good Luck to Merriwa athlete Ben Keane who will be representing our club and the Hunter Zone in the 3000m event at the NSW State Little Athletic Championships in Sydney.

Tash Taaffe
President
**Merriwa Doctor Contacts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Doctors</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Dr N Jawaad</td>
<td>6532 5013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Dr R Salama</td>
<td>6548 2305</td>
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<td>Merriwa Hospital</td>
<td>6532 5000</td>
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**Emergency Contacts**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Services</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Merriwa Police</td>
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<td>6548 2538</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Hospital</td>
<td>6532 5000</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**Ringer Online**


**Remember!**

Get your articles and advertisements into the Merriwa Ringer. BEFORE 12 noon MONDAYS

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**Directory**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cassilis Bowling Club</td>
<td>6376 1002</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cassilis Public School</td>
<td>6376 1009</td>
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<tr>
<td>CJ &amp; JM Vero</td>
<td>6548 2303</td>
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<td>Craig McPherson Haulage</td>
<td>6548 2663</td>
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<td>Cross Country Merriwa</td>
<td>6548 2106</td>
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<td>Curtis, Irving &amp; Gant</td>
<td>6543 2433</td>
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<td>Custom Made Kitchens</td>
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<td>Di’s Clothing Patch</td>
<td>6548 3023</td>
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<td>Festival of the Fleeces</td>
<td>6521 7046</td>
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<td>Hunter Mutual</td>
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<td>Merriwa Activity Centre</td>
<td>6548 2082</td>
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<td>Merriwa Amateur Swimming Club</td>
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<td>Merriwa Anglican Parish</td>
<td>0429 996 769</td>
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<td>Merriwa Caravan Park</td>
<td>0418 668 402</td>
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<td>Merriwa Catholic Parish</td>
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<td>Merriwa Central School: Primary</td>
<td>6548 2101 6548 2119</td>
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<td>Merriwa Central School P&amp;C Association</td>
<td>6548 2119</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa CWA</td>
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<td>Merriwa District Progress Association</td>
<td>6548 2245 6548 3060</td>
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<td>Merriwa Engineering</td>
<td>0427 476 085</td>
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<td>Merriwa Healthy Environment Group</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Junior League &amp; Netball</td>
<td>0437 482 375</td>
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<td>Merriwa Little Athletics</td>
<td>0427 799 222</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Magpies Rugby League Football Club</td>
<td>0411 800 255</td>
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<td>Merriwa Newsagents</td>
<td>6548 2031</td>
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<td>Merriwa Junior League &amp; Netball</td>
<td>0437 482 375</td>
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<td>Merriwa Little Athletics</td>
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<td>Merriwa Pre-School &amp; Kindergarten Association</td>
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<td>Merriwa Race Club</td>
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<td>Merriwa RSL Club Restaurant</td>
<td>6548 2157 6548 2295</td>
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<td>Merriwa Rotary Club</td>
<td>6548 2025</td>
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<td>Merriwa Springtime Show</td>
<td>0498 378 500</td>
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<td>Merriwa Tennis Club</td>
<td>6548 2679</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Tourist Welcoming Centre</td>
<td>6548 3201</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Tyre &amp; Service Centre</td>
<td>6548 2078</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Tennis Club</td>
<td>6548 2679</td>
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<tr>
<td>Nutt Contracting</td>
<td>6548 2004</td>
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<tr>
<td>R&amp;M Moore Rural Support Services</td>
<td>0427 153 446</td>
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<tr>
<td>Russell’s Earthmoving</td>
<td>6548 2246</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scott Witton Building</td>
<td>0427 761 169</td>
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<tr>
<td>St David’s Uniting Church</td>
<td>6548 5131</td>
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<tr>
<td>St Joseph’s Primary School</td>
<td>6548 2035</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tash Holden Communications</td>
<td>6548 5002</td>
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<td>Trinity Markets</td>
<td>6548 2323</td>
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<tr>
<td>Upper Hunter Shire Council - Merriwa</td>
<td>6521 7000</td>
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<td>Woolbrook Rural Industries</td>
<td>6548 2150</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**WANT TO BE IN THIS?** Call Tina Taylor at the Merriwa Ringer on 6548 2119
Hostel Market Day

A Resounding Success!

The 2014 Hostel Market Day held on Saturday 15 March was a resounding success! Early estimates are that around $3,500 was raised for the Hostel. This money will go towards purchasing a new Medical Alert System for the residents so they can call for assistance from staff wherever they need it within the Hostel.

Thank you to all those who came down to support the event, without your support the event would not have been so successful.

On behalf of the committee I would like to thank all the volunteers who contributed to the day. Thank you to the volunteers who braved the damp foggy morning to help set up marquees and tables. To the team from the Merriwa Men’s Shed who started bright and early cooking the BBQ breakfast and the team from the Rotary Club of Merriwa who cooked the BBQ lunch.

Thank you to all those who cooked, made craft items, donated goods and especially to those who gave up their day to work on the stalls. We would not be able to have this great event without your support. Thank you also to Merriwa Volunteer Rescue Squad, Hunter Mutual, Merriwa Tyre and Service Centre and Rotary Club of Merriwa for the use of their marquees. Big thank you to Merriwa Emergency Services for the use of their power for the food stalls.

The winners of the major prizes on the day were:

**RAFFLE**

First Prize – Five Nights Accommodation for four people at the Queensleigh Holiday Apartments plus a $200.00 Jetstar Voucher – Paul Carrall

second Prize - $50.00 Fuel Voucher – Loretta Cooper

**100 CLUB**

First: Fiona Morgan
Second: Ean Cottle
Third: Daphne Booth
### March

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 21</td>
<td>Seniors Week - Merriwa RSL Club home day - 10.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 22</td>
<td>Men’s Breakfast - 7.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 23</td>
<td>AGM Holy Trinity - 10.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 26</td>
<td>Merriwa Touch Football Semi Finals - Merriwa Sports Grounds - 6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 28</td>
<td>Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Merriwa Touch Football Grand Finals - Merriwa Sports Grounds - 6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 29</td>
<td>Upper Hunter Select Horse Sale and Working Dog Trial/Sale - Merriwa Showground</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Merriwa Rugby League and Ladies Austag home game - Merriwa Sports Grounds - from 2.00pm</td>
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### April

<table>
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<td>Friday 18</td>
<td>Good Friday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 19</td>
<td>Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - 7.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 20</td>
<td>Easter Sunday</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

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**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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