Commemoration of ANZAC Day

BAYOU’S POEM - ODE TO ANZAC DAY

They went with songs to the battle, they were young.
Straight of limb, true of eyes, steady and aglow.
They were staunch to the end against odds uncounted,
They fell with their faces to the foe.

They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old:
Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn.
At the going down of the sun and in the morning,
We will remember them.

They mingle not with their laughing comrades again;
They sit no more at familiar tables of home;
They have no lot in our labour of the day-time;
They sleep beyond England’s foam.
ANZAC Day will soon be here and we need to get our
collection for Sydney organised.

Easter this year falls just before ANZAC Day so the collection
has to be done a little earlier this year. We are planning to
ship to Sydney on Thursday 17 April with a top up delivery if
required on Tuesday 22 April.

Could you bring your harvest into the RSL Club from Tuesday
15 to Thursday 17 April.

We need as much as you can collect without harming your
plant. Do not cut back lower than 15cm from the ground
and always allow some growth points below where you
cut.

Volunteers are most welcome and needed at the RSL to
help in the collecting, sorting, trimming and packing of the
rosemary.

Please make contact if you have some rosemary to give
but cannot bring it in.

This summer has been difficult to put in young plants and
to do cuttings. The dry long hot days have caused us
particular problems at the herb farm.

The community has recently taken advantage of the break
to put in some more rosemary hedges. The Fire Brigade, the
RSL Club, the Convent and St Joseph’s Catholic School,
Merriwa Railway Station and Merriwa Sports Club have all
put in more plants. We must have at least 500 metres of
hedges in the town by now. What a great effort! We need
more so if you would like to add some rosemary to your
garden please talk with us so we can start planning next
seasons propagation.

The National Legacy Office recently heard of our
collaboration with Sydney Legacy and they want to
spread the word. It may be that the ABC will do a story on
our town this year as part of their build up to next year’s
Centenary of ANZAC Day.

We look forward to a great load of Merriwa rosemary
heading to Sydney.

Contact Mal Frame at the RSL Club or John Penninger on
0407 001 583.

John Penninger
It is incredible to find Term 1 coming to an end already! Year 12 students have completed their Half Yearly Exams and are anxiously awaiting their results.

**REWARDS DAY**

As part of our student welfare program we hold a Rewards Day each term to congratulate students who have done the right thing all term. Students who demonstrate school values such as persistence, respect for peers, being organised for learning and following school rules join in the activities on the last day of term. Students who have struggled to do this attend normal classes, and get a clean slate next term to participate in activities. I hope all students enjoy the Rewards activities on the last day of term.

**SEXTING**

Sexting is a modern phenomenon amongst teenage boys and girls. It involves sending naked images often to girlfriends/boyfriends via mobile phones or social media. As you can imagine with mobile phones, the internet and Facebook, once these images have been sent they cannot be retrieved and take on a life of their own, often at the detriment of the sender. Each year we run cybersafety workshops for students to empower them to take responsibility when using the internet. Please take the opportunity to discuss these issues with your child. If you would like further information about these issues check out Cybersmart resources for parents at http://www.cybersmart.gov.au.

**STAFF CHANGES**

It is with much sadness that we farewell Mr Glen Kite on Friday. Mr Kite has been appointed to Scone Public School as Assistant Principal responsible for leading professional development. This is a fantastic opportunity and we wish Mr Kite all the best in his new role. Mr Kite has provided valuable leadership to our students and staff and will be missed by our community. In Term 2 we will advertise for a new Assistant Principal and in the meantime hope to have someone relieving in the position in a temporary capacity.

**ANZAC DAY**

ANZAC Day falls on the last Friday of the school holidays. I encourage all students to show their respects on ANZAC Day by marching with the school as part of the formal commemorations. Full school uniform is required, and students should assemble in front of the RSL Club at 10.15am.

Please enjoy the Easter break, stay safe and join us refreshed to commence Term 2. A reminder that school starts for all students on Tuesday April 29.

Darren Noonan
Principal

**P and C**

The P and C committee is organising a Mother’s Day lunch on Friday 9 May. This will be a major fundraiser for us to assist Primary and Secondary students throughout the year. We would love volunteers to help at the event and with preparations the day before, Thursday 8 May. We have heaps of jobs where you can be of help even with the kids. So if you are available please contact Christine on 0427 412128. We would love to hear from you!

Maria Cameron

**CHANGE OF DATE**

**WHOLE SCHOOL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL**

will be held on

**Friday 2 May**

This is the first week back of Term 2.

**Coming Events**

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<th>APRIL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 11</td>
<td>• Rewards Day</td>
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<td>• Last day of Term 1</td>
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<td>Friday 25</td>
<td>• ANZAC March – Assemble at the Merriwa RSL Club, 10.15</td>
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<td>Monday 28</td>
<td>• Staff return for Term 2, School Development Day</td>
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<td>Tuesday 29</td>
<td>• Students return for Term 2</td>
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<td>Friday 2</td>
<td>• Whole School Athletics Carnival - Merriwa Sports Oval 1 and 2</td>
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<td>Tuesday 6</td>
<td>• Year 6 Impact Leadership excursion – Tamworth Memorial Town Hall, 7.00am-4.30pm</td>
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<td>Wednesday 7</td>
<td>• Merriwa Central School P and C meeting, Merriwa RSL Club, 7.00-8.30pm</td>
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<td>Friday 9</td>
<td>• Regional Cross Country – Broadmeadow Racecourse</td>
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<td>• P and C’s Mothers Day Luncheon</td>
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Primary News

SCRIPTURE SHOW

Last Wednesday April 2, our lovely scripture teachers presented a show about Easter for the K-6 students. Classes performed songs they had been learning during scripture sessions and everyone loved joining in with the singing and performing some actions. All students were treated to a chocolate egg at the end of the show. We would like to thank our scripture teachers Aunty Barbara, Mr Moors and Mrs Reynolds for all their hard work this term and we look forward to our activities next term. We would also like to wish Sister Brigit best wishes and hope to see you back at Merriwa Central School very soon.

WORKERS OF THE WEEK

At last week’s Friday assembly we were able to view some interesting and creative pieces of work created in class. Year 4/5 and 5/6 had some fantastic artworks, Kindergarten showed off their mathematics skills and Year 2/3 students share their great writing plans!

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Last week we presented books to students who had shown great improvement in the classroom. It is wonderful, every Friday, to find out what great efforts are being made by the students. Congratulations to last week’s book award recipients:

Kindergarten: Jack Cook
Year 1/2: Harry Cook
Year 2/3: Ellie-May Whitby
Year 4/5: Jye Kelly
Year 5/6: Nicholas-James Whitby

SNAKE TAILS

Students from the Primary classes went to the Great Hall on Tuesday 8 April to see the Snake Tails show presented by animal enthusiast Bob. Students heard lots about the life of different reptiles including their eating habits and where they live. Each reptile is Australian and many can be found locally around us! Students had an exciting time being able to touch and handle some of the animals. Thank you to Snake Tails for coming out and showing us some amazing creatures!

Rebecca West
Assistant Principal
Secondary News
STUDENT WELFARE WORKSHOP

Next term students from Years 9, 10, 11 and 12 will take place in a student welfare program called Love Bites. The program has been run at both Muswellbrook and Scone high schools over the past two years with resounding success. Love Bites is a ‘Growing Respect’ program that focuses on education about developing respectful relationships and violence prevention.

The program uses several presentation styles to actively involve both male and female students. Trained presenters will aim to raise awareness in our students in order to bring about attitudinal change regarding the prevention of violence against women. Students will also take part in a creative activity based around artistic expression or music creation to cement their learning and showcase their new understanding. The workshop is free of charge and lunch will be provided on the day. We are very happy to have the opportunity to be involved in this nationally recognised program.

Adam Johnston
Deputy Principal

BREAKING NEWS FROM THE MATHS DEPARTMENT: MATHS SUPPORT SESSION TRIAL

From the beginning of Term 2 any Secondary student will be able to access support for problems with Maths homework, assignments or class work by attending the Maths Support Session in the Secondary Library every Thursday afternoon from 3.45 until 4.45pm (except Week 3 - 15/5/14 as we will be attending a training workshop). Mr Lomax and Mrs Meyer will be available to provide assistance. This will be on a trial basis for the TERM and we will assess the need and effectiveness at the end of the term.

Students will need to come prepared with specific problems and not assume it is a Maths lesson. They will receive advice on how to approach the problem and may be guided to a Mathsonline lesson but they will be doing the work.

If students are interested in attending, they will need to collect a note from Mr Lomax during Week 1 for their parents to sign acknowledging that it is their responsibility if students leave before 4.45pm. With Half Yearly exams fast approaching this is an ideal time for students to seek assistance for any problems identified during revision.

This is also an opportunity to remind parents that all students have access to Mathsonline lessons through the internet. If they have lost their login and password they can get them from Mr Lomax or Mrs Meyer and also use these for revision. Any student with internet access problems at home can use the Library computers at lunchtime or during the Support Sessions on Thursdays.

We hope that students take up this opportunity to improve their knowledge and their success in Mathematics.

Gwen Meyer
Maths Head Teacher

YEAR 10 MOCK INTERVIEWS

Last Tuesday Year 10 students participated in the Mock Interview program. This involves the students applying for a position they would be interested in, preparing their resumes and attending an interview. Members of our community volunteered their time to interview the students and Merriwa Central School would like to thank the following people for their time and effort:

Mr Ed Shannon, Mrs Tash Taafe, Mrs Dee Patterson and Mr Rowan Rogers.
The students appreciated the effort they took in providing them with valuable feedback about their interview and areas they can look at to improve on their performance. Although students were nervous the panel of interviewers were very impressed with how well students had prepared themselves and the extent of their knowledge about possible career pathways into the industries they were interested in. Thank you to those community members for their help and assistance in preparing our students.

J E Hegarty
Careers Advisor

A WIN AGAINST ALL ODDS

Merriwa’s trusty Senior Debating Team, Georgia Cameron, Elizabeth Hagley and Courtney Gibbons, and their coach Miss Brianna Hall drove down to Maitland High School on Tuesday 25 March to participate in two debates against Maitland’s two top senior debating teams.

The three girls opposed two teams which each had four members, making the competition tough as they were outnumbered during each debate. The first round was difficult for our girls because they faced a tough Year 12 team consisting of both of Maitland High School’s captains. The topic was ‘That all decisions about a school should be made by the school’ and Merriwa were the negative team, arguing against this notion. They put up a good fight but were unfortunately defeated by Maitland who developed an outstanding model outlining how this notion was the best option for NSW schools.

Following a short lunch break and a second hour of preparation the girls partook in a second debate against Maitland’s Year 11 senior team. The topic for this round was ‘That violent video games should be banned.’ Our team lost the coin toss and thus became the negative side again, leaving them with the challenging task of arguing against the topic. However, the girls were able to prove that each of the other team’s arguments were implausible and thus won the debate.

The English faculty would like to congratulate Georgia, Elizabeth and Courtney on their success. Once again it was a pleasure to take Merriwa students away on an enjoyable excursion and we are all very proud of their efforts in debating this year.

ENGLISH HISTORY FACULTY REPORT

As Term 1 comes to an end and teachers and students take a well-deserved rest it is time to reflect on our achievements and look forward to the new term ahead.

You may be interested to know about what last year’s Year 12 students are doing this year. Of the 15 students who sat for the Higher School Certificate, eleven are continuing their education. Nine gained entrance to university. Two students are pursuing further education at Coffs Harbour and four are in different stages of entering the workforce. I’m sure you all wish them all the best for their future. On the topic of achievements it was great to see Miss Hall’s debating team still “punching above their weight” by competing on an equal basis and with some success against the
Favourite Subject: Legal Studies, I find it interesting and it is something I have always had an interest for

Extra-Curricular activities: League Tag and Campdrafting

Career Aspirations: To become a Police Officer

Year Advisor’s Comment: Billie-Jane has earned “Student of the Week” through the hard work that she puts into her learning. She has been a Peer Support Leader and aims to go into the Police Force once she has finished her HSC.

Lana Grant
Year Advisor

We are very happy to have a new member of the faculty, Miss Gemma Healy who is assisting students in literacy and numeracy. The following is a personal profile penned by Miss Healy introducing herself:

Hello, my name is Gemma Healy and I am a newly graduated Primary school teacher from Newcastle University. I have been working with students at Merriwa Central School for the past four weeks as a Learning Support Teacher. My role within Primary and Secondary is to work collaboratively with the classroom teacher to support students with additional educational needs and identify specific learning and support needs. I have been and will continue to work with small groups of students to assist with the areas of social integration, language and communication, literacy, numeracy and behaviour. I look forward to getting to know the students, family and broader community members throughout the year.

Tony March
English Head Teacher

One of the highlights of the year so far in the classroom is the effort Year 10 History students put into producing excellent essays in their assessable task on the Vietnam War. Their skills in structuring well-informed and thoroughly researched arguments were a credit to their conscientious approach. Mr Creamer is also very happy with the way his Year 8 LOTE and Year 8 Geography are working. The Geography students are developing their abilities to debate environmental issues.

Following a visit from the Wambangalang Environment Education Centre educational officers, Year 7 and Year 10 Geography undertook fieldwork activities based around the Merriwa River to assist them with their assessment tasks for this term. Year 7 are continuing to work on their first fieldwork report which has involved the processing of their water quality test results. Year 10 students have been working well on their Research Action Plans (RAPs) which have involved them determining an aim, processing relevant primary data collected from the Merriwa River and reporting their findings.

A timely reminder of some of the exciting opportunities fast approaching for students: “Red Socks” Bush Poetry Awards coming up on June 8. This competition will be hosted by three-time Australian Bush Poetry Champion Gregory North. Other competitions coming up include the ‘What Matters?’ Essay Competition (6 May) and The Bishop Essay Prize (17 September). Model United Nations Assembly 2014 (MUNA) will be held at Muswellbrook on Friday and Saturday 23 and 24 May. Miss Roe has organised this and two students have accepted this exciting challenge. The International Assessment for Schools Competitions (ICAS) this year will be held on the following dates:

Science (Wednesday 4 June), Writing (Monday 16 June), Spelling (Tuesday 17 June), English (Tuesday 29 July) and Mathematics (Tuesday 12 August). Students in Years 7 and 9 have been working toward preparing for the NAPLAN tests (Language Conventions and Writing on May 13, Reading May 14 and Numeracy May 15).

We are very happy to have a new member of the faculty, Miss Gemma Healy who is assisting students in literacy and numeracy. The following is a personal profile penned by Miss Healy introducing herself:

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Tony March
English Head Teacher

Merriwa Ringer
Year 3/4 have had a very busy term. Since our last Ringer article a lot has happened in our school. We were lucky enough to be involved in ROAR, when they visited our school, we were visited by Life Education. We particularly enjoyed seeing Healthy Harold again. Our visit to entertain the Senior Citizens at the RSL was also an enjoyable experience. Next week Holy Week will begin. This is an important part of the church year. Between all this we managed to get in a lot of quality learning and school work.

Our mornings this term have consisted English lessons which follow a balanced Literacy approach. The children have found this approach worthwhile and they are producing some great work, particularly in their writing. Our literacy sessions have also included: spelling activities, grammar and comprehension activities all based around a particular text. This term our main focus was on Anzac Day and the landing at Gallipoli.

In HSIE, we looked at community and remembrance. Here, our main focus was Australia as a nation, who we are, what we celebrate and commemorate and why. We also familiarised ourselves with symbols and emblems and how they are used. We also identified our state and national flags and floral emblems.

In Science and Technology we researched living and non-living things. This week we presented a talk to our class based on a living thing or non-living thing.

In PDHPE we have been learning about how positive relationships are formed and the importance of effective communication of feelings and needs in maintaining relationships. We also looked at the rights, values and feelings of others and devised strategies to solve problems, recognise and accept differences and manage conflict.

In Religion this term we have studied the topics ‘Working Together in Our Community’ and ‘Lent’. In our first unit we looked at some of the basic beliefs and practices of the church as well as ways we can belong to different communities. In the unit of Lent we have been learning the different practices associated with the Church Seasons.
Last Thursday our school held its Cross Country. Congratulations to all the children who participated and to our wonderful parents who were there to help us on the day. These events would not be possible without your assistance.

On a final note I would like to thank the staff, students and parents of our school community. This is my last term at St. Joseph’s after seven years. I have enjoyed my time at the school and my time in Merriwa. Thank you also to the Merriwa community who have also made me feel so welcome. I have enjoyed my time being involved in the wonderful sporting and community events which are held in Merriwa. I will always be grateful for the experiences I have had here.

**Congratulations to the following award winners for Week 10:**

**Kindergarten - Matilda Cronin** – for describing 2D shapes in our environment like a superstar!

**William Luke** – for showing great sportsmanship at the cross country carnival cheering everyone on!

**1/2 - Pia Henderson** - for being a good friend to everyone

**Ella Beaven** - for making some good choices at school

**Fiona Tomy** - for working well in the classroom

**3/4 - Jorji Taaffe** – for her well written account of the Gallipoli landing

**Chloe Towell** – for her great writing of a persuasive text

**Dylan Turner** – for his settled approach to Writing activities in the classroom

**5/6 - Clancy Moore** – for a totally awesome week of fantastic work ethic and leadership

**Tamara Sormaz** - for an outstanding effort and result in Cross Country

**Playground Champion - Ben Patterson** – for cleaning up rubbish and packing up without being asked

**Principal’s Awards - Seth Pepper** – trying so hard to care for others

**Eliza Peebles** - for giving up her time to represent the school so beautifully at the Stations of the Cross on Sunday, at St Joseph’s, Kilaben Bay.

Mr John Lannen
and 3/4

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**WHAT I LIKE ABOUT THE RINGER**

**WHAT THE COMMUNITY THINK ABOUT THE RINGER!**

“Sponsor blocks and advertising all together. I also enjoy reading the Community News (Notice Board)”

Suzie Fitzpatrick
WEEKLY AWARDS

Jackson Stair - excellent results in Mathematics.
Hunter Marsh - a kind and tolerant member of class.
Isabella Wallace - excellent contributions to class discussions.
Sam Thompson - application in writing.
Darcy Wallace - improvement in all areas.
Steven Allen - for working hard in maths.
Declan Adams - for good work in maths.

WORKERS OF THE WEEK

K/1/2 - Noah Adams and Mikayla Borradaile

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Natasha Marsh - consistent application in all areas.

ZONE CROSS COUNTRY

The Zone Cross Country has been run and all Sandy Hollow students did very well.
Angus Higgins won his age division and has been successful in making the Region Cross Country Team. Congratulations Angus. This event will be run next term.
Andrew Harris ran thirteenth in his division, Amy Thompson nineth, Tylana Cox eleventh and Dustynn Turner twentieth. Well done everyone.

Jeannie Harris

SMALL SCHOOL...BIG DIFFERENCE

It is our choices, Harry, that show what we truly are, far more than our abilities. J.K. Rowling

This first term has been a great term with many highlights and students achieving some personal learning goals. Next term we continue to be a school of excellent opportunities and high standards. I hope you all have a safe and happy Easter.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK - JACK NAIRNE

Jack Nairne has been awarded the Student of the Week for his continued effort when Mrs Shannon was providing the lessons last week. His maturing attitude saw Jack make mostly sensible decisions particularly in the classroom. He continued to be respectful and polite to all students and staff and produced some very pleasing results with his work. Jack is working through his draft story for the Easter writing competition. The introduction and body of the story show a talent for writing interesting stories to engage the audience. In the spelling test, Jack scored well including attempting the additional words that he is given each week.
In the playground, Jack has been seen making more safe decisions to help to minimise students getting accidentally hurt.

Congratulations Jack on your efforts last week. You are a deserving recipient and should feel proud of your achievements.

Let’s Get to Know the Student of the Week a little better...

What is your favourite food? Sausages
What career would you like when you are older? A cattle farmer
Apart from your family, who is one of your role models? Mat (mum’s brother)
If you were given $100, what would you buy? A wallet
What is one thing that people may not know about you? I love spices.

What has been your greatest achievement? Getting a place in this year’s cross country.

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Last Friday of this Term (11 April)

9:30am Easter Service at St. John’s Church in Cassilis

10:30am Recess at school (Families are encouraged to join us and bring their own picnic)

11:00 Easter Hat Parade

11:45 Assembly

12:15 Easter Egg Hunt

12:30 Lunch- (Families are encouraged to join us and bring their own picnic lunch)
HARMONY DAY

Congratulations to the new committee of the Association of the Merriwa Pre-School and Activity Centre. Our new executives are:

**President:** Scott Beaven  
**Vice - President:** Peter Holland  
**Treasurer:** Samantha Thompson  
**Secretary:** Richelle Kerns

They join many existing and new members for a total committee of 11. We are so pleased to have such strong representation and support from the families of the Pre-School community and beyond.

Friday April 11 is our last day of Term 1. The Pre-School will re-open on Monday April 28. April 11 and 28 will be pupil free days for the local primary schools and there may be some confusion with bus travel on both the last day of term and the first day back of Term 2. Bus travel is not advised on these days. We wish all our Pre-School families a happy and safe Easter with their families.

Shhhhh, I’ve had an email from the Easter Bunny himself, he will be at Pre-School everyday this week, surprising the children. We’ve been reading “The Little Blue Easter Egg” and telling stories about Easter experiences, the children made some lovely cups to collect their eggs. As we consider celebrations, we are asking for donations of fresh flowers for the care givers in our school community as we acknowledge Mother’s Day or Special Persons Day. Please deliver these to the school at the end of Week 1, Term 2 or the a start of Week 2. Please feel free to call the school, we are happy to collect them.

Harmony Day was March 21 it is a day of cultural respect for everyone who calls Australia home – from the traditional owners of this land to those who have come from many countries around the world. By participating in Harmony Day activities, we can learn and understand how all Australians from diverse backgrounds equally belong to this nation and enrich it.

Education is a key focus for Harmony Day. It is in the schoolyard and classrooms. Children will learn from each other and key people from the community, important lessons of respect and understanding of cultural diversity.

Belonging is what makes us want to be a part of something greater than ourselves. What does belonging mean to you? After almost 15 years of Harmony Day, it’s time to find out.

We created our own Didgeridoos - from cardboard cylinders and collage materials - it was a lot of fun this morning as we prepared for a visit from Adrian. We are so fortunate to be supported by Adrian Parker as we explore the Indigenous Aboriginal culture and develop our understandings.
Easter Activity Page

HAPPY EASTER

Easter Jumble

Unscramble the Easter words and write them on the blanks. Then rearrange the underlined letters to discover the message on the basket.
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

With such a vast topic, and the way our weather had been up until the start of March, there should be years worth of photos for people to put forward for this month’s competition. Ideas could include:

- dirty children
- wilting flowers
- dried up dams or creeks
- farming
- service men and women after a hard day

With such a vast topic, the ideas are endless, so take a moment and sort through your photos and email them to merriwa2-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

PUBLISHED FIRST WEEK BACK OF TERM 2
DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Women's Guild meeting - first Thursday monthly April to November: 2.00pm

Messy Church - Parish Hall - Last Friday monthly April to November: 3.30pm

Men’s breakfast - Parish Hall - Third Saturday monthly April to November: 8.00am

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Palm Sunday: 13 April - begins Holy Week - 9.00am “Holy Trinity”

Maundy Thursday: 17 April - Foot washing Service 6.00pm followed by Seder meal parish hall 7.00pm. Everyone Welcome

Good Friday: 18 April - 10.00am Service Holy Trinity

Easter Sunday: 20 April - Holy Trinity Merriwa - 9.00am Father Bill’s last service with us.

St Columba Cassilis - 11.00am with Rev’d Pat.

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 CONTINUES

33 Listen more.
34 Get more involved in your local church.
35 Skip the elevator and use the stairs.
36 Adopt a child.
37 Give up the snooze button on your alarm.
38 Be less judgmental.
39 Pick up litter.
40 Give up alcohol – and donate what you would have spent.

And… so ends our 40 days - 40 ways to Love Life this lent.

And so we learn the events of Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, Holy Saturday and Easter day are central to the Christian faith, and are so momentous that people need to set aside the time during this season of preparation to reflect on them deeply.

Happy Easter to you all and when you bite into your hollow Easter Egg proclaim “The Tomb is empty, Christ is Risen! “

Contact: 0429 996 769

Rosalie Drew

Merriwa’s ANZAC Day Commemorations

All citizens are being asked to help share on this solemn occasion to help preserve the Spirit of the ANZAC and to remember the great sacrifice that so many made, in order that we may live in peace.

If anyone wishes to participate in the laying of the wreath or seeks any further information please contact the RSL Sub-Branch Secretary, Mary O’Neill, on 6548 2383.

PROGRAM FOR DAWN SERVICE

- 5.40am - Assembly at the Cenotaph
- 6.30am - End of Dawn Service
- 7.00am - Breakfast at Merriwa RSL

PROGRAM FOR MAIN SERVICE

- 10.15am - All citizens/groups wishing to participate in the march are to assemble outside the RSL Club
- 10.30am - March commences
- 10.40am - General Assembly at the Cenotaph
- 10.45am - Service commences
- 12 noon - Sausage sizzle for the young people taking part in the ceremony
- 1.00pm - Commemoration Luncheon for all citizens wishing to attend (tickets available for the RSL Club)

They gave their lives for public gift they receive a praise
Which never ages and a tomb most glorious
Not so much the tomb
In which they lie,
But in which their fame survives
To be remembered forever when Occasion comes for word or deed.

Mary O’Neill

Merriwa Ringer
KALEIDOSCOPE FOR KIDS

The Rotary Club of Merriwa hosted The John Hunter Kaleidoscope for Kids fundraising committee last weekend at the Merriwa Showground. This was a weekend of fun and entertainment to raise funds for the John Hunter Childrens section. Some of our local kids find themselves in the John Hunter Hospital and Kaleidoscope are there to assist them and their parents during their stay. Caravans and campers arrived from different locations to enjoy the weekend festivities. Events enjoyed were the Bush Poets Breakfast, Market Stalls, a spit roast dinner on Saturday evening catered by the Rotary Club of Merriwa and an auction of 4WD products, camping gear, art and memorabilia with all the products being donated. Total fundraising exceeded $4,300. The auction was conducted by Sam Dawes of Valley Motor Auctions whose entertaining style of flamboyant auctioneering had the crowd enthralled with enthusiasm. The Saturday evening entertainment was rounded off with live musical entertainment with Allen Roberts singing many of Joe Cocker’s songs. The Merriwa Tourism and Promotions Committee supports these wonderful events.

WHAT A DIFFERENCE RAIN MAKES

Since mid February the whole of the Upper Hunter Shire has started to change from a brown colour to a rich green. As follow up rain continued this allowed for a bulk of feed growth and the sowing of winter forage crops. It was disappointing that the Upper Hunter Shire was not drought declared. However, after the federal government’s drought assistance package and additional state government assistance was announced, farmers can access some financial assistance. The state government has just announced the employment of an additional three rural counsellors to assist farmers to obtain information about eligibility for the assistance package. These rural support workers can assist with advice and access to services from the Local Land Services (LLS) officers with possible assistance from the government services.

BUNNAN HALL

The Trustees Committee of the Bunnan Hall requested Council to assist with the upkeep of the hall. Extensive termite damage on the eastern side of the building needed immediate attention.

HORSE INDUSTRY

It seems that horses still play an important role in the Hunter Valley for pleasure and for competition as was demonstrated by the Scone Horse Trials held at Broomfield in March with over 500 entries competing in all grades. Horses have played an important role in the development of Australia. While the use of the horse has declined because of the advent of mechanisation, the Thoroughbred Industry has increased and flourished, especially in the Upper Hunter Valley. Many of the best bloodlines and winners of races have been bred in the Hunter Valley over the past 100 plus years. The Thoroughbred Industry has provided not only employment, but the excellent standard of their premises that enhance the surrounding landscape.

DPOP (DELIVERY PROGRAM AND OPERATIONAL PLAN)

Councillors were briefed by the General Manager and senior staff on the draft Delivery Program and Operational Plan for the coming financial year. This is an important document as it sets out the planned expenditure of the Shire. I encourage residents to attend the community meetings during the public exhibition of the document. These meetings are your opportunity to question and comment on these proposals.

6 May - Scone Council Chambers, 135 Liverpool Street, Scone 6.00pm
7 May - Murrurundi CWA Rooms, 109 Mayne Street, Murrurundi 6.00pm
12 May - Aberdeen Rose Garden Community Hall, Aberdeen 6.00pm
14 May - MerriwaCouncil Chambers, Vennacher Street, Merriwa 6.00pm

Cr Ron Campbell
THE INAUGURAL
"RED SOCKS" BUSH POETRY AWARD
SPONSORED BY

UPPER HUNTER FIRE PROTECTION

Hosted by 3 Time Australian Bush Poetry Champion Gregory North

When: Sunday 8 June 2014 commencing 9.00am
Over $500.00 in Cash and Prizes
To be held at Merriwa RSL Club Auditorium, entry via Bow Street, Merriwa.

There are FOUR sections:

OPEN ORIGINAL SENIOR – Aged 16 years and over
OPEN ORIGINAL JUNIOR – Aged 15 years and younger
UPPER HUNTER SHIRE SCHOOL SENIOR – Secondary Students
UPPER HUNTER SHIRE SCHOOL JUNIOR – Primary Students

The winners of each section will be invited to perform their own original work at the 2014 ROSTO Olives Festival of the Fleeces, where Gregory North will select an overall winner in the Senior and Junior sections for their poems to be published in the Hunter Valley News.

ENTRY FEE: $5.00 PER SECTION

To enter the Competition, contact your school or the Festival committee directly at/or forward your entry to:

The Minute Secretary,
Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces
P.O. Box 111
Merriwa, NSW, 2329

ENTRIES CLOSE: Friday May 2, 2014

PHONE: 6521 7046,
EMAIL: lgarment@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

Thank you for your sponsorship to date,

MAJOR AND NAMING RIGHTS SPONSOR
ROSTO 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 Olives
Upper Hunter Fire Protection
The Welcoming Centre
Coal and Allied
Merriwa Auto Electrical
Merriwa Sports Club
CJO Photography
Merriwa IGA plus Liquor

COMMUNITY AND IN KIND SPONSORS
Hunter Sports Group
David Mahony Art Gallery and Cafe
Max’s Country Cuts
Tullymore Clydesdale and Shire Horse Stud
The Denman Hotel, Restaurant, Motel

Ausgrid operates one of the largest electricity networks in Australia, distributing electricity to more than 1.6 million customers across the Hunter, Central Coast and parts of Sydney.
Commited to community safety, Ausgrid works to ensure the distribution of electricity to its customers in a way that is safe and reliable.
Ausgrid is investing in its electricity network in the Upper Hunter with projects designed to improve the reliability of the power supply for residents and businesses in the towns of Merriwa, Sandy Hollow, Denman, Baerami, Scone, Muswellbrook, Rouchel and Singleton. A number of projects are either planned or currently underway, including the replacement of 11,000 volt powerlines at Sunnyside Rd, Forest Reserve Rd and Merriwa Rd.

Ausgrid has been a major supporter of Merriwa’s annual Festival of the Fleeces since 2012. The event provides a great opportunity to inform local community members about planned upgrades to the local network.

Sometimes crews need to temporarily interrupt the power supply to do this work safely. Ausgrid will have a stall at this year’s Festival with staff on site to provide information about planned power outages and answer any questions residents may have about the network upgrade projects.
If you are interested in sponsoring a Festival event please contact:
Liam Garment 6521 7046

Merriwa Rotary
KALEIDOSCOPE FOR KIDS

Merriwa Rotarians were privileged to assist this John Hunter based group in their efforts to raise funds to assist programs, the benefits of which flow on to our own community.

The Rotary effort was to provide some of the meals needed by the visitors and local attendees.

We found it a pleasure to support these dedicated people in their efforts and to attend some of their gatherings.

The bush poets and storytellers provided excellent entertainment. Auctions of donated products were a part of the fundraising activities and were well supported. Pony club activities were on the program, to give a special country feel to the weekend, as was live entertainment by “Snez and Stewart”.

Congratulations and thanks to our visitors!

GROUP STUDY EXCHANGE

A bus load from Merriwa Rotary Club will have attended the Denman Rotary Club before this Ringer goes to press. We shall be there to meet and listen to a team of Rotary Group Study visitors who have come to our District 9670 from the USA.

The team is from District 7570 which covers an area from North Eastern Tennessee through to West Virginia.

These groups are made up of adults in the relatively early stages of their careers and meeting with such groups is invariably a stimulating and enjoyable occasion.

We plan to report on this gathering in the next Ringer.

Thank You

To all the people who attended “Music in the Garden”, thank you so much for your wonderful generosity.

Thank you to IGA, The Royal Hotel, Libby Moore, Geoff and Til Symonds and the new Pizza Restaurant, La Scaletta, for their great raffles.

As the music and the accommodation that were donated, we were able to raise $1,365.90 for the Volunteer Rescue Association. What an amazing result! Thank you from Tania, Andy, Zoe and Mark.

Tania Carrigan

Messy Church

It was another wet start to Messy Church for March. I do hope you enjoyed the Easter Craft with special gifts for you to take home.

There will be no messy church in April due to school holidays and ANZAC Day.

Look forward to catching up in May and the theme will be “What a wonderful world”.

Carol Bowman

In Memory

HARRY NEUGEBAUER

In loving memory of my darling Harry Neugebauer who passed away ANZAC Day 2012, aged 79.

After working hard for 20 years to help the community of Merriwa, getting the non-emergency cars, the hospital, driving the community bus trips, the hostel, and involvement with hunter area health and various other communities like HSA, all the while having heart and back problems himself. I miss him so.

With love from Gwen and his children.

Gwen Thompson

Mark Smith
**Community Notice Board**

**Merriwa Railway Society**
Maintaining the grass growth resulting from the marvellous rain takes a lot of the working bee time. We have purchased light fittings for the rooms and beneath the platform verandah. Additional work also on the Goods Shed decking.

I am looking for help from our older residents who were fortunate to use the rail service to and from Muswellbrook before the Passenger trains stopped 7 July 1973. I need information on what was in the Ladies’ Waiting Room area. Was there a seat and/or cupboards or anything else. The other need is a description of the shelving in the Parcel Room where small items were kept for sending and pick up.

Of course any photos would be fantastic. Please don’t leave it to others. Phone me and we can meet to talk it through and make a drawing.

Contact Bryan Baker on 6548 5000 or email bryan@ipstarmail.com.au.

**Bryan Baker**

**Merriwa Markets**
When: Saturday 19 April
Where: Merriwa CWA Rooms
Time: 9.00am til 12 noon

Coming along and have a browse!

We are hoping to continue having these market days every third Saturday.

Will let you know about the next one.

All welcome.

**Julie Russell**

**Festival of Fleeces Bowls Gala Day**
Time: 9.00am for a 9.30am start
Requirements: Teams of 4
Cost: Adults $10.00 and Children under 12 $5.00

Other events happening will include 100 Club, Chocolate Wheel, BBQ, Raffles and prizes.

Organiser: Greg Wattson

**Greg Wattson**

**Thank You to Kaleidoscope Kids**
On behalf of the Merriwa Tourism and Promotion Committee, I would like to extend a warm thank you to the Kaleidoscope Kids, John Hunter Children’s Hospital, for holding their fundraising event in Merriwa this past weekend.

The event attracted many visitors to the Merriwa and Upper Hunter Shire District, and much needed funds were raised for Kaleidoscope Kids. The event organizer Mr. Paul Garland has asked that I pass on his thanks and gratitude to the local Merriwa community for supporting this event, and for the Merriwa Rotary Club for roasting up a beautiful spit roast and supplying breakfast to the many who attended over the weekend.

_Cr. Ron Campbell_

**Thank You from St David’s**
A Big “Thank You” to everyone who supported our Pie Drive. I hope everyone is enjoying their purchases and “maybe” some of the goodies have made their way to the freezer.

A special “Thank You” to the business houses and schools for taking order sheets.

If anyone has missed out on this drive, we will run again the week before school breaks up second term. We wish everyone a Blessed Easter, happy and safe holiday period.

_Barbara Campbell_

**Merriwa Campdraft**
GENERAL MEETING

When: Saturday 11 April 14
Where: RSL Club
Time: 6.30pm Sharp

See you all there!

Contact Megan Richards on 0427 437 743.

_Megan Richards_  
Secretary

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_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._
We hope everyone enjoys the Easter school holidays, the Easter Weekend, ANZAC Day and the Merriwa Race Meet. It will be a big couple of weeks! We will be closed on Good Friday, and are open from 7.00am til 10.00am on Easter Monday and ANZAC Day.

The entries for our Story Writing Competition have been returned and there are some wonderful and imaginative entries. The winners will be announced at the participating schools this week and the entries will be displayed around the shop. The winners articles will be written here next term.

SAND
It seems weird to sell sand, but this is slightly different! Sand in Motion is available in 1kg and 5kg. It is 98% sand and 2% magic! It flows and shapes just like wet sand, but leaves your hands and surfaces completely dry and mess free!! It is fun and surprising soothing for young and old. It is the perfect addition to any play room or kids craft station. It is non-toxic and there are different molds available (they have not arrived yet as we have to wait for the warehouse to catch up with the immense popularity of this product!) and you can let your imagination run wild with different sculptures. Sand in Motion is totally re-usable, water resistant and NEVER dries out! We have some available to try, it is amazing. Come in and have a go today!

LOOM BANDS
This is a craze that has reached our shelves and we have several different types. They are easy to make (all the kids know how), and come in brights, neons, glittery and so many more colours. You can never have too many, and they are great gift ideas as they are fun and affordable. Do not be the only one who doesn’t know what these great bands are, come in and have a look at them today... They are great because the kids have to make them and each pack comes with its own tool to help. There are plenty of YouTube videos that instruct you on how to make them if you and your children get stuck!

FREEBIES
Easter is a special time, and we have decided that it deserves a special treat. If you purchase a Hallmark card between now and Easter, you go in the draw to win a very cute and cuddly Easter Bunny (as seen in the window). You can purchase ANY Hallmark card - birthday, anniversary, wedding, baby, thanks, Easter, or any other card in the range. We will draw the winner on Easter Saturday just before we close.

MAGAZINES
We are in the process of re-organising the magazines. Please bear with us as this process is sure to mean that there are some titles that are moved.

BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS
You know Winter is nearly here when the FREE KNITTING BOOK comes with the BH&G magazine. There are some wonderful, warm patterns for women, men and children. There are scarves, beanies, ponchos, jumpers, vests and more. There are 43 pages of garden ideas this month (just because it is getting cold doesn’t mean that there is a not lot to be done to make your garden ready for Spring!) Recipes for pasta dishes and curries are perfect for this time of year (not to mention that they are mouth-wateringly delicious).

TICKLE THE IMAGINATION
If you are a fan of hosting a party - for your friends, or for your children, then this is the book for you. It is full of ideas for home-made decorations, recipes for delicious party food, and so much more. The magazine itself is made on 100% recycled paper, and the ideas inside are all environmentally friendly in a high-end trendy kind of way. It is inspiring for weddings, cocktail parties, high tea, children’s parties and more.

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

EFTPOS available.

Neville and Leanne Hook

Find us on Facebook!

Look for Merriwa Central School’s official page!
It seems we are never satisfied with the amount of sleep we get. We either don’t get enough and wake up tired, or we get too much and wake up feeling sluggish.

Just how much sleep we need is subject to debate but the National Sleep Foundation has explored how many hours of sleep your body needs at different ages.

Interestingly, sleep needs vary across ages and are especially affected by your lifestyle and your general health. This means there is no easy answer to how much sleep you may need and to determine the right amount it’s important to assess not only where you fall on the “sleep needs spectrum,” but also to examine what lifestyle factors are affecting the quality and quantity of your sleep such as work schedules and stress. To get the sleep you need, you must look at the big picture.

Research has found that in general, newborns need 12-18 hours of sleep a day, infants 14-15 hours, toddlers 12-14 hours, preschoolers 11-13 hours, school-age children 10-11 hours, teens 8.5-9.25 hours, and adults 7-9 hours.

Though research cannot pinpoint an amount of sleep needed by people at different ages, the above figures are the “rule-of-thumb” amounts most experts have agreed upon.

The National Sleep Foundation website (www.sleepfoundation.org) points out it’s important to pay attention to your own individual needs by assessing how you feel on different amounts of sleep.

The research also pinpoints that not only do different age groups need different amounts of sleep, but sleep needs are also individual. Just like any other characteristics you are born with, the amount of sleep you need to function best may be different for you than for someone who is of the same age and gender.

Therefore while you may be at your absolute best sleeping seven hours a night, someone else may clearly need nine hours to have a happy, productive life.

A study some years ago confirmed the fact that sleep needs vary across populations, and the study called for further research to identify traits within genes that may provide a “map” to explain how sleep needs differ among individuals.

Another reason there is “no magic number” for your sleep results from two different factors that researchers are learning about: a person’s basal sleep need – the amount of sleep our bodies need on a regular basis for optimal performance – and sleep debt, the accumulated sleep that is lost to poor sleep habits, sickness, awakenings due to environmental factors or other causes.

Healthy adults have a basal sleep need of seven to eight hours every night, but where things get complicated is the interaction between the basal need and sleep debt. For instance, you might meet your basal sleep need on any single night or a few nights in a row, but still have an unresolved sleep debt that may make you feel more sleepy and less alert at times, particularly in conjunction with circadian dips, those times in the 24-hour cycle when we are biologically programmed to be more sleepy and less alert, such as overnight hours and mid-afternoon. You may feel overwhelmingly sleepy quite suddenly at these times, shortly before bedtime or feel sleepy upon awakening. The good news is that some research suggests that the accumulated sleep debt can be worked down or “paid off”.

However, if you feel you have a sleep disorder you should seek professional help, and your local pharmacy is your health destination where your community pharmacist can help.

Merriwa Pharmacy has a Sleeping Problems fact card available to provide information.

Robert Smith
Woolbrook Rural Industries
With the approach of April 25 I intend to devote an article, or perhaps two, to the subject of ANZAC Day before reverting to a history of the USA. First of all, I am not sure how long a generation is, as I have seen it defined as 25 or 30 years; however, whatever the time span is, I belong to the very tail end of two, or perhaps three, suffering generations, those who were born in the 1880s through to the latish 1920s.

This places me right at the very end of those two or three generations as I was born in 1927. It also means that as I grew up there were people all around me who had endured the Great War, the survivors of Beersheba, Gallipoli and France, and, as another example, the ruins of some of my teachers including two who had been gassed in the trenches. Even I was old enough to wear a uniform at the very end of the Second World War.

It also meant that, from my earliest memories till I was nearly 20, wars, rumors of wars, preparations for wars, conflicts involving Japanese aggression in Asia, Italian aggression in Africa, German aggression in Europe, Russian aggression, the bloody rise of Communism, and other events such as the Spanish Civil War in the 1930s, were rife and all pervading. Therefore warfare seemed to me and my generation to be almost a natural and quite normal part of life. As a result, for my parents, and also for me, ANZAC Day always had a special place in our lives from as far back as I can remember.

However, in those days, the 1930s and even the 1940s, Remembrance Day, November 11th, was mostly considered of more significance, though nowadays this seems to be rather reversed. Even where we were out in the west of NSW 11 am on that day was remembered by my family. I recall that on another one of those days, probably about 1950, I was in the Sydney CBD (such as it was then) at 11 am. Before that moment church bells rang and all the pedestrian traffic stopped, nobody moved, and the streets became almost silent as even the motor traffic, including cars, trams and buses, also stopped. Anyway, I find the obviously increasing importance of ANZAC Day to Australians to be both appropriate and fitting as long as we remember that it is not a celebration of war but the very opposite, a grateful commemoration.

However there are two subjects often brought up then and at other times that are so totally incorrect and disturbing (for want of a better word), even insulting whenever I read them, or even occasionally hear them. The first is the claim that we should never have been involved in WW1 (or WW2 either, or at least till Japan entered it), because it was on the other side of the world and had nothing to do with us, and that all we were doing was going far afield as Colonial lackeys to help Britain fight wars which we had not started and which were no concern of ours; some even say that those who went were fools and if they died or were wounded it was for nothing.

I cannot think of anything more grossly insulting, or grossly hurtful to the families they left behind, than to claim that those who died in France and so many other places did so for no good reason. The further we get away from 1914 the more history reveals that the two world wars were the penultimate and ultimate (we hope!) stages of thousands of years of European Warfare and were therefore almost inevitable. However, it mattered not who was at fault and who was not, because once these two wars had begun we had absolutely no choice but to win them.

What kind of fool thinks that if Britain had lost WW1 it would have had no effect on Australia? When Germany lost she was stripped of her colonies, Britain taking her African colonies (such as they were) and Japan a string of German islands strung across the north Pacific and which, in WW2, she had fortified and which had to be retaken at great cost by the Americans. Would the Germans have forgotten that her first military defeat in WW1 was when Australian troops occupied German New Guinea, a colony which would also have gone to Japan (and thank God did not) thanks to the efforts of our Prime Minister at the time, Billy Hughes? No, if we had lost WW1 we would soon have been speaking German, like it or not, and Australia today would be a very different country. The 60,000 Australians who died in the Great War did so, if you want it expressed in a few words, to ensure that today we still speak English.

Exactly the same set of circumstances applied to those who died in WW2, that is, regardless of who was or was not to blame, again we had no choice but to win, and that meant supporting Britain to help ensure our own survival. Certainly once Japan became involved Australia did face the first direct threat in its history, but before that the threat we faced from the German alliance was no less dangerous for Australia even though it was till then on the other side of the world.

Conventional and electrical fencing, pumps, spraying equipment, poly and PVC pipes, generators, tanks, silos etc.


Max Wurcker

Merriwa Ringer
Established 1949…. We have always had almost no overheads and this has meant savings and low prices for you!

As direct dealers and agents holding accounts with more than 60 manufacturers, suppliers and importers, we can supply most requirements for farmers, householders and others at the right price. Just phone us, you have nothing to lose except the cost of a call.

**FENCING MATERIALS:** Australian manufactured heavily galvanized wire, barb, hinged joint and netting and imported steel posts (black or gal.), gates, gate fittings etc and also a complete range of electric fencing. Energisers (mains, solar and battery powered), insulators, everything you will ever need.

**GRUNDFOS, DAB, BIANCO, MONO AND OTHER PUMPS OF ALL KINDS:** Centrifugal, multistage vertical, firefighters (petrol and diesel), transfer pumps, submersible borehole pumps, helical rotor pumps, molasses pumps and others.

**PLEX PIPELINES:** A complete range of Rural B and metric poly pipe, PVC etc and fittings suitable for all kinds of usage whether irrigation, farm water supply, domestic or garden, including dripper systems.

**PIPE FITTINGS:** Many hundreds of galvanized steel, PVC, poly and brass fittings, threaded pipe, gate valves, ball valves in many sizes and all far too many to list.

**POLY TANKS:** We deal with several manufacturers to give you the best possible range and price in all sizes and colours to suit storage and water and molasses.

**GENERATORS, MOBILE WELDERS AND ENGINES:** Here we offer a range of many makers and components, big and small to suit everyone, including Yanmar which we believe to be the world’s best diesel engine.

**STEEL AND STEEL PRODUCTS:** We can supply roofing iron, all types of steel such as angles, purlins, RHS, black and galvanized, tube and pipe (threaded or plain). Second hand and/or downgraded steel and roofing iron is often available.

**WATER SUPPLY:** Design, supply materials for, and install irrigation, farm water supply and garden systems, including low water requirement dripper systems.

**MOST KINDS OF MACHINERY AND SHEDS:** Silos, augers, roller mills, post rammers, post hole diggers etc. Just call us and tell us what you are looking for.

Please visit our very comprehensive web site: [www.woolbrookrural.com.au](http://www.woolbrookrural.com.au)

**THERE ARE SOME OF OUR RECENT SALES**

- About $80,000 worth of corrugated iron, purlins, girts, battens etc for hay sheds etc.
- $15,000 to a southern NSW Catchment Management Authority for fencing equipment.
- Total of about 30 kilometres of poly pipe, plus poly, galvanized and brass fittings etc.
- Many pumps (mostly Grundfos, Dab and Mono multi-stage vertical, submersible, helical rotor) and spare parts.
- Substantial quantities of Australian manufactured barb, plain wire etc, plus several thousand posts including galvanized, to various customers.
- Many miscellaneous items such as alternators, fire fighters and windmill parts.

We believe the above sales saved our customers more than $10,000. Times are tough.

**CAN YOU AFFORD NOT TO AT LEAST GET A QUOTE FROM US?**
**Hooked on Fresh Seafood**

Contact:
- Phone: 0413 724 232
- Email: freshseafood@iprimus.com.au

**Seafood for Christmas**

Outside the Royal Hotel

Tuesday 24 December - 8.00am till 11.00am

No Orders taken After 16 Dec

Kent and Family wish you all a Very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and would like to thank all of you for your continued patronage.

**Please Note:** Back on Wed. 15 Jan. 2014

Times Fortnightly 8.00am - 11.00am

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**Community Adverts**

**For Sale**

- **Hospital bed – Model MIA-Universal**
  - Electric controls – as new
  - No further use
  - 141 Hall Road Merriwa
  - Phone: 6548 2683

**For Sale**

- **Antique Glass Topped Dining Table**
  - Circa 1936
  - Plus Chairs
  - $350.00
  - Phone: 6548 2948

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**Auction**

**54 Mackenzie Street, Merriwa 2329**

**Family home**

Neat and tidy home featuring 3 bedrooms, large lounge room and formal dining area with polished floor boards, large kitchen with plenty of cupboards. Bathroom with shower and bath, laundry with toilet, large back veranda overlooking the back yard, garden shed plus garage/workshop. Well worth an inspection.

- Greg Llewelyn - 0417 227204
- Roger Moore - 0427 153446

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**For Sale**

- **Property & Livestock**
  - GM Llewelyn and Co
  - Real Estate, Stock & Station Agents

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

APRIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Development & Environmental Services Committee
Tuesday 8 April 2014, 10.00am

Works & Technical Services Committee
Tuesday 8 April 2014, 1.00pm

Community Services Committee
Tuesday 8 April 2014, 4.30pm

Finance Committee
Thursday 24 April 2014, 1.00pm

Ordinary Council Meetings
Monday 28 April 2014, 5.00pm

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

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Written expressions of interest are invited for the purchase of two (2) second hand pool tables located at the Merriwa Youth Centre. Council is not bound to accept any expression of interest. Written expressions of interest close 4pm 1 May 2014.

If you are interested in purchasing one of the pool tables, please contact the Merriwa Youth Centre to arrange for an inspection.

P: Justine Witney 6521 7000
Merriwa Ringer

CALL FOR VOLUNTEERS

The 2014 ROSTO Olives Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces is fast approaching and the Committee is asking the community for assistance. In order to keep running costs down the Committee volunteers their time to make for a successful festival.

The Committee needs your help in volunteering to assist with the placement of barriers along Bettington Street prior to and after the ROSTO Olives Running of the Sheep between 11.30am and 1.00pm on Saturday 7 June 2014.

The Committee also requires volunteers to welcome and thank many of the attractions that have been invited to attend this year’s festival and to assist them in ensuring that their time spent at the festival is also enjoyable. Most attractions will arrive from 9.00am and pack up around 3.00pm.

The festival in 2014 is much larger than any previous festival with 100 variety Market Stalls, and new events such as the Sheep Yard Dog Trials, Bush Poets Breakfast, Circus West Street Performers, Team Penning Championships, and a special life saving demonstration by the Merriwa VRA and other emergency service organisations. All of which could not have been achieved without the continued support of the festival sponsors and all of whom have a strong focus on strengthening and supporting the Merriwa, Cassilis, and Upper Hunter Shire community.

P: Liam Garment 6521 7046

OFFICE CLOSURE DATES

Council’s offices will be closed on the following public holiday dates.

- Friday 18 April for Good Friday
- Monday 21 April for Easter Monday
- Friday 25 April for ANZAC day

P: 6540 1100
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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Date/Time</th>
<th>Activity</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Aberdeen Library</td>
<td>Tuesday 15 April 10.30am</td>
<td>Easter Display Baskets</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Limit of 8 participants</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cassilis Library</td>
<td>Wednesday 16 April 10.30am</td>
<td>Making Kaleidoscopes</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Library</td>
<td>Tuesday 15 April 11.00am</td>
<td>Decorating Terracotta Vases</td>
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<tr>
<td>Murrurundi Library</td>
<td>Thursday 24 April 1.00pm</td>
<td>ANZAC Craft</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scone Library</td>
<td>Monday 14 April 10.30am</td>
<td>Decorating Easter Eggs</td>
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<td>Wednesday 16 April 11.30am</td>
<td>Making Easter Cards</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Wednesday 23 April 11.30am</td>
<td>ANZAC Craft</td>
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Holiday activities are limited to School Age Children unless accompanied by a carer.

**Bookings Essential**

For bookings and information please contact:-

- **Aberdeen**: 6540 1303
- **Cassilis**: 6376 1295
- **Merriwa**: 6521 7007
- **Murrurundi**: 6540 1363 & **Scone**: 6540 1183
"...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

Merriwa District Education Foundation
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Secretary:  Jane Hegarty 6376 1052
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33 King George Avenue Merriwa Reduced $240,000
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17 Mackenzie Street Merriwa $182,500
This classic weatherboard home features three good size bedrooms one with an ensuite and another with built in robes. The main bathroom has been renovated and is in near new. The living area is a large open plan and features a combustion fire and RC Air Con. The kitchen is also big and is in good condition. At the rear of the home is a huge undercover entertainment area overlooking the yard and shed. The home has had all the plumbing and wiring updated.

55 King George Avenue Merriwa $165,000
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Merriwa Ringer
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6pm Wed
Evening prayer 9am Sundays
10am Fridays Short Bible study
St Columba Cassilis
11am 2nd and 4th Sunday

St Davids Uniting Church
Vennacher Street Merriwa
Service Times
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3rd Sunday at 6.00pm
Contact Pastor Ross Neville - 6545 1396
Pastor Richard Moors - 6543 1168
Peter Campbell - 6548 5126

CWA
Meets the second Monday of the month at 10.00am in the CWA rooms, Betterinston Street
Visitors and new members are always welcome.
Enquiries to:
President: Barbara Campbell
6548 5131
Secretary: Susie Fitzpatrick
6548 2463
Email: susiefitz1935@gmail.com

Rotary Club of Merriwa Inc
Meets each Tuesday at the Merriwa Sports Club
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Junior and Senior Comp
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Senior Vice President: Trent Cooper
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Treasurer: Brad Hunt
For more information contact
6548 2124 after hours.

Merrribwa Bushman’s Campdraft est. 1947
President: Roger Moore 0427 153 446
Secretary: Megan Richards 0427 437 743
Treasurer: Jodie Mobberley 0404 286 741
merriwacampdraft@gmail.com
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Merriwa Rugby League Football Club
President – Matt Morgan
Snr Vice President – Mark Kirkland
Jnr Vice President – Lee Cronin

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

Sandy Hollow Public School
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Merriwa Tennis Club Association Inc
President: Loretta Cooper 6548 2679
Secretary: Rose Medway
Treasurer: Mark Morris
Day - Night Junior Competitions Court Hire

Merriwa Bowls Club
Golf, Bowls, Squash, Punt Pott, Darts, Pool, 3PM and Club Keno
Opening Times:
*Monday & Tuesday - 4pm
*Wednesday - Sunday - 12pm
Thursday - Night 7:00pm Bingo
Friday - 5:00pm - 7:00pm Happy 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.
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Merriwa Sports Club Ltd 6548 2028

Merriwa Ringer

Cassilis Bowling Club
PH: 6376 1002
WANT TO BE IN THIS? Call Tina Taylor at the Merriwa Ringer on 6548 2119
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 - 5.00pm Bingo and Super 39

Fridays - Happy Hour - 5.00pm to 7.00pm and free raffles - nine prizes

Saturdays - Monster Raffle drawn from 7.45pm, winners jackpot, dinner draw and Saturday badge draw

Sundays - Members badge draw plus three raffles choice of $25.00 meat or fuel vouchers.

Last Sunday each month - Smorgasbord all you can eat Chinese entree, mains and desserts. Casual Bowls and Golf also available.

WEEREND RESULTS

Saturday 5 April 2014
Saturday Members Draw no 221 next week $130.00
Winners Jackpot next week $360.00.

Free Tickets: Des Snelgrove
Dinner: Des Snelgrove
Bowls Raffle: Barbara Cronin

Sunday 6 April 2014
Sunday Members draw no 451 next week $450.00.

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.

$18.00 Adult $12.00 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

Entertainment
Saturday 26 April
“Loose Change” Starts at 8.00pm

Smorgasbord
Sunday 27 April 6.00pm

John Rindfleish
LADIES BOWLS NEWS

A lot happening this week with our first game of pennants and the Cassilis Friendship Day.

On Wednesday 2 April our mufti winners were Sylvia, Pat and Noel.

The raffle was won by Merle.

Beatrice Voysey

MEN’S BOWLS NEWS

UNCLASSIFIED

We played the second placed side being Aberdeen RSL on Saturday, coming away with a five to one result. Our next game is against Scone Bowling Club this Saturday. Being optimistic, if we win, I am pretty sure we can pack our bags for the zone playoffs. On another note, we wish both Mick and Phyllis all the best with there health problems.

The teams are:
1. Phil, Jim, Des and Max
2. Greg ,Ken, Jeff and Bruce

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.

LAST WEEK’S RESULTS

Members Draw: $120 – Malcolm Turner - unclaimed - $125 next week.


End on Month Draw: March - Natalie Haydon

Bookings: Cassilis Bowling Club 6376 1002.

Hilary Parker

Sporting

Merriwa Cricket Club

The Merriwa Cricket Club held their annual presentation day at the Merriwa RSL Club on Saturday 5 April. The results are as follows:

Rookie of the Year – John Cronin (Thunder) and Bradley Ellis (Lightning)

Best Fielder – John Cronin (Thunder) and Jay-me Taylor (Lightning)

Six wickets in one innings – Neville Blackadder, Craig Drury and Blake Ellis

Batting Aggregate – Rabbit (Thunder) and Chad Grant (Lightning)

Batting Average – Jonathan Osmond (Thunder) and Chad Grant (Lightning)

Bowling Aggregate – Reg Brazier (Thunder) and Blake Ellis (Lightning)

Bowling Average – Neville Blackadder (Thunder) and Darryl Mulholland (Lightning)

All-rounder – Chad Grant and Seth Morgan

Club Person of the Year – Ross Maben

Junior Cricketer of the Year – Darryl Mulholland

Cricketer of the Year – Seth Morgan

It is wonderful to see so many of our younger players receiving awards. Their dedication and determination throughout the season has been great, you should be proud of your efforts. Equally as important is the support and encouragement given to these players by our more experienced cricketers. We hope to see you all next season.

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.

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Taylah Blackadder

Merriwa Painting and Decorating

Cross Country Merriwa.

Kate Blackadder
I know it’s sad that summer is in its last remaining few days. However, that doesn’t give you permission to wallow in a food and hibernation coma until the first buds of spring arrive. The following ten bad habits are particularly tempting and damaging to your health come autumn...

**OVEREATING**

Because obesity puts you at prime risk for heart disease, eating large portions when the air starts to chill is not a wise move for your waistline or your heart. In fact, oversize portions of the high-calorie carbohydrates we crave come Autumn will only make you put on weight.

**BECOMING A COUCH POTATO**

If you sit for at least 8 hours a day at work then make it a habit to come home and sit for another 6 or more hours before you go to bed, increases your risk of weight gain, heart attack, and stroke. So get out and get those muscles and that blood pumping for at least 30-minutes each day.

**AVOIDING FRUITS AND VEGETABLES**

I know that once the ground frosts over it’s difficult to stick to that fresh plant-based meal you consumed in summer. Loading up on fruits and vegetables instead of refined sugar is quite easy in the colder months if you can. Buy frozen fruits and vegetables when you can’t get fresh produce.

** Hibernating Inside**

Just because the weather has changed doesn’t mean that you can’t go outside to exercise. We all need sunshine (or rather vitamin D) to help balance mood and combat depression. Plus, getting outside for some fresh air helps reduce stress. Autumn allergies, and even lowers blood pressure. So if you don’t like to be outside after dark, go for a walk in your lunch hour or go for a run before work.

** DRINKING EXCESSIVELY**

It is easy to turn to celebrating inside in the colder months. But remember, keeping your drinking to a minimum will keep your weight, blood pressure, and heart rate balanced, so don’t overdo it!

** WITHDRAWING FROM SOCIAL ACTIVITIES**

Although it is easier to stay at home and bury our heads in the colder months, the best way to ward off the winter blues is by getting out with friends or family a few nights a week. This way you’ll boost your mood, social connections, and health at the same time.

** TOO MUCH COMFORT FOOD**

It is easy to turn to comfort foods in the cooler weather. We naturally put on a few kgs to prepare for winter. But don’t fill up with fatty, sugary comfort food. Break the empty carbohydrate cravings by sticking to complex carbs—like brown rice, whole grain breads and cereals, and whole wheat pastas.

** NOT EXERCISING**

While the thought of getting up early to jog in the chilly morning air might make you opt to crawl back into your warm bed, an autumn exercise routine will keep you motivated, energised and trim during the colder months.

** NOT TAKING ADVANTAGE OF A FLU SHOT**

Protect yourself from falling ill by getting a Flu shot sooner rather than later.

** BECOMING SAD**

If you tend to get a bit blue during fall and winter, you might suffer from Seasonal Affective Disorder (or SAD), a depression disorder that stems from a lack of sunlight (or vitamin D). Be proactive against the blues by getting outside in natural daylight as much as possible.

JOIN OUR GYM! and make sure you use it at least twice a week!

Membership and renewal forms at the Pharmacy.

Fitness classes available.

**Merriwa Pony Club**

On Saturday the Merriwa Pony Club committee were delighted to receive a very generous $3 000 donation from the IGA Merriwa Community Chest program.

Sincere thanks to Keith, Wendy and Andrew Richards of IGA Merriwa who came down to the show grounds to present the cheque to the club members. Each year IGA Merriwa donates over $5 000 to local community groups across the district. If your organisation would like to apply to be a beneficiary of the IGA Community Chest program, drop in and see Andrew at IGA Merriwa or log on to http://iga.com.au/iga-community-chest/ to find out more.

The money received will be used to go towards the purchase of a trailer for the Pony Clubs’ sporting equipment. After the cheque presentation, the Merriwa Pony Club were invited to perform a
Merriwa Rugby League Football Club

Last Sunday the Magpies travelled to Scone in League Tag and Reserves. After finally getting their first game under their belt last week, the League Tag girls took to Scone Park with an “air of confidence” and played to match this. The first half was evenly matched with Scone going into the break with a slender 6 – 4 lead, after a try to Kate Blackadder and conversion was narrowly missed by Gaynor Blackadder, using the newest kicking style which is sure to catch on in the NRL. The second half saw Scone score three tries, with Merriwa narrowly missing two tries. Scone running out winners 20 – 4. Although the score may not reflect this, it was a very evenly contested match and with both teams lining up against each other again this weekend the result can easily be reversed.

La Scaletta Players Player - Kate Blackadder

Sicko’s Woman of the Match - Taylah Blackadder.

The Reserves played Scone who run out winners 44 – 18. Merriwa held a slender 12 – 6 lead midway through the first half only to see Scone score three late tries before half time, to lead 24 – 12 at the break. The second half started with Scone scoring first and the Magpies hitting back with a try taking the score midway through the second half 30 – 18, only to see Scone running away with the game. The major difference in the game was the Scone’s strong defence and a couple of well seasoned players around the centre of the game. With the teams scoring up again this weekend, the Magpies will have to respond to the Scone strong defence with some punishing defence of their own, and also clean up better around the ruck.

Tries – William Taylor, Wayde Vero, Chris Chesworth, with Jeremy Nicholls kicking three from three conversions.

Bitz ‘N’ Pizzas Players Player - Jeremy Nicholls

Sicko’s Man of the Match - Bradley Ellis.

Next Saturday Merriwa play Scone at Merriwa with League tag to kick off at 2.00pm, hope you can make it to the game to support your Magpies.

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- Colin and Gaye Bates
- Pembroke Beef
- Morgan’s Maintenance
- Rockwell Livestock and Property
- Frampton Farms
- Bitz ‘N’ Pizzas

Matt Morgan
Merriwa Ringer

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demonstration to attendees of the Kaleidoscope fundraising event held at the show grounds over the weekend. While the weather kept away quite a few caravaners and campers, those that did attend seemed to really enjoy the entertainment.

Nine riders performed a troop drill in fine style before going on to demonstrate the key sporting events of Pony Club – the barrels, bending, bonfield bounce, diamond flag, cup and flag races. Senior rider Anastasia Martin performed a fabulous freestyle dressage solo for the visitors to much applause, with Hannah and Ty Riley, Jorji and Darcy Taaffe, Nicole and Clancy Martin, Apryl and Roy Lawler all giving a really ‘good show’ in the sporting. Thank you to all the riders that attended the demonstration, you each represented the club wonderfully well.

Don’t forget the Pony Club mini-camp is on Tuesday 15 April to Thursday 17 these holidays. If you haven’t done so already, RSVP to Secretary Christine Riley asap on cl.riley@bigpond.com. Set up for the camp is on Monday afternoon.

Tash Taaffe
Under 6’s

Team members are Toby Mead, Jack Cook, Zac Walker, Daniel Mead, Reide Blyton, Jayden McPhie and Nate Brown. Five members turned up at Singleton to play the first match of the season. Their first-time coach, Matthew Mead, guided his troops around the field, with all hands going up all at once to take the ball. All players were keen to run up and to do a lot of tackling. Elation was seen on the young faces when tries were scored or a great run down the field was taken. They also looked very proud of their tackling abilities. It’s going to be a great season. Well played boys and keep up the good work at training.

Under 7’s

Our Under 7’s team has Logan Brazier, Tobi Jamieson, Jackson Whitby, Harry Cook and Maddison Pike. What a great team and a great match to watch last Saturday. They were absolute naturals with several tries being made and many spectacular runs and tackles. It was a great solid performance. The opposition and a couple of our Under 6’s helped make up the numbers on the field. For the first game of the season each player showed a lot of talent and a lot of enthusiasm for their footy. Keep enjoying your footy – I know the spectators enjoyed watching you play.

Kingslyn Under 8’s

The first game for the season was very exciting for all our junior footballers. The Under 8’s had a slow start with a few forward passes but by the second third they had learnt from their mistakes and started to play some great football. Great defence, led by Clayton, Dylan and Riley and lots of runs from our new players Brooklyn, Ellie and Jyeson. Tobie and Jackson from the Under 7’s were able to help us out and made up the numbers on the field. Tries went to Riley, Dylan and Brooklyn. Two were absent on the day, Hudson and David and we hope to soon have Jack Shannon join our team.

Well done Under 8’s on a great start to the footy season. Members in our team are: Clayton Porter, Hudson Attenborough, Dylan Keane, Jyeson Pike, Ellie Whitby, Riley Telfer, Brooklyn Blackadder and David McPhie.

See you all at training.

Belinda Keane

Under 11’s

The start of the new 2014 season for our Under 11’s saw a very tough but well played game by our boys against Denman in Singleton. With some very enthusiastic boys ready to play we were able to field a side of 11 with two away. It was great to see them all back on the field again with some new faces to the side and even some boys who haven’t played before all showing great skills that they have been learning at training over the last couple of weeks.

The boys all put in a great effort against a very strong Denman side but with a lot of hard work and training it will be great to see these boys improve over the next couple of rounds and show some great footy.

Congratulations to Logan Dewson, Christian Beveridge, Damian Jamieson, James Bristow, Jock Grady, Nick and Will Whitby, Lachlan Harrison, Marc Forster, Logan Pike and Dustynn Turner for a great first game and we’ll look forward to seeing Rhys and Dylan Turner next week. A big thank you to Reece Hancock who will be coaching the boys for the 2014 season.

Next week the league boys and girls, Under 6’s to Under 11’s, will be playing at Muswellbrook. See coaches and webpage Hunter Valley Junior Rugby League for all times, venues and wet weather decisions.

Coaches phone numbers:
Under 6’s - Matthew Mead 0431 441 840
Under 7’s - Brady Hilton 0497 841 620
Under 8’s – Belinda Keane 0407 875 876
Under 11’s – Reece Hancock 0419 812 986
Under 15’s – Phil Neale 0417 236 612
Secretary - Elaine Sparrow 6548 8560.

Netball News

Unfortunately due to wet weather, Easter break and school holidays, the netball season has started a bit disjointed. Next term we will get straight back into it.

Training

Please read carefully varies for teams.

Magpies and Magic

No training next week (last week of Term 1) and No training in school holidays for either team. Training starts up again Term 2 every Friday at
4.30pm till 5.30pm. Next game is Term 2 Saturday 3 May/Round 4.

**MINK PINK**

Training for Mink Pink 5.00pm to 6.00pm both days, Mondays (fitness) and Thursdays (skills).

Training next week, 10 April (last week of Term 1) then back into it Term 2, 28 April and 1 May. No training in school holidays.

Next game is Term 2 Saturday 3 May/Round 4.

We are still calling for more players to sign up in this team 12-15 years. If you know of anyone interested please invite them to join.

All players from any teams invited to join Tina for fitness sessions on Mondays at 5.00pm. NO GAMES for any teams till next Term Saturday 3 May.

Any queries please contact Heidi Inder on 6548 5100.

Elaine Sparrow and Heidi Inder

**Merriwa Touch Football cont’d**

The next game was the Women’s A Grade with Frampton’s Smooth Operators and the Half Witz taking to the field in a hard fought game. It seems that if Half Witz had a few more games, they may just have been the upset for the season but in the end the Smooth Operators crossed the line 2-0.

In the following game it was the Mens A Grade Grand Final with RHC taking on Beau knows Touch. With the moisture around, it was decided that the game would be played on field 2. The game was still fast paced, a few slips and slides and the game went on to a nail biting finish 1-0 to Beau knows Touch.

**PRESENTATION WINNERS**

**Under 14’s**

- **Ladies:** Tamasyn McNaught
- **Mens:** Oliver Towell

**Under 18’s**

- **Ladies:** Montana Kisi
- **Mens:** Will Taylor

**19 - 34 Years**

- **Ladies:** Brianna Hall
- **Mens:** Matt Mead

**Over 35’s**

- **Ladies:** Tina Taylor
- **Mens:** Glen Austin

**Best and Fairest**

- **Ladies:** Bronwyn Redgate
- **Mens:** Isaac Austin

**THANK YOU’S**

A special thank you to all the referees that have assisted for this season, especially to those who stepped up for the finals, one in particular, Alison King, who does not play but turns up every week to assist. Without your assistance the games can not go ahead.

Also thank you to our Major Sponsor, Merriwa Sports Club. We hope you have enjoyed the season and will come back on board next year.

Lastly to all that played! For your good sportsmanship and willingness to get the season of Touch off the ground again. We hope to see you all in 2014-15 season.

Tina Taylor

Merriwa Ringer
Last week were the finals for Merriwa Touch Football and with the wet weather hanging around, it was decided that the games would go ahead.

Wednesday night saw a round of very tight finishes, with teams being evenly matched. Sandy Hollow Royal Hotel versed Hunter Mutuals ROAR with Sandy Hollow progressing to the B Grade Grand Final. At the same time Toogie Fighting Spirit versed Pink Bitz with Toogie just scraping through to also move on to the Grand Final.

The next set of games had a little surprise with Hunter Mutual’s E-lemon-ators forfeiting to Sports Club’s Incred-e-bowls giving them a free pass to the B Grade Grand Final.

The second game at this slot was a “Battle for the wooden spoon” with Welderup taking the spoon on Presentation night. This sent the Tyre Service off to play Sandy Hollow’s mens team.

Beau knows Touch versed Sports Club’s Bowling Barrels with a match of speed and brawn with Beau knows Touch pipping Merriwa Sports Clubs Bowling Barrells in the last minutes.

In the ladies last game for Wednesday night, a shock win in one of the tightest games for the season with RSL Blood, Sweat and Beers playing against Half Witz. This saw Half Witz (sponsored by D McLoughlin Contracting) move on to play Framptons Smooth Operators on Friday night.

**GRAND FINAL**

It was touch and go, (pardon the pun) as to whether the Grand Final was going to go ahead, but after discussions with teams, refs and committee it was decided to give it a go and thankfully the rain passed over and stayed away for the completion of the games. The field was a bit wet (understatement of the year) but spirits were high, as it seemed everyone was prepping for the Presentation directly after.

6.00pm kick off had the B Grade mens and womens play at the same time with Merriwa Tyre Service and Sandy Hollow’s mens fighting it out to the finish with Sandy Hollow taking home the Mens B Grade. In the Womens it was a little more obvious that the Toogie Fighting Spirit were going to take the trophie from Merriwa Sports Clubs Incred-e-bowls, although a great game, Toogie went on in a 6-0 win. From a players perspective, although it was wet and very slippery, the game was very entertaining. Both teams had to work hard and the games were played with great sportsmanship.
Community Calendar

What's happening?

Send your calendar information in before 12 noon
Mondays to merriwa2-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

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<tr>
<th>APRIL</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 17</td>
<td>• CWA Annual Street Stall</td>
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<td>• Maundy Thursday - Washing of the Feet - 6.00pm</td>
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<td>• Maundy Thursday - Meal - 7.00pm</td>
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<td>Friday 18</td>
<td>• Good Friday</td>
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<td>Saturday 19</td>
<td>• Easter Saturday</td>
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<td>Sunday 20</td>
<td>• Easter Sunday</td>
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<td>Monday 21</td>
<td>• Easter Monday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 25</td>
<td>• ANZAC Day - Dawn Service - 5.40am</td>
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<td>• Main Service - Assembly 10.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 26</td>
<td>• Men’s Breakfast - 8.00am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Merriwa Race Day</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Merriwa Sports Club - “Loose Change” - 8.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 4</td>
<td>• Festival of the Fleeces Bowls Gala Day - Merriwa Sports Club - 9.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 9</td>
<td>• Merriwa Central School - Mother’s Day Luncheon - School of Arts</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 10</td>
<td>• Mother’s Day morning tea - CWA Hall - 10.00am</td>
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ALL MATERIAL DUE 12 noon MONDAYS

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