Mighty Magpies take on Bears at Hunter Stadium

Merriwa Kingslyn Under 8’s travelled to Newcastle to play at Hunter Stadium for the Knights v’s Panthers game on Sunday May 11. They played both before the game and at half time, what a great experience!

Continues page 35
Highlighting Your Event

NSW Farmers
NSW FARMERS SUPPORTING MERRIWA WITH AILEEN HOGAN

Welcome to this week’s update. Have you considered completing the Native Vegetation Survey? Are you interested in how you can make improvements in the operation efficiency of your machinery for energy and cost saving?

ENERGY ISSUES TO BE ADDRESSED IN CENTRAL WEST NSW

NSW Farmers energy innovation team is heading to Dubbo and Orange this month to address the issue of energy efficiency on farms.

The team will conduct energy assessments for farmers who are participating in the association’s pilot Energy Innovation Program and host two free seminars to communicate learnings and energy efficiency opportunities. The Dubbo seminar will focus on opportunities available to broad acre farmers.

Farmers and community members are welcome to attend the Dubbo seminar on May 20 at the Dubbo RSL Club from 10.00am-2.00pm. For more information about both seminars or to RSVP contact Gerry Flores on 02 9478 1004.

NSW Farmers launches native vegetation survey

“Native vegetation laws cost the state’s agriculture industry dearly in lost productivity and perverse environmental outcomes,” said Fiona Simson NSW Farmers President.

“It’s time to get some real government action in addressing the issue but unfortunately the latest self assessable codes released by the Office of Environment and Heritage are impractical and unworkable for our state’s largest group of environmental custodians - farmers,” she said.

Draft codes governing the management of invasive native species, isolated paddock trees as well as thinning operations had been released for public consultation and the NSW Government is seeking feedback on them before May 26.

“Despite the disappointment that many landholders will feel when reading through the codes, it is vitally important for farmers to have their say and make sure their voice is heard in this debate,” said Fiona Simson.

NSW Farmers has launched its survey to ensure farmers’ comments are captured in the association’s submission on the codes and reform of native vegetation.

Continues page 33

Sandy Hollow Public School and Progress Association

TRIVIA NIGHT

Saturday 28 June at the Hall
6.30pm for a 7.00pm start
Cost - $10.00 per head
Bookings for tables of eight are being taken
Please contact the school 6547 4521

Come along for a fun night!
NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK
27 MAY TO 3 JUNE

National Reconciliation Week is approaching and in small communities we can sometimes wonder what it is all about. The week celebrates two significant events in our history, and looks forward to the future.

WHAT IS NATIONAL RECONCILIATION WEEK?

National Reconciliation Week (NRW) is celebrated across Australia each year between May 27 and June 3. The dates commemorate two significant milestones in the reconciliation journey—the anniversaries of the successful 1967 referendum and the High Court Mabo decision.

The week is a time for all Australians to learn about our shared histories, cultures and achievements and to explore how each of us can join the national reconciliation effort.

May 27, 1967 - Marks the anniversary of Australia’s most successful referendum and a defining event in our nation’s history. The 1967 referendum saw over 90 per cent of Australians vote to give the Commonwealth the power to make laws for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and recognise them in the national census.

3 June, 1992 - The High Court of Australia delivered its landmark Mabo decision which legally recognised that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people have a special relationship to the land—that existed prior to colonisation and still exists today. This recognition paved the way for land rights called Native Title.

The Merriwa district has a significant Aboriginal population and history. Unfortunately much of our local Aboriginal culture and knowledge has been lost. Our Yarn-Up parent group coordinated by Mr Johnston aims to reconnect students, staff and community with Aboriginal culture.

LUNCHEON SUCCESS

Congratulations to the P and C for initiating the return of a very successful Mother’s Day luncheon. It was a great success, and required a huge effort by our parent body, in particular Maria Cameron as coordinator. All funds raised by the P and C will support students at our school.

NATIONAL DATA COLLECTION

Our school is participating in the collection of nationally consistent data on school students with disability.

We will be collecting information already available in the school about the support that is being provided to students with disability. Better data will help the Government plan for students with disability.

The data collection will have no direct impact on your child and they will not be involved in any testing process.

The NSW Department of Education and Communities will provide data to the Australian Government from all NSW public schools in such a way that no individual student or school will be able to be identified. In this way, we will ensure the privacy and confidentiality of all students.

All information is protected by privacy laws which regulate the collection, storage and disclosure of personal information. Information about the Australian Government’s Privacy Policy can be found here: http://education.gov.au/condensed-privacy-policy. Information about the NSW Government’s privacy policies can be found here: http://www.ipc.nsw.gov.au/

If you do not want your child to be counted in the data collection, you must let the school know before the end of Term 2, 2014. A decision to exclude your child will not affect the support they currently receive.


If you have any questions about your child being included in the data collection please contact the school.

Darren Noonan
Principal

Coming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MAY</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 15</td>
<td>University of Technology and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Macquarie University Sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>excursion</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 16</td>
<td>University of Technology and</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Macquarie University Sydney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>excursion, returning 9.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 19</td>
<td>Secondary formal assembly,</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8.55am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 21</td>
<td>Secondary Zone Athletics Carnival</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Last Friday 9 May Year 1/2 performed for the first assembly of Term 2. As it was the Friday before Mother’s Day, the class had chosen a song for the Mums in the audience. The class adapted the Bruno Mars song ‘Just the way you are’ but instead of using the word ‘girl’ they replaced it with ‘Mum’ and proudly sang “Mum you’re amazing, just the way you are”. Well done on a great effort!

WORKERS OF THE WEEK

Last Friday we saw many pieces of wonderful work that has been completed in class. Students showed recounts, predictions, illustrations and even weather symbols! Well done to the following students on your great work in class:

Kindergarten Class: Jayden McPhie and Jack Cook

Year 1/2: Georgie Simmons and Andy Olive

Year 2/3: Damian Constable, Nikita Constable and Lachlan Sellers

Year 4/5: Jack Ponsford and Joanne Hamson

Year 5/6: James Bristow and Logan Dewson.

MOTHER’S DAY LUNCHEON

The P and C held a lovely Mother’s Day Luncheon on Friday 9 May and our Year 1/2 class and Year 2/3 class were proud to attend and perform for those enjoying the festivities. Josie Porter began by reading out an exposition about Mothers’ written by Year 2/3. Then both classes performed the song ‘Because They’re Cute’ with some cute actions for all to see. It was a very fun performance and we enjoyed being part of it. Thank you to the P and C for organising the event and inviting us along to share our performance skills.

MOTHER’S DAY STALL

Thank you to the P and C for our annual Mother’s Day Stall, especially Cassie Constable for all your hard work coordinating and running the stall. Students are always very excited to be able to buy something special for their Mum’s for Mother’s Day and the items on sale this year were very sweet and cute. We hope all the Merriwa Mum’s enjoyed their Mother’s Day gifts and that our Mum’s on the P and C luncheon had a lovely day too.

Rebecca West  
Assistant Principal

Merriwa Ringer
Athletics Carnival

The K-12 Athletics carnival has been run and won for another year. The majority of events were organised on May 2 and then the Javelin events were run over a few lunch times last week.

We were certainly blessed with some good weather with a mainly sunny Friday. This enabled all of our students to perform to their best in participating in a number of athletic disciplines.

It was pleasing to see all the students and the parents enjoying the day. I thought the students participated really well and being willing to help out at the different events. And it was particularly good to watch the Kindergarten to Year 2 events with lots of happy faces and ribbons on their chest.

I am happy to be finally able to announce the Athletics Carnival results for 2014. The winner of this year’s carnival was Blaxland House. Congratulations to them for their commitment and fine performance. There were a number of record breakers including:

- Taylah Blackadder from Blaxland House broke the 16 years 800m record in a new time of 3.01 minutes
- Alana Smith from Wentworth House broke the 12 years High Jump record by 4cm and so the new record is 1.05m
- Jayden Shadlow-Walls broke the 11 years High Jump record by 3cm and so the new record is 1.11m
- Logan Pike smashed the 11 years Discus record by 90cm and so the new record is 16.32m.

At the end of the day, the point score was Blaxland - 1057, Wentworth - 983, Oxley - 878 and Lawson - 691.

I would like to relay my huge appreciation to Mr Peter Stone who went above and beyond in preparing the No2 Sports oval into an athletics track. The staff and students also appreciated the efforts Donna Mulholland and her helpers Jane Constable and Shirley Bevan in keeping all of us well fed. I am indebted to the MCS staff who worked hard all day marshalling, measuring and recording the performances of our students. Thanks, also goes to the parents and community members, who spent part of their day supporting all students.

So now, we will send a large team of athletes to Muswellbrook to compete at the Zone carnival to be held May 21. I look forward to being able to tell you all about our students’ performances a little later in the term.

Last Friday we had a small team of five students that represented the school and the Upper Hunter Zone in Cross Country. In fantastic news, Taylah Blackadder placed sixth, Brooke Fawcett-Williams placed eighteenth and Manda Sormaz placed thirteenth in the 16 Years Girls event.

Elaina Sormaz finished sixteenth out of 60 students in 14 Years Girls age event and Ben Keane finished 38th in 14 Years Boys event.

Taylah has qualified for NSW CHS Cross Country for later in the year.

Alison King
Sports Coordinator

---

### Age Group | Secondary Boys Age Champions | Secondary Boys Runners Up
--- | --- | ---
12 years old | Clancy Martin (O) (36 pts) | Jackson Keane (W) (32 pts)
13 years old | Lachlan Walker (W) (50 pts) | Dean Swan (W) (44 pts)
14 years old | Ben Keane (W) (48 pts) | Dylan Cox (B) (36 pts)
15 years old | Luke Cronin (O) (50 pts) | Cody Towell (O) (40 pts)
16 years old | John Cronin (O) (56 pts) | Lachlan Walmsley (B) (51 pts)
17 + years old | Cameron Tritton (O) (44 pts) | Bradley Ellis (B) (36 pts)

### Age Group | Secondary Girls Age Champions | Secondary Girls Runners Up
--- | --- | ---
12 years old | Alana Smith (W) (46 pts) | Ellie Blackadder (B) (22 pts)
13 years old | Hannah Riley (W) (64 pts) | Stephane McLennan (O) (32 pts)
14 years old | Elaina Sormaz (L) (60 pts) | Courtney Eveleigh (W) (26 pts)
15 years old | Alkira Tritton (O) (46 pts) | Maddelyn Blackadder (B) (26 pts)
  | Kylie Fairfull (B) (46 pts) | Janaya Austin (B) (16 pts)
16 years old | Taylah Blackadder (B) (56 pts) | Madison Swan (W) (46 pts)
17 + years old | Billie-Jane Hoole (W) (58 pts) | Cody Marshall-Parker (W) (50 pts)

Merriwa Ringer
why i want to be in ROAR? To keep fit and learn how to play football better

what is my favourite subject: Sport

what is my favourite sport? Steer riding

what is my favourite team? Knights

Favourite Player: Jarrod Mullen

Best personal sporting achievement: Qualified for the ABCRA National finals in the last two years for steer riding

Who inspires you and why: Cliff Richardson because he is one of the best bull riders in the ABCRA and helps anyone who needs it and is a good role model

Advice to young players: Give 110%. Don’t quit and if you dream it you can do it.

ROAR Profile
Oliver Towell
Year 7
**Favourite Subject:** TAFE - Childrens Services - interesting work and I think it would be a great career

**Extra-Curricular activities:** Aus League ladies team, Merriwa Touch and working part time at the Upper Hunter Shire Council

**Best Personal Achievements:** Achieving higher class grades in most of my subjects

**Year Advisor’s Comment:** Brianna is busy balancing her studies, her traineeship with the local Council and her sporting commitments. She is a well represented member of Year 12. Her peers respect her reliability, kindness and willingness to help in difficult times. It is good to observe Brianna develop into a mature young women.

Alison King
Year Advisor

---


**AFTRS Pixar Animation Course and Open July School Holiday Courses**

AFTRS Trop Jr Filmmaking Week: 30 June – 4 July

Teens Radio: Get Started Here: 30 June – 1 July

TV Presenting, The Secret of Success: 2 July – 4 July

Writing a Short Film: 9 July – 11 July

http://www.aftrs.edu.au/short-courses/school-holidays

**PREVIOUS WEEK ITEMS**

**Applications Open for Indigenous Program Galuwa at UTS:** 30 June to 4 July 2014 or 22 to 26 September 2014. It will feature interactive hands-on workshops, site visits with industry partners, cultural activities, information about career paths in Engineering and IT and a graduation at iconic Sydney venue. To apply go to uts.ac/UTSGaluwa or email FEITOutreach@uts.edu.au

**GapForce Overseas Work Experience, courses and Volunteering - Open evening Monday 2 June, Sydney Central YHA, 11 Rawson Place, Corner of Pitt St and Rawson Place 2000 6.00pm – 9.00pm (presentation on programmes at 6.30pm, otherwise drop in anytime). This event will give senior school and University students and their parents the chance to meet with staff to discuss programmes and how they develop personal growth. Programmes are available to anyone, lasting from two weeks to three months+. GapForce will also be exhibiting at the Northern Beaches (15 and 16 May) and HSC and Careers (29 May - 1 June) Expos. For more information see www.gapforce.org. To organise a senior school talk about the programmes or to set up a meeting, contact Matt Dickens on mattdickens@gapforce.org.

**WEP Student Exchange** – Attention Year 10 and 11 Students - Make the most of your summer break and spend it overseas! Live with a welcoming host family, attend school overseas and make friends from around the world. Applications for short-term WEP student exchange programs are closing in August 14. To request an information pack, please visit www.wep.org.au, call 1300 884 733 or 1300 884 733 or email info@wep.org.au.

**Engineering and Technology Cadetships (ETCAD)** - Professional Cadetships Applications opened: 28 April. Applications close: 13 June For Year 12 students who would like to pursue a career in ICT and in business. Cadets combine either an ICT-related degree or a business degree with paid work at a leading company. Contact: director@professionalcadets.com.au Website: www.professionalcadets.com.au

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

Jane Hegarty
Careers Advisor
Kindergarten News

We have had a great start to the term in Kindergarten! We recently welcomed Alyra Bannerman into our class, we look forward to learning a lot of interesting things with you! Our lessons have been very action packed and we have had many visitors to our classroom. Mrs McLaren and Mrs Peebles have been assisting us in our Literacy groups which has helped us learn many new things with three teachers in the room! We welcome any parent helpers who would love to come in and see what we are learning.

In Creative Arts this term we will be learning about Dreamtime stories and different ways which these are represented. We are looking forward to learning about the meaning of these stories and looking at many beautiful and colourful images.

In HSIE we will be learning about Personal and Family Histories. We will learn about different cultures which families have and the many things which make each family unique and different. We will have many experiences which show that even though we are all different we join together to make one community.

Our Scientific brain will be kicking into overdrive this term learning about the ‘Made’ environment. We will be looking at our local community and wider community and learning about different infrastructure which has been built to serve the people of Merriwa. We are always willing to learn from people in our community so if you are interested in teaching us any interesting facts we would love to hear from you!

We are enjoying the many different learning activities we get to experience at school. Here is a picture of us learning how to form our letters correctly in front of the Smartboard.

Last week St Joseph’s had eighteen students represent our school at the Maitland Newcastle Diocesan Cross Country Carnival. The students travelled to Tarro and were in races which had over 90 students in each age group. There have been many positive reports on student’s behaviour as well as their sportsmanship with the whole team staying for the duration of the Carnival to cheer other students on. There were many grinning faces which arrived back at school in the afternoon – even those who had a trip in the race! I would like to thank to the wonderful parents who drove their children and others to participate in this event and of course to the wonderful team manager, Mark Morris for supporting and encouraging the team.

On Friday we celebrated Mother’s Day with our annual Mother’s Day Breakfast, Liturgy and Activities. In Kindergarten we had many Mums, Grandmothers and other special friends join us to do some reading and decorate biscuits. There were many inventive biscuits which were taken home.
Samantha Kerr  
Kindergarten Teacher

WEEKLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the following award winners.

Kindergarten - Rhianna Smith - for great work identifying and naming 3D shapes!

Grace Booth - for working well in Literacy Groups

Ellie Holland - for her contribution to class discussions

Year 1/2 - Phoenix Denning - Great effort in practicing writing skills

Bobby Keegan - Fantastic effort in identifying Physical Activity

Riley Melmeth - Great effort in being prepared for the Mother’s Day Liturgy

Year 3/4 - Korey Halse - for his great skills in measuring capacity

Amy Redgate - for her excellent work in writing a ballad poem

Merriwa Ringer

Class 5/6 - Eliza Peebles - for organising and managing a successful Mother’s Day Breakfast

Clancy Moore - for organising and managing a successful Mother’s Day Breakfast

Ty Riley - for organising and managing a successful Mother’s Day Breakfast

Playground Champion - Camdyn Constable - for including others in games

Principal’s Awards - Mr Morris for putting so much time and effort into organising the Mother’s Day Breakfast.
SINGING

All students have started preparing for the Eisteddfod. Adam Wills from the Conservatorium of Music has been working with the students on two items - “Ben” by Michael Jackson and “When I Grow Up” from the musical “Matilda”. The Eisteddfod will be held in Week 8 of this term. Thank you to the P and C for funding this activity.

SINGLETON JUNIOR JUDGING

Last Friday William Stair, Olivia McLean and Kristy Walker travelled to Singleton to compete in the Junior Judging competition. By all accounts they had a great day. William Stair placed first in seed identification with a score of 10/12. Kristy and Olivia were close behind with scores of 9/12. Well done to those students. Thank you to the parents who transported their child to and from the venue and provided supervision on the day.

CHICKEN POX ALERT

We have had reported cases of chicken pox. If your child shows symptoms please seek medical advice and keep them at home until the contagious period is over. For further information, please refer to the information brochure sent home on Friday.

WOOLWORTHS FOOD REVOLUTION DAY

This Friday Woolworths are running a promotion to encourage healthy lunches. The promotion is called Food Revolution Day which is being promoted by Jamie Oliver across the nation. Woolworths Muswellbrook store will provide, free of charge, meat, fresh salad and wraps for all students to make their own healthy lunch. We need one or two parents to help prepare the salads.

We are very excited to be included in this initiative.

REGIONAL CROSS COUNTRY

Congratulations to Angus who placed 23rd at the cross country last Friday. An excellent effort.

PARENT SUPERVISION

Due to nominated parents for Canberra being unable to attend, we have one vacancy for a parent to join the excursion with us. We need to fulfil a student to adult ratio that is required at some venues. Parents accompanying students will be required to assist with supervision at some venues, but not all. Staff will be responsible for supervision at all times, including nights. Please contact the school as soon as possible if you are able to come along.

VIDEO CONFERENCE

Next Friday students in Years 2-6 will participate in a video conference lesson. They will be touring Bennelong Point in Sydney and learning about the traditional owners of the land in that area. This lesson fits in with our HSIE unit on British Colonisation of Australia.

Christina Darlington
Principal

WEEKLY AWARDS

Katie Pike - fantastic effort in maths.
Abby Cooper - fantastic results in spelling.
Jake Pike - working well in reading.
Kristy Walker - working hard to improve hopping skills.
Natasha Marsh - trying hard in all KLAs.
Declan Adams - trying very hard to make his work neat.
Isabella Pike - wonderful work on time.

WORKERS OF THE WEEK

Years K/1/2 - Andrew Harris, Riley Borradaile, Rowdy Walters.

Years 3/4/5/6 - Katie Pike, William Stair, Sam Thompson and Beau Buswell.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Marshall Hinze - for being a valuable member of K/1.

YEAR 4/5/6 NEWS

We have started off the term with a full workload. Students have started singing on Wednesdays with Adam Wills from the Conservatorium of Music and athletics with Mrs Parker on Thursdays. We have also been busy revising writer’s techniques in preparation for NAPLAN this week.

In literacy we have been focussing on handwriting.
For the last few weeks students have been revising cursive joins for all letter combinations. It is hoped that fluency and legibility will improve with practice. Students have been encouraged to apply these skills across all KLAs. In writing we have been focussing on paragraphing, complex sentences and technical language. We have also revised persuasive and narrative writing.

After NAPLAN we will start our new English unit based on “The Island” written by John Heffernan.

In Maths 5/6 have been focussing on fractions. Students have been learning about equivalent fractions, adding and subtracting fractions, regrouping fractions and simplifying fractions. Year 4 have been focussing on financial numeracy and looking at simple budgets. This will culminate in an investigation on holding a pancake day at school.

In HSIE we are studying “British Colonisation of Australia”. We have focussed on the first inhabitants of the land and who really discovered Australia. This week we will specifically focus on the First Fleet’s journey and arrival at Sydney Cove.

In PDHPE we are following up from our visit to Healthy Harold late last term. Students have looked at who influences their decisions and what substances are classified as drugs. We will look further at pain medication, alcohol and cigarette smoking.

Students are reminded that they need to be prepared to start every school day. It is very disruptive when students need to borrow equipment because they do not have their own. ALL students require a red/blue/black pen, lead pencil, rubber, ruler, glue stick, sharpener. Coloured pencils and textas are optional. Please assist your child to ensure they are organised and ready to start the day.

There have been some issues with homework. ALL homework is due in Friday, NOT Monday morning. Homework handed in late will not be marked until the following Friday. Students who do not complete homework will be expected to do it in their own time.

Please do not hesitate to contact me during school hours if you have any questions or concerns.

Christina Darlington
Class Teacher

GRIP LEADERSHIP

On Tuesday May 6, Year 6 went to the Grip Leadership Conference at Tamworth.

When we arrived we were taken to our seats near Murrurundi. We were waiting for about 10 minutes before it started. After the 10 minutes Ronan (a speaker) came up on stage and talked about the day. He then told us how to be a Schoolyard Super-hero. This means we have to be a helper, encourager, role model and organiser. This spells HERO so this is how we can be a Schoolyard Superhero.

Then we had ‘Loud noises’ and this was hosted by Andy and Carl. These two were the funniest thing of the day, especially Carl. Next we had morning tea break for 15 minutes and we could have a toilet break and stuff like that. When we came back in Andy hosted. He said lead like a strawberry, not a watermelon.

In this part of the day we played a game where he zoomed in on a picture and we had to guess it, but the thing he zoomed in on wasn’t the answer. So it wasn’t very fair and everybody in the room got it wrong.

The ‘Loud noises’ was back and we played ‘Charades’. We had 20 mime words on the whiteboard (e.g. snow-train) so it was fun and Andy’s side (our side) won.

Next we had leadership ‘Everest’ which had the steps to succeed in student leadership. The steps were overcome the crowd, recover from setbacks, involve others and overcome others. We watched movie clips to see who did these challenges. The movie clips were from the movies Planes, Happy Feet 2, Rio and Madagascar 3. After we watched these we watched another clip where the hosts had overcome these challenges. Then we had half an hour for lunch.

When we came back Carl hosted ‘Bringing Ideas Together’. We had to exchange ideas with other schools. Then he told us the steps on how to bring them to life. They were: Where is it? Who is going to be there? and When is it?

Jeannie Harris

Page 11
SMALL SCHOOL...BIG DIFFERENCE

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Last week, during the excursion, Priya was an active and positive participant in her room group. She listened to advice from the senior students and adults which helped her get better organised for different events. She improved her ability to get to sleep without disturbing others and make her bed in the morning. Priya was consistently respectful to other students and adults and was very appreciative of everything that she was given. Her manners and attitude were fantastic. Priya really got a lot out of the excursion and knew how lucky she was to be given all of the opportunities. She was an absolute pleasure to take to Sydney. Her journal entries showed improved sentence structure and ability to sound out words. Congratulations Priya. You really deserve this award.

AN OUTSTANDING EXCURSION!

It was such a great week. All students commented on the fun that they had, the learning that they enjoyed and different challenges that they faced. Congratulations to students on their positive attitudes, manners, strengthening friendships and gratitude. Many, many thanks to Mrs T Nairne, Mrs A Nairne, Mr W Nairne and Mr Gant who came with us and worked non-stop to ensure all students had a very safe week and were very well taken care of. I really appreciated all your efforts and I know that our students did as well. Thank you also to the P and C, who paid half the remaining excursion costs. The other half was paid by the school.

In next week’s newsletter will be a breakdown of the actual costs as it is important for families to understand how many different activities and opportunities were provided to their children.

INDIVIDUAL STUDENT SUCCESS

- Sarah helping other students during the week by being a great role model
- Corey enjoying Madame Tussauds and sitting on the crocodile from Crocodile Dundee
- Maddie winning the Oscar for Best Actress during the Ghost Tour of The Rocks
- James thoroughly enjoying every moment of The Lion King
- Cameron’s impressive acting during the Ghost Tour
- Tobias’s positive attitude in trying everything
- Jack N being very excited after he bought a cool hat from Madame Tussauds
- Jack S.C enjoying the giant slide
- Summer’s organisation in the morning
- Priya’s organisation throughout the day
- Angus being one of the first people to sleep each night so he was ready for the next day’s adventures.

JOURNAL ENTRIES EXERTS FROM AN EXCELLENT EXCURSION

I liked the Sydney Sky Walk because it had a breath-taking view. I felt happy but nervous at the same time. I didn’t know that the paint on top of the Sky Walk could cover the Harbour Bridge twice.

Written by Corey

I liked the drive, the train ride and the walk through China Town.

Written by Tobias

Today was the best! First we went to the ABC Studio which was pretty great. My favourite things were The Lion King and the park. Brady and I were working on this really cool water fountain course. We tried to pump as much water as possible and it was great fun. There was a swing ride which was a circle and I almost fell off. This day was one of the best days of my life.

Written by Maddie

Today we went on the Sky Walk and we walked around the building. It had a glass bottom that we could jump on. Each cube of glass could hold up to 400kg as it was very thick. I was really scared because we were 268 metres off the ground.

Written by Summer

Page 12
It was our last day in Sydney. We went to The Powerhouse Museum to see the Games Exhibition. It was cool as the dance game was fun. Jack N and I versed each other and I won with 4701 points. There were some other games there that were good as well. After that we went to Madame Tussauds. It was really good and all the people looked so real. Sometimes when I looked at them, I thought they were real people. My favourite people would have to have been Mick Dundee and Bruce Willis. The last thing that we did was the Aquatic Centre. It was awesome! The big water slide was my favourite attraction. When I went down, I spun around five times on the big corner. In the whirl pool I tried to hang onto the wall but the current was too strong. When I came out I could hear the bell off the big bucket so I quickly walked over to it and just made it. I got soaked. For dinner we went to the best place in the world...Ribs and Rumps. I had the kid’s beef ribs and a ginger beer. We caught the train from Olympic Station to Lidcombe and then back to Central.

Written by Thomas

After a windy weekend it was great to be greeted with a beautiful morning for the first of our children’s playground Bake Sales. The response from families was overwhelming and soon the table filled with lovely cakes, slices and biscuits. Noone was safe as the children personally invited people to buy from their stall using the small cash register to store the money. The wonderful cooking added to our own efforts of making quiche with our freshly picked garden tomatoes and parsley with apple pies and fairy cakes. As the children rolled the pastry they commented on how much it was like play dough (yum). To add to our lovely sale the children were also running a small raffle of a knitted blanket and a perfectly iced little cake for Mother’s Day. The deserving winner was Vicki Bristow.

It’s getting a little chilly and the children will now be beginning their day indoors. Please feel free to bring some warm slippers to wear, the lino can become cold underfoot after a while. Also a beanie is a great item to toss into the winter bag as we continue to be involved in outdoor play throughout the winter months as well.

Everybody is welcome to attend the Committee Meeting held on Thursday night (tonight), at the Pre-School at 6.30pm. Snacks will be provided, if you have an issue that you would like added to the agenda please feel free to call the school.

We are thrilled to have Troy Murphy visit our Pre-School on March 16 at 2.00pm. Troy will perform his fun show for us, full of magic and fun while learning. This performance is on a Friday but if your child is in the year before school, attending on a Monday, Wednesday or Thursday please feel free to come along to see the show. It will be fantastic. Some advanced noticed that the Pre-School will be raising funds for the Asthma Foundation of Australia with a Pyjama day held on Wednesday May 21. Please wear your Pj’s to Pre-School and bring a gold coin donation for us to contribute to this worthwhile cause.

Many families have been concerned with school readiness with enrolments begin to open this month in most school communities. Children can begin Primary school from 4.5 years and must be started by age 6. As you may imagine the potential for a variety of development can cause some confusion and ones perception of school readiness

Katie Burgess
Principal
ready may vary from another. We define these differences as age ready and developmentally ready students. Regardless, kindergarten is where children will develop their idea of themselves as learners and this will influence the rest of their schooling. It is most important to hear positive messages about themselves and their work and the value of education. Hearing these things will boost their confidence as learners. It is a very exciting time. A school readiness evening will be scheduled for later this term, this will be a great opportunity to explore readiness and meet representatives from local feeder schools.

Download the free Merriwa Central School App.
MCS in touch with our community!

Anglican News

Regular Church Services - page 29

DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

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

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

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

17 May: Men’s Breakfast - 8.00am.

3 June: Anglican Women’s Conference at Christ Church Cathedral. Eucharist 10.30am. Guest speaker Kerry Thompson, wife of the new Bishop. Further details ph. Beatrice Voysey 6548 2065 or visit the website - www.anglicanwomennewcastle.org.au

7 June: Open Church - Festival of the Fleece

8 June: Blessing of the Fleece service - “Holy Trinity” 9.00am

Also the winner of the Mother’s Day raffle is Jodie Magner winning the beautiful Mother’s Day cake.

We are at “Holy Trinity” are busy making biscuits for Rev’d Noel Boyce, our locum who is part of the Kairos ministry. You may ask what is “Kairos”? It is the ministry to the residents of jails, and in this area St. Helliers, Muswellbrook. If anyone wishes to help with cooking please contact the church phone as there is a criteria to the ingredients that are acceptable.

Quotes about prayer.. “Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer. And let faith become the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.” Maya Angelou.

Contact: 0429 996 769

Rosalie Drew

Leah Folpp and Merriwa Pre-School Educators
OPENING NIGHT CANCELLED
The Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces Committee would like to advise that the Opening Night Celebrations that were planned for Friday 6 June 2014 at the Merriwa RSL have been cancelled by the committee due to unforeseen circumstances.
The Festival Committee apologises for any inconveniences that this may cause, and would like to thank our event sponsor Merriwa Tyre and Service Centre for their understanding and continuing support for the festival.
The Festival Committee would like to thank Merriwa Tyre and Service Centre for offering to sponsor the Gold Event of the Croc Stars Reptile Show, in lieu of the Opening Night at this year’s festival.

MOTHERS DAY RAFFLE WINNERS
The Mother’s Day Raffle and Street stall was another successful fundraising event for the Festival Committee. Thank you to all the community members that donated.
The Mothers Day Street Stall raised $513.00 towards this years Festival and the winners of the Raffle were:

First: Glenn Hunt
Second: Shirley Bevan
Third: Nerada Bailey

Barbara Campbell and Jan Baihn Coordinators Street Stalls and Raffles

Thank you for your sponsorship to date,

MAJOR AND NAMING RIGHTS SPONSOR
ROSTO Olives

MAJOR SPONSOR
Upper Hunter Shire Council

MINOR SPONSOR
Ausgrid
NBN Television

GOLD EVENT SPONSORS
Merriwa Tyre and Service Centre
Merriwa RSL
Lenore’s Quilting and Martin’s Transport
The Campbell Family

SILVER EVENT SPONSORS
Curtis Gant Irving Solicitors

Hunter Mutual
Alexiam of Merriwa Preserves and Cookery
Merriwa CWA
Upper Hunter Team Penning

BRONZE EVENT SPONSORS
The Royal Hotel
Merriwa Sports Club
Upper Hunter Fire Protection
Merriwa Pharmacy
Anthea Wright Veterinary Services
Falcon Grove Olives
Outback Press - Merriwa District Diary
Coal and Allied
The Welcoming Centre
Merriwa Auto Electrical
CJO Photography
Cassilis Public School

COMMUNITY AND IN KIND SPONSORS
Merriwa IGA Plus Liquor
Hunter Sports Group
Merriwa Volunteer Rescue Association
Merriwa Springtime Show
La Scaletta Pizzeria
Merriwa Newsagency
Merriwa Campdraft
Merriwa Rotary
Merriwa Men’s Bowls
St David’s Uniting Church Merriwa
St Trinity’s Anglican Church Merriwa
St Ann’s Catholic Church Merriwa
Max’s Country Cuts
Merriwa Ringer
Men’s Shed Merriwa
David Mahony Art Gallery and Café
RM Property and Livestock
Tullymore Clydesdale and Shire Horse Stud
The Denman - Hotel, Restaurant, Motel
Elders Rural Services - Pitt and Son
ROAR - Merriwa Central School
Cr. Deirdre Peebles
Megan Richards
Sue Collings
James Bettington
James Constable

If you are interested in sponsoring a Festival event please contact Liam Garment 6521 7046.

Liam Garment
**Community Notice Board**

**Upper Hunter Technology Nights**

The Upper Hunter Youth Council is planning a technology night. We are looking to hold this at venues in Murrurundi, Scone and Merriwa. Some details below so you can save the date. Invitations out soon.

**DATE:** Tuesday May 27  
**TIME:** 5.30pm until 7.00pm  
**Where:** Scone Library, Merriwa CTC and Murrurundi CTC  
**INVITATIONS:** Out soon.  
RSVPs are be essential to mspora@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au  
**WHO:** Students from Years 3 to 6.

Mary Spora

**Shave for a Cure**

**IZABELLA NEALE IS RAISING MONEY FOR THE CURE**

Nine year old, Izabella Neale so bravely shaved her hair off for a great cause after hearing about her friend’s nan. Izabella is now looking for sponsors to assist in her fundraising, anyone wishing to support Izabella with donations, contact 0439 969 021.

Mary Spora

**Merriwa Jumbucks MASTERS TOURNAMENT**

**PEMBROKE MERRIWA JUMBUCKS**

**WHEN:** Saturday June 7  
**TIME:** 10.00am start  
**WHERE:** Merriwa Sports Club

It is now only four weeks before the Pembroke Merriwa Jumbucks return from a ten year hiatus and show the world that we are still the World Record Holders.

We will be shearing, spinning and knitting a child sized jumper using a slightly modified Wool Challenge pattern. The Morisset Crafty Crafters will once again be giving us a run for our money. There will be two trophies, one for the team who is the first to complete the knitting of the garment, and one for the team whose jumper is the neatest and best presented.

Our fund raising efforts are for **THE KIDS’ CANCER PROJECT**, there is a raffle and there will be articles for sale on the day. The Merriwa Spinners have so far raised close to $2 000.00 from articles sold at the Merriwa Tourist Welcoming Centre so if you are unable to attend on 7 June you might like to pop into the Centre (9.30 – 2.30 daily) to contribute to this worthwhile cause.

Edith Shipway

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

Find us on Facebook!  
Look for Merriwa Central School’s official page!
Community Notice Board

Merriwa Bushman’s Campdraft and Springtime Show

RSA COURSE

Merriwa Bushman’s Campdraft and Merriwa Springtime Show are holding a fully Accredited RSA Course at the Merriwa RSL Club.

Date: 27 May 2014
Time: 9.00am – 4.00pm.
Price: $135.00

Names must be in by Friday May 23.

For bookings and enquiries please phone Megan Richards on 0427 437 743 or Toni Jones on 0498 378 500.

Anyone is welcome!

Megan Richards and Toni Jones

Merriwa Rotary

Bowelscan is a Rotary program developed in NSW in the early 1980’s and is now conducted by over 250 Rotary clubs throughout Australia.

These clubs issue approximately 150,000 kits during their annual Colorectal Screening programs. Since Rotary Bowelscan commenced, it is estimated that more than 1,000 people with bowel cancer and 5,000 with polyps have been detected.

Over 9,000 Australians will be diagnosed this year as having bowel cancer and over 4,500 will die of the disease.

The Rotary Club of Merriwa has been a participant in this worthy program almost since its inception.

From Monday May 19 until Friday May 23, Merriwa Rotarians will be distributing kits at a stall outside Merriwa Pharmacy. Kits cost ten dollars.

Early detection can save lives!

Mark Smith
Rotary Club of Merriwa

Merriwa Tennis

SOCIAL TENNIS

Ladies Tennis is on Tuesdays, starting time will be at 9.30am. Everyone is welcome.

Merriwa Tennis Club is a child friendly club.

For more information contact Bev Telfer on 6548 7226 or Rose Medway on 6548 3207.

Loretta Cooper

Merriwa PAH and I

2014 MERRIWA SHOW PRIME CATTLE COMPETITION

This year the competition will commence in the week of the 16 June, final date to be advised. All cattle to be delivered to Alexander Downs on the determined date and will be purchased by Alexander Downs (Price determined week prior to purchase).

The competition consists of a pen of three in two classes. Each class to be fed for 90 days prior to the show at Alexander Downs. The cattle will be presented on the Saturday of the show and judged on the hoof. The cattle will return to Alexander Downs for a further 10 days before being slaughtered at Tamworth abattoirs. At this point the cattle will be judged on the hook.

• Class: Pen of 3 Steers 240 – 290kg, Milk teeth, all recognised beef breeds
• Class 2: Pen of 3 Steers 291 – 340kg, Milk teeth, all recognised beef breeds
• Sponsored by: Woolworths, Alexander Downs, Rockwell Livestock and Property.

Total prize money - $3,500.00

For further details contact Tony Inder 0427 485 100 or Stephen Gill 0427 485 115.

Tony Inder

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.

Merriwa Ringer
Fusion cuisine is cuisine that combines elements of different culinary traditions. Cuisines of this type are not categorised according to any one particular cuisine style and have played a part in innovations of many contemporary restaurant cuisines since the 1970’s.

Fusion food is a general term for the combination of various forms of cookery and comes in several forms. Regional fusion combines different cuisines of a region or sub-region into a single eating experience. Asian fusion restaurants, which combine the various cuisines of different Asian countries, have become popular in many parts of the United States and United Kingdom. Often featured are South Asian, East Asian, and South-East Asian dishes alongside one another and offering dishes that are inspired combinations of such cuisines. California cuisine is considered a fusion culture, taking inspiration particularly from Italy, France, Mexico, the idea of the European delicatessen, and eastern Asia, and then creating traditional dishes from these cultures with non-traditional ingredients - such as California pizza. Other examples of this style include Tex-Mex, which combines southwest United States cuisine and Mexican cuisines, and Pacific rim cuisine, which combines the different cuisines of the various island nations.

In Australia, due to the increasing influx of migrants, fusion cuisine is being reinvented and is becoming increasingly the norm at numerous cafes and restaurants; with Melbourne and Sydney now being considered as some of the best cities in the world with regard to the quality and creativity of Asian-fusion restaurants.

Another incarnation of fusion cuisine implements a more eclectic approach, which generally features original dishes that combine varieties of ingredients from various cuisines and regions. Such a restaurant might feature a wide variety of dishes inspired by a combination of various regional cuisines with new ideas.

Foods based on one culture, but prepared using ingredients and flavors inherent to another culture, are also considered forms of fusion cuisine. For instance, pizza made with cheddar and pepper jack cheese, salsa, refried beans or other common taco ingredients is often marketed as “Taco Pizza”. This particular dish is a fusion of Italian and Mexican cuisines. Similar approaches have been used for fusion-sushi, such as rolling maki with different types of rice and ingredients such as curry and basmati rice, cheese and salsa with Spanish rice, or spiced ground lamb and capers rolled with Greek-style rice and grape leaves, which resembles inside-out dolmades.

The Culinary Arts of Spice Grill are also the outcome of the Fusions of different ingredients and Cooking Styles from India, Europe and Australia. Every item in our well designed menu is a great example of Fusion Cooking. Our kitchen staff is well trained in creating and developing different Fusions of Various Cooking styles and successfully that have done that too.

We are BYO and our restaurant is getting booked for various Christmas parties in the coming days. We are always ready to serve morning tea, breakfast, lunch, evening tea, supper and dinner. Your booking is also awaited. Our phone number is – 02 6548 2255.

Rohit Gaur

Merriwa Auto Electrical

BATTERIES

Cold mornings mean you need a reliable battery!

We sell Century batteries, made in Australia. A variety available to suit most vehicles. If not, we can order special batteries in at no extra cost. Our prices are lower than most large retailers out of town!

LIGHTING

Driving lights and light bars: we sell good quality lights at reasonable prices; but if you buy yours elsewhere, we don’t mind, we can wire them up professionally for you.

Upgrade your globes to “100%+ more light”. These globes are a terrific compromise if you just want to boost your night vision.

AUTO ELECTRICAL SERVICE

We offer a comprehensive auto electrical service. This includes: UHFs, accessories, fitting and repairs, air conditioning, starters and alternators and TV aerial upgrades.

CONTACT

Call us, or drop in as “we are here to help”. 30 Bow Street, Merriwa

Phone 02 6548 2114 or Fax 02 6548 2668

e-mail: merrae@bigpond.com

Michael and Sally Hagley

Merriwa Ringer
We hope all of the mums in town had a wonderful Mother’s Day. It was great to see the Mother’s Day Luncheon on again this year. It is always a great lunch for all of the mums and grandmas - and a chance to catch up with people we haven’t seen for a while.

A HALLMARK MOMENT

“An Ode to Ageing Gracefully
May your bum stay firm and pert
May your boobs not head south
May your lippy never bleed into the lines round your mouth
May you eat a ton of chocolate but never gain a pound
May you always look your best whenever Brad Pit comes round
May you never wear big pants or grow unwanted hair
And, Birthday Girl, if all else fails,
May you be too sloshed to care!”

STICKER BOOKS

There is a great selection of sticker books, especially for little girls available now. There are Little Ballerinas, Little Fairies, Little Princesses and Little Friends. Each book has over 100 stickers for several different scenes, and will be a great way for your little girl to occupy her days when the weather turns cold.

Stick and Learn - there are several different books in this series that will help your Pre-Schooler learn many different things. There are book on animals, reptiles, sea creatures, letters, numbers and emergency services. These books have over 100 stickers and are very fun to do.

COUNTRY LIVING

The latest issue of this fabulous magazine is out now. This magazine showcases towns, shops, people, gardens and events in the New England District. This issue has an in-depth interview with Ernie Dingo - his life, his family and the drought. Find out more about Tamworth’s international artist in residence, Australia’s oldest saddler, Narrabri’s new kid’s shop - the Green Sheep, Uralla’s self-taught silver smith and so much more. This issue is also a Wedding Special and showcases the many beautiful and unique wedding that have been held in the district. Be inspired to visit the New England District! Read Country Living today!

DISCOUNT BOOKS

Our latest shipment of discount novels is available now. There are novels for fans of action, mystery, supernatural, romance, period drama and modern drama.

Neville and Leanne Hook

AUSTRALIA POST MERRIWA

MORE THAN JUST A POST OFFICE POSTAGE

CONCESSION CARD ACCOUNTS

Applications for a concession card account are still available. The account entitles eligible people to 50 stamps a year at 60c each. It will take a few minutes for you to complete the application form (and we are happy to assist with this) and once completed you will receive a card plus five free concession stamps in the mail within about ten working days. Please show your concession card when handing in your application to staff.

TAX TIME SAVINGS

Australia Post is running a promotion on Reflex Copy Paper. Great time to stock up when purchasing 1-99 reams you will pay $4.99 per ream, 100-399 reams $4.79 per ream and 400+ reams $4.50 per ream. Please see staff if you would like to place a bulk order.

IPHONE 4S

There has been a huge price reduction on the iPhone 4s through Australia Post. The 8gb White or Black iPhone 4s was $529.00 and is now only $399.00. Get in quick and order your new iPhone.

CHANGES TO PIN NUMBERS

From 30 June there will be a change to all card based DEPOSIT transactions through Australia Post. When depositing money you will be required to enter a PIN number in order for the transaction to succeed.

NEW STOCK

We have a range of children’s character watches and Sports Watches in store. From Spiderman to Barbie there is sure to be one to suit. The character watches are selling really well at $10.99 each and the Sport’s Watches (variety of colours) for $14.95.

Also in stock we have HP Deskjet Printer that will print, copy and scan in colour and black and white for $34.95, was $49.95. We also stock cartridges for this printer and more. Seagate Expansion Desktop 3TB Hard drive $159. 9 inch portable DVD Player $59.99 with USB and 2 in 1 card reader. Samsung Galaxy tab 7” plus Telstra phones also in stock.
CHANGE TO SATURDAY TRADING

For a number of months now I have been tracking the trade on Saturdays. As this mostly consists of parcel pickups and the odd bill pay it is not viable for me to open every Saturday. As such I have decided to change to every alternate Saturday starting 24 May 2014. I appreciate everyone’s acceptance and understanding of the change in hours.

- Saturday May 10 – Open
- Saturday May 17 – Open
- Saturday May 24 – Open
- Saturday May 31 – Closed
- Saturday June 7 – Closed (June Long Weekend)
- Saturday June 14 – Closed
- Saturday June 21 – Open
- Saturday June 28 – Closed
- Saturday July 5 – Open

Merriwa Post Office Hours are Mon-Fri 9.00am – 5.00pm and every second Saturday 9.00am-11.00am (effective 24.5.14).

Kellie Walker and Kylie Austin

Mortgage Matters

LAUREN AND JODY MURPHY (MORTGAGE CHOICE HUNTER VALLEY)

FIXED RATE DEMAND SPIKES AGAIN IN APRIL

With speculation rife that the next move by the Reserve Bank of Australia could be an interest rate rise, an increasing number of borrowers are opting to fix their mortgage, according to new data.

Mortgage Choice’s latest home loan approval figures found fixed rate mortgages accounted for 26.49% of all mortgages written through April – a modest lift on the month before.

“Last month, fixed rates accounted for 24.22% of all mortgages written,” Mortgage Choice mortgage broker Lauren Murphy said.

“This month, fixed rate demand swung back towards near record highs as more borrowers opted for this type of mortgage product.”

“Demand for fixed rate mortgages increased in every state bar Queensland and South Australia. Fixed rate demand was strongest in New south Wales, with this type of product account for 33.60% of all loans written within the state throughout April.”

With speculation intensifying that the Reserve Bank could be set to lift the official cash rate in the coming months, Ms Murphy said it wasn’t surprising to see a small lift in the number of borrowers choosing to fix their mortgage.

“While variable rates continue to prove more popular with borrowers, we are starting to see fixed rate demand head back to levels not seen since last year when all of the lenders were aggressively competing on price in the fixed rate arena,” she said.

Overall, ongoing discount rates proved the most popular with borrowers, with this type of product accounting for 43.19% of all loans written.

Across Australia, demand for ongoing discount mortgages was strongest in Western Australia, accounting for 51.89% of all loans written last month, followed closely by Queensland and New South Wales, with this type of product accounting for 45.47% and 44.61% respectively.

In terms of fixed rates, demand was weakest in Victoria, with this type of home loan accounting for just 20.08% of all loans written last month.

“Regardless of whether borrowers choose a fixed or variable rate mortgage, they will no doubt secure themselves a sharp rate. Interest rates continue to hover around record lows and lenders are still competing on price for market share. With that in mind, it is fair to say that potential borrowers who are keen to buy and have the ability to do so, now may be a good time for them to get onto the property ladder,” Ms Murphy said.

For more information on entering the property market and finding the right home loan for your needs, contact Lauren (0408 480 562) or Jody Murphy (0432 653 575) and the team at Mortgage Choice Hunter Valley on 02 4987 1035. They will come out to see you.

If you are looking for car or equipment finance, contact us for competitive rates.

Like us on Facebook - Mortgage Choice Raymond Terrace or follow us on Twitter @MCRaymondTce. Our web page is www.mortgagechoice.com.au/lauren.murphy

Important information - This article is for general information purposes only. It has been prepared without considering your objectives, financial situation or needs. You should, before acting on the information, consider its appropriateness to your circumstances.

Lauren and Jody Murphy
Merriwa Ringer

Last term I was about half way through a history of the USA and, in the last article, had described most of the major wars involving that country up till WW1. This was partly as an explanation for the gun culture still so prevalent there today in contrast to our less violent Australia which, again up to WW1, had had little exposure to serious violent warfare. The only exceptions to this were Australian contingents sent to the Sudan and Boer Wars and, I believe, the Maori Wars in New Zealand. By contrast, in the case of the USA I listed many conflicts, including the War of American Independence, various Florida wars, the war with Britain in 1812, the Texan rebellion against Mexico (“The Siege of the Alamo”), the Texan-Mexico War, The American-Mexican War, the Spanish American War and many against Indians who understandably resented their land being taken from them. However, up till now I have not mentioned the American Civil War (1860-1865) which was at least as big as any of the others, the first war fought anywhere with modern day weapons and therefore resulting in huge casualties. Why was it fought? One view is that it was because the South (Confederates) wished to break away from the Union, and the North (Unionists) fought to stop them doing so. That is correct as far as it goes, however the basic underlying reason was the issue of slavery. The Confederates believed slave labour to be essential to their southern agriculture, particularly cotton, and refused to abolish it, whereas in the north where slavery did not have the same economic importance, it had been made illegal. Therefore the South attempted to break away from the Union in order to retain their slave based agricultural economy.

Civil Wars, which by their very nature are fought between brothers, friends and families, can be even more bitter and divisive than those between different countries and therefore more likely engender animosities and feuds which can last for generations. There is no doubt the American Civil War was worse than most in these respects. As an illustration, I can say, because I saw it, that even though the Japanese did the USA grievous harm in WW2, including their treacherous attack on Pearl Harbour, from the moment they surrendered the Americans made no attempt to punish or victimize them and indeed treated them with fairness and compassion, and before long both Japan and the USA were reasonably good friends again. By comparison I recall words written by one man some 100 years after the end of the Civil War which illustrated the truth of this. He came from Tennessee, a state which is more or less on the border line between the northern and southern states, and he was speaking of what had happened to his own family as a result of the Civil War. “In Tennessee, more than a hundred years ago, some went one way and some went the other, and the bitterness in our family is still present even to this day”. This was exacerbated in the South because not only had they lost the war and been forced to free their slaves, but also because a horde of vultures from the North, known as “carpet baggers”, descended on the South to scavenge what they could from the South’s prostrate carcass. Nor did a Southern fanatic, John Wilkes Booth, do his beloved South any favors when, a few days after the South surrendered, he gained entrance to a theatre where the President, Abraham Lincoln, was watching a play and shot him. Lincoln died soon after as a result, however two other planned assassinations, including one on the Vice President, failed. Soon after the end of the Civil War, and in an attempt to keep freed black slaves in their place, the Ku Klux Klan was formed and lynchings were not uncommon. Even today the Confederate flag is still often seen and flown in the south, and some bikie clubs still use it including in Australia. Perhaps it is our Eureka flag writ small.

You may also recall I wrote that over many years the USA has increased its area by various means including fighting for it (e.g. Florida), voluntary acquisition (e.g. Texas), and depriving the native Indians of their land. The last were often displaced by the violent and treacherous means that were commonplace world wide at the time, and a whole library of books has been written about these wars. Another means, also already described, was by straight out purchase, e.g. the Louisiana Purchase from France for $7 million dollars and Alaska from Russia. To describe the Louisiana Purchase, imagine a line drawn from north to south about half way across the USA from Canada to Mexico. The western half to the Pacific was claimed by France and this enormous piece of land, plus the state of Louisiana, was what the USA bought. If you then draw another line, also from north to south down the eastern half, the western half of this was claimed and owned by the USA but largely unexplored, and the eastern half to the Atlantic was explored and settled. So, in 1804, the Americans put together an expedition under two men, Lewis and Clark, and they were sent out on a two year journey up the Mississippi and Missouri Rivers to explore this huge Louisiana purchase and ascertain what the USA had received for its money.

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

Max Wurcker
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, 28 May 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

SCONE CUP HALF DAY PUBLIC HOLIDAY

Council’s operations and offices will close at 12 noon on Friday, 16 May 2014 for the running of the Scone Cup, a gazetted half day local public holiday.

P: 6521 7000

ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNING AND ASSESSMENT ACT 1979

NOTICE OF PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

Council has received the following development applications which may be inspected during office hours until 4.30pm Thursday 22 May 2014.

DA No: 39/2013-2
Applicant: MM Hyndes Bailey & Co
Location: Lots 3 & 4 Section 5 DP Vennacher Street Merriwa
Proposal: Section 96(1A) Modification - modify proposed dwelling on Lot 101

Comments or objections are invited from any affected person in regard to the proposals. All submissions must be submitted to the General Manager in writing within the inspection period above. Reasons for objection must be specified.

Note: Certain complying developments & those complying with Council’s Development Control Plan for Public Notification & Advertising are not advertised nor are adjoining/affected landowners notified.

The community can check the current status of a development application on Council’s website: www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

Note: The site is updated on a fortnightly basis.

THANK YOU SISTERS

Sister Brigid Linehan and Sister Mary Jackson, but to the Merriwa community we called them our Sisters. Two of the most beautiful women of our Merriwa Community were Nuns sent to Merriwa to live out their lives whilst helping the community.

Due to ill heath both have had to leave our district suddenly. The people of Merriwa and surrounding districts and members of the Catholic Parish are going to miss them terribly.

Sister Brigid and Sister Mary were both community minded strong women. Leaders of our community, involved in everything that they could put their hands to. From teaching at local schools, participating in community groups, assisting and supporting the aged and the lonely members of our community. Nothing was too much trouble, and both Sisters always found time to assist where and when they could.

Sister Brigid and Sister Mary are very much loved and respected women throughout the Upper Hunter Shire district. Both have touched a lot of hearts, through their prayers, love, home visits, and just being there for the community. Community Street Stalls will never be the same without Sister Mary attending with her home cooking.

The Festival Of The Fleeces Committee wish Sister Brigid and Sister Mary God speed, peace and blessings and that Christ himself will look after them in their next journey. You will always remain in our hearts.

Jan Baihn
Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces Committee
MEDIA RELEASES
6 May 2014
You WOOL not believe it unless you see it!

The 2014 ROSTO Olives Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces over the Queen’s Birthday long weekend in June will include new attractions and over 100 variety market stalls as well as the popular Running of the Sheep and Street Parade.

Celebrating 24 years with the theme of “Australian Wool”, this year’s Festival will be one to remember.

Chairperson of the Festival Committee, Upper Hunter Shire Councillor Deirdre Peebles said the Festival promised something for everyone.

“From thrilling Team Penning action, exciting Sheep Yard Dog Trials, a hilarious Bush Poet’s breakfast, it’s all a great way to spend quality time with your family and friends,” Cr Peebles said.

On Saturday 7 June street stalls bring a festive atmosphere all of their own and at this years Festival there will be over 100 variety market stalls to sample.

“To taste, smell and purchase a great range of products, many of which are locally grown, is an added opportunity to test your senses on the day,” Cr Peebles said.

“The markets have been redesigned to make it easier to browse the huge variety of food and crafts that are on offer.”

The most popular event of Saturday 7 June is the ROSTO Olives Running of the Sheep and Street Parade. Watch as over 150 sheep dressed in their red socks lead the parade down Bettington Street, commencing at 12 noon.

Merriwa VRA along with other local emergency services will show off their life saving skills in a rescue demonstration at 1.30pm, after a truck collides with a motor vehicle. Admire the bravery and commitment to community as they risk their own lives to save a life!

The children will be thoroughly entertained with street performances by Circus West, Sparkles the Clown and they will be joined by the My Pet Dinosaur exhibit and the CrocStars Reptile show with amusement rides.

The ROAR Petting Zoo with farm animals is back to entertain and allow children to get up close and pat a farm animal, and the challenge is on again to see whose dog can jump the highest.

Wake up to a late breakfast on Sunday morning from 9am at the Merriwa RSL auditorium and be entertained by three-time Australian Bush Poet Champion Gregory North as he hosts the inaugural “Red Socks” Bush Poet’s competition and bush poet’s breakfast. $2 entry with a variety of breakfast options from $3 to $12.

The Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces committee would like to thank our major sponsors, ROSTO Olives, Ausgrid, NBN Television and Upper Hunter Shire Council as well as all of the Community sponsors who are listed on this years’ Festival Program which can be viewed at www.upperhunteertourism.com.au

Monies raised from the Festival are donated to the Westpac Rescue Helicopter Service and the Merriwa Volunteer Rescue Association who continue to provide such essential services to rural communities like Merriwa.

A flock of red-socked sheep will lead the ROSTO Olives Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces parade at 12 noon Saturday 7 June 2014
72 Mackenzie Street Merriwa $210,000

Situated in easy walking distance to the main street and schools, this is an excellent family home. There are three good sized bedrooms all with built in robes plus a fourth bedroom or office at the rear of the house.

The living area is open plan and features a combustion fire and reverse cycle air conditioning. The kitchen is original with an electric stove and is in good condition. The floorboards throughout have been freshly polished and the home has been painted in recent years.

The yard is a large 929sqm and is flat and fully fenced with a carport and garden shed for storage.

This home presents in very good order and is ready for the next owner to simply move in.
Alexander Downs is proudly 100% Hunter Valley owned and operated. From our paddock to your plate - Quality Guaranteed Beef and Pork delivered to the Upper Hunter every second Friday

SPECIAL
Steak and kidney $10.00 per kg
Boned and Rolled Lamb Roast (approx. 2.2kg) $13.00 per kg
Delivery Friday 23.05.14

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

Alexander Downs is proudly 100% Hunter Valley owned and operated.
From our paddock to your plate - Quality Guaranteed Beef and Pork delivered to the Upper Hunter every second Friday

SPECIAL
Steak and kidney $10.00 per kg
Boned and Rolled Lamb Roast (approx. 2.2kg) $13.00 per kg
Delivery Friday 23.05.14

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

What the community think about the Ringer!

“WHAT I LIKE ABOUT THE RINGER”

“What I like about the Ringer”

“I enjoy the Local News and the information on what is happening around the area, “Whats on”.”

Vicki Hanson

Sponsor the Ringer!

Is your business a supporter of the Merriwa Ringer? Sponsorship boxes are placed in the Ringer each week and you get the chance to place a 600 word article (where room allows) showcasing your business and what it has to offer in each week! You can now also advertise “Six of the Best” priced items each week!

Interested?
Contact Merriwa Central School on 6548 2119

Remember!
Get your articles and advertisements into the Merriwa Ringer BEFORE 12 noon MONDAYS.
54 Mackenzie Street, Merriwa 2329

3 Bedroom family home
Home featuring large lounge room, formal dining area, and spacious kitchen. Bathroom with shower and bath, laundry with toilet, large back veranda overlooking the yard, garden shed plus garage/workshop.

GREG LLEWELYN  0417 227204
ROGER MOORE  0427 153446

GM Llewelyn and Co
Real Estate, Stock & Station Agents

AUCTION
SATURDAY 31st MAY 2014 – 9.30 am ON SITE
FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

3 Bedroom family home
Home featuring large lounge room, formal dining area, and spacious kitchen. Bathroom with shower and bath, laundry with toilet, large back veranda overlooking the yard, garden shed plus garage/workshop.

GREG LLEWELYN  0417 227204
ROGER MOORE  0427 153446

GM Llewelyn and Co
Real Estate, Stock & Station Agents

AUCTION
SATURDAY 31st MAY 2014 – 9.30 am ON SITE
FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

3 Bedroom family home
Home featuring large lounge room, formal dining area, and spacious kitchen. Bathroom with shower and bath, laundry with toilet, large back veranda overlooking the yard, garden shed plus garage/workshop.

GREG LLEWELYN  0417 227204
ROGER MOORE  0427 153446

GM Llewelyn and Co
Real Estate, Stock & Station Agents

AUCTION
SATURDAY 31st MAY 2014 – 9.30 am ON SITE
FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

3 Bedroom family home
Home featuring large lounge room, formal dining area, and spacious kitchen. Bathroom with shower and bath, laundry with toilet, large back veranda overlooking the yard, garden shed plus garage/workshop.

GREG LLEWELYN  0417 227204
ROGER MOORE  0427 153446

GM Llewelyn and Co
Real Estate, Stock & Station Agents

AUCTION
SATURDAY 31st MAY 2014 – 9.30 am ON SITE
FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

3 Bedroom family home
Home featuring large lounge room, formal dining area, and spacious kitchen. Bathroom with shower and bath, laundry with toilet, large back veranda overlooking the yard, garden shed plus garage/workshop.

GREG LLEWELYN  0417 227204
ROGER MOORE  0427 153446

GM Llewelyn and Co
Real Estate, Stock & Station Agents

AUCTION
SATURDAY 31st MAY 2014 – 9.30 am ON SITE
FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

3 Bedroom family home
Home featuring large lounge room, formal dining area, and spacious kitchen. Bathroom with shower and bath, laundry with toilet, large back veranda overlooking the yard, garden shed plus garage/workshop.

GREG LLEWELYN  0417 227204
ROGER MOORE  0427 153446

GM Llewelyn and Co
Real Estate, Stock & Station Agents

AUCTION
SATURDAY 31st MAY 2014 – 9.30 am ON SITE
FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

3 Bedroom family home
Home featuring large lounge room, formal dining area, and spacious kitchen. Bathroom with shower and bath, laundry with toilet, large back veranda overlooking the yard, garden shed plus garage/workshop.

GREG LLEWELYN  0417 227204
ROGER MOORE  0427 153446

GM Llewelyn and Co
Real Estate, Stock & Station Agents

AUCTION
SATURDAY 31st MAY 2014 – 9.30 am ON SITE
FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.

FOR SALE WITHOUT RESERVE - THIS PROPERTY WILL BE SOLD ON THE DAY.
Gummun Place
A place for ageing community members to enjoy life and receive the care that they need.
A rural relaxing lifestyle provided with care.

16 Room Low-Care Aged Facility
PHONE: 6521 7011
Hostel
14-16 Marquet Street
Merriwa

Can-Am Tyres * Husqvarna
Outdoor products * Cooper
Tyres * Mickey Thompson *
Bridgestone * Goodyear/
Dunlop * Toyo Tyres * Maxxis
Tyres
Full Mechanical Workshop

Nearly everything for farmers at rock bottom prices! Conventional & electric fencing, pumps, spraying equipment, poly & PVC pipes, generators, tanks, silos etc

Visit our very comprehensive website: www.woolbrookrural.com.au
Merriwa Ringer

MERRIWA TOURIST WELCOMING CENTRE & MENS’ SHED
Arts, Crafts, farm produce! Clean toilets!
CENTRE: Open every day
09.30am – 2.30pm
MENS’ SHED: Every Thursday
10.00 onwards
President: J. Alker
Secretary: E. Shipway
Tel: 6548 3201

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

CUSTOM MADE KITCHENS
“KITCHEN ★ WARDROBES ★ VANITY UNITS ★ WALLUNITS
Bench Tops from Timber, Laminated, S/steel, Coosar Stone or Granite. Doors from Melamine, timber or Polyurethane
Computer 3-D Designs
Lic No 26785
NEIL HUNT 6548 2025

CURTIS GANT IRVING SOLICITORS
Proud to Have Serviced the People of the Upper Hunter Since 1890

PRACTISE AREAS INCLUDE:
- Property Law/Subdivisions
- Criminal Law
- Conveyancing
- Litigation & Court appearances
- Accident Claims
- Business Law & Leases
- Wills and Estates
- Family Law
- Powers of Attorney
- General Legal Work

59 BROOK STREET
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

Muswellbrook 02 6543 2433

86 BETTINGTON
MERRIWA NSW 2329

Merriwa 02 6548 2205
Merriwa Central School
Primary Campus: 6548 2101
Secondary Campus: 6548 2119

SANDY HOLLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL
Primary Campus: 6548 2101
Secondary Campus: 6548 2119
Telephone: 02 6547 4521
Fax: 02 6547 4450
Email: sandyhollo-p.School@det.nsw.edu.au

Merriwa Bushman’s Campdraft Est. 1947
President: Roger Moore 0427 153 446
Secretary: Megan Richards 0427 437 743
20,21,22 June 2014
Treasurer: Jodie Mobberley 0404 286 741
merriwacampdraft@gmail.com

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

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

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

Merriva Pren-school & Activity Centre
Pre-School is for 2 – 5 year olds
Open Monday – Friday 9am – 3pm
Ph: 02 65 482 083
Email: merriwapschool@tpg.com.au
MAC is open for 5 – 12 year olds.
Open Monday – Friday 3pm – 6pm
& 9am – 5pm School Holiday time.
Ph: 02 65 482 082
Email: merriwamac@tpg.com.au

Merriva Preschool & Activity Centre
Pre-School is for 2 – 5 year olds
Open Monday – Friday 9am – 3pm
Ph: 02 65 482 083
Email: merriwapschool@tpg.com.au
MAC is open for 5 – 12 year olds.
Open Monday – Friday 3pm – 6pm
& 9am – 5pm School Holiday time.
Ph: 02 65 482 082
Email: merriwamac@tpg.com.au

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

Merriwa Pre-School & Activity Centre
Pre-School is for 2 – 5 year olds
Open Monday – Friday 9am – 3pm
Ph: 02 65 482 083
Email: merriwapschool@tpg.com.au
MAC is open for 5 – 12 year olds.
Open Monday – Friday 3pm – 6pm
& 9am – 5pm School Holiday time.
Ph: 02 65 482 082
Email: merriwamac@tpg.com.au

Merriwa Ringer

Merriwa BUSHMAN’S CAMPDRAFT EST. 1947
President: Roger Moore 0427 153 446
Secretary: Megan Richards 0427 437 743
20,21,22 June 2014
Treasurer: Jodie Mobberley 0404 286 741
merriwacampdraft@gmail.com

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

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

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

MERRIWA SPORTS CLUB LTD 6548 2028
Golf, Bowls, Squash, Padel Pott, 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 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, Banquet & Function catering available.
Lunch Specials
Lunch: Wednesday to Sunday.
Dinner: Tuesday to Sunday

Ph: 6376 1002
Merriwa Sports Club
The Sports Club provides a wide range of benefits for members and guests.

Mondays - Happy Hour - 4.00pm to 5.00pm
Tuesdays - Rotary meets - 7.00pm for 7.30pm
Thursdays - 5.00pm Bingo and Super 39
Wednesdays - Social Darts - 7.00pm
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.

WEEKEND RESULTS
Saturday 10 May 2014
Saturday Members Draw no 177 next week $100.00
Winners Jackpot next week $440.00.
Free Tickets: Noel Barwick
Dinner: Loretta Cooper
Bowls Raffle: Nathan

Sunday 11 May 2014
Sunday Members draw no 452 next week $700.00.

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
Wednesdays 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.
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

Friday 9 May

Members Draw: $140 – Wes Nairne - unclaimed - $145 next week.


MEMBERS SPECIAL FOR MAY/JUNE

$4 Schooners and $3 Middies

Hilary Parker

Merriwa RSL Club

The Members Lucky Badge for $850.00 was not won on Friday at 8.30pm, the number was 752. This week it jackpots to $900.00. The 7.00pm draw for $600.00 was not won. The number was 947. This week it jackpots to $620.00. The 9.00pm draw for $140.00 was not won and the number was 896. This week it jackpots to $160.00. LTPS/13/04473

The Sunday Morning Badge Draw for $950.00 was not won last week. The number was 121 and this week it jackpots to $1000.00. 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.

Thursday nights from 7.00pm - Social Darts.

Saturday 19 July 2014, The Beach Boyz Tribute Show.

Matt Morgan
Secretary/Manager

Photography Competition

Entries close: 2 JUNE

AT 12 NOON

Topic for the month is: AUSTRALIAN WOOL

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

MERRIWA FESTIVAL OF THE FLEECE

The Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces is fast approaching and as part of their coming event, they are hosting the May Photography competition. Photos will be used in Festival media in relation to the Festival. With 22 years of this great event, there should be quite a few interesting photos that depict Australian Wool and all that surrounds the woolen industry.

Sort through your photos and email them to merriwa2-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

The competition is open to amateur photographers of all ages. The winning photo will be published in the Ringer on:

JUNE 5

AUSTRALIAN MERRIWA FESTIVAL OF THE FLEECE

Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces is fast approaching and as part of their coming event, they are hosting the May Photography competition. Photos will be used in Festival media in relation to the Festival. With 22 years of this great event, there should be quite a few interesting photos that depict Australian Wool and all that surrounds the woolen industry.

Sort through your photos and email them to merriwa2-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

The competition is open to amateur photographers of all ages. The winning photo will be published in the Ringer on:

JUNE 5

Merriwa Ringer
We travelled to Singleton this week.

We played Scone White with Daniel scoring some more great tries. Zac, Nate, Jack and Toby all had a fantastic game putting in some great tackles throughout the game.

It’s great to see such an improvement in all the boys so early in the competition.

Keep up the great work boys. Thanks to Matthew Mead for coaching these boys. We’ll see you all at training.

Olivia Gear

WELEDRUP UNDER 15’S

The boys played Singleton at Singleton last Saturday. Once again we were down in numbers with John Whitby on Representative Duties. The boys took on the extra responsibility and to a man played to their ability with some playing better than they have before.

The final scoreline was a 14 all draw. Our boys can think themselves unlucky as they were clearly the better side. We had some positional changes that appeared to work well and now we are looking forward to playing our next game at home in front of our home crowd with lots of support at the oval.

Our tries were scored by Luke Cronin, Matt Porter and Kyle McLennan with the Players Player going to Cody Towell and the Coaches Award went to Dylan Cox. Any number of players could have taken out these awards. Well done to the Welderup Under 15’s.

A real team effort.

15’s play a home game this weekend so came and cheer on the boys. Community support would be great to see and would spur our players on to a greater level. Also helpers would be great to see in the canteen to help Canteen Coordinator Karen Brazier throughout the game.

All registrations not paid are required asap. See Secretary Elaine Sparrow at training.

John Whitby was chosen to play in the Group 21 U15’s rep side last month. Last weekend he travelled to Port Macquarie for the Country Championships. They won their first two games but unfortunately was knocked out in the third game. It was the 15’s first time to play in the top level northern country final, even though they didn’t get to play in the state final. They were the second best team in their relevant age group and decided to take second rather than play in a lower grade. Anyone who witnessed the heart and desire of the team would have to be proud to say they are from Group 21.

Well done John.

Phil Neale

NSW Farmers

Continued from pg 2

Mrs Simson said: “If you are not happy – now is the time to let government know. Complete our survey and encourage others to do the same. We also strongly encourage as many affected landholders as possible to make submissions to government directly via the Office of Environment and Heritage website.”

“NSW Farmers is not proposing reform at the expense of environmental values - quite the opposite. We are advocating for truly balanced and reasonable native vegetation requirements and for recognition of the myriad of environmental works that farmers already undertake on a daily basis.”

Farmers can access NSW Farmers survey by visiting their website at nswfarmers.org.au or by http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/W55QT5R

CAN YOU REALLY AFFORD NOT TO BE A MEMBER?

Whether it’s the lobbying/representation we do on your behalf or the IR support, legal and tax advice, training and development or simply the great discounts and other member benefits, don’t go another year without the support of NSW Farmers.

Being a united voice for our industry is important, help us help you. Get on board!

The Merriwa Branch of NSW is your local Branch. For further information contact Pat Ryan President on 0428 485 090 Aileen Hogan Secretary on 0455 455 760

Aileen Hogan
Another working bee was held last Saturday which ‘broke the camels’ back’ so to speak with more back yard work done to assist with the upkeep of the yards.

Thanks for everyone that could attend with all your welders, grinders and any other tools that were used.

Our three day program is huge with cash and prizes valued over $10 000.00.

- Hawkesbury River Saddle and Co fender saddle and Merriwa RSL Club $400.00
- Coolie Angus Maiden A draft $500.00 and a Steve Kemp whip, Merriwa Engineering Maiden B draft $500.00 and Steve Kemp whip
- Ross Chandler Contracting $1000.00 Novice draft and Hawkesbury River Saddlery Co Fender saddle
- RM Property and Livestock $500.00 Ladies draft with Rug made by Kerrie Murray and a portrait done by Jodie Mobberley
- R and G Stanton Juvenile $150.00 draft 13 and Under 17 years, has Ruggit Rugs (rug) and Colin Pearce whip
- Russell’s Earthmoving Junior $150.00 draft 8 and Under 13 years Throwley Station trophy and Buck Yeah voucher
- Dianne Mitchell Enclosed Cut Out $50.00 8 and under 13 also has a Throwley Station trophy and Marsh Carney Saddlery voucher
- Last but not least the Welderup P/L Open $1500.00 draft with Cross Country Merriwa Caltex vouchers.

As they say WINNERS WILL BE GRINNERS and why not if you take out any of the drafts.

The community will also BE WINNERS should you attend our Friday night entertainment as we have local guitarist Daniel Hogan playing and singing around the warm fires, with a sausage sizzle and bar available.

Saturday night will see more entertainment with a DJ, hot dinner, charity auction and novice draft calcutta. Everyone welcome to support our weekend.

MERRIWA CAMPDRAFT 2014 SPONSORS
Without the continued support of sponsors our event would not go ahead so if anyone in anyway can support any of the following please do so:

Ross Chandler Contracting
Welderup P/L
Brett Peel Horse Breaking and Training
Coolie Angus
RM Property and Livestock
Merriwa Engineering
Merriwa RSL Club
Max’s Country Cuts
Russell’s Earthmoving
RM Williams
Ruggit Rugs
Steve Kemp Whip Maker
Colin Pearce Whip Maker
Cross Country Merriwa (Caltex)
Anthea Wright Veterinary Services
Brindley Park
Buck Yeah
Caroon P/L
Coolmore Australia

Curls and Swirls (Brodie Jones)
Dianne Mitchell
Darley Australia
Doolibah P/S
Happy Guru
Hunter Mutual Merriwa
Kerrie Murray Saddler
Marsh Carney Saddlery
Melaleuca Rural Services
Merriwa Petroleum and Ag Supplies
Merriwa Pharmacy
Merriwa Traders IGA
Merriwa Upholstery and Saddlery (David Houlanhan)
Mitavite
Outback Publishing
Pukara Estate
Quarter Horse Association
R and G Stanton
SF Higgs Investments
Throwley Station

Ring 2 Saturday June 21 commencing at 9.00am with registration between 7.30am and 8.30am at the main office with Riding, Led, Working Horse and Sporting events. Day membership available with waivers to also be signed.

Draft entries will open on Monday June 3 to Megan Richards PO Box 112 MERRIWA NSW 2329 ensuring all paperwork (ABCRA draft entry form) and payment is completed. Reminder no payment no entries.

Please contact Megan Richards for any further enquiries 0427 437 743 or merriwacampdraft@gmail.com

Megan Richards
Well the 8’s sure did have a big weekend of footy last weekend, with all nine players turning up for two games in two days.

Saturday we travelled to Singleton and played a very well organised Singleton Red side. Merriwa played exceptionally well with great defence and lots of runs by everyone in the team. We have been working on running onto the ball at training having the first receiver our leader on the field, and for most part of this game our leaders did a wonderful job, keeping the side organised, spaced out and running onto the ball nicely. A bit more practice and they will be unstoppable. A special mention to Riley Telfer and Jyeson Pike for their great leadership skills. Well done boys. Our only try scorer was Riley but we saw so many great runs from the whole team, putting Singleton’s defence to the test.

The very next day we were off to Newcastle to play at Hunter Stadium for the Knights v Panthers game. They played two ten minute games, one at half time of the Holden Cup and then again before the big game.

Once again Merriwa 8’s showed just how good their defence is, keeping the Kotara Bears to a nil score in both games. Riley was lucky enough to score Merriwa’s only try with a very quick run around the wing. Elly was a bit quiet in the first game but made up for it in the second with a couple of great runs and getting involved in lots of tackles too. She said she had a tummy ache but wanted to play any way. She is a tough little cookie as twenty minutes after the game she was hurling in the toilets. Good on you Elly for getting more involved every week! Brooklyn had the opposition coaches commenting on how well she plays with her great tackling and fast as lightning speed. She was unlucky not to score on two occasions. David and Clayton both showed strength in their running, palming off the defence and pushing through with their strong legs. Jyeson and Dylan were as always fantastic in defence and both very quick on their feet in attack. Last of all, Hudson and Jack both had a great two games getting involved in every part of the game and showing great determination. These nine kids are such great little footballer’s and it is a pleasure to watch them play and have so much fun. Well done under 8’s!

Belinda Keane

Continues on page 33
Community Calendar
What’s happening?
Send your calendar information in before 12 noon
Mondays to merriwa2-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

MAY
Saturday 17 • Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - 8.00am
Tuesday 27 • Merriwa Springtime Show and Merriwa Campdraft - RSA Course - 9.00am to 4.00pm
Friday 30 • Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm

JUNE
Monday 2 • “Australian Wool” photo competition closes - 12.00noon
Tuesday 3 • Anglican Women Christ Church Cathedral
Friday 6 • Festival of the Fleeces - Opening night - Cancelled
Saturday 7 • Festival of the Fleeces - Running of the Fleeces
Sunday 8 • Festival of the Fleeves
Saturday 21 • Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - 8.00am
Friday 27 • Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm

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!

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

DISCLAIMER
Views expressed by contributors are not necessarily endorsed by the Publisher, Merriwa Central School. No responsibility is accepted by the Publisher or its Committee for the accuracy of information contained in articles. The advertising of and use of product names does not constitute recommendations or endorsement by the Publisher or its Committee. Advertisers indemnify the Publisher and its Committee against all liability claims or proceedings whatsoever arising from the publication.

Articles are subject to change if they do not suit the requirements of the Ringer, includes spelling and terminology.