Merriwa community enjoys Little Sprouts Reading Day

Issue 27
Thursday August 28 2014
On Monday August 11, Merriwa Central School hosted its seventh School Horse Sports Day. 180 riders from across the Hunter Valley and as far out as Bourke polished their boots, tightened their ties and made their horses sparkle to compete at this year’s event. Everyone had an early start with our march pass starting at 7.45am. Mudgee High took out top honours in the Russell’s Earthmoving Best Presented Small School with St Matthews Catholic Mudgee taking home the Russell’s Earthmoving Large Schools trophy.

Merriwa Central School had 17 participants at this year’s event. The largest we have had in a long time. It was fantastic to see all our students and their horses all looking very sharp and extremely well presented. It was also great to see the team wearing our new equestrian team t-shirts with pride in the afternoon’s events.

All our riders made our school, their family and themselves very proud, bringing home truck loads of ribbons and trophies between them.

Our Secondary students had huge smiles when they were presented with the Highest Scoring Secondary School trophy. This was a huge credit to all of them as they only had eight riders to take out this award against schools that had double their number. Highest Scoring Team of Four Secondary Riders also went to Merriwa Central School. The team of four included – April Lawler, Mathew Porter, Hamish Cameron and Clancy Martin. St Josephs Merriwa also had a fabulous day claiming Highest Scoring Primary School trophy. This just goes to show how many talented young riders we have in our community.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank our judges for the day, Mrs Faye Greenwood, Ms Sally Atfield, Ms Cassie Campbell and Mrs Margret Wright.

A huge thank you goes to Clare Martin, Pauline Lawler, Shirley Hunt and Chris and Samantha Carter who helped to keep the office running. Megan Richards and Alison King my hard working marshals that had each class ready as they previous finished. Rebecca West for your organisation of the ribbons and trophies, and the many little jobs I gave you throughout the day. Maria and David Cameron for your organisation of the canteen and running it on the day and to all the parents that spent time organising their kids and doing odd jobs that I needed done at the last minute - Jodie and Kane Mobberley, Craig and Maree King, Sharon and Graeme Grady, Katie and Les Turner, Christine Riley, Connie Cook, Paul and Georgie Fairfull.

Best of luck to those members of our equestrian team that are competing at Aberdeen Horse Sports on Friday August 29, ride safe and have fun.

Melaleuka Rural Services Best Presented MCS Primary Horse and Rider - Josie Porter and Glimmer
Melaleuka Rural Services MCS Encouragement Award - Alana King
Melaleuka Rural Services Best Presented MCS Secondary Horse and Rider - Hannah Riley and Zalibar

Coolmore Australia Highest Scoring Primary School - St Josephs Merriwa
Broomfield Stud Highest Scoring MCS Rider - Mathew Porter

Coolmore Australia Highest Scoring Secondary School - Merriwa Central School - Secondary

NSW Farmers Association – Merriwa Branch
Highest Scoring Primary Student - Edward Maxwell - Belltrees Public
Frampton Freight - Champion Overall Point score - Anna Wilson - Scone High

NSW Farmers Association – Merriwa Branch
Highest Scoring Secondary Student - Anna Wilson - Scone High
Frampton Freight Champion Junior Sporter - Dylan Power - Coolah Central

Russells Earthmoving Best Presented Small School - Mudgee High
Frampton Freight Champion Senior Sporter - Anna Wilson - Scone High

Russells Earthmoving Best Presented Large School - St Matthews Catholic Mudgee
Champion Primary Team of Four - Coolah Central - Dylan Power, Charlotte Bennetts, Georgia Bennetts and Rosemaree Naime
Merriwa Central School Sportsmanship Award - Makeyla Towell

Champion Secondary Team of Four - Merriwa Central School - Mathew Porter, Hamish Cameron, April Lawler and Clancy Martin
T and P Lawler Champion Led Girl - Casie Hoole - Coolah Central

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Primary News

PREMIER’S SPELLING BEE

This Friday we will be holding the stage finals for the Premiers Spelling Bee. They will be held in the Primary Library on Friday August 29 beginning at 11.30am. Parents and community are welcome to attend the spelling bee. Our winning students from Stage 2 and 3 will become eligible to compete at the Regional Finals at King Street Public School on Wednesday September 17. We look forward to seeing you there.

ASSEMBLY

Friday 5 September will be our next primary assembly beginning at 9.15am in the Primary Library. Kindergarten will be presenting an item and we will also be handing out Merriwa Merits, Special Awards and viewing work from our Workers of the Week. We hope to see many parents and guests there.

SASS WEEK

Next week public schools across New South Wales will take some time to recognise the amazing work our School Administrative and Support Staff (SAS). This includes Office Administration, Maintenance of the school, Learning Support Officers and many others who ensure our students have the best education possible. Please feel free to take the time next week to thank these amazing people who work very hard to make sure Merriwa Central School is a wonderful place to be.

2/3 CLASS REPORT

LITTLE SPROUTS

Last Friday was the annual Little Sprouts Reading Day. It was a beautiful sunny day that ensured everyone could enjoy the festivities. We had a great turn out with over 250 children from St Joseph’s Primary, Cassilis Public, Merriwa Central, Merriwa Pre-School and of course, our highly enthusiastic “Seeds” group with their excited parents in tow. The day involved more than 30 local businesses who gave their time to read to and entertain our children. We are very lucky to have such a wonderfully supportive community that always get enthusiastic about participating in Little Sprouts.

It was great to see all of the children dressed up for the occasion and a huge “thank you” to the parents for organising such amazing outfits. The children enjoyed a traditional Aboriginal Smoking Ceremony conducted by our performer Tyrone Hall as they arrived at the School of Arts. Tyrone and his crew then entertained the children with several dances and took the opportunity to get some enthusiastic volunteers involved. The volunteers learned to move like a Kangaroo and an Emu and you couldn’t wipe the smiles from their faces. After the show everyone enjoyed the tasty treats provided by the wonderful CWA. Next, everyone started their rotations where students were read to by community members, played games with ROAR, coloured with 4C and appreciated poetry performed by Secondary students from Merriwa Central School. Then it was time for lunch. Thank you to Mr Creamer and his clever crew of hospitality students for an outstanding feed. It was greatly enjoyed by all.

Coming Events

<table>
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<th>AUGUST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 29</td>
<td>• Aberdeen Horse Sports</td>
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<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
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<td>Wednesday 3</td>
<td>• P and C meeting - Merriwa RSL Club, 7.00pm</td>
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<td>Friday 5</td>
<td>• Primary assembly - Kindergarten will present their item, 9.15am</td>
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<td>Monday 8</td>
<td>• Year 11 exams - all week</td>
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<td>Thursday 11</td>
<td>• Benefactors breakfast - Trade Training Centre, 7.00am</td>
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<td>Tuesday 16</td>
<td>• Years 7-10 Hands on the Rock excursion - Red Hill, 9.00am-3.00pm</td>
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<td>Thursday 18</td>
<td>• Year 12 Formal Assembly - Great Hall, 9.00am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Years K-6 Primary Hands on the Rock excursion - Red Hill, 9.00am-3.00pm</td>
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<td>• Year 12 Farewell Dinner</td>
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The Seeds and Pre-School groups enjoyed a marvellous session with Sally Hagley where they enjoyed a story and activity about Marvin the sheep who gets very mad! Next they had a ball at Mainly Music with Amanda Tudor. Thank you to both lovely ladies for contributing your time and expertise to make it a special experience for all our little people.

Students and parents had the opportunity to purchase books at the book fair throughout the day. Thank you to Mr Grant for running the fair this year. The day wrapped up with a fancy dress parade and the announcement of the winners of the colouring in competition. Congratulations to all the students on your outstanding behaviour on the day. Thank you also to the teachers for all your assistance with organisation and getting into the spirit of what Little Sprouts is all about.

Little Sprouts is a day that cannot succeed without the commitment and assistance of the fabulous Merriwa community. Thank you to all the readers, business houses, volunteers and parents for your contribution. A big thank you to St David’s Uniting Church who made a very generous donation that helped significantly towards running the day. Also, thank you to Max’s County Cuts for donating 100 sausages for lunch and Merriwa CWA for baking and delivering over 750 biscuits. Without the support of all of these people, Little Sprouts would not be possible. Thank you on behalf of all the children whose hearts you have touched and minds you have engaged in reading and the wonderful world that books and a vivid imagination can hold. Thank you!

Mathematics is the engine that creates. For most students “I am never gonna use this stuff,” is the attitude that students take towards the Mathematics they learn at school. However, for people to fully participate in society they must know Mathematics or they will be cut off from a whole realm of endeavours, including competency in everyday tasks.

This Semester students have started to investigate the usefulness of Mathematics in everyday situations.

Year 7 students have just completed their studies into Introductory Algebra and Linear Equations. Algebra teaches essential problem solving skills while the ability to manipulate and establish linear relationships and equations is an essential skill when we realise that most of the world is run by mathematical rules. It’s not hard to see these situations every day. If you want to buy enough food for a big party and you have $60.00 in your pocket, a linear equation tells you how much you can afford. Whether you need to bring in enough wood for the fire to burn overnight, calculate your pay cheque, figure out how much paint you need to redo the upstairs bedrooms or buy enough fuel to make it to and from your Aunt Sylvia’s, linear equations provide the answers. Linear systems are, literally everywhere.

Year 8 students have been working on developing their skills in fields such as Measurement and Geometry. Being able to accurately calculate perimeter, area and volume is essential for all students to understand but it is specifically critical for those who are considering going into a trade when they leave school. The relevance of deductive geometry is a little less obvious. Deductive geometry is a method of reasoning that uses a step-by-step process of drawing conclusions based on previously known truths. Usually a general statement is made about an entire class of things, and then one specific example is given. If the example fits into the class of things previously mentioned, then deductive reasoning can be used. Deductive reasoning is the method by which conclusions are drawn in geometric proofs. It was formalised by the Greek mathematician Euclid in his book, The Elements. It was such an influential manuscript that Abraham Lincoln kept a copy of it on his bedside table to keep his mind sharp!

Year 9 have dived deep into the world of Quadratic Equations. A solution to a quadratic equation is the picture of a curve, usually a circle, ellipse and the lesser known parabola and
hyperbola. These specific types of curves were known to the Ancient Greek mathematicians but other than the circle, there seemed to be no real world relevance to them. So why did we study them? The natural orbit of the planets in the solar system follows the shape of an ellipse, which is a quadratic equation. Quadratic equations link the acceleration of a car to its braking time. We can use a quadratic equation to work out a car's stopping distance, velocity and acceleration in order to minimise traffic accidents at intersections and traffic lights. A favourite of most students to see however is the use of quadratic equations in sport and games. For example, the natural motion of an object moving through the air follows the shape of a quadratic equation. Consider a game of angry birds, the bird is sling-shotted at a pig from a certain distance and the path that it maps out is, you guessed it, a quadratic equation!

Favourite Subject: Art, Food
Extra-Curricular activities: Netball and Physie
Best Personal Achievements: Getting equal first at a physie competition
Year Advisor's Comment: Paige has been achieving outstanding results in the majority of her subjects and is well liked amongst her teachers and peers. Her achievements in Star Struck this semester are particularly note worthy as she travelled down to Newcastle to participate in this huge event to show off her dancing skills. Her teachers’ have reported that she is a highly enthusiastic student in class and has developed empathetic skills well beyond her years of which she should be proud. Congratulations on achieving Student of the Week Paige!

Year 10 have just finished their study of Simultaneous Equations which is fantastic vehicle for the comparison of two or more sets of equations – simultaneously. Economists, scientists and mathematicians use this process in situations such as comparing the ‘break-even’ point of investments, solving systems of equations which are too complex for basic algebraic methods or in the case of a medical scientist, find a point where two drugs that may have been taken simultaneously begin to negate each other. Year 10 have been working very hard this semester and they should be acknowledged for all their hard work and dedication. They have also just completed their subject selections for Year 11 and 12. The content and resources that Year 10 are being given throughout this year will be fundamental for success in Year 11 and 12.

Year 11 students who are completing the General Mathematics course have just finished up working on a Focus Study called, Mathematics and Driving. This focus study gave students the chance to investigate costs of financing a vehicle such as stamp duty, registration, CTP and on-road insurance costs. Year 11 have just also completed an assessment which asked them to investigate the links between fatal and non-fatal Year 10 have just finished their study of Simultaneous Equations which is fantastic
road accidents and the associated penalties with the RMS. Finally, I would like to wish all of Year 11 the best of luck for their Preliminary examinations which will be coming up in Week 9. Remember that to give yourself the best chance of success that you need to revise regularly and practice answering questions under exam settings.

Parents are reminded that on Thursdays from 3.45-4.45pm the school is running a Mathematics Help Session for students to attend if they are struggling with class content, assessment task preparation or are just interested in further revision. If a student is interested, they will need to collect a permission note from me and return it before they can stay after school. Parents are also reminded that the school has purchased subscriptions to MathsOnline for each student and for those families who have access to the internet it is strongly recommended that they utilise this valuable resource. Students were issued with their username and login at the beginning of the year but if they have misplaced this please have them come and see me.

Finally, parents are invited to a QuickSmart information session this Thursday afternoon in the Secondary school library. QuickSmart is a valuable interventional numeracy development program the school offers and for those parents who are interested in having their children complete the QuickSmart program or for those parents whose children are already in the program and would like more information, it is recommended that they attend this afternoon.

As Albert Einstein once said, ‘education is what remains long after one has forgotten what has been learnt in school.’

Patrick Lomax
Maths Teacher

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**CAREER NEWS**

**Undergraduate (Entry-Level) Allied Health Scholarships Opens 2 September** - The Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship and Support Scheme (NAHSSS) provides up to $10,000 per year to people from rural, remote and regional areas to study. Enrol as a full-time or part-time student. For more information visit [http://sarrah.org.au/content/undergraduate-entry-level](http://sarrah.org.au/content/undergraduate-entry-level)


**School Holiday Workshops, Raffles College of Design and Commerce** - Applications are now open for the September school holiday workshops taking place from Monday September 22 to Thursday September 25. Workshops in Photography, Fashion Design, Fashion Marketing, Graphic Design and Interior Design. $120.00 for four days, all materials are provided. Open to student’s aged between 15-20. Apply to jaimiwalker@raffles.edu.au or go to [http://www.raffles.edu.au/workshops](http://www.raffles.edu.au/workshops) to download the application form.

The Le Cordon Blue Sydney Culinary Arts Institute in Ryde will be staging its annual Open Day September 4, 2014. The event will include cooking demonstrations, course descriptions, scholarship information, industry placement updates and campus tours. Career counsellors
had encouraged to attend as a special high tea will be held in honour of the profession. Start times as follows: 12:00 to 1.00pm Campus Tour and Registration, 1.00pm to 2.00pm High Tea in Ambassadors Restaurant, 3.00pm to 6.00pm Open Day to the public. Entrance: 250 Blaxland Road, Ryde or Via 59 Parkes Street, West Ryde (Parking area) Register here or just turn-up. http://www.lecordonbleu.com.au/opendays2014
If you require any further information about careers please contact me at school.

Jane Hegarty
Careers Advisor

MERRIWA HORSE SPORTS RESULTS
Continued from page 2

Pearce’s Working Kelpies Champion Led Boy - Sean Ryan - SGS
T and P Lawler Champion Girl 6yrs and U - Makayla Mobberley
MCS Pearce’s Working Kelpies Champion Boy 6yrs and U - Jock Maxwell - Belltrees Public
T and P Lawler - Champion Girl 7yrs - Emme Formosa - Ellalong Public
Pearce’s Working Kelpies - Champion Boy 7yrs - Edward Maxwell - Belltrees Public
T and P Lawler Champion Girl 8yrs - Emily Walmsley
Willow Tree Public Pearce’s Working Kelpies Champion Boy 8yrs - Jock Grady
St Josephs Merriwa T and P Lawler Champion Girl 9yrs - Rosemaree Nairne
Pearce’s Working Kelpies Champion Boy 9yrs - Jack Nairne
T and P Lawler Champion Girl 10yrs - Charlotte Bennett - Coolah Central
Pearce’s Working Kelpies Champion Boy 10yrs - Dylan Power Coolah Central
T and P Lawler Champion Girl 11yrs - Gabrielle Mills - Mudgee Public
Pearce’s Working Kelpies Champion Boy 11yrs - Jackson Mitchell - St Josephs Denman
T and P Lawler Champion Girl 12yrs - Georgia Bennett - Coolah Central
Pearce’s Working Kelpies Champion Boy 12yrs - Clancy Martin - MCS
T and P Lawler Champion Girl 13yrs - April Lawler - MCS
Pearce’s Working Kelpies Champion Boy 13yrs - Cameron Ninness - Farrer
T and P Lawler Champion Girl 14yrs - Katrina Wilson - Scone High
Pearce’s Working Kelpies Champion Boy 14yrs - Zeb Pearce - Farrer
T and P Lawler Champion Girl 15yrs - Anastasia Martin - Calrossy

Pearce’s Working Kelpies Champion Boy 15yrs - Mathew Porter - MCS
T and P Lawler Champion Girl 16rs and O - Anna Wilson - Scone High

Pearce’s Working Kelpies Champion Boy 16rs and O - Ryan Martin - Mudgee High

Sportsmanship awards were presented to a boy and girl in each age group.

Kellie Porter

MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL P AND C

A special thank you to all the wonderful students and community members who worked so hard in the Merriwa Central School Horse Sports canteen. The Merriwa Central School P and C ran the canteen as one of its major fundraisers for the year and thanks to valuable sponsors like Papanui Eggs, wonderful cake and slice cooks and the generosity of everyone involved, we raised $1500.00 for the students of our great school. Merriwa Central School VET Hospitality students; Sarah Haydon; Matthew McConnell; Sean Edens-Rosa and Matthew McLennan; were outstanding – running the BBQ all day, preparing food and serving endless customers. Special thanks to Amanda Kemp, Robyn McAlister, Sue Shearman, Yvonne McNaught, Julie Russell and the Austin and Cronin families for your valuable assistance, setting up, serving great food and cappuccinos all day, and then packing up. Also to the parents who came and helped out when they could, it was very much appreciated.

All in all, it was a great success. Results of Merriwa Central School P and C 100 Club were: First - Ella Mulholland; Second - Julie Byrne; and Third - Loreen Porter – Prizes can be collected from Max’s Country Cuts.

Maria Cameron

Merriwa Central School

KINDERGARTEN 2015

Please contact the Primary Office on 6548 2101 to express your interest in enrolling your child.

A parent information session will be held on Monday September 8 between 9.00am and 10.00am.
Wow what a great term Year One/Two are having!

Last week we celebrated Book Week. Mrs Oldman, our librarian has been preparing us for the last couple of weeks sharing the shortlisted book with us during our library lessons. Last Wednesday we dressed as characters from the shortlisted books. We looked fantastic and would like to thank all our wonderful parents who helped us prepare for the day. We enjoyed assisting Mrs Oldman with the reading of one of the books and parading in our costumes.

Then to finish off Book Week we joined Merriwa Central School and Cassilis Public School at the annual Little Sprouts Day. The day started with Aboriginal performers who used dance to tell us stories. Some of us were lucky enough to join in with these dancers. We were amazed at how the performers were able to move their bodies in the shapes of animals. After a delicious morning tea we headed to the local business houses to listen to stories. We would especially like to thank Merriwa Petroleum and Ag, Elders, Hair Indeed and Aunty Barbara who read to us. Students from Merriwa Central School read poetry with us before we participated in some activities with the ROAR students.

A special thank you to Miss Allison and the Merriwa Central School for organising such a great day.
Our focus for English this term has been Visual Literacy. We have looked at many stories in books and online and looked at how the illustrator is able to tell the story through pictures. Over the next couple of weeks we will be looking at the importance of visual literacy in information texts.

Also during English we have commenced our Public Speaking Program. This is in preparation for our Public Speaking Competition which will be held in the next couple of weeks. Teachers will be spending time in class teaching and discussing the elements which make a good speech. After our competition two students from each stage will then compete in the regional finals in Muswellbrook.

A major focus in Mathematics this term is how we can become good problem solvers.

Students have been working through maths problems using Newman’s prompts. We have been following these steps:

1. Reading the problem
2. Comprehending what is read
3. Carrying out a transformation from the words of the problem to the selection of an appropriate mathematical strategy
4. Applying the process skills demanded by the selected strategy
5. Encoding the answer in an acceptable written form

Problem solving is very important to mathematics as it is where students are able to demonstrate their understanding of skills taught.

Our play night is only a matter of weeks away and we have been busy practicing for it. Without giving too much away - It is about a mother sheep and her son, the ram, who has a nasty temper. The town which they live in have had enough and the King and Queen are called upon to help with the situation. Come and join us to see what happens at the School of Arts on September 10 at 6.30pm.

During Science we have been exploring the importance of water. We have discussed how we get our water and have enjoyed a great discussion about the water which we find underground. We take it for granted that water just comes out of a tap but our class now understands it is much more complicated than that. Also what happens to it when it goes down the plug or flushed away down the toilet? We can now tell you!

In the next couple of weeks we will be looking at the importance of the Wetlands and be visiting them on our upcoming excursion.

In HSIE we have been looking at Wet and Dry Environments. We know that a dry environment is an environment with little or no water and wet environments are water environments. We are also looking at people and animals in wet and dry environments. This information will also be helpful when we visit the Wetlands on our excursion.

This week is Enviroweek. Year 2 and Mrs Collins have been busy preparing for the Waste Warrior Challenge. Students will explore ways that they can reduce the waste in their lunchboxes by looking at what waste is produced (especially non-organic) and then proposing solutions to reduce the waste. The aim by the end of the week will be to reduce the amount of rubbish from lunchboxes.

WEEKLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the following award winners.

WEEK 6

Kindergarten - William Collins – for working hard in Literacy Groups
Sam Grady – for great measurement of area in Maths Groups
1/2 - Mia Morgan - For showing great team work in preparing for EnviroWeek
Toby Jamieson - For think of others at the book week parade
Sienna Baber - Becoming a more active class member
3/4 - Jorji Taaffe - for her consistent effort in class
Olivia Collins - for her fantastic participation in Literacy Groups
5/6 - Nick Roberts – for using fabulous collaboration skills on his Science advertising project
Ty Riley – for using awesome collaboration skills on his Science advertising project
Playground Champion - Tia Magner – For always returning equipment to the sports shed
Principal’s Awards - Seth Pepper – for putting such a big effort into his Little Sprouts costume.

Mrs Anne Maree Peebles
Year 1 -2 teacher
**STUDENT OF THE WEEK – BRADY NAIRNE**

Brady has earned the title of Student of the Week for consistently working hard in all areas of his learning, including working independently and doing his best at his classroom tasks, assisting the Busby room students in group and buddy activities as well as working well in the playground and demonstrating good sportsmanship and character while playing competitive games. He has demonstrated dedication to sporting events such as the touch and relay teams, always showing up to training and being a positive role model to others. Brady always gives 100 percent in whatever he does and should be congratulated on his efforts. Keep up the wonderful work, Brady!

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

What is your favourite food? Steak

What job/work would you like when you are older? A farmer

Apart from your family, who is one of your role models and why? I don’t really have a role model

If you were given $100, what would you buy? Some cheap sheep

What is one thing that people may not know about you? I have been to Tasmania.

**FROM MRS GRINHAM’S DESK**

The students are doing a great job of getting to school on time and are pleased to be part of our “on time” raffle.

Every day they are on time a raffle ticket goes into the draw and Monday morning the lucky winner is drawn. The prize is a book of their choice.

It is important for everyone to be on time to begin the daily routine, hear messages and be marked on the roll.

Please check your child’s bag every day to ensure you receive notes and return them by the due date.

This week staff updated their CPR training with the guidance of Mr. Gant, who is a trainer. It is important for our teachers to be up to date to ensure the safety and well-being of all students. As you can see everyone had fun while refreshing their skills.

I am very proud of the work students have been producing and the way they are trying to solve problems in the playground. Keep up the great work, Cassilis.

**MERRIWA HORSE SPORTS APOLOGY**

Last week it was reported that Sarah and Brady Nairne competed in the Merriwa Horse Sports Day. It was actually Jack Nairne who competed. Great job Jack! Sorry!
ARTISTS IN ACTION!

To complement our unit of work on Botswana, students used cutting, tearing and drawing skills to construct their “Desert Wasteland” based on the Kalahari Desert, shown below. Well done!

DIARY

August
27 - Mrs. G Meeting – Scone
28 - Orienteering
29 - Regional athletics – Newcastle

September
1 - Assembly 2.15pm
   - P and C 3.00pm
4 - Orienteering
5 - Canteen
9 - Proposed Busby excursion to Dubbo Zoo
11 - Orienteering
15 - LST case conferences
16 - Rewards Day
17-18 Touch Footy finals – Sydney
19 - End Term 3

Remember every Wednesday is Library Day

ATTENDANCE

Over the last few weeks, many of our students have been kept at home with a variety of illnesses. I thank those parents who make the choice to allow their child to stay home to recuperate. This prevents the illness from being spread to other students and staff.

If your child is genuinely sick, please keep them at home. With a small staff it is very difficult for us to take care of children who require care - often needing to be withdrawn from the class, while maintaining our classroom programs. Please contact the school to notify staff regarding your child’s health and don’t forget to send in a note of explanation when they return to school. Children who are ill more than three days need to produce a medical certificate.

SCHOOL CLEAN UP

A big thank you to Craig Parker and all the community members who came into the school over the weekend to burn off the piles of sticks, branches etc that have been building up over the last few years. Our playground is already visibly tidier. The reduction of the rubbish piles ensures there are less havens for unwanted creatures to hide in. This also puts our grounds in a good place ready for this year’s bushfire season.

FRESH FOR KIDS CAMPAIGN

It’s on again, the Fresh For Kids campaign. Students who bring a piece of fruit for fruit break can earn stickers. These stickers are placed onto an entry form and handed in. They will earn a character ring for each completed entry. Entry forms will be collected up and sent away on the last week of term.

Thank you to Katie McLean for coordination this activity for our students.

CANBERRA EXCURSION

It looks everything is ready to go. Students are reminded that they do not need to be at school before 6.15am on Monday morning. The bus will leave at 6.45am. Spending money and medication will be collected before we leave.

Students are reminded to make sure they pack everything on the list and that they are able to carry their own
bags. You will need to have your lunch, drink bottle, recess and a hat in your back pack which will be carried on the bus, while your luggage will be stored underneath. There will be no eating on the bus.

Students are allowed to bring digital cameras, but not mobile phones or other electronic devices.

While we are at Canberra next week, Mrs Rose will be working in the office for the whole week, to ensure that there will be a minimum of two staff members on site at all times. The students from 3-4-5-6 not going on the excursion will join Ms Bullock and Ms Higgins and will complete tasks set by their class teachers.

REGIONAL ATHLETICS CARNIVAL

This Friday, five students will be travelling to Glendale to compete at the regional athletics carnival. Olivia McLean will compete in Senior Girl Shot Put and Sam Thompson, Hunter Marsh, Will Stair and Dustynn Turner will be running in the Small Schools P5 relay. We wish them all the very best.

DAFFODIL DAY

Last Friday all the students came to school out of uniform, wearing yellow, to raise money for Daffodil Day.

Their gold coin donations amounted to $121.50, a fantastic effort for a small school.

GULGONG TRAIN TRIP

“A few weeks ago I went on a train ride with Nan from Muswellbrook to Gulgong. There were heaps of coal mines on the way. We went past Sandy Hollow. Before we went into Sandy Hollow we had to stop and wait for a coal train to go passed. We saw some cool rocks. We went under five tunnels. We went under a really long tunnel.

Most of the kids went up the front of the train. I went up the front after Chelsea. I discovered the train doesn’t have a steering wheel. I saw Mrs Rose.

When we got there we had to wait for the bus so we could go to the town. Some people walked to town. I didn’t walk because my Nan didn’t want to walk, so we caught the bus. When we got to the town, we had a look in a shop and then Nan and I went for a counter lunch.

Then we went back to the bus to go back to the train. The seats had to be changed around so we weren’t going backwards. When we went through the first tunnel, the lights weren’t on. It was pitch black. On the way back, it felt much shorter than on the way up.

When we got back to Muswellbrook we all got off and we got in the car and went home. It was cool to go through the tunnels that my Pop helped to build.” - by Tylana Cox
This week at the Merriwa Activity Centre we have had a lot of outside activities with the nice weather it has been excellent. Football has been a big sport at the Activity Centre. On Thursday we all walked to the park. It is always great to go for a walk and play at the park. Josie, Fiona and Ellie all had an excellent time. Hopefully this nice weather keeps up so the children of Merriwa Activity Centre can enjoy more fun filled activities outside.

LEARNING ABOUT NEW CULTURES
On Friday we all learnt a little bit about Fiona’s culture it is a really interesting and great way to get to know other backgrounds. Fiona will be bringing in one of her mums recipes for us to give it a try at cooking and getting to taste and learn a bit more of Fiona’s life style.

COMMITTEE MEETING
Our committee meeting is Thursday at 6.30pm at the Pre-School, you are all welcome to attend.
On the agenda tonight is the Child Protection Policy and upcoming events.

MERRIWA SHOW
If you would like to volunteer for the show on September 20 contact the Merriwa Pre-School.
It will be appreciated.

TRIVIA NIGHT
Don’t forget we have a fundraiser coming up on October 18. We are having a Trivia Night at the RSL, the theme being “Hollywood/TV”. Tables are made of eight costing $10.00p/person. Tickets are available at the Pre-School and will also be sold at the door on the night.
The Merriwa Community Website is a credit to those on the Merriwa Community Portal Committee. Our thanks and congratulations to all involved. The short workshop and generous help from Kim Fenley and Sally Gilby before the launch of the Website was of great benefit to members of MHEG. It is interesting and informative to browse the various sites that have so far been included and to be able to refer visitors and out-of-town family and friends to www.community.nsw.au.

We invite you to visit MHEG site under Clubs and Groups > Merriwa Healthy Environment Group Inc, or Organisations > Environment Groups. Information about our Group is included together with short articles and colourful photos relating to our local environment, natural attractions and gardening hints on how to develop a habitat garden in your own backyard. Watch our space for more information as time goes by.

If you are interested in joining Merriwa Healthy Environment Group Inc please see the website for contact details.

Ted Finnie

Little Sprouts 2014 Photos

Photography Competition
Entries close:
SEPTEMBER 1
AT 12 NOON

Topic for the month is:
WORKING DOGS IN ACTION

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

PUBLISHED IN
MELALEUCA
RURAL SERVICES

THE RINGER ON:
The competition is open to amateur photographers of all ages.

SEPTEMBER 4
Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces
GALA CELEBRATION

In Celebrating 25 years of the Festival of the Fleeces, the Committee would like to say thank you to all the businesses and local community members who at different times over the past quarter century have donated to and sponsored the Festival. Because of you, Merriwa’s famous Running of the Sheep and the Festival of the Fleeces are not only a great community event, but also a State, Interstate, and International attraction.

Without the generous support of all of our amazing sponsors since 1990, the Upper Hunter Shire would not have Merriwa’s major community and tourist attraction in which our local businesses can showcase their amazing produce and rich history of life on the land in rural Australia.

The Festival Committee would like to thank all local businesses and community members for their past and ongoing support and would like to invite who have had an association with the Festival over the years to celebrate 2015 together at a special Gala evening.

The Gala Celebration will be held at the Merriwa School of Arts on the afternoon and evening of Saturday May 30, 2015. In order for the committee to organise this event, those who are interested in attending are asked to contact the committee by the end of December 2014.

This will be an event where information will be shared, memories reminisced, and legendary stories passed down.

For more information or to confirm your attendance at this event please contact the Minute Secretary, Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces Committee on:

Phone Liam Garment on 6521 7046 or email: lgarment@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au.

Liam Garment

Hunter Local Lands Services
KEEP STOCK SAFE AND VACCINATE

Upper Hunter producers are continuing to lose stock from clostridial diseases.

Blackleg, Pulpy Kidney (Enterotoxaemia), Black disease, Tetanus and Malignant oedema are all potentially fatal diseases due to bacteria belonging to the clostridial family.

District Veterinarian for Hunter Local Land Services, Lyndell Stone, says, ‘The most common clostridial diseases in this district are Blackleg, Pulpy kidney and Tetanus. Recent cases have caused losses of up to ten head.’

These diseases can be easily prevented by vaccinating stock with a 5 in 1 vaccine. A 7 in 1 vaccine is also available which provides protection for cattle against clostridial diseases and Leptospirosis. This can cause infertility in cattle and be transmitted to humans.

Lyndell adds, ‘All lambs and calves require two vaccinations four to six weeks apart from eight weeks of age. The first vaccination is a priming dose and only provides short term immunity against the diseases. The second dose provides the long term immunity that your stock will need, in addition to annual booster vaccinations.’

In some situations more frequent vaccinations are required. Supplementary and changed feeding regimes, such as moving your stock from pasture feeding to grain feeding due to dry conditions, can lead to stock death from Pulpy kidney.

‘Stock affected by clostridial diseases usually die suddenly with few warning signs. An animal may appear fine one day and be found dead the next morning’, says Lyndell. ‘Carcasses often appear bloated and decompose quickly. It is much more cost effective to vaccinate rather than to accept losses from clostridial diseases.’

Vaccinations can be purchased from your local agribusiness and are less than 50 cents each for cattle and less than 30 cents each for sheep.

Your local District Vet can be contacted for further advice on vaccinating programmes and a management plan for stock diseases.


Claire Hewitt

Remember!
Get your articles and advertisements into the Merriwa Ringer BEFORE 9.00am Monday!
No late articles will be accepted!
With only four weeks to go before the Merriwa Springtime Show (Friday 19, Saturday 20 and Sunday 21 September) the committee and section captains are flat out getting things organised. Our feature act this year, World and Australian Champion whip cracker, Fiona Wilks of the Whiparoos has quite a few new tricks up her sleeve and we can’t wait to see what the woodchoppers can do in our newest event, the fence post split. Don’t forget all our regular attractions need your support – the poultry section, wool and cattle, fresh produce and of course the pavilion which is looking for plenty of photos, flowers, preserves, cooking, arts and crafts entries again this year. So start planning!

Merriwa Show schedules are available throughout Merriwa at rural supplies stores and the vet surgery. Entries are now open across all sections. Of course a show like this can’t run without great helpers and we are desperate for some energetic (or at least enthusiastic) volunteers to assist with the show. We are also chasing bar staff to help run the bar on Friday and Saturday, so if you have a liquor serving RSA ticket and would like to help with a shift or two, contact show secretary Toni Jones on ph 0498 378 500.

POULTRY UPDATE

Chook fanciers take note. We only have room for 200 birds so entries are limited! Entries will close next Monday September 9 with no late entries accepted. Open entry fees are just $2.00 with junior entries $1.00. The judge this year is Sean Phillis of Goulburn with judging to start at 9.00am on Saturday September 20. All birds must be penned between 6.30am and 9.00am Saturday morning with unpenning from 3.00pm at completion of the presentation.

Enquiries to poultry section captain Kylie Austin, on 6548 2608 or 0439 482 606. Check out the show schedule for more details.

$1000 SHOWJUMPING BONUS

It’s been a little while since we have had a Six Bar comp at the show, and we are delighted to be able to say “It’s on again” There will be the normal prize money for all regular show jump events PLUS a bonus $1000.00 to any horse/rider combination that can successfully clear six 6 foot fences, two strides apart (not for the faint hearted). If more than one combination completes the course the prize money will be split or riders can elect to ‘jump off’ for the total bonus prize money. If anyone has any queries call showjumping section captain Paula Hocking on 0429 149 890 or email pjh@activ8.net.au. Entries are on the day (Saturday September 20) start, from 8.00am.

Section captains, if you’d like to promote something in the Ringer get it in to Tash Taaffe before 10.00am Mondays at tashholden@bigpond.com or fax: 6548 5057.

Merriwa Rotary Club

Are you aged between 18 and 25 years and looking to be improved or challenged in your Leadership Skills? Are you a leader of a local youth group or sport group/team, arts or music, church, volunteer fire brigade or SES or comparable organisations?

Then the Rotary Youth leadership Program might be just what you are looking for.

The 2014 District 9670 Rotary Leadership Program will run from Saturday September 27 to Friday October 3 at Tocal College, Paterson NSW. Applications close on September 1.

The Rotary Club of Merriwa has, since its inception, sponsored 36 participants in the program. They invariably have found it inspirational and rewarding.

By attending RYLA you can expect to be challenged both individually and by joining group building activities. You can extend yourself and develop leadership skills, hearing from carefully selected speakers and presenters. You will also participate in the running of sessions and assist with the overall program.

Time is short. If you are interested, please contact any Merriwa Rotarian asap!

Mark Smith
Rotary Club of Merriwa

Merriwa Rotary Club

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Time is short. If you are interested, please contact any Merriwa Rotarian asap!

Mark Smith
Rotary Club of Merriwa
The Community Notice Board

Merriwa Red Cross
Merriwa Red Cross Club will be holding a Street Stall on Friday, September 12.

As this will be our final street stall for the year, a Christmas goodies table, raffle and 100 Club will operate on the day.

All contributions to the stall would be gratefully appreciated.

We sincerely value your continued support for the ongoing work of Red Cross and thank you for your generous support in helping us to achieve our 100th anniversary this year.

Philomena Constable
Liaison Officer

Farewell Sisters of St Joseph’s
A “Farewell to the Sisters of St Joseph in Merriwa” will be held on September 28 at St Anne’s Church, Merriwa. Bishop William Wright will celebrate Mass at 11.00am.

All members of our community are welcome to attend a community bring and share lunch will follow.

Mark Smith

Scone Country
The next Scone Country Markets will be Saturday, September 13. The markets start from 8.30am and finish up around 2.00pm on the lawn of the Scone Visitor Information Centre in Kelly Street, Scone.

A sausage sizzle gets underway from 10.00am provided by the Scone Garden Club. There are lots of different stalls selling something for everyone including sewing and craft supplies, hand-made jewellery, children’s clothing, plants, lotions and potions, home-made cakes and much more!

Anyone looking to have a stall at the markets is most welcome to join. For enquiries please phone the Scone Visitor Information Centre.

Contact: 6540 1300

Liam Garnett

Messy Church
FRIDAY AUGUST 29
See you at the Parish Hall 3.30pm for afternoon tea and then craft exploring the theme “Who is the Holy Spirit” and lots more.

A worship time follows and then our splendid meal, shared together.

We look forward to seeing you all!

Rosalie Drew and the Messy Church team

Merriwa Progress Association
The Annual General Meeting of the Merriwa District Progress Association Inc. will be held on Wednesday, September 24 at the Merriwa RSL commencing at 6.00 pm.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Contact 6548 2245.

Beron Arden-Wood

Mainly Music
When: Every Monday starts 9.00am
Where: Parish Hall, Merriwa

Come and enjoy singing and dancing with your little ones. See them interact with other children. Also it’s a great chance to chat with other parents.

It is a $2.00 gold coin donation. Also bring some morning tea for your children.

For more info phone Amanda 0429 485 032.

Amanda Tudor

Business Closure
Caroline’s Cafe wish to advise the community that they are not open for business August 30 and 31. Thank you for your patience.

Joanne Everitt
This week’s specials at Max’s Country Cuts on August Friday 29 and Saturday 30 and early next week while stocks last include:

- Crumbed Steak $10.99/kg or 2kg for $20.00 (Plain or Herb and Garlic)
- Honey BBQ Beef Stir Fry $10.99/kg
- Honey Mustard Lamb Tuckerbags $12.99/kg
- Yearling X-Cut Blade Steak $8.99/kg
- Whole Eye Fillets $24.99/kg

Max’s Country Cuts – Buying Local
Supporting Local
Employing Local
Support the butcher that supports Merriwa

RECIPE OF THE WEEK
ROAST BEEF FILLET WITH EASY BEARNAISE SAUCE

Preparation time: 10 Minutes
Cooking: 1 hour 10 Minutes
Serves: 6

- 1.5kg Beef Fillet
- Freshly ground black pepper to taste
- 1 Tablespoon oil
- 1 Clove garlic, crushed
- 1 cup water

EASY BEARNAISE SAUCE

- 2 bay leaves
- ½ cup tarragon vinegar
- 2 teaspoons black peppercorns
- 4 spring onions, chopped
- 5 egg yolks, lightly beaten
- 250g butter, melted

METHOD

Step 1 Preheat oven to moderate hot 210c. Tie fillet securely with string at regular intervals to retain its shape. Rub meat all over with pepper.

Step 2 Heat oil, butter and garlic in a deep baking dish on top of the stove, add meat, brown it all over on high heat. Place a rack in the dish and put the meat on top; add the water to dish. Transfer to oven. Roast meat for 45min for a rare result, 1hr for a medium result and 1hr 10 min for well done. Leave in a warm place for 10min, cover with foil.

Remove the string from meat before slicing

Step 3 To Make Bearnaise Sauce: Combine bay leaves, vinegar, peppercorns and spring onions in a small pan. Bring to boil, reduce heat to a simmer and cook, uncovered, until liquid has reduced to two tablespoons. Strain, reserving the liquid. Place liquid and egg yolk in a food processor or blender and process for 30 seconds

Step 4 With the motor constantly running, add melted butter slowly in a thin stream, processing until all butter is added. Serve Easy Bearnaise Sauce with the sliced meat.

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

Merriwa Auto Electrical
OPENING HOURS
Monday to Friday 8.30am-5.30pm
Saturday 9.00am - 12noon

DIGITAL TV UPGRADES
We have the correct aerials, good quality cabling and fittings. We can make sure you’re getting the best reception possible!

ELECTRIC FENCE UNITS
We can test and repair, upgrade the wiring and test the battery too.

ELECTRONICS
Vehicles have changed so much over the last one hundred years! The electronic componentry in your vehicle can be complex and challenging; we have a scan tool and the experience and expertise to diagnose any issues that could be preventing your vehicle from running at its optimal level.

THANK YOU
Michael and I would like to take a moment to say “thank you: to the community for your ongoing support, running a business is quite stressful and at times we feel we may have forgotten to smile or say those two little words but we would like you to know that we are very grateful! Your continued support and understanding means we can continue to provide our services to the area, so... thank you!

Looking forward to seeing you,

Michael and Sally Hagley
Brodie’s Cutting Edge wishes to advise clients that the business will be closed from Tuesday September 9 to Monday September 15, reopening 9.00am on September 16. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Brodie Jones

Tinnitus can be managed or controlled reasonably well, although a cure isn’t currently available. Treatment for some other common ear problems is often much easier, provided the cause can be identified in its early stages.

Your pharmacy is your health destination – your pharmacist is there to provide advice, and health services along with medicines. If you have any concerns about your hearing, ask your pharmacist, who can identify local auditory clinics which offer hearing tests. If you are experiencing tinnitus, speak to your pharmacist about the medicines you are taking or any other health concerns. They will be able to refer you for further investigation.

Pharmacies also provide ear plugs to help protect your hearing, for example when using power tools at work. At your local pharmacy, you can also find ear drops for wax or water in the ears.

The Ear Problems Fact Card is available from Merriwa Pharmacy. This card offers advice on how to reduce the risk of ear problems, and how to treat those problems when they do occur.

Australian Hearing are scheduled to be conducting free hearing tests at Merriwa Pharmacy on Wednesday November 5. Bookings will be taken closer to the event.

Logan Miller Photography will be at Merriwa Pharmacy on Friday September 12. More information is available and bookings can be made at Merriwa Pharmacy.

Robert Smith

Brodie’s Cutting Edge

Brodie’s Cutting Edge wishes to advise clients that the business will be closed from Tuesday September 9 to Monday September 15, reopening 9.00am on September 16. Sorry for any inconvenience.

Brodie Jones

Find us on Facebook!

Look for Merriwa Central School’s official page!
We hope that everyone enjoyed Little Sprouts Day. The costumes were great, the work that goes into it all goes largely unseen - so congratulations to everyone who helped organise the day.

RECORDABLE STORYBOOKS

Be inspired by the fun your children had at Little Sprouts Day and buy one of these today. They are a great new product, a storybook that allows you to record yourself reading it. Then the kids can read it over and over again, listening to your voice as they turn the pages. They are a perfect idea for those who do shift work and miss out on the bedtime story, or for busy mums who don’t always have enough time to sit down and enjoy a story with their children.

FATHER’S DAY

It is time to remember all of the great things our dads’ have done for us over the years. It is a time to show your dad just how much you love and appreciate him. The best way to do this is with a card - we have cards for all kinds of dad’s - funny, heartfelt, cute, and cuddly.

Don’t forget that we have great gift ideas for Dad this Father’s Day, including gift cards, magazines, diaries, puzzles, games and more. There are also some great wrapping papers and gift bags for presents of all shapes and sizes, ribbon bows and more.

2015 DIARIES

They are here! Get organised early and pick up your diary now. There are many different kinds - A4, A5, day to page, day to opening, business, pretty, Vanessa, Belmont and Kingsgrove. It is never too early to grab your diary for next year - it is better to have it early than to miss out altogether.

AFFORDABLE STYLE

Be inspired by The Block Glasshouse and re-style your house in time for Spring. The new magazine Homes + is all about creating a beautiful space at an affordable price. There are many different styles to take inspiration from - coastal, country, modern, industrial, cottage, classic, and more. This new magazine does not only cover affordable style for your home, it also has affordable meal plans. There are some delicious and simple dishes, such as parmesan crumbed schnitzel, lamb pilaf, chorizo tarts and chilli con carne meatloaf.

Then, to top it all off, there is a garden section - colour palettes for your garden, make-overs, and everything you can plant in September. This brand new magazine is the perfect way to get organised and inspired for the Springtime!

PHONECARDS: all cards are now available including Telstra, Optus and Vodaphone.

Cash or Eftpos only!

Neville and Leanne Hook

Australia Post Merriwa
MORE THAN JUST A POST OFFICE POSTAGE

SATURDAY TRADING

Opening hours are 9.00am - 11.00am, dates for August are:
Saturday 6/9/14 – Closed
Saturday 13/9/14 – Open
Saturday 20/9/14 – Closed
Saturday 27/9/14 – Open

DARRELL LEA DAD’S BAGS

Yes, it’s nearly here Dad’s day is on Sunday September 7 and we have your gift covered with a Darrell Lea Dad’s bag for $25.00. Be quick as they won’t last long.

MALTESERS ARE BACK!

Grab a quick chocolate fix for $2.50 when your at the Post Office to pay your bills, deposit or withdraw money, send your parcels/letters plus many more services that your local Post Office provides.

HOUSE FOR RENT

Three bedroom house attached to Post Office for rent - $240.00 per week. Lounge, Kitchen/Dining room, Fireplaces, fully enclosed yard, single car garage and carport. Available now! Please enquire with Kellie during Post Office hours (Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday) or by phone on 0417 483 149.

PASSPORTS/WORKCOVER APPLICATIONS

We will not be able to process these applications on a Thursday until the end of October. Sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

BASIC POSTAGE STAMP

Please note that as of March 31 2014 the basic postage stamp of 60c increased to 70c. I am still noticing 60c stamps being used and wanted to point out that should you not put the correct postage on your letters than the people receiving the letter may have to pay a fee to receive it.

Kellie Walker and Kylie Austin

Merriwa Ringer
Woolbrook Rural Industries

The “Wild Bunch” were a successful gang of robbers, particularly where trains were concerned, but a compassionate lot since it appears they never killed anybody nor ever hurt anyone seriously. However, they had begun their exploits about 20 years too late compared to the James Brothers, and modern technology, particularly the telegraph, made life difficult for them. Also, they had Pinkerton, a very astute “Private Eye” and owner of Pinkerton’s Private Detective Agency, on their trail. One of his methods was to select a train which appeared a likely target for the gang, then fill a windowless carriage with heavily armed men and hope the Wild Bunch would try to rob it. This ploy, and anything else Pinkerton and others thought up, was never successful, however Butch and the Sundance Kid realised this could not last forever and their luck must eventually run out. Therefore in 1901 the two of them, along with the Kid’s girl friend Etta Place, went to New York, where the Kid and his girl took the opportunity to have their photo taken at a photography studio, and a very well turned out and presentable couple they were too. All three then set sail for South America where they spent the next ten years or so continuing to do what they did best, using all their skills, and also lack of violence, in committing robberies over a substantial part of that southern continent.

Nobody really knows for sure what happened to them in the end though one story is that they were all killed after South American soldiers, or police, or perhaps both, tracked them to a building and in the siege that followed all three were killed. Another story says that one of them did survive, though that particular version may not be true. However still another story, and one that is generally accepted to be probably correct, is that eventually all three returned to the USA, disappeared from sight, and probably finished their lives in a completely normal way.

In passing, and while talking about bank robbers, though in this case the reverse; there was a time when I defended banks, including in these columns, however in the years since then I have reversed my opinion of them, and many other financial institutions, to the exact diametrical opposite. My own feelings on the bank robbers of all eras, certainly including the Wild Bunch, are that if you gathered together all the money that all those bank robbers have ever stolen everywhere, it would be small compared to what banks themselves have stolen in various ways. Admittedly they did it without using guns and without shooting anyone, but to their misdeeds should be added an unknown number of suicides and countless investors who have been inveigled into, and ruined by, dodgy deals running into billions of dollars; this in order to fatten their exorbitant profits; further, their stubborn reluctance to admit to what seems to me to be irrefutable evidence regarding their actions, and their continuing attempts to cover them up and decline compensation. To anyone who disagrees with me, it can only be because they do not read very much, since for a long time newspapers, financial magazines, TV reports (e.g. Four Corners on the ABC is a good example) have been saying exactly that, not to mention various rather slipshod so-called Government watchdogs like ICAC.

To revert to my original subject, the American Olds West, one sad and tragic part of it relates to the Red Indians who were dispossessed of their land; having said that, it is a mistake to be too judgmental of the past while using today’s standards as a measuring stick. In the 1700s and 1800s, even the 1900s, and still today in many parts of the world, it was considered normal and acceptable to deprive people of their land by conquest if possible to do so. I refer you to all the European Colonial powers, of which there were at least about ten, and others like Japan. Indeed, our own ancestors dispossessed the original inhabitants of Australia of their land in much the same way as the Americans dispossessed the Red Indians. It is a huge subject, and for those interested in reading further I suggest “Bury My Heart at Wounded Knee” (Dee Brown) told more or less from the Indian viewpoint; and “The Searchers” (Alan Le May) told more or less from the settlers’ point of view. I think they balance out quite well.

One of my favorites, a classic Western photo, graphically depicts the thinking of the time. It was probably taken about 1890 judging by the dress of two apparently ultra-respectable women who are standing on the verandah of a saloon, gambling den or similar. Two US Cavalry soldiers, with little to spend their money on except drink, gambling and saloon women, have apparently come to town to whoop it up and got on the wrong end of a gun fight. They lie dead and sprawled on the verandah, either because they died at that spot, or were thrown out through the front door after the shooting stopped, and left there to await the undertaker. The body language and facial expression of the two women, one standing with arms akimbo, suggest not sympathy, or empathy, or compassion, but simple rigid disapproval that such a thing could happen, and do so in such a public fashion before two respectable women.

Max Wurcker
FOR SALE

$1,500,000.00

‘Glencoe’ Carrowbrook

FOR SALE

$290,000.00

28 Flags Road, Merriwa

Inviting Rural Residence!

From the beauty of the shady veranda, you can enjoy lovely unspoiled views to the mountains. This master built fully insulated home is situated on the edge of town, in a beautiful rural setting. Featuring established garden with Australian native plants and kerbside driveways. A large landscaped and paved private rear entertaining area compliments the residence. The extra large block of 5210 sqm offers room for your pony.

A warm kitchen with plenty of storage and breakfast bar opening onto the dining and open plan living room. The home features two spacious bedrooms both with built in robes as well as a stylish slate bathroom with separate toilet.

Seasonal comfort is assured with reverse cycle air conditioning, ceiling fans & whirly birds. The double garage sits in harmony alongside the home and has a second toilet. Attractive post and rail fencing provides an enclosed yard, there is also a garden shed. The property has both town water and a water tank. An inspection is an absolute must.

Renowned Grazing Property!

1346 Ha (3324 Acres)

A very rare opportunity to secure a large holding in a superb tightly held location, approx. 2 hours from Merriwa, 1.5 hours to Maitland.

This picturesque property features hilly to steep country with good stands of mahogany, red and white cedar, grey gums.

With an annual rainfall of approx. 38”, this productive grazing property will run 190 breeders, plus 80 steers grown out to 3 years old. ‘Glencoe’ has pasture-improved areas around cattle camps and kikuyu grass is found widespread throughout the property.

‘Glencoe’ is mostly cleared at the front of the property running back to more timbered areas further to the rear. There are 31 dams scattered over the property as well as four creeks: Carrowbrook, Middle, Glendon & Dunns Creeks. A fully renovated, well-appointed, 4-bedroom home with air conditioning and combustion fire provides year round comfort.

Phone Roger on 0427 153446.

“We strongly believe good service is good business”
POSITION VACANT

REVENUE OFFICER - FULL-TIME
SCONE

The Role
Council is seeking a highly motivated individual to undertake the above position. The primary role of this position is to maximise Council’s income by prompt issuing of accounts and efficient and effective debtor recovery whilst maintaining Council’s records to meet audit and legal requirements.

What you will need
All applicants must possess a Certificate III or Diploma in Business/Office Administration or relevant qualification or demonstrated equivalent experience and an extensive knowledge of accounting and reconciliation procedures and debt collection techniques.

Applicants with experience in undertaking revenue function within NSW Local Government will be considered highly favorably.

Salary Range: $1060.20 - $1187.40 - per 35 hour week, in accordance with Council’s salary system. Other conditions are in accordance with the Local Government (State) Award and Council’s policies and procedures.

Closing Date: 4pm on Monday 1 September 2014.

Enquiries and Further Information: Steve Pryor 6540 1123.

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

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

Waid Crockett
General Manager

SEPTEMBER MEETING SCHEDULE

Development & Environmental Services Committee
Tuesday 9th September 2014, 10.00am

Works & Technical Services Committee
Tuesday 9th September 2014, 1.00pm

Finance Committee
Friday 19th September 2014, 1.00pm

Extraordinary Council Meeting and Ordinary Council Meeting
Monday 22nd September 2014, 5.00pm

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

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 4 September 2014.

DA No: 153/2014
Applicant: RM Property & Livestock
Location: Lot 5 DP 251928
145 Bettington Street Merriwa
Proposal: Alterations and change of use of office and erection of signage

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
217 Tunbridge Road Merriwa $399,000.00

Situated just 15km from Merriwa this 107 acre property is ideal for a family wanting to be out of town but still have access to all the conveniences. The homestead has three big bedrooms the main with an ensuite complete with a spa bath. There is also an office which could easily make a fourth bedroom. There are two large living areas with a lounge and an open plan family dining room featuring a combustion fire and RC Air. The kitchen has a rustic country feel and is excellent condition with a dishwasher and electric stove. Outside are decks on three sides to sit and enjoy the views over the yard to the paddocks beyond. There is a five bay machinery shed with an attached workshop. There are two equipped bores which feed the troughs and dams. The property is fenced into six paddocks with all fencing in excellent order. The land is a mixture of flat cultivation country to timbered ridge lines and is a perfect small acreage mixed farming block.

2 Brisbane Street Merriwa $245,000.00

Situated on a huge 1948sqm block with a solid weatherboard home currently let at $270.00 per week this property can be sub-divided. The vendor has had the surveying and plans drawn and they will be passed onto the purchaser ready to lodge with council. The home has three large bedrooms, the main with a built in robe. There are two living areas, both with air conditioners and the kitchen is in good condition. At the rear of the home is a three bay shed with power.

VIEW AT www.jtsrealty.com.au
Merriwa District Education Foundation
President: Ivan Gant
6376 1044
Secretary: Jane Hegarty
6376 1052
Treasurer: Lesley Nixon
6548 2225
Supporting rural youth

Trinity Markets
Accessories, Books, Nick-Nacks
Clothing for all the family
DONATIONS WELCOME!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days</th>
<th>Hours</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tues – Fri</td>
<td>9.00am – 12.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sat</td>
<td>9.00am – 12.00pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

118 Bettinton St, Merriwa
6548 2323


design - brochures, banners, ads
photography - rural, portrait
writing - brochures, flyers, media
copy for web pages

Tash Holden
Tel: 6548 5802
e-mail: tashholden@bigpond.com

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A Family & Community focused event.
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e-mail: lgarment@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

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

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Clean toilets!

CENTRE:
Open every day
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MEN’S SHED:
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President: J. Alker
Secretary: E. Shipway
Tel: 6548 3201
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6 Gooch Street MERRIWA 2329
Fax 6548 2629
russellsearthmoving@jrem.com.au

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0419 252 257 Robert
robert.marchese@bigpond.com

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MERRIWA NSW 2329

Merriwa 02 6548 2205

Merriwa Ringer
**Merriwa Ringer**

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Clothing & Footwear for all the family
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- Children & Baby wear
- Shoes & Joggers
- Fashion Jewellery & Accessories
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**Merriwa District**

**Progress Association Inc**

**Support The Organisation Which Supports Your Community**

Meets every 4th Wednesday at Merriwa RSL at 6:00 pm

Phone Kim on 6548 3060 or Beren on 6548 2245

---

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**Merriwa Branch & District Council**

"...a strong and united voice for our members on issues that affect their business, farms and families."

President: Patrick Ryan  0428 485 090
Secretary/Treasurer: Aileen Hogan  0455 455 760

www.nswfarmers.org.au

---

**Merriwa Kennels and Cattery**

Kennel owners
- Jackie and Celeste Roper

1344 Cullingral Road
Merriwa
NSW 2329

02 6548 2151

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**Merriwa Ringer**

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**Merriwa Preschool & Activity Centre**

Pre-School is for 2–5 year olds
Open Monday–Friday 9am–3pm

Ph: 02 65 482 083
Email: merriwapreschool@tpg.com.au

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

**Merriwa Central School**

President: Jayne Cronin
Senior Vice: Christine Riley
Junior Vice: Yvonne McNaught
Secretary: Gaynor Blackadder
Treasurer: Anna Whaley

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

**St Davids Uniting Church**

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

**St Columba Catholic Parish**

Merriwa
11am
Contact:
0429 996 769

**Merriwa Christian Women’s Association**

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

**Merriwa Bushman’s Campdraft Est. 1947**

President: Roger Moore 0427 153 446
Secretary: Megan Richards 0427 437 743
Treasurer: Jodie Mobberley 0404 286 741
merriwacampdraft@gmail.com

**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.

**Catholic Parish:**

*Merriwa & Cassilis*

**WEEKEND MASSES**

St Anne’s Merriwa
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday - Sat 6.00pm
2nd & 4th Sunday - Sun 8.30am
St Joseph’s Cassilis
2nd & 4th Sunday - 10.00am
Parish Priest - 6548 2086
Convent - 6548 2123
St Vincent de Paul - 6548 3092

**Merriwa Ringer**

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

Merriwa Ringer

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

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

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

Mondays - Happy Two Hour - 4.00pm to 6.00pm
Tuesdays - Rotary meets - 7.00pm for 7.30pm
Wednesdays - Social Darts - 7.00pm - Draw for partners

Thursdays - 5.00pm Bingo and Super 39

Fridays - Happy Two Hour - 5.00pm to 7.00pm and free raffles and Squash Club “Chook Wheel”

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

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

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

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

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

For bookings and take away - telephone 6548 3228.

DON’T FORGET CHINESE SMORGASBORD SUNDAY 31 AUGUST AT 6.00PM

WEEKEND RESULTS

Saturday Raffle August 23
Saturday Members Draw not won No. 56 - Next week $110.00

Winners Jackpot not won - next week $340.00

Free Tickets: Nita Tudor
Dinner: Des Snelgrove

Cassilis Bowling Club
Phone: 6376 1002

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE CLUB

HAPPY HOUR IS BACK - Friday 6.00pm to 7.00pm and Sunday 11.00am to 12 noon, $3.00 schooners and $2.00 middy’s.

Social darts 7.00pm Thursday nights.

Merriwa Rugby League Football Club Presentation August 30, tickets $25.00 each, on sale from the RSL now.

Matt Morgan

Merriwa Ringer
Sporting News
Merriwa Junior Rugby League Football and Netball Club

KIINGS LY U/8’S

U/8’s had a great game, playing against a very slippery Singleton White side. They were very hard to catch as they had some good runners but to our credit, we did not give up and pulled off some great tackles to get them down to the dirt. I love watching this U/8s side as they display great team work and mateship out there on the field. They are offloading the ball (most of the time safely), just to keep the ball alive, hoping their team mate might get over the try line to score points for the team. Clayton was busy scoring three try’s, Riley, Jyeson, Hudson and Jackson all scored one try each, David’s defence was fantastic again and Ellie’s improvement in defence keeps on getting better each game. well done Ellie, and I also hear that she played for the 7’s and scored her first try. I so wish I was there to see you get over that try line, I am very proud of you. Dylan was awarded “Player of the Week” this week as his defence was awesome as it always is and he scored two fantastic tries, both of them weaving through the defence showing off his foot work and palming off the defence one by one. Well done Dylan.

One more game to go, unfortunately I am unable to be there but Callum Telfer and John Whitby have put their hands up to take on the job (both of them are interested in coaching next year). So Good luck for your last game Guys.

Don’t forget our presentation day is on Sunday October 19.

Robert Smith

Merriwa Touch Football

TOUCH FOOTBALL AGM

The Touch Football AGM will be held on August 28 at 6.00pm at the Merriwa Sports Club. All positions will be declared open in aim to start the 2014/15 season off in October.

See you all at the Sports Club tonight, August 28, remember - no committee, no Touch!

Tina Taylor

Belinda Keane

The club is looking at a number of fund raising initiatives and appreciates the support of the community in helping to bring our facilities up to standard.

Robert Smith

Merriwa Ringer
Merriwa Little Athletics Club

Merriwa Little Athletics Centre would like to say a huge thank you to Hunter Mutual for their generous donation presented to the club at the Community Partnerships function held at the RSL last Thursday night. Your ongoing support is greatly appreciated and will be put to very good use in coming weeks.

As Term 3 quickly races past us, the committee are busy gearing up for another great season of Little Athletics. And to get all of you back ‘in the mood’ for running, jumping and throwing we are delighted that Athletics NSW state coach Alvin Umadhay will be coming to Merriwa for a special day of coaching at your school!

Yes mums, dads and caregivers, there is no need to pick up or drop off kids at the oval for this clinic. St Josephs Primary School and Merriwa Central School have both very kindly agreed to host this very special introduction to athletics workshop called ‘Desire to Inspire’ during school hours next Tuesday September 2. There will be several sessions held at each school throughout the day.

Alvin Umadhay is not only the very talented coach of the NSW State athletics team he is also great fun with plenty of games to get you up and running with a smile on your dial from start to finish. Little Athletes, this is a great time to encourage your school friends to come along and join you this season!

Merriwa Little Athletics season starts on the second week of Term 4, Monday October 13 from 5.30pm till 7ish at the No. 2 Sports Oval. The season goes throughout Terms 4 and Term 1. For more information contact Tash Taaffe (president) on tashholden@bigpond.com or call 0458 574 015.

Tash Taaffe
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>AUGUST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 28</td>
<td>Touch Football AGM - Merriwa Sports Club - 6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 29</td>
<td>Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 30</td>
<td>Merriwa Rugby League Football Club Presentation</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Night - Merriwa RSL Club - 6.00pm</td>
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<td>SEPTEMBER</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 1</td>
<td>Legacy Week starts</td>
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<td>Wednesday 3</td>
<td>Anglican Women Spring Celebrations</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 4</td>
<td>Women’s Guild - 2.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 5</td>
<td>Legacy Street Stall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 19</td>
<td>Merriwa Show kicks off!</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 20</td>
<td>Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - 7.30am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Merriwa Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 21</td>
<td>Merriwa Show</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 26</td>
<td>Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 28</td>
<td>Sisters of St Joseph Farewell - St Anne’s Church -</td>
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<td></td>
<td>11.00am</td>
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<td>OCTOBER</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday 2</td>
<td>Women’s Guild - 2.00pm</td>
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<td>Friday 10</td>
<td>Anglican Women Street Stall</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 15</td>
<td>Merriwa Campdraft AGM - Merriwa RSL Club - 7.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 18</td>
<td>Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - 7.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 19</td>
<td>JRLF and Netball Club Presentation - 10.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 31</td>
<td>Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm</td>
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If you would like your event included in the community calendar or wish to claim a date, please call Tina at the Ringer so that your event is not missed!