Helen Akerstrom takes the winning shot in this months photography competition “Working Dogs in Action”

What’s News?

Helen’s shot will receive a gift voucher from Melaleuka Rural Services, congratulations Helen. Next months topic is “Men and Women at Work” which will close October 13 at noon so send your entries to merriwa2-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

PLUS

Touch Football Update

Springtime show update

Traineeship students at MCS

Cassilis Student of the Week

Middle Schools Day
Just three short weeks before the mighty Merriwa Springtime Show is on, it is on the 19, 20 and 21 September!

**MERRIWA SHOWGIRL COMPETITION IS ON!**

Yes! The Merriwa Show Committee is delighted to announce the Merriwa Showgirl Competition is back on this year. Female entrants aged between 18 years and Under 25 years from the Merriwa district are eligible to apply. The winner will have the opportunity to represent the district at Zone finals. Contestants are judged on personality, confidence, ambition and life goals, general knowledge, rural knowledge, presentation and a speech before three judges.

Sincere thanks to our volunteers that have come forward at short notice to run this years event. To find out more, contact Showgirl Coordinator Corinne Parker at Landmark Merriwa or call 0407 300 262 for entry forms and details. Also check out www.sydneyroyal.com.au/Showgirl.htm for showgirl rules. If you can help with sponsorship or prizes, please let us know! Contact Merriwa Show Secretary Toni Jones on 0498 378 500.

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**Merriwa Springtime Show Update**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>ART SECTION</th>
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This is a warm invitation to the wonderful artists of the Merriwa and Upper Hunter communities to enter their paintings, drawings and/or mixed art in the 2014 Merriwa Springtime Show. There are open classes for drawing, traditional painting, contemporary/mixed media art and watercolour painting, a special senior citizen’s class and separate classes for 16 years and under, Years 3 to 6, Years K to 2 and Pre-School. Our district is visually spectacular and provides a wonderful inspiration to create art. Whether you are an experienced artist or someone who is just looking for an excuse, get creating and come and exhibit your work at this year’s Show. We would also like to encourage all of our schools to get our children to enter their art.

Last year we created a new section in the Fairfax Pavilion to exhibit Art and Photography and please stop by to view the lovely exhibits in your visit to the Show this year. In 2013, our judge was overwhelmed by the quality of works. Entries can be left at Di’s Clothing Patch, Bettington St Merriwa till noon on September 18 (must be clearly labelled and accompanied by entry fee of $0.50c for open categories – no fee for senior citizens or 16 years and below) or delivered to the Fairfax Pavilion between 2.00-4.00pm on Thursday 18 and before 10.00am on Friday September 19 - Annie Kraefft.

**TALENT QUEST**

Balladeers and crooners, don’t miss your chance to enter this year’s Community Mutual ‘Merriwa’s Got Talent’ on Saturday September 20 at the Merriwa Spring Time Show. It’s time to start practicing your act to win over the judges and wow the crowd! If you are a singer, dancer, musician, poet - anything that will entertain us - come along to the Merriwas Got Talent competition. Start time is 3.30pm on the truck with the Hunter Mutual flags near the main arena seating and bar area. Tiny Tots (2-6 Yrs) will kick off the event followed by Juniors (7 – 12 yrs) and Teens (13-18 yrs). There’s lots of great $$$ to be won too! Performances are to be no longer than four mins and any accompanying music needs to be on a CD. If you are under 18 we need to have a parent or guardian permission. Contact Trudie Byfield on 6776 6823 or email tbyfield@communitymutual.com.au or drop into Hunter Mutual Merriwa.
Primary News

QUICKSMART PARENT SESSION

Thank you to all the parents who were able to attend the information session on the Secondary Campus last week. If you were unable to attend but would still like more information about the QuickSmart program, or if you would like to view your child in a QuickSmart session, you are more than welcome to visit Mrs West on the Primary campus to get more information.

KINDERGARTEN ASSEMBLY

This Friday September 5 the Kindergarten class will be presenting their item at the formal assembly. The assembly begins at 9.15am in the Primary Library and all parents and friends are welcome to attend.

CAMP QUALITY VISIT

Next Friday September 12 we will be visited by some wonderful people doing the ‘1000K’s for Kids’ fundraiser for Camp Quality. This is the fourth annual 1000Ks 4 Kids event and will see 45 riders and 20 support crew cycling 1000km from Mittagong and finishing back in Newcastle 10 days later. They will be dropping into the Primary campus at 1.00pm to talk to students and any parents who wish to come along. We will get to see their bikes and hear stories about their journey. After the presentation we will be participating in a number of fun activities and having a ‘Camp Quality Fun Day’. If there are any parents or volunteers available to help on the day please contact the Primary office and leave your contact details. We look forward to having a wonderful day!

PEER SUPPORT REPORT

Students in Years 5 and 6 have been running Peer Support sessions for Primary students on a Friday. This is a wonderful program that allows our senior students to develop their leadership skills by working with students from Years K-4. Year 6 students work with a partner and are the ‘Leaders’ of each group. The Year 5 students work as the ‘Assistant Leaders’ to prepare to be leaders next year. Students run a 30 minute session with their small group and our focus this year is on healthy eating and living. Last week our leaders ran a session on our favourite foods and discussed which ones were healthy and which ones were ‘sometimes foods’. They then created a poster that incorporated these foods along with their group name.

Coming Events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 5</td>
<td>Primary assembly - Kindergarten will present their item, 9.15am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 8</td>
<td>Year 11 exams - all week</td>
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<td>Tuesday 9</td>
<td>SRC Fundraiser - Cupcake Day</td>
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<td>Wednesday 10</td>
<td>Meeka excursion - Singleton Civic Centre, 8.30am-3.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<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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<tr>
<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></td>
<td>Year 12 Farewell Dinner</td>
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<td>Friday 19</td>
<td>Primary assembly, 9.15am - Year 2/3 will present their item</td>
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<td>Primary and Secondary Rewards Day</td>
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<td>Last Day of Term 3</td>
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<th>OCTOBER</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 7</td>
<td>First day of Term 4</td>
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If you are thinking about enrolling your child in Kindergarten for 2015, Merriwa Central School is accepting enrolments now. Next Monday we will be running a parent information session about our ‘School Transition Program’. It is also an opportunity for parents to meet and talk with Miss Willis, our Kindergarten teacher for 2015. Our School Transition Program which starts in Term 4 gives children an opportunity to see what it is like to be at big school. Every child works at their own pace and no two children are alike, so the following is just a guide of what your child might be able to do prior to starting school next year.

Each week in the Ringer, we will be going through different areas of learning. This week, let’s have a look at language and vocabulary. Here are some markers that your child might be achieving in preparation for Kindergarten.

**LANGUAGE AND VOCABULARY**

- Listens to stories and enjoys opportunities to be read to by others
- Talks to other people (peers and adults) about familiar topics or experiences e.g. their favourite toy, their visit to the zoo etc.
- Enjoys looking at pictures in books and tells a story or adds a comment about a picture in a book
- Joins in singing familiar songs
- Answers and asks simple questions
- Follows simple instructions
- Knows and uses a variety of everyday words e.g. colours, familiar objects, places, names of family members etc.
- Is curious about the world and asks lots of questions about how things work and what words mean

Stay tuned...next week we will be delving into the area of mathematics and number.

Kara Alison
Instructional Leader

**HOME TIME ARRANGEMENTS**

The K-6 classes will be trialling alternative home time arrangements between now and the end of term, in an effort to maximise the safety of every student. A short whole school assembly will be held at 2.55pm each afternoon, and children will be supervised by teachers as they leave school. Please ensure that any changes to your child’s regular home time arrangements are communicated to the office well before home time each afternoon. We would also appreciate any comments or suggestions you may have throughout the trial period.

Kate Jones
Assistant Principal

**Secondary News**

**VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET) FACULTY NEWS**

It is that time of year again where Year 12 are getting ready to finish their schooling. Last minute study, major works finalised and preparations for the Higher School Certificate exams are occurring.

It is also the time of year where I have had the opportunity to visit a number of our School Based Trainees in their work places and/or speak to their employers. I am always amazed at the growth in students from when they start their traineeship to when they are getting close to finishing. This growth is due in a large part to the employers they work with who provide opportunities for these students to develop their skills and become more confident in their own ability to perform tasks to an industry standard. Merriwa Central is incredibly lucky to have such a supporting team of employers who provide these opportunities for our students.

This week’s news is a testimony to those employers. Where possible I have included photographs however it has not been possible to photograph all students in their workplaces and for that I am sorry. However I would like to take this opportunity to thank every employer for their support and pass on the thanks of their trainee for the time and effort they have put into their skill development. Our students leave school better prepared for the work force and with a greater understanding of what working life is like outside of school. Merriwa Central thanks you.

Merriwa Ringer
Below is the list of our traineeships for 2014:

### Year 12

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Company/Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Megan Hourn</td>
<td>Business Services</td>
<td>Upper Hunter Shire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Darryl Mulholland</td>
<td>Primary Industries</td>
<td>M Nutt Contracting</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cody Marshall</td>
<td>Business Services</td>
<td>Merriwa Pharmacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sean Edens Rosa</td>
<td>Hospitality</td>
<td>Merriwa RSL - Bistro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Holly Morgan</td>
<td>Business Services</td>
<td>Merriwa Petroleum and Ag</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Eli Kiely</td>
<td>Business Services</td>
<td>Community Mutual</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bradley Ellis</td>
<td>Primary Industries</td>
<td>Upper Hunter Shire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Blake Cooper</td>
<td>Primary Industries</td>
<td>James Estate Wines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brianna McLoughlin</td>
<td>Business Services</td>
<td>Upper Hunter Shire Council</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Starr Taylor</td>
<td>Business Services</td>
<td>National Bank – Scone</td>
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### Year 11

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Industry</th>
<th>Company/Location</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jeanie Belle Mason</td>
<td>Racing(Stablehand)</td>
<td>Greg Bennett Racing – Scone</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Matthew McLennan</td>
<td>Hospitality</td>
<td>Coolah Valley Hotel – Bistro</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Billie-Jane Hoole</td>
<td>Business Services</td>
<td>H O Haynes – Coolah</td>
</tr>
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If there are any employers in Merriwa who would consider having a School Based Trainee in the future please contact me for more information about the process. We have a number of students interested in a range of industries and it is often a ‘win win’ situation for both the student and the business.

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**Favourite Subject:** Woodwork  
**Extra-Curricular activities:** Football or squash  
**Best Personal Achievements:** Being a student of MCS and being a stud  

**Year Advisor’s Comment:** James is a friendly and hardworking young man who deserves to be Student of the Week. He puts in 100% in his role as SRC representative and Upper Hunter Youth Council member. Well done James!

Rebecca Hopkins  
Year Advisor
**Why I want to be in ROAR?**

Learn new skills

**What is my favourite subject:** PE and Science

**What is my favourite sport:** Rugby League

**What is my favourite team:** Rabbitohs

**Favourite Player:** Sam Burgess

**Best Sporting Achievement:** Getting to Regionals for my long distance running

**Who inspires you and Why:** Bear Grylls - He was never the fittest or the strongest, but was the most determined through SAS training

**Advice to young players:** Don’t stop trying.

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**SRC Fundraiser**

**September 9**

*Merriwa SRC will be holding a Cupcake Stall to raise money for an alpaca for the Secondary Ag farm. Cost will be $1.00 per cupcake!*

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**ROAR Profile**

Ben Keane

Year 7

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**Jane Hegarty**

VET Head Teacher

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**Merriwa SRC**

Respect - Ownership - Awareness - Rewards

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**The Community Mutual Group**
St Joseph’s Primary School

Principal’s Report

As an avid watcher of the news, I am feeling increasingly depressed about the state of the world. The violence and hatred displayed through war, terrorism, domestic violence and the like are all too common events. Is so much horror desensitising us? What can we do in the face of this horror? We can pray for peace in our hearts, our homes, and our world. We can also follow that part of our school mission statement that urges us to “celebrate all that is good in our world”. I am a great believer in this. The bad news is only one way to look at our world. The Good News is another. Let’s help our children to really appreciate all that is good in our world and give thanks to God for it.

What can we do to help our children do this?

• Recognise and name things to be grateful for each day

• Model positiveness for your child. Be positive in your own outlook. Look for things to be happy about instead of defaulting to the negative. When you talk to your children about their day at school, ask them what great things happened. At school, the teachers use the 3:1 rule... you try to say three positive things before you say something negative. We find this really helps the children to put their troubles into perspective

• When we think the world is dealing us a bad blow, take a moment to think about someone else who is doing things tougher than us... we don’t have to go too far to see suffering greater than our own

• Laugh a lot. It is so good for us all.

STOP PRESS: We have just been given confirmation that the Catholic School’s Office is providing St Joseph’s Merriwa with addition learning space for 2015. Our growing numbers has led to a shortage of space and with this additional building we will be able to move the Stage 3 class back over to the main classroom area and relocate our library to the new learning space. We are very excited to welcome our Stage 3 students back to the central learning area surrounding the school green. The current Stage 3 classroom will return to its former state of Teacher Resource area.

Little Sprouts Day was a huge success. THANK YOU to Merriwa Central School for the fabulous organisation and for initiating and keeping such a wonderful tradition alive in our community. THANK YOU to all the wonderful businesses who participated and offered our students wonderful reading experiences.

We have had a great deal of professional development over the past two weeks. Literacy, Numeracy, Information Technology, Non Violent Crisis Intervention, Gifted and Talented are just some of the areas of focus. We are grateful for such learning opportunities and for such a professional and willing staff that attends. On Tuesday night many of the staff will be attending a presentation by Dr John Irvine on anxiety in children. This will be held at St James Muswellbrook. We are hoping many parents will attend this workshop also as anxiety affects many children and the as parents are the primary carers, this workshop is invaluable.

NSW Little Athletics Association is conducting sport workshops at our school on Tuesday. Infants classes will be working on ‘Come and Try’ stations which are all the activities which occur at Little As (Fundamental Movement Skills) and Primary classes will be put through their paces with some fabulous physical drills. Thank you Tash Taaffe for organising this great opportunity.

Public Speaking will be the whole school focus on Thursday. The students have been learning how to prepare a cohesive speech and how to present it in an engaging manner. Did you know that the students only have one hour to prepare their speech? The skill development that this process enables is one that will benefit the students throughout their lives. I was fortunate to be in the Kinder room last week as they prepared and presented mini speeches. It is amazing at such a young age, how well they can complete this task. If you can make time to watch the public speaking on Thursday between 10.00 and 11.00am you will be most welcome.

The Annual School Performance Evening will be held next
Wednesday evening in the School of Arts commencing at 6.30pm. All members of the school and wider community are cordially invited. This year’s performance allows all classes to present their own piece and to perform some items together to make one whole play entitled… There will be a gold coin donation at the door to cover the hire of the hall and other associated costs.

All classes have had notice recently about their annual excursions. It looks like a great variety of learning experiences.

1. The infants classes are going to the Wetlands at Shortland
2. Stage 2 are heading off to the State Park at Merewether Beach
3. Stage 3 are following the Solar System path to Coonabarabran for some star gazing!

Congratulations to our Stage 3 students who have so much to celebrate at present:

- Year 6 sat the Diocesan Religious Education Exam recently. Eliza Peebles gained a Distinction and Clancy Moore gained a Credit. Well done students
- Stage 3 competed in the CWA Poster competition. Each year schools are invited to research a country and represent this in a poster. This year’s country of study was Botswana. The Stage Three students did a tremendous job on these posters. They are on display in the MacKillop Room. Please take the time to have a look. Eliza Peebles won first prize for our school. Ty Riley gained second place and Gaby Nicholls gained third place. Eliza’s poster was then judged best in Merriwa and so has gone down the valley to be judged against the Hunter regional winners. Best of luck Eliza and thank you to the CWA for this opportunity
- Stage 3 students participated in the Middle Schools Day at Aberdeen. They had a very meaningful day and represented our school and Mr Morris very well
- Year 6 leaders organised a fundraising day for Hunter Life Education on Thursday. The day was very well organised and raised almost $200 to assist
- Year 6 Leaders went to the Merriwa Central School last Wednesday to participate in the Upper Hunter Youth Council

This is their report:
The Upper Hunter Youth Council provides the youth an opportunity to have their say, voice their opinions and plan and participate in activities for youth in the region. At this meeting we discussed past and future fundraising events. The money raised will support Youth Services across the Upper Hunter. There were students from Upper Hunter schools namely Merriwa Central, St Joseph’s Merriwa, St Mary’s Scone, Scone Public, Scone High School, Aberdeen Public and St Joseph’s Aberdeen. The forum was very interesting and impressive in the way they got straight onto the business. Everyone was encouraged to have a say. The next meeting will be held in Scone in Term 4 and we are really looking forward to participating in this.

FABULOUS PARENT HELPERS ABOUND AT ST JOSEPH’S SCHOOL

Thank you to all who do their bit to assist us with many tasks around the place. All our children benefit from your generous efforts. This week I especially thank:

- Parents who have registered to help with the performance preparations
- The many reading helpers in the classrooms
- The book covering helpers in the library
- The chook carers
- Canteen helpers
- Bus cleaners

HAPPY FATHER’S DAY TO ALL OUR DADS, GRANDDADS AND OTHERS WHO LOVE AND CARE FOR US AS A DAD WOULD!
AWARDS

Congratulations to the following award winners:

Kindergarten - Levi Hourn – for recalling facts about fractions

William Luke – for kindly assisting others when they need help

Years 1/2 - Fiona Tomy - for a huge improvement during play practice

Jack Shannon - for working well during reading groups

Years 3/4 - Patrick McLaren - for great work with 3D shapes

Damian Jamieson - for always being willing to contribute to class discussions

Years 5/6 - Lauren Redgate – for an amazing improvement on her results in Mathematics assessment

Clancy Moore – for demonstrating an excellent attitude towards improving public speaking skills

Playground Champion - Sam Grady - for always having a nice friendly and welcoming smile and a good laugh in the playground.

Principal’s Awards - Sam Grady - for a wonderful effort in Public Speaking practice.

Waste Warrier display for Environmental Week

STUDENT OF THE WEEK – KATIE BLYTH

Katie is a student who is a quiet achiever. She works consistently in all learning areas and completes all her work to a high standard. Katie is a talented artist and writer, who is able to write in a variety of styles. Her news report, written from the viewpoint of a news reporter, was outstanding. Keep up the great work, Katie.

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

What is your favourite food? Bruschetta

What job/work would you like when you are older? Physicist

Apart from your family, who is one of your role models and why? Katie Perry because she inspires a lot of kids and goes round to children’s hospitals helping kids

If you were given $100.00, what would you buy? X-box games

What is one thing that people may not know about you? I played netball for two years.

FROM MRS GRINHAM’S DESK

It has been another delightful week at CPS with students working hard in all areas of their learning.

We all enjoyed our trips for book week last week to Cassilis library and Merriwa for Little Sprouts Day.

Our impromptu science excursion to the river ponds for some dip-netting was fabulous. For me it was lovely to see the children enjoying the outdoors and teasing me when I went the wrong way through some weeds and ended up with “sticky beaks” all over my clothes.
It was a great day!

The children of CPS are kind, caring and have a great sense of humor. I am so proud of the way they help each other and play together, usually solving problems independently and fairly. They are very friendly and a joy to be around.

Keep up the great work!

SCIENCE IN ACTION!

On Monday Mr Gant, Mrs. Grinham, Mrs Nairne, and all the students went on a wonderful dip netting excursion down to the river ponds. The aim was to observe and collect a variety of mini beasts and collect data on what we found.

Some children couldn’t resist paddling and their feet got a little wet.

We saw six freshwater bass and caught a leech that Thomas put on his arm, hoping it would suck his blood - which it didn’t! We also found a myriad of wriggly creatures including shrimp, damselfly larvae, backswimmers and a witchetty grub that no one wanted to eat!

We even found a dinosaur - according to Sophie – that turned out to be a sheep skull and partial backbone.

Back at school shoes and socks were lined up in the sun to dry and all the data was collated.

CASSILIS LIBRARY VISIT

Also last Friday afternoon, the McMaster room walked to the library where Virginia read two books to the students, followed by an activity.

She is very keen for us to visit more regularly and for students to join and borrow.

Cassilis library is only a small space but has a fantastic range of books available for everyone to enjoy.

I urge every family to join and take advantage of the free books, movies and games that are available for your enjoyment.
**DIARY**

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.

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**LITTLE SPROUTS DAY**

Last Friday the Busby room students, parents and Miss H. drove to Merriwa to celebrate book week. They all dressed up as their favourite book character and enjoyed several engaging activities. First they watched and participated in an Aboriginal dance performance. Next a walk around town was organised where various shopkeepers read stories to children. After lunch there was a costume parade and finally a visit to the book fair and a soccer skills afternoon. A good time was had by all!

Jeanette Grinham  
Relieving Principal
DEVELOPING YOUR CHILD’S ORAL LANGUAGE

There are many ways in which the home environment can support your child’s oral development.

Language and cognition are closely linked, and together they are a potent combination that readies children for reading and writing activities in Kindergarten and extends their understanding of many concepts. We all want children to reach their full potential and we each have unique opportunities to assist children with their language development.

Here’s how you can help:

Engage your children in conversation constantly, model the correct use of language and encourage the imitation of language. Don’t forget that listening to your child is an important part of communication, give them time and wait for them to respond.

These interactions are best and easily achieved as you share experiences that promote a purpose to communicate.

Enable interactions with others. How about a play date with the neighbour’s children? An active social environment can offer a variety of language choices and different speaking situations.

A fully stocked dress up box may facilitate dramatic play, encouraging an exploration of variety of roles and uses of language.

Plan some outdoor activities with your child to stimulate their interest through engagement with nature. A family picnic or social outing can promote discussions.

Opportunities to expand oral development is always present, sharing a meal at the table and reading a bedtime story are ways to incorporate language learning into the daily routine.

Provide a challenge or an experience to interest and excite your child is a sure way to initiate a discussion.

Home is a comfortable and familiar place for children to practice their language skills, there is a lot of opportunity for one on one discussions that may not be so readily achieved in a Children’s Service.

On Friday August 29 we presented Bruce and Jill Carrall with a sign for the front playground ‘Bruce and Jill’s Hill’ to recognise their contribution, time and effort in getting a big playground for the children, without them the playground wouldn’t have happened.

Please add your name to the roster for the Merriwa Show. We are running the steak hut and anticipate a very busy weekend. Shifts are only 3 hours and the time will move really fast. You will find a sheet at the Pre-School or please talk to a member of staff.

Leah Folpp
Nominated Supervisor/ Director of Merriwa Pre-School
Photography Competition

Entries close:  SEPTEMBER 13 AT 12 NOON

Topic for the month is:  MEN AND WOMEN AT WORK

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 TYRE AND SERVICE CENTRE

PUBLISHED IN THE RINGER ON:  16 SEPTEMBER

This is a very broad topic but an easy topic to cover, it is open to interpretation and we hope to see many photos sent in to merriwa2-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au.

The competition is open to amateur photographers of all ages.
readers participated, dressed in very colourful and imaginative costumes which added to the festival atmosphere of the day. The Little Sprouts theme for this year was ‘Connect to reading … Reading to connect’. The Coordinator of the program, Kara Allison from Merriwa Central School is to be commended for gaining the support of the local community and encouraging student participation. This successful event has grown in participation and support is now in its fifth year.

NSW COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARDS

For the past 30 years Merriwa resident Mr James Bettington has provided sound to many special functions and events, both locally and to the surrounding districts. Most of which are without payment, always with a gracious willing attitude of just helping someone out. The State member for the Upper Hunter, the Honourable George Souris presented the community service award before the Upper Hunter Shire Council meeting last Monday evening. This award is the highest community service award and is only given to a maximum of two persons across the entire electorate each year. James, your sound services will be sorely missed but you can retire with the community’s thanks and appreciation for your great service to the community. Congratulations James, you are a LEGEND!

NSW BIKE WEEK - 14 SEPTEMBER

If you are feeling fit or if you want to get fit or if you just want to have a bit of fun, then now is the opportunity to participate in the cycle ride to the Cressfield Horse Stud. This ride is not for the faint hearted but with coffee and cakes and refreshments at Cressfield this will allow you to recuperate. Then continue on the remainder of the ride. I heard that Councillor Bedggood will lead the riders after morning tea. For those not so adventurous, there is a family bike ride around the Bill Rose Sports Complex. If you would like to participate then just turn up with your bike.
Remember!

Get your articles and advertisements into the Merriwa Ringer
BEFORE 9.00am Monday!
No late articles will be accepted!

Hunter Local Lands Services
BROADSCALE INTEGRATED FERAL PIG PROGRAM 2014

Feral pigs are widely distributed in NSW, Queensland and Northern Territory with isolated populations throughout Victoria and Western Australia. Your area around Merriwa/Cassilis has also become a pig sanctuary with numbers on the increase. I have had reports of up to 30 pigs per population per sighting.

Under the Local Land Services Act 2013 feral pigs are a declared pest animal. This declaration means that feral pigs are to be continually suppressed and destroyed by land managers. It is illegal to keep or transport live feral pigs.

Feral pigs significantly affect your agricultural production through predation of newborn lambs and reducing yields in grain, sugarcane, fruit and vegetable crops through consuming or trampling plants. Fences and water sources can be damaged and dams and waterholes fouled through wallowing and defecation. Feral pigs also compete with livestock for pasture and damage pasture through up-rooting vegetation. Additionally, feral pigs can be hosts or vectors of a number of endemic parasites and diseases, some of which can affect other animals or people. Livestock health can be significantly affected by (but not limited to):

- Leptospirosis
- Porcine Brucellosis
- Tuberculosis.

Human health can be affected by:

- Leptospirosis, through contact with the urine of affected feral pigs
- Porcine brucellosis, through handling raw feral pig meat
- Tuberculosis and sparganosis, through eating inadequately cooked feral pig meat.

Hunter LLS are in the process of developing a broad scale integrated feral pig program, and we’d like you and your neighbours to jump on board. We are holding an introductory workshop covering pig biology and ecology, legislation, baiting and trapping demonstrations and health implications of having feral pigs on your property. This workshop is September 10 at 9.00am -1.00pm (lunch included) at Merriwa Showground. Please register your attendance through https://hunterlls.wufoo.eu/forms/feral-pig-workshop or contact the Muswellbrook office on (02) 6542 4444.

Stefanie McCowen

ROAdS TO RECOVERY

The passing in the senate of the roads to recovery legislation is welcome news to Local Government, especially for country councils. This bill is part of the Land Transport Infrastructure Amendment bill 2014 which the Government promised $350 million per year for the next five years, doubling in years 2015/2016. This funding will enable our shire to put in submissions for finance until June 2019 for specific road building projects.

Council has submitted a request for funding under the Fixing Country Roads Grant Program, and if successful it will enable Council to partly fund Starrs Crossing Bridge and realign the roadway at the base of Owens Gap, benefiting everyone who travel this road.

MAYOR FOR A DAY

There were 244 entries from six primary schools across the shire competing for the title Mayor for the day. It was a delight to see the finalists take over the council chamber and present their ideas and reasons why they wanted to be mayor to the assembled councillors and members of the public. The winner of the title Mayor for a day was Amelia Grimshaw, with Brooke Wheadon being selected as Deputy Mayor. Both these contestants displayed a real compassion and concern for others in their presentations. Congratulations to all; the finalists and everyone who took the time to provide an entry - well done!

Cr Ron Campbell
Merriwa Springtime Show
Continues page 16

DOG HIGH JUMP NEWS

Last year Merriwa Central School student Clancy Martin coaxed and coached his effervescent kelpie 'Wiggles' to take out the large dog high jump class with a massive 'cat' leap of 1.9 metres. Meanwhile little 'Joe' was the 'big dog' in the little dog high jump class clearing an impressive 90 centimetres. Will they be able to do it again? Come along and find out at the Dog High Jump extravaganza on Saturday afternoon between the cattle yards and bar area depending on crowd traffic. Prize money for first three places in both classes kindly donated by event sponsors and organisers, the Campbell family.

CAMPDRAFT

Competitors please note, campdraft entries are due in by 5.00pm Monday September 8 with NO LATE ENTRIES accepted. All enquiries to Roger Moore on 0427 153 446 or horse section secretary Jodie Magner 0429 375 280. Refer to page 13 of your show schedule for more details.

Section captains, email Tash Taaffe on tashholden@bigpond.com, call 6548 5002 or fax 6548 5057 if you’d like any news included in next weeks show update.

PAVILION NEWS

It is time to prepare for this wonderful Springtime Show, the Schedule’s can be found on the website www.merriwashow.com.au.

Also available at the Bakery, Cross Country, Landmark, Elders, CRT, Vet, Post Office, Chemist.

Check the schedule for Needle and Fancy Work, which includes knitting, patchwork, embroidery.

Horticulture - you can do fresh flower arrangements, or dried flowers, and don’t forget there is a class for men.

We have a florist coming from Sydney to do a flower arranging demonstration, this will take place in the Fairfax Pavillion at 10.00am on Saturday.

Cooking - those clever cooks can find something to show, while there is plenty for the children.

Photography - all entries have to be submitted on Thursday.

Craft - you can do woodwork, leatherwork, jewellery, pottery.

Preserves - there are new and exciting classes here.

Entries will be accepted Thursday September 18 2.00pm-4.00pm, and Friday 19 before 10.00am. The Pavilion will be open on Friday afternoon after Judging, all day Saturday, and Sunday morning, entries must be collected between 12.00-1.00pm.

Prize giving will be in the Fairfax/Rodgers Pavilion at 11.15am on Saturday.

We take no responsibility for entries that are not collected.

We look forward to seeing many entries for this year’s Merriwa Springtime Show!

Julia Hardy

Samaritans Purse

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

It's time to pack your shoeboxes again.

Every year generous people across the world pack shoeboxes with simple gifts for children in impoverished countries who have nothing.

These six things in the hands of a child who has nothing are simple yet powerful messages of GODS unconditional love.

They are: Something to love - teddy bear, soft toy
Something to wear - t-shirt, shorts, sandals
Something to play with - tennis ball, skipping rope, marbles
Something for school - exercise books, pencils, sharpener
Something for personal hygiene - soap, face washer, toothbrush
Something special - carry bag, sunglasses, stickers

It doesn’t stop there. When a child opens up their shoebox, they open up a world of opportunity that can impact not only on them, but their family and the community in which they live.

Merriwa Ringer
It is easy to lose sight of what Christmas is all about, but children who receive Operation Christmas. Child shoeboxes may have never received a gift of any kind before. When they realise that the gift filled boxes are for them, they are delighted and their faces show their joy.

Millions of children around the world struggle daily with war, poverty, famine and disease. Through a simple gift filled shoebox, you can share God's hope and joy in a tangible way with children in need.

Last year 2013 over 998 million shoe boxes were sent to children in 112 countries around the World, and in Australia alone OCC is anticipating to collect 340 thousand shoe boxes to send into the South East Asia region.

Would you like to part of this wonderful organisation, just let me know. Maybe your club, group, or family would like to know more about this special relief program, or maybe you can host your own OCC shoebox party this year. You can get together with your family, friends and neighbours and get excited about packing shoeboxes and bringing Good News and great joy to kids all around the World.

Last year Merriwa packed and collected 145 shoeboxes and I hope with the generosity of this wonderful town we will reach 160 this year.

Thank you to everyone for your participation last year and I am looking forward to hearing from you again this year.

Contact - Evenings 6548 2142 or 0425 303 011. Carol Bowman

Merriwa NSW RFS

FIREFIGHTERS HEAD TO MERRIWA FOR RANGE X 2014

Over 100 firefighters and 30 fire trucks from the NSW Rural Fire Service (NSW RFS) are set to converge on Merriwa in the Upper Hunter this weekend, 30-31 August 2014 as part of “Range X”, the Liverpool Range Zone annual operational exercise. 12 months in the planning, the exercise will test and renew the skills of firefighters ahead of what is shaping up to be a challenging fire season.

Firefighters are attending from within Liverpool Range Zone which covers the local government areas of Gunnedah, Liverpool Plains and the Upper Hunter, but also from surrounding areas including Tamworth, Mudgee and Gilgandra. Crews will start arriving on Saturday afternoon ahead of the exercise day on Sunday August 31.

The exercise will involve around 150 personnel from various agencies including the NSW RFS, Volunteer Rescue Association, Ambulance Service of NSW, National Parks and Wildlife Service, Medicare Local and is also being supported by the Upper Hunter Shire Council.

The Rural Fire Service Association (RFSA) is again providing sponsorship of the exercise, which makes the running of an event such as Range X possible by offsetting the financial costs of catering and other running costs.

Range X is run by volunteers, for volunteers, under the control of Group Officers from Liverpool Range Zone and is supported by staff from Liverpool Range Zone. Now in its third year, Range X provides a unique opportunity to engage rural fire brigades across a large area with a one day exercise of scenarios coupled with navigation and area familiarisation benefits.

“Our firefighters work closely with a wide range of agencies in a diverse number of roles, and Range X will further strengthen these strong working relationships with our VRA, Ambulance and National Parks colleagues” said Superintendent Andrew Luke, Manager, Liverpool Range Zone.

“Our communities can be very reassured that coming into the Bush Fire Danger Period, our firefighters will be trained and ready not only for bush and grass fires, but also in a wide range of other incidents including assisting with rescues and medical emergencies.

“Bringing in specialist operators from our other emergency services will provide a unique learning opportunity for firefighters to learn best practice in a risk controlled environment, to ensure they are ready for any incident they encounter this fire season” said Superintendent Luke.

Range X will commence at 8.30am, Sunday 31 August at the Settlement Hall, Ringwood Road, southwest of Merriwa under the direction of Incident Controller, Deputy Group Captain Ean Cottle.

Andrew Luke

Merriwa Railway Society

There will be a working bee at the Station next Saturday September 6, 9.00am to 3.00pm to continue our work restoring the site. All members are asked to attend if possible. New members are welcome to join.

General public invited to visit to see what has been achieved. The museum will be open to show off our recent additions.Contact Bryan on 6548 5000. Hope to see you there.

Bryan Baker
**Community Notice Board**

**Merriwa Rotary Club**

Our club committee has interviewed two prospective local students who wish to be part of next year’s Rotary New Zealand Short Term Exchange Program.

Both candidates presented well and made a very favourable impression on our Rotary panel who had no hesitation in giving them our club’s endorsement.

The next stage is an interview at district level. After that Rotary tries to arrange matches with candidates from clubs in New Zealand.

Good luck to our Merriwa candidates!

**RYPEN**

RYPEN is the Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment.

RYPEN is open to full time students between the ages of 14 and 17 from our Rotary district which stretches from the Hunter coast to the Far West of NSW.

It aims to

- Increase motivation
- Improve life skills
- Improve self image and pride
- Allow an understanding of setting and achieving goals
- Increase confidence to overcome problems and take control of their future

Nominations are now open for RYPEN which will be held on the weekend of 7, 8 and 9 of November 2014 at Myuna Bay

**Applications close on October 21.**

More information can be had by googling “Rotary 9670 RYPEN”.

Students who are interested should contact any Merriwa Rotarian.

Mark Smith
   Rotary Club of Merriwa

**Merriwa CWA**

The CWA will be catering over the three days of the show and will open early for your convenience.

We look forward to your support.

**Next meeting date:** Monday September 8

**Time:** 10.00am

New members are always welcome.

Our craft afternoon will follow the meeting. If you have a project you are working on and would like to join us you would be most welcome.

Robyn McAlister

**Little Sprouts**

Little Sprouts Day was a huge success. THANK YOU to Merriwa Central School for the fabulous organisation and for initiating and keeping such a wonderful tradition alive in our community. THANK YOU to all the wonderful businesses who participated and offered our students wonderful reading experiences.

From a very grateful St Joseph’s School Community, Merriwa

**Men’s Shed**

**SMALL ENGINE COURSE**

The Men’s Shed, in conjunction with TAFE Outreach, are holding a Small Engine course at the Shed.

**When:** Wednesday from October 8 - November 26

**Time:** 5.30 - 8.30pm

**Cost:** $50.00

Those interested should contact Jim Alker on 6548 2868 or 0427482 868.

Jim Alker

**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
   Merriwa Ringer

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The Merriwa Community News is available to charity groups or non-funded, not for profit organisations and anyone wishing to advise of a special event (birthday/anniversary/etc.). If you would like to make use of this free service, please contact us prior to 12.00pm Mondays.
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 “Bring and Share” lunch will be held at the Merriwa School of Arts directly after.

Jane Smith

Mainly Music

When: Every Monday starts 9.30am (note time change)
Where: Parish Hall, Merriwa

Come and enjoy singing and dancing with your little ones. See them interact with other children. Also its 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

Merriwa Markets

When: Saturday September 20
Where: RSL Club - Bow Street side and in the Auditorium if wet

All welcome!

Julie Russell and the Market Committee

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 6.00pm.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Contact 6548 2245.

Beron Arden-Wood

Woolbrook Rural Industries

Merriwa Ringer and Max Wurcker wish to apologise for the absence of regular articles over the next couple of weeks. Max is currently unwell and unable to submit his much anticipated articles but wishes to let everyone know that as soon as he is back on his feet he will strike up the keyboard once again for the readers. We wish Max well and hope for a speedy recovery.

Tina Taylor

Business

Max’s Country Cuts

131 Bettington Street Merriwa
Ph/Fax: 6548 2375

This week’s specials at Max’s Country Cuts on September Friday 5 and Saturday 6 and early next week while stocks last include:

• Corned Silverside $8.99kg
• Yearling T Bones $16.99kg
• Whole Yearling T Bones $14.99kg
• Corned Legs of Hogget $6.99kg
• Hogget Loin Chops 12.99kg
• Hogget 4¼ Chops $6.99kg
• Steak and Onion Gravy Tuckerbags $12.99kg

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

Support the butcher that supports Merriwa

RECIPE OF THE WEEK
TRADITIONAL CORNED SILVERSIDE AND VEGETABLES

Preparation time: 25 minutes
Cooking: 1 hours
Serves: 4

• 1.2kg Corned Silverside (Beef)
• 10 Whole Cloves
• 1 Onion
• 8 Black Peppercorns
• 2 Bay Leaves
• 2 Tablespoons soft Brown Sugar
• 4 Carrots
• 4 Potatoes
• ¼ Large Cabbage

PARSLEY SAUCE

• 40g Butter
• 2 Tablespoon Plain Flour
• 2 Cups Milk
• 2 Tablespoon chopped Parsley

1. Using a knife, cut a diamond pattern into the white layer of fat. Press the cloves into the flesh of the onion.

2. Place the beef in a large pan. Add enough water to just cover the beef, add the clove-studded onion, peppercorns, bay leaves and brown sugar. Cover and bring the water to
a gentle simmer. Cook for about 1.5 hours, spooning the cooked liquid over the meat occasionally. Do not allow the water to boil or the meat becomes tough. While the beef is cooking, make the parsley sauce.

3. To make the parsley sauce, melt butter in a pan over medium heat. When the butter is foaming, stir in flour and cook, stirring for 1 minute. Remove from the heat and add milk stirring constantly until the sauce is smooth. Returned the pan to the heat and cook, stirring constantly, until the sauce boils and thickens. Boil for 1 minute further. Season well with salt and black pepper. Cover the surface of the sauce with baking paper to prevent skin forming. Set aside.

4. When the meat is cooked and tender, remove it from the pan, wrap in foil and set aside for 15 minutes while cooking the vegetables. Halve the carrots and the potatoes and add to the pan that the beef was cooked in. Simmer for 10 minutes, then add the wedge of cabbage and cook for about 4 minutes. Test all vegetables with a sharp knife – when they are tender, remove from the pan and set aside. Reserve about ½ cup of the cooking liquid to add to the sauce.

5. To serve, remove the paper from the sauce, stir in the reserved cooking liquid and parsley, stir over low heat until sauce is heated through. Slice the meat and arrange on a serving platter. Slice the cabbage and arrange the vegetables around the meat. Spoon a little parsley sauce over the beef and serve the remaining sauce in a jug.

THE SAME RECIPE CAN BE USED FOR CORNED LEGS OF HOGGET

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

Books

Come in and check out our great range of discount novels. There are thrillers, dramas, sci-fi, military, historical, action-packed and more. Get one for Dad today.

Cards and Wrap

We have a great range of Father’s Day cards, one for every kind of Dad. There are funny cards, heartfelt cards, cute cards, cards that are a little bit naughty, cards for your Pop, cards for your Husband and more. We also have rolls and sheets of wrap in great designs. No more boring blue or grey wrap. They are fun, masculine and go really well with the new range of ribbon and bows that we have.

Magazines

A subscription to your Dad’s favourite magazine is a great gift idea. Even if you can only afford two or three issues, it can be arranged through the shop. No need to give credit card info over the internet, you are not locked into minimum issue orders, you are able to adjust it when you want to. These are all benefits of subscribing directly through us. We can do the same thing with newspapers - if your Dad loves reading the Land, Newcastle Herald, Scone Advocate or any other newspaper that we supply, come in and organise a subscription for him.

Diary

If you weren’t already aware, we got our shipment of 2015 Diaries in a month early! Don’t let your Dad get caught without a Diary, get him one for Father’s Day. There are many different sizes and types to choose from.

Neville and Leanne Hook

Merriwa SBS Services

Interruption to the Transmission of SBS Television Services in the Merriwa Area

SBS recently took over operation of the transmitter which serves the Merriwa area. Since that time, expected works have been completed as part of the federal Government’s national retune programme. Subsequent to the retune significant technical difficulties have resulted, and SBS has been made aware of a broader licensing and transmission issue, meaning SBS will be required to source new transmitting equipment for the service. Until such time, SBS regrets residents in the Merriwa area may not be able to receive SBS television services. Some people in the community may be receiving the SBS service via the VAST satellite. These viewers are unaffected.

Money Does Grow On Trees

This Father’s Day give Dad the perfect gift – a Scratchie Tree. These are a unique idea that will prove that money can grow on trees. They are a great alternative to a scratchie in a card.

Gift Cards

We have a great range of gift cards for Dad’s that are hard to buy for. We have gift cards for music lovers, avid readers, keen fishermen and campers, toolies, sporty dads and more.

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TOURIST HOTEL SANDY HOLLOW
UNDER NEW MANAGEMENT
Management and staff would like to invite you to the Tourist Hotel for a fun and relaxed atmosphere with something happening almost every day!

Monday Night - Kids eat free
Tuesday - Happy hour 4.30pm - 6.30pm
Thursday - Pool Comp at 6.30pm
Friday Night - Joker Draw and Meat Raffles
Saturday - $10.00 Rump, Chips and Salad
Sunday - $10.00 Roast of the Day
Karaoke first Friday of each month

Courtesy bus available
Contact 6547 4539

SPECIAL
Did you know our Alexander Downs Beef Sausages are $7.50/kg?
SPECIAL
Whole Rumps $13.00/kg
Whole Rumps Sliced $15.50/kg
Whole T’Bone $13.00 (Av. 8kg)
T’Bone Steak $15.50/kg
Delivery Friday 12.09.14

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

SBS is working with its provider and doing its best to source this equipment as quickly as possible. Residents can access SBS news and information online and on mobile devices, at www.sbs.com.au or via SBS ON DEMAND, or tune in to SBS Radio.

For updates, please call the SBS switch on 1800 500 727 and ask for the Reception Advice Line.

Marina Saggers

Community Adverts

The Revival Closet
Quality Second Hand Clothing
New Adventure Wear
Men - Women - Children
Located next to the Library

Sponsor Renewal for Term 4 are now due!
Please contact the Merriwa Central School on 6548 2119 for more information!
Thank you!

www.alexanderdowns.com.au

Merriwa Ringer
This new technology offers a superior and reliable internet service, even during peak times.

Our friendly staff will organise everything for you - we will order your connection with NBN Co and organise for a technician to come out and install the NBN equipment.

The NBN Co technician will conduct a radio signal survey from your home to ensure you get a high quality connection.

An outdoor antenna is then mounted on your roof and an NBN Box installed inside your home.

We’ll give you with a free router to connect your wireless devices!

Sign up today on any one of our great value plans and receive a FREE Wifi Router plus 1 month Internet FREE!

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$50 setup fee on any 12 month plan, $0 setup fee on any 24 month plan. Please note there are a limited number of connections available to each tower - speak to one of our friendly, local staff and apply today!
A BETTER, BRIGHTER WEBSITE

Upper Hunter Shire Council’s website is at the same address, but it has had a major renovation and refurbishment.

Council’s General Manager Waid Crockett said the make-over was not just cosmetic but practical. The new site is not only ‘easy on the eye’, it is easier to use and find what you need," Mr Crockett said.

The website includes fascinating features such as Google maps and satellite imagery of the Upper Hunter as well as easy to use A-Z listings of application forms and other documents. It offers a high level of customer service and the opportunity for greater engagement between the community and Council.

There are quick links for information tailored to visitors, residents, families and youth, community services, employment opportunities and the works schedule of where Council is working on roads, pavements, pipes and more.

Council’s website is already an important information tool for many residents. Just in the last month there were 3,030 visitors and 14,150 page views.

The site allows people to quickly and confidentially access information, application forms and documents, even send a message to Council, 24 hours a day, seven days a week.

Council’s e-newsletter, which keeps the community up to date with Council news, has also been redesigned. Anyone not already receiving the monthly e-newsletter can easily sign up on the website.

Mr Crockett said Council was committed to continuously improving its services and communication.

“The council’s former website was quite old, and it was time for a rebuild; and the results are fantastic,” Mr Crockett said.

The new site was created by Council’s website coordinator Susan Duggan working with web design consultants, Web123.

Council will continue to improve the website with plans for additional features such as online payments. We welcome your feedback on the new site, go to www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au.

Michael Johnsen
Mayor

MERRIWA NO. 1 OVAL CLOSED FOR SEPTEMBER

Residents are reminded that Number 1 Oval will be closed to the public and sports ground users during September to allow Council to carry out annual maintenance which will include herbicide spraying and aeration of the grounds.

P: James Constable 0429 167425

PEDESTRIAN CROSSING MAINTENANCE

Council, in conjunction with Roads and Maritime Services (RMS), will be carrying out pedestrian crossing restoration in Merriwa at the intersections of Bettington and Vennacher Streets and Bettington and Bow Streets in the near future.

This work will involve grinding away the current deteriorated paint on the roadway and reinstatement within a few days with new thermoplastic paint.

Traffic control will be in place during active work periods for the safety of pedestrians and motorists.

Council apologises for any inconvenience that this may cause and will do its best to keep it to a minimum. Pedestrians and motorists are urged to take particular care during the works and during the time that the pedestrian crossing marks are absent from the road surface.

P: Md Hasan 6521 7045
27 Mackenzie Street Merriwa  $249,000.00
Situated on 2023 sqm it is a huge block which could be sub divided with council approval. There are three big bedrooms, two with built ins. Two Living areas with a large lounge featuring a combustion fire and a family/dining room. The kitchen is in very good condition and has a new oven and a dishwasher. The main bathroom has a spa and there is a second bathroom in the laundry. The shed is double length and will fit two cars.

72 Mackenzie Street Merriwa  $210,000.00
Three good sized bedrooms all with built ins plus a fourth bedroom or office at the rear of the house. The living area is open plan and features a combustion fire and RC Air. 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.

33 King George Avenue Merriwa  $250,000.00
Three big bedrooms all with built ins. A large open plan lounge and dining area featuring RC Air and sliding doors leading to the rear entertainment deck. The kitchen has an electric stove and dishwasher. The bathroom is brand new and very stylish. Outside is a single garage and attached carport plus two garden shed. The yard is fully fenced and flat ideal for the kid’s or even a pony.

Woolbrook Rural Industries
Max Wurcker 6548 2150
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

RYT 500 YOGA
www.Freedom-Yoga.com-
Stretch, relax and de-stress at
Merriwa School of Arts
Lyengar Yoga suitable for all ages and
all levels of experience and expertise.
Contact Dinah on
0498 751460
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!

Tues–Fri
9.00am – 12.30pm
Sat
9.00am – 12.00pm
118 Bettinton St, Merriwa
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email: lgarment@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

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President: J. Alker
Secretary: E. Shipway
Tel: 6548 2320

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65 482 031
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Merriwa Ringer
Merriwa Ringer

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Monday – Friday 8.00am – 6.00pm
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For appointments please phone 6532 5013

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**Merriwa District Progress Association Inc**

SUPPORT THE ORGANISATION WHICH SUPPORTS YOUR COMMUNITY
Meets every 4th Wednesday at Merriwa RSL at 6:00pm
Phone Kim on 6548 3060
Or Beron 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

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**Peter Lawler Pest Control**

For your protection and safety!
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Commercial and Domestic Services
$140.00 Domestic charge
PAYMENT on the day of treatment
Warranties Apply

Call PETER: Mob: 0428 482 332
After Hours: 02 6548 2332
Email: merriwapete943@gmail.com
7 Bow Street MERRIWA NSW 2329

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**Di’s Clothing Patch**

Merriwa
Phone 6548 3023

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Warranties Apply

Call PETER: Mob: 0428 482 332
After Hours: 02 6548 2332
Email: merriwapete943@gmail.com
7 Bow Street MERRIWA NSW 2329
Rotary Club of Merriwa Inc

Meets each Tuesday at the Merriwa Sports Club 7.00pm for 7.30pm
4 x 4M Marquee for Hire 6548 2025

Merriwa Central School
P & C Association

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

Merriwa Ringer Race Day
for 2015 is April 18
Race Club President - David Alker
Contact: 0427 482 095
Vice Presidents - Peter Bishop and Paul Frampton

Merriwa Springtime Show
19, 20 & 21 September
Established 1908
www.merriwashow.com.au
Rob Tindall - President
Toni Jones - Secretary
Tel: 0498 378 500

CWA
Meets the second Monday of each month at 10.00am in the CWA rooms, Bettington Street
Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Enquires to:
President: Barbara Campbell 6548 5131
Secretary: Susie Fitzpatrick 6548 2463
Email: susiefitz1935@gmail.com

MERRIWA PRE-SCHOOL & 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

St Davids

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

Merriwa Tennis Association
President: Robert Smith 6548 2213
Secretary: Emily Hall
Treasurer: Kirchelle Khan
Vice President: Hannah Walmsley

Day - Night Competitions
Junior Competitions
Court Hire

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

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

Sandy Hollow Public School
Primary Campus: 6548 2101
Secondary Campus: 6548 2119

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

Sandy Hollow Public School
Telephone
Fax
02 6547 4521 02 6547 4450
Email: sandyhollo-p.School@det.nsw.edu.au

Cassilis Public School
6376 1009

St Columba Cassilis
7.30am Mon Wed Fri Morning prayer
9am Sundays
10am Fridays Short Bible study
Contact: 0429 996 769

Catholic Parish
Merriwa & Cassilis

Services
Holy Trinity
Merriwa
7.30am Mon Wed Fri Morning prayer
9am Sundays
10am Fridays Short Bible study
St Columba Cassilis
11am
2nd and 4th Sunday
Contact: 0429 996 769

Merriwa Little Athletics Centre
2014/15 season STARTS
Monday 13 October 2014
5.30 to 7.00pm
Merriwa No. 2 Oval
(throughout Terms 4 & 1)
New Members Welcome!
ph: Tash Taaffe 6548 5002
e: tashholden@bigpond.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

Hepburn School
Email: susiefitz1935@gmail.com

Merriwa P & F Association
President: Jayne Cronin
Senior Vice: Christine Riley
Junior Vice: Yvonne McNaught
Secretary: Gaynor Blackadder
Treasurer: Anna Whaley

Merriwa Central School
P & C Association

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

MERRIWA TENNIS ASSOCIATION
President: Robert Smith 6548 2213
Secretary: Emily Hall
Treasurer: Kirchelle Khan
Vice President: Hannah Walmsley

Day - Night Competitions
Junior Competitions
Court Hire

Merriwa Touch Football
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Secretary: Barbra Eipper
Treasurer: Brad Hunt
For more information contact 6548 2124 after hours.
**Clubs**

**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 Cricket Club “Chook Wheel”

**Saturdays** - Monster Raffle drawn from 7.45pm, winners jackpot, dinner draw and Saturday badge draw. Schnooners $3.00 from 5.00pm-7.00pm.

**Sundays** - Members badge draw plus three raffles choice of $25.00 meat or fuel vouchers. 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 30**

Saturday Members Draw not won No. 326 - Next week $120.00

Winners Jackpot not won - next week $360.00

**Free Tickets:** Noel Barwick

**Dinner:** Des Mick Towler

**Bowls Raffle:** Robert Whaley

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**Cassilis Bowling Club**

Phone: 6376 1002

**Sunday Raffle August 31**

Sunday Members draw - No 373 not won. Next week $450.00

Congratulations to both Bruce Smith on his appointment to President and Des Snelgrove as Vice President.

**WOMENS BOWLS NEWS**

Bows for others held at Aberdeen on August 27. Merle, Vivian, Joy and Eva - the game was washed out half way through. Vivian recieved a prize in the raffle and I won “neareast the ditch”.

On Thursday August 28, nine of us travelled to Cassili’s for their friendship day. Merle winning the raffle Loretta also got a prize.

On September 10, Merriwa will be holding their friendship day, names are to be given to Loretta.

Denman Gala Day - September 17
Aberdeen Gala Day - September 24

Eva Towler
Merriwa Ringer

Sporting News

Friday night Snack Bar
Affordable family meals.

Friday night raffles
Meat trays, Vegetable trays, Schooner Draw, Joker Draw, Members Draw and Vegetable trays.

PREVIOUS WEEK’S RESULTS

Friday August 15

Members Draw: $80 - Jack Halsted – unclaimed - $85 next week

Joker Draw: $1561 – Ben Crewes – unsuccessful - $1614 next week.

Hilary Parker

Merriwa RSL Club

The Members Lucky Badge for $1650.00 was not won on Friday at 8.30pm, the number was 481. This week it jackpots to $1700.00. The 7.00pm draw for $920.00 was not won. The number was 141. This week it jackpots to $940.00. The 9.00pm draw for $160.00 was not won and the number was 694. This week it jackpots to $160.00. LTPS/13/04473

The Sunday Morning Badge Draw for $650.00 was not won last week. The number was 89 and this week it jackpots to $700.00. It will be drawn between 11.30am and 1.30pm and you must be present to win the money. LTPS/13/04473

The Friday 8.30pm badge draw and the Sunday badge draw both now commence at $500.00.

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.

Matt Morgan

Merriwa Tennis Club

The Merriwa Tennis Club Spring Night Competition commences Monday September 8. If anyone would like to register as a reserve player please e-mail merriwatennis@gmail.com

Games are played Monday nights and the competition concludes at the end of November.

REduced number of Sets

In an effort to ensure that all players get home at a reasonable hour the number of sets played by each player has been reduced from 4 to 3. This will be assessed and reviewed at the end of the competition.

annual membership fees (july 2014 - june 2015)

Membership fees and registrations are now due.

Membership costs $50.00 for adults 19 years and over and $25.00 for juniors 18 years and under.

Membership fees are used to pay insurance, council rates, general maintenance and other overheads.

competition fees

$5.00 payable each week. (Premium Slazenger High Visibility Hardcourt Balls and Electricity)

Any profit is used to maintain and upgrade facilities.

thursday fun tennis and training

Each Thursday night throughout the competition season the court lights will be on from 6.30pm. Balls (used) will be supplied and court use will be free for members and $6.00 for non-members.

We would like to especially encourage anyone that is unable to commit to the regular competition or would like to learn to play tennis. Also if you have friends visiting, students home from school or university or you just want to meet new people why not pack a picnic and make a night of it.

thanks hunter mutual

A special thanks to Trudie and the team at Hunter Mutual for the sponsorship generated by their community partnership program. Community Partnership account holders at Hunter Mutual can nominate a community organisation to benefit from their business. It costs the account holder nothing and makes a great deal of difference to the community organisations they support. There are plenty of worthy organisations out there and we thank those members that have chosen the Tennis Club to benefit.

tennis racquets

Tennis and squash racquets are available from Di’s Clothing Patch.

Robert Smith
Merriwa Touch Football

Wednesday October 8 will be the first rego night at the Sports Oval from 5.00pm to 6.00pm, canteen area. First game to be played October 15. All registrations must be paid by that date, no players will take the field without rego completed and paid for before/on October 15.

This year Rego packs will be made up and can be picked up from Max’s Country Cut’s, Barbra Eipper or Tina Taylor. It is the responsibility of the Team captain to get all paperwork filled in, collect the money and return it to the committee on Registration days. Rego packs will be available as of Monday 8 September.

Registration fees will be $65.00 per senior player, $35.00 per junior player (School age children Under 12 years of age by January 1, 2015).

RULES FOR TEAMS

Teams will consist of no more than 11 players.

Mens and womens teams must have;

• Three players under 18 years of age as of January 1, 2015. One of these players must be under 14 years of age as of the January 1 2015 (Junior player – is a player under 12 years of age by January 1, 2015)
• Must have a player over the age of 30 years, as of January 1, 2015
• Players must have played three games prior to the semi-finals
• No more than three registered Rugby League (mens - Under 16 players that have stepped up for Under 18’s are exempt), Soccer, Rugby Union or four League Tag players
• Team captains are to receive a registration pack and it is their responsibility to collect money and have players sign all paperwork

Teams need to be nominated by the school holidays (September 22) so a starting draw can be completed.

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

Merriwa Ringer

REFEREES

We welcome our new referee coordinator, Justine Witney on board! Justine is seeking a list of names for all interested in refereeing on a weekly basis. Referees will be receiving match payments for their services - $10.00 - non qualified and $15.00 qualified (one referee per game, if two refs per game than money is shared). Please contact Justine on 0419 151 586 by September 22.

NEW COMMITTEE

President – Tina Taylor
Vice President - Trent Cooper
Junior Vice President - Adam Johnston
Secretary - Barbra Eipper
Treasurer - Ainsley Maben
Registra - not filled
Ground Keepers - Andrew Taylor and Chris Murphy
Junior Sports Coordinators - Isaac Austin and Sean Eden Rosa
Referee Coordinator – Justine Whitney.

WHAT’S HAPPENING THIS SEASON

This season the juniors will play at 6.00pm, seniors will start at 6.30pm.

There will be another Christmas party the last week of games in 2014. This will be for all registered players.

There will also be two games of mixed comp, one in 2014 and one in 2015. To participate in this, names will be recieved the week prior and the committee will create the teams. These will be a family night and will be used to guage if a mixed competition is viable for the 2015/2016 season. This will be a sausage sizzle night.

Tina Taylor
### SEPTEMBER

- **Monday 1** • Legacy Week starts
- **Wednesday 3** • Anglican Women Spring Celebrations
- **Thursday 4** • Women’s Guild - 2.00pm
- **Friday 5** • Legacy Street Stall
- **Friday 19** • Merriwa Springtime Show kicks off!
- **Saturday 20** • Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - 7.30am
  - Merriwa Markets - RSL Club footpath, Bow Street
  - Merriwa Springtime Show
- **Sunday 21** • Merriwa Springtime Show
- **Friday 26** • Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm
- **Sunday 28** • Sisters of St Joseph Farewell - St Anne’s Church - 11.00am

### OCTOBER

- **Thursday 2** • Women’s Guild - 2.00pm
- **Friday 10** • Anglican Women Street Stall
- **Wednesday 15** • Merriwa Campdraft AGM - Merriwa RSL Club - 7.30pm
- **Saturday 18** • Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - 7.30am
  - Merriwa Markets - RSL Club footpath, Bow Street
- **Sunday 19** • JRLF and Netball Club Presentation - 10.30am
- **Friday 31** • Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm

### NOVEMBER

- **Saturday 15** • Merriwa Markets - RSL Club footpath, Bow Street

### DECEMBER

- **Sunday 14** • Carols in the Park
- **Saturday 20** • Merriwa Markets - RSL Club footpath, Bow Street