Merriwa Debutant Ball was a hit
Congratulations and well done to this year’s debutante’s Miranda Bolland, Lotta Peedimaa, Cara Hunt, Courtney Gibbons, Tiger Rawlings, Anastasia Martin and Janaya Austin.

It was a very special night for these seven lovely young ladies and their partners, William Taylor, John Cronin, Jeremy Rawlinson, Thomas Hagley, Zach Rawlings, Josh Fitzgerald and Matthew Orton.

These girls and their partners were presented to Father Glen Hughes and Reverend Pat Kirkby and then proceeded to entertain their guests with the dances they had prepared. Nerves were forgotten as the men escorted the debutants around the dance floor.

A big thank you to all who helped with the preparations before and on the night. Without your help, the night would not have been as successful as it was.

A special thank you to our two dancing teachers, Barbara Campbell and Adrian Bardot and Flower girl Lula Peebles and Page boy Logan Brazier.

Kylie Austin and Dianne Inder
Primary News

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to our Students of the Week who were lucky enough to have special guest Mr Stone to present their book awards last week. Well done to the following students:

Kindergarten: Thomas Campbell
Year K/1: Jayden McPhie
Year 2: Tamara Bailey
Year 3/4: Ella Towell
Year 4/5: Samantha Bristow
Year 5/6: Nicholas-James Whitby

Special presenter and worker of the week: Mr Stone

SWIMMING SCHEME

This week we began lessons in our 10 day swim scheme. Students were tested on Monday and placed into their appropriate swimming level groups. These groups may change from day to day depending on the development of each student.

Please ensure students continue to bring swim shirts every day for sun safety. Next week’s lessons will be Monday to Wednesday in the morning session.

REMEMBRANCE DAY

Last Wednesday the Primary students gathered for a special Remembrance Day assembly followed by a minute of silence at 11.00am. Students participated in class activities before the assembly and also created their own red poppies to wear. The service was led by our Primary Prefects as our Primary Captains attended the town service. Classes all had two representatives to lay class wreaths at the Australian flag. These are now on display in our Primary Office if you would like to see the wonderful creation made by our students.

We will remember them.

Coming Events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>NOVEMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20</td>
<td>Primary assembly – 2.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 23</td>
<td>Primary Swim Scheme – 9.30am-12.00pm</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
| Tuesday 24         | Kindergarten orientation – 9.00am-3.00pm
|                    | Primary Swim Scheme – 9.30am-12.00pm
|                    | Peer Support Training |
| Wednesday 25       | Primary Swim Scheme – 9.30am-12.00pm
|                    | Peer Support Training |
| Friday 27          | Mini mud run obstacle race Secondary School Challenge Excursion – Tamworth AELEC, 8.00am-5.00pm |
| Monday 30          | Primary Swim Scheme – 12.30-2.00pm |

<table>
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<th>DECEMBER</th>
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| Tuesday 1          | Primary Swim Scheme – 12.30-2.00pm
|                    | Secondary girls’ Super 8s cricket final – Lady Cutler Oval, 6.45am-5.00pm |
| Wednesday 2        | Primary Swim Scheme – 12.30-2.00pm
|                    | P and C meeting – Merriwa RSL Club, 6.30-8.00pm |
| Thursday 3         | Primary Swim Scheme – 12.30-2.00pm |
FAREWELL MR STONE

Last Friday the Primary Campus said goodbye to Mr Stone and gave him an exciting farewell in the afternoon. Staff shared a lovely lunch with Mr Stone to wish him well in retirement as students prepared for a fun afternoon of activities with Mr Stone. The Kindergarten and Year K/1 played some games including ‘What’s the time Mr Stone?’ Then he joined Year 2 and Year 3/4 for partner and group dancing. We think Mr Stone was the best at the Chicken Dance! He then joined Year 4/5 and Year 5/6 for biscuit decorating where he was able to judge the best biscuits. The students even made him some to snack on later.

At the end of the day we gathered for our afternoon assembly where Mr Stone presented our Student of the Week Book Awards and he was also awarded a book for our Worker of the Week. Our staff and students were deeply moved by the lovely words of thanks Mr Stone said during the assembly and we would like to wish Mr Stone all the best with his retirement. We will never forget the dedication and hard work you have put into Merriwa Central School. Happy Retirement!
READY FOR KINDERGARTEN

This week, we gave our new students a greater challenge to see how they would cope with the routines of our kindergarten reading groups. With astonishment, Miss Allison and I were delighted to see how many of the students moved between set activities and demonstrated exceptional concentration as they attempted to read for the first time with a teacher and a small group of peers. Nothing we have tried with this group of students has seemed to phase them and they continue to surprise us with their independence and ‘can do’ attitude.

After recess, the students participated in Mathematics activities. They played number games and demonstrated they can already identify many numerals. The students then worked to create patterns with different objects in the classroom and experimented with how to make colour patterns.

At lunch, the students were excited to stay for the whole break time which allowed them to play with their ‘buddies’ on the high-rise and play equipment. Our responsible buddies once again ensured that at 2.00pm when parents came to collect their children, bags were packed and no belongings were left behind.

Next week will be our last transition session which will be for the entire day. Students will arrive at 9.00am and be ready to be collected by parents at 3.00pm. Once again students will require a hat, drink bottle, fruit for fruit break, recess food and lunch food. Please also remember Tuesday December 1 is an opportunity for parents to meet with myself to discuss their child’s readiness for school and ask any questions you may have. If you wish to meet with me during the day, please visit the front office or call on 6548 2101 to book a suitable time. If parents are unable to attend they may wish to arrange for a phone interview at a different time.
PARTY TIME

During Week 3 and 4, Year 9/10 Food Technology were given the design brief of preparing a cake for 12 children for an age appropriate birthday party. The students were challenged with preparing a range of ingredients to make and decorated their cakes. Students soon realised that this was harder than initially expected as their plans may not have coincided with their time frame.

A variety of skills were demonstrated throughout assembly week. Students have created butter cream icing, worked with fondant and have even attempted multi-layer cakes. Decoration techniques such as piping were used to create images, whilst textures were created to develop roses and sesame street fur. Some students even used props such as plastic figurines, lollies and ribbons to enhance the overall appearance of their cakes. The final cake designs were incredible. The week was full of challenges though the students had a fantastic time developing their children’s birthday cakes. Congratulations foodies.

Favourite Subject: Agriculture and Biology

Extra-Curricular Activities: This year Tiesha has concentrated on reining competitions, but she enjoys a variety of horse riding activities for competition and fun

Best personal achievement: This year Tiesha is proud of having improved her assessment marks in her classes which is a great achievement as she is progressing through her senior years. Outside of school she has also had several placings (including firsts) in her reining events

Year Advisors Comment: Tiesha is a mature young lady who is well liked by her teachers and peers. She is a diligent and dedicated student in the classroom, but also involves herself in a range of extra-curricular activities which provides a nice balance. Tiesha has an obvious passion for and a way with animals and if she progresses in the field she hopes to, then she will make an excellent addition to the profession. Well done Tiesha.

Lois Harrison - Year Advisor

Student of the Week
Tiesha Keogh
Year 12

Above: Bumble Bee’s in the garden created by Alkira Tritton
Left: Princess jewellery box created by Tarnisha Winsor

Farmer greenery created by Mathew Porter

Sponge Bob Square Pants created by Chloe Ponsford

Above: Princess jewellery box created by Tarnisha Winsor

Farmer greenery created by Mathew Porter

Sponge Bob Square Pants created by Chloe Ponsford
IN WHAT YEAR DID YOU JOIN ROAR? 2013 – Year 8

WHY IS ROAR IMPORTANT? ROAR is important not only to us but to Mr Johnston as well. ROAR is important to me because it helps me to try my hardest and do my best to help others who are struggling to keep up

HOW HAS ROAR CHANGED YOU? Over the last three years, it has helped me change with my class work. Not only that but it has made me a better person, especially with the white ribbon on the collar of the jersey

AS CAPTAIN HOW WOULD YOU LEAD THE BOYS? I would encourage the boys until they are confident and help out more with charities. I will lead the boys and set a good example for the others who want to be captain

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE FUTURE OF ROAR? ROAR in the future would be more well-known and there are a lot of young people coming up who want to be in ROAR. ROAR in the coming years should be harder to get in to, that’s good though because it makes the guys work harder and become a better person than they already were.

REMEMBERANCE DAY CEREMONY

Last Wednesday November 11 our school leaders attended and presented at the Merriwa Remembrance Day ceremony. Janaya Austin and Leah Wright-Riley delivered a speech about the origins of Remembrance Day and spoke clearly and confidently. Mackenzie Blackadder and Gordon Bradley placed a wreath at the cenotaph and were very well presented. Well done to these students for their efforts and respectful nature. We would like to thank Mrs Moore and Mr Duncan for their support on the day and to Miss Roe and her Year 9 History class for making our beautiful paper poppies.

Sarah Bendall
TAS Teacher

Rebecca Hopkins

Chocolate overload madness created by Courtney Martin

Jungle train created by Breanna Goodear

2016 ROAR CAPTAIN CANDIDATE
Mathew-Joel Haydon
During our Religion lessons we have been talking about a very special time of the year when we get ready for Christmas. This time is called Advent - it is a waiting time when we prepare for Christmas. Although the shops are already full with Christmas decorations and goodies we are all going to try to wait until Advent which begins on Sunday November 29 to put up Christmas decorations and give out cards. Another interesting tradition is a tree called the Jesse tree which has all of Jesus’ ancestors symbolised on it. These people, like us, had to wait for Jesus to be born. We have made our own Jesse tree for the classroom.

We are all enjoying our English block. We are particularly focussing on writing using a stimulus material. The students use a variety of strategies to help them. These include their word wall; have a go book, finger spelling and editing skills. We feel that there may be a few budding authors in our classroom just like Andy from the 13th Storey Treehouse, which we all enjoy reading in our Crunch and Sip time.

This is a sample from one of our budding authors.

**WAITING FOR GOD**

Waiting for God is fun. I am patient and I get excited. You never know when he will come. He might walk to your door. You never know. He will love you when he comes and I will love him. Make sure you greet him nicely. I wonder if he will help everyone and I know he will be our friend.

*By Arlia Parker, Kindergarten*

In Mathematics, we have been lucky enough to explore fractions using food. We all enjoyed solving problems and they were so relevant when we had pikelets and lamingtons to use. After the lessons we got to eat them which was an added bonus. Kindergarten have been using positional language to identify locations of objects and Year 1 and 2 have been busy looking a number patterns, solving ones which have missing numbers and create ones of their own.

Last week as part of our Science and Technology topic we made boats. The task was to use materials we thought would float and make a boat which could carry a horse made out of playdough from Tasmania to Melbourne - in time for the Melbourne Cup! First the journey was nice and calm and then with Mrs Peebles’ help we managed to hit a storm. Some boats were more successful than others and we learnt that plastic was a great material as it floated. It was a great experiment and thank you to our parent helpers. To add to the Melbourne Cup theme of the day we were all invited to wear a special hat. We have more experiments to complete this term - our next one is to build a bridge.
This term we were lucky enough to purchase a new Music resource. Last week we completed our topic on tempo, looking at music which is either fast or slow and we look forward to moving onto dynamics, where the focus will be on loud and soft. We have also been enjoying learning a song from the hit musical Matilda called ‘When I Grow Up’. Stay tuned for a performance coming to you soon.

Our Personal Development, Health and Physical Education unit this term has centred around making healthy choices. There’s nothing like talking to an expert, so our infants class was very fortunate to have Mr Mark Smith, a local pharmacist, visit us as a guest speaker. The students were highly engaged during the discussion, asking thoughtful questions about being safe around medicines. It was amazing to witness the enthusiasm the children had for learning and to hear the knowledge that Mr Smith so graciously shared.

**REMEMBRANCE DAY**

Our Year 5 and 6 students were present for the ceremony held at our local cenotaph, along with Merriwa Central School students, RSL representatives and community members.

Here at St Joseph’s we marked the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month with a special liturgy. Teachers, parents and Kindergarten to Year 4 students gathered in the McKillop Room to listen to Mrs Whale explain some historical background then to watch “The Spirit of the ANZACs”. We then came together around our flag pole where Mrs Peebles read “The Lord is my Shepherd”; Mrs Gilbey read a story about a pilot in World War Two and Mrs Kerr read the Ode. Teachers and parents were very moved when the children placed posies of flowers and simple white crosses with the names of the fallen from the Merriwa district on them, around the base of the flag pole. All students are to be commended for their respectful and reverent behaviour. A special thank you to Mrs Hagley for her preparation of this very special commemoration service.

**CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING AWARD WINNERS**

WEEK 6

**Kindergarten** - Mollie Beaven – for demonstrating her understanding of alphabetical order

**Archie Constable** – for using positional language confidently

**Year 1/2** - Grace Booth – for showing a deep understanding of Advent

**William Collins** – for developing a creative limerick

**William Luke** – for planning the construction of his bridge with accuracy

**Year 3/4** - Jack Shannon - for showing a good understanding of time.

**Axul Hourn** - for demonstrating a good understanding of road safety

**Year 5/6** - Chloe Towell - for being a whiz at ordering decimals

**Darcy Moore** - for his mature approach to all tasks

**Principal’s Awards** - Olivia Collins - for fantastic book work in maths

**Madelaine Thrift** - for fantastic book work in maths

**Patrick McLaren** - for fantastic book work in maths.

Anne Marie Peebles
Teacher
Remembrance Day is about people who fought in World War 1 to save their own country in Gallipoli. More than sixty thousand Australians died and James Martin was one of those people. He was the youngest fighter at the age of fourteen. The war went for four years from 1914-1918, and then the countries decided to sign a treaty to stop the war. The war grounds were dirt and mud so when it rained all the blood would wash away. In those fields poppies grow and were red because the blood made the colour. There were trenches where people hid, slept in and when a whistle blew people ran out while there were bullets being fired at them.

In Gallipoli during World War 1 there were soldiers who died from 1914-1918. There was a little boy who fought and died and he was 14. I wish that all the people were still alive. My pop fought in a war, but he came back alive. My dad was in the army. I wish I could go to Gallipoli one day so I can see what names are on the graves.

Remembrance Day is a day to remember the soldiers who died in World War 1. We respect them with a minute silence. The poppies grow in the fields of Gallipoli where the soldiers died. They grow from a mixture of blood and gunpowder.

There was 60,000 Australians that fought for us and got hurt or died. They fought at Gallipoli during World War 1 which went on for 4 years. When people died, poppies would grow next to their bodies and there were lots of poppies in the fields because lots of people died in Gallipoli. We have Remembrance Day once a year. We also put our heads down for one minute. A fourteen year old was in the war and his name was James Martin. There was a girl’s great uncle who fought and died and she was really upset.

World War I stopped on the 11 November 1918. It was help at Gallipoli and school kids went to Gallipoli because it was important. The soldiers fought to keep Australia safe Tomorrow Cassilis will commemorate the day by wearing their school uniform and putting their heads down to remember and to show respect.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK - TOBIAS BOWLER

Tobias has earned the Student of the Week award this week for numerous reasons. He should great leadership skills when he jointly ran the Remembrance Day Assembly last Wednesday. Tobias spoke with confidence and his tone of voice was respectful and thoughtful.

He was happy to challenge himself with his learning last week. This is the essential for improvement. Tobias also listened to and took on advice provided from teachers and support staff, especially during narrative writing and rotational symmetry lessons. He continued to be a safe, respectful learner when a new teacher was teaching the class. Tobias knew what was expected from him with his work and behaviour and he did a great job!

Overall, a more mature approach to his learning was observed from all staff members last week. Fantastic work, Tobias. You should feel very proud of your achievements.

STUDENTS AT CASSILIS SHOW RESPECT FOR REMEMBRANCE DAY

Students, in Year 2-5, learnt and discussed information relating to Remembrance Day. They were then asked to write about it.
WELCOME BACK FROM STEWART HOUSE, Maddie

Last week I went to Stewart House and it was amazing. I was in the downstairs girl’s room. I made lots of friends. I don’t really have any one particular favourite part but I loved going down to the beach with some of the other classes. All of the people there were nice. I loved running on the soft sand, building sand castles and having running races. I went to the Aquatic Center for the second time and it was even better than last time I went. We kept going around the whirlpool and down the massive green slide. We went to the spa baths for five minutes, but we soon hopped out because we were about to fall asleep.

I had a teacher called Hayley and she was awesome! All of my classmates were friendly so we were all friends. I will write more for next week’s newsletter.

Students discussing ways to strengthen community partnerships at Cassilis - An outdoor learning area was one of the suggestions.

A HUGE THANKS TO TIM STANLEY

The students wrote some thoughtful messages as part of a thank you card to Tim. Tim volunteered his time at Cassilis for a month while his shoulder was healing from surgery. He was a fantastic role model and teacher for the students and helped in the classroom and out in the playground, including coaching the touch football team.

Thank you very much, Tim, for your awesome assistance! We all really appreciate how you helped our students to learn.

Katie Burgess
Principal

Merriwa Activity Centre children have been very busy working on a project about “BUGS”. The children have used magnifying glasses to look at the bugs they have collected; they found flies, slater bugs, lady bettles and ants.

They researched the “Slater” and found out that it has a lot of different names wood lice, slater and pill bug to name a few. They found out they had 14 legs and were very surprised as everyone thought they had more. The Merriwa Activity Centre children have started to go to the pool in this warmer weather, so if your children are going to come to Merriwa Activity Centre on Tuesday or Friday we will be going to the pool so please send their swimmers along as well $2.30 entry fee if you don’t have a season ticket and on these days pick-up will be at the pool.

Merriwa Activity Centre will be open on December 17 and 18 for the start of vacation care the centre will open from 9.00am til 5.00pm on both of these days where we will attend the pool in the morning from 9.30am-11.00am and weather permitting again from 3.00pm in the afternoon, don’t forget to call and book your children in for these days.

Also Christmas Vacation starts on January 5 and we will be open TUES, WED, THURS for the three weeks before school goes back for Term 1 2016. The program will be out in the next couple of weeks, so start to booking your Children in now. Call us on 6548 2083 or call in and pick up an enrolment package today.

Many thanks to Angela Vero who has donated the most wonderful pamper packs for busy mums for our Christmas raffle. There are four prizes which will be drawn at our evening Christmas celebration. Tickets are $2.00 each or three for $5.00.

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

December 15: Christmas Party Tuesday morning - 9.00am
December 16: Christmas Party for School starters Wednesday evening - 6.00pm
December 17: Christmas Party for Thursday - 9.00am

If you are a parent who has some time on or prior to the day and can help us out with catering for the children please talk to one of the educators during the next week.

Natalie Hourn
Last Wednesday we commemorated Remembrance Day.

It was great to see so many members of the community come along and join us.

The 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month this year marks the 97th anniversary of the signing of the Armistice which ended the First World War.

Each year our students lay a poppy in recognition of the 31 local men who lost their lives on the Western Front. They then dedicate one minute of silence for not only our local men, but for all men and women who lost their lives in that war, and all wars since.

Many people wear a poppy on Remembrance Day. Poppies were among the first plants that grew on the battlefields of northern France and Belgium during WW1. Many people believe the popular myth that poppies are rich in their redness because they blossomed from the grounds that were saturated with soldier’s blood.

Thank you to all those people who helped our students and community commemorate this important day in our history.

Christina Darlington
Principal

WHAT REMEMBRANCE DAY MEANS TO ME

Remembrance Day is a day when you remember the people who fought in war. You remember the fallen and also the survivors - not just humans, but also dogs and horses.

I remember not only the fallen and survivors, but also my Great Great Grandfather and both Great Grandfathers.

On the 11th hour of the 11th day of the 11th month, we have a minute of silence to remember the people who served in the wars. There have been many wars including the Boer War, World War 1, World War 2, Korean War and Vietnam. Many men fought, but women were there as well. I think about how hard it would have been for all people suffering pain and injury.

On Remembrance Day, I remember my family who fought at war and the other people who survived.

I mostly think about what they sacrificed for us.
Lest We Forget.

Angus Higgins

WEEKLY AWARDS

- Andrew Harris - outstanding effort in drumming.
- Declan Adams - great drumming skills.
- Liviana Craig - respectful participation during Remembrance Day service.

WORKERS OF THE WEEK

Kindergarten/Year 1/2 - Riley Borradaile - wonderful computer work in his maths investigation and Isabelle Pike - creating a terrific menu on the computer

Year 3/4/5/6 - Abby Cooper, Angus Higgins, Jacob Marsh, Hunter Marsh, Jake Pike, Amy Thompson, Kirsty Walker, Isabella Wallace and Sam Thompson - outstanding effort at Remembrance Day ceremony.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK
Cambell Hinze
DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Women’s Guild Meeting - First Thursday Monthly: February to November: 2.00pm
Messy Church - Parish Hall - Last Friday Monthly: November: 3.30pm
Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - Third Saturday November: 7.30am

THE RIPPLE EFFECT (SPIRITUAL PRACTICE)

Pick up a stone and hold it in the palm of your hand. Feel its weight; feel how it has been marked and shaped over time. This stone has been on the planet for millions of years.

Drop it into the water and watch the ripples that it makes. The stone’s action causes the surface of the water to react. Keep watching until the water is still again.

Reflect on the ripples your actions have made in your life and in the lives of others. However small you feel, the ripples of your actions go on and on and make a difference in others’ lives that you cannot imagine or ever know. Remember someone whose actions made ripples in your life. How did those ripples affect your actions and the ripples you sent out? Offer a prayer of gratitude for someone who has created ripples in your life.

FOCUS

As the Christian Year draws to a close, the lections turn to passages about the end of time and new birth. We talk about what is not and dream about a new day. A common theme among today’s passages is new life and the struggle, pain, and letting go that always accompany its birth.

We long for God’s reign of peace and justice just as Hannah, in the book of 1 Samuel reading, longed for the birth of her child.1 Samuel:1:4-20

O God, every person is one of the changes you bring into the world. A new way to show your love in our world and a new way to fulfill your dream.

Help us see your transformations all around us.
Help us be a part of your loving way.
Amen.

Rosalie Drew

SPORTS PERSON OF THE WEEK

Tyson Marsh

K/1 NEWS

This term’s Biological science unit, Watch it Grow, has given our class the opportunity to enjoy the company of some extra characters in our classroom. At the beginning of the term we had some silkworms, eggs and a cocoon. Now, after 21 days of anticipation, a bantam egg has hatched, and we now have ‘Rodney’ the chicken. Rodney has a lot to say, chirping for most of the day, between little naps and eating.

For sport the children have had a great time learning some cricket skills with the wonderful Milo Cricket coaches. For the next few weeks we’ll be doing yoga (in the cool of our classroom), followed up by swimming in Denman for ten days. Both Kinder and Year 1 are in the midst of Maths investigations. Kinder are applying their knowledge of ordinal numbers and grouping to scenarios based on ‘The Three Billy Goats Gruff’. Year 1 are having a great time developing Breakfast Bar menus, putting their developing knowledge of money to use.

Peta Higgins and Pauline Bullock
Class Teachers

KINDERGARTEN ORIENTATION

As the weeks go by Gabbie, Isabella, Taylan, Thomas and Shykiah continue to grow in confidence both in the classroom and the playground. While working through literacy, numeracy, art and cooperation activities within the classroom setting, they are interacting with their peers and friends, therefore also developing socialisation skills.

Each child continues to listen while Mrs Smith explains the ‘Focus of the Week’. Today they participated in some role plays based on what we should do if we need to interrupt someone.

Pauline Bullock
K/1/2 Teacher
**Merriwa Rotary**

Merriwa has the admirable situation in which the variety of emergency services which operate in our community work together harmoniously for the benefit of all.

This will be marked by an awards ceremony and formal dinner at the RSL Club this coming Saturday November 21.

Groups such as the SES, RFS, VRA, Police Service, Ambulance, and Fire Brigade will be recognised and thanked for their vital contributions to our community.

Merriwa Rotary has been asked by the organisers to assist on the evening and will be more than happy to do so.

Mark Smith

**Merriwa VIEW Club**

Our next dinner meeting will be held at La Scalletta’s Pizzeria on Thursday November 26, 2015 – 7.00pm for 7.30pm. The THEME for the night is “Christmas” and there will be a prize for the ‘in-theme best dressed’. Bring a friend to help us celebrate our last dinner meeting for the year.

BYOG for the night but there will be soft drinks available at La Scalletta’s for purchase. Also we will have a Secret Santa gift – could everyone bring a gift to the value of $10.00 to exchange on the night. Our Lucky Door and Raffle donors for this month are Yvonne McNaught and Trish Medd.

Our next distribution of Learning Locally Bags is nearly on us so we need to have another sewing bee to make enough bags for our 2016 Kindergarten children at our schools. Donations of coloured pencils and/or erasers would be great for this month or anything applicable would be OK.

Our Annual General Meeting will be held in February 2016. Please think about taking on a position as new ideas from new committee members often invigorates a club and also relieves those who have been on the committee for a longgggg.... time to have a well earned break and enjoy just being a member. Think about it over the break and put your hand up for the Merriwa VIEW Club Committee 2016.

Call Elaine on 6548 8560 if you can Bring a Friend for catering purposes.

Elaine Sparrow

**Merriwa CWA**

Congratulations to Suzie Fitzpatrick for achieving first prize for both her Light Fruit Cake and her Sultana Cake, and to Jean Price for second prize in the Light Fruit Cake and to Robyn McAlister for second prize in the Sultana Cake. Well done ladies. We will be holding over our next Cookery Capers until February, so details next year. Thank you to everyone who has supported this activity, and to Margaret Whitney for judging each month.

Thank you also to Breanna Goodear for a most interesting and engaging talk at our November meeting about her trip to Gallipoli – an adventure of a lifetime. Breanna’s candor about the impact of this experience on both her and her fellow travellers, and the impressions of the places she visited made for a lively discussion and gave us a greater appreciation of the solemnity and depth of her experiences.

The next meeting of the CWA Merriwa Branch will be on Monday December 7 starting at 10.00am at 39 Marquet Street, Merriwa. The meeting will be followed by the CWA Christmas party and all partners and former members are welcome. Please phone Jean on 6548 2456 for details.

New members are always welcome. Enquiries to: Barbara Campbell on 6548 5131 or 0428 485 131 or Robyn McAlister on 6548 3274.

The CWA Merriwa rooms are available for bookings at very reasonable rates – contact Jean Price on 6548 2456.

More information at Merriwa Branch CWA.

Penelope Fenley

**Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces**

**STREET STALL**

Plans are being made for the 2016 Festival of the Fleeces. The 2015 was very successful and drew a very good crowd, and the weather was very kind too. Now with 2016 almost upon us, plans are being made to make this Festival successful too. So to start us off for 2016 we are holding a street stall.

**When:** Friday December 4

Donations of any saleable items would be very much appreciated.

The Festival is a community event so the committee encourages support from all parts of the community.

Barbara Campbell

Street Stall Organiser

Merriwa Ringer
Community Notice Board

NSW Rural Fire Brigade
LOCAL MEETING

Your local NSW Rural Fire Brigade will be holding a presentation to aid you with your home preparation for the fire season.

Any questions you may have can be answered.

Help us help you.

Date: November 11
Time: 10.00am-12.00pm
Place: Fire Station
1345 Flaggs Road Merriwa.

For more information, please call 1800 081 166.

Julie Russell

NSW Rural Fire Service

Merriwa Markets

When: November 21
Where: RSL Club footpath and building
Time: 9.00am till 1.00pm

We have a variety of stalls and new stall holders are always welcome. A Christmas market will be held on December 19 which will include jumping castle, face painting, Santa with lolly bags for the kids.

Contact: 0428 496 630

We operate the third Saturday of every month except January.

Julie Russell

Merriwa District Progress Association

The Merriwa District Progress Association Inc is holding the last monthly meeting for 2015 on Wednesday November 25 at the Merriwa RSL commencing at 6.00pm.

If you have any issues of concern please come along.

For more information please call 6548 2245.

Beron Arden-Wood

Debutante Ball

“SPRING BELLES” DEBUTANTE BALL

Congratulations to everyone involved in our Debutante Ball! It was a very successful and enjoyable evening. The Debs and their partners looked absolutely beautiful, presented and danced with confidence, setting the scene for an evening to remember.

For every successful presentation there is a lot of the behind the scenes work and organisation. Dianne Inder and Kylie Austin did a mammoth job in organising and bringing it all together. The School of Arts Hall, decorated in spring colours of pink, green and white set the mood for the evening.

Congratulations everyone – all the “blood, sweat and tears” paid off.

Barbara Campbell

St Josephs Merriwa P and F
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Monday November 30
Time: 6.00pm sausage sizzle, AGM at 6.30pm

All positions will be declared open. Childcare provided in the play area outside.

We hope to see you on the night.

Kim Holland

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 before 12.00noon on Mondays.
GENERAL MEETING

Merriwa Hospital Auxiliary invite members and the community to attend our general meeting to be held on Friday November 20 at 2.00pm. The meeting will be held at the Nurses Home Conference Room at the MPS (entrance off McRae Street).

Elaine Sparrow
Merriwa Hospital Auxiliary

ATTENTION ALL MEMBERS

REVISED DATE FOR ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Due to clash of dates please note that the Annual General Meeting for the Merriwa Tourist Welcoming Centre has been changed.

NEW TIME

Date: Wednesday November 25
Time: 4.00pm
Where: Mens’s Shed

This is your chance to come and have your say!

Edith Shipway

Merriwa Tourist Welcoming Centre and Mens’ Shed

REMEMBERANCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

As a community member, I have been thrilled to see our community come together to remember and commemorate the men and women who put their lives on the line to preserve our freedom, over the years.

I am particularly impressed with the way our young people and the schools have ceremonies, and the respect of the students, from Kindergarten upwards, show during these ceremonies.

I had the priviledge of being with Merriwa Central School, on November 11, and observing the respect and care, and willingness to participate, shown during the ceremony by teachers and students alike. Particularly I noticed the students sitting quietly – no fidgeting - for the entire ceremony.

As an older member of the community, it restored my confidence in our young people, the leaders of tomorrow, for our future.

I’m sure St Joseph’s School ceremony would have been similar.

Congratulations to teachers and students alike. A Proud Community Member.

Barbara Campbell

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

The Combined Christian Church’s of Merriwa invite you to join us for Carols In the Park. This event will be held on Sunday December 13 at Apex Park at 7.00pm.

A sausage sizzle stall will be available, including soft drinks, tea and coffee, on the night for purchase.

All proceeds will be donated to our local resident Brad Cox to assist with his medical expenses.

Santa will be arriving with his bag of goodies for distribution. Bring your chair, bring your blanket and join us for this occasion. In the event of inclement weather the carols will be held in the School of Arts, Bow Street, Merriwa.

All are invited to attend.

For more information contact Ron Campbell on 0428 485 153.

Ron Campbell

MERRYWHA RINGER
GREAT IDEAS FOR CHRISTMAS PRESENTS

365 FAIRY TALES
This is a great book for any young child. It is a gorgeous hard cover edition filled with magical stories, rhymes and pictures. It will be the perfect present for any child.

FROM MUM WITH LOVE
This is a new version of the baby book, but not restricted to babies. It covers childhood, teenage years and today. It is the perfect keepsake for your child as a Christmas present (or significant birthday present). There are spaces to add thoughts, mementoes and photos. It is hard cover and designed to be cherished.

PUZZLE BALL
These puzzle balls are great for the kids who love puzzles and need something a little different, or for the kids who usually hate puzzles and you are looking to inspire them. There are 108 pieces of hard durable plastic that are curved and form into a ball when complete (although they do not bounce - it was tried unsuccessfully in the past). There is a display stand to allow for showing off. My favourite one is the Disney Pixar Cars themed ball.

SPOT A LOT
Who doesn’t love a giant floor puzzle? Every child loves spreading out across the entire floor of a house, so they might as well do it legitimately. This is designed for the younger, pre-school aged kids, and includes a 20 piece giant floor puzzle. When the puzzle is completed, there is a board book to tell them what to look for in the puzzle (a little bit like eye-spy or where’s wally). It also aids with counting and reading skills. A great time-filling way to spend a day!

MARIE CLAIRE
The current issue includes a FREE MOR HAND and BODY LOTION. It contains almond extract and argan oil, with candied vanilla for fragrance. There is a beauty guide for sexy hair and make-up rules that is just in time for PARTY SEASON.

GLUTEN FREE CHRISTMAS
This recipe book is filled with great ideas for Christmas entertaining that is perfect for those who are allergic or sensitive to gluten. It no longer has to be a struggle to come up with tasty, appropriate dishes (the coeliac will now be easier to cater for than the random vegetarian at Christmas Dinner!). These recipes are suitable for the whole family at any time of year.

DISCOUNT VOUCHERS
Our shopper dockets now include a discount voucher. Come in and find out more today!

CALM COLOURING BOOKLETS
These are the latest in adult colouring books. They come in a variety of sizes and topics and will fit in your handbag or back pack. The most popular one at the moment is the Free Spirit Colouring collection by Kaisercraft but include books on animals, abstract designs and loads of other topics. Come in and choose one that takes your eye and become addicted.

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

Cash or Eftpos only.

Leanne Hook

Spice Grill Merriwa

BOOKING A FUNCTION
Located in the main street of Merriwa, the Spice Grill offers a great atmosphere for small gatherings to large group functions.

With a variety of meals on its great menu, Spice Grill can offer dining to suit both Australian and Indian Cuisine or a blend of both. This allows them to cater to all types of parties.

Why not consider booking your next party with us? Christmas is just around the corner and we can help you with your Christmas function or New Years celebrations. We arrange tea parties, lunch and dinner parties and can also arrange outdoor catering to suit your needs also.

After more information, then please feel free to call us on 6548 2255 or come in and discuss what needs you may require to make your function the best it can be.

Rohit Gaur
**Merriwa Ringer**

**Merriwa Surgery**

**Dr Emad Jasem**

For all your medical needs

Opening hours

Monday to Friday 8.30am to 6.00pm

Saturday by arrangement.

For bookings please call the surgery on 6548 2305.

Dr Emad Jasem

**Max’s Country Cuts**

*Buying Local*

*Supporting Local*

*Employing Local*

**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 19 TO SATURDAY NOVEMBER 21 (OR WHILE STOCKS LAST)**

- Crumbed Steak (Plain or Herb and garlic) - $12.99kg or 2kg for $25.00
- Corned Silverside - $8.99kg
- Rissoles (Crumbed, Country Style, Roast Tomato and Garlic only) - $8.99kg or 2kg for $16.00

We are also looking at supplying fresh Seafood every week.

Orders will need to be in by no later than Monday afternoons for a delivery every Friday.

The seafood will be fresh from Sydney markets with a range of a variety of whole and fish fillets, Oysters, Prawns and much more well be available – come in and talk to us about the range of seafood and your ordering options.

Yes it’s that time of year again Christmas Orders. We are now taking orders for Christmas

- Hams smoked and cooked right here on the premises
- Rolled seasoned or plain loin pork
- All poultry
- Fresh seafood
- Smoked legs of lamb and smoked chickens

Located at 131 Bettington Street Merriwa or by phoning us on 6584 2375.

Yvonne and Max McNaught

**Merriwa Auto Electrical**

We offer our local community a comprehensive auto electrical and air conditioning service. We can work on your vehicle in our workshop at 30 Bow Street or come to your property with our fully equipped mobile workshop.

Some of the products we have available are:

- Battery box with portable power station
- Battery charger with five year warranty
- Solar panels, regulators
- Kits: fuses- mini, micro, glass and blade, crimps
- Jack stands, special price at $65.00 pr
- Jumper leads - can be made to order
- HDMI cables
- Century batteries including car, truck, tractor, 4WD and bike batteries.

Looking forward to assisting you soon.

Refrigerant Trading Authorisation: AU 26780

Motor Vehicle Repairers Licence: MVRL 48419

Look forward to seeing you soon at 30 Bow Street Merriwa or why not call for an appointment on 6548 2114.

Sally and Michael Hagley

**Find us on Facebook!**

**Look for Merriwa Central School’s official page!**

**Ringer Deadline!**

Please remember to place your articles and advertisements into the **Merriwa Ringer** by 12.00 noon Mondays.
Dr Noman Jawaad Medical Practice

WE ARE OPEN FIVE DAYS A WEEK

Our hours currently are:
8.00am – 6.00pm Monday to Friday.
For all appointment please phone 6532 5013.

Dr Cho will be on leave from Monday November 16 until Monday December 14. Our surgery in Merriwa will be open on Mondays and Thursdays only and closed on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays during this time.

PROSTATE CANCER

This month is also called “Movember” and is puts men’s health in direct focus, so I thought it would be an ideal time to express my thoughts about an important but confusing and growing issue for men- prostate cancer.

The Prostate is a small, walnut sized (25ml) gland that exists only in men. It is situated just below the bladder and just in front of the rectum in the lower pelvis.

Most men can get a certain level of enlargement of the prostate with ageing. This enlarged prostate can put pressure on the urethra (a tube that brings urine from the bladder) as the urethra passes through the prostate. This can create problems in urination. In most cases, it is an enlarged prostate without any cancer - a condition called Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH). Typical symptoms of BPH are: difficulty in passing urine, a thin urine stream, increased frequency of urination. BPH is not a cancer.

Prostate cancer occurs when microscopic abnormal glands develop in prostate. These glands can continue to grow in an uncontrolled way and can also spread outside the prostate gland, this is called a metastatic prostate cancer or in simpler terms, the cancer has spread outside the prostate.

SYMPTOMS

In the early stages of Prostate cancer, there may not be any symptoms.

In the later stages symptoms may include:

- Increased frequency of passing urine
- Difficulty urinating (e.g. trouble starting, not being able to urinate when the feeling is there, or poor urine flow)
- Discomfort when passing urine
- Finding blood in urine or semen
- Pain in the lower back, legs, hips.

Unfortunately, it can all seem very confusing as some of the symptoms of prostate cancer are very similar to those of Benign Prostatic Hyperplasia (BPH). This is why it is strongly advised that, if you have any of these symptoms, to go and see your doctor for further advice.

Prostate cancer is usually an age–dependent disease. The risk of getting prostate cancer by the age of 75 is one in seven men. By the age of 85, this increases to one in five. Unfortunately, even a 40 year old man can get prostate cancer - the risk is very low but the cancer is often very aggressive. The risk increases even further if there is a family history of first degree relatives with prostate cancer.

HOW TO FIND OUT IF ONE HAS PROSTATE CANCER OR NOT?

A simple blood test and examination are needed to detect prostate cancer. The blood test is very simple and is called PSA. The examination can be done by a GP in the consultation room. The problem is that if the PSA blood test is positive, this doesn’t always mean that one has prostate cancer, and if the examination is normal, this does not mean that a patient has not got prostate cancer. Although if PSA is high, or examination findings are concerning, your doctor would refer you to a specialist (Urologist) for a further testing. Usually a sample of the prostate gland, called a biopsy, is taken and if the result is positive then prostate cancer is confirmed. There are advancements in diagnosing prostate cancer, such as an MRI scan of the prostate, but it is still an evolving technology.

TREATMENT

Treatment can vary on the age of the patient and the spread of the prostate cancer. The earlier the cancer is detected the better the chances of success with the treatment.

It is important to find out whether the cancer has spread outside the prostate; and if it has, to which parts of the body it has spread. Further scanning is needed to find the extent of the Prostate cancer.

- For a patient who is quite elderly and has low grade disease, it may be the case that no treatment is required and the cancer need
only be “watched”. This will require regular blood tests (PSA)

• Prostate cancer can be treated by removing it surgically

• Radiotherapy - either with external radiotherapy or implanting radioactive seeds called brachytherapy

• Hormonal injections are also used to control the spread of the disease

• Chemotherapy

• Today, robotic surgeries are becoming popular.

SUMMARY

Prostate cancer is very common; it makes up 30% of all cancers in Australian men. It accounts for 13% of all cancer deaths in Australian men. This is why early detection of prostate cancer is vitally important.

The problem remains a dilemma among all the health specialist and stake holders who advise for prostate cancer treatment, due to risk of over diagnosis and over treatment. However it is my belief that on the basis of information I have provided, that advance prostate cancer incidence has reduced by prostate cancer screening by doing regular PSA (blood test). That’s why I recommend every man, specifically above 40 years of age, to get themselves screened for prostate cancer.

WHAT SHOULD WE DO AS A COMMUNITY AND AN INDIVIDUAL?

Generally, men are reluctant to go to a doctor and get checked. There is a lack of information in our society about men’s health in general and specifically prostate cancer.

As a strong advocate of men’s health, I want to ask all men please don’t be afraid, embarrassed or shy. All men are similar in that we all have prostates. We need to take care of ourselves and get checked every 12 months, even if we do not have any symptoms. All doctors, especially GPs, should offer male patients a detailed health check at the age of 40, and talk to them about prostate cancer.

I want to give a “high five” to Men’s Shed in Merriwa, Denman and Muswellbrook, as they are all currently promoting Men’s Health and Prostate cancer.

Prostate cancer can be devastating news, and we, as a community, should not only support a patient who is diagnosed with prostate cancer, but support the whole family in any way we can.

I have suggested that a local prostate cancer support group be formed by our local community, so that anyone can join and have a chat about prostate cancer. I am very happy for our medical practice (Hunter Medical Practice) to act in a supervisory role, in order to raise awareness and support for this group. I want to ask other local organisations such as Rotary, the RSL, and even sporting groups (such as golf, cricket, bowls, football) etc to also get involved in promoting the awareness of prostate cancer.

Prostate cancer may seem a bit confusing and complicated, but it is a doctor’s job to make it very easy for you to understand, so don’t be afraid, don’t be hesitant, and don’t waste time - see your local doctor for a prostate cancer check.

Lastly I want pass my regards and thanks to Merriwa Men’s Shed who allowed me to speak about Prostate cancer recently. I enjoyed the time I spent at the Merriwa Men’s Shed speaking with the all the men who came, and I would like to have the opportunity to talk with more men in our community in any other organisation that is interested.

Please feel free to visit for more information: www.prostate.org.au (Prostate Cancer Foundation of Australia) or www.cancer.org.au (Cancer Council Australia)

Dr Noman Jawaad and Dr Cho Oo Maung

35 Days ‘til Christmas

Merriwa Ringer
PHOTOGRAPHY COMPETITION

Entries close:

DECEMBER 14 - NOON

Topic for the month is:

CHRISTMAS TRIMMINGS

The winning photo will receive a $50.00 gift voucher from the monthly sponsor and this month it is sponsored by:

STAY-N-PLAY PHOTOGRAPHY

PUBLISHED IN THE RINGER

ON:

DECEMBER 17

It’s fun to get into the spirit of Christmas and our last competition for the year will be an easy one for you to give your take on Christmas Trimmings and what this means for you.

This competition is open to amateur photographers of all ages, so get creative and submit your entries by December 14.

Just remember that the winning photo will be published.

Photos are judged by Rebecca Hopkins, Suzie Kirk and Tina Taylor

Email your photos to merriwa2-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au.
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**Emergency Services**

In case of emergency call 000 or 112 from mobile services

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<td>Crime Stoppers</td>
<td>1800 333 000</td>
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<td>Police Assistance</td>
<td>131 444</td>
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<td>Fire (Admin only)</td>
<td>6548 2005</td>
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<td>Hospital -MPS</td>
<td>6532 5000</td>
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<td>Rural Fire Service</td>
<td>1800 081 166</td>
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<td>SES Emergency</td>
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<td>Merriwa Rescue Squad</td>
<td>6548 2538</td>
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<td>Merriwa Surgery - Dr Emad Jasem</td>
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Support the Ringer regularly but can’t find your business? Contact Tina on 6548 2119.
Bitumen sealing along Golden Highway, Merriwa – Delayed due to wet weather

Upper Hunter Shire Council wishes to advise that the bitumen sealing works on the Golden Highway have been delayed by 2 weeks due to wet weather. There will be continued changed traffic conditions along the Golden Highway, between Gungal and Cassilis including sections within the town centre of Merriwa.

Council is conducting resealing works on behalf of the Roads and Maritime Services (RMS) until Monday, 14 December, 2015 (weather permitting) between the hours of 6.30am - 6.00pm, Monday to Friday.

Please respect the road signs in place for the safety of yourself and others and follow the instructions of workers on-site.

Should you have any questions or comments please contact the Infrastructure Services Department in Merriwa on 6521 7000.

For urgent issues contact Council’s Engineering Assistant, Md Hasan on 0419 992 516.

Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces

Calling for new Committee Members

The Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces Committee is seeking people who are community minded and want to be involved in organising the annual Festival of the Fleeces event. The committee generally meets monthly to plan and coordinate the annual event. We are looking for people of all ages and specifically with budgeting, marketing, promotion and planning skills to help the dedicated team of volunteers.

For more information contact Council’s Tourism and Events Coordinator Jan Sinclair on 6540 1301.

To nominate yourself, complete the committee nomination form available at Council offices or on the website.

Are you looking for a career that helps shape our community?

Youth Worker Assistant

Part Time (6 hours per week), Merriwa

The Role: Council is seeking an enthusiastic and energetic individual to undertake the above position. The primary role of this position is to supervise young people undertaking and attending youth activities, programs and events organised by Council’s Youth Services team.

What you will need: All applicants must possess the ability to establish positive rapport with young people and their families and hold a current Working with Children Check. Previous experience working in youth drop in centres or in the provision of social/recreational programs for young people along with a relevant qualification in Youth Work or a related discipline is desirable.

Salary Range: $877.80 - $983.10 per 38 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: 4.00pm on Monday 23 November 2015

Enquiries and Further Information: Mary Spora, Youth Services Supervisor on 02 6540 1169.

Youth Worker Assistants

Casual

The Role: Council is seeking enthusiastic and energetic individuals to undertake the above positions. The primary role of these positions is to supervise young people undertaking and attending youth activities, programs and events organised by Council’s Youth Services team.

What you will need: All applicants must possess the ability to establish positive rapport with young people and their families and hold a current Working with Children Check. Previous experience working in youth drop in centres or in the provision of social/recreational programs for young people is desirable.

Salary Range: $877.80 - $983.10 per 38 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: 4.00pm on Monday 23 November 2015

Enquiries and Further Information: Mary Spora, Youth Services Supervisor on 02 6540 1169.

How do I apply?

Potential applicants for these positions should visit 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
**FOR SALE - LAYER PULLETS**

Red and White Isa Browns
- 12 week olds - $16.00 each
- 10 week old Isa Browns - $15.00 each

From Merriwa Petroleum and Ag
Wednesday December 2 at 9.30am
Phone 6548 2071

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**80 BETTINGTON STREET MERRIWA**

Located in the heart of Merriwa, the Merriwa Post Office is offered for sale with an attached three bedroom residence. The business would suit a couple with the ease of having your home close by. Showing excellent returns all figures are available. The home has three large bedrooms, the main with built in robes. The lounge is a good size and features an open fire. The kitchen is like new and has a dishwasher electric cooktop and oven and a combustion stove. The main bathroom is in very good condition and there are male and female toilets for the post office. The yard is fully fenced with a single garage and attached carport. This opportunity would ideally suit someone looking to be their own boss in a very secure business with a beautiful home on site.

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**Ringer Deadline!**

Please remember to place your articles and advertisements into the **Merriwa Ringer** by 12.00 noon Mondays.

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**EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

If you need assistance from
**Ambulance - Police - Fire**

including Hazardous Incidents

**DIAL 000**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Police Hunter Valley LAC</td>
<td>6542 6999</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Police Assistance Line</td>
<td>131 444</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crime Stoppers</td>
<td>1800 333 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fire Brigade (Administration only)</td>
<td>65482005</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hospital</td>
<td>65325000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rural Fire Service (Adminisatration and Duty Officer)</td>
<td>1800 081 166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SES Emergency Number</td>
<td>132500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Merriwa Rescue Squad</td>
<td>65482538</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**FOR SALE - LAYER PULLETS**

Red and White Isa Browns
- 12 week olds - $16.00 each
- 10 week old Isa Browns - $15.00 each

From Merriwa Petroleum and Ag
Wednesday December 2 at 9.30am
Phone 6548 2071

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**DO YOU HAVE SOMETHING FOR SALE? LOOKING FOR A CERTAIN ITEM?**

Why not consider placing an advert in the Merriwa Ringer

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Electrical Contractors
Air Conditioning ~ Home Installations
Refrigeration ~ Electrical Accessories
Service Dealers (Daikin, Teco, Fisher Paykel, Electrolux) ~ White Goods ~ Appliances

C.J & J.M Vero & Sons
Phone: 6548 2303
Fax: 6548 2053 After Hours: 6548 2045 (Emergencies Only)
102a Bettington Street, Merriwa
ABN: 65 810 824 869 Lic#: 243746C Au: 29030
**Merriwa Ringer**

For all your medical needs.

**Opening Hours**
Monday to Friday 8.30am to 6.00pm
Saturday by arrangement.

For appointments please call the surgery on 6548 2305

---

**Merriwa Races**

Race Day for 2016 is April 23

Race Club President: David Alker
Contact - 0427 482 095
Vice Presidents: Peter Bishop and Paul Frampton

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**Merriwa Anglian Parish**

Holy Trinity St Columbia
Merriwa Casilis
9.00am Sundays 11.00am every 10.00am Fridays 2nd and 4th
Short Bible Study
Contact: 0429 996 760
Rev’d Glen Hughes - Supervisor Priest & Rev’d Pat Kirkby - Local Priest

**Merriwa Central School**

Primary Campus: 6548 2101
Secondary Campus: 6548 2119
merriwa-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.merriwa-c.schools.nsw.edu.au

**Merriwa Tourist WELCOMING CENTRE & MEN’S SHED**

Arts, Crafts, Farm Produce! Clean toilets!

CENTRE: Open every day 9.30am – 2.30pm
MEN’S SHED: Every Thursday 10.00am onwards

President: J Alker
Secretary: E Shipway
Telephone: 6548 3201

---

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

**Merriwa Pharmacy**

Opening Hours
Monday 9am – 5:30pm
Tuesday 9am – 5:30pm
Wednesday 9am – 5:30pm
Thursday 9am – 5:30pm
Friday 9am – 5:30pm
Saturday 9am – 12 noon
Ph: 6548 2213

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**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

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**La Scalaetta PIZZERIA**

Traditional Wood-fired pizza
Friday 6pm – late
Saturday 6pm – late
Call us for your next function!
(02) 6548 3005
0419 252 271 Robert
robert.marchese@bigpond.com

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**Churches**

**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
St Vincent de Paul - 6548 3092

---

**Cassilis Public School**

Relieving Principal: Jeanette Grinham
Coolah Road
Ph: 63761009
Cassilis NSW 2329
Fax: 63761005
 cassilis.p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.cassilis-p.school.nsw.edu.au

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**Non-Emergency Medical Transport Service**

We will get you to your appointments on time with special care.

Office hours are: 9.30 to 2.30 weekdays
Bottle Museum building or leave a message on the answering service for a call back.

Te/Fax 6548 2653

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**Supporting the Smith Family**

Meet 4th Thursday of each month
Visitors are always welcome

Enquiries to:
President: Julie Smith - 0429 197 397
Secretary: Elaine Sparrow - 6548 8560

---
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 Beron on 6548 2245

Merriwa Rugby League Football Club
President – Mark Kirkland
Snr Vice President – Seth Morgan
Jnr Vice President – Justine Wilney

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 Tennis Association
President: Robert Smith
6548 2213
Secretary: Emily Hall
Treasurer: Krichelle Khan
Vice President: Hannah Walmsley
Day – Night Competitions
Junior Competitions
Court Hire

Merriwa Touch Football
Wednesday Nights
Junior and Senior Comp
President: Trent Cooper
Senior Vice President: Vacant
Secretary: Barbara Eipper
Treasurer: Ainsley Mayben
For more information contact 6548 2124 after hours.

Merriwa Cricket Club
President: Craig Drury - 0477 123 937
Senior Vice President: Murray Wright - 0428 482 394
Secretary: Sonya Drury - 0439 541 450
Treasurer: Max McNaught - 0437 482 375

Merriwa Springtime Show
18, 19 & 20 September 2015
www.merriwashow.com.au
Pat Ryan - President
Toni Jones - Secretary
Tel: 0498 378 500

Established 1908
18, 19 & 20 September 2015
Merriwa Springtime Show
www.merriwashow.com.au
Pat Ryan - President
Toni Jones - Secretary
Tel: 0498 378 500

Merriwa Bushman’s Campdraft Est. 1947
President: Roger Moore
0427 153 446
Secretary: Megan Richards
0427 437 743
Treasurer: Jake McIntyre
0408 112 709
October Long Weekend 2016
merriwacampdraft@gmail.com

Dyslexia or Learning Difficulties?
Some children experience reading and learning difficulties as a result of visual perception problems caused by Irlen Syndrome/Scotopic Sensitivity
Irlen Syndrome can cause Dyslexia and difficulties with:
- Reading
- Writing
- Spelling
- Concentration
- Ball Sports
- Fatigue
- Eye Strain
- Headaches

IRLEN DIAGNOSTIC CLINIC NEWCASTLE
Regional Clinics
Singleton: 49556904
Taree: 0409 653 700
Coffs Harbour: 0437 698 559
www.irlendyslexia.com

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Irlen Diagnostic Clinic Newcastle
Regional Clinics
Singleton: 49556904
Taree: 0409 653 700
Coffs Harbour: 0437 698 559
www.irlendyslexia.com

PH: 6376 1002
Open every day 5pm

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

**Thursdays** - 7.00pm Bingo - prizes of club and meat vouchers. Raffle and Super 39 special prize

**Fridays** - Happy Two Hour - 5.00pm to 7.00pm, free raffles and twilight bowls from 5.00pm. All welcome.

**Saturdays** - Monster Raffle. Tickets on sale at 7.00pm drawn 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 5.00pm to 8.30pm. Closed Mondays, reopen 5.00pm Tuesday.

For bookings and take away - telephone 6548 3228.

**DON’T FORGET CHINESE SMORGASBORD SUNDAY NOVEMBER 29**

**WOMENS BOWLS**

Lady Bowls Christmas Dinner Wednesday, November 25 at Sylvia’s Cafe, Bettington Street Merriwa at 6.30pm for 7.00pm.

For more information contact Loretta on 6548 2673.

Mixed social bowls Wednesdays, names by 9.30am with play at 10.00am. All interested are welcome to come along for a game.

Loretta Cooper

**Merriwa RSL Club**

The Members Lucky Badge for $850.00 was not won on Friday at 8.30pm the number was 128, this week it jackpots to $900.00.

The 7.00pm draw for $220.00 was not won, the number was 542, this week it jackpots to $240.00.

The Thursday Badge draw for $180.00 was not won, the number was 527, this week it jackpots to $200.00 and will be drawn between 6.00pm–7.00pm. LTPS/14/04323

The Sunday Morning Badge Draw for $500.00 was not won last week, the number was 280, this week commences at $550.00 and will be drawn between 11.30am and 1.30pm and you must be present to win the money. LTPS/14/04323

**COMING EVENTS**

**Social Darts**

Social darts is back on in the games room and starts at 7.00pm every Monday.

‘T-Bone Tuesday’

Every Tuesday you can now order a T-Bone, chips and salad or veg for just $15.00.

Also every Thursday have a chicken schnitzel, chips and salad or veg for just $12.50.

New to our menu - Wagyu burger.

**WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE CLUB**

**NEW HAPPY HOUR** – Thursdays from 6.00pm to 7.00pm a extra happy hour has been introduced along with the 9.00pm Friday badge draw moving to this time slot to be drawn between 6.00pm to 7.00pm.

**HAPPY HOUR IS BACK** - Friday 6.00pm to 7.00pm and Sunday 11.00am to 12.00noon, $3.50 schooners and $2.50 middies, and $5.00 Coronas.

**BISTRO HOURS FOR THE SUMMER** – lunch 11.30am – 2.00pm, evening 6.00pm to 8.30pm.

Julie Smith
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

First: Diamond Plate Flush Lid Toolbox 440H x 1220W x 483Dmm

Second: Pop-Up Bench Centre seat converts to handy drinks table. 150 x 57 x 90cm

Third: 33cc 2-in-1 Brushcutter and Line Trimmer.

Tickets are $1.00 each and are on sale now from the bar. Drawn Christmas Eve at the Thursday night raffles.

MERRIWA RSL CRICKET CLUB REPORT

Last week’s game was a wash out, this week the RSL team play Aberdeen 1 at Aberdeen.

Merriwa RSL Cricket Club would like to thank their sponsors for the 2015/16 season:
Merriwa RSL Club, Frampton Freight, and Wallings Pastoral Company.

Matt Morgan

Cassilis Bowling Club

FRIDAY NIGHT RAFFLES

Members Draw, Joker Draw, Meat/vege tray draw, Schooner Draw.

November 13 – Member’s draw - $80.00 – Tegan Cornish – unclaimed - $85.00 next week.

Joker draw - $795.00 – Channy Burgess flipped the joker and won $795.00. $500.00 next week.

FRIDAY NIGHT SNACK BAR

Affordable family meals.
Saturday afternoons are free pool and music afternoons from 2.00pm-5.00pm – ½ price drinks plus bar snacks.

Hilary Parker

Ringer Deadline!

Please remember to place your articles and advertisements into the Merriwa Ringer by 12.00 noon Mondays.
MIXED GAME OF FUN

Don’t forget to get your name in if you are interested in playing in the mixed competition, your name needs to be left at the table by December 9 to play a mixed round of league tag on December 16. These teams will be drawn from random on Wednesday night December 9.

The mixed night will also be a free chicken and gravy roll night or bbq night (decided at the next meeting) night for all registered players. Under 18’s will receive a packet of chips and a drink with their dinner ticket.

MEETING FOR DECEMBER

A reminder to all teams that the next meeting is coming around fast. At the last meeting there were a couple of teams that did not attend so started the competition with a minus point score. Make sure that you have an over 18 representative attend the meeting. Meetings are short but are necessary for an organisation to function. This coming meeting will address:

- Vacant positions
- Mixed game format
- Christmas free meal
- Christmas give away
- Issues from games in first part of season
- Juniors - invite to competition
- Referees
- Incoming/outgoing mail
- Sponsorships.

There are still positions vacant for anyone wishing to take on a role for Merriwa Touch football. These include - Vice President, Secretary (Barbra Eipper is currently filling in the position) and registra. The hard work has been completed but still needs people in these positions for smooth transitioning into 2016. Consider coming onboard for 2016.

Tina Taylor

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MCS in touch with our community!

ROUND 8

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Ladies</th>
<th>Mens</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>Merriwa School Girls v’s Furfot</td>
<td>ROAR v’s Merriwa Tyre Service</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.45</td>
<td>Touch n Go v’s DMC’s</td>
<td>Bowling Barrels v’s Welderup Rock on Touch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.30</td>
<td>Merriwa RSL Ladies v’s Incred-i-bowls</td>
<td>Cassilis v’s Tourist Terriers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.15</td>
<td>CC’s - Bye</td>
<td>Denman Devils v’s Team Kocinakis</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table Duty: ROAR
### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

#### NOVEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 21</td>
<td>Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - 7.30am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Merriwa Markets - Merriwa RSL Grounds - 9.00am to 12.00noon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 25</td>
<td>Merriwa Tourist Welcoming Centre and Mens’ Shed Annual General Meeting - Mens’ Shed - 4.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday 27</td>
<td>Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saturday 28</td>
<td>General Horse, Equipment and Accessories Sale - Merriwa Showground - 11.00am</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 29</td>
<td>Merriwa Senior Citizens Christmas Luncheon - Merriwa RSL Club - 12.00noon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### DECEMBER

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 4</td>
<td>Festival of the Fleeces Street Stall</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday 8</td>
<td>Merriwa Touch Football general meeting - Merriwa Sports Club - 6.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday 13</td>
<td>Combined Christian Churches, Carols in the Park - Apex Park - 7.00pm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday 14</td>
<td>Photography Competition - Christmas Trimmings - closing time 12.00noon</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

**If you would like your event included in the community calendar, wish to claim a date or interested in placing an advert in the Ringer?**

**Contact Tina Taylor on 6548 2119.**

The Merriwa Ringer - Merriwa’s only not-for-profit newsletter servicing the community for 25 years.