Students from across the Hunter celebrate the Upper Hunter Youth Council Christmas Party

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Merriwa RSL Sub Branch

BOFOR’S GUN

We wish to advise the community that the Bofor’s gun is now back in its place in the corner of the Cenotaph Park.

There were many enquiries from local people on the whereabouts of the gun whilst it was in Muswellbrook getting repairs, sandblasting and re-painting.

We are very grateful that these repairs have been financed by a grant through the Community War Memorial Fund and we thank them very much for their involvement.

Mary O’Neill

Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music

The Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music (UHCM) is hosting an instrument try-out session at Merriwa Central School (Primary Campus) on the morning of Monday December 14 at 10.30am. The instruments that will be available to try include flute, clarinet, oboe, saxophone, trumpet, trombone, and violin.

Developing a music program using these instruments can lead to the formation of ensembles such as a string group or concert band. Both of these ensemble types are excellent extra-curricular groups that could perform at school functions and assemblies, and/or represent the school at competitions such as the annual eisteddfod.

The session is aimed at students in Years 2–6 for Wind and Brass instruments (this is due to lung capacity and physical size of students, but can be determined on a student-to-student basis), and Years 1–6 for Violin.

All students are more than welcome to try any of the instruments, however, some of the younger students may need to wait a year or two before they are big enough to learn.

UHCM staff will have notes detailing extra information at the session, including costs of lessons, and enrolment forms for those interested. Aaron Rothemund (wind tutor) and Katrina Constable (violin and piano tutor), will both be in attendance on the morning of December 14, and would love to have any interested parents present to look at what is on offer.

Katrina Constable
Students and teachers have been busy with a range of activities in the last few weeks of term. Assessment tasks are being completed, reports written, and swim school lessons continue.

**BUSINESS AS USUAL**

At this time of year students often tell parents “Oh were not doing any work in class, it doesn’t matter if I don’t go to school” - not true. Teaching and learning continues to take place in classrooms each day. Senior students still have assessment tasks to complete. It is important that students attend school until the last day of term.

**NEWCASTLE HERALD SCHOOLS NEWSPAPER COMPETITION**

Congratulations to our team who entered the Newcastle Herald School Newspaper Competition. Our students have a wonderful record in this competition, taking out first prize two years in a row. Mr. Johnston travelled to Newcastle with some of our students who entered the competition. Congratulations to April Eipper awarded Highly Commended in “Best News Story” and Highly Commended “Young Journalist of the Year”. Well done to all our creative young writers.

Next week we will celebrate the graduation of our Year 6 students with a night on the town. Students will attend dinner at the RSL, and then dance the night away at the Secondary Disco. The night will mark their transition from Primary to Secondary.

**STUDENT REPORTS**

End of year reports will be issued in the last week of term. In recent years we have aimed to issue reports a little earlier than usual to allow parents the opportunity to contact teachers over the last few days of school where necessary.

**REWARDS ACTIVITIES**

On the last day of each term we hold activities to reward students for doing the right thing all term. Teachers have organised a range of activities across Primary and Secondary for those students. Feel free to contact your child’s teacher or year adviser for more information.

At Merriwa Central School our aim is to ensure each and every student achieves their personal best. To this end I would like to congratulate Liam Cronin who has gained early entry into Macquarie University to study a combined Science and Education degree. An outstanding achievement Liam, and one Mr. Lomax our Mathematics teacher is very proud of.

**YEAR 6 GRADUATION DINNER**

**Universities Entry**

**Coming Events**

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Darren Noonan
Principal
CAPTAINS/PREFECTS ASSEMBLY

This Friday December 4 our Primary Assembly will be held in the morning at 9.15am. It will be a special assembly as our Year 5 nominees for 2016 Captains and Prefects will be presenting their speeches to the assembly. All parents of nominees are welcome to attend as are our other MCS parents and community. The students have been working hard this term with Mrs Moore to develop their leadership skills and we look forward to hearing their speeches this Friday. During the day the rest of the Primary campus and teachers will cast their votes which will be counted that afternoon with staff and a nominated impartial community member. Good luck to all our nominees!

QUICKSMART CELEBRATIONS

Last Friday November 27 the Primary and Secondary Quicksmart students enjoyed an end of year celebration where they joined for lunch and received their folders for this year, presented by Mr Noonan. The results from students continue to impress our Quicksmart educators, Mrs Gibbons and Ms Bush. We would like to give our educators a very big thank you for all their wonderful work this year!

REWARDS ACTIVITIES

Rewards Activities will be conducted on the last day of term, Wednesday December 16, for both Infants and Primary students. Eligible infants students will be participating in a ‘Christmas Frolic’ where they will have many Christmas-themed activities and are invited to come dressed in a Christmas outfit for the day. Eligible primary students will have a ‘Water Fun Day’ where we will be watching a water-themed movie and then heading to Merriwa Pools for some water games. Eligible primary students will be provided with lunch for the day, but will need to bring in their swimming clothes, sun shirt and pool entry fee. The movie will be announced in next week’s edition of The Ringer. Students will be ineligible for
Secondary News
QUICKSMART 2015

On Friday November 27 we held our QuickSmart Party for 2015 in the Trade Training Centre at the Secondary Campus. Thank you to Mrs Bendall and the Hospitality students for a delicious feast and thank you also to Mrs Harrison for her generous donation of the pizza dough for our numerous and scrumptious pizzas. Primary and Secondary students came together to celebrate their success for the year. Students enjoyed their lunch while they watched some snap shots of their lessons from throughout the year.

Following this Mr Noonan presented students with their QuickSmart folders which contain all their results from this year’s lessons. QuickSmart has been a huge success, this is the fourth year students have had the opportunity to be a part of such a beneficial program. QuickSmart teaches students strategies and automaticity of the basic operations of multiplication, division, addition subtraction and problem solving.

We had a total of 20 students involved in the program at Primary this year working with Mrs Gibbons and 25 at Secondary. I would like to congratulate all students for 2015 what a great effort you have all put in and all that hard work and dedication has provided you with fantastic results and knowledge. This year we have 8 students who have graduated from the program. Congratulations to Jack Fairhall, Jimmy Zammit, Olivia McLean, Jackson Keane, Shanay Turner, Brady Naime, Lachlan Harrison and Bailey Telfer.

Permission notes for Secondary students will be sent out soon for next year so keep practising everyone as many of you will be lucky to be continuing on and Mrs Gibbons and I are looking forward to working with our new QuickSmart students in 2016.

Rebecca West
Assistant Principal

QuickSmart Instructor

Karen Bush

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED

Merriwa Central School has several new teachers appointed for 2016 who are seeking rental accommodation.

Interested persons with accommodation to rent are asked to leave details with the Secondary Office phone 6548 2119. Details will then be forwarded to incoming staff.

Darren Noonan
Principal

YEAR 6 DINNER AND DISCO

On Thursday December 17 the Year 6 students will attend their end of year dinner with Mrs Moore, Mr Noonan and other staff. We look forward to seeing them at the Merriwa RSL at 6.00pm for a lovely dinner followed by a disco with the Secondary students.

MERRIWA CAROLS IN THE PARK

On Sunday December 13 the Merriwa Central School Choir will be attending the local ‘Carols in the Park’ to join in the singing festivities. The choir has been hard at work rehearsing all term for the carols and I hope to see all choir members there. Students will need to meet Mrs West at 6.50pm at Apex Park for the carols to begin at 7.00pm. Students are encouraged to wear Christmas clothing, including hats or accessories. If you have any questions about the carols please see Mrs West.

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Darren Noonan
Principal

SCRIPTURE SHOW

Next Wednesday December 9 the Primary students will attend the Scripture Christmas Show. Classes will be presenting something from Scripture class they have worked on this term. All parents and community are invited to attend. The show will begin at 10.00am and finish at approximately 11.00am in the Great Hall.

REWARDS ACTIVITIES

Rewards activities if they do not have four or more points according to our behaviour point system which began implementation at the beginning of this year. Students who are ineligible to attend will attend alternative lessons. If you have any queries about rewards activities please contact your child’s class teacher.

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Rebecca West
Assistant Principal

Karen Bush
QuickSmart Instructor
SECONDARY CAMPUS REWARDS DAY

Secondary will hold its Term 4 Rewards Day on the Wednesday December 16. This year, eligible students will be attending Merriwa Olympic Pool for periods 1 - 4 to undertake various novelty challenges. Following this students will be supplied with a free sausage sizzle, courtesy of the SRC and will end the day with a movie in the Great Hall. Students will need to bring pool entry money if not a current season ticket holder. The pool canteen will be open for students to purchase snacks. A reminder that the canteen will not be open at the school on Rewards Day.

Lana Grant
Organiser

UPPER HUNTER YOUTH COUNCIL 2015 CHRISTMAS MEETING

On Thursday November 26, the Upper Hunter Youth Council had their final meeting for 2015 at Merriwa Central School. Kyle Mudge, James Hagley, Liana Byfield, Gordon Bradley, Harry Amity and Hanna Byfield hosted and chaired the final meeting. In the meeting we addressed what we have achieved in the year, how we can improve the events and involve issues in the community. The Upper Hunter Youth Council has had to say good-bye to some of the original members, Kyle Mudge, James Hagley and Hanna Byfield from Merriwa Central and Jake Speck and Lachlan White from Scone High, as they enter Year 11 next year.

We would like to thank Mrs Bendall and her Year 12 Hospitality class for catering the amazing morning tea and hot food for lunch, it was appreciated by everyone!

All of the Upper Hunter Youth Council would like to thank Mary Spora for organising the meetings and events. Kyle, James, Liana and Hanna would also like to thank Miss Hopkins for making this opportunity possible for us and driving us to Scone for each meeting.

Hanna Byfield
Upper Hunter Youth Council Member

NEWCASTLE HERALD AWARDS - THE STREAK CONTINUES

Last week I had the honour of attending the Newcastle Herald awards at Hunter Stadium with four representatives of our wonderful team, April Eipper, Maddilyn Blackadder, Teianna Taylor and Tarnisha Winsor. We were one of 94 schools who entered the competition this year and were looking to extend our award winning streak of the previous four years. The competition was tough with some innovative and original school papers going head to head with our own Merriwa Mouthpiece. Our entry secured Runner Up for Best News Story written by April Eipper, as well as April also receiving the Runner Up award for Best Young Journalist. I would like to thank our entire team for their efforts earlier in the year and they should be congratulated for keeping the streak alive! Our other team members were John Cronin, Breanna Goodear, Jennifer Evans, Shai Blackadder and Samantha Owen.

Adam Johnston
Deputy Principal

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Lana Grant
Organiser

Merriwa Ringer
Last Friday, November 27, 32 students from Year 7-12 travelled up to Tamworth for the ‘Mini Muddies’ Mud Run. It was a gruelling 10km course with 70 obstacles that included mud pits, water guns, slides, walls to climb, hay bails to hurdle and even a cattle truck to find their way over! The race took students between 1 to 2 hours to complete. Benjamin Keane was the first Merriwa Central School student to return, he was the thirteenth person to return overall out of hundreds and that included him taking an accidental detour and having to run further than most! To gain a formal place in the race, students had to cross the line, with arms linked, in groups of six. The first Merriwa team to return included Elly Blackadder, Dean Swan, Lachlan Walker, Jake Barry, John Cronin and Mr Grant. They placed seventh in the teams. Other Merriwa teams finished in eleventh, thirteenth and sixteenth place. It was a great, yet very tiring day, and all students involved were very keen to do it all again (next year of course)! A big thanks to Mr Grant who organised the day and to ROAR for funding the bus to Tamworth.

**Favourite Subject:** Science  
**Extra-Curricular Activities:** Hanging out with mates  
**Best personal achievement:** Learning how to shoot  
**Future goals:** Work in Science or in the Military

**Year Advisors Comment:** Jimmy is a dedicated young man who has demonstrated time and again that he can be counted on to do his best and help out his mates. As a member of ROAR Jimmy has contributed significantly to both charity Petting Zoos that we held this year as well as leading activities for younger students. Jimmy is always willing to have a go and it is this attitude that will assist him in achieving his goals in the future. Well done Jimmy!

*Adam Johnston*  

**Student of the Week**  
**Jimmy Zammit**  
**Year 8**
In what year did you join ROAR?
2010

Why is ROAR important?
ROAR allows boys the opportunity to develop their athletic and leadership capabilities in a supportive and challenging environment. It revolves around having high expectations of yourself and others and striving for continual improvement. The boys are learning about more than just respect; they are learning about the positive impact that their actions have on their lives and the lives of those around them.

How has ROAR changed you?
ROAR has allowed me to create a program based upon my personal belief that sport is a great teaching platform for life lessons. I am continually proud of how our boys grow in confidence and stature within the community. It has opened my eyes to the amazing leadership potential that these boys truly possess and the passion that they demonstrate.

As coach how do you include your past sporting experience into the program?
I have learnt from some wonderful coaches as a player across a range of sports and have myself coached a number of sporting teams throughout my adult life. I try to instil those lessons of teamwork, integrity and intensity into each activity.

What do you see as the future of ROAR?
I see ROAR continuing to grow its presence in the community as our young leaders continue to stamp their own vision on what ROAR is and can be. I also think that as the years pass we will be able to increase the involvement of past ROAR captains and members into group activities.

CAREERS NEWS

Year 12 Key dates:
- **December 3** – SRS applicants early offers notified
- **December 16** – NSW HSC results released
- **December 17** – ATARs released on UAC website from 9.00 am. http://www.uac.edu.au/
- **January 5** – First round of University offers based on ATAR results

Journalism course online - Independent journalism college Jschool’s Diploma of Journalism. First intake in March. Applicants should apply directly to Jschool at http://www.jschool.com.au. The course is VET FEE-HELP registered and can be studied over one year full-time or longer part-time. Phone 1300 859 975.

Webinar Why Complementary Medicine - College of Complementary Medicine 3 December, 6:00 pm to 7:00 pm. Career opportunities and the field explained. https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/8114547915410297857

Apprentice Chef - Newcastle Area Love cooking? Want to be a chef? First Year Apprentice Chef positions available in the Newcastle area. Start your culinary career now. Apply by sending your resume to recruitment@htn.com.au or call 1300 139 108 for more info.

Apprentice Chef - Hunter Valley Love cooking? Want to be a chef? First Year Apprentice Chef positions available in the Hunter Valley region. Start your culinary career now. Apply by sending your resume to recruitment@htn.com.au or call 1300 139 108 for more info.

If parents have any questions or require information about careers please contact me.

Jane Hegarty
Careers Adviser

SRC REPORT

**DISCO:** Thursday December 10 is the End of Year Disco, running from 7.00-9.30pm at the Merriwa RSL for Years 6-12 students from Merriwa Central School. Tickets are $5.00 each and will only be sold to people who are present at school that day. Year 6 do not need to buy a ticket.

**OUT OF UNIFORM DAY:** On the last day of term, Wednesday December 16 we are having an Out of Uniform Day to raise funds for Ronald McDonald House. Please come dressed in ‘Crazy’ clothing and bring a gold coin donation. Out of uniform rules apply: no midriffs/singlets or short shorts/short skirts. Must have covered shoes.

Cara Hunt
SRC Publicity Officer
Wow what an amazing year we have had in Year 3/4!

This term we have experienced so many wonderful things.

We really loved writing our narratives in English earlier this term. The students were given the theme of environmental sustainability gone wrong and were asked to create a narrative that includes an unusual complication. It was wonderful to see such creative stories written by every student. We are also having a lot of fun focusing on the language features and cultural themes in traditional and modern versions of Christmas poems such as ‘The Night Before Christmas’.

The students have really enjoyed hands on Maths this term and had a great time at the World of Maths Day in Week 7 run by Mr Ed. The students had to work collaboratively and verbalise their thinking to solve a number of logic and mathematical problems.

In Religion we have been discussing Advent and the traditions of the Catholic Church around Christmas. After having learnt about Advent we were fortunate enough to be invited down to the Church by Father John to watch him change the Church displays. The children were able to share their ideas and consolidate their learning by asking Father John further questions.

The children have been really engaged in our Science unit this term. It has been wonderful to watch the children discuss their ideas and plan experiments to test their thinking about heat transfer. The students have been able to transfer their learning to new and practical experiences.

Visual Arts has been a favourite subject for the class this term. The students have had opportunities to link their art to their HSIE topic to learn about traditions associated with artworks from
different times and cultures, and used these as inspiration for their own artwork. In particular, the children have loved learning about the Hindu God Ganesha and the Diwali festival.

Tuesday is our last transition for the year. We look forward to these days as it gives the students and the teachers a clear understanding of what to expect next year.

Congratulations to the following award winners last week.

**Kindergarten** - Arlia Parker – for recognising different parts of non-fiction books and identifying the use

**Lula Peebles** – for following procedural text to produce a sample of work

**Year 1/2** - Braeden Halse – for his dedication to trying his best at new experiences

**Ella Beaven** – for her effort and application to developing skills during swimming lessons

**Year 3/4** - Will Henderson - for a wonderful understanding of volume and capacity

**Mia Morgan** - for a wonderful understanding of volume and capacity

**Year 5/6** - Jorji Taaffe - for an excellent effort in calculating volume in Mathematics

**Gaby Nicholls** - for demonstrating her zeal to learn in Religion when we looked at the Christmas story in the Bible.

**Emily Ninness** - for her brilliant work in our PDHPE topic “Keeping Myself Safe Around Drugs”

**Principal’s Awards** - Rebecca Keegan - for always offering to be of assistance to others

**Bethany Wightman** - always having a happy smile to greet others and trying very hard with her learning.

**Georgia Bowler**

Georgia has earned the award for her impressive effort to improve last week. While at the library, she read to the class showing some great expression to help entertain them.

During a writing activity where students were asked to describe a new suit for Santa, Georgia tried harder to write an increasing number of sentences. She also made some great improvements in her swimming ability and attempted to get herself changed into her swimmers and back into her school clothes faster each day.

Georgia was a respectful and safe student all week. Congratulations on your award Georgia. Keep up the fantastic work!

**SWIMMING WAS A GREAT SUCCESS**

The two weeks of swimming aims to develop water confidence and provide students with basic skills in water safety and survival.

Students at Cassilis are very lucky as normally the program is for students in Years 2-6 and for 45 minute sessions each day. We involved all students and had an hour of intensive swimming in the pool each day all for a cost of $15.00.
Thank you to the many people who helped out. Your assistance was greatly appreciated!

- Mick Doyle from the Royal Hotel Cassilis who provided the bus
- Des Turnbull for driving the bus most days to Merriwa
- Mrs Magner (who taught swimming during her lunch break at work), Miss Hodgson, Mrs Nairne, Mrs Hunt, Miss Storrier, Miss Beith, Mr Gant and Mrs Burgess for teaching the lessons
- Jason for opening up the pool and being our lifeguard.

All students made a positive improvement with their swimming and will receive a certificate to indicate which level of swimming they have achieved.

This would be a great starting point for any swimming lessons in the holidays. It is really important that children continue to be exposed to and taught to swim over the Christmas break.

Both Merriwa and Coolah pools offer swimming lessons.

If any families would like some lesson ideas to help teach their child themselves, please ask at the school and we will organise a booklet for you. There are some great, simple activities which will help to ensure your child both respects the water, is able to swim confidently and to save themselves or someone else if ever required.

**PRESENTATION NIGHT**

This is a very important occasion for students, staff, families and the Cassilis community. It highlights individual and group achievements of our students.

As tradition, all students will receive a book award. Students have indicated what books they may like to receive.

Students would love for their families to help celebrate and share their success and interest by reading the book with them. Some books selected are great book for students to have read to them.

All staff thoroughly discuss the book award comments and individual recipients for awards.

We are very excited that past student, Mr James Armstrong is able to attend as our guest speaker. Our School Director, Mr Mark Young is also able to attend.

Students began working on their special item for Presentation Night last week anything that the students do will be creative and magnificent!

**END OF YEAR RAFFLE**

At the 140 Year Celebration, students made $223.00 towards the cost of new high jump mats. To further assist, the school is asking for donations towards holding another raffle which will be drawn at Presentation Night. Please bring in any items that could be part of a hamper.

*Katie Burgess*
*Principal*
AWARDS

This will be our last week for class awards. Any children who have awards at home have until Friday December 4 to claim Bronze, Silver or Gold awards.

ONLINE COLLABORATION COURSE

Last week I attended a two day online collaboration course. The course provided information and practical hands-on skills to ensure that 21st century learning is occurring in the classroom. We specifically looked at ICT and collaboration.

The first day was spent learning about Office 365 and Google Apps and how they can be used to not only teach necessary technological skills, but also allow students to work with classmates and students from other schools to produce a project. The second day was more about leading and coaching staff through the tools.

As part of my learning journey I have produced an online project about Christmas Traditions Around The World. The students will work in groups to produce different sections of the final project. The project will be presented as a “SWAY”, their own personal website. This website will only be available to those given permission to view it.

As you can see, we have a lot of new ICT skills to learn about in the next few weeks, so watch this space!

Christina Darlington
Principal

WEEKLY AWARDS

Kristy Walker - trying hard to complete all tasks in maths
Reece McCandless - willing to have a go
Dustynn Turner - working to the best of his ability in maths
Andy Olive - a great effort in writing
Mikayla Borradaile - working well in measurement
Archie Johnson - for helping other Kinders to pack up reading activities.

Merriwa Rotary

The Rotary year has almost reached the half way point and our club will be in recess from Tuesday December 15 until Tuesday January 12.

It has been a busy half year, with our hosting of German exchange student Clara until August and then welcoming our current long term exchange student from Estonia, Lotta.

Kristyn, our Merriwa exchange student will be back with us next month after her year in Germany.

Teianna Taylor and Paige McConnell have spent three months on Rotary exchange in New Zealand and have hosted NZ girls for three months here.

Our club has been involved in various other projects such as the fundraiser, Hat Day, held to assist mental health research, as well as Relay for Life and our annual Melbourne Cup Sweep/Calcutta night which raises funds for various club projects such as support for local schools and other projects; PolioPlus, the Westpac Rescue Helicopter, Merriwa Rescue VRA, to name some.

At a recent club meeting, we were delighted to welcome back to Merriwa former member Bob Carr and Alison.

Mark Smith
DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

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

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Sunday December 13: 7.00pm - Carols in the Park
Saturday December 24: 6.00pm - Christmas Eve Family/Children’s Service 11.30pm Christmas Eve - Holy Eucharist-Midnight Mass
Sunday December 25: Christmas Day - 8.00am - St. Columba’s, Cassilis 10.00am - Holy Trinity, Merriwa

Endings and Beginnings: Birthing a Blessing | Jeremiah 33:14–16

GOOD-BYE SANTA, HELLO ST NICHOLAS

Upon researching Christmas and Santa, we made an unexpected discovery. We had thought we would find that Santa had his origins in pagan mythology, somewhere in the distant past. Instead, the trail led us back to the fourth century to an actual Christian Pastor, the Bishop of Myra.

Bishop Nicholas, we discovered was a kind man who cared for people not only in his congregation but in the wider community. He began to link up those people with an excess of material goods with those who had too little. But Nicholas did it in a surprising way: he maintained a double-blind. In other words, the giver never knew who received the gift and the recipient never knew who gave it. This marvellous arrangement made it possible for people to escape the conditions usually attached to gifts.

This week marks the beginning of the Advent Season. Advent is traditionally a time of waiting, longing, promise, and preparation. Thinking about the future sometimes evokes a variety of fears and hopes. The prophetic voice of Jeremiah opens the season of Advent to its bedrock foundation: hope in God’s re-creation.

Jeremiah invites trust in God whose reign has already begun among us, and whose promises illumine days still coming.

This week’s readings reassure us with God’s promises, and we wait actively by engaging in God’s justice in the world.

As we remember the Advent wreath... And light the first candle, we pray our prayer of “Hope”

Candle One brings us hope.

Jesus came to bring us hope.

And the angel said that he came to be with us.

Jesus lights the way for us.

Rosalie Drew
Merriwa CWA
FREE SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITY

CWA is holding a craft day making Christmas decorations for school age children on December 21.

Turn up at the CWA Rooms Bettington Street Merriwa from 10.00am until 2.00pm.

Lunch will be provided. All children are to be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Any queries to Jean on 6548 2456.

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

In Loving Memory
NATHAN ELLIS
05.09.1986 - 05.12.2013
27 Years Old

If I should go tomorrow
It would never be goodbye,
For I have left my heart with you,
So please don’t cry,
The love that’s deep within me
Shall reach you from the stars,
You’ll feel it from the heavens,
And it will heal the scars.
Our Nathan who made this world a brighter and better place..
Our Nathan who is so deeply loved and sadly missed.

With all our love always and forever.

Mum, Dad, Rebecca, Renae, Karlie, Tabatha, Lisa, Blake, Bradley and families

Sandy Hollow Yabby Races

When: December 12
Time: 12.00pm
Where: Sandy Hollow Pub

Free entertainment including face painting and jumping castle for the kids as well as live music in the evening.

All proceeds go towards Sandy Hollow Hall Association, the Sandy Hollow School and Westpac Rescue Helicopter.

Katie Schmidt

Penelope Fenley
Community Notice Board

Merriwa District Education Foundation

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Date: Monday December 14
Time: 6.00pm
Where: Royal Hotel Cassilis

All welcome to join us for the meeting and dinner afterwards. Contact the Secretary, Jane Hegarty on 6376 1052 for more information.

Jane Hegarty

Merriwa Senior Citizens

We have been invited to attend a Christmas function at Muswellbrook’s Senior’s Centre on Tuesday December 8 from 10.30am, costing $20.00. Please contact me if you would like to go.

Our next meeting will be held on Monday January 25, 2016 at 10.30am. Please note the change of date.

Movie day for the children during school holidays will be held on Thursday January from 11.00am in the Squatter’s Room of the club. Please come along, there will be a selection of films suitable for the children to enjoy our special movie day.

Mary O’Neill

Merriwa Multi Purpose Centre

MOVEMBER PARTICIPANTS

Merriwa MPS, left to right Daniel Towell grew a moustache, Tomy Scaria grew a beard as he already had a moustache and Binil Xavier who grew a beard to raise money for Prostate Cancer. November being Movember.

Congratulations to all these men for the support they have given Movember.

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

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.
INGREDIENTS

- Large marshmallows
- Pretzels
- Red Skittles or Smarties
- Ready-to-roll white and black icing
- 100g milk chocolate

EQUIPMENT

- Greaseproof paper
- Wooden board
- String or ribbon to hook onto tree

STEP 1

Line a wooden or plastic board with greaseproof paper, you can secure it using cellotape. Melt your bar of chocolate in the microwave in short bursts, take out of the microwave and cool slightly by continuously stirring.

STEP 2

Take the chocolate-covered marshmallows out of the fridge and flip upside down. Put a small drop of the melted chocolate onto the back of the marshmallow and press down the pretzels to make the antlers.

Flip them back over so the pretzels are on the greaseproof paper. Continue to do this with all your marshmallows and then pop back into the fridge to set for a further 10 mins.

STEP 3

Meanwhile, make Rudolph’s eyes using ready-to-roll icing. Roll out a pea-sized piece of white fondant and then roll out an even smaller piece of black fondant for the centre of the eye and press both together.

STEP 4

Next, dip each marshmallow into the chocolate covering the base and the edges of the marshmallow. Place on the greaseproof paper and pop in the fridge to set for 10 mins.

Take the marshmallows out of the fridge and add the red sweetie nose with a dab of melted chocolate as glue. Add the eyes the same way.

STEP 5

Pop them back into the fridge to let them set for a final 10 mins.

STEP 6

Thread some ribbon or string around the pretzel antlers and place on the tree.

http://www.goodtoknow.co.uk/recipes/539229/rudolph-marshmallow-decorations
December has arrive and it is time to post Christmas Cards, decorate Christmas Trees, wrap Christmas Presents and organise Christmas Dinners. If you haven’t got up to this stage yet, then you had better come in to Merriwa NewsXpress and get organised.

CHARLIE BEAR - ELTHAM
Come in and introduce yourself to Eltham. He is a gorgeous bear from the Bearhouse Range. He is soft and cuddly, non-jointed bear that is the perfect everyday palymate for anyone. He is two-toned brown and grey with a gorgeous face and a big brown bow. He is a wonderful addition to any collection, or a brilliant gift to start one.

CRICKET SEASON
It is officially summer and cricket is synonymous with this time of year. Get the kids and head out the back and teach them the fun that can be had with a good game of backyard cricket. We have the perfect product for you to do this. The SLASHER is a cricket bat, a red ball and a set of stumps all in a zipper bag with a shoulder strap. This is the perfect way to get prepared for the Christmas Day cricket match and make sure that your team wins!

LIL’ TREASURE BOX
This great gift idea for the children is packed with hours of fun and entertainment. It contains sequins, beads, foam shapes, twist ties, pom poms, paddle pop sticks, pipe cleaners, googly eyes, craft paper, glue and scissors in a pink or blue plastic container. A great way to give a gift that is fun and educational and arty crafty at the same time. This is the kind of gift that requires no batteries and makes no loud noises, so parents will love it too.

DECORATE
There are many decorating ideas in store, and this week we will tell you about a very cool candle holder. This black and gold tin with cut outs of...
Please be advised that the Merriwa Surgery will be closed from Sunday December 20 till Monday January 10 2016 as Dr Jasem will be going back to the UK to visit his family. We are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

Dr Jasem and our practice nurse will be away in the afternoon of Friday December 4 and all day Saturday December 5. Again we are sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

You may have noticed that we are experiencing a high demand on appointments, we are reaching our capacity, because of this we will soon be closing our books.

Still we have some appointments available for new patients. This is a dynamic process as some patients leave and more will come. We will re-open our books later when we find an additional GP to help and join our practice.

Please be patient with us as we understand how frustrating it can be if we can not see you at the time that suits you, currently the appointment book is booked for two weeks in advance for our current patients, we still do however provide urgent care to those in need in a timely manner.

We have a commitment to our patients who have already booked their appointments. Everyone who is registered with us will continue to be looked after by our surgery, new patients will need to register first until we can fit them in, hopefully the waiting time will not be long. We will do our best to accommodate everyone. The priority is to our existing loyal patients.

To reduce waiting time please let reception staff know if you have more than one problem or if you think your consult will take extra time. This ensures we can give you the correct amount of time to see the Doctor.

A reminder that the Merriwa Surgery is closed on Wednesday Afternoons, from 1.00pm onwards. Patients registered with our surgery can still call our after hours emergency care number on 0455...
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

Dr Noman Jawaad Medical Practice

HUNTER MEDICAL PRACTICE

Dr Noman Jawaad
Dr Cho Oo Maung

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 Noman Jawaad and Dr Cho Oo Maung

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

If you need assistance from
Ambulance - Police - Fire
including Hazardous Incidents

DIAL 000

Police Hunter Valley LAC 6542 6999
Police Assistance Line 131 444
Crime Stoppers 1800 333 000

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

Fire Brigade (Administration only) 65482005
Hospital 65325000
Rural Fire Service (Administration and Duty Officer) 1800 081 166
SES Emergency Number 132500
Merriwa Rescue Squad 65482538
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.
### Merriwa Ringer Directory

**Merriwa Ringer:**
A quick reference guide to all that support the Merriwa Ringer.

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### Emergency Services

In case of emergency call 000 or 112 from mobile services.

- **Police (Admin only)**: 6548 2203
- **Police Mobile**: 0408 293 423
- **Police Assistance**: 131 444
- **Fire (Admin only)**: 6548 2005
- **Hospital -MPS**: 6532 5000
- **Rural Fire Service**: 1800 081 166
- **SES Emergency**: 132 500
- **Merriwa Rescue Squad**: 6548 2538
- **Dr Noman Jawaad and Dr Cho Oo Maung**: 6532 5013
- **Merriwa Surgery - Dr Emad Jasem**: 6548 2305

Support the Ringer regularly but can’t find your business? Contact Tina on 6548 2119.
FOR SALE
BARLEY STUBBLE
4x4 Round net wrap
$35.00+gst
Delivery can be arranged
Garden mulch
$10 ute/box trailer
PHONE 0408 739 969

FOR SALE
BARLEY STUBBLE HAY
$140.00 per tonne or $40.00 per bale from paddock
PHONE HUGH 0402 484 018
MERRIWA DISTRICT

Hooked on Fresh Seafood
SEAFOOD FOR CHRISTMAS
“Outside the Royal Hotel”
Vennacher Street
Thursday December 24
8.00am till 10.45am
Orders Close December 18
Phone: 0413 724 232

Eftpos Facilities Available
Kent and Family Wish you all a Merry Christmas and thank you for your continued patronage in 2015.
Please note: Back Wednesday January 13, 2016
Times 8.00am - 10.45am Fortnightly
Email aussieseafood@gmail.com
Prawns and all other Seafood are Australian, not cheap imported prawns from China and Vietnam

NEW YEAR’S EVE 2015

Come and have a great family night out and celebrate at the Cassilis Bowling Club
2 course meals prepared and served by the “Cassilis Anglican Church” from 6.00pm to 8.00pm, $15.00 per adult - $7.50 per child (under 14)
Music by “The Sly Pigs”
Situated on 2.5 acres this one year old home is being offered for sale due to a job transfer. The property is immaculate in every way, designed to suit the block and take advantage of the magnificent views. The large living area is open plan and features a dining room at one end and a lounge at the other with the kitchen joining both. The kitchen is top quality with an island bench, dishwasher, electric oven with a gas cooktop and plenty of cupboards. The living area has air conditioning and glass sliding doors overlooking the verandah and mountains beyond. There are 3 big bedrooms all with built in robes and ceiling fans while the main has a walk in robe and ensuite. There are verandahs on 3 sides with plenty of room for the BBQ. The yard is fully fenced and shrubs and shade trees have been planted and are beginning to establish. The property is connected to town and tank water. There is a 7m x 7m double shed with an attached carport. The home has been built by the vendors with the intention to be their long term home, so quality fixtures, fitting and all infrastructure is of a very high standard which the next owner will be able to benefit from. If you are after a new home without the hassle of building take a look at this home and you will be impressed.
NewsXpress & Officesmart Agent

Neville and Leanne Hook
65 482 031
mwanews@bigpond.com
www.merriwanewsagency.com.au

Merriwa Auto Electrical
Michael & Sally
All Types of Auto Electrical & Air Conditioning Repairs
(02) 6548 2114
39 Bow St, Merriwa 2329
merriwa@bigpond.com

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

Tuesday-Friday
9.00am – 12.30pm
Sat
9.00am - 12.00pm
118 Bettington St, Merriwa
6548 2323

Merridale Dry Cleaning

Di’s Clothing Patch
Clothing and Footwear for all the family
Mens and Ladies clothing
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Shoes and joggers
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Handbags and Luggage
Bed Linen, Quilts and Towels
Hi Vis Work Wear, Boots and Hats
Digitised Embroidery Service
Names and Logos
For clothing, Caps, Towels
School Items and Work Place Uniforms
Quality Clothing Friendly Service Affordable Prices
Phone: 6548 3023

Merriwa Healthy Environment Group Inc
Caring for our land, our water and the air we breathe
Contact: Graham Brown 6547 6048
Ted Finnie 6548 5171
Visit: www.merriwa.nsw.au

M Nutt Contracting Pty Ltd
Bulldozers - Excavators - Grader - Front End Loader - Roller - Bobcat - Backhoe - Water Cart - Low Loader - Tip Trucks - Bulk and Stock Haulage - Castrol Distributor
52 McKenzie Street
Bh 6548 2004 Ah 6548 2125
Mob 0417 490 306
mnutcontract@bigpond.com

Property & Livestock

Merridale Dry Cleaning

HANCKEL RURAL HAY FOR SALE
Barley Stubble Hay
Round and Small Bales available
Ring Darryl on
0429 485 168

Max’s Country Cuts
BUYING LOCAL
SUPPORTING LOCAL
EMPLOYING LOCAL
Ph/Fax: 6548 2375
131 Bettington Street
Merriwa

Scott Witton Building Ltd
Residential Renovations & Extensions, New Builds, Commercial & Industrial Building, Dingoo Hire.
phone: 6547 701 162
home/fax 03 6376 1188
scottwittonbuilding@bigpond.com

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HANCKEL RURAL HAY FOR SALE
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Round and Small Bales available
Ring Darryl on
0429 485 168

Merriwa Ringer

Merriwa Healthy Environment Group Inc
Caring for our land, our water and the air we breathe
Contact: Graham Brown 6547 6048
Ted Finnie 6548 5171
Visit: www.merriwa.nsw.au
Clubs and Groups
SPICE GRILL
MERRIWA
Indian and Australian Cuisine Breakfast, Lunch and Dinner every day
Call for an order on 6548 2255

2015 ROSTO OLIVES
MERRIWA FESTIVAL OF THE FLEECES
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS
SATURDAY 6 JUNE 2015
A Family & Community focused event.
Phone: 6521 7166
email: lgarment@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

Welderup
Local expertise with a professional service
FABRICATIONS, FIELD SERVICE AND SALES
Specialising in Agricultural, Earthmoving and Mining

WORKSHOP FABRICATIONS and ON-SITE FIELD SERVICE
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SALES
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Fencing Products
Power Tools
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Paint Supplies

Ph: 6548 2500 – Fax: 6548 3049 – Mob: 0407 488 560
29 Blaxland Street, Merriwa 2329
Email sales: Justin@welderup.com.au
Email accounts: accounts@welderup.com.au
Web: www.welderup.com.au

MERRIWA SSAA & APA
Range facilities and Fire arm testing available
President: Nathan Telfer
Secretary: Phil Martyn
Contact 6547 6031 for information
Shooting weekends 2nd and 4th weekend of the month

Custom Made Kitchens
Kitchen – Wardrobes – Vanity Units – Wall Units
Bench tops from timber, Laminated, S/Steel, Caesar Stone or Granite. Doors from Melamine, timber or Polyurethane
Computer 3-D Design

Merriwa 02 6548 2205

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

Curtis Gan Irving Solicitors
Proud to have serviced the people of the Upper Hunter since 1890
Practise Areas include:
Property Law/Subdivisions
Conveyancing
Accident Claims
Wills and Estates
Powers of Attorney

MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333
Muswellbrook 02 6543 2433

MERRIWA NSW 2329
Merriwa 02 6548 2205

Hunter Medical Practice
DR NOMAN JAWAAD AND DR CHO OO MAUNG
Cnr Brisbane and Mackenzie Streets, Merriwa
Merriwa
Monday-Friday 8.00am-6.00pm
Also consulting in Denman
Monday-Friday 8.00am-6.00pm
For appointments please phone 6532 5013

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Wills and Estates
Powers of Attorney

59 Brook Street
MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333

86 Bettington Street
MERRIWA NSW 2329

Merriwa 02 6548 2205

Merriwa Ringer
**MERRIWA RINGS**

**Dr Emad Jaseem**
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

**Merriwa Central School**

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

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

**Merriwa Anglican Parish**

**Services**
- Holy Trinity
- St Columbia
- Merriwa
- Cassilis

9.00am Sundays
11.00am every 2nd and 4th Sunday
10.00am Fridays

Short Bible Study
- 7.30am Mon.
- 5.00pm Wed.
- 6.00pm Fri.
- 8.30pm Sun.

Morning Prayer
- Rev’d Glen Hughes - Supervising Priest
- Rev’d Pat Kirby - Local Priest

**Merriwa Central School**

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

**Secondary Campus:**
6548 2119

**Cassilis Public School**

**Relieving Principal:**
Jeanette Grinham
Ph: 63761009
Fax: 63761005

Cassilis NSW 2329
www.cassilis-p.school.nsw.edu.au

**CWA & 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

**Catholic Parish**

**La Scalaetta Pizzeria**

Traditional Wood-fired pizza
Friday 6pm – late
Saturday 6pm – late

Call us for your next function!

(02) 6548 3005
info@lascalla.com.au

**CWS**

**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

**Cassilis Public School**

**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.

Tel/Fax 6548 2653

**Merriwa Ringer**

**Australia Post**

More than just a post office
One-stop for paying (nearly) all your bills
- Business banking and personal banking
- Stationery and greeting cards - inexpensive, full range
- Computer and technology items
- Mobile phones, starter kits and recharge vouchers
- Merriwa PO, 82 Bettington Street
6548 2042

**Contact:**
- 0427 482 095

**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 4 – 12 year olds
Open Monday – Friday 3pm – 6pm & 9am – 5pm School Holiday time.
Ph: 02 65 482 082
Email: merriwamac@tpg.com.au

**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

**Merriwa Ringer**

**Cassilis**

**Schools**

**St Joseph’s Primary School Merriwa**

A rich learning environment in a friendly Christian atmosphere
All enquiries welcome
Principal - Helen Whale
Ph 6548 2035

P&F President - Dermot Shannon
Ph 6548 2996

**SANDY HOLLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL**

**Telephone:**
02 6547 4521
02 6547 4450

**Fax:**
Merriwa, NSW 2329

**Email:**
sandyhollo-p.School@det.nsw.edu.au

**CWA**

Meets 2nd Monday of the month at 10.00am in the CWA Rooms, 159 Bettington Street
Visitors and new members are always welcome.

Enquiries to:
- President: Barbara Campbell
  Phone: 6548 5131
  Email: barbara3112@gmail.com
- Secretary: Robyn McAllister
  Phone: 6548 3274
  Email: robyncwa@bigpond.com

**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

**Catholic Parish**

**Sandy Hollow**

Lakan As She Grow

**Contact:**

www.cassilis-p.school.nsw.edu.au

**Merriwa**

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Bottle Museum building or leave a message on the answering service for a call back.

Tel/Fax 6548 2653

**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

**Enquiries to:**
- President: Barbara Campbell
  Phone: 6548 5131
  Email: barbara3112@gmail.com
- Secretary: Robyn McAllister
  Phone: 6548 3274
  Email: robyncwa@bigpond.com
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 Ringer
Merrriwa Swimming Club Ltd 6548 2028
Opening Times:
*Monday & Tuesday - 4pm *Wednesday - Sunday - 12pm
Thursday Night 7:00pm Bingo
Friday 5:00pm - 7:00pm Happy Two Hours and Free raffles
Saturday - 7-45pm Roaster raffles and members' badge draw
Sunday: 5:00pm to 7:00pm meat voucher raffles and members’ badge draw...

The Sports Chinese/Australian Restaurant 6548 3228
Dine in or Take Away. Banquets and Function catering available.
Lunch Specials
Lunch: Wednesday to Sunday,
Dinner: Tuesday to Saturday

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

Clare Martin
President 6548 2201
De Patterson
Secretay 0416 194 501
Christine Riley
Treasurer 0427 412 128
Rally days every 2nd Sunday of month from February to October

Rotary Club of Merriwa Inc
ROTARY SERVICE Above All
Meets each Tuesday at the Merriwa Sports Club
7.00pm for 7.30pm
4 x 4m Marquees for Hire
6548 2025

MERRIWA TENNIS ASSOCIATION
President: Robert Smith
6548 2213
Secretary: Emily Hall
Treasurer: Krichelle Khan
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 128937
Senior Vice President: Murray Wright 0428 482 394
Secretary: Sonya Drury 0439 541 450
Treasurer: Max McNaught 0437 482 375

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  Spelling  Writing
• Comprehension 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.irlandyslexia.com
Download the free Merriwa Central School App.
MCS in touch with our community!
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 meat 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.

**PLEASE NOTE:** The Chinese Restaurant will be closed from Monday December 21 until Saturday December 26.

**SMORGASBORD ON SUNDAY DECEMBER 27**

**WEEKEND RESULTS**

**Saturday Raffle November 28**
Saturday members draw no 160, was not won - next week $200.00

Winners Jackpot not won - next week $460.00

Dinner: Barbara Eipper

Bowls Raffle: Beatrice Voysey

Free Tickets: Mary Richards

Monthly Prize: Noel Barwick

**Sunday Raffle November 29**

Sunday members draw - No 143, was won. Next week $250.00.

**WINNERS OF THE CHRISTMAS RAFFLE WERE:**

First Lyn Flack

Second Mark Kirkland

Third Nerida Bailey

---

**DATES FOR YOUR DIARY**

**Sunday December 6** – Children’s Christmas Party (see staff for details).

**Cassilis Bowling Club**

**FRIDAY NIGHT RAFFLES**

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

**November 27** – Member’s draw - $50.00 – Eric Hermitage – unclaimed - $55.00 next week.

**Joker draw** - $541.00 - Lorraine Hourn - unsuccessful - $566.00 next week.

End of month draw for November was won by Cookie Cornish.

**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.

**AGM – Sunday December 6 – 7.30pm** - Free BBQ for members attending the meeting. New board members required – President and Directors please.

**WOMENS BOWLS**

Mixed social bowls is on Wednesdays. Names are to be in by 9.30am with play at 10.00am. All interested players are welcome to come along for a game.

13 players went to Coolah last Tuesday for their Friendship Day. After a lovely morning tea and 18 ends of bowls played, all came in off the green and had a delicious lunch followed by presentation of trophies and Secret Santa gifts for all.

- **Winners** - Pat Quigley, Sheila Hood, Geoff Atkinson
- **Runners Up** - Glen Clarke, Joy Hancock, Kelvin Clarke
- **Raffle** - First - Ally Gonnian
  - **Second** - Arthur Cooper

Hope everyone enjoyed their bowls this year and I wish everyone the best for the new year.

Loretta Cooper

---

**Merriwa Ringer**
The Members Lucky Badge for $950.00 was won on Friday at 8.30pm the number was 122, this week it jackpots to $500.00.

The 7.00pm draw for $260.00 was not won, the number was 690, this week it jackpots to $280.00.

The Thursday Badge draw for $220.00 was not won, the number was 266, this week it jackpots to $240.00 and will be drawn between 6.00pm-7.00pm. LTPS/14/04323

The Sunday Morning Badge Draw for $600.00 was not won last week, the number was 825, this week commences at $650.00 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.

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE**
First: Diamond Plate Flush Lid Toolbox 440H x 1220W x 483Dmm
Second: Pop-Up Bench Centre seat converts to handy table. 150 x 57 x 90cm
Third: 33cc 2-in-1 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 Saturday the RSL team played Bunnan going down by 47 runs. Batting figures very unimpressive, with the best bowling figures going to Nev Blackadder with 2 for 20 off 8 over’s, and I almost forgot Bruce with 1 for 4 off 1 over. This week RSL play Belmore Bulls 1 at Scone.

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

**UPCOMING EVENT**
Merriwa Magpies are having a Christmas Cake Stall on Saturday December 19 at 9.00am, in front of the IGA. If you able to help out with baking or on the day, that would be great. We will also have a raffle and 100 club.

If you need any more information please inbox on facebook Merriwa Magpie’s League Tag and Rugby League.

**Jessyca Morgan**

**MEETING FOR DECEMBER**
A reminder to all teams that the next meeting is next Tuesday night at 6.00pm at the Merriwa Sports Club. 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 Registrar. The hard work has been completed but still needs people in these positions for smooth transitioning into 2016. Consider coming on board for 2016.

ROUND 10

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Ladies</th>
<th>Mens</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6.00</td>
<td>Incr-de-bowls v’s Furfot</td>
<td>ROAR v’s Cassills</td>
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<tr>
<td>6.45</td>
<td>Merriwa RSL Ladies v’s DMC’s</td>
<td>Tyre and Service Centre v’s Denman Devils</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.30</td>
<td>Merriwa School Girls v’s CC’s</td>
<td>Welder Up Rock on Touch v’s Tourist Terriers</td>
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<tr>
<td>8.15</td>
<td>Touch n Go</td>
<td>Bowling Barrels v’s Team Kocinakis</td>
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Table Duty: Furfot

Tina Taylor

Merriwa Junior Rugby League Football and Netball Club

SKILLS DAY AT MCKINNON OVAL, ABERDEEN – FRIDAY DECEMBER 4

There is a skills day at McKinnon Oval, Aberdeen this Friday December 4 at 5.00pm till 7.00pm. All players are invited to attend. There are three in all over the summer period to attend - this Friday December 4; January 31, 2016 at Aberdeen then February 28, 2016 at Lake Liddell. It is advised that players attend all three skills days where possible, as the appointed Coaching Staff for the 2016 season will be in attendance. Participation in the skills days allows players to show their ability, skills and attitude over a greater period of time before the official trial in March 2016 for the Development Teams. If you are interested in being looked at for selection you should attend these clinics. The day will commence at 5.00pm and conclude at 7.00pm with a sausage sizzle. Please bring a hat and water bottle.

Anyone needing transport please ring Andrew Jamieson on 0439 196 873 who will be travelling to Aberdeen on Friday. If transport is needed he can help to arrange.

Also on Friday the Group 21 Under 14 Girls League Tag (new competition) will be gathering interest at Aberdeen. If you are 12, 13 and under 14 in 2016 and wish to join the Merriwa team please try to attend Aberdeen on Friday, at McKinnon Oval. If you can’t attend but would be interested in joining the team please give Elaine Sparrow a ring (6548 8560) with your name and date of birth.

The committee of the Merriwa Junior Rugby League and Netball Club would like to wish all our members, their families, our sponsors and the Merriwa Community a very happy and joyous Christmas and a safe and healthy 2016. A big THANK YOU to each and every one of you for your support in the 2015 season. Travel safely over the school holidays and have fun in the sun.

Elaine Sparrow

Merriwa Little Athletics

At training on Monday night it was great to see so many tiny tots and junior athletes braving the warmer weather. Sally Hagley awarded her ‘gold stars’ to David Googe and Grace Campbell for fantastic hurdling this week and to Chad Booth for an amazing 70 metre sprint. (Chad was SO fast there was smoke coming off his heels!)

Coach Steve Hourn took the troops for long jump and triple jump with Claudia Patterson and Morgan Bates the ‘stand outs’ of the night, both jumping exceptionally well. John Cronin was our sprints coach this week and said his little star was Isla Murphy who showed brilliant running technique and power. Tash’s ‘top job’ award goes to Jai Bates for showing great technique in discus and to Jackson Keane for being such a willing and patient helper and coach. Thanks Jackson, you did a wonderful job with the juniors.

With only a few weeks until the Zone Championships, we wish our team of 12 athletes GOOD LUCK! Remember, you don’t have to be the best, just do your best and you’ll all be winners.

Be ready for some cat and mouse track work on Monday night kids, we need to get our zone team up to speed to take on the Hunters best!

Merriwa Little Athletics

Tash Taaffe
Community Calendar

What’s Inside Your Ringer?

Merriwa RSL Sub Branch
Merriwa Central School
Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music

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Year 3/4’s Report
St Joseph’s
Sandy Hollow

Community Groups
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Anglican News
Community Notice Board
Merriwa CWA
Merriwa Markets
In Loving Memory
Sandy Hollow Yabby Races
Merriwa Senior Citizens
Merriwa District Education Foundation

Merriwa Multi Purpose Centre
Christmas in the Park
Christmas Activity Pages
Christmas Activity Pages
Late of Merriwa
Non Emergency Medical Transport
Under 14’s Girls League Tag

Business
Merriwa Newsagency
Merriwa Surgery
Spice Grill Merriwa
Dr Noman Jawaad Medical Practice

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Merriwa Sports Club
Cassilis Bowling Club
Merriwa RSL Club

Sporting
Merriwa Touch Football Club
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Merriwa Junior Rugby League Football and Netball Club
Merriwa Little Athletics

DECEMBER

Friday 4 • Festival of the Fleeces Street Stall
Tuesday 8 • Merriwa Touch Football general meeting - Merriwa Sports Club - 6.00pm
Sunday 13 • Combined Christian Churches, Carols in the Park - Apex Park - 7.00pm
Monday 14 • Photography Competition - Christmas Trimmings - closing time 12.00 noon

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.

MCS in touch with our community

The Merriwa Ringer
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MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL
Address: Bow Street, Merriwa, NSW, 2329
Tel: (02) 6548 2119
Fax: (02) 6548 2534
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ALL MATERIAL DUE 12 noon MONDAYS

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