Merriwa Central School, Cassilis Public School, St Josephs Merriwa and Sandy Hollow Public School Kindergarten children have all now officially started, with great numbers across the schools.

Pictured above - St Joseph’s Kinder enrolment include: Back row - Jeremy, Tilly, Mollie, Arlia and Jack. Front row - Emma, Lula, Alana, Caitlin and Archie.

Pictured right - Cassilis Public School students - Banjo and Benjamin.
Sandy Hollow Public School’s enrolments for Kinder 2015 are - John, Jobee, Archie, Tyson, Austin and Liviana.


We wish all new Kinder students a great year filled with the excitement of learning.
Primary News

What a wonderful start to the year we have had on the Primary Campus! Last Tuesday teachers were keen to get into preparations for the year and discussions have already begun on many of our traditional school events such as carnivals, sports days, Little Sprouts, Variety Night, rewards activities and even Presentation Day. On Wednesday students were fully prepared in sports uniform and settled well into their new classes for the year.

Thursday was an amazing sight as parents, grandparents and friends packed out the morning assembly as Kindergarten arrived for their first official day at big school! This year we have 25 Kindergarten students which have been arranged into a Kindergarten class and a composite K/1 class. All Kindergarten students settled well on their first day and have impressed all the staff with their wonderful skills in the classroom and on the playground.

We would like to welcome Miss Sinderberry, our new Assistant Principal, who is teaching the K/1 class this year. We are very excited to have her on board! This year Miss Sinderberry will be supervising the Infants programs and Mrs West will be supervising the Primary programs. If there are any questions or concerns please call the office to arrange and appointment with them.

We would like to welcome back Miss Crutch who is teaching Year 4/5 for the year and also Mrs Osmond who has returned from maternity leave and will be creating some wonderful learning programs for the Primary Library.

CLASS INFORMATION

Teachers will be sending home class notes in the next couple of weeks with information about class structure and routine as well as any information pertaining to that class. If there are any questions please make an appointment to see class teachers. Our first weeks are extremely busy and it would be greatly appreciated if appointments could be scheduled with sufficient time for discussion.

SAFETY ON SCHOOL GROUNDS

A reminder that our school playground equipment is for student use under teacher supervision at lunch time. Use of this equipment before and after school means our students are not under teacher supervision and are placing themselves at risk, especially if these children are younger siblings of our students. Our primary care is student safety and we would appreciate it if children were not playing on the equipment during undesignated times. Thank you.

SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Our whole school swimming carnival was held yesterday and everyone had a wonderful time. Our Primary report will be in next week’s edition of the Ringer.

SCHOOL CANTEEN

The Primary Canteen is up and running for another year, proudly organised by the school P and C. The Primary Canteen opens every Monday and is operated by parent volunteers. If there are any parents with even just one Monday to spare it would be highly appreciated if you could contribute some time providing this service to our students. To volunteer please leave your contact details at the Primary Office on (02) 6548 2101.

PLAYGROUND

A reminder that we are a sun safe school and as such students are required to have a school hat in order to play in uncovered areas of the playground. Year 3 have now moved into the primary playground and are able to access the bottom play equipment along with Years 4-6 and will require a school hat to play in this area. They enjoyed their first lunch play on the equipment very much.

Coming Events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 18</td>
<td>Year 7 and Year 11 Peer Support camp</td>
<td>Omadale Orchard Lodge, 9.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday 19</td>
<td>Year 7 and Year 11 Peer Support camp</td>
<td>Omadale Orchard Lodge</td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 20</td>
<td>Year 7 and Year 11 Peer Support camp</td>
<td>Omadale Orchard Lodge</td>
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VISIT FROM MERRIWA VIEW CLUB LADIES

On Monday February 2 the Merriwa View Club ladies, Mrs Debbie Hunt and Mrs Shirley Bevan visited the Primary morning assembly to present our new Kindergarten students with their library bags, specially homemade by the lovely members of the View Club. The students were very excited to receive their unique bags all made with different material.

This has become a wonderful tradition at Merriwa Central School and we are always grateful for the time and effort spent making such wonderful library bags for our students. Thank you View Club for all your valued support!
Welcome back for another year. There is already a lot going on in the classroom and students will also receive plenty of opportunities to extend their participation in extra curricular activities.

All students received their assessment booklets last week. They need to return their acknowledgement forms ASAP and should be ready to begin working on the first of these tasks. In order to avoid the regular rush to complete tasks at the last minute and the stress associated with having multiple tasks due toward the end of the term it is vital that students work on these tasks in a systematic and organised fashion. Much angst can be avoided by starting these tasks early and working on them over a period of time.

Entries will soon accepted for this year’s Geography Competition (March) and the ICAS competitions in English (Tuesday July 28), Writing (Monday June 15) and Spelling (Tuesday June 16). Good luck to all students who enter. Year 9/10 Commerce students will soon be gearing up for their entry into the ASX Share Market for Schools Game. Mrs Roberts will also put out the call to debaters in the near future.

The Belvoir Street Theatre has very kindly supplied complimentary tickets to one of their stage productions, ‘Samson’, on May 27. Senior students will receive permission notes to travel down to Surry Hills for this performance in the near future.

Year 10 English students are writing their applications for employment and will participate in mock interviews in Week 9 with a panel of business people. They need to prepare themselves for these interviews by developing an up-to-date resume as these interviews do constitute an assessment task.

Year 7 and Year 9 will sit for the NAPLAN tests between Tuesday May 12 and Thursday May 14. Students are working hard on honing their skills at writing narrative and persuasive texts.

Years 7 and 10 Geography will participate in their mandatory field work later this term. An assessment task will also accompany this field work.

Good luck to all students on the year ahead,

Tony March
Head Teacher

NEW CAREER EVENTS

Traineeships in Agriculture and related areas - across NSW Traineeships available under NSW Smart and Skilled in various locations across NSW. Cert III and Cert IV in Agriculture, Agribusiness, Conservation and Land Management, Horticulture, Organic Farming and Production Horticulture. Contact RuralBiz Training on 02 6884 8812 or lodge your expression of interest at https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/NSW_Smart_Skilled

UWC Scholarship applications to study Years 11 and 12 overseas now open - Do you care about peace in the world; a sustainable future? Want to study the IB in an international setting? UWC is offering scholarships and places for 2015 - 2017 to study in Costa Rica, Canada, USA, Italy... Canada tagged specifically for an indigenous student. Apply online at http://www.uwc.org.au Applications close February 27. Contact Mairi Stewart. mairi@uwc.org.au for more info.

Engineering at Charles Sturt University - Charles Sturt University (CSU) - will be introducing a new Bachelor of Technology/Master of Engineering
ROAR - Respect - Ownership - Awareness - Rewards

Why I want to be in ROAR: It’s a great opportunity and a great program to be in. It helps me out with a lot of things.

Favourite subject: Maths
Favourite sport: Rugby League
Favourite team: West Tigers
Favourite player: Luke Brooks

Best personal sporting achievement: Winning the 2014 Under 16’s Division 2 Grand Final

Who inspires you and why: My parents and Mr Johnston. They have taught me to be my best and even better

Advice to young players: Never give up or stop. When you reach your best, push yourself and go beyond your limits.

VET Scholarships for 2015 academic year – now open The RAS Foundation has scholarships up to $5,000.00 available for Vocational Educational and Training (VET) students. Students can be studying full-time or part-time but must demonstrate a desire to contribute to the future of rural NSW. To find out more or how to apply visit: http://www.rasnsw.com.au/RASF-VET-Scholarships-2553.htm

PREVIOUS WEEKS NEWS

Year 12 Work Placement - Year 12 students who are completing a vocational course and have not completed their 70 hours of mandatory work placement will have an opportunity to do this in Week 5 this term. They need to complete their student work placement forms and liaise with their teachers so that all paper works is in place before they commence their work placement.


BiG Day In Newcastle BiG Day In Newcastle IT Careers Conference for students from years 9-12. Students can hear industry speakers from Microsoft, Westpac, WiseTech Global and loads more to be confirmed in early 2015. Hear about their career paths and the future of technology as well as visiting cool exhibitor stands. http://www.thebigdayin.com.au. Students will also learn about the different pathways to get into the industry, what should be in a portfolio and get creative in practical workshops using industry-standard 3D animation and game development tools. For more information head to http://www.aie.edu.au/ied.

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

Jane Hegarty
Careers Advisor

MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL P AND C TRIVIA NIGHT

When: Saturday February 28 at 6.00pm
Where: Merriwa RSL Club
Tables of 8
Cost: $5.00 per person
Tables to be booked at Max’s Country Cuts.
Everyone welcome. Feel free to bring your little ones.

Gaynor Blackadder
Secretary
Principal’s News

Welcome back to another fabulous year of learning at St Joseph’s Primary School. I would like to extend a special welcome to our new kindergarten students and their families. We wish you many happy years of education within the St Joseph’s school community. Welcome to Mollie, Archie, Caitlin, Tilly, Jeremy, Emma, Arlia, Jack, Lula and Alana.

We are very pleased to see everyone’s happy faces here again with a great many exciting holiday adventures and only minor mishaps to report.

We have had a few very well patronised events on since our last report.

Community Day on the last day of school saw our students singing Christmas carols to the residents at the hospital in Merriwa. They enjoyed this immensely and their singing, bubbly personalities and Christmas attire brought much joy to the audience. The students and teachers then walked down the hill to the Gumnun Place Hostel and entertained the residents there as well. This tradition is one that brings so much joy to our older members of the Merriwa community as well as reinforces the Christmas spirit within our own school community.

The long held tradition of bringing in special food for the poor in Merriwa was very well supported by our school community. For the 14th year in a row the members of the St Vincent de Paul group of St Anne’s Catholic Parish were able to combine goods brought from St Joseph’s Merriwa, St Joseph’s Aberdeen, St Anne’s Parishioners and Carolyn’s Café to provide Christmas parcels to many families who are struggling and for whom this kind gesture means so much. Thank you for your contribution.

Christmas Day saw many of our students and their families celebrating the birth of Jesus together at Mass. The students performed a nativity play which was absolutely beautiful. Fiona and Thomas played the parts of the proud parents, Mary and Joseph. Feba Tomy was our own live baby Jesus! Many other students played the parts of angels and shepherds and sheep. Thank you to all those who participated on the day. Christmas Mass was a wonderful experience for all who attended.

Replaying the Nativity scene at Christmas Mass brought Christmas joy to all in the Church

Belonging Day was held again in January. On this day the teachers invited students to come into school to help personalise their new learning spaces. This day provided a wonderful opportunity for students to get to know their new teachers and to reconnect with their classmates after the long break. Thank you to all those who took advantage of this great opportunity.

The Australia Day Ceremony was celebrated in Merriwa this year and I thank all the students and teachers who were able to attend and lead the gathering in singing the National Anthem. Congratulations to all Australia Day Nominees and winners on the day. Special congratulations to our ex St Joseph’s Student - Clancy Martin on being awarded Young Achiever of the Year. We
are proud of you!

The new library was painted during the holidays as was the admin block and a feature wall in each classroom. This has freshened up the place quite a bit. As well as that, the teachers have been in at the school for many days moving classrooms and organising learning spaces. We are so lucky to have such a committed staff and I thank them sincerely for their efforts.

Each classroom looks quite a bit different this year with the focus across the school being on collaborative learning and shared learning spaces. Look inside any classroom and learning space throughout the school and you will see furniture arranged to allow maximum collaboration and group work. Students are encouraged to find spaces to work which enable them to discuss ideas, share resources and work collaboratively with others. Teachers are also working collaboratively across the grades in an effort to support the learning of all students and each other. We are excited by the possibilities. We are forming Professional Learning Communities. This concept will be explored throughout the year in more detail as we embark on further rigorous professional development in this area.

WORKING BEE WONDER!

Last Sunday was our first working bee for the year and what a great rollup. Thank you to the Hopkins, Collins, Wong, Whale, Bates, Constable, Shannon, Hagley, Keegan, Redgate, Luke, Booth, Brazier, Ninness and Martin families for all your hard work and cooperation that was needed to complete all the jobs on the very long list. Thanks also to Anne Marie, Samantha, Paige and Mark for working together to sort out the resources that have been relocated in the library move. There are still hours of work remaining there. We stuck to our two hour time frame and enjoyed a social morning tea afterwards. The grounds again look spectacular and what is even more important is that all hazards identified after the break have been fixed up. THANK YOU one and all!

Once again we have proven that many hands make light work. Thank you to all parents involved in the working bee for your generosity of spirit and time. We had a wonderful morning and the students have had the reality of shared spaces modelled for them once again... we are all responsible for our learning spaces.

Reflections from students about school so far and what they are looking forward to in this new year of learning:

Jack Shannon is very hopeful that he will get really good at running writing.
Patrick McLaren loves the art he gets to do with his teachers and friends.

Jonothan Keegan says the school is happier because it is safer as he was able to fill in a couple of holes in the playground at the working bee.

Patrick Magner predicts this will be a better class for him than ever because he is more experienced and has naturally returned from the holidays with a better (more mature) attitude for learning.

Darcy Moore says that the classroom is bigger and seems friendlier in its layout and encourages more learning. He likes moving around to learn.

Lauren Redgate believes that the cooperative learning style will help her learn more.

Emily Ninness says it’s more exciting to come to school because they can move around the classroom more to learn.

Piper Cropper loves being in a bigger class with the opportunity make new friends and to work with others as this helps her to give ideas to others and get ideas from others to start her thinking. Piper is really looking forward to lots of learning this year.

Ava Peel, Sienna Baber and Pia Henderson think this year is great because they have a lot of people in their class and are able to move between two classrooms for different learning. They enjoy having the new Kindies in with them and they have more friends to play with.

Axul Hourn and Thomas Hunt love seeing their friends again and say they have an awesome teacher.

Camdyn Constable likes being in with the current Year 6 students as they can teach the Year 5 students a lot.

Jorji Taaffe feels very special in the senior class. She has lots more friends there and loves being a leader.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FOLLOWING AWARD WINNERS FOR WEEK ONE

**Kinder** - Jeremy Hopkins, Archie Constable, Lula Peebles - for their fantastic assistance at the School Working Bee.


**Years 3/4** - Bobby Keegan, Olivia Collins, Amy Redgate and Jack Shannon - for their fantastic assistance at the School Working Bee.

**Years 5/6** - John Magner, Jonathan Keegan, Nicole Martin, Lauren Redgate, Charles Brazier, Tia Magner, Patrick Magner, Rebecca Keegan – for their fantastic assistance at the School Working Bee.

**Principal’s Awards** - Levi Hourn – for his enthusiastic and sensible approach to school.

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**Ringer Deadline!**

Please Remember to place your articles and advertisements into the *Merriwa Ringer* by 12.00 noon Mondays.
Cassilis Public School welcomes Banjo Heycox and Benjamin Bibby to Kindergarten for 2015.

Both boys have had a fantastic first week. We are confident that they will have a great year full of learning adventures.

Banjo - “I liked doing computers and colouring in”
Ben - “I liked doing Reading Eggs and caterpillar patterns.”

2015 SCHOOL LEADERS

In 2015 we have no Year 6 students so Year 5’s are our school leaders. Maddison Turner is our school leader for 2015.

Tobias Bowler is our Sports Captain and James Bibby is our computer technician.

CONGRATULATIONS YEAR 5 2015

Welcome back Cassilis students. This week we have had 100% attendance every day! What a fantastic start to the year! Keep it up kids!(and mums and dads).

FROM MRS GRINHAM’S DESK

Welcome to 2015. Staff hopes you have enjoyed your time with the children and we are excited to see them all back safe and sound. I was delighted when I arrived in town on Sunday afternoon to be greeted by students asking how many days till school started. When I told them just three they cheered! How wonderful to know they are keen to start the New Year and engage in their learning journey.
This year we have some exciting new initiatives and programs that we will introduce in week three. It’s great to be back in sunny Cassilis and I was looking forward to the Rodeo on the weekend! Yee Haal!

**TIME CHANGES**

This year we are changing times to help improve learning time, concentration and playground behaviour.

- 8.55am - Morning Bell
- 10.00am - Crunch and Sip
- 11.00am - 11.40am - Lunch
- 1.30pm - 2.00pm - Recess
- 3.00pm - Home

**BREKKY CLUB**

Monday and Wednesday 8.30am - 8.50am

**AFTER SCHOOL LEARNING CENTRE**

Wednesday 3.15pm - 4.00pm

Starts week 3. Details next week!

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Swimming Carnival Next Friday at Merriwa. Note will go home early next week.

**DIARY**

**January 2015**

- 27 – Staff return to school SDD
- 28 – Students return to school
- 31 – Cassilis Rodeo – parents manning gates!

**February**

- 6 – Swimming Carnival with Sandy Hollow – Merriwa

**March**

- 6 – Life Education Van -$3.00 per child
- 18-20 - Kia-Ora Music Camp

**July**

- 22-24 – Great Aussie bush camp – Tea Gardens, WHOLE SCHOOL.

Jeanette Grinham
Relieving Principal

**GREAT AUSSIE BUSH CAMP**

In July all Cassilis Public School students will be going to The Great Aussie Bush Camp at Tea Gardens. To help reduce the cost we will be fundraising with two new initiatives.

Zooper Doopers are available every day at recess 50c

**Ringer Deadline!**

Please Remember to place your articles and advertisements into the *Merriwa Ringer* by 12.00 noon Mondays.
Dear Parents, welcome to the start of the 2015 school year. It’s great to see all our students happy and healthy and ready to start the year. Welcome to our new Kindergarten also.

**CLASS STRUCTURE**

This year we are structuring our classes slightly differently to previous years. Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday will remain the same, with three groups - Kinder/1, 2/3, 4/5/6 to lunchtime, then Kinder/1/2 and 3/4/5/6 in the afternoons. On Thursday and Friday we will have two groups only, all day, i.e. Kinder/1/2 and 3/4/5/6. Even though we have had to make this adjustment, I can assure parents we will continue to deliver quality educational programs.

**LIBRARY DAYS**

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<th>Kinder/Years1/2</th>
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<tr>
<td>Years 3/4/5/6</td>
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**CANTEEN**

For the first few weeks of term there will be no canteen. We are currently seeking a volunteer to take on the position of canteen organiser. The areas of responsibility include setting up for canteen on Mondays, controlling and ordering stock and publishing a roster once a term. If you are interested or want further information, please contact me during school hours.

**SWIMMING LESSONS**

Lessons for Year 1-6 began last week and continue until Wednesday this week. Students will get changed at school and walk to and from the caravan park pool with Mrs Smith. Students must wear a ‘rashie’ and a hat.

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

Our annual swimming carnival will be held at Merriwa next Friday.

**UPPER HUNTER CREATIVITY COMPETITION 2014**

Congratulations to Isabella Wallace, Kristy Walker, Nicholas Terrell, Andrew Harris, Cambell Hinze, Riley Borradaile, Noah Adams and Marshall Hinze for placing in the Jordan Wallace UH Creativity Competition at the end of 2014.

Congratulations to our students who received Honours: Steven Allen, Katie Pike, Bella Pike, Amy Thompson and Harry Thompson.

Christina Darlington
Principal
This year has started happily with all children enjoying a new group dynamic. It is great to see everybody return safe and well and ready for a new year. Our thoughts are also with the children who have began their journey onto kindergarten. We feel confident that this large group have left us ready to face new learning experiences and challenges with eager dispositions. We are so proud of you all and wish all families a wonderful year ahead.

There are still some places available at Pre-School for 2015 and I invite the community to call and enquire about available days.

Next week we would like to welcome families a remain at Pre-School on their arrival for morning tea and to enjoy their child at play with others. It is also a time to connect and meet other families and educators.

Our children benefit from experts and skilled people in the local community and in the parent body. As children’s interests develop there may be periods throughout the year that the expertise held locally could be utilised to extend learning opportunities for the children. Some examples are local artists, musicians, bakers, dancers or potters. Our goal would be that children learn a new skill or develop an interest and that they contribute to a collaborative project in either short or long term.

During the first week we have seen the children become engaged with the dinosaur learning area and the existing knowledge that some of the children held about the topic was surprising. They also used the area for social and dramatic play. This week the area will be extended with natural materials.

Our thanks go to the United Churches for their generous donation to the Pre-School and Activity Centre of the proceeds of the Carols by Candle light BBQ. This was a very enjoyable evening and we appreciate the contribution toward developing the shade and play spaces for the children in our community.

The Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday February 19, at 6.30pm in the Merriwa R.S.L. All positions will be declared vacant. You are invited and encouraged to attend this evening, a general meeting will be held prior to the Annual meeting which is a great opportunity for new and existing families to attend as a way to gauge some of the responsibilities of the positions.
DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

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

CALENDAR OF EVENTS
February 5: Women’s Guild meeting 2.00pm AGM
February 18: Ash Wednesday
February 21: Men’s Breakfast 7.30am
February 28: Messy Church 3.30pm
March 15: Parish AGM

An extract from Rev’d Glen’s newsletter...

Are we church members, or Disciples of Christ?
We ought not to think of ourselves only as members of the church, but as disciples of the Lord Jesus. It is this sense of discipleship we must recapture in our congregations. Jesus used the term “disciple” to describe those people who had given their lives over to following Him, to obeying and working to make the kingdom of God a reality in their lives and the lives of those around them. Jesus said “…if you hold to my teaching, you are really my disciples. Then you will know the truth and the truth will set you free…” (John 8:31-32)

Rosalie Drew

Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces
KEEP THE RED SOCKS RUNNING FOR 25 YEARS
MERRIWA FESTIVAL OF THE FLEECES

In 2015, the Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces is celebrating 25 years and needs your support to keep the red socks running. This volunteer-led event relies on the generosity of the local community and businesses each year to provide an authentic rural festival to over 5,000 visitors and locals alike. The highlight of the annual festival, held on the June Long Weekend each year, is the Festival Parade led by a mob of sheep in red socks.

The Festival of the Fleeces Committee Chairperson Cr Deirdre Peebles said “The Festival Committee has lined up many exciting attractions to celebrate the twenty fifth year, and we need your support to make these a reality.”

“Along with the traditional Running of the Sheep, the committee has invited Ray Hadley and the 2GB Continuous Call Team to attend and promote our unique country event. The Australian Wool Industry will be holding a fashion parade of quality woollen garments, as seen at Australian Fashion Week, and visitors will be entertained by Tamworth’s ‘Rockabilly Sweetheart’ Shelly Minson, 2014 Golden Guitar winner along with her 4 time Golden Guitar winning husband Lawrie Minson.” Cr Peebles said.

The Festival is the largest event for the Merriwa district attracting a significant number of tourists from all over the state who come to experience the country hospitality.

Some of the many events held over the weekend include sheep yard dog trials, shearing demonstrations, a Bush Poets breakfast, wool spinning demonstrations, felting exhibitions, educational displays for children including Crocstars reptile show, My Pet Dinosaur, a ‘ROAR’ petting zoo and a spectacular “KaBoom” fireworks display on the Saturday evening.

If you are interested in partnering with the Festival of the Fleeces please contact the Parade Coordinator, Liam Garment on 6521 7046 or lgarment@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

Michael Johnsen
MAYOR
Angus Peebles Scholarship

The Angus Peebles Scholarship is awarded by our club annually to a student living inside the boundaries of the former Merriwa Shire. Also eligible are students from outside these boundaries who have attended secondary school in Merriwa.

The scholarship each year provides $1,500.00 to a student to assist with establishment costs in pursuing further education.

Our Rotary committee was given the difficult task of selecting one candidate from four excellent and impressive young people.

The scholarship was awarded to Victoria Cottle who plans to commence an Arts degree course at Macquarie University later this month. It will be presented to Victoria at a meeting of our club on February 14.

Merriwa Rotary thanks Victoria and all the other candidates for their participation and wishes them well with their studies.

Mark Smith
Rotary Merriwa

Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces

Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces is holding a street stall to assist in raising funds for their 25th annual event in June.

All cakes and goodies are more than welcome and can be left at the stall from 9.00am.

When: Friday February 13

Thank you in advance.

Barbara Campbell

Community Notice Board

Conratulations!
ASHLEIGH SERWACH (NEE JOHNSON)

On Saturday January 17, Ashleigh was awarded 2014 Clinical Specialist of the Year from her employer Boston Scientific.

She won the award for the outstanding support she provides her physicians, patients and the NSW Cardiac Rhythm Management team.

In addition she has also successfully mentored a number of new employees through the demanding training process that takes on average 12-14 months.

As a Clinical Specialist, Ashleigh also took on the responsibility of becoming a key expert in the new subcutaneous ICD system launched in December.

The additional role requires her to provide training to the implanting physicians and nursing/technical staff which she did to an outstanding level, setting the standard approach for other hospitals looking at using the technology.

Congratulations Ashleigh! We are so proud of you!

Love Barry, Gran, Mum, Ryan, Hollie and Family

Archer and Johnson Families

Memorial Service
JEAN HAZEL DOWD
DIED - OCTOBER 26, 2014

Dowd, Jean Hazel, late of Brisbane, formerly of Merriwa, passed away peacefully in her sleep after a short illness on October 26, 2014, aged 93 years.

Wife of Clarie Dowd (dec’d), much loved mother of Chris and Toni, mother-in-law of Gina and grandmother of Kiri and Paul. Daughter of Evelyn Minnie Trenaman, loving sister of Ray and Bruce Bond (both dec’d), Lyle and Robin Trenaman (both dec’d), and David Trenaman.

A memorial service will be held in Jean’s honour at the Holy Trinity Anglican Church, Bow Street, Merriwa at midday on February 13, 2015.

Toni Dowd

Merriwa Rotary Club
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Thank you in advance.

Barbara Campbell
Community Notice Board

Merriwa Hospital Auxiliary
MEETING

The next meeting of the Merriwa Hospital Auxiliary will be held on Friday February 20, at 2.00pm. It will be held in the Nurses Home Conference Room (off McRae Street).

We have a street stall booked for Friday March 6. We will be needing donations of cakes, biscuits, slices and preserves as well as volunteers for the day. We will have a raffle and 100 Club as well. All will be discussed at the meeting.

Elaine Sparrow

Merriwa Community Portal Update

MERRIWA.NSW.AU
NEW AREAS ON WEBSITE

We start the New Year with a new area on our website. Listing of all businesses in the Merriwa area with their phone and email address when we obtain them. The purpose is to provide an easy lookup facility for the community and visitors to easily find who they are searching for in our community.

We invite you to check and see if you are listed and if not contact us at via the website (Merriwa.nsw.au) at the drop-down under “Contact Us “with your business name, phone number and email address.

YOUTH

The other new area is Youth which is being moderated by Liam Cronin, a youth member of town and his helpers. The aim of this area is to allow a single common area where the youth of Merriwa can place information on what is happening, news items; ROAR etc. which is pertinent to the teenagers in town. So contact Liam at mailto:liamcronin95@gmail.com and have your activity listed on the website.

Kim Fenley
Chair Merriwa Community Portal

Merriwa CWA
SAVE THE DATE

Merriwa CWA will be holding an International Women’s Day luncheon on Friday March 6, 10.30am for 11.00am in our rooms. More details later.

First meeting for 2015 will be Monday February 9 at 10.00am in the CWA Rooms, Bettington Street.

New members are always welcome.

The rooms are available for bookings at very reasonable rates – contact Barbara Campbell or Jean Price.

Penelope Fenley

Merriwa PAH and I Association Inc
NOTICE OF AGM

Please be advised that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Tuesday February 17 at 7.00pm at the Merriwa RSL Club.

A General Meeting will follow.

New members are always welcome.

For more information please phone Toni Jones 0498 378 500.

Toni Jones

Merriwa RSL Sub Branch
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

When: February 8
Time: 10.30am

All members are kindly invited to attend.

Mary O’Neill

The Merriwa Community News is available to charity groups or non-funded, not for profit organisations and anyone wishing to advise of a special event (birthday/anniversary/etc). If you would like to make use of this free service, please contact us prior to 12.00pm Mondays.
This time of year the calendar is filled with social engagements and parties. Many teenagers will spend much of the school holiday period celebrating and spending time with their friends. Many of these functions will involve alcohol.

A survey by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) found that 90% of Australian secondary school students have tried alcohol by the age of 14. Around 70% of 17 year olds had consumed alcohol in the month before the survey.

Alcohol acts as a central nervous system (CNS) depressant. Alcohol-related harm comes from a combination of the amount of alcohol consumed and various other factors such as age, gender, body size, nutrition, drinking experience and social factors. Alcohol consumption affects not only the person drinking, but everyone in the community. It is estimated that alcohol costs the Australian community over $15 billion a year. These costs relate to health problems, accidents, crime, violence, social issues, and loss of productivity.

The Australian Guidelines to Reduce Health Risks from Drinking state that ‘for children and young people under 18 years of age, not drinking is the safest option’ and that ‘children under 15 years of age are at greatest risk of harm from drinking.’ These guidelines are based on health risks to teenagers however there are also legal and social risks.

For adolescents, drinking alcohol contributes to the three leading causes of death for this age group – unintentional injuries, homicide, and suicide. In addition over 50% of alcohol-related serious road injuries occur in the 15–24-year-old age bracket. According to the NHMRC, alcohol consumption in teenagers also contributes to physical injuries, risky sexual behaviour, anti-social behaviour and poor academic performance. Studies show the earlier alcohol consumption starts, the greater the chance of becoming a regular drinker and the greater the likelihood of adverse physical and mental health conditions/consequences.

Every year, ‘schoolies’ events are covered in the media. Many of the incidents highlight the immediate negative consequences that can occur from binge drinking, such as physical injury from alcohol-fuelled violence. Developmental and social issues for the teenager, their peers and their family can be less obvious as they arise over time.

Parents, and other significant adults, can positively influence teenagers to make wise choices regarding alcohol, and help them to reduce the risk of harm from alcohol. These adults can help even if the teenager has already started drinking.

The Guidelines for Alcohol Consumption for Young People, released by the Australian Government, suggest:

- Setting a good example through own alcohol behaviours.
- Rewarding responsible behaviour and attitudes towards alcohol.
- Talking about strategies to deal with peer pressure regarding alcohol.
- Discussing the alcohol-related health issues as well as the legal consequences.

It is often said Australians love a drink. We can also show love for our children by helping them to avoid the harm alcohol can cause them when drinking starts at an early age.

Your local community pharmacy is your health destination. Your local pharmacist can give you more information about the effects of alcohol, including interactions with medications, and where to seek counselling about alcohol-related problems.

You can get more detailed information on alcohol from the Self Care Fact Card titled Alcohol available from Merriwa Pharmacy.
We would like to welcome everyone back for another year. We hope your holidays were relaxing or action-packed (whichever you preferred!) and you are ready to tackle 2015. We hope everyone who starts Kindergarten or Year 7 and enjoys their first week at their new school.

BACK TO SCHOOL

We have EVERYTHING you need to be ready and organised for school. We have been busy putting together school packs for students at Merriwa Central School, St Joseph’s Aberdeen and Scone Grammar School. We have all kinds of pens, pencils, textas, crayons, pencil cases, rulers, erasers, sharpeners, scissors, geometry sets, and so much more. Book coverings are an important part of the first week of school. Choose from the following options for the best solution for you:

OPTION 1: CONTACTING BOOKS

We have a great range of imaginative designs for contacting books. We also have various sized rolls of clear contact. It is often very painful for parents, but a few simple steps (and a little bit of practice) can make the whole process relatively stress free.

Step 1 - place open book on contact and cut around it, leaving at least a 2 cm border

Step 2 - remove backing on contact for about 5cm and place closed book along the exposed contact (the open side, not the spine). Remember to leave your border

Step 3 - flip over so that contact is now on top of the book and slowly peel back contact, running a ruler behind it to help it remain bubble-free. Sometimes a slightly damp cloth is also useful for keeping out air bubbles.

Step 4 - open the cover of the book and cut the contact border across the corner at the top and bottom (you will be cutting off a triangle of contact) and cut a slit in the contact at the spine

Step 5 - fold borders in

Step 6 - cheer loudly because you have finished!

OPTION 2: CLEAR OR TINTED BOOK COVERINGS

These are a great alternative for people who just can’t stomach the thought of contacting another book...ever! They are see-through, making them ideal for those who like to be creative with their book coverings. They are durable and can be put on other books when the current ones are full or no longer needed. They are available in both standard exercise book size and A4 book size.

OPTION 3: PATTERNED BOOK COVERINGS

These are great for kids. They have a great range of patterns and pictures, including trucks, motorbikes, monsters, skulls, ballerinas, ponies, owls and fashion. They are durable and reusable. They are available in both standard exercise book size and A4 book size.

LIBRARY BAGS AND LUNCH BAGS

These are an essential part of school life. We have a great range of library bags that are funky and fun.

Do not forget, even though we have a Back to School sale on, many of the products found inside are absolutely perfect for the office or the home office. We can never get enough pens, paper, display folders, 2-ring folders, staplers, hole punches and other office supplies. This is the best time to get them as they won’t be this cheap again until June!

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

Cash or Eftpos only

Neville and Leanne Hook

Ringer Deadline!

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

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

**SPECIAL**

WHOLE RUMPS $13.00/KG

CORNED SILVERSIDE $8.00/KG

WHOLE TBONE (8KG TBONE STEAKS) $13.00/KG

Delivery Friday 13.02.15

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

**WATTS HAPPENING**

Come and meet Lee Watts and talk about what is important in our community.

Lee will be at the CWA Rooms 159 Bettington Street, Merriwa on Tuesday February 17 at 5.30pm.

Lee is an Independent candidate for the state seat of Upper Hunter. She is not part of a political party, she is representing the people of the Upper Hunter.

Authorised by Lee Watts, 29 Parker Street, Scone 2337
Printed by Merriwa Ringer, Bow Street, Merriwa 2329

**FULL TIME POSITION VACANT**

**LANDMARK MERRIWA**

A career opportunity exists for an enthusiastic and self-motivated person to pursue a career in Rural Merchandise Sales.

Successful applicant will be confident, organised and adaptable, with effective time management and require good written and verbal skills.

Applications and resumes to be forwarded to:

Merchandise Salesperson Position
Landmark Townsend
Po Box 9, Scone, NSW 2337

**ADVERTISE HERE**

Have unwanted items? Looking for something in particular or an event the public needs to know about? Why not place an advert with the Merriwa Ringer?

Interested? Contact us on 6548 2119
End of Summer

CLEARANCE SALE!

40-50% OFF ALL

Ladies, Men’s and Children’s summer fashion
Plus further discounts throughout the store
in Manchester, Footwear and Luggage
plus find EXTRA “Bargains” on our Discount Tables

No laybys on sale items
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Quality Clothing, Friendly Service, Affordable Prices

Phone 6548 3023
FOR SALE
110 Rifle Range Road, Merriwa
$285,000.00

Fantastic value 4 bedroom home!
This spacious 4 bedroom home is on the edge of Merriwa situated on a 2.5 acre block. It boasts beautiful rural views with an attractive easterly aspect. The home features 4 large bedrooms, a huge lounge area and an open plan kitchen and dining area. A slow combustion fire to keep warm in the winter months and air conditioning and ceiling fans for the warmer times. There is a sunroom looking out onto the covered entertainment area and plenty of space to enjoy the outdoors with a big deck overlooking the front garden. Put the finishing touches on this home and you will reap the rewards. Outside the block is fully fenced and flat. There is a 2 bay stable complex and a large garden shed. With town water and established gardens, this is a fantastic family home. Contact Megan for more details on 0400 653 446.

FOR SALE
1273 Flags Road, Merriwa
$420,000.00

Peace & Quiet!
In a quiet location on the edge of Merriwa Township, you will find this well-established 104-acre property. Water is supplied to the house via 3 x 5,000 gallon fresh water tanks; the property also has a fully equipped bore and 2 dams. The fencing is good and the property is divided into 2 paddocks. Modern family living is made easy with a well-appointed kitchen, which opens out onto dining and living areas. The spacious living area features a slow combustion fire. This home boasts 4 bedrooms the main has an ensuite and walk in robe. The outdoor entertaining area overlooks the pool, and offers views of the native bushland. There is a triple car garage and other small sheds. A great property if you are looking to enjoy some space and escape for some peace and quiet! Phone Roger on 0427 153 446.

Select Horse & Working Dog Sale/Challenge

Saturday 11th April 2015
MERRIWA SHOWGROUND
A range of quality Select Horses will be offered as well as a Working Dog sale/challenge
Further entries are invited and anticipated but close on 16th March 2015.

Entry forms available now from www.rmpropertyandlivestock.com
YOUTH SERVICES OFFER FUN, FRIENDS, FRESH AIR AND ACTION

Thirty-five young people from the Upper Hunter enjoyed an action-packed excursion to Sydney water park Wet ‘n’ Wild with Upper Hunter Youth Services last week.

The trip was a chance to get active, face some fears and make some new friends.

They were accompanied by Upper Hunter Youth Service Officers Justine Witney and Felicity Orton and volunteers Jared and Tyler Austin who made sure every one stayed safe including putting on plenty of sunscreen.

Youth Services Officer Justine Witney said the young people aged 12 to 17 years had an awesome day.

“Some of them could not get their words out quickly enough when describing their experience on the slides. It was a privilege to spend the day with this fabulous group of young people. A big thank you to our volunteers, Jared and Tyler,” she said.

With some participants having attended the excursion last year, the excitement rose as the bus pulled into the car park. Booking into their cabana, everyone suited up to ride the slides, then split into groups and were off.

There was plenty of fresh air and exercise for the young people as they climbed flight after flight of stairs to get to the top of the towers.

The more daring took on the 360Rush where the floor dropped beneath them and they fell down a 360 degree loop, and the Half Pipe - a pitch black tunnel which bursts into daylight for a 16 metre drop that sent them flying up a water wall.

To find out more about regular activities of Upper Hunter Youth Services visit Council’s website www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au under Facilities / Youth Centres or contact the Upper Hunter Youth Services Officer Justine Witney on 6521 7000.

MERRIWA YOUTH CLUB, BOW STREET

Friday 5pm - 9pm drop in. Free bus home for young people in town area

MURRURUNDI YOUTH CLUB, 4 LITTLE STREET

Friday 5pm - 9pm at Youth Centre for drop- in

SCONE YOUTH CLUB, 105 SUSAN STREET

Tuesdays 4pm-7pm drop-in

Friday 5pm-9pm drop-in

Michael Johnsen

MAYOR

VALENTINE’S DAY FESTIVAL STREET STALL AND RAFFLE

The Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces Committee will be holding a fundraiser street stall with Valentine’s Raffle on Friday 13 February from 8.00am.

All donations are welcome and very much appreciated.

Thank you to ‘Vines at Hollydene’, McConnell’s This n That, and Muswellbrook Workers Club for donating a wonderful hamper of valentine treats valued at over $150.00.

P: Barbara Campbell - Street Stall Coordinator

FEBRUARY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULE

Development & Environmental Services Committee
Tuesday 10 February 2015, 10.00am

Works & Technical Services Committee
Tuesday 10 February 2015, 1.00pm

Community Services Committee
Tuesday 10 February 2015, 4.00pm

Finance Committee
Friday 20 February 2015, 1.00pm

Ordinary Council Meeting
Monday 23 February 2015, 5.00pm. Note: This meeting will be held at Merriwa at the Upper Hunter Shire Council Administration Centre.

All meetings are held at Council’s Administration Centre, Scone, unless otherwise stated.
1273 Flags Road Merriwa Reduced $420,000.00

Situated on 104 acres is this very well established property ideal for someone wanting to be out of town but an easy drive to work. The home has been freshly renovated and comprises of four big bedrooms, the main with an ensuite and walk in robe. A large lounge featuring a combustion fire and an open plan family, dining, kitchen area. The kitchen is in excellent condition and has a dishwasher and walk-in pantry. At the rear of the home is a covered entertainment area overlooking the pool and taking in the fantastic views all around. Water is supplied via a bore, 66,000 litres of fresh water storage and two dams. The property is well fenced into two paddocks both with water. There is a triple garage and numerous smaller sheds. If the kid’s want a horse and motorbike and you want to run a few head of cattle, this is the place!

EMERGENCY CONTACTS

If you need assistance from Ambulance - Police - Fire including Hazardous Incidents DIAL 000

Merriwa Phone Numbers

Police (Administration Only) 6548 2437
Police Mobile 0408 293 423
Police Assistance Line 131 444

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

Fire Brigade (Administration and Duty Officer) 6548 2005
Hospital 6532 5000
Rural Fire Service (Administration and Duty Officer) 1800 081 166
SES Emergency Number 132 500
Merriwa Rescue Squad 6548 2538

Car for Sale

2006 Honda Civic VTI Manual
198,000kms
Very good condition. Very reliable.
$6,950.00 negotiable
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$16.00 each
Available from Merriwa Petroleum, and Ag on Wednesday February 18 at 9.30am
Phone: 6548 2071

Interested in Sponsoring?

Please contact the Merriwa Central School on 6548 2119 for more information.

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Your local team is:
Field Officer - Warwick Nairne
6548 2175/0428 721 864
Biosecurity Officers -
Stefanie McCowen
6542 4429/0432 856 773
Craig Crooks
6545 1311/0429 342 995
District Vet - Ross Kemp
6572 2944/0428 688 693

OPENING HOURS:
FRIDAY, SATURDAY, SUNDAY
10.00am-4.00pm
OTHER TIMES BY ARRANGEMENT
Ph (02) 6376 1220
or (02) 6376 1044
16 Buccleugh St
Cassilis NSW 2329
ploughinntocassilis@gmail.com

2015 ROSTO OLIVES
MERRIWA FESTIVAL OF THE FLEECES
CELEBRATING 25 YEARS
SATURDAY 6 JUNE 2015
A Family & Community focused event.
Phone: 6521 7046
e-mail: lgarment@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

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Web: www.welderup.com.au

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One-stop for paying (nearly) all your bills
Business banking and personal banking
Stationery and greeting cards - inexpensive, full range
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Mobile phones, starter kits and recharge vouchers
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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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Merriwa
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Also consulting in Denman
Tuesday and Friday 8.00am-6.00pm
For appointments please phone 6532 5013

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: barbaraj911@gmail.com
Secretary: Robyn McAlister
Phone: 6548 3274
Email: robyncwa@bigpond.com

MEETINGS OF THE MONTH:

Merriwa Central School P & C Association
Meet each Tuesday at the Merriwa Sports Club
7.00pm for 7.30pm
4 x 4m Marquee for Hire
6548 2025

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

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Phone: 6548 2499
OPEN TUESDAY TO FRIDAY
SATURDAY BY APPOINTMENT ONLY

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Ph: 02 65 482 082
Email: merriwamac@tpg.com.au
Merriwa Ringer

St David's 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
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

MERRIWA JUNIOR LEAGUE AND NETBALL CLUB
President: Vic Presidents:
Andrew
Murray Wright
Jamieson
Secretary: Senior Vice President:
Elaine Sparrow
President:
Andrew
Treasurer:
John Sparrow

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

Merriwa Anglican Parish.
Services
Holy Trinity
St Columbia
Merriwa
Cassilis
Raffles and 3 Members Badge Draws
9.00am Sundays 11.00am every
10.00am Fridays 2nd and 4th
Short Bible Study
Sunday
7.30am Mon, Wed, Fri
Morning Prayer
Rev’d Glen Hughes - Supervising
Priest & Rev’d Pat Kirkby – Local
Priest

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

Merriwa Touch
Football
Wednesday Nights
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Photography Competition

Entries close: **FEBRUARY 22 AT 12 NOON**

Topic for the month is: **BUTTERFLIES**

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

PUBLISHED IN THE RINGER ON: **FEBRUARY 26**

The competition is open to amateur photographers of all ages.

With spring being just around the corner, the butterflies are out and about. This is the time to get out and practice patience and being very very still.

Merriwa CWA are sponsoring a prize to the value of $50.00 for the best butterfly photo. This will test out your stable hand and how far your camera can zoom in.

Email your photos to merriwa2-c.schooll@det.nsw.edu.au.
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 - Social Darts 7.00pm - Draw for partners

**Tuesdays** - Rotary meets - 7.00pm for 7.30pm

**Thursdays** - 6.00pm Bingo

**Fridays** - Happy Two Hour - 5.00pm to 7.00pm and free raffles and Merriwa Old Boys Football Club “Chook Wheel”

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

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

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

Casual Bowls and Golf also available. Donations in honesty box.

**DON’T FORGET CHINESE SMORGASBORD SUNDAY FEBRUARY 22**

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

For bookings and take away - telephone 6548 3228.

**WEEKEND RESULTS**

**Saturday Raffle January 31**

Saturday Members Draw no 182 was not won - next week $270.00

Winners Jackpot not won - next week $380.00

**Free Tickets:** Loretta Cooper
**Dinner:** Des Snelgrove
**Bowls Raffle:** Max Barwick

**Monthly Prize Draw:** Beatrice Voysey

**Sunday Raffle February 1**

Sunday Members draw - No 192. Next week $850.00

**MENS BOWLS NEWS**

After a lot of hard work and effort by many people our bowling green will be back in action next weekend. We will be having a roll up next Saturday February 7 at 1.00pm to be followed by a general meeting at 4.00pm to arrange our sides, which is only a month away. All interested bowlers please attend.

Greg Watson
President

**Cassilis Bowling Club**

**Friday night Snack Bar**

Affordable family meals.

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

**DRAW RESULTS – JANUARY 9**

**Members Draw** - $70.00 – Richard Thompson – unclaimed - $75.00 next week

**Joker Draw** – $781.00 – Donna Rawlinson – unsuccessful - $815.00 next week

**DRAW RESULTS – JANUARY 16**

**Members Draw** - $75.00 – Judy Piper – unclaimed - $80.00 next week

**Joker Draw** – $815.00 – Sophie Argyropoulos – unsuccessful - $859.00 next week

**DRAW RESULTS – JANUARY 23**

**Members Draw** - $80.00 – Clive Nairne – unclaimed - $85.00 next week

**Joker Draw** – $859.00 – Lorraine Hourn – unsuccessful - $898.00 next week

**DRAW RESULTS – JANUARY 30**

**Members Draw** $85.00 – Don Hourn – claimed - $50.00 next week

**Joker Draw** – $898.00 – Linda Lacey – unsuccessful - $932.00 next week

**END OF THE MONTH DRAW** – January – Hilary Parker

Hilary Parker

**Find us on Facebook!**

Look for Merriwa Central School’s official page!
Merriwa Tennis Club

Event Details:
- **Open Day**: Merriwa Tennis Club held an open day on Sunday 1st of February where it showcased its new Hot Shots junior tennis equipment. Local primary school teacher and club Hotshots coordinator Alyssa Moore, assisted by Melissa Collins, ran an enthusiastic bunch of junior players through a series of drills around the court to warm up before using the new mini tennis nets, racquets and balls to develop stroke play and hitting skills.

- The Hotshots program emphasises the importance of good sportsmanship and having fun whilst developing a lifelong skill.

- **Players on the day received**
  - Free from Tennis Australia
    - Tennis Australia Water Bottle
    - Tennis Australia Wrist Band
    - Play Anywhere Tennis Net
    - Tennis Australia Key Ring
    - Voucher from Tennis Australia for a Free Hotshots shirt when they register (free) online.

- The club will hold more open days in the coming weeks and months - there will also be opportunities for tennis lessons. Please register your interest by e-mailing merriwatennis@gmail.com

### COMING EVENTS

**INTRODUCING ‘T-BONE TUESDAY’**: Every Tuesday you can now order a T-Bone, chips and salad for just $15.00.

- Also every Thursday have a chicken schnitzel, chips and salad for just $12.50

**HAPPY HOUR IS BACK** - Friday 6.00pm to 7.00pm and Sunday 11.00am to 12 noon, $3.00 schooners and $2.00 middies, and starting this week $5.00 Corona’s.

**THINK PINK – THE ULTIMATE TRIBUTE SHOW**

- **When**: Saturday February 21
- **Time**: 8.00pm - 8.30pm
- **Cost**: $20.00 per person with limited seating
- $100.00 Cheese and Wine plater for best dressed table.

**FOOTY TIPPING**

Names and money can be left at the bar for the 2015 footy tipping competition.

- **Cost**: $20.00 entry fee

**AUTUMN NIGHT COMPETITION**

- The autumn night competition is scheduled to commence at the beginning of March. Competition is played on Monday evenings from 6.30pm. The club has adopted a streamlined format to ensure that everyone gets home at a reasonable hour. Competition is played in teams of four (two men, two ladies) with each team member playing three sets of doubles. (Mens/Ladies and two x mixed).

- Players may nominate their interest at Merriwa Pharmacy or by emailing merriwatennis@gmail.com. Nominate as a team of four, a pair or as an individual.

**MEMBERSHIP**

- Half year memberships are now available
  - Adult $30.00
  - Junior (under 18) $15.00
  - Family $75.00

**Boris Becker - Robert Smith**
LAKE LIDDELL CLINIC
SATURDAY MARCH 7, 2015
LIDDELL POWER STATION
SOCIAL CLUB AREA

** MORNING SESSION **
MINI RUGBY LEAGUE CLINICS

Minis - 6, 7, 8 and 9 year olds
Sign on – 9.00am – 9.30am
Mini Clinic – 9.30am – 11.30am
Conclusion – 11.30am
Lunch – 11.40am

** AFTERNOON SESSION **
MOD RUGBY LEAGUE CLINICS

Mods - 10, 11 and 12 year olds
Sign on – 12.30pm – 1.00pm
Mod Clinic – 1.00pm – 3.00pm
Conclusion – 3.00pm
Afternoon Tea – 3.10pm

Cost $25.00 – Our NRL pack includes a Knights clinic T shirt, Mod size football, kicking tee, drink bottle, boot-bag, wristband and lunch will be provided.

GREAT VALUE! This pack would normally cost over $40.00 but thanks to the generous sponsorship of Macquarie Generation and Group 21 Senior Rugby League the cost is only $25.00

HOW TO REGISTER
Register and Pay online at www.centralhunterdevelopment.leaguenet.com.au

YOU MUST REGISTER BY TUESDAY - March 3, 2015
NO LATE NOMINATIONS WILL BE ACCEPTED!

Food and drinks for sale on the day for spectators

For further information contact: Scott Bone, CRL Regional Manager 0412 792 307.

Merriwa Touch Football Club
A reminder that nest weeks game is the second game of the mixed games. Please turn up so not to let your teams down. The last game was enjoyed by all.

Just a quick update on the top four teams on the leader board as it is getting closer to finals.

Ladies -
We Got Game - 18
RSL Ladies - 15
Smick - 14

Mens -
School Boys - 16
The Gambler - 11
Sandy Hollow - 9
RSL - 8

Fourth round washout game will be held on March 11 with the finals now kicking off on March 18, March 25 and the grand final to be confirmed for either March 28 or April 1.
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<td>Saturday 21</td>
<td>Think Pink - The Ultimate Tribute Show - Merriwa RSL Club, 8.30pm</td>
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<td>Saturday 28</td>
<td>P and C Trivia Night - Merriwa RSL Club, 6.00pm</td>
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<td>March</td>
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<td>Friday 27</td>
<td>The Merriwa Charity Muster</td>
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<td>Sunday 29</td>
<td>The Merriwa Charity Muster - Sunday Fun Run -7.30am, Number 1 Oval</td>
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<td>April</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 11</td>
<td>Select Horse and Working Dog Sale/Challenge</td>
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The Merriwa Ringer - Merriwa’s only Not-for-profit newsletter serving the community for 25 years.