A recent British study found reading from birth improves not just Literacy but Maths ability too. Come along and join the fun at Little Sprouts Day.
Little Sprouts

Community Reading Day 2014

A FUN day of reading, singing, dancing
and lots of FUN!

Friday August 28

9.30am – 2.00pm

Plant the seed to read

Little Sprouts Reading Day is when schools, businesses and community members come together to celebrate and share in the love of reading, singing and talking to their children.

Our theme this year is “Connect to reading”. Connect to reading is about enjoying the experience of exploring story, and travelling to other worlds.

Aboriginal performer "Fred Reid" will present a show and students will participate in activities with local businesses and community members.

For more information contact the school on 6548 2101

An initiative of Merriwa Central School
**Principal’s Report**

**NAPLAN**

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) tests were completed in May 2015. NAPLAN assesses aspects of literacy including reading, spelling, punctuation and grammar and writing, as well as numeracy.

The results are shown in skill bands which indicate levels of achievement. The report shows the national average and the schools average and allows parents to compare their child’s performance to others who completed the NAPLAN tests. Last week students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 were issued with their results.

NAPLAN is just one of the tools that teacher’s use to assess student performance, and to take action to improve literacy and numeracy.

If you would like further information, or would like to discuss your child’s performance, please feel free to contact your child’s teacher or year adviser.

**LITTLE SPROUTS COMMUNITY READING DAY**

Parents are reminded that Little Sprouts Day is on Friday 28 August. All primary students will participate in this fantastic community event organised by Merriwa Central School. The aim of the day is to highlight the importance of reading to children from birth, and the joy associated with reading and storytelling. Students will gather for a special performance, before heading off to local businesses participating in the day.

Once again thank you to the Merriwa community for making this day such a special event.

Darren Noonan
Principal

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**Primary News**

**STUDENT OF THE WEEK**

Well done to our Students of the Week for Week 6. Congratulations to the following book award recipients:

- **Kindergarten:** Aiden Khan
- **Year K/1:** Miriam Harrison
- **Year 2:** Beau Skeffington
- **Year 3/4:** Emma Khan
- **Year 4/5:** Jack Nairne
- **Year 5/6:** Corey Parkinson

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**KINDER 2016**

Parent Information Session
Kinder 2016 Transition Parent Information Session
Wednesday September 16 at 10.00am-11.00am - Primary Campus Library

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**Coming Events**

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<th>AUGUST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 31</td>
<td>Secondary Formal Assembly - 8.55am</td>
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<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2</td>
<td>P and C Meeting - 7.00pm</td>
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<td>Monday 7</td>
<td>Year 11 Yearly Exams - All week</td>
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<td>Wednesday 16</td>
<td>Kinder 2016 Transition parent information session - 10.00-11.00am</td>
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<td>Thursday 17</td>
<td>Year 12 Farewell - 6.30-7.00pm</td>
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<td>Friday 18</td>
<td>Rewards Day - Footy Colours Day - Last day Term 3</td>
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<th>OCTOBER</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 5</td>
<td>Public Holiday</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 6</td>
<td>Students return to school Ringer articles due - 9.00am</td>
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ABORIGINAL DANCE WITH WAKAGETTI

Classes on the Primary campus have been participating in dance classes with the wonderful Wakagetti group. Each Thursday afternoon they visit the campus to take a class for some fun and traditional dance instruction. Last week the Kindergarten class had a turn at learning a few interesting dance moves and everyone had a lovely time. It was great to see all the students engaging in such a great program. We look forward to more visits from the Wakagetti group.

SPECIAL AWARDS

Congratulations to our Bronze Award winners:
Riley Telfer, Inara West, Brooke Sampson, Jack Fairhall, Jack Wallings, Joanne Hamson and Alethea Fawcett.
Well done to Thomas Amidy for achieving a Silver Award.

Well done to Josie Porter on receiving a Participation Certificate for her efforts in the University of New South Wales Digital Technologies assessment.

PREFECT INDUCTION

We would like to welcome Corey Parkinson to the leadership team on the Primary campus. Corey has taken on the role of prefect and pledged the prefects oath at assembly last week in front of students, teachers and parents. Corey will represent Merriwa Central School with pride while wearing his new prefects badge.

QUINTET PERFORMANCE

Last Wednesday the Primary campus was visited by the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music, who presented a Quintet group with a variety of interesting instruments. A Quintet is a musical group comprised of five musicians. We were treated to beautiful music and even music that sounded funny. Some students were invited to join the group to present the traditional story ‘Goldilocks and the Three Bears’ which incorporated the story with puppets and music. It was very entertaining. The favourite piece of the day was when the Quintet played the very popular ‘Let it Go’ from the movie ‘Frozen’, and everyone joined in to sing along. Thank you to the Conservatorium of Music for coming to visit us. We look forward to your next visit!
YEAR 4/5 REPORT

Year 4/5 have had a very eventful start to term three with NAIDOC activities, Public Speaking and Variety Night. Our class thoroughly enjoyed dressing up and performing to the cult classic ‘Grease’ at Variety Night, and I am sure many of us will be humming it for the remainder of the term. Students also did a fantastic job preparing speeches for public speaking in Week 3, it was very interesting to hear about their chosen topics, such as a favourite holiday, their families or a creative outlet they may have. Everyone who took part in public speaking did a fantastic job and should be proud of their efforts. Year 4/5 have been beautifully behaved this term, and we have already reached our whole class goal of filling a jar of marbles, earning us a class pet! We have welcomed a pet fish into our classroom and voted for the most creative name, which was Spike. We hope everyone enjoyed our sing-a-long ‘Purple People Eater’ at assembly last week. Well done Year 4/5!

Little Sprouts 2015
Community Reading Day
Invitation to Seeds
Friday August 28
10.30am—12.30pm

If you have a child who is pre-school age (but is not attending pre-school) or younger, you are invited to attend Little Sprouts day as part of our ‘Seeds’ group. We will be meeting at 10.30am at the School of Arts before moving off to activities at the Library and Merriwa Central School. We will enjoy recess, which will be provided by CWA, at the park with the pre-school students.

Come dressed as a person from a different country or simply wear the colours of a particular nation’s flag. Join us for a day of reading and lots of FUN!

Little Sprouts is a community literacy initiative of Merriwa Central School.

Isabel Crutch
Year 4/5 Teacher
Merriwa Ringer

YEAR 7 MERRIWA HERITAGE WALK

This semester Year 7 have begun their studies of History and as part of the introduction to the subject students spent an afternoon undertaking a historical walk through Merriwa. As part of this expedition, students were able to investigate and answer questions about Merriwa’s past to discover how some iconic landmarks such as the ‘Old Ginny’ came to be. Thank you to Mrs Hegarty for accompanying us and contributing her own local knowledge to the afternoon.

ABORIGINAL STUDENT LEADERSHIP

The wheels have been in motion for our school to form a Junior AECG. With the assistance of Elizabeth Howard, President of our local AECG we are nearing the final stages. On Wednesday September 2 a representative from the State AECG will be visiting our school to meet with our students and officially form our leadership group. We look forward to announcing our leaders in the near future.

Thank you to Mrs Hegarty for accompanying us and contributing her own local knowledge to the afternoon.

DEPUTY PRINCIPAL’S REPORT

I would like to take this opportunity to formally thank the Merriwa Rugby League Old Boys for their generous donation of sporting equipment to our school. These men are active in our community and to be congratulated for their efforts. We are very grateful for your donation and our students are keen to test it all out!

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SECONDARY NEWS

THANK YOU

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Year 10 Geography students recently participated in the WeSSSTA Geography Competition in class. This competition is open to Year 10 students and assists students with their assessment and allows for comparison with other students in the state.

This was a great opportunity for students to put into practise their Geography skills and knowledge. More than 40% of Merriwa Central School students achieved higher than the average mark. Luke Cronin receives a special mention for his efforts in achieving a Distinction. The following students should also be congratulated for their fine efforts receiving a Credit: Cara Hunt, Breanna Goodear, Ross Proctor, Samantha Owen, Emma-Lee Cooper, April Eipper, James Hagley, Hanna Byfield and Kyle Mudge.

Well done to all students who participated and gave it their best effort. We look forward to more pleasing results next year.

Adam Johnston
Deputy Principal

NEW ARRIVAL ON AG FARM

Well spring may not have sprung quite yet, but we have had a new arrival in the Ag plot, our first cria. The new addition to the school is quite a bundle of enthusiastic and inquisitive energy and we look forward to watching him grow.

Tessa Roe
Geography Teacher

GEOGRAPHY COMPETITION

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We currently also have young chicks in the brooder who are part of the Year 11 Agriculture Animal Production studies. The chicks were randomly split into two groups and students have been trialling different feeds to see if there is any difference in growth of the chicks.

If you have driven past the Ag plot recently you may have noticed our new fence along Hall Road, erected by our Primary Industries class with assistance of Mr Roger Moore, Hamish Cameron, Mathew Porter and Karin Brazier. Thank you to those who assisted. It is an asset to our Ag plot.

Years 7 and 8 Technology Mandatory have just finished their rotation and study of alternative gardening methods. For their assessment they produced a model of an alternative garden for the Ag plot and an accompanying portfolio. We had some particularly interesting, functional and aesthetically pleasing designs submitted. Well done Years 7 and 8.

Last Wednesday twelve Years 9 and 10 Agriculture students travelled to Agquip at Gunnedah with Mrs Tammy Bradley, Ms Barbra Eipper and myself. The students investigated new agricultural technologies and marketing methods used to entice customers to the stalls. It was a lovely day and a big thank you to the two ladies who accompanied us and made the trip possible.

This Thursday, Years 9 and 10 Agriculture are attending the Merriwa Show Farm Safety Day at the showground. We look forward to attending the workshops and are thankful for the opportunity to participate in this event.

Early in the term we finalised our heifer naming competition and the team who were instrumental in winning her for the school have decided to name her Merriwa’s ConStellation, or Connie for short. The idea for using the “MCS” was an entry from Karin Brazier who will be receiving her prize very shortly. Thank you to all who entered and supported this event.

Lois Harrison
Agriculture Teacher

STAFF PROFILE
Name: Sarah Bendall
Position: TAS teacher Merriwa Central School
Qualification: Bachelor Arts/ Bachelor Teaching (Secondary Technology)
Length of Service at MCS: I am currently in my first year of teaching
Previous School/employment: I have worked between Tomaree High, Muswellbrook High and Singleton High Schools casually
Areas of responsibility: At this point in time I am teaching Technology Mandatory; Information Technology and Graphic Design, Stage 5 Food Technology, Year 9 Geography and Stage 6 Hospitality.
Favourite pastime: Working in the Hospitality industry has been a great learning experience for me. I have developed my food preparation skills through working in a variety of different establishments. Working in the Hospitality industry has developed my passion for food and has made sharing my industry experience and knowledge easy to link to student work
Greatest regret: I think that my greatest regret would be that I did not study Textiles Design in high school. Textiles and sewing is a second passion to food development, cooking and service
Lifetime ambition: At this point in time my ambition is to work as a teacher and build my experience in the teaching field. I love teaching children about my areas of passion; food and textiles. Ideally, in 10 year’s time, I would be teaching Hospitality, Food Technology and Textiles.
What a brilliant term we have had so far in Year 5/6!

Our English focus this term has been on the concept of Representation. We have been focusing on how the Australian identity is represented in various ways. We have been reading Misery Guts by Morris Gleitzman and considering the different aspects of Australia represented in the book. Over the past fortnight, we have been looking at Australian poems and how they represent the Australian identity. The students have thoroughly enjoyed studying Banjo Paterson’s The Man from Snowy River and Clancy of the Overflow. They produced writing of a high standard when they put themselves in the shoes of Paterson, and wrote a letter to Clancy of the Overflow.

In Maths this term we have covered many substrands of the Maths Syllabus. We have developed our understanding of Addition and Subtraction, Length and Area, Multiplication and this week we have been learning about Division and the Order of Operations. The students have loved playing games to consolidate their knowledge of Division and the Order of Operations!

Year 5/6 has been completing a unit on Global Connections in HSIE. This week we began focusing on Australia’s import and export industries, with a case study focus on Fletcher’s International Exports, based in Dubbo, New South Wales. The students have been very engaged in researching Fletcher’s International Exports and identified the on-farm and off-farm responsibilities of those involved in the meat export industry, including why we use NLIS Tags and PIC numbers; withholding periods between drenching livestock and selling them; and the Halal approved method of slaughter for the international meat market. The students have begun to write reports on Fletcher’s International Exports and will continue working on these in the weeks ahead.

There has been a lot of fun happening in Year 5/6 during our Science lessons this term as the students work through a unit on Solids, Liquids and Gases. Some highlights have included making slime (solids and liquids), making and eating ice cream (liquid to solid) and melting and eating chocolate (identifying the changes when solids are heated and cooled)! These experiments have proved worthwhile, with the students able to confidently identify examples of the changes that occur with solids, liquids and gases.

Year 5/6 has been having a ball this term preparing for the rapidly approaching school play! All students have been working hard to remember their lines and perfect their groovy dance moves. We have been especially grateful for the assistance of Anna and Lauren from Aspire with our preparations.
Congratulations to the following award winners for Week 6:

**Kindergarten - Mollie Beaven** – for directly comparing and explaining the length of two objects

**Lula Peebles** – for her contributions to all class discussions

**Year 1/2 - Grace Booth** – for developing awesome questions for our local environment interview

**Rhianna Smith** – for her explanation of Fractions using mathematical language

**Year 3/4 - Mikayla Telfer** - an excellent ability to multiply a one digit number by a multiple by 10

**Thomas Hunt** - for extending his range of skills, strategies and knowledge to fluently read, view and comprehend texts

**Year 5/6 - Charles Brazier** - for fantastic division work in Mathematics

**Lauren Redgate** - for an excellent effort writing a letter to Clancy of The Overflow during our text focus

**Playground Champion - William Luke** - for always being a great friend

**Thomas Hunt** - for displaying good sportsmanship on the playground

**Principal’s Awards** - Peter Hagley and Rhianna Smith for being confident and accurate spellers.

Lizzie Foran
Stage 3 Teacher

Lastly, the rest of the school enjoyed a concert by the Upper Hunter Conservatorium of Music Quintet in the Mackillop Room on Wednesday, August 19. The Quintet performed songs such as Let It Go, The Simpsons Theme and the Harry Potter Theme with a piccolo, clarinet, flute, saxophone, French horn and bassoon. The students were able to participate in telling the story of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, with Jack Patterson as Father Bear, William Luke as Mother Bear, Patrick Magner as Baby Bear, Helena Parker as Goldilocks and Rebecca Keegan performing special sound effects. Have a look at some photos from the day below!

Ringer Deadline!
Please remember to place your articles and advertisements into the *Merriwa Ringer* by Monday at 12.00noon.
STUDENT OF THE WEEK – JACK SUMPTER-CORNISH

Jack Sumpter-Cornish thoroughly deserves the Student of the Week for his behaviour and work that he displayed last week. Comments from staff included that “Jack attempted every activity and often challenged himself when it became tricky.” When he said that he was finished a writing task, he accepted advice to how he could further his work and his learning and continued to write another sentence. Sharing is a great social skill to have and Jack was a respectful sharer during group time and also encouraged his peers in fitness activities on Friday. His reading has benefited from a more independent approach and Jack reading more books at his level. During an art activity, he showed great creativity as he made his impression of the bush regeneration. A comment from a student who voted for Jack was that “he played well in the playground”. Congratulations Jack on your achievements and keep up the great work!

RELAY CHAMPIONS

Best of luck to our school relay team (Tobias, Maddie, Angus, Isabelle and Sophie) who will compete this Friday at the Regional Athletics Carnival in Newcastle. This competition will see our team compete against the best small school relay teams in the Hunter Region. Relay is a difficult team sport and I congratulate the team for their achievements so far. The team is hoping to beat their personal best time which was set at the Zone Carnival in Singleton. This time was an impressive 1:13.22. Thank you, Mrs Nairne, for coaching the team. We are hoping to have at least one training session this week; however student illness and wet weather may be an obstacle.

BOOK WEEK

This week the Children’s Book Council of Australia celebrates its 70th Anniversary. Teaching children to read is an amazing gift that we can all give them. Ten minutes of reading to your child or having them read to you makes a huge different to how they appreciate and enjoy books.

Cassilis is celebrating Book Week in numerous ways:

1. **Library Visit for Book Week**

   It is book week this week and our local librarian Virginia will be visiting on Wednesday at 9.30am to read a story to the students. It will be Virginia’s last visit before she moves on to a new library position in Murrurundi.

   We wish Virginia all the best in her new position and thank her for her support and dedication to the school and local community throughout her time working at Cassilis.

2. **Little Sprouts Day**

   Little Sprouts Day is always a fun and social day out for kids and parents alike. It is on this Friday August 28 at the School of Arts in Merriwa for all students not attending Regional Athletics. Mr Gant will be the teacher supervising students on the day.

This year’s theme is ‘Books light up our world’ and students are to dress as people from different nations around the world. Students may dress in iconic clothing such as a Mexican with a sombrero or simply dress up in the colours of a nation’s flag.

Katie Burgess
Principal
We have had another busy week at Merriwa Activity Centre as the children are exploring more with Lego and leaving their creations for others to add to the next day. It is interesting to watch as the children add to something that wasn’t theirs originally.

Most Tuesdays at the Merriwa Activity Centre, we have all girls so this week the young ladies enjoyed a high tea complete with a three tier plate filled with banana bread, pizza scrolls and chicken and lettuce mini rolls, white table clothes and fanned napkins. The Little Ladies all felt very special.

Don’t forget holidays aren’t far away and soon the holiday program will be out. So if you need care after school or during holidays give us a call on 6548 2082 or call in and pick up an enrolment package today.

Just a reminder to all parents that have children enrolled at the centre please ensure you inform management of any allergies and intolerances that your children may have and keep details up to date.

A big thank you to the Thompson family for the donation of gorgeous plants for our front yard we are overwhelmed with your generosity.

Natalie Hourn
DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Women’s Guild Meeting - First Thursday Monthly: September-November: 2.00pm

Messy Church - Parish Hall - Last Friday Monthly: August-November: 3.30pm

Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - Third Saturday September-November: 7.30am

September 9: Anglican Women Spring Celebration - All Saints Singleton.

This week is known as OP SHOP WEEK

So let us have a look at our own wonderful and truly valued Trinity Markets in Betington Street Merriwa. Have you ever ventured in for a look. Apart from the friendly welcome and the lovely smiles, you would be amazed at what there is on offer. I am sure you will come out with something tucked under your arm. I have spoken to some of the volunteers and here are a few “Why I work in Trinity Markets”

“Trinity Markets is a great place to work, and meet people who come through the shop.” “I work with a great couple. Lots of laughs and jokes.” “We welcomed a new member this week.” “Great! I enjoy my volunteer days at Trinity markets.” “Meeting new people.” “Laughter is very much part of my job. Putting a smile on faces.” “I believe in acting to help others in the community. At Trinity markets the girls have kindness and friendship.” “I love to help the Samaritans in their work. I do two days a month, one with my husband.” “We enjoy being able to help the people in our town and we find many travelers love the store as well”

NATIONAL OP SHOP WEEK

AUGUST 23-AUGUST 30

Samaritans along with all other Op Shops including our wonderful Trinity Markets celebrate national Op Shop Week on the above dates. They ask that we all clean out our cupboards and donate good quality items to their stores.

Stores rely heavily on good quality donations with bric-a-brac items and clothing selling particularly well. There is also a demand for more linen and house-hold items as people in the community are finding it increasingly difficult to afford and budget for these items.

Samaritans tell us, that in an effort to reduce landfill, items that are not suitable for sale are passed on to a service which provides clothes for third world countries.

God’s presence brings us comfort; our presence brings others comfort.

2 Corinthians 1:3-11

Rosalie Drew

Find us on Facebook!

Look for Merriwa Central School’s official page!
On September 11, the Merriwa RSL Club will be holding their Annual General Meeting, which is the same day as our Monthly Meeting. Voting for the board is from August 28 to September 6. We would kindly ask that all sub branch members ensure they cast their ballot at the club during this time, ‘rain hail or snow’.

For our meeting on September 11, come along and show your solidarity for the AGM and elections.

Robert Bahn (AKA Bob Bahn)

Non-Emergency Medical Transport

Mick and Eva Towler have been selling tickets in a 100 Club to raise money for the Non-Emergency Medical Transport car.

The NEMT car is an organisation staffed by volunteer drivers that assist local patients in attending specialist medical appointments away from Merriwa.

This service is critical in helping to bridge the gap in health outcomes in rural communities. Thanks to all that support this cause.

WINNERS

First: Max Jarratt
Second: Vicki Hansen
Third: Sandra Penicka

Robert Smith

Legacy will be holding their annual Badge Day and Street Stall on Friday September 4. All donations of cakes, slices, biscuits etc would be greatly appreciated.

Maree Goodear and Sue Shearman

Merriwa CWA

The next meeting of the CWA Merriwa Branch will be on Monday September 14 starting at 10.00am in the CWA Rooms, 159 Bettington Street.

New members are always welcome. Enquiries to: Barbara Campbell on 6548 5131 or on 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.

Penelope Fenley

Congratulations Keirra, Scott and Max Hourn on the safe arrival of their beautiful baby boy, Jace Nigel Hourn born on August 18 at 5.28pm weighing 8lb and 12oz.

May your home be filled with lots of noise, love and happiness.

Kirk, Hourn and Goldthorpe Families.
Last Friday we held our Annual General Meeting at the MPS. A new committee was elected as follows: President - Elaine Sparrow; Vice President - Kay Taylor; Secretary - Amanda Kemp and Treasurer - Vivian Murray. We would like to thank our Honorary Auditor Bryan Baker for his continued support of our Auxiliary. Membership to our Auxiliary remains at $5.00 and we welcome new members. All money raised by our fundraising events goes back to our own MPS for equipment needed for patient and staff comfort.

Our guest speaker was Doctor Emad Hasem and all present enjoyed his topic for discussion being that of investing in staff, morale, and commitment to patient care and secondary care. He also gave us a ‘wish list’ of machinery that would benefit our patients if available at our MPS.

Also present at the meeting was Merriwa MPS ‘Acting’ Service Manager Hiliary Walker who gave us a ‘wish list’ of equipment needed and discussed what was happening within our MPS.

Our Auxiliary’s next fundraising event will be the Melbourne Cup Garden Luncheon. A committee has been formed to discuss where this will take place – any suggestions on garden venues would be welcome. More on this in future Ringers.

You’ll hear more on our Melbourne Cup Luncheon soon so start thinking of the guests YOU will be bringing with you to our special fundraising event on Tuesday November 3. Always a great day out with fantastic food and company with a little flutter on the horses.

Elaine Sparrow
Community Notice Board

Soccer Skills for Kids
Soccer is running on Saturdays, 10.00am – 11.00am, No2 Oval. Come and try – all welcome. Our coach is Mark Morris who is a past representative of NSW and Australia in CP football and was an Australian player competing in the 2000 Paralympic Games.

Come along for fun, a run, learn soccer skills and have a game! Enquiries Leo Collins 0477 46 25 76.

Leo Collins

Gummun Place Friendship Morning Tea
The residents and staff of the Gummun Place Hostel wish to invite the Merriwa and the district community to a friendship morning tea on Monday September 8.

We would like to start up a Friendship Club for all. Interested in coming along to join us for morning tea and a chat? Or after more information. Please contact Jodie or Sue on 65251 7010 between Monday and Friday from 9.00am to 4.30pm.

Need help with transport to attend? Please do not hesitate to call and ask.

RSVP by August 31.

Jodie Wilton

Samaritan’s Christmas Boxes
The Samaritans Purse Christmas Boxes are available now. They will need to be in by September 30.

Anyone wishing to fill a box, please contact Barbara on 6548 5131 or mobile on 0428 485 131.

Barbara Campbell

Merriwa Anglican Guild Ladies
Expression of Interest for a Debutaune Ball, to be held in November 2015 are now being taken.

Names can be left at Di’s Clothing Patch.

All girls must be 16 years as of November 1.

Di Inder

Fire and Rescue NSW
CALL FOR MORE RETAINED FIREFIGHTERS
Merriwa firefighters are calling on local residents to join Fire and Rescue NSW (FRNSW) as retained or on-call firefighters.

Merriwa Fire Station is short of firefighters and is looking for recruit residents to join the crew responding to fires and emergencies in the area.

Merriwa Station Captain Dave Redgate said retained or on-call firefighters are a diverse group of people who balance work and family commitments to work on an ‘on call’ part-time basis for FRNSW.

“Retained or on-call firefighters receive a wide range of training including advanced first aid, heavy vehicle driving, and how to deal with emergencies such as fires, road accidents and hazardous material spillages,” Captain Redgate said.

“They also play a valuable role in their communities by educating those around them in fire safety and prevention”.

“So if you are a shift worker, a student at TAFE or university, unemployed, in full or part-time employment, or a mum with children at school we would be keen to talk to you about this ‘on call’ and part-time employment opportunity that will allow you to make a difference in your local community”.

For more information on become a retained firefighter, contact the Zone Office on (02)63 31 6372 or Captain Dave Redgate 0429 482 469 or Deputy Captain Annie Rodgers on 0408 482 778.

Andrew Dallah

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.
Merriwa Ringer

Merriwa Springtime Show

SECTION N – CRAFT

SUB-COMMITTEE: Mrs M Llewelyn (Captain), Mrs W Baldwin, Mrs A Kemp, Mrs D Williams

ENTRY FEE: Open classes $0.50 per entry
Children 16 and under no entry fee

PRIZES: First - $3.00, second - $2.00. Award cards for First and Second

SPECIAL PRIZE: Class 38: First $100.00, second $50.00 – Donated by Enid Holt and Merriwa Healthy Environment Group

ENTRIES: will be accepted in the Fairfax Pavilion on Thursday September 17 from 2.00pm to 4.00pm, and Friday September 18 from 8.00am until 10.00am. Any entries not collected between 4.00pm and 5.00pm on Saturday September 19 will become the property of the committee

PRESENTATIONS: 11.00am on Saturday in the Rodgers Pavilion.

SPECIAL PRIZES

PRIZE for Most Outstanding Exhibit donated by Mrs M Rodgers

PRIZE for Most Outstanding Exhibit, Junior Classes 25-37 donated by Mrs M Llewelyn

PRIZE for Best Article made with Recycled Technology, Special Entry Open to all, Class 38 – Prize Donated by Enid Holt and Merriwa Healthy Environment Group

CONDITIONS OF ENTRY

1. All care and no responsibility will be accepted for the loss or damage of exhibits

It is the responsibility of the exhibitor to collect their exhibits at the end of the show.

Organisers take no responsibility for uncollected items.

2. All entries to be new and unwashed.

OPEN CLASSES

POTTERY AND CERAMICS

1. BEST PIECE of HANDMADE POTTERY
2. BEST WHEEL THROWN POT
3. BEST PIECE of HANDPAINTED CERAMIC

LEATHERWORK

4. BEST PIECE of HORSE GEAR
5. ANY ARTICLE FROM LEATHER

HAND SPUN WOOL

6. BEST HANK not less than 50gm of wool by beginners spinner, under 12 months’ experience
7. BEST HANK not less than 50gm of homespun wool, up to 5 ply
8. BEST HANK not less than 50gm of homespun wool, over 5 ply
9. BEST HANK not less than 50gm of novelty yarn
10. ANY ARTICLE SPUN and MADE by the spinner
11. ANY ARTICLE SPUN and KNITTED by the spinner from homespun wool
12. ARTICLE MADE from WOOL, which has been spun and dyed by the spinner

WOODWORK

13. ANY PIECE of WOODWORK turned on a lathe
14. ANY WOODWORK showing joint construction
15. WOODWORK as an art form

MISCELLANEOUS

16. ANY ARTICLE of FOLK CRAFT
17. ONE SOFT TOY
18. BEST DRESSED DOLL
19. ARTICLE PRINTED on FABRIC in Hobbytex or similar medium
20. ANY FELTED ARTICLE
21. SCULPTURE
22. GIFT BASKET for a friend in hospital, water is not to be used
23. ANY ARTICLE made in Craft not previously mentioned in the schedule
24. BEST PIECE of CRAFT by a Senior Citizen

CHILDREN’S CLASSES

16 YEARS AND UNDER

25. PIECE of POTTERY OR CERAMIC
26. ANY PIECE of LEATHERWORK
27. ANY WOODEN ARTICLE
28. SCULPTURE
29. ANY ARTICLE, made by School Student

12 YEARS AND UNDER

30. PIECE of POTTERY OR CERAMIC
31. ANY PIECE of LEATHERWORK
32. ANY WOODEN ARTICLE
33. SCULPTURE
34. ANY ARTICLE, made by School Student

8 YEARS AND UNDER

35. ANY CRAFT ARTICLE
36. ANY ARTICLE, made from recycled material
5 YEARS AND UNDER
37. ANY CRAFT ARTICLE, made at home
38. Best article made with recycled technology
   eg: mobile phone, earphones etc.

Shire Notes
MAYOR FOR THE DAY
This is a great initiative of our Council to help develop progressive thinking and ideas in our young people. This competition has engaged many young people within our local school communities across the Shire with a high standard of ideas in their entries. A common theme that came through from each of the entries included concern for the disadvantaged in our communities, improvement and care for our environment and a genuine desire to improve the facilities in our towns. The empathy and leadership demonstrated in such a young age is certainly pleasing to see. Congratulations to all entrants and particularly to Tegan Gibson of Scone Public School voted Deputy Mayor and Brady Roser of Blandford Public School voted as Mayor for the Day.

FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND GRANTS
The community of Merriwa, especially users of the Showground, will benefit from a $150,000.00 project to build a new multi-purpose shed including removable stud and prime sheep yards. The grant application was a partnership between Council and the Merriwa Showground Management Committee.

Council will receive $66,666.00 from the NSW Public Reserve Management Fund to upgrade the amenities block at the popular picnic spot Paradise Park in Murrurundi including construction of a disabled toilet, disabled ramp and upgrade to the existing toilets.

Council’s Grants Officer plays an important role in being able to secure funds for a variety of projects. The Grants Officer has been successful in negotiating a wide variety of grants that has benefited our shire. The role is jointly funded by Coal and Allied and Council and we certainly acknowledge the importance this funding plays in being successful in our applications and those on behalf of the community and we certainly look forward to this arrangement continuing well into the future. For further information about grant opportunities for your community group or organisation contact Council’s Grants Officer Johanne McKiernan on 6540 1172 or JMcKiernan@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au.

Money, an important part of our lives, is needed to pay for our way in life and the levels of services that our Community desires throughout the shire. Money or funding as it is sometimes called is needed to make our shire operate and unfortunately when funding is not achieved a project or plans may not be able to be delivered. Our Council officers are very active in applying to obtain funding for our infrastructure, roads and facilities. Sometimes they are not successful which means some capital works are delayed, none of which is pleasing to us as residents of our shire. We do however ask for patience when some of the infrastructure work is delayed.

BOOK WEEK
This week is Book Week and the Scone Library has arranged various activities to encourage the reading of books in the Scone area. Each school within the shire has arranged similar activities, with a number of councillors and members of the public reading books to students. With the explosion of modern technology available the reading of books seems to be diminishing, hence the special events during Book Week in an endeavour to promote the satisfaction of reading the written page.

LITTLE SPROUTS
This programme was initiated and supported by Merriwa Central School and Merriwa St Josephs schools and will be held on Friday of this week. The Motto used is “Plant The Seed To Read”. Once again, students will be attending the town Library and school Library will be used with various locations around the town selected for the reading of books. Morning tea is provided by the Merriwa CWA.

I encourage you to attend and support this great reading programme.

GARLANDS BRIDGE
Works on Garlands Bridge is progressing well after some delays caused by inclement weather. Mother Nature sometimes decides our programme and when projects are to continue or not. It is expected that Starrs Crossing Bridge on the Timor Road will also commence soon.

SAVING OUR SEWERS
Repairs and rehabilitation of sewer pipes in parts of the Shire will begin at the end of August including Collins Street and Hall Road in Merriwa.
Over the following three months, 6.3 kilometres of sewer mains as well associated house connections across the Shire will be cleaned, repaired and relined where needed. The work will have major benefits for the environment and public health as it will increase the life of the sewer mains and improve the efficiency of the sewerage network in the Upper Hunter Shire.

Most of the work will occur through maintenance manholes, however in a few cases the ‘dead ends’ of sewer pipes will need to be dug up. Affected residents have been notified by letter and the contractor for the work, Abergeldie Watertech will contact residents 48 hours prior to work beginning in an area. The locations for the work were chosen after Council carried out closed circuit television (CCTV) inspections of problematic sewer pipes.

For a list of all of the locations, please visit Council’s website, www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au.

KEEP AUSTRALIA BEAUTIFUL WEEK

This week, August 24 to 30, Keep Australia Beautiful (KAB) is reminding all Australians what an amazing and beautiful country we have. However, it won’t stay beautiful if we don’t clean up our act when it comes to litter. Millions of pieces of litter are dropped across Australia each year and Keep Australia Beautiful hope that this year’s KAB Week theme ‘It’s Everyone’s Backyard’ will encourage people to think twice before dropping their rubbish.

KAB will be challenging all Australians to consider what their beautiful country would look like if there were no rubbish collectors or cleaners employed to pick up all the litter that gets left behind. They work hard to keep our playgrounds, streets, parks and beaches free from litter but can’t do it on their own.

During KAB Week, we all need to make a commitment to stop and look around, and make sure that our national pride is reflected all around us.

MOONAN CUTTING WORKS

Council advises that there will be traffic delays for drivers travelling through Moonan Cutting on the Hunter Road as work continues to make the road safer. In early September, work will begin above the road on top of the cutting, and work is ongoing on the river bank side of the road. This will result in some delays with the Hunter Road becoming a single lane at times.

The work site is located 51km north east of Scone and 1km south west of Moonan Flat, immediately adjacent to the Hunter River.

The aim of the project is to create a wider, safer and stable road. This is likely to require both stabilising the river bank with retaining structures and cutting into the sheer drop of the rock on the high side with blasting.

Residents who would like to be added to an email list to receive regular updates about the project should email their name and address to council@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au with the subject line ‘Moonan Cutting’.

PREPARE YOUR HOME FOR WINDY WEATHER

Essential Energy is reminding customers to be aware of the potential for electrical hazards around the home and yard during the traditionally windy last weeks of winter. August in the past has been notorious for wild winds that could blow vegetation or other objects into powerlines or cause wires to clash.

Essential Energy urges residents to take care when outdoors in gusty weather and be aware that branches and trees could blow onto powerlines and cause a supply interruption.

Don’t attempt to prune vegetation near powerlines – report any clearance concerns to Essential Energy before the wild weather hits to enable inspection by an authorised person.

Residents are also encouraged to secure loose items in the backyard and anchor sheds and play equipment to the ground to minimise the risk of the objects being blown around in a storm.

If you come across a fallen powerline, stay at least eight metres away from the wires and anything in contact with them. Contact Essential Energy immediately on 13 20 80.

Cr Ron Campbell
The closing date for the 2016 Exchange to Taiwan has been extended. Applications will be received up until September 4.

GSE is a cultural and vocational program for 25-40 year olds. Its aim is the sharing of information and continuous learning for professionals as well as establishing a broader understanding of cultural diversity in the workplace.

It involves a four week visit to Taiwan, staying with local Rotary families, visiting local businesses and places of interest and undertaking vocational visits matched to their profession in Australia.

Anyone interested should contact Merriwa Rotary secretary, Mark Inder as soon as possible.

Further information is available on the Internet - ROTARY YOUTH PROGRAM OF ENRICHMENT - RYPEN

Applications are now open for Rotary’s 2015 program to be held at Myuna Bay from October 30 until November 1.

RYPEN is a program for young people aimed at helping them see beyond their current outlook and approach life with purpose and direction to maximise their full potential.

During the last year, Rotary Merriwa has sponsored the attendance at RYPEN of James Hagley, April Eipper, Breanna Goodear and Felicity Telfer. All reported very positively on the experience.

Here are some comments from participants.

“There has never been a camp that has wowed me this much, an experience I would love to relive and share with everyone.”

“Every activity was absolutely amazing! I would do this over and over again, especially if it was with the same people, the best group of people I have ever met!”

Application close off date is October 23.

This has been a very popular Rotary Merriwa project. More information is available on the Internet - ROTARY 9670 RYPEN.

Please contact any Merriwa Rotarian if interested.

Mark Smith

Indian cuisine or Indian food encompasses a wide variety of regional cuisines native to India. Given the range of diversity in soil type, climate and occupations, these cuisines vary significantly from each other and use locally available spices, herbs, vegetables and fruits. Indian food is also heavily influenced by religious and cultural choices.

The development of these cuisines have been shaped by Dharmic (Religious) beliefs, and in particular by vegetarianism, which is a growing dietary trend in Indian society. There has also been Central Asian influence on North Indian cuisine from the years of Royal Kingdoms and Delhi Sultanate rule. Indian cuisine has been and is still evolving, as a result of the nation’s cultural interactions with other societies.

Historical incidents such as foreign invasions, trade relations and colonialism have also played a role in introducing certain foods to the country. Indian cuisine has also shaped the history of international relations; the spice trade between India and Europe is often cited by historians as the primary catalyst for Europe’s Age of Discovery. Spices were bought from India and traded around Europe and Asia. It has also influenced other cuisines across the world, especially those from Southeast Asia, the British Isles and the Caribbean.

**HISTORY**

Indian cuisine reflects a 5000-year history of various groups and cultures interacting with the subcontinent, leading to diversity of flavors and regional cuisines found in modern-day India. Later, Royals, Mughals, British, and Portuguese influence
added to the already diverse Indian Cuisine.

**MIDDLE AGES**

During the Middle Ages, several North Indian dynasties were predominant, including the Gupta dynasty. Travellers to India during this time introduced new cooking methods and products to the region, including tea and spices. Northern India was later invaded by Central Asian cultures, which led to the emergence of Royal cuisine, a mix of Indian and Central Asian cuisine. Hallmarks include seasonings such as saffron.

Trade with the ancient Sumerian, Assyrian and later Arab cultures also helped import several of those culinary techniques.

With from the Cuisine, which has a history of 5000 years and great Fusions in the past, Spice Grill Merriwa have brought and best Chosen Ones of each and every Corner of India. Which are also The World Famous Dishes, Like:

- The Royal Kathi Rolls
- Butter Chicken Curry and Wrap (Northern India)
- Chicken Tikka Masala Curry and Wrap (Central India)
- Tandoori Chicken Curry and Wrap (Western India)
- Lamb Korma Curry and Wrap (Northern India)
- Lamb Do Pyazaa (Northern India)
- Mint Lamb Curry and Wrap (Central India)
- Lamb Kasundi (Eastern India)
- Lamb Corriander (Eastern India)
- Lamb Rogan Josh Curry and Wrap (Northern India)
- Lamb Madras Curry (Southern India)
- Goan Fish Curry (Western India)
- Battered Fish (Eastern India)
- Lamb Adraki (Central India)
- Indian Masala Omelet
- Vegetarian Foods like Salad, Salad - Sandwiches and Wraps. Serving Vegetarian Dishes too.

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**Local Lands Services**

Hunter land managers are being urged to play their part in protecting the region’s $1.2 billion agricultural industry from biosecurity threats by completing their Annual Land and Stock Returns.

Land managers have until August 31 to complete their annual return, which helps Local Land Services maintain market access for NSW livestock producers by ensuring effective animal biosecurity and welfare.

The Annual Land and Stock Return process is a census for livestock that allows Local Land Services to build a statewide biosecurity picture of agricultural land use and livestock numbers.

Land managers of properties that are 10 hectares or more who pay Local Land Services rates, or have a Property Identification Code are required to complete an Annual Land and Stock Return, even if they don’t have any stock.

If the return isn’t lodged by August 31, an animal health rate and meat industry levy is automatically applied to a land manager’s rates notice next year.

Annual Land and Stock Returns are an important tool in ensuring NSW produce is free of many of the pests and diseases found in other parts of the world, explained Hunter Local Land Services General Manager, Brett Miners.

‘It is essential that our landholders lodge their Returns so that we can maintain and improve the level of animal health security and services to livestock producers across the region,’ he said.

The information collected is also invaluable in preventing and responding to any emergency affecting livestock, such as a natural disaster or disease outbreak, i.e. Avian Influenza or Hendra Virus, which could threaten our local and national economy.

‘By knowing where our stock numbers are across the region, along with the stock identification and traceability systems already in place, our capacity to respond in times of emergency is greatly improved,’ Mr Miners said.

Approximately 155,000 Annual Land and Stock Returns were distributed across NSW at the end of June. Land managers are encouraged to complete their Annual Land and Stock Return online at: www.hunter.lls.nsw.gov.au/livestock/land-and-stock-returns.

For more information land managers should contact their nearest Local Land Services office on 1300 795 299 or visit www.hunter.lls.nsw.gov.au.

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Saturday by arrangement
For bookings please call the surgery on 6548 2305.

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Jillian Ayre
Local Lands Services
DIG'S CLOTHING PATCH

THREE DAYS END OF WINTER SALE

Starting Thursday August 27, we will be having 50% off all winter Ladies, Men’s and Children’s fashion for three days only; including handbags, selected winter shoes, jewellery, wallets, beanies, scarves and gloves. Don’t forget this sale is only on for a limited time and will end on Saturday August 29.

Keep an eye out for our extra special sale items that have been marked down to clear.

We have a great bargain with the last of our woolen underlays - all have been marked down well below cost price. But you need to be quick as there is limited stock.

This is only a three days sale and will end on Saturday August 29 so get in quick.

Excluding ugg boots, workwear, school wear, fascinators, fashion hats, baby gifts, giftware, socks and underwear. Cash and card only.

Di Inder

COOKING WITH CWA

WHITE CHOCOLATE MUD CAKE

- 250 g white cooking chocolate, chopped
- 250 g butter, chopped
- 200 ml hot water
- 1 1/2 cups caster sugar
- 1 3/4 cups plain flour
- 1 cup self-raising flour
- 3 eggs, lightly beaten
- 1 teaspoon vanilla essence

FROSTING

- 100 g white cooking chocolate,
- chopped
- 1/4 cup cream
- 250 g softened cream cheese (can be softened in the microwave for a few seconds)

Serves 10-12

1. Preheat oven to 180°C. Grease a 22-cm round cake tin and line the base
2. Combine chocolate, butter, water and sugar in a saucepan and place over medium heat. Stir continuously, until sugar has dissolved and chocolate has melted. Set aside to cool. Sift flours into a large bowl, add chocolate mixture, eggs and vanilla and mix well
3. Place mixture into prepared tin. Bake for 1 to 1 1/4 hours or until cake is cooked (it should be golden on top). Leave in the tin to cool for about 20 minutes before turning out on to a wire rack
4. To make frosting, stir chocolate and cream over low heat until chocolate is melted and smooth. Allow to cool a little. Beat the cream cheese until light and fluffy, then add the cooled chocolate mixture and beat until soft and smooth. Set aside to cool completely, then spread evenly over the top of the cake.


Corinne Parker

LANDMARK TOWNSEND

LEARN THE BENEFITS OF LIVESTOCK SUPPLEMENTATION

Come along to hear about what Damien Nankervis has to offer knowledge in the benefits of timewise nutrition:

- Offer the right nutrients during all production stages
- Maximise forage utilisation
- Cost effective strategy to minimise input costs

Also learn more about:

- Improving the fertility and health of your herd
- Getting the most of grazing forage crops
- The benefits of WeatherPro and FibrePro programs.

Interested, why not come along to the information session held by Landmark Townsend on Tuesday September 1 at the Merriwa RSL Club at 7.00pm.

Light refreshments and drinks will be served from 6.00pm.

Corinne Parker

Tina Taylor
AN INVITATION TO ASTUTE PRODUCERS!

LEARN THE BENEFITS OF LIVESTOCK SUPPLEMENTATION

Venue:
Merriwa RSL
122 Bettington St, Merriwa
Tuesday 1st Sept (7pm Start)
Light Refreshments & Drinks Provided from 6pm

Guest Speaker:
Damien Nankervis
Performance Feeds/Technical Manager

RSVP to: Corinne Parker
Landmark Townsend
6548 2122 or 0407 300 262

Performance Feeds: 1800 300 593 or www.performancefeeds.com.au
Merriwa Ringer Directory

A quick reference guide to all that support the Merriwa Ringer

Support the Ringer regularly but can’t find your business? Contact Tina on 6548 2119.
Photography Tips

Don’t forget to get your photos in for this month’s Photography competition. In last two weeks edition of the Merriwa Ringer we touched base on 1) Using a long lens, 2) Using a fast shutter speed and 3) Having a helper, 4) Getting Down, 5) Start with a groomed horse, 6) Get their ears up and 7) No nylon halters. This weeks tips are for those that have access to a horse, to help photograph their horse.

1. Watch the lead or reins. Don’t let the owner wad them up. Keep the hands relaxed. Have the owner drop the lead or reins straight down or make one simple loop. If the horse is fussy, have your assistant attach a lunge line or driving rein to help hold the animal. You can take it out later, but you can’t change the expression on an anxious owner’s face

Traditional poses with everyone looking at the camera can get monotonous. Use your imagination and capture the relationship between your subjects

2. Use your imagination. Don’t just stand the owner near the head of the horse and have everyone look at the camera. It’s especially boring with multiple horses and people. Try shooting from the side and having the person curl the horse’s head and neck around. Place a soft hand on the side of the horse’s cheek. Have the person face the horse and capture the interaction

3. Stay off the ground. In general, it’s not wise to have a person sitting on the ground next to the horse unless it’s a very mellow horse or a very nimble person. There’s too great of a risk of someone getting hurt. Try stacking hay bales for the person to sit on. Use a low wall or fence, the tailgate of a pickup, or have the person lean or sit on an interesting tree trunk or low branch and interact with the horse

4. Don’t create a two- or three-legged horse. Lining up one leg behind another creates unflattering optical illusions (see image beside). And don’t allow the horse to become hip-shot, resting one back leg. This is a sign of boredom. Hidden legs create unflattering optical illusions

5. Ask the owner. Find out what the owner likes most about the horse and make sure you understand what he means. Someone may say, for example, “I love my horse’s head and neck—the whole neck all the way down to his shoulder.” Because the horse is such a large subject, there are infinite little details you can capture to touch your client’s heart. You’ll sell one or two wall portraits, but those details can also sell a book or collection

6. Choose a flattering image to both the rider/owner and the horse. An image shot from another horse and/or of the back of the horse very rarely shows a good side of the horse.
If you have a child who is pre-school age (but is not attending pre-school) or younger, you are invited to attend Little Sprouts day as part of our ‘Seeds’ group. We will be meeting at 10.30am at the School of Arts before moving off to activities at the Library and Merriwa Central School. We will enjoy recess, which will be provided by CWA, at the park with the pre-school students.

Come dressed as a person from a different country or simply wear the colours of a particular nation’s flag. Join us for a day of reading and lots of FUN!

Little Sprouts is a community literacy initiative of Merriwa Central School.
7 Prices Lane Merriwa $325,000.00
Situated on a 2.5 acre block on the edge of town this home has been extensively renovated inside and out. It has three bedrooms all a good size and all with built in robes. An open plan living area featuring RC air and also a built in entertainment cupboard. The kitchen is near new as is the bathroom and laundry which has a second toilet. The house has been freshly painted, new carpets installed and all new wiring and plumbing replaced or updated. At the rear of the home is a covered deck ideal for a barbeque area. There is a double lock up garage and a two bay stable. The property is perfect for someone wanting a bit of room to move but only two minutes to the main street and schools. Very motivated vendor!
**Di’s Clothing Patch**

Clothing and Footwear for all the family
- Mens and Ladies clothing
- Children and Babywear
- Shoes and joggers
- Fashion Jewellery and Accessories
- Handbags and Luggage
- Bed Linen, Quilts and Towels
- Hi Vis Work Wear, Boots and Hats
- Digitised Embroidery Service
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**Merriwa Ringer**
**MERRIWA RINGERS**

**1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday**

**Monday to Friday 8.30am to 6.00pm**

**Contact:** 0427 482 095

**Vice Presidents - Peter Bishop and Paul Frampton**

**Cockroaches**

**Silverfish**

**Spiders**

**Pests**

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**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

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- Coffs Harbour: 0437 698 559

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Email: merriwapete94@gmail.com

7 Bow Street MERRIWA NSW 2329
Merriwa District Progress Association Inc

SUPPORT THE ORGANISATION WHICH SUPPORTS YOUR COMMUNITY

Meet every 4th Wednesday at Merriwa RSL at 6:00 pm
Phone Kim on 6548 3060
Or Beron on 6548 2245

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

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

**Mondays** - Happy Two Hour - 4.00pm to 6.00pm

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

**Thursdays** - 6.00pm Bingo - Prizes of club and meat vouchers. Raffle and Super 39 special prize

**Fridays** - Happy Two Hour - 5.00pm to 7.00pm, free raffles and Chook Wheel.

**Saturdays** - Monster Raffle. Tickets on sale at 6.00pm drawn 7.00pm, 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 restaurant hours in the evening are now 5.00pm until 8.30pm.

**DON'T FORGET CHINESE SMORGASBORD SUNDAY AUGUST 30**

**WEEKEND RESULTS**

**Saturday Raffle August 22**
Saturday members draw no 72, not won – next week $360.00

Winners Jackpot not won - next week $170.00

**Dinner:** Mary Richards

**Bowls Raffle:** Jeff Cronin

**Free Tickets:** Nerida Bailey

**PLEASE NOTE:** Saturday raffle tickets on sale from 6.00pm and drawn at 7.00pm during winter months.

**Sunday Raffle August 23**
Sunday members draw - No 17, was not won. Next week $950.00.

**NRL FOOTY TIPPING COMPETITION**

Make sure your picks are to the Club by 6.00pm on first game night of each round. First prize of $300.00, second prize $200.00, third prize $100.00, last prize $50.00. Weekly spondula of $10.00 for picking the round. Good luck.

**RAISING FUNDS FOR BRAD COX WHILE ENJOYING A NIGHT OUT AT THE CLUB**

“The Reason Being” versatile vocalist and musician will be appearing at the Club for your enjoyment on Saturday September 5 at 6.00pm. Come along and enjoy a friendly night out. BYO supper or enjoy a snack from the Chinese Restaurant. Proceeds from the night will aid local boy 12 year old Brad Cox on his road to recovery. Brad is suffering from leukaemia and has recently undergone a bone marrow transplant lovingly donated by his sister Tarah. All welcome.

**SUNDAY AFTERNOON EUCHRE**

Join us for a friendly game of euchre each Sunday afternoon at 3.00pm.

Julie Smith

**Cassilis Bowling Club**

**FRIDAY NIGHT SNACK BAR**

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

Hilary Parker
Merriwa RSL Club
The Members Lucky Badge for $1200.00 was not won on Friday at 8.30pm the number was 709, this week it jackpots to $1250.00. The 7.00pm draw for $400.00 was not won the number was 660, this week it jackpots to $420.00. The 9.00pm draw has now been moved to Thursday and is drawn between 6.00–7.00pm, it was for $320.00 was not won the number was 10, this week it jackpots to $340.00.

The Sunday Morning Badge Draw for $1200.00 was not won last week the number was 370, this week it jackpots to $1250.00 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
Starting the first Monday of September social darts 7.00pm in the games room, all welcome to play.

Introducing ‘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
HAPPY HOUR IS BACK - Friday 6.00pm to 7.00pm and Sunday 11.00am to 12.00noon, $3.00 schooners and $2.00 middies and $5.00 Coronas.

NEW HAPPY HOUR – Thursday’s 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.

Voting for the Board of Directors starts this Friday August 28 and closes on Sunday September 6 at 6.00pm, to vote you must be a current financial member.

Matt Morgan
Ringer Deadline!
Please remember to place your articles and advertisements into the Merriwa Ringer by 12.00 noon Mondays.
GRAND FINAL - SEPTEMBER 5

We still have two more weeks of Junior League for our mini players. The Grand Final day for Group 21 will be played at Merriwa this year. With possibly 500 people attending the day. Players, parents and supporters from Group 21 teams in Denman, Singleton, Muswellbrook, Aberdeen, Scone and Merriwa are coming to our sports ovals to participate. It will be a BIG day and we need all hands on deck. Those who hold LeagueSafe certificates are required to see Elaine as we need officials on both fields throughout the whole day. Please ring Elaine to see what you can do to help. CANTEEN need LOTS of helpers throughout the whole day. Please volunteer an hour or two to help our coordinator, Laurel Whitby, and place your name on the roster. Both ovals will be open for play and so we will have a road closure at Brisbane Street for the safety of all players.

For the past three years we have had some wonderful sponsors and we thank you all for your support and generosity. The following people have supported our Junior League: Our Major Sponsor is the Merriwa Sports Club. Jersey Sponsors have been Kingslyn (two jersey sets); Rockwell Livestock and Property; Rosto Olives; Merriwa RSL; Welderup; AAMI; Shorts and jersey sleeve sponsors are Merriwa Newsagents; Boardman and Peasley; Williams Concrete; Morgan’s Maintenance. Without your wonderful support our club would not have operated as successfully as it has. To those who have volunteered to sponsor for the following three years (2016-2018) we thank you and look forward to a great partnership in the future. To all our sponsors, League and Netball, we appreciate your continued support of the youth of Merriwa.

PERPETUAL TROPHY winners from 2014. It is time to give back your Club Perpetual Trophy so we can engrave the 2015 winners names. Could you please return them to Belinda Keane or Elaine Sparrow as soon as possible. Those winners to return trophies were: Logan Dewson; Mathew Porter; James Hagley; Damian Jamieson; Maddison Pike; Ruby Wong; Peita Cassar; Karen Brazier and Andrew Jamieson. If you see any of these people please ask them to return trophies asap.

Annual General Meeting and Presentation Day is Sunday October 11 at 11.00am at the Merriwa Sports Club. Free sausage sizzle lunch, jumping castle and other fun to be had. See you all there.

Elaine Sparrow

MERRIWA RSL CLUB UNDER 6’S

Last week we travelled to Muswellbrook to take on Denman. Our team looked very small compared to Denman (we need to find out what they feed them). It wasn’t our best game though I am sure our team are leaving their best for the last two games, especially our home game on September 5. This week’s Player of the Match went to Tye Blackadder for his excellent tackling and great runs. Well done Tye.

The week before Bruce took the under 6’s to Singleton where I believe all of them played brilliantly (so I think I might have to stay away on game day). Try scorers were Paige, Jayden and Riley all with one, Zac with two and Tye with four. Player of the Match went to Paige for her all round great effort.

See you all on Saturday at Denman.

Gaynor Blackadder

ROSTO UNDER 7’S

Two little magpies travelled to Muswellbrook and took on a strong Singleton side. After borrowing six players the game was underway.

Kallum and Nate played really well. Making great tackles and running the ball well. Both boys were extremely close to scoring a try each. Keep up the great work boys!

Player of the Match went to Nate Brown.

Jade Redman

KINGSLYN UNDER 8’S

On Saturday, the under 8’s travelled to Muswellbrook where they played against Muswellbrook. The three Aberdeen boys, Hayden Rogers, Harry Davis and Kade Sherwood joined us again. With only seven on the field against Muswellbrook’s eight players, the under 8’s had to stand up, which they all did. Jackson had a great game scoring four tries, had lots of great runs and good tackles. Logan ran hard, making good meters and tackled well. Toby scored one try and made great tackles, along with organising everyone to make sure they all got some runs. Duncan always rushed up to try and tackle everyone, making some good tackles as well as gaining lots of metres. Merriwa scored six tries, the other one being scored by Kade, and Muswellbrook scored six as well.

“Player of the Match” went to the Aberdeen boys in the team. Kade, Hayden and Harry have been eager to play with us these last two weeks and they all played really well, with great runs and great tackles. Harry Davis has been a regular
player for the under 8’s and always comes and plays with them if he can. A big thanks to those three.

John Cronin

KINGSLYN UNDER 9’S

Our under 9’s boys and gal once again joined troops with Aberdeen under 9’s, Charlie, Izabelle and Noni.

With one Aberdeen player and four of our own out, we struggled to make a full side. We borrowed one Denman player, still leaving us with one short. Playing one short did not worry the team as they went on to play a terrific game against Scone. We lead the whole game by one or two tries until the last few minutes, when the score evened up. The whole team tried their little hearts out but unfortunately with less than a minute to go Scone crossed over the line to be one try in front. The kids played an excellent game with Clayton and Jack excelling at running forward, not stopping for anyone. Brooklyn and Dylan were awesome in defence and Thomas and Riley were both hard to catch,10ipping and weaving through Scones defence. Player of the Match went to Jack for his frequent hard running and trying his heart out in defence. Tries went to Clayton with an awesome three tries, Charlie(Aberdeen) x two and one each to Dylan, Thomas, Riley and the Denman player.

Playing one short against a full and very strong Scone side and still being as competitive as they were was a huge achievement and they should be very happy and proud of themselves. Well done under 9’s, keep up the fantastic footy and keep having fun.

We need every under 9 to come to training so we can be prepared for our last two game’s. The last game is our home game where we hope lots of locals will get to the oval and watch this incredible team do their thing. This team is full of natural sportsman with every one of them loving their footy. They just can’t wait until training days and especially game days. This shows in their abilities and enthusiasm out on the field. They are a great team and are the future of Merriwa Rugby League.

Belinda Keane

Merriwa Tennis Club
SPRING NIGHT COMPETITION

The Merriwa Tennis Club Spring Night Competition is commencing soon.

Competition is played on a Monday Night from 6.30pm and usually finishes around 8.30pm.

Nominate as a team of four (two ladies and two gentlemen) or nominate as a pair or single and we will fit you into a team.

Nominations may be made at Merriwa Pharmacy or by e-mailing merriwatennis@gmail.com.

Robert Smith

Merriwa Rugby League Club
PRESENTATION NIGHT

When: Saturday October 3
Time: 6.00pm for 6.30pm start
Cost: $25.00 each or two for $45.00

Includes finger food and main meal.

The club will have a DJ following the presentation.

Players and 15 years + (under 18’s with a responsible adult) welcome.

Tickets to be purchased by September 25 from Merriwa RSL Club. Tickets go on sale as of August 31.

Gaynor Blackadder

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

Belinda Keane
In Issue 26 Merriwa Touch Football spoke of registraiting your team. Since that Ringer went to print, members of the committee have spoken to the Touch Association in relation to registraition.

No longer are the days where paperwork is filled out to register your team. This year and from here on in, to register to play touch football, you will need to complete your registration online. This is payment and paperwork.

Team captains will need to pick up a team sheet from Max’s Country Cuts and gather email addresses from EVERY team member before Registration Days. We will be holding an information session at 4.30pm on the first of these two days and request that the team captains attend (or a team representative) and the completed form be brought along on this day. Teams can not be entered into the competition without this paperwork.

**PRICING**

Pricing for the season will be:

- Seniors competition - $65.00
- Juniors $35.00.

So with this in mind:

- Registration packs will be out August 31
- Registration Days will be September 9 and 16 at 4.30pm
- Merriwa Touch will kick off on October at 5.00pm (may change depending on registered teams).

Please let one of the committee know if you are keen to assist, all help is greatly appreciated and without more support the Touch seasons will again fold.

Positions are listed below are still unfilled, please consider coming on board for 2015-2016:

- **Vice President** - Unfilled
- **Secretary** - Unfilled
- **Registrar** - Not filled (will be covered by treasurer and secretaries until filled)
- **Referee Coordinator** - Unfilled.

**RULES FOR TEAMS**

Teams will consist of no more than 11 players.

- Three players under 18 years of age as of January 1, 2016. One of these players must be under 15 years of age as of the January 1, 2016 - turns 13 or 14 before January 1 2016, (Junior player – is a player under 12 years of age by January 1, 2016)
- Must have a player over the age of 30 years, as of January 1, 2016
- Players must have played three games prior to the semi-finals
- No more than three registered Rugby League (mens - Under 16 players that have stepped up for Under 18’s are exempt), Soccer, Rugby Union or League Tag players
- Team captains are to receive a team sheet and it is their responsibility to gather every members email address which is necessary for registraition and to attend the registraition night.

**RULES FOR JUNIOR TEAMS**

Juniors teams will consist of players of school age that are in Kinder - Year 6 (or Under 12 years of age by January 1, 2015) and will be mixed sex teams. Juniors games will be held at 5.00pm each week and will run for 30 minutes. For the first two weeks of games, the juniors will be placed in teams on the day rather than teams until teams are decided.

Interested in sponsoring the juniors? Please contact me on 0447 219 193 after 6.00pm.

**REFEREEING**

Names are being taken for refereeing.

This season, referees will again receive a match payment for their time. This will be paid after a number of weeks, aiming for three payment dates for the season.

The nominated referee can ask for someone to assist but must share the match payment (and must organise this with the other referee).

Please remember that some of these referees are gaining experience and may not always see it how you do but as each player has signed the Code of Conduct, must abide by the Merriwa Touch Football Association and NSW Touch Associations guidelines. If a player does not abide by this they will be given a warning and then may be asked to leave the field for the remainder of the game.

Tina Taylor
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AUGUST
Friday 28  •  Little Sprouts - School of Arts - 10.30am to 12.30pm
       •  Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm

SEPTEMBER
Friday 18  •  Merriwa Springtime Show
Saturday 19  •  Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - 7.30am
          •  Merriwa Springtime Show
Sunday 20  •  Merriwa Springtime Show
Friday 25  •  Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm

OCTOBER
Saturday 3  •  Merriwa Campdraft - rescheduled date
Sunday 4   •  Merriwa Campdraft - rescheduled date
Monday 5   •  Merriwa Campdraft - rescheduled date

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

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