Congratulations Lizzie Hagley
Young Citizen of the Year and Upper Hunter Citizen of the Year

Enjoy the benefits of a better banking relationship, happily ever after.

Funds raised for Brad Cox
Australia Day 2016 Photos
Clean Up Australia Day
Valentine's Day Specials
Australia Day 2016

Michael Nutt
2016 Citizen of the Year

Richard Wilkinson
2016 Environmental Achievement

Barbara Wightman
2016 Achiever of the Year

Clr Peebles presenting gift to Australia Day Ambassador Greg Donovan

Cassils Public School
2016 Community Group of the Year

Coordinator Tash Taffe and Australia Day Ambassador Greg Donovan

See Page 4 and 5 for Australia Day photos with Merriwa Central School Students and more official photos on Page 31.
Welcome back to a new school year. It was great to see so many parents and grandparents on Friday accompany our new Kindergarten students to school. Students were excited to be back at school and catch-up with friends, and meet their new teachers.

YOUNG CITIZEN OF THE YEAR

Congratulations to Lizzie Hagley for her nomination and award of Young Citizen of the Year for the Upper Hunter Shire. A fantastic achievement to not only be recognised within our school, the Merriwa community, and the Upper Hunter Shire. It goes to prove our motto that all students can achieve their personal best at Merriwa Central School. Well done Lizzie.

NEW STAFF

We have many new staff members this year in both primary and secondary. Mrs Kate Jones (Years 5/6) replaces Mrs West as assistant principal in primary. Many would remember Mrs Jones from her time with us 12 months ago. Mrs Sharon Benton-Crooks (Instructional Leader) replaces Miss Alison, and Miss Emma Thurston will both be supporting Kinder - Year 2 students and staff. Miss Bonnie Etchells (Year 3/4) joins us from Clarencetown Public School in a new classroom teacher position due to our increased student enrolments. Miss Emma Garbellini (Year 2), Miss Jess Setterfield (Year 3/4), and Miss Sam Holden will be teaching music in Primary and Secondary.

New secondary staff members include Miss Courtney McMullen (Hospitality) who fills the vacancy left by Mr Creamer. Miss McMullen joins us from Binnaway Central School. Miss Elizabeth Creagh (Science), Miss Isabel Robinson (English), Miss Michelle Charters Learning Support Teacher.

Two vacant positions will be advertised this term, the Head Teacher English/HSIE vacancy created by Mr March’s retirement and the General Assistant position created by Mr Stones retirement.

PRIMARY CANTEEN

Our primary and secondary canteens are operated by the P and C. Parents helpers are needed on the primary canteen which operates each Monday. If parents, or grandparents can spare a few hours to volunteer occasionally on the canteen that would be great. Tammy Bradley is the P and C canteen coordinator, if you can help out please leave your contact details at the Primary Office, or drop into the canteen on Mondays.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE

At Merriwa Central School we aim for all students to look, and achieve at their very best. If parents are experiencing financial difficulties in purchasing uniforms, or school equipment please feel free to contact me. Student assistance applications are available at the Primary and Secondary office, which provide parents with access to discounted uniforms. Parents who requested assistance last year, will need to complete new forms if assistance is required again in 2016. All applications are treated on a confidential basis.

Darren Noonan
Principal

Coming Events

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
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<td>Wednesday 10</td>
<td>Peer Support Camp</td>
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<td>Friday 12</td>
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<td>Wednesday 17</td>
<td>Secondary Zone Swimming at Muswellbrook</td>
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<td>Thursday 18</td>
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<td>Thursday 18</td>
<td>Wannaruhah Lands Council visit - 9.00am</td>
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<td>Great Hall - Students and Parents</td>
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Primary News

Last week, Primary students returned to school safe and sound after the Christmas holidays. The first week back has already been busy with Kindergarten students beginning at ‘Big School’, Primary students voting for sporting house captains, school photographs being taken and the swimming carnival being held.

On Friday, Kindergarten students excitedly started their official schooling at Merriwa Central School. There were a few tears shed by both students and parents but after visiting us last year for Kindergarten transition, the students quickly settled into our school. Kindergarten have been busy over the last week learning about our school routines and rules. They along with the rest of the school, enjoyed posing for their class photographs and are already beginning their daily lessons. Fortunately, all the Primary students and ‘buddies’ have been very supportive and helped our new Kindergarten students to play happily in the playground.

Primary students last Friday, held their sporting house meetings in readiness for the swimming carnival. The following students were selected as sporting house captains:

- Blaxland - Piper Cropper and Christian Beveridge
- Wentworth - Kyarne Sampson and Thomas Bates
- Oxley - Alethea Fawcett and Kyreece Fawcett
- Lawson – Tahli Gleeson and William Whitby

Congratulations to these students for being selected by members of their sporting houses and for encouraging their sporting houses at the swimming carnival.

Megan Sinderberry

Secondary News

STUDENTS EXCEL AT 2016 AUSTRALIA DAY AWARDS

Well done to Merriwa Central Students presented at 2016 Australia Day Awards held at Cassilis Bowling Club. We were proud to see their dedication and hardwork recognised within the community.

Australia Day Ambassador Mr Greg Donovan, Mrs Sally Hagley (accepting award on behalf of Lizzie who is overseas) and Clr Errol Bates

Mathew Orton received Creative Arts Excellence Award
Australia Day Ambassador Mr Greg Donovan and Liam Cronin who was awarded School Excellence Award

Australia Day Ambassador Mr Greg Donovan with John Cronin nominee for Young Citizen of the Year.
Secondary News
NSW SCHOOL VACCINATION PROGRAM

Each year NSW Health works in partnership with schools to offer the vaccines recommended by the National Health and Medical Research Council (NHMRC) for adolescents as part of the school vaccination program.

In 2016 the following vaccines will be offered:

Year 7 students

• DTpa vaccine (Diphtheria, Tetanus & Pertussis (whooping cough)) as a single dose
• Varicella vaccine (chickenpox) as a single dose; and
• Human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccine in a 3-dose schedule at 0, 2 and 6 months (students who commence HPV vaccination in Year 7 but do not complete the course may be offered catch-up doses at school in Year 8)

• The Parent Information Kits contain a consent form, information sheet and privacy statement that details how personal information will be collected, stored and utilised.

Consent form kits will be sent home to parents/guardians. To consent to the vaccination of their child, parents/guardians are advised to:

• Read all the information provided
• Complete the consent form, including signing their name next to the vaccine/s they would like their child to receive
• Return the completed consent form to their child’s school
• Ensure that their child eats breakfast on the day of the school vaccination clinic.

Parents/guardians who wish to withdraw their consent for any reason may do so by writing to the school Principal or phoning the school. The Procedure for Withdrawal of Consent is available on the NSW Health website at www.health.nsw.gov.au/immunisation

To improve vaccination completion, students will be opportunistically offered any missed doses throughout the year where possible.

Please note that for HPV vaccine only, parents/guardians must record their Medicare Number (all 10 digits and the 11th number beside the child’s name) on the consent form, as this is required to record the student’s information on the National HPV Vaccination Register and (for female students only) link to the National or State Cervical Screening Program.

A Record of Vaccination will be provided to each student vaccinated at each clinic. Parents/guardians should ensure that this record is kept for future reference and should not assume that their child has been vaccinated if they do not receive this Record of Vaccination.

Lana Grant
Vaccinations Coordinator

CAREER NEWS

Welcome back everyone to what looks like being a very busy term. We have a number of important events coming up that involve students and parents.

Year 12 Uni Roadshow - will be held at Muswellbrook High School on February 19. Regional Universities will be presenting to students about what they have on offer for 2017 and how students can be best prepared for tertiary study. I am organising an excursion to Muswellbrook for any Year 12 students who are interested and if any parent would like to come along please contact me.

MCS Indigenous Students workshop: On February 18 workshop is being held at Merriwa Central School Secondary campus in the Great Hall for all students and parents who wish to attend. Students and parents will meet CEO of Waraguh Land Council and Clarinda Masters who will spend sometime talking to parents and students about services they offer and the steps involved in verifying student aboriginality so that students are eligible for greater support when they access tertiary education. Letters will go home to all parents involved.

Aboriginal HSC Scholarship Program: Scholarships are available for indigenous students studying the HSC this year. They must meet the following criteria:

• Studying the NSW HSC in 2016
• Studying an Advanced or Extension subject as part of your HSC
• Interested in a job in Roads and Maritime Services or a Transport for NSW operating agency

Funds can be used to buy educational goods and services such as a new computer, resource books or tutoring. Applications close 29 February 2016. More information can be found at http://www.rms.nsw.gov.au/about/careers/working-with-us/diversity-inclusion.html or by contacting:
Notice is given for the Merriwa Central School Parents and Citizens Annual General Meeting.

On Wednesday March 2, 2016 at Merriwa RSL starting at 6.00pm.

All positions will be declared vacant.

If you are looking at a way to help support your child though are unable to assist during school hours or you would like to get out to socialise then perhaps the P&C is just for you so think about taking up one of the following positions:

- President
- Vice President (opportunity for 2 vice presidents)
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Canteen Treasurer
- Publicity Officer
- Fundraising Officer
- General Committee

All membership fees of $2.00 is to be paid prior to the AGM or taking on any positions therefore you can pay prior to the next general meeting to our Treasurer, Anna Whaley or at the next General Meeting on Wednesday February 3, 2016.

Hope to see all you keen and willing parents and/or citizens at our next meeting and AGM.

For more information please contact Jayne on 6548 2264 or Gaynor on 6548 2977.

Jane Hegarty

Merriwa Central P and C

Kylie Stewart Aboriginal Employment Coordinator
(T) 02 8849 2410 (M) 0407 661 333.

P AND C PRIMARY CANTEEN

Welcome back everyone and hopefully we will all have a wonderful 2016!

As we missed the last Ringer for 2015, I would like to thank all of our volunteers who gave up their time to help out last year. I literally would not have been able to do it without you and your efforts were greatly appreciated.

I would also like to take this opportunity to announce that as of this month, I will be stepping down as Canteen Coordinator. Unfortunately, due to my current family and work commitments, I am unable to dedicate the time required to carry out this duty.

Although I’ll no longer be Canteen Coordinator, I do hope to still be available to help out where I can.

To our volunteers, thank you again. Also thank you to our teachers and families of Merriwa Central School for supporting our canteen.

Just a reminder to our families, the P and C Primary Canteen relies entirely on volunteers in order to operate. So if you think you might be available for one or two days per term, please do not hesitate to contact the school and leave your details. All help is much appreciated.

Jane Constable

Gaynor Blackadder

Download the free Merriwa Central School App.

MCS in touch with our community!
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 students and their families. We wish you many happy years of education within the St Joseph’s school community.

Opening School Mass, Parent Information evening and P and F social BBQ will be held Monday February 15. We urge all parents to attend this evening and celebrate the new school year and learn all about your child’s learning environment for the 2016 school year. The teachers will explain the course of learning to be embarked upon and explain the ways the classroom will operate this year.

The “Called to Serve Mass” will be celebrated at the Cathedral Newcastle. Our teachers join all other school staffs across the Diocese on this night to celebrate Catholic education and thank God for the blessings our school communities enjoy and to ask for continued blessings.

Major learning focuses at school this year will be on developing the students’ writing skills and Maths knowledge. To this end there will be a great deal of Professional Development undertaken by the teachers to enable them to give the best opportunities for learning to your child. Tomorrow we will participate in “Choose Maths” workshops which are presented by the Australian Mathematical Sciences Institute.

Seven Steps to Writing is a program being studied by all teachers this year aimed at raising the student’s writing skills at all levels. We are excited to see great results and we expect parents to start seeing greater enthusiasm and skill in their child’s writing soon too.

Future Schools Conference in Sydney will be attended by Mrs Samantha Kerr and Mrs Helen Whale in March. This conference will give us the opportunity to investigate further ways to ensure our students’ education being enhanced and strengthened by technology.

Parents in partnership with the school is a very important value at St Joseph’s. Teachers will be working with you and your child to set learning goals for the term and the year. These goals will be realistic targets to achieve over time. This is an exciting opportunity to really work in collaboration with your child and their teacher. More information at the Parent Information Evening.

The Best Start program has been used by the Infants teachers last week to formally assess each new Kindergarten child. The results of this assessment enable teachers to identify exactly what Literacy and Numeracy skills each of the children already have as they enter school and what skills they are yet to learn.

With this vital information the teachers are able to cluster children together according to need and ensure the teaching is targeted at the appropriate level. This really does give all children the BEST START!! Teachers will be in touch with parents shortly with information relating to this assessment.

Working Bee Wonder!! Last Sunday was our first working bee for the year and what a great rollup. There were 42 participants in all including 18 students. Thank you to the Wightman, Patterson, Taaffe, Collins, Peebles, Whale, Shannon (including Lotta), Hagley, Morgan, Redgate, Luke, Brazier, Magner and McLaren families for all your hard work and cooperation that was needed to complete all the jobs on the very long list.
It was a great to have ex-students James Hagley and John Magner helping out also. Thanks also to Samantha Kerr and Elizabeth Foran who worked with the team. We stuck to our 2 hour time frame and enjoyed a social sausage sizzle 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!

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. Many students played the parts of the Holy Family as well as angels and shepherds and sheep. Christmas Mass was a wonderful experience for all who attended.

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.

Library time was offered on 3 occasions during the holidays to encourage students to continue reading. Your wonderful staff gave up their own time to make this possible.

AWARDS

Congratulations to the following Principal Award winners for Week One:

For their wonderful assistance at our first working bee - Jack Shannon, Roy Lawler, Darcy and Jorji Taaffe, Charles Brazier, Olivia and William Collins, Patrick and Tia Magner, Nicholas Morgan, Patrick and Emma McLaren, William Luke, Peter Hagley, Lula Peebles, Ben Patterson, Bethany Wightman.
Congratulations to Cassilis students for being awarded “Community Group of the Year” at Australia Day Celebrations at Cassilis Bowling Club.

Students have received this award for their contribution to Bush Regeneration last year. This involved the students undertaking an ambitious project to convert 1.2 hectares of unused School land and making it a functional and useable area. The project will continue in 2016.

Thank you to Mrs Grinham for introducing the idea and Mr Gant for his knowledge and ongoing contribution to the project.

MRS BURGESS’ CHRISTMAS SURPRISE

Eric Louis Carl was born at 5.18am on Christmas morning weighing 3.64kg (8 Pounds), head 35.5cm and 51 cm long.

Baby Eric couldn’t wait to meet his mummy, daddy and big sister and so they received an extra special Christmas present.

We would like to wish Mrs Burgess all the best with her beautiful growing family and look forward to visits from them throughout the semester.

NEW STUDENTS AT CASSILIS PUBLIC SCHOOL!

Cassilis School is lucky enough to have three fabulous new students this year. Elka Laing in Year 2 as well as Dylan and Brooke McLennan in Years 3 and 5. All three students have settled well into their new school and we look forward to watching them grow.
YEAR 3-6 CANBERRA EXCURSION

The Year 3-6 students will be heading to Canberra this year!

The excursion will be held over a week in August with students from Cassilis joining Martindale Public School to allow for a more social excursion but with the added bonus of lowering the costs. This excursion will be available to all Year 3-6 students and as we will be joining another school, numbers are not an issue.

There will be a cost involved for this excursion and we will inform parents of the details and cost as soon as we know. The school will hold fundraising activities throughout the year to help lower the cost to our families.

K-2 students won’t be missing out. They will have a day excursion which will be discussed later in the year.

Katrina Hodgson
Relieving Principal

Ringer Deadline!
Please remember to place your articles and advertisements into the **Merriwa Ringer** by 12.00 noon Mondays.
Welcome back. I trust everyone has had a ‘relaxing’ holiday and are ready to start the new year.

**STAFF DEVELOPMENT DAY**

All teaching staff attended a training day at King St Public School last Wednesday. They had the opportunity to work with Professor Jenny Gore around the topic of Quality Teaching. Professor Gore shared her work/research that she has done around what is quality teaching. Later in the day, staff learnt how to code lessons. They watched a lesson, coded it against the quality teaching framework, then discussed their score. The next phase of this project will involve one member of our staff joining a team of three teachers from other schools. Each team member will teach while the others code and feedback their thoughts. In the future, all lesson observation will take place using this process.

We have some wonderful learning experiences organised for our students this term. We will be joining Merriwa Central for a zoo visit. We will be travelling to Murrurundi for an Aboriginal Cultural Day and Healthy Harold will visit late in the term. Mrs Parker has organised MILO cricket to start in Week 4.

A big welcome to our new Kindergarten students - Gabby McLean, Thomas McLean, Shykiah Walters and Taylan Blackhurst-Marsh.

A big welcome also to some new students - Shaneka Marsh, Mason Meyer and Landon Meyer.

**SPORTS IN SCHOOLS**

Late last year we were successful in going a sports in schools grant. This will mean that we can offer a wider variety of sporting activities at no cost to the students. Our first sports activity will be MILO cricket, which starts in a few weeks. The grant will cover all costs for MILO cricket, making the program free to students.

**SWIMMING CARNIVAL**

This year we are not conducting a small schools swimming carnival, due to our schools only having a few strong swimmers. Our strong swimmers will attend the Upper Hunter Swimming carnival being held in Murrurundi next Monday. We wish them all the best.

**STAFF TRAINING**

Next week Mrs Parker will travel to Newcastle to complete two days of training for the MiniLit program. This program will be implemented back at school to assist those students who need further support with sounds and sight words.

**YEARS 3-4-5 CLASS ESSENTIALS**

All students in Year 3/4/5 will need the following

- 1 red pen
- 1 blue or black pen
- 1 lead pencil
- 1 eraser
- 1 sharpener
• 1 ruler
• 1 glue stick
• 1 pair of scissors
• 1 highlighter.

These items are essential items that are required in the classroom everyday. It is expected that students will have their essential items by the end of Week 3.

SWIMMING SUCCESS

On the weekend, Andrew Harris attended two carnivals: one at Tamworth and one at Werris Creek. He performed well and gained six medals.

Gold -
• 9 and under 100m Butterfly
• 9 and under 100m Freestyle
• 9 years 50m Butterfly
• 9 years 50m Freestyle

Silver -
• 12 and under 200m Freestyle
• 9 years 50m Breaststroke.

What an awesome result. Well done, Andrew.

MERRIWA LANDCARE TREE-PLANTING PROJECT FIELD DAY

When: Thursday February 18, 2016
8.00am BBQ breakfast for Lunchtime finish
Where: Settlement Hall, Ringwood Road Merriwa

Come along and learn all about tree planting in your local area:

- What works and what doesn’t work!
- Preparing your site, choosing trees and shrubs, and planting tips
- Fencing options including the Waratah range
- How to access funding and planting assistance via Stepping Stones
- Tour of the Goodear family’s successful tree planting projects

Great opportunity to network with local farmers and tree-planters, share ideas and equipment, get your own project off the ground!

For MORE info and to RSVP for catering contact:
Hunter LLS - Maria Cameron 0409 636 765 or Stepping Stones - Kirsten McKimmie 0418 700 617
maria.cameron@lls.nsw.gov.au  kirsten.mckimmie@muswellbrook.nsw.gov.au

Merriwa Landcare Group Inc.
DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

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

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

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

Cookery for Hunter Group Mini-Show

Merriwa CWA is planning a Children’s Cookery Caper on Saturday February 20 at 10.00am-2.00pm (lunch will be provided) to enable young people to enter their cooking in the Hunter Group Mini-show on February 24. There is a section for Under 18’s to enter their cornflake cookie so why not try out the recipe before February 20?

Cornflake Cookies

Ingredients:

- 125 gm butter
- ½ cup sugar
- 1 cup self-raising flour
- 2 cups cornflakes
- 2 teaspoons vanilla essence
- ½ cup sultanas
- 2 eggs

Extra cornflakes to roll the cookies in.

Method:

- Preheat oven to 180 degrees C
- Beat butter and sugar with the vanilla essence until light and creamy
- Add eggs, one at a time beating after each egg
- Add sifted flour and mix well
- Stir in sultanas and cornflakes, missing until combined
- Roll into small balls about the size of walnuts
- Roll in the extra cornflakes
- Place on a lined biscuit tray allowing room for cookies to spread
- Press slightly to flatten
- Bake at 180 degrees for approximately 18-20 minutes
- Remove from oven, allow to cool and remove from tray.

Anyone under 18 can enter. If you cannot attend on February 20 just make your cookies and bring them along to CWA or give them to one of our members before February 22. Place four on a plate if entering the competition. Otherwise simply enjoy them. Phone for details Jean Price 6548 2456.

Rosalie Drew

Merriwa CWA

Wishing you a very happy New year and my hope that you were able to celebrate Australia Day in some special way, albeit out with the community or enjoying a lamb chop at home. We have a wonderful country and must continue to pray for all that is good and wholesome.

God doesn’t send happiness, He sends the ingredients. We do the mixing.

And so following on with the start of a New year I will share this verse that we have all heard before.

Recipe for Life: Take equal parts of courage, hope, faith and enthusiasm. Mix well with a good sense of humour, Sprinkle with a few tears and lots of laughter. Add a large helping of Kindness to others. Top with a real appreciation of the ridiculous and Serve with Generosity and Tolerance.

February 8: Induction Rev’d Angela Dutton Scone - 7.00pm

February 9: Shrove Tuesday

February 10: Ash Wednesday service at 6.00pm

March 4: World Day of prayer St. Anne’s at 7.00pm

Rosalie Drew
Shire Notes
With the recent heavy rains during December and January the UPPER Hunter has experienced the best growing conditions experienced for years. Farmers have welcomed the excellent growing conditions that without exaggeration, the grass has grown before your eyes.

This has placed enormous pressure on the mowing of lawns both private and those under the care of the councils parks and gardens staff. As any casual observer will attest the job of getting all areas into an acceptable condition means that as you mow one almost has to mow the section again. The bulk of material to be mowed means the length of time to cover an area takes almost twice as long as normal. I have travelled in our towns of the upper hunter recently and have noticed it is a common problem.

I ask for patience as council staff and the private sector endeavour to bring the lawns back into an acceptable condition.

Thanking you.

Cr Ron Campbell

Merriwa Rotary Club
Merriwa Rotary Club annually awards a scholarship to a local student moving on to higher studies. The scholarship assists the student cover the fees and other costs which will be incurred at the start of a course.

Rotary has awarded the 2016 scholarship to Liam Cronin. Liam has written an account of his proposed study program, which is published below.

FUTURE STUDY PROGRAM
This year, I have been fortunate to receive the 2016 Angus Peebles Scholarship from the Merriwa Rotary Club to assist me in my tertiary education.

I will be attending Macquarie University for four years, studying a combined Bachelor of Science and Bachelor of Education, majoring in Mathematics. By studying this degree, I will become a qualified secondary mathematics teacher, a position which schools are finding extremely hard to fill. Throughout my four year course, I will study a range of mathematical concepts and topics, which is integrated into the education aspect of my degree, to fully enhance my teaching ability in the classroom.

At the end of my degree I will begin to work full time for three years as a maths teacher where teaching is in demand, e.g. Western NSW and Western Sydney, as a commitment I have made to the Department of Education.

A big thank you to my local Rotary Club for the scholarship and I look forward to coming back, to discuss all the incredible experiences I am bound to have down at Sydney.

Liam Cronin

All the best Liam!

Mark Smith
2016 COMMUNITY SUPPORTER

CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY is only one month away, so make a note of SUNDAY MARCH 6 in your DIARY and help make YOUR town tidier.

Registration will be from 9:30 at Rotary Park and there will be a free BBQ for all participants from mid day.

Go on line at www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au to find out more about Clean Up Australia Day 2016 and register your interest to help clean up Merriwa.

This year Merriwa’s Clean Up is coordinated by the Merriwa District Progress Association. For more information contact Beron on 6548 2245.

Beron Arden-Wood

Merriwa RSL Sub Branch

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Merriwa RSL Sub Branch will be having its Annual General Meeting on Sunday February 14 commencing at 10.30am. All members are cordially invited to attend.

Mary O’Neill
Hon Secretary

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Merriwa District Progress Association

Merriwa Senior Citizens Association

Please note upcoming functions:

1. Movie Day Thursday February 11 from 12noon
2. Senior’s Week April 1-10 with Home Day on Friday April 8
3. Game’s Day Tuesday May 10 with Singleton visiting
4. Games Day Tuesday August 9 with Muswellbrook visiting
5. Trip to Xmas in Winter at Buttai Barn on Wednesday June 22.

More details will be available at a later date.

Mary O’Neill

Veteran’s Golf

A Veteran’s week of golf will be held at Muswellbrook on March 14 - 18, 2016.

If any Merriwa Golfers would be interested, please call Bruce Robinson on 0427 133 446.

Bob Minch
Treasurer

Ringer Deadline!

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

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.
Community Notice Board

Congratulations

On January 22 and 23 the Australian Bushman’s Campdraft and Rodeo Association held its National Finals Campdraft for the top 25 competitors in each division.

A big congratulations to Sarah Nairne and Mathew Porter who both qualified for their age groups.

St David’s Uniting Church

Following the Carols in the Park and the sausage sizzle stall, St David’s Uniting Church with the help of the community, were able raise funds to the total of $660.00.

These funds have been donated to Vanessa Cox by the St David’s Uniting Church to assist Vanessa with their son Brad’s, medical expenses.

Brad has made a remarkable recovery from his treatment for Aplastic Anaemia and is looking forward to returning to school. However, ongoing treatment and doctors appointments may have to continue. We wish him well in his continuing recovery.

Pie Drive

Yes, we will be running again this year – Drive has been booked for

Wednesday April 6, 2016 – just in time for the school holidays.

Sheets will be out and around in the next few weeks.

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.
This year is flying, it feels like yesterday that I was celebrating New Year’s Eve but it is already February! This means that school is back, Valentine’s Day is only a fortnight away and Easter is sneaking up on us!

SCHOOL

The new school year means that there are books to cover, pencils to sharpen and lunches to pack. To make these processes easier, we have been running a fantastic Back To School catalogue. It is still running but is in its last days so hurry in and get all of the things that the children forgot to tell you that needed!! There are also some great home and office supplies inside the catalogue, so it has something for everyone.

School lunches are a chore- especially when competing against the perfection of the lunch box contents of the best friend! It is so easy to make the same boring lunch every day, but there are easy ways to make lunch more interesting without breaking the bank or being a masterchef. Check out some of the cookbooks we have in store right now to find some easy inspiration.

VALENTINE’S DAY

It is perilously close to that very special day. We have some truly beautiful jewellery available that will make the perfect gift for that special lady in your life. There are earrings that are full of sparkle and different Swarovski Crystals, there are necklaces that will enhance any outfit, and there are bangles for that special but slightly different gift idea. There are dangly earrings, delicate necklaces, statement necklaces and leather wrist cuffs. Something for everyone.

You have picked the perfect gift, now it is time to wrap - we have a great selection of flat wrap and rolls of wrap, as well as ribbon and bows. There is also a large selection of gift bags in different sizes and designs that will fit any gift, including that delicious bottle of wine.

Cards are the next item on the Valentine’s Day List. There are cards for every couple - funny, romantic, poetic, cute, for him, for her, husband, wife. They are situated near the wrap and there is a card for everyone.

Other gift ideas include some beautiful glassware; including gorgeous perfume diffusers that will look stunning on any dressing table, photo frames for those who love cute as well as the more sophisticated. There are jewellery boxes for those who love pretty things and Charlie Bears for the collector of such things.

We look forward to seeing you over the next couple of weeks.

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

Cash or Eftpos only.

Leanne Hook
Australia Post Merriwa

STAMP PRICE INCREASE

In January this year price of stamps has risen to $1.00. There are two speed for delivery being regular at $1.00 and Priority whereby you will still need to have a $1.00 stamp but purchase an additional Priority label for 50c to ensure delivery within 1-4 business days. 30c stamps are available to assist with using up your existing supply of 70c stamps.

FLOWERS

Australia Post can now deliver flowers. Starting from $60.00 these beautiful bunches can be ordered and paid for in store and delivered to your special someone. Catalogue and order forms in-store.

PO BOXES

Invoices will be issued soon for PO Box holders. Please let us know as soon as possible if you no longer require your box. Prices this year are: Small $126.00, pay on time $121.00; Medium: $186.00, pay on time $181.00 or Large $297.00, pay on time $292.00. Reduced rate prices will apply to applications where addresses are in a no delivery area. For any new box holders an establishment fee of $25.00 will be charged.

AVON IN STORE

We have now entered Campaign 6, which ends on Monday February 8, 2016. Every Avon catalogue contains great deals with freebies available so come on in and pick up a catalogue or go to my online shop – shop.avon.com.au/store/kelsw

FREE POCKET CALENDARS

Don’t forget to grab a free 2016 pocket calendar when in store. Handy to have in your wallet.

Merriwa Post Office hours are Monday-Friday 9.00am – 5.00pm. Lunch break closure is 2-2.30pm.

Until Next Time

Kellie Walker and Kylie Austin

Merriwa Surgery

DR EMAD JASEM

For all your medical needs

Opening hours

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 8.30am to 6.00pm
Wednesday 8.30am-1.00pm
Saturday 9.00am-1.00pm

The Surgery will be closed between 2.00pm-3.00pm

For bookings please call the surgery on 6548 2305.

Merriwa Surgery wishes to advise our patients that we are not a bulk billing practice. We do bulk bill pensioners with concession cards and children under the age of 16. Our fees and charges currently set at the Merriwa Surgery will be changing; fees will be available for your viewing within the surgery.

Free catch up immunisation is now available for people aged 10-20 years for 2016 and 2017 only. Please come in and see our staff if you require any catch up immunisation.

Responding to patient requests we will be running a skin clinic every Thursday morning starting in March. This is a clinic for full skin check and lesion removal only; no other clinical matters will be discussed during that clinic. This is an appointment only service. We would encourage all of our patients to have their skin checked regularly.

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

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

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

We have a commitment to our patients who have already booked their appointments. Everyone who is registered with us will continue to be looked after by our surgery, new patients will need to register first until we can fit them in, hopefully the waiting time will not be long. We will do our best to accommodate everyone. The priority is to our existing loyal patients.
To reduce waiting time please let reception staff know if you have more than one problem or if you think your consult will take extra time. This ensures we can give you the correct amount of time to see the doctor.

A reminder to our patients that the Merriwa Surgery is closed on Wednesday Afternoons, from 1.00pm onwards. Patients registered with our surgery can still call our afterhours emergency care number on 0455 323 287.

We are currently updating our records, it would be appreciated that all patients see our reception staff upon arrival so we can have your most updated records.

The practice is registered for Q fever testing and vaccination, contact reception to arrange your test and vaccination.

Dr Emad Jasem

La Scaletta Pizzeria

VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIAL

DON’T FORGET FEBRUARY 14

What better way to celebrate Valentine’s Day with that someone special then at La Scaletta’s Valentine’s Special on Sunday Evening February 14.

Our special includes a three course meal for $60.00 a double and there will be a surprise for the ladies.

Be quick so you don’t miss out, book now on 6548 3005.

Spice Grill Merriwa

It was with great pleasure that the Spice Grill hosted the Welcoming Ceremony and Dinner for Mr Greg Donovan, Ambassador for the Australia Day Celebrations of Merriwa District with respected members of the Australia Day committee and his wife Mrs Donovan.

Rohit Gaur

Robert Marchese
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.

Guideline 3 (Children and young people under 18 years of age) of the Australian Guidelines to Reduce Health Risks from Drinking suggest the following:

- 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.

‘febfast’ a month-long health challenge and fundraiser, and an opportunity for you to get your health and body back on track after the excesses of the silly season. ‘febfast’ is a community of thousands in Australia who have committed to banishing beer and bubbles for the month of February, to feel healthier and raise vital funds for young people facing disadvantage. Consider ‘febfast’ – a pause for the better – as February approaches. At: www.febfast.org.au

Your local community pharmacy is your health destination. Your local pharmacist can give you more information about the effects of alcohol, including interactions with medicines, 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.
101 Rifle Range Road, Merriwa
$399,000.00

Situated on 2.5 acres this one year old home is being offered for sale due to a job transfer. The property is immaculate in every way, designed to suit the block and take advantage of the magnificent views. The large living area is open plan and features a dining room at one end and a lounge at the other with the kitchen joining both. The kitchen is top quality with an island bench, dishwasher, electric oven with a gas cooktop and plenty of cupboards. The living area has air conditioning and glass sliding doors overlooking the verandah and mountains beyond. There are three big bedrooms all with built in robes and ceiling fans while the main has a walk in robe and ensuite. There are verandahs on three sides with plenty of room for the BBQ.

The yard is fully fenced and shrubs and shade trees have been planted and are beginning to establish. The property is connected to town and tank water. There is a 7m x 7m double shed with an attached carport. The home has been built by the vendors with the intention to be their long term home, so quality fixtures, fitting and all infrastructure is of a very high standard which the next owner will be able to benefit from. If you are after a new home without the hassle of building take a look at this home and you will be impressed.
Merriwa Ringer

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6376 1044
Secretary - Jane Hegarty
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Treasurer - Lesley Nixon
0407 627 846
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CARING FOR OUR LAND, OUR WATER AND THE AIR WE BREATHE
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Ted Finnie 6548 5171
Visit: www.merriga.nsw.au Clubs and Groups

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Monday to Friday 8.30am to 6.00pm
Saturday by arrangement.

For appointments please call the surgery on 6548 2305

**MERRIWA RACES**
Race Day for 2016 is April 23
Race Club President - David Alker
Contact - 0427 482 095
Vice Presidents - Peter Bishop and Paul Frampton

**MERRIWA RINGER**
Monday to Friday 8.30am to 5pm
Ph: 02 65 482 083
Email: merriwaraschool@tpg.com.au

**MEDICAL TRANSPORT**
Pre-School is for 2 – 5 year olds
Open Monday – Friday 9am – 3pm
Ph: 02 65 482 083
Email: merriwaraschool@tpg.com.au

**MERRIWA PRE-SCHOOL & ACTIVITY CENTRE**
MAC’s open for 5 – 12 year olds.
Open Monday – Friday 3pm – 5pm & 9am – 5pm School Holiday time.
Ph: 02 65 482 082
Email: merriwaraschool@tpg.com.au

**OPENING HOURS**
PRE-SCHOOL: 2nd & 4th Sunday 11.00am
CHURCH: 1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday 10.00am
SUNDAY SCHOOL: 11.00am
SUNDAY SERVICE TIMES:
1st, 2nd, 3rd & 4th Sunday:
10.00am
11.00am
10.00am
10.00am

**SANDY HOLLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL**
Primary Campus: 6548 2101
Secondary Campus: 6548 2119
merriwa.s.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.merriwa.s.schools.nsw.edu.au

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Clean toilets!

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**MEN’S SHED:**
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10.00am onwards

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

**St Davids Uniting Church**
Vennacher Street
Merriwa
Ph: 6548 2375

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Ph/Fax: 6548 2375
131 Bettington Street
Merriwa

**Sandy Hollow**
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Fax: 6548 4450
Email: sandyhollow-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

**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

**La Scaletta**
Pizzeria
Telephone: 6548 3005
6548 2213

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**Cassilis Public School**
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Coolah Road
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Fax: 63761005
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**Merriwa Central School**
A rich learning environment in a friendly Christian atmosphere
All enquires welcome
Principal - Helen Whale
Ph 6548 2035
P&F President - Dermot Shannon
Ph 6548 2996

**St Joseph’s Primary School**
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Merriwa District Progress Association Inc
SUPPORT THE ORGANISATION WHICH SUPPORTS YOUR COMMUNITY
Meets every 4th Wednesday at Merriwa RSL at 6:00 pm
Phone Kim on 6548 3060
Or Beron on 6548 2245

Merriwa Rugby League Football Club
President – Andrew Constable
Snr Vice President – Gaynor Blackadder
Jnr Vice President – Cynthia Morgan
Secretary/Treasurer - Matthew Morgan
Publicity Officer - Jessyca Morgan

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Merriwa Cricket Club
President: Craig Drury
0477 129 937
Senior Vice President: Murray Wright
0428 482 394
Secretary: Sonya Drury
0459 541 450
Treasurer: Max McNauth
0437 482 375

Merriwa Central School
President - Anne Marie Peebles
Vice President - Leanne Hunt
Secretary/Registrar - Jodie Magner
Treasurer - Bronwyn Redgate
Head Coach - Jodie Magner

Squad Days - Monday/Tuesday
Time Trials - Thursday
Learn to Swim - Thursday/Friday
Contact Jodie on 0429 375 280

MERRIWA TENNIS ASSOCIATION
President: Robert Smith
6548 2213
Secretary: Emily Hall
Treasurer: Krichelle Khan

Merriwa Touch Football
Wednesday Nights
Junior and Senior Comp
President: Trent Cooper
Senior Vice President: Vacant
Secretary: Barbara Eipper
Treasurer: Ainsley Mayben

For more information contact 6548 2124 after hours.

MERRIWA JUNIOR LEAGUE AND NETBALL CLUB
President: Roger Moore
0427 153 446
Secretayy: Megan Richards
0427 437 743
Treasurer: Jake McIntyre
0408 112 709

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

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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Irlen Syndrome can cause Dyslexia and difficulties with:
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• Spelling
• Writing
• Comprehension
• Concentration
• Ball Sports
• Fatigue
• Eye Strain
• Headaches

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President: Roger Moore
0427 153 446
Secretary: Megan Richards
0427 437 743
Treasurer: Jake McIntyre
0408 112 709

October Long Weekend 2016
merriwacampdraft@gmail.com

Cassillis Bowling Club
PH: 6376 1002
Open every day 5pm

MERRIWA JUNIOR LEAGUE AND NETBALL CLUB
President: Trent Cooper
Senior Vice President: Vacant
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 Hours - 4.00pm to 6.00pm**

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

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

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

**Saturdays - Monster Raffle. Tickets on sale at 7.00pm drawn 7.45pm, winners jackpot, dinner draw and Saturday Badge Draw.**

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

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

Casual bowls and golf also available. Donations in honesty box.

Chinese/Australian Restaurant open for lunch Wednesday to Sunday, 12 noon to 2.00pm. Dinner Tuesday to Sunday 5.00pm to 8.30pm. Closed Mondays, reopen 5.00pm Tuesday.

For bookings and take away - telephone 6548 3228.

**SMORGASBORD ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28**

**WEEKEND RESULTS**

**Saturday Raffle January 30**

Saturday members draw no 483, was not won - next week $170.00

Winners Jackpot not won - next week $220.00

Dinner: Beatrice Voysey

Bowls Raffle: Eva Towler

Free Tickets: Joel Gill

**Sunday Raffle January 31**

Sunday members draw - No 35, was not won. Next week $650.00.

**WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE CLUB**

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

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

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

**CHRISTMAS RAFFLE WINNERS**

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

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

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

**COMING EVENTS**

‘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.
**MERRIWA RSL CRICKET CLUB REPORT**

This Saturday is Round 15.

Merriwa RSL is away to Belmore Bulls 2 at Scone. Merriwa RSL Cricket Club would like to thank their sponsors for the 2015/16 season; Merriwa RSL Club, Frampton Freight, and Wallings Pastoral Company.

**Matt Morgan**
Secretary/Manager

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**Sporting News**

**Merriwa Rugby League Football Club**

Welcome back to another season of Netball & Junior League. Junior League start their training this Friday February 12 at Number One Oval. During February we will be training every Friday from 4.30pm till 5.30pm. Registrations can be taken at training at $60.00 per player for League. Players must turn five in 2016 to play in the Under 6’s and up to Under 16’s.

Girls are welcome in any of the teams up to Under 12’s then they may play in the new competition commencing this year for Under 14’s Girls League Tag. If you are interested in the Girls tag team please see Kate Blackadder or Elaine Sparrow for more information.

If you are interested in coaching a side, doing a coaches course, first aid course, leaguesafe course or being on our committee, please come along to our meetings on the first Monday of each month at the Merriwa Sports Club at 6.30pm or talk to President Andrew Jamieson or Secretary Elaine Sparrow.

Netball will commence training in March and no information has been given as to fees etc as yet. We will let you know when this happens. **NETBALL COORDINATOR NEEDED.** Barbra Eipper has moved to Port Macquarie so we need a new Netball Coordinator, asap. Please ring Heidi Inder if you want to know about this role and what is required. Heidi has been our coordinator for five years and now has stepped down. I am very busy with the league side of the club and cannot do both so please someone in the netball side step up and help out our club.

On Friday February 19 the NRL will be visiting our schools and in the afternoon will be having a skills session from 3.00pm till 5.00pm. Registrations can be taken on that day or at any training day.

Those who want to see what junior league is all about come on down for a trial run. Everyone is welcome.

**SPONSORS**

We thank all our new sponsors for this season. Our new jerseys have arrived and they look fantastic. Thank you to Our Major Sponsor - the Merriwa Sports Club.

Jersey Sponsors are: Under 6’s Cross Country Merriwa; Under 7’s Merriwa RSL; Under 9’s Merriwa IGA; Under 10’s Kingslyn; Under 13’s Rosto Olives; Under 16’s AAMI.

Shorts and jersey sleeve sponsors are: Merriwa Petroleum and Ag; JACMON Pty Ltd; Welderup; No Bull Skips; Merriwa Rotary Club; Max’s Country Cuts; Myrtlemount Stock Horses.

We thank our Netball Sponsors for their continued support of all our netball girls and ladies. They are: Rockwell Livestock and Property and Welderup.

We also enjoy the support from Merriwa Pharmacy with first aid kit supplies. If there is anyone who would like to sponsor our club we would love to hear from you.

This season we want to upgrade our shed facilities so we can store our equipment in a better more orderly manner than is the current case of mayhem within the shed. However we need some funds to do this. I have applied for three grants within the past eight months but no success so far. I will keep trying however if there is anyone within our community who could help us we would love to hear from you. We need shelving, cupboards and storage bays. More in weeks to come.

**Elaine Sparrow**
Secretary

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**Ringer Deadline!**

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

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Merriwa Little Athletics

Merriwa Little Athletics club are thrilled to confirm 9 athletes have qualified to represent the Hunter Zone in the 2016 Regional Athletics Championships in Glendale next weekend. This is the largest team Merriwa have sent to Regionals in a very long time!

Our fabulous athletes will join four that qualified from Aberdeen, five from Denman and nine from Muswellbrook as well as team mates from Kurri Kurri, Maitland, Rutherford and Singleton to represent the Hunter and compete for the honour of competing at the State Championships in March.

It is no coincidence these kids have made it through – they have all worked extremely hard this season with many training independently throughout the school holidays. (I know of at least one athlete that asked Santa for his own shotput and discus – Santa, being a Merriwa fan, kindly obliged)

There has also been sensational support from our coaches – Sally, James and Elizabeth Hagley, John Cronin, Bridie Moore, Steve Hourn, Belinda Keane, Mel Bates, Sarah Booth and Ainsley Maben. Your work does not go unnoticed.

‘Team Merriwa’ consists of Grace Booth, David McPhie, Darcy and Jorji Taaffe, Ben, Jackson and Dylan Keane, Darcy and Clancy Moore – next weekend is going to be really tough but kids if you keep in mind the goal is ‘to be your best’ and try your hardest then you will be a winner regardless.

Please wish these athletes all the best this week.

Be prepared for plenty of ‘cat and mouse’ on the track over the next few weeks kids!

Training is back on for the rest of Term 1, Monday nights from 5.30 to 6.30 at No 2 oval with a BBQ to follow (weather permitting).

Tash Taaffe
Coach/President.

Merriwa Tennis Club

MERRIWA TENNIS CLUB AUTUMN NIGHT COMPETITION 2016

Happy New Year Merriwa Tennis players and supporters!

Now that the Australian Open is over and our full compliment of players are once again available we are keen to get the Autumn Night Competition underway.

We are planning to commence play on Monday February 15 – hopefully this will have the finals over before the cold weather sets in.

Competition is played on a Monday evening from 6.30pm (usually concludes by 9.00pm)

Teams consist of four players (two ladies and two men).

Each player plays three sets of doubles (1 x mens/ladies and two x mixed)

Play is of a social standard (no sheep stations or Tomic tantrums).

Nominate as a team of four, a pair, an individual player or reserve at Merriwa Pharmacy or by e-mailing merriwatennis@gmail.com

All competition players must become members of the club.

Ball/lighting fees of $5.00 are payable each evening.

Tennis is a fun way to get some exercise, meet new people and socialise with friends. Give it a go in 2016.

Robert Smith
Merriwa Ringer Pricing for 2016

Advertisements

- Single Space Classified (35mm x 49mm) - $23.00
- Double Space Classified (35mm x 97.5mm) - $35.00
- Quarter Page Advert (70mm x 97.5mm) - $62.00
- Half Page Advert (195mm x 140mm) - $90.00
- Full Page Advert (195mm x 280mm) - $140.00
- Inserts (Catalogues or Flyers provided by you and inserted into the Ringer) - $210.00
- Columns in editorial form $21.00 per column or part thereof
- Inside Front Cover – Side Strip – 40mm x 267mm - $58.00
- Front Cover – Bottom Banner – 185mm x 34mm $45.00

Payment MUST be made prior to Monday 12 noon of the advertising week.

Sponsorship Package

Sponsorship includes – full term (no part term sponsorships taken)

- 1 Article of news no longer than 600 words per issue, space permitting
- Advertisement of 6 items can be mentioned in the body of the article with pricing
- A listing in the telephone directory
- A sponsor box in each article
- Use of photo or logo, space permitting
- New to 2016 – either business owners photo added to article or business logo/shop window.

Sponsorship prices are:

- Single Box (43mm x 53mm) - $95.00 per 10 week term or $104.50 for 11 week term
- Double Box (either 8cm x 4.5cm or 4cm x 9cm) - $196.00 per 10 week term or $215.00 per 11 week term
- Triple Box (12cm x 4cm) - $294.00 per 10 week term or $323.40 per 11 week term
- Quad Box (either 16cm x 4cm or 8cm x 9cm) - $392 per 10 week term or $355.74 for 11 week term
- Large Box (185mm x 110mm) - $784.00 per 10 week term or $862.40 for 11 week term
- Sponsorship for 2016 can also be arranged.

If payment is made (for the full year payment only) prior to February 5, 2016 a discount of will have been applied to the total amount.

General Information

In 2016, Term 1 will have 10 issues, Term 2 will have 10 issues, Term 3 will have 10 issues and Term 4 will have 11 issues.

All prices include GST. Deadline is 12 noon Mondays for distribution on Thursday.

Public holiday weeks, articles must be received by 9.00am Tuesday – unfortunately late articles will not be accepted.

Current circulation figures are 900 weekly, covering the Cassilis, Merriwa and Sandy Hollow districts, reaching approximately 3,000 readers in hard copy, and many more via the internet.

Please contact Tina Taylor, Ringer Coordinator on 6548 2119 to discuss your Ringer advertising.
Community Events
Australia Day 2016

Merriwa Ringer
## Community Calendar

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

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

*Contact Tina Taylor on 6548 2119.*

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