Merriwa Little A’s blitz the field at Glendale Regionals

Five zones converged to tough it out on the track and field to vie for a spot in the State Championships in March.

Continues page 30
CLEAN UP AUSTRALIA DAY is less than two weeks away so make a note of **Sunday March 6** in your Diary and help make YOUR town tidier.

Registration will be from 9.30am at Rotary Park and there will be a free BBQ for all participants from midday.

Go on line at [www.cleanupaustraliaday.org.au](http://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 with the support of The Upper Hunter Shire Council. For more information contact Beron on 6548 2245.

Beron Arden-Wood
Merriwa Clean up Coordinator

**ARTIST OF THE MONTH:**
**EMILY TOWELL**
**YEAR 10**

Every month we will be showcasing the talent of our creative and performing arts students.

This month, Emily Towell has been selected for her excellent drawing skills and dedication in Year 10 Visual Arts. Well done Emily!

Rebecca Hopkins
Art Teacher
Principal’s Report

Congratulations to all students who competed at Zone Swimming Carnivals during the past fortnight. It goes to show that persistence and hard work does pay off for students who train regularly and compete at this level.

RECOGNISE ABORIGINALITY

A very productive workshop was held last week for Aboriginal students and parents. The theme of the meeting was to assist students and parents to not only celebrate their Aboriginality, but to understand the process of official recognition. Some organisations offering scholarships, courses, apprenticeships, employment and services for Aboriginal students require additional documentation. Mrs Hegarty can provide information to parents who may have missed the workshop.

BEFORE SCHOOL SUPERVISION

Primary parents are reminded that playground supervision is provided from 8.30am until 9.00am. Students should not be on school premises before 8.30am. In the afternoon town students leave at 3.00pm to walk home, whilst supervision is provided to bus students from 3.00pm to 3.30pm. Student’s are then escorted to buses by the teacher on duty.

In Secondary, before school the Deputy Principal is available if students require assistance. In the afternoon Head Teachers supervise bus duty at 3.30pm.

DROP-OFF CHANGES

All parents are advised that the Council has recently updated bus zone signage in Mackenzie and Bow Streets. The previous signs were out-of-date, confusing and inconsistent. Bus drivers had complained of near misses, with parents dropping of children in school bus zones. Fines apply if parents drop students off in these areas during school pick-up and drop-off times.

Primary parents are encouraged to use Cullingral Street (behind primary) to drop children off, or collect them at the end of the day. Secondary parents are asked to collect students from either Langley Street (near basketballs court) or Hayes Street (opposite the top oval) to avoid the buses.

The fine for stopping in a school bus zone is $319.00 and two demerit points.

MOBILE PHONE POLICY

To ensure students focus on their classwork, and not their Facebook status, mobile phones are banned whilst at school. Students who travel to school on the bus can leave their phones at the Office, and collect them in the afternoon. The school will not take responsibility for lost or stolen phones left in student bags in the playground. Students caught not following the school rules, will have the phone confiscated for a week, unless a parent chooses to come and collect it. A suspension warning will be issued for failure to follow the school rules.

SCHOOL FEES

All parents and carers will soon receive information about school contributions in the post. We have kept the primary contribution to the same low rate for the past eight years. Some secondary elective fees have changes due to the increasing cost of some consumable items. Payment is due by Friday March 18. Payments can be made at the Office or online via the school website. If families are experiencing financial difficulty and are unable to pay the fees please do not hesitate to contact me. All enquiries are dealt with in confidence.

Darren Noonan
Principal

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**Coming Events**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>FEBRUARY</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 26</td>
<td>Vaccinations</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year 12 work placement</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>MARCH</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Friday 4</td>
<td>Year 6-12 Girls Night In – Great Hall, begins 5.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 5</td>
<td>Year 6-12 Girls Night In – Great Hall, pick-up 9.00am</td>
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<td>First Aid Course – Great Hall, 9.00am-3.00pm</td>
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Primary News
STUDENTS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following students for being selected as Students of the Week for Week 4 of this term.

Kindergarten: Emma Grady
Year 1: Isla Murphy
Year 2/3: Jack Cook
Year 3/4: Oceana Rawlings
Year 4/5: Nikita Constable
Year 5/6: Piper Cropper

PRIMARY ASSEMBLY

Don’t forget the next Primary Assembly will be held tomorrow and will begin at 2.15pm. The assembly will be hosted by our school captains and will be an opportunity for ‘Workers of the Week’ to share their exemplary efforts and for applicable students to receive merit awards. Year 5/6 will also be the first class for the year to entertain us by presenting a class item.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

It has always been a common debate in classrooms for students to write expositions to argue for or against the implementation of school uniforms. Although many of our students may state that they would prefer to select their own clothing for school, our staff and P and C have worked hard to create, promote and enforce our Merriwa Central School uniform policy.

Fortunately, most students at our school wear their correct full school uniform on a daily basis. At the Primary campus, we wish to continue to encourage all students to proudly wear their uniform and reward students who demonstrate such honour and loyalty to their school. As a result, all students’ names have recently been entered into a draw. Each week on any given day, names will be randomly selected and two students will be awarded prizes if they are wearing the correct full school uniform.

We look forward to working with parents and carers to further advocate the importance of wearing school uniform and will share with you next week our first prize winners from our uniform draw.

PRIMARY BEHAVIOUR POLICY AND REWARDS ACTIVITIES

At our Primary campus we have a behaviour system in place to ensure staff and students feel safe and supported. Our system allows for students to receive rewards for following our school rules and conversely it provides consistent and fair consequences for students who do not demonstrate appropriate behaviour during class and play time.

Our school rules are:

- Learn all you can
- Respect all members of the school Community
- Look after the school
- Maintain our school’s good name
- Be in the right place at the right time
- Be honest

Students who do not abide by school rules may experience consequences such as being given verbal warnings, having time out, being sent to an Assistant Principal’s classroom for timeout or being removed from the playground. Red cards and orange cards will issued for infringements and such cards will be sent home to notify parents of the incident which incurred the card. Parents will be required to discuss the incident with their child and sign the card before returning it to the school. If cards are not signed and returned, teachers will call parents to check parents are aware that such cards have been issued.

At the beginning of each term all students will be issued five points. When a student receives an orange card they will lose one point. If they receive a red card they will lose three points. Students have the opportunity to redeem themselves and can earn one point make for each week that they follow the school rules and demonstrate exceptional behaviour in class and the playground.

The number of points collected by students is important as they must have at least four points to attend Rewards Activities. Our school coordinates ‘Reward Activities’ for one day in the last week of each term. Rewards Activities vary each term.
and may include but not be limited to students being given the opportunity to watch special performances, participate in sporting workshops, travel to cinemas to see a movie, compete in trivia competitions, dress up for a disco and party games or visit the pool for water activities.

Students who have not demonstrated appropriate behaviour and obtained at least four points for the term will not attend Rewards Activities. Instead such students will remain in a classroom with a supervising Assistant Principal and complete set tasks which include finishing any work they have missed during the term as a result of their disruptive behaviour or any absences.

Megan Sinderberry
Assistant Principal

YEAR 4/5 NEWS

Year 4/5 has been working hard over the past few weeks. The students have demonstrated their ability to be organised and prepared for the variety of lessons throughout each day. The students have been eager to learn about our Science unit ‘Changes in Materials’. They have enjoyed being ‘Matter Detectives’ by examining a range of items and discussing how they have changed due to heating or cooling.

Students in Years 4/5 have also cooperated positively with their peers from the Year 5/6 and Year 3/4 classes in daily fitness and sport. The students have been participating in a range of activities that encourage them to work together to solve problems and communicate their ideas.

The students are enjoying designing and sewing puppets this term during whole school staffing. Miss McMullan has been working hard to help us develop our stitching skills. The students have already made a practice hand puppet with felt. They have begun drawing ideas for their final project which will start next week.

Secondary News

VET FACULTY NEWS

The school year has begun with a very busy program for students with respect to careers and Vocational Education.

On Thursday February 18 we held an indigenous workshop for all secondary students and parents who were able to attend. The workshop revolved around providing information to families about the process of verifying their Aboriginality. Mr Noel Downs the Wanaruah Land Council CEO was able to explain the process to students and parents and provided a starting point for some families to begin the process. Ms Clarinda Masters representing Ungooroo Aboriginal Corporation from Singleton went on to explain the range of services her organisation was able to offer. These ranged from medical services to helping assist students with housing when they move away from home to gain tertiary education. We then heard from Ms Elizabeth Howard representing Ochre Opportunity Hub based in Muswellbrook.
Elizabeth visits our school regularly to assist Indigenous students and she is looking into the process of beginning a student ACEG.

On Friday February 19 I had the pleasure of taking some Year 12 students to Muswellbrook High for the Uni Roadshow. Charles Sturt University, New England University and Southern Cross University were all present and provided information to students about what their university campuses had to offer students in terms of tertiary education and accommodation.

I would also like to introduce our School Based Trainees for 2016.

**YEAR 12**
- Demmion Hilton - Hospitality - Merriwa RSL Club
- Craig Walker - Automotive - Moorefield Plant Repairs
- Georgia Cameron - Financial Services - Alexander Downs
- Clinton Rawlinson - Primary Industries - B and T Hegarty

**YEAR 11**
- Corey Nairne - Primary Industries - Ballantyne Pastoral
- Mathew Porter - Primary Industries - Palmdale Holsteins
- Cara Hunt - Human Services - Merriwa Hospital
- Hunter Hood - Human Services - Gummun Place
- Courtney Martin - Human Services - Gummun Place
- Brodie Grady - Automotive - Merriwa Tyre Service

**YEAR 10**
Shai Blackadder - Childcare - Upper Hunter Shire Council - Scone Childcare Centre
THE TELL THEM FROM ME STUDENT FEEDBACK SURVEY

I am delighted that this term, our school, like many others in the state, will participate in a Department of Education initiative: the Tell Them From Me student feedback survey. The survey aims to help improve student learning outcomes and measures factors that are known to affect academic achievement and other student outcomes. The focus of the NSW-wide survey is on student wellbeing, engagement and effective teaching practices.


The survey is a great opportunity for our students to provide our school with valuable and quick feedback on what they think about school life, how engaged they are with school and the different ways that teachers interact with them. Schools in Australia and around the world have used the Tell Them From Me survey to help improve how they do things at school.

I want to assure you that the survey is confidential and school staff will not be able to identify individual students from their responses. The survey is conducted online and will typically take less than 30 minutes to complete. It will be administered during school hours between March 14 and April 8. Participating in the survey is entirely voluntary.

A consent form and a list of frequently asked questions (FAQs) for parents/carers about the survey is being sent home with students. If you do not want your child or children to participate, please return the consent form to school by Thursday March 17. The FAQs and copies of the consent form, including translated consent forms, are available from the website above.

Lana Grant
Survey Coordinator

ZONE SWIMMING CARNIVAL

On Wednesday February 17, seven students from the Secondary School represented and performed well at the Upper Hunter Zone Swimming event. This event was hosted by Muswellbrook High School, with Singleton and Scone High Schools competing as well.

The weather was quite warm and the pool conditions were suitable for some good quality racing. It is always pleasing to observe our students take up the opportunities that are given to them and challenge themselves against other school’s swimmers.

In the 13 years girls division, Nicole Martin in Year 7, had a full program of swimming. Her results were outstanding. She took out the 100m Butterfly (1m 38sec) and Freestyle (1m 20sec) and the 200m Individual Medley (3 min 46sec). She was second in the 200m as well as third in the 100m Breaststroke and Backstroke. Nicole was the Age Champion for her age group and should be very pleased with this.

In the 13 years boys, John Magner (also in Year 7) had an absolutely fantastic day. He finished first in 100m Butterfly (1m 41 sec), 100m Breaststroke (1m 51 sec), 100m Freestyle, 100m Backstroke (1m 32 sec), 50m Freestyle (34.50sec), 200m Individual Medley (3m 45sec) and 200m Freestyle (3m 06 sec). Yes – that’s right you read that correctly! John won every event he swam in! John was also the Age Champion for his age group. A fine achievement – you would have to agree.

Lachlan Harrison in the 13 years boys competed in the 100m Breaststroke finishing fifth and in the 50m Freestyle finishing sixth. He was happy to be a part of his first Zone swimming team and is keen to participate again next year.

In the 14 years boys, Jackson Keane collected a third placing in the 100m Backstroke in 2m 07sec and a fourth place in the 100m Freestyle. He also competed in the 100m Butterfly (fifth), achieved sixth place in the 100m Breaststroke, 200m Freestyle, 50m Freestyle as well as the 200m Individual Medley. At the end Jackson said that, “I am really tired but had a good day.”

In the 15 years boys, Lachlan Walker competed in a large number of events. In the 100m Breaststroke, he finished third in 2m 02sec. In the 100m Freestyle, he finished fourth in a time of 1min 19 and in the 100m Backstroke, he also finished third in 1min 43 secs. Also in the 50m Freestyle, he raced well in 32 secs and placed fourth. He should be pleased with some big drops in his times – compared to last year’s performance at Zone.
Jy Sinclair in Year 9 was a new comer to the Zone swimming team. He had a good day swimming with fourth places in 100m Breaststroke (2m 05sec) and 100m Backstroke (1m 46sec). He also competed in 100m freestyle (1m 37sec) and the 50m Freestyle (42sec). He felt okay about his day and could talk about little improvements he can work on in training – ready for next year. The “old man” of the team at 16 years Ben Keane competed consistently in the 100m Breaststroke coming second in a time of 1min 54sec. Ben finished second in the 100m Backstroke and the 50m Freestyle. In the 100m Freestyle, he finished fifth in his heat (1m 32sec).

In a pleasing situation, we entered a team in the 16 years boys 4x50m relay (Ben Keane, Lachlan Walker, Jy Sinclair and Jackson Keane) – combined well to finish third.

The students would like to thank all of their parents for offering their big support, time and efforts in safely transporting the team to and from Muswellbrook.

At this point, we are awaiting confirmation to see if John and Nicole’s performances qualify them for the Regional Swimming Carnival.

Alison King
Sports Coordinator

FAVOURITE SUBJECT:
Agriculture, because I like being outdoors

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:
Hunting, fishing, driving are my favourite past times

FUTURE ASPIRATIONS:
Drive a V8 Supercar

YEAR ADVISORS COMMENT:
Corey is a conscientious young man who has begun high school with a positive and friendly attitude. During the swimming carnival, early this term, Corey displayed great community mindedness and a chip-in-and-get-the-job-done work ethic. For this school spirit and attitude at school Corey is a very deserved student of the week.

Chad Grant
Year Adviser

CAREER NEWS

UNSW Engineering Mechanics by Experiment, Analysis and Design. April 18. This free online course, four hours per week for seven weeks. https://www.engineering.unsw.edu.au/all-events/free-online-course-through-engineers-eyes-engineering-mechanics-by-experiment-analysis

New AusAppPathways mobile app - Free app that helps students at the beginning of their career research to explore apprenticeship and traineeship pathways based on their interests. Links on job hunting and career research. For both Apple and Android devices. For more information and to download the app visit: http://www.ausapp.com.au/

Scholarships for School Based Apprentices - Opens March 1 and closes May 30. Successful nominees receive $5,000.00 for each of the first three years of their contract. Go to https://www.training.nsw.gov.au/training_awards/index.html or phone 132 811

AIE VET in Schools - Years 10 to 12 study VET courses in the fundamental skills in Animation, Game Art, Game Design and Game Programming. Courses are run in the evenings or the school holidays. For more information; http://www.aie.edu.au/shortcourses or contact 02 8541 8800

NSW Country Apprentice Scholarship - Closes 30 April, $15,000.00 value if doing an apprenticeship in regional NSW. http://www.illawarra.tafensw.edu.au/support-for-students/scholarships/*41*

Jobs of Tomorrow Scholarships - Students who commence recognised study in areas related to
Merriwa Ringer

Free Exam Techniques and Strategies Course - Optimise performance in school based assessments, maximise learning and cut down on study time. This course valued at $300.00 is free with a $10.00 donation to the Fred Hollows Foundation. Book at http://www.tsfx.com.au/?hsc-program=succeeding-in-the-hsc

NYSF2017 National Youth Science Forum - Opens March 1. For Year 11 Science students keen to learn more about tertiary study and career options. Applications to attend go to www.nysf.edu.au to learn more about this transformative summer holiday program for students entering Year 12.

If you have any career questions please contact me at school.

Jane Hegarty
Careers Advisor

WHY I WANT TO BE IN ROAR? To help younger students develop their skills
FAVOURITE SUBJECT? Construction
FAVOURITE SPORT? NRL
FAVOURITE SPORT? Broncos
WHO INSPIRES YOU AND WHY? My family
FAVOURITE QUOTE? Life is like a box of chocolates, you never know what you will get
BEST PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT? Regionals for Athletics
ADVICE TO YOUNG PLAYERS: Never give up
I HAVE BEEN IN ROAR SINCE: 2010 - 2016.

Find us on Facebook!
Look for Merriwa Central School’s official page!

MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL P AND C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
When: Wednesday March 2
Where: Merriwa RSL Club
Time: 6.00pm
All welcome to attend.

Merriwa Ringer

science, technology, engineering or mathematics (STEM) in 2016 are eligible to apply for a Scholarship of $1,000.00 in value. https://www.training.nsw.gov.au/news/articles/jobs_of_tomorrow.html

This is a sleepover for girls from Years 6-12 from Merriwa Central School to raise funds for Breast Cancer, Pink Ribbon.

Where - Merriwa Central School Great Hall
When - Friday March 4 at 5.00pm until Saturday March 5 at 9.00am
Cost - $10.00
Activities - Games – dinner – movie marathon – breakfast
Permission notes available from both Primary and Secondary office, Year Advisors and SRC members.

Merriwa Central School SRC
PINK RIBBON GIRLS NIGHT IN!

Rebecca Hopkins

Jane Hegarty
Careers Advisor

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Anticipation. Hope. Excitement. Pride. Children in their “Sunday best” with hair combed, standing alongside parents and friends. A small tree is placed in front of the altar and a hundred voices sing as one. Parish members, school staff, students and parents agree to give their all to grow and learn together this year and into the future. On Monday evening, February 15, with Father John Tobin in St Anne’s Church, we celebrated our Opening School Mass. The most recent additions to our school community planted a tree: Kindergarten students Chad, Annabelle, Freya, Jye, Ivaana, Wills, Sammi, students from other years: Alister, Justin and Isam and teacher Miss Foran. You can see from the happy faces that it was a wonderful night of friendship and an indication of a fantastic year ahead.

In the infants classroom, we continue to set the bar high, challenging students to achieve their best.

In Religious Education, the students have been discovering the relevance and history of Lent, the traditions of the Mass and how Jesus called to His disciples. We too, can be called to be like Jesus, to act justly and kindly with our friends and family.

Year 1 and 2 have been learning about analysis and appreciation of Aboriginal art, in English. Being able to interpret and write about visual imagery is an essential literacy skill and the students are relishing the additions to their vocabulary and descriptive language abilities. Kindergarten are focussing on ‘narrative’ - the structure and sequencing of events and the difference between imaginative and informative texts. During our comprehensive Literacy blocks, we also participate in reading and spelling activities and grammar. Kindergarten have learnt the importance of finishing a sentence with a full stop and Year 1 and 2 have been discerning when and where to use a question mark or exclamation mark.

Numeracy sees us practising our counting every day, this reinforcement of counting up and down by 1’s, 2’s, 5’s and 10’s, for example, increases number recognition, understanding and builds confidence. Sequencing of numbers is regularly discussed. The students enjoy participating in these ‘warm up’ sessions and continue to improve and learn from one another. Kindergarten students have been immersed in discovering the “Friends of Ten”. Think of how much our calculations are based on automatically knowing that 5+5=10, 6+4=10, 4+6=10, 9+1=10, 7+3=10 and so on. Year 1 and 2 students have been investigating Newman’s Prompts when solving addition and subtraction problems. This is a step-by-step process which equips the students with the skills and confidence to tackle those tricky questions.

Science has been lots of fun with students investigating ‘Forces’. Concepts of ‘push or pull’ and how objects such as toys actually move, has been fascinating.

Personal Development, Health and Physical Education has seen the class have some very relevant discussions regarding Cybersafety. A federal government initiative, Safer Internet Day was held recently and we played some of the games and had to make safe decisions based around the various scenarios presented to us. As we are such a computer based society, with ready access to the internet, it is vital we equip children with strong decision making and problem solving skills when using the internet.
We have had some exciting afternoons looking at artefacts in our classroom and developing our historical inquiry skills. The students were asked to compare a letter from 1953 to a letter from 2016. The stamps were different sizes and amounts and there wasn’t even a postcode on the old letter! It was amazing to witness the ideas the students came up with. We will continue our studies by looking into our own family origins. We have an interesting History display in our room and everyone is welcome to come along and have a look!

St Joseph’s teaching staff was very fortunate to have attended a writing workshop with our Upper Hunter colleagues on Wednesday at St James in Muswellbrook. What an amazing day! All of us feel so enthused about the process of writing and we look forward to reading the efforts of our students very soon. Who can predict how many budding authors we have in our midst?

Individualised goal setting for each student is a process we are all excited about. This will rely heavily on each third of the whole playing their part: student, parent and teacher. Together we can strive to reach the goal that has been set. With support and encouragement, we are anticipating progress to be made by everyone as they keep trying to develop their learning. Education is a gift!

**WEEKLY AWARDS**

Congratulations to the following award winners.

**Week 4**

**Kindergarten - Wills Mulligan** – for describing many characteristics of friendship in Religion lessons

**Sammi Patterson** – for predicting what a story is about from illustrations

**Year 1/2 - Justin Alley** – for displaying exemplary mathematical understanding using Newman’s Analysis

**Jack Patterson** – for his readiness to learn and independence in completing set work

**Year 3/4 - Isam Arfan** – for wonderful contributions to class discussions

**Riley Melmeth** - for a thorough understanding of how to measure the perimeter of objects

**Year 5/6 - Korey Halse** - for always rising to the challenge in Mathematics

**Patrick Magner** - for creating entertaining Sizzling Starts in English

**Charles Brazier** - for using his knowledge of addition and subtraction to identify number patterns.

**Principal’s Awards - Mikayla Telfer** - for wonderful work in English Literacy lessons.

**Sally Hagley, Anne Marie Peebles and Sam Kerr**

**Infants Teachers**

**Ringer Deadline!**

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

The Educational Act requires all children aged between 6 and 17 to be enrolled and attending school on a regular basis. They must attend for the full operational hours.

If children miss out on building the foundations of their learning, which takes place in the first two – three years, they may experience learning problems in later years.

It is also important that your child arrives at school on time. Late arrivals cause disruptions to the class. Being on time allows your child to greet friends, learn the importance of punctuality and routine, and ensures they do not miss out on important learning opportunities.

The school has a duty of care to monitor attendance, with roles being checked by the Department at least twice a term. We monitor whole day and partial absences.

Justified reasons for being absent include:

• Unavoidable medical appointments
• Attending a recognised religious holiday
• Exceptional family circumstances – such as a funeral
• Being sick or having an infectious disease
• Head lice

Unjustified reasons for being absent:

• Shopping
• Sleeping in
• Working around the house
• Minding younger siblings
• Minor family events – such as a birthday
• Hair cuts

Parents are required to send a note to school within seven days of the absence, explaining the reason for being away. After the seven days, your child’s absence will be marked as unexplained if we have not received notification.

SCHOOL BANKING

Any student wishing to start school banking will need to get an application pack from the office. Banking money every week through school is a great way for students to learn about saving money. The weekly deposit does not need to be a large amount. Students are rewarded for frequent banking. Please speak to Mrs Rose of you have any questions regarding school banking.

School banking day is Wednesday.

CHANGES TO TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS

We are asking parents/caregivers to please contact the school either with a phone call or a note to notify staff when your child/children are travelling home via alternative arrangements. If we haven’t been notified, your child will be sent home using their usual form of transport. Thank you.

P AND C ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The P and C AGM and first meeting of 2016 will be held at 2.00pm in the school music room (old library) on Friday March 4. Everyone is welcome, especially new parents. This is your opportunity to have a say in how the P and C raises and spends funds for our school.

MUSIC LESSONS

There are vacancies open for Sandy Hollow students to attend private piano and beginner’s guitar lessons here at school. Lessons are held every Tuesday and can be 20 or 30 minutes in duration. In addition to learning how to play the piano or guitar, students will also be taught fundamental theory of music, how to read music and performance skills.

Guitars can be borrowed from the school, with a fully refundable $50.00 bond to be paid up front. Individual lessons are charged at reasonable rates.

If you are interested please phone Rachel Dearnley on 6547 2128 or contact your child’s teacher.

SKOOLBAG APP

Have you downloaded our free App?

It’s available through iTunes store or Google Play Store. Go into your App store and search Sandy Hollow Public School. Over the next few weeks we will highlight some of the different features of the App.

Christina Darlington
Principal
WEEKLY AWARDS

• Natasha Marsh - organising her time well
• Andrew Harris - consistent application
• Declan Adams - trying hard to organise his equipment
• Mikayla Borradaile - trying hard in all areas
• Archie Johnson - beginning to plan his time and this is helping him to become organised
• John Ward - fantastic participation in fundamental movements.

WORKERS OF THE WEEK

• Kinder/Year 1/2 - Harry Thompson and Gabbie McLean.
• Year 3/4/5 - Mason Meyer.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Riley Borradaile - always displaying school values.

SPORTS PERSON OF THE WEEK

Landon Meyer

SWIMMING

Congratulations to Andrew Harris represented Sandy Hollow Public School last Thursday at Zone Swimming Carnival.

• Junior Medley - first
• Junior Backstroke - first
• 100m Freestyle all age - second
• 50m Breaststroke - third
• 50m Butterfly - second
• 50m Freestyle - second.

Andrew will go onto compete at Regional Swimming Carnival at Maitland on March 3 for the 50m Freestyle. We wish him the best of luck.

Christina Darlington
Principal

SCHOOL LEADERS FOR 2016

This year’s school leaders at Sandy Hollow are L to R:

• Ayden Marsh - Library Monitor
• Reece McCandless - School Captain
• Natasha Marsh - Vice Captain
• Dustynn Turner - Sports Monitor
• Mason Meyer - Assistant Sports Monitor.

MERRIWA PRE-SCHOOL KINDERGARTEN AND ACTIVITY CENTRE

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

When: Monday March 14
Where: Merriwa RSL Club
Time: 6.30pm

Nominations and apologies for the meeting can be left with the staff at Merriwa Pre-School prior to the meeting by phoning 6548 2083.

We hope to see you all there.

Peter Holland
STUDENT OF THE WEEK

BANJO HEYCOX

Banjo has earned the title of Student of the Week for his overall commitment to learning. Last week, Banjo completed each of his homework activities, got all his words correct in his spelling test and demonstrated a more mature and independent approach to his learning. He has been working very hard to improve the formation of his letters and complete neat book work and displayed leadership skills and sportsmanship while completing cooperative group activities last week. Congratulations, and keep up that fantastic work, Banjo!

TOWN LIBRARY VISIT

On Wednesday afternoon, Cassilis students went for a walk down to the town library for Library Lovers Day. At the library, the new librarian, Mrs Dowler, read two stories; ‘Derek the Dinosaur’ and ‘Emu’ before providing students with their very own bird craft activity to work on. Everyone was lucky enough to get their own chocolate and balloon at the end of the day. Thank you, Mrs Dowler for inviting us over for the afternoon! A good time was had by all.

SWIMMING

On Friday, Cassilis took an afternoon drive to Merriwa Pool for one of two days of planned swimming lessons this term. We don’t usually have swimming days in Term 1 but decided to have two days to see what students remember from last term. It was a lovely warm day for swimming and everyone had a great time, showing each other what they remember from last term! A big thank you to Mick for lending us the bus and also to Mr Gant for driving us to the pool and back.
VIEW CLUB PRESENTATION

Jenny and Shirley from the Merriwa View Club visited the school on Tuesday last week to present our new students; Gordie Anderson, Elka Laing, Dylan McLennan and Brooke McLennan with beautiful handmade library bags full of goodies for learning. We greatly appreciate the View Club for supporting our school.

The smiles on the faces of the students say it all!

3-6 CANBERRA EXCURSION

Expressions of Interest for the Year 3-6 Canberra Excursion will go out this week!

The excursion will be held in Week 6 of Term 3 (August 22-August 26).

Canberra is an important excursion that all students should experience in Australia as it is the home of the Australian story, providing education programs that immerse students in hands on learning in the areas of civics and citizenship, science, history, geography, culture and art.

There will be a considerable starting cost involved for this excursion; however, with support from the school, P and C, and community fundraising, we can make this excursion affordable to ALL Year 3-6 students.

The school is already thinking about fundraising opportunities and have ordered chocolate fundraising boxes which will arrive shortly. We are also looking into cooking the BBQ at the Merriwa Markets as another fundraising opportunity for our wonderful students!

Katrina Hodgson
Relieving Principal

Through the Heart of Cooking

WHITE CHOCOLATE AND RASPBERRY MUD MUFFINS

Ingredients:

- 60g butter or margarine
- 1/2 cup castor sugar
- 2 eggs lightly beaten
- 1 tbsp Vanillín Sugar
- 1 Vanilla Bean split
- 2 Cups of raspberries - fresh or frozen
- 1.5 cups Self Raising Flour (sifted)
- 180g White Chocolate

Method:

Preheat oven to 180°C and lightly grease a 12 tin muffin tray.

Place chocolate, butter, sugar and vanilla bean in a saucepan and cook over medium heat until butter and chocolate melts and sugar dissolves. Leave to cool for 10 minutes.

Remove vanilla bean from mixture and whisk in eggs. Gently fold in flour and raspberries until just combined. Spoon mixture into prepared pan and fill each to 3/4 full.

Sprinkle with vanillin sugar and bake for 15-20 minutes or until cooked.

Tina Taylor
Upper Hunter Shire women from rural properties are invited to apply to take part in a two day workshop where they will weld sculptures to express ideas around rural life.

Upper Hunter Shire Council is running the workshop with a $3000 grant from NSW Government’s Country Arts Support Program (CASP).

The target participants are women involved in agricultural activities. No previous art experience is required.

The workshop will be held in Gundy on 20 and 21 April 2016, presented by Oberon artist and sculptor Harrie Fisher in conjunction with Carolyn Hayes, NSW Department of Primary Industries (DPI) Rural Resilience Officer.

Workshop participants will have the option of displaying their works during the Scone and Upper Hunter Horse Festival in May 2016.

Council’s Community Services Manager said providing cultural events such as the welding workshop for rural women was an important role for Council.

“Sharing stories, thoughts and feelings are essential elements to managing stress and improving the wellbeing of rural communities,” Mrs Cone said.

The women who participate will have the opportunity to grow, learn and celebrate the richness of their own life experiences through the medium of welding. Providing opportunities for the community through securing grants like CASP is a fantastic outcome.”

There are ten workshop places available. To register your interest in participating contact Council’s Manager Community Services Kerri Cone on kcone@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au or phone 6540 1141.

Regional Arts NSW
This project is supported by Arts NSW’s Country Arts Support Program, a devoted funding program administered by Regional Arts NSW and local Regional Arts Boards on behalf of the NSW Government.
DATE FOR YOUR DIARY

Women’s Guild Meeting - First Thursday Monthly: March to November: 2.00pm
Messy Church - Parish Hall - Last Friday Monthly: February to November: 3.30pm
Men’s Breakfast - Parish Hall - Third Saturday March to November: 7.30am
February 27: Harvest Thanksgiving St Columba Cassilis - 6.00pm
March 3: AGM Ladies Guild
March 4: World Day of Prayer St Anne’s - 7.00pm
March 16: Anglican Parish Merriwa - AGM Parish hall - 4.00pm

Through this Lent we continue our quiet time of prayer:

A Litany for the third week of Lent: As we continue our Lenten journey, may we be attentive listeners to the voice of god in our midst and willingly respond in faith and trust.

God of stillness and silence, we give you praise. Help us to reverence and respect the sacredness in each other and in all of creation. Grant us peace of mind and heart and spirit as we place ourselves in the presence of one another and of you, our God. In our quiet space, we focus on the symbol of water. For the desert dwellers of ancient Israel, and indeed for us today, water is Life! Water cleanses and revives, water quenches and sustains.

Take some water from a jar and bless yourselves. May God the creator who is the source of all life; Jesus, the living water and the Spirit who refreshes and renews, bless us now and forever.

God of the journey, we ask your blessing on our community. Give us living water that we may have life and have it in abundance. Amen.

Rosalie Drew

Merriwa Rotary Club

ROTARY NZ STUDENT EXCHANGE

Once again our catering team has catered for a gathering of New Zealand short term exchange students who have had a briefing day at the Merriwa Central School.

In the annual report of the year 1996/7, I, as retiring president wrote a message of thanks to our catering team.... I quote.

“...I must thank them for their absolutely unfailing support during the year. They work with a quiet but dazzling efficiency and with boundless good cheer.”

THINGS HAVE NOT CHANGED!

Our club is not involved in hosting for this year’s program. Any students who would like to be involved next year should start thinking about it and talking it over with their parents.

Our club and our community have learned the news of the death of June Mulcahy in Queensland. June was the wife of Tom Mulcahy our club president for the the Rotary year 1976/7. She made a great contribution to our club during that period. She will be greatly missed by Tom, her family and her friends. Rest in peace, June.

Mark Smith

Merriwa CWA

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN’S DAY LUNCHEON

CWA Merriwa will be holding an International Women’s Day lunch on Tuesday March 8. 10.30am for 11.00am.

Guest speaker - Jane Watson from Scone Legal Practice will speak on wills – executors, guardians, powers-of-attorney.

Gold coin donation. Morning tea and lunch will be provided.

NEXT MEETING – CHANGE OF DATE AND DAY

Please note the next meeting of the CWA Merriwa Branch will be on Tuesday March 15 starting at 10.00am in the CWA Rooms, 159 Bettington Street.

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

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

More information at Merriwa Branch CWA.
## Merriwa Hospital Auxiliary

Merriwa Hospital Auxiliary will be holding a street stall:

**When:** Friday March 11

**Time:** 9.00am

All contributions gratefully received.

Amanda Kemp  
Secretary

## Festival of the Fleeces

Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces will be holding a street stall on Friday March 4. All donations of cakes, fruit and vegetables, eggs, jams and other such yummy items, are greatly appreciated.

There will also be a raffle held on the day. All proceeds from the day will go directly towards the festival for 2016.

Barbara Campbell

## Anglican Church

**Harvest Thanksgiving**

Anglican Parish of Merriwa are holding a Harvest Thanksgiving at St Columba Cassilis on February 27 at 6.00pm followed by an auction of harvest produce.

Our friendly auctioneer for the evening will be ready to take your bids. Then we will all share in a bbq meal.

All are asked to bring a plate to share at this ecumenical gathering.

All donations of harvest, be it fresh or made from, will be greatly appreciated.

**Anglican Guild Street Stall**

Results of 100 Club and Raffle from the street stall held on February 19:

### 100 Club:
- First - Troy Hunter (no 75)
- Second - Dawn Byfield (no 86)
- Third - Katie Tudor (no 64)

### Raffle:
- First - Bailey McNaught
- Second - Larissa Williams

With many thanks to Didi Alker our secretary.

Rosalie Drew

## Scone Junior Rugby

Are your children thinking of playing Rugby Union?  
– Make sure you ‘lock in’ the below dates into your diary and you can be a part of the magic of Scone Junior Rugby!

Come along for a social game of Touch Rugby to welcome the start of the season, from 5.30pm Friday March 18 – Parents, brothers, sisters and friends are welcome to have a run around – Scone Rugby Oval – Sausage sizzle to be provided and BAR will be open. Liza White’s Supervan will be there for the Adults dinner.

As many children are playing touch football, cricket and or swimming we have decided to not officially start training until April 1. We are conscious of the heavy load on parents and children at this time of year.

Tor Killman – President - 0437 974 735 - fionaandtor@bigpond.com  
Angus Patterson - Vice President - 0427 443 250 – angus@maccalluminglis.com.au  
Amanda Darling – Registrar - 0403 293 277 – adarling@sgs.nsw.edu.au

Copy the link below to go direct to the registration page [https://rugbylink.resultsvault.com/common/pages/noauth/olregstart.aspx?type=1&entityid=53518&fl=1&id=22239](https://rugbylink.resultsvault.com/common/pages/noauth/olregstart.aspx?type=1&entityid=53518&fl=1&id=22239)

Angus Patterson

## Congratulations

The Cronin family wish to congratulate Helen Whale on her outstanding achievement recently when receiving the Monsignor Coolahan Award for School Leadership.

Jayne and Hylt Cronin

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**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

Catholic Church

St Anne’s Catholic Church will be holding a World Day of Prayer - Cuba on Friday March 4 at 7.30pm.

Jesus said to them “Receive children. Received me.”

For more information please contact Marie Scott.

Marie Scott

Pie Drive

Order sheets for the drive will be out around town this week – opportunity to fill the freezer – help out for holidays.

Orders Close: Wednesday March 23
Delivery: Wednesday April 6

If anyone is unable to locate a sheet and would like to order, please contact Barbara on 6548 5131 or 0428 485 131.

Barbara Campbell

Merriwa Rugby League Football Club

WORKING BEE

When: Sunday February 28
Where: Merriwa Number 1 Oval
Time: 8.00am.

Please come and help us rebuild our new toilet blocks, if you have tools please bring them along with you. A BBQ and drinks will be provided.

NEEDED

• Two First Aid Officers
• Three League Safe Officers (one with strapping experience). Easy course completed online, takes about 20 minutes and is a one off.

Jessyca Morgan

Merriwa Tourist Welcoming Centre and Men’s Shed

FREE WORKSHOP

ROAD SAFETY FOR OLDER ROAD USERS

We have all read dire threats about losing our drivers’ license and therefore our independence when we reach a certain “distinguished” age…. Are these just warnings of things to come or idle media hype?

Come and find out (from the “horses” mouth) exactly what is involved in staying mobile and independent.

The guide has advice and safety tips to help of us who are 65 and over to make safer choices when driving, riding, walking, retiring from driving (yuk!), alternative transport options, pedestrian safety issues as well as the use and purchase of such aids as motorised wheelchairs/scooters (make mine a Ferrari).

The workshop is conducted by the NSW Transport Road and Maritime services and is on:

When: Thursday March 17
Venue: Merriwa RSL auditorium
Time: 10.30am
Duration: 1 hour

Morning tea will be provided so we can wet our “whistle” and ask plenty of questions.

For catering purposes please contact:

Edith Shipway
Telephone: 6548 3201
Mobile: 0428 487 201
Email: brigadoon07@bigpond.com
By Monday March 14

Edith Shipway

Merriwa Markets

When: March 19
Where: Near RSL Bow Street side
Time: 9.00am till 1.00pm

We have a very wide variety of stalls. Something for everyone!

Held every third Saturday of the month.

Teressa Williams
Secretary

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
The latest Better Homes and Gardens is available. The TV show has started up again after a break over the summer, and with all of the great ideas and food, what better way to remember how to do it than to buy the magazine. There is a kitchen special, for everything you need to know if you are thinking (or wishing) about updating, renovating or installing a kitchen. Did you see the episode about designing a Granny Flat - the ideas are not limited to this and will help you design any small space to be useable and efficient. Meatless Mondays is a great section focusing on simple, fresh vegie dinner ideas that your body will thank you for. The crowd favourite - Banana Cake - gets creative with three different styles using the same cake batter. This issue is filled with great ideas for making the house look that little bit fresher, our gardens a little bit more lush and our dinners a little bit yummier!

WOMEN’S WEEKLY

This month’s edition comes with a fabulous in-depth interview with Helen Mirren, who celebrates life at 70 and discusses her career and her life journey. There is a look at the rise of women in the sports broadcasting industry - especially relevant after Mel McLaughlin’s run-in with West Indies cricketer Chris Gayle. Jessica Mauboy speaks of coming home - to Australia and to her Country in the Northern Territory. Meet Lucy Turnbull, and look at the renovations she has made to The Lodge - putting her stamp on the Prime Minister’s residence. Get back into baking as the weather starts to cool down a bit - Passionfruit Vanilla Slice, Dark Chocolate and Raspberry Tart, Peach Pie, Caramel Tarts and more. Enjoy the last days of Summer with these low-carb BBQ delights - Sweet Spicy Pork Skewers, Grilled Veg and Ricotta Stack, Chermula Chicken, Lamb Kofta, Spiced Grilled Corn, and more.

INSIDE SPORT-FOOTY SPECIAL

This special edition has all you need for the coming NRL season (and the AFL season). An in-depth look at Greg Inglis, a prediction of which teams will succeed, which players to watch and which coaches are under the most pressure. Besides footy, there is a look at Cricket, Rally Cars, MMA, Tennis and every other major sport you need to know about.

LAST EVER ISSUE

Dolly and Cleo have announced that their current issues will be their last. Do not miss out on the last ever issues of these long-running magazines. They have long been favourites for teenage girls across the country and across the decades.

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

Cash or Eftpos only.

Leanne Hook

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.

Dr Emad Jasem
Merriwa Ringer
GUMMUN PLACE HOSTEL

It's almost that time of the year again, Gummun Place Hostel will be holding their annual market day on Saturday March 5, 2016 from 9.00am to 2.30pm.

This year we will be having our normal stalls: cake, craft, bric-a-brac, plants, chocolate wheel, BBQ lunch and devonshire tea.

We are going to introduce some fete games for the children and some light entertainment from young locals. The ‘Minute to Win It’ games will be running between 11.00am and 1.00pm. These games should make for some great laughs. The games involves a lot of silly games and only a minute to win.

Please join us in raising some vital funds to assist the Hostel in some upkeep and maintenance, and also to allow our residents to enjoy some outings throughout the year. Without the support of our wonderful businesses and the local community this would not be possible.

Come join us on Saturday March 5, 2016 at 9.00am to 2.30pm for a fun filled day.

Madeline Kelaher

GUMMUN PLACE MARKET DAY

WHEN
SATURDAY, 5 MARCH 2016
9.00am - 2.30pm

WHERE
GUMMUN PLACE HOSTEL
GARDENS
14 - 18 Marquet Street, Merriwa NSW

FEATURING: Raffles • Chocolate Wheel • BBQ Lunch • Devonshire Tea • Craft Stall • Cake Stall • Bric-A-Brac • Plant Stall • Games and Entertainment • Mums Soap Box stall • Pot Luck • Lollies and Lucky

ALL AGES EVENT

RAFFLE TICKETS
$2.00
PRIZE: $500
RED BALLON VOUCHER
www.redballon.com.au

GAMES
MINUTE TO WIN IT
$2.00 Entry Fee
Age Groups
5-8
9-12
12-15
Open

ENTERTAINMENT
Music from local young musicians

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

Spice Grill Merriwa
DAL MAHKNI RECIPE

1. Wash and soak black lentil, split Chana Dal and red kidney beans over night in water and drain in the morning

2. Boil black lentil, split Chana Dal and red kidney beans in water with salt and and ginger till the kidney beans are totally soft

3. Heat butter or oil in a pan. Add some cumin seeds, clove, bay leaves, cinnamon sticks and green cardamon pods and as cumin seeds begin to change colour, add ginger, garlic and onion and stir fry till they get golden

4. Add tomatoes, nutmeg powder, coriander powder and Garam Masala and stir fry on high heat till the tomatoes are reduced to a pulp

5. Add the cooked black lentil, split Chana Dal and red kidney beans along with the water used for boiling

6. Simmer on low heat till the lentils are well cooked and blended

7. Garnish with butter, cream and green coriander leaves and serve hot.

Rohit Gaur

Merriwa Ringer
**VIEW AT www.jtsrealty.com.au**

**17 Brisbane Street Merriwa**

Situated on a large 1910sqm block this immaculate home will impress. The home presents like new throughout and has been very well maintained. There are three good size bedrooms all with built in robes and the main with French doors opening onto the verandah.

There are two living areas, a large lounge with reverse cycle air con and a separate living room at the rear of the home. The kitchen is in excellent condition with plenty of bench space, a pantry and an electric oven and cooktop. The bathroom is also in perfect condition and has a separate toilet. The yard is all flat and easy to maintain and has a single lock up garage with loads of room for a shed or pool.

**1860 Cullingral Road Merriwa**

Fronting the Merriwa River, with permanent water a feature, this 512 acre property is an ideal mixed farming block. Currently carrying 30 cows and calves it would easily carry more with some pasture improvement. There is approximately 200 acres of open quality grazing country with over half being rich river flats perfect for cropping. There is a set of steel cattle yards and the fencing is in very good order. There is a comfortable cabin on the property with a kitchen, bedroom and bathroom plus a double carport and container with a caravan. The property has a dwelling entitlement and is in five titles so you could build two homes subject to Council approval.
# Merriwa Ringer Directory

A quick reference guide to all that support the Merriwa Ringer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Business Name</th>
<th>Telephone Number</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Alexander Downs</td>
<td>6548 5170</td>
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<tr>
<td>Australia Post Merriwa</td>
<td>6548 2042</td>
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<td>Brodie’s Cutting Edge</td>
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<td>Cassilis Bowling Club</td>
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<td>Cassilis Public School</td>
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<td>CJ and JM Vero and Sons</td>
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<td>Country Womens Association</td>
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<td>Craig MacPherson Haulage</td>
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<td>Custom Made Kitchens</td>
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<td>Di’s Clothing Patch</td>
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<td>Festival of the Fleeces</td>
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<td>IGA Merriwa Plus Liquor</td>
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<td>La Scalaletta</td>
<td>6548 3005</td>
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<td>MA MacDonald</td>
<td>6548 2226</td>
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<td>Max’s Country Cuts</td>
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<td>Merriwa Activity Centre</td>
<td>6548 2083</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Anglican Parish</td>
<td>0429 996769</td>
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<td>Merriwa Auto Electrical</td>
<td>6548 2114</td>
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<td>Merriwa Bushmans Camdraft</td>
<td>0427 437 743</td>
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<td>Merriwa PAH and I</td>
<td>0427 412 128</td>
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<td>Merriwa Pharmacy</td>
<td>6548 2213</td>
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<td>Merriwa Pony Club</td>
<td>0427 412 128</td>
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<td>Merriwa Pre-School and Kindergarten</td>
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<td>Merriwa Tennis Club</td>
<td>6548 2910</td>
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<td>Merriwa Touch Football</td>
<td>0427 391 337</td>
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<td>Merriwa Tourist Welcoming Centre and Men’s Shed</td>
<td>6548 3201</td>
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<td>Merriwa Tyre and Service Centre</td>
<td>6548 2078</td>
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<td>Merriwa VIEW Club</td>
<td>6548 8560</td>
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<td>M Nutt Contracting</td>
<td>6548 2004</td>
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<td>Non Emergency Medical Transport</td>
<td>6548 2653</td>
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<tr>
<td>NSW Farmers Association</td>
<td>0455 455 760</td>
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<td>Rotary Club Merriwa</td>
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<td>Russell’s Earthmoving</td>
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<td>Sandy Hollow Public School</td>
<td>6547 4521</td>
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<td>Sporting Shooters Association</td>
<td>6547 6031</td>
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<td>St Davids Uniting Church</td>
<td>6548 5126</td>
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<td>St Josephs Primary School</td>
<td>6548 2035</td>
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<tr>
<td>Trinity Markets</td>
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## EMERGENCY SERVICES

In case of emergency call 000 or 112 for mobile services

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<th>Service Name</th>
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<td>Police (Admin only)</td>
<td>6548 2203</td>
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<tr>
<td>Police Mobile</td>
<td>0408 293 423</td>
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<tr>
<td>Police Assistance</td>
<td>131 444</td>
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<tr>
<td>Fire (Admin only)</td>
<td>6548 2005</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hospital - MPS</td>
<td>6532 5000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rural Fire Service</td>
<td>1800 081 166</td>
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<tr>
<td>SES Emergency</td>
<td>132 500</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Rescue Squad</td>
<td>6548 2538</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunter Medical Practice - Dr Noman Jawaad and Dr Cho Oo Maung</td>
<td>6532 5013</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Surgery - Dr Emad Jasem</td>
<td>6542 2305</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Support the Merriwa Ringer regularly but can’t find your business? Contact Tina Taylor on 6548 2119.
Alexander Downs is proudly 100% Hunter Valley owned and operated. From our paddock to your plate - Quality Guaranteed. Beef and Pork delivered to the Upper Hunter every second Friday.

SPECIAL

Corned Silverside $10.00/kg
New York Steak $23.50/kg

Delivery Friday 04.03.16

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

www.alexanderdowns.com.au
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 & District
LITTLE ATHLETICS CENTRE
2015/16 starts Oct 12!
Tots (3 & 4 yrs) to u/17 yrs
Mondays 5.30 to 7.00pm
at Merriwa No. 2 Oval
(throughout Terms 4 & 1)
New Members Welcome
ph: Tash Taaffe 0458 574 015
e: tashholden@bigpond.com

MDHA Inc.
NON EMERGENCY
MEDICAL TRANSPORT
SERVICE
We will get you to your
appointments on time with
special care.
Office hours are:
9.30 to 2.30 weekdays
Bottle Museum building or leave a
message on the answering service for
a call back.
Tel: 0498 2119

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

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

Mess in the Milk &
Organic Milk
Custard
Traditional taste and
Value
Merriwa Ringer

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

Merriwa Tennis Association
President: Robert Smith
6548 2213
Secretary: Emily Hall
Treasurer: Krichelle Khan
Day - Night
Competitions
Junior Competitions
Court Hire

Merriwa Ringer
WISH TO SPONSOR
THE MERRIWA
RINGE? Sponsorship
letters will be sent out for Term
four in coming weeks, please
let us know if you are interested
in coming on
board.

2015 Springtime
Show

2015 Merriwa
Springtime
Show
18, 19 & 20 September!

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board.

2015 Springtime
Show
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 - 6.00pm 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.

SMORGASBORD ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28

FRIDAY NIGHT RAFFLES

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

February 5 – Member’s draw – Tony Argyropoulos – claimed - $50.00 next week.

Joker draw - The Joker ticket was drawn by Natalie Haydon who picked the Ace and won $87.00, so the Joker next week sits at $829.00.

Snack Bar is on Friday nights from 6.30pm to 8.30pm, with raffles of meat trays, vege and fruit trays and the Joker draw.

Saturdays is open at 2.00pm with half price drinks, snacks and a free jukebox session until 5.00pm.

Kathleen Sumpter

WOMEN’S BOWLS

Women’s Bowling Club held their Friendship Day last Wednesday, February 17. 44 players participated throughout the day with players coming from Dunedoo, Coolah, Murrurundi and Merriwa. After a delicious lunch, presentation of prizes took place. A great day was had by all.

Winners: Vicky Cutting, Allan Nott, Geoff Atkinson
Runners Up: Norma Miller, Sue Gollegas, Joy Hancock
Spider: Robyn Turnbull
Coin: Cathy Atkinson
Nearest to the ditch: Allan Nott

Raffle: First Prize: Lesha Anderson
Second Prize: Ken Pellows
Third Prize: Ruth Large

Congratulations to all. Thank you to Mary Richards and to all the helpers and all who supplied cakes, slices, fruit platters etc for morning tea and lunch.

Mixed social bowls on Wednesdays is at 9.00am for 9.30am play. Casual dress, all are welcome.

Next meeting is Monday, March 14 at 3.00pm at the Merriwa Sports Club.

Loretta Cooper

Cassilis Bowling Club

SMORGASBORD ON SUNDAY FEBRUARY 28

WEEKEND RESULTS

Saturday Raffle February 20
Saturday members draw no 24, was not won – next week $200.00

Winners Jackpot not won - next week $140.00
Dinner: Julie Smith
Bowls Raffle: Bruce Smith
Free Tickets: Loretta Cooper

Sunday Raffle February 21
Sunday members draw - No 222, was not won. Next week $800.00.

DON’T FORGET

Friday Night Twilight Bowls at 5.00pm. Come along for a friendly game of bowls. ALL WELCOME

Julie Smith
Merriwa RSL Club

The Members Lucky Badge for $500.00 was won on Friday at 8.30pm the number was 238, this week commences at $500.00.

The 7.00pm draw for $280.00 was won, the number was 272 this week it jackpots to $100.00.

The Thursday Badge draw for $280.00 was not won the number was 282, this week it jackpots to $300.00 and will be drawn between 6.00–7.00pm. LTPS/14/04323.

The Sunday Morning Badge Draw for $500.00 was not won last week the number was 21, this week it commences at $550.00 and will be drawn between 11.30am and 1.30pm and you must be present to win the money. LTPS/15/04749.

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.

WHAT’S HAPPENING IN THE CLUB

FOOTY TIPPING – with the NRL season just around the corner nominations are now being taken for the footy tipping comp, $20.00 entry with a pool of $1000.00 prize money.

HAPPY HOUR

Thursday 6.00pm–7.00pm
Friday 6.00pm–7.00pm
Sunday 11.00am–12.00noon

Members prices are $3.50 schooners and $2.50 middies and $5.00 for Corona’s.

NEW HAPPY HOUR – An extra happy hour has been introduced along with the 9.00pm Friday badge draw. This time slot will be drawn between 6.00–7.00pm Fridays.

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

Matt Morgan

Sporting

Merriwa Junior Rugby
League and Netball Club

REGISTRATIONS FOR NETBALL

These are due March 10. All NETBALL registrations are ONLINE only and must be completed by the close of business March 10. Go to our website - http://sconena.nsw.netball.com.au/ and follow the registration links.

The NetSetGo link is for players 5 years to 10 years – (the age you are at 31/12/2016)

The blue register now link is for players 11 years up to Seniors.

If you do not know your player ID – all previously registered players will have one – go to http://my.netball.com.au/ and use the search bar to search by player name to find your ID number and setup your password. Any problems contact Jenny on 0417 229 897.

Our club NEEDS a coordinator for the netball. Please see Elaine if you can help out with this. All info for the job is available and all is done via computer. We need someone to step up to this position ASAP. This is followed by a BIG PLEASE. I have enough to cope with the League side of operations.

JUNIOR LEAGUE - REGISTRATIONS

The registrations are also due for league players turning five this year and up to sixteen year olds. Could all parents please go online to - play NRL - and follow the tabs. If you have any problems ring Elaine 6548 8560. Until everyone has registered we cannot allocate teams as we need to know numbers. On last year’s numbers we should have a 6’s, 7’s, an 8’s and 9’s, combined 9’s team, 10’s and in the Hunter Valley Junior Competition, Merriwa has a 13’s and a combined with Denman Under 16’s team. Money for registration can be paid online (account details are on our club web page) or pay at training. Once you have paid your child will receive their shorts.

We are in need of a coach for the Under 7’s team. Any parents out there who could help with this please see Elaine. Coaching clinics are available for those who wish to be a coach.

WORKING BEE AT SHED

Wow! How good does our shed look? You’d better check it out on training day. Thanks to Welderup, Mark and Justin, for making our bay
equipment and brackets. Everything is in its place and what is more HAS a place. There is so much room now and only ONE trailer full of rubbish to the tip. Thank you to Laurel Whitby, Belinda, Ben and Ashleigh Keane, John and Elaine, Phil Neale, Callum Bridge and Morgan Somerville (Under 16’s players) for helping to completely empty the shed and sort through the good and the bad, then placing everything back. We are now ready for the season to begin and look out anyone who doesn’t keep it tidy. I’ll be watching you! If you put it back, put it where it belongs. If you don’t know where it belongs leave it at the entrance to the shed. Thanks all for your help. A productive four hours work and a bacon and egg roll for your reward. Don’t forget to go online and register for netball and junior league ASAP.

Elaine Sparrow

Merriwa Little Athletics

Last Wednesday was the second of the mixed Austag games. Thank you to Glen and Tyler Austin for reffing the games instead of playing.

Four teams of nine players played some very close games. From the general chat on the field, many were surprised at just how difficult it is to grab the tags. In saying this everyone seems to have a lot of fun.

The juniors also played and enjoyed some great touch football.

Afterwards snags on the BBQ were enjoyed and both Oliver Towell and Chloe English taking home a meat tray each.

NEXT WEEKS ROUND

6.00pm  DMC’s v’s CC’s
Tourist Terriers v’s Denman Devils
6.45pm  Furfot v’s Touch ‘n go
Team Kocinakis v’s MWA Tyre
7.30pm  Incredibowls v’s School Girls
ROAR v’s Welderup
8.15pm  Cassilis v’s Bowling Barrells
RSL Ladies has the bye and DMC’s are responsible for the table.

Elaine Sparrow

Merriwa Little Athletics

Nine athletes travelled to Glendale on the weekend to contest the grand finale of the season for most athletes – the Regionals. Five zones converged to tough it out on the track and field to vie for a spot in the State Championships in March. With up to 16 athletes in each age group and event, there was no room for error. The nervous energy was palpable across the track as young athletes aged 7 to 17 pulled out PB after PB under what can only be described as arduous conditions for athletes, officials – and parents!

First on the track for Merriwa was seasoned performer and three time senior club champion, Ben Keane in the 1500m. It was tough even for Ben on the weekend as he tussled for a sixth
Community Events

placing in the 1500m, fifth in the 800m and long jump, finalling with a PB in the 200m placing fifth. Next up was hurdlers Jorji and Darcy Taaffe. Jorji missed out on progressing to finals but went on to do some good jumps in the long jump. Darcy went on to final in four out of four events the hurdles, 100m, 800m and 70m just micro seconds from a medal each time with plenty of ‘home work’ to do to get closer to the podium next year.

Grace Booth stepped out on the track for her first Regional carnival to run a gallant eighth with a smile on her dial the whole way home, love your style Gracie on and off the track.

Dylan Keane was next up in the 100m, always the most hotly contested event of the day. He thundered home to sixth place in fine style but perhaps even more brilliantly, was a fantastic mentor and ‘coach’ to fellow first time regional competitor David McPhie.

When David got some first event jitters, Dylan was right by his side cheering him on and telling him he could do it and David did just that clearing three fabulous jumps in the long jump. Great work both of you. David went on to some cracker throws clearing 16m in discus and 5.2m in shot while Dylan managed to get through to the finals in the 200m and 400m, yeehah!

It was seriously hot with the track thermometer hitting an ambient temp of 45 degrees on Sunday causing officials to postpone events three times with athletes having to hangout in Kmart just to cool down. It was 6.00pm before the temp dropped enough for the comp to resume. Despite the weather the team witnessed some spectacular sporting achievements from athletes across the region burning holes in their shoes (literally) and into the hearts of spectators as they jumped, threw and sprinted their guts out.

But for this Regional carnival it was Clancy Moore that was resoundingly triumphant bringing home Merriwa’s only medal of the meet in his favourite event, the high jump. Clancy cleared an impressive 1.48m and is now waiting patiently to see if this height will be enough to see him through to the State Championships. Clancy also had some good runs in the hurdles, finalling in the 200m, coming fifth in the 800m and javelin. Darcy Moore gets the ‘most patient’ award, waiting all weekend till Sunday evening before he had the chance to run his first race which he did with gusto and grace to 8th place amongst a killer U12 field.

Thanks to the parents who travelled to Glendale and helped out as needed, always much appreciated.

Tash Taaffe
## Community Calendar

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<td>Through the Heart of Cooking</td>
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<td>Anglican News</td>
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<td>Merriwa Rotary Club</td>
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<td>Merriwa CWA</td>
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### Community Notice Board

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<tr>
<td>Festival of the Fleeces</td>
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<td>Anglican Church</td>
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<td>Merriwa Hospital Auxiliary</td>
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<tr>
<td>Scone Junior Rugby</td>
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<tr>
<td>Congratulations</td>
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<td>Pie Drive</td>
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<td>Merriwa Rugby League Football Club</td>
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<td>Catholic Church</td>
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<td>Merriwa Tourist Welcoming Centre</td>
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<td>Men’s Shed</td>
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<td>Merriwa Markets</td>
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### Business

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<th>Business</th>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Newsagency</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Surgery</td>
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<tr>
<td>GUMMUN PLACE HOSTEL</td>
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<td>Spice Grill Merriwa</td>
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### Clubs

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<th>Club</th>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Sports Club</td>
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<td>Cassilis Bowling Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa RSL Club</td>
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### Sporting

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<tr>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Junior Rugby League and Netball Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Touch Football Club</td>
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<tr>
<td>Merriwa Little Athletics</td>
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### FEBRUARY

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday 26</td>
<td>Messy Church - Parish Hall - 3.30pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 27</td>
<td>Anglican Church - Harvest Thanksgiving - St Columba Church - Cassilis - 6.00pm</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 28</td>
<td>Merriwa Rugby League Football Club Working Bee - Number 1 Oval - 8.00am</td>
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### MARCH

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday 2</td>
<td>Merriwa PAH and I Annual General Meeting - Merriwa RSL - 7.00pm</td>
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<td>Sunday 6</td>
<td>Clean Up Australia Day</td>
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<td>Monday 7</td>
<td>Merriwa Campdraft General Meeting - Merriwa RSL Club - 7.00pm</td>
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<td>Tuesday 8</td>
<td>CWA International Women’s Day Luncheon - 10.30am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday 13</td>
<td>Merriwa Pony Club Rally Day</td>
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<tr>
<td>Monday 14</td>
<td>Veterans Golf Week</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday 15</td>
<td>Merriwa CWA Branch meeting - CWA Rooms - 10.00am</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saturday 19</td>
<td>Men’s Breakfast - 7.30pm</td>
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<td>Sunday 20</td>
<td>Anglican Church - Palm Sunday Mass - 9.00am</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Merriwa Pony Club President’s Cup Day</td>
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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.

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