

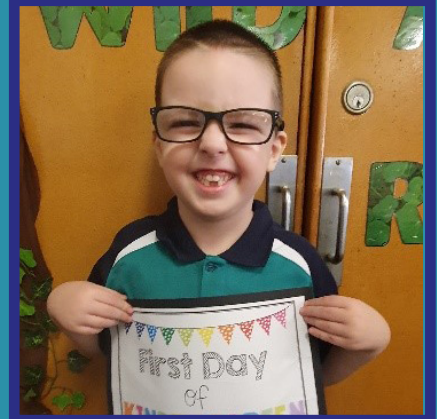
# MERRIWA

FREE

# Ringer

Issue 3  
Thursday February 13, 2020

WHAT'S INSIDE



**All smiles for  
Students of the Week**

  
**Pest Alert**  
Termite Solutions

Are Termites  
eating your home?  
(02) 6884 7557



Termites  
Spiders  
Rodents  
Cockroaches  
Ants

## POSITIONS VACANT

### WORKS ENGINEER - SCONE & MURRURUNDI

Temporary - up to 12 months.

\$1598.90 - \$1790.80 plus 3.5% Civil Liability allowance per 35 hour week.

**Enquiries:** Nicholas Havyatt, Director Infrastructure Services on 6540 1155.

### LIBRARY OFFICER - MURRURUNDI

Part Time - 25 hour week.

\$693.07 - \$776.21 per 25 hour week.

**Enquires:**

Elizabeth Walters, Library Coordinator on 6540 1185.

### LIBRARY ASSISTANT

Casual - Aberdeen, Merriwa, Murrurundi & Scone.

\$26.39 - \$29.56 per hour plus 25% casual loading.

**Enquires:**

Elizabeth Walters, Library Coordinator on 6540 1185.

### CARAVAN PARK ATTENDANT - MERRIWA

Permanent Part Time (21 hours per week): \$527.81 - \$597.17

or Casual: \$25.13 - \$28.15 per hour plus 25% casual loading.

**Enquires:** Eileen Stapleton, Tourism & Events Coordinator on 6540 1300.

### Closing date


Applications for all positions close at 4:00pm Monday, 24 February 2020.

**Please go to Council's website for further information and to apply for the positions.**



P: 02 6540 1100 | E: council@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

UPPERHUNTER.NSW.GOV.AU



**St Joseph's  
Primary School  
Merriwa**

Empowering and challenging students  
to become lifelong learners

All enquiries welcome

Principal - Ashley Borg  
Ph 6548 2035

P&F President - Andrew Luke  
Ph 6548 2993



**Merriwa Central  
School**


Phone: 6548 2119

[merriwa-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:merriwa-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
[www.merriwa-c.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.merriwa-c.schools.nsw.edu.au)



**MERRIWA P.A.H.&I. SHOW SOCIETY  
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

Tuesday, February 25<sup>th</sup> | 7 PM | MERRIWA RSL CLUB



**MCSP&C**  
MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL  
P&F ASSOCIATION


**President:** Julie Llewelyn  
**Vice Presidents:** Hollie Hunt and Keirra Hourn  
**Secretary:** Talitha Sawley  
**Treasurer:** Emma Douglas  
Meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm at Merriwa RSL Club



**SANDY HOLLOW  
PUBLIC SCHOOL**

Telephone 02 6547 4521 Fax 02 6547 4450


Email: [sandyhollo-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:sandyhollo-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)



**Merriwa Pre-School and Activity Centre**  
(PO Box 96) 43 Bow St, Merriwa NSW 2329  
Ph: 0265 482 083  
[merriwapreschool@tpg.com.au](mailto:merriwapreschool@tpg.com.au)

**Merriwa Pre-School**  
For children 2 - 5 years

**Activity Centre**  
For children attending Kindergarten to Year 6  
After School Care and Vacation Care



**Cassilis Public  
School**

Principal:  
Mrs Katie Burgess

Coolah Road Ph: 63761009  
Cassilis NSW 2329 Fax: 63761005  
[cassilis-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:cassilis-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
[www.cassilis-p.school.nsw.edu.au](http://www.cassilis-p.school.nsw.edu.au)





# Merriwa Central School

## Principal's Report

The welcome rains have brought delight to many over the past week, after what has been to many a dismal dry summer. It has thrown a spanner in the works for our swimming carnival, however that is a minor inconvenience in the grand scheme of things.

### SCHOOL IMPROVEMENTS

Parents would have noticed contractors on site over the past couple of weeks attending to ongoing school maintenance. A new shade sail and timber framework has been installed on the infants play equipment, the upgrade of the primary canteen is nearing completion, painting of the primary COLA and measures to discourage pidgeon's from nesting, painting of the secondary Great Hall, and new carpet and lino in classrooms. Disruption to classes has been minimal with some changes to routines and rooming to accommodate the work being carried out. Currently a secondary demountable is out of action due to refurbishment, and the secondary COLA is undergoing major groundworks to address seating and drainage issues. In addition by the end of term new fencing will be installed on the secondary campus.

A significant project under consideration for future improvements is the enclosing of the secondary COLA which would provide wet weather sporting facilities and whole school assemblies to be held.

### YEAR 7 PEER SUPPORT CAMP

Year 7 students will head off to camp on February 24, parents are reminded that final payments are due for this excursion. This is a fantastic opportunity for our students to get together supported by our senior Year 11 students. Should any parents have concerns about the cost of this excursion, or require assistance please don't hesitate to talk with Mr Hannon the Year 7 Year Adviser.

### SCHOOL LEADERS ADELAIDE CONFERENCE

Four of our senior students met with Ms Lindy Hunt from Where There A Will (WTAW) to discuss the upcoming leadership conference in Adelaide sponsored by WTAW. The conference is a fabulous opportunity for students to discuss ideas

and develop leadership skills. School leaders from across the Upper Hunter School will travel to Adelaide as guests of WTAW to participate in the conference.

### LOCAL "WALKING" EXCURSIONS

Students are involved in a range of activities throughout the year which may involve them walking to local venues. It may involve walking between the primary and secondary campus for whole school staffing activities, or to view visiting performers. It may be walking to the RSL for Senior Citizens Day, or to the town ovals for sport. Students will be supervised by staff during these activities, and information for parents will be placed in the Ringer in advance. If you have any concerns about these activities please feel free to discuss them with your child's teacher.

### SCHOOL PHOTOGRAPHS

School photographs are once again scheduled for the end of Term 1 with MSP Photography. MSP do a great job with school photos and provide a range of options for parents. Further information will be provided closer to the time Tuesday April 7.



**Darren Noonan**  
Principal

# Primary

## STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Last Friday we presented our first book awards for Student of the Week. Our books are kindly donated by our wonderful P and C. The following students were eager to accept their awards.

|                      |                   |
|----------------------|-------------------|
| <b>Kindergarten:</b> | Nicholas Campbell |
| <b>Year 1:</b>       | Matilda Googe     |
| <b>Year 2/3:</b>     | Mia Wilkinson     |
| <b>Year 3/4:</b>     | Aubree Oldham     |
| <b>Year 4/5:</b>     | Zac Walker        |
| <b>Year 5/6:</b>     | Tyler Kenny       |



## CLASS OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to Year 3/4 for receiving the 'Class of the Week' award. Year 3/4 displayed neat class lines all week and should be very proud of starting the year off beautifully. The award was accepted on behalf of Grace Campbell and Tiarnee Denning.



## PRIMARY ASSEMBLY

Our Apologies, we have pushed our first assembly back to Week 4, Friday February 21 at 2.15pm. Teachers will be presenting Merriwa Merits, Student of the Week awards and also inducting our new sporting house captains. Our Year 3/4 will also be presenting us with a class item. All parents, friends and families are welcome to attend and join us in celebrating our students' achievements.

## CLASS INFORMATION

By now all students should have received class notes with information about school routines and class structures, as well as any information pertaining to that class. If parents and caregivers have any questions please make an appointment to see class teachers. Our teachers are extra busy during the first few weeks of the school year, as they are building a rapport with their students and establishing their class routines. If parents have any questions or concerns, it would be greatly appreciated if appointments could be scheduled.

## BEST START

Kindergarten students have been busy completing their Best Start Assessment with Mrs Hourn and Ms Higgins. It is important for parents to understand that this is not a test. Its purpose is to help Mrs Hourn and Ms Higgins gather information to guide her in teaching our Kindergarten students, so that they have the best start to their schooling.

During the assessment, Mrs Hourn and Ms Higgins will be observing how each child reads, writes and communicates with others. She will also look at how students are able to recognise and work with numbers, groups and patterns.

All Kindergarten parents will be given feedback about what Mrs Hourn and Ms Higgins has learnt about their child. As is our normal practice, if any parents have concerns or wish to discuss their child's learning they are welcome to arrange a meeting with Mrs Hourn and Ms Higgins.

## SNAKE TAILS

Merriwa Central School is excited to announce that students from Kinder-Year 8 will be attending the Snake Tails show on Thursday February 20.

Snake Tails is a multi-award winning, interactive learning experience, proudly featuring only Australian reptiles. The show complements the Science curriculum and provides an opportunity for students to interact with harmless pythons,



lizards and turtles as well as view four deadly Australian snakes.

Snake Tails will be being held in the Great Hall at the Secondary Campus. Students from K-6 will walk up to attend their show then return to the Primary Campus to continue their lessons.

This show has been fully subsidised by the school so there is no cost to students. All students Kinder-Year 8 are expected to attend. If you have any questions about the show please contact Mrs North at the Primary Campus.

**Mrs Talia Morgan**  
Relieving Infants AP

## Secondary

### DEPUTY'S DESK

#### STUDENT LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Student leadership is an important skill that students can develop by volunteering to take on extra roles and representing their peers and Merriwa Central. At Merriwa Central School we offer a number of opportunities for students to develop and act in a leadership position. The following students have embraced student leadership accepting roles as either house captains or vice house captains. Congratulations to the following students who were elected by their house for 2020.

#### BLAXLAND



**Captains - Ely Blackadder, Damian Jamieson**  
**Vice Captain - Mackenzie Blackadder, Charles Brazier (not pictured)**

#### LAWSON



**Captains - John Hamson, Codi Marsh**  
**Vice Captains - Hunter Marsh, Hasan Papp**

#### OXLEY



**Captains - Dakota Turner and Gordon Bradley**  
**Vice Captains - Koda Cashen and Amber Miller**

#### WENTWORTH



**Captains - Jackson Keane and Chloe English**  
**Vice Captain - Harrison Amidy and Manon Zoehner**

## CAREER NEWS

### ARTEXPRESS - HSC Showcases and Exhibitions

Art Gallery of NSW from 6 February to 26 April, NSW Art Gallery

ARTEXPRESS is an annual exhibition of exemplary artworks created by students for the HSC in Visual Arts. The works represent a broad range of subject matter, approaches, styles and media including painting, photomedia, drawing, printmaking, sculpture, graphic design, documented forms, textiles and fibre, ceramics, time-based forms and collections of works.

<https://artexpress.artsunit.nsw.edu.au/>

### JMC Mocktails - Short Film Competition

Submissions for JMC Academy's annual high school shorts "Mocktail Awards" will be open in the next few weeks. High school students are invited to submit their best shorts in fiction, doco, animation, commercial or music clip to be reviewed by industry professionals. Shortlisted films will be shown and the winner will be announced at the prestigious Martini Film Awards.

<https://www.jmccademy.edu.au>

House captains and vice captains have run house meetings, organised relay teams, decorations and war cries in readiness of the first event the swimming carnival. I encourage these student leaders to set the bar high and participate in a manner that displays good sportsmanship. House spirit will be evident on the day with students/staff wearing house colours and cheering on team members.

Formal recognition of these students will occur at the first secondary formal assembly on Monday February 24, 2020.

**Sharon Kenaly**  
Deputy Principal

### HOMEWORK CLUB

Thursday February 13 will see the commencement of the after school student support through the Merriwa Central School Homework Club. The focus for the Club will be on helping the students to achieve to their best and provide an area dedicated to assisting students in organising and completing assessment tasks and other school work. Teachers across several subject areas will staff the Club which will operate after school until 4.30pm. This Club will be open for secondary students with parents invited to attend at anytime to see what it's all about.

**Matt Dean**  
Head Teacher VET

## STAFF PROFILE

### KELLY MILLEVOI

**POSITION:** Head Teacher Teaching and Learning

**QUALIFICATION:** Bachelor of Education (Secondary: Human Movement and Health Education) and currently studying a Master of Education (Educational Leadership)

**PREVIOUS SCHOOL/S, OR EMPLOYMENT:** Wilcannia Central School, Coonamble High School, Walgett Community College - High School

**EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACTIVITIES:** Netball, Water Polo, Reading

**BEST EXPERIENCE SINCE JOINING MCS:** Meeting all the staff and students

**A MEMORABLE MOMENT IN YOUR "LEARNING/TEACHING CAREER":** Helping students who had faced significant hardship be the first person in their families to gain an offer to go to university.





## initiAIT Scholarships - Academy of Information Technology

### Application Deadlines

- March 2020 - Monday, 17 February
- July 2020 - Monday, 15 June
- November 2020 - Monday, 12 October 2020

The initiAIT scholarship is for new undergraduate students commencing an AIT Bachelor Degree in the 2020 academic calendar. This scholarship is only available to domestic students. Recipients of this scholarship will be awarded an 50% discount off their tuition fees in the first and last term of their Bachelor degree.

Download initiAIT scholarship information and hard copy of application form here:

<https://www.ait.edu.au/scholarship>

### Scholarships for Enrolled Nurses

Students from 2019 that are looking to undertake an enrolled Nursing course, are eligible to apply for a scholarship. Applications close on February 19th. This is the eligibility criteria Applicants must: be an Australian citizen or permanent resident; live in NSW; meet English language skill standards; provide evidence of HSC completion, Certificate III qualification or equivalent.

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/nursing/scholarship/Pages/enrolled-nurse-scholarships.aspx>

### BiG Day In Newcastle - April 7, 2020

BiG Day In IT Careers Conference for students Yrs 9-12 @ University of Newcastle on April 7, 2020 – Speakers incl. Defence Force Recruiting, nib, WiseTech Global, and more talking about their careers and the future of technology. Loads of cool exhibitors including ACS, nib, Wisetech Global, Defence Force Recruiting and loads more. Tickets \$10.00 for students.

<http://www.thebigdayin.com.au>

### TAFE NSW Credit Transfer Pathways to University

If you want to go to University via a TAFE qualification, check out your great options here and get credit for what you studied at TAFE.

This credit transfer website is a guide to credits available for completed TAFE NSW qualifications to articulate into a University or Higher Education Provider degree. It is designed to help you tailor your study journey. How much credit you are eligible for varies depending on course,

institution chosen and the grades achieved. As credit arrangements are updated regularly, you should always confirm your eligibility with the offering institution. You can e-mail TAFE NSW if you need more information.

<https://credittransfer.tafensw.edu.au/>

If you have any further career enquiries please contact me at school.

**Jane Hegarty**  
Careers Advisor

## P and C

Please mark these important upcoming dates in your calendar:

Our next meeting is Tuesday March 3, 6.30pm in the Fletcher Room of the RSL Club.

Our Annual General Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday April 14. If you are unable to make these meetings but wish to join there are membership forms available at both school offices. You can pay your \$2.00 membership fee there also.



We are really hoping for some new committee members this year and would love for you to join us!

**Keirra Hourn**

## Coming Events

### FEBRUARY

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Tuesday 18</b>   | Primary Zone Swimming Carnival - Scone                       |
| <b>Monday 24</b>    | Peer Support Camp - Year 7 and 11                            |
| <b>Tuesday 25</b>   | Year 12 Work Experience<br>Peer Support Camp - Year 7 and 11 |
| <b>Wednesday 26</b> | Year 12 Work Experience<br>Peer Support Camp - Year 7 and 11 |
| <b>Thursday 27</b>  | Year 12 Work Experience                                      |
| <b>Friday 28</b>    | Year 12 Work Experience                                      |



# Cassilis Public School

It is wonderful to have all this beautiful rain recently. I hope that all our families took the opportunity to put on their gumboots and rain jacket and splash around in the muddy puddles.

## STUDENT OF THE WEEK -

### SKYLAH ANDERSON

Skylah is the Student of the Week because she worked consistently for the whole week and showed some great listening skills when teachers were giving instructions. She put a lot of effort into her sewing project. Skylah was respectful in the playground towards other students and the school's equipment by packing away.



Showed persistence with her writing and had great ideas about Stick Man. Sklyah's effort was great during maths groups including Wednesday's lesson on whole number. Skylah came to school every day last week and wore her neat and clean school uniform. Congratulations Skylah. You should feel very proud of yourself.

## NURSERY RHYMES

Students in the Busby Room are learning about nursery rhymes. These are great for the brain's development. Through hearing the rhymes in these stories, children learn more about language.

Yesterday, students were reading Humpty Dumpty and joined in on some activities. These included decorating Humpty and dropping him from a height, sequencing the order of events from the Nursery Rhyme and using Humpty during maths activities to measure long and short objects using informal units (paperclips).

**Why not sing Humpty Dumpty with your child tonight.**



Students in the Busby Room do lots of practice with number sense to really deepen their understanding of numbers.







**BOOKS ARE BRILLIANT!**

Students' responses to Quality Text

Everyday at Cassilis we read great quality books to all the students. Following this reading and often rereading, comes rich discussions and writing.

**Here are some examples:**

*Stick Man lives in the family tree. One day he wakes up and goes for a jog. Stick Man, beware of the book! It will close up on you and you will be stuck in the pages.*

**Dridan**

*Superworm is a frying pan handle so he's super helpful in the kitchen. Without him I don't know what mum would do because she wouldn't be able to cook. I mean you can't cook without a handle on the frying pan or in fact not on any pan.*

*But sometimes Superworm gets a bit cheeky and when mum looks away, Superworm slides off the pan and makes mum's food burn. She doesn't really mind though as Superworm is extra good at nights because having a bath is his favourite time of the day and it relaxes him.*

**Summer**

*Ben's family is the busiest family in the world. They are so busy! They are always early. One day a lizard came to visit. He sat and watched television for one minute then cleaned the table and made sandwiches. The lizard stayed for a month.*

**Ben**

*The person picked up Stick Man and took him home to use as a make-up brush to put make-up on faces. Stick Man was covered in foundation.*

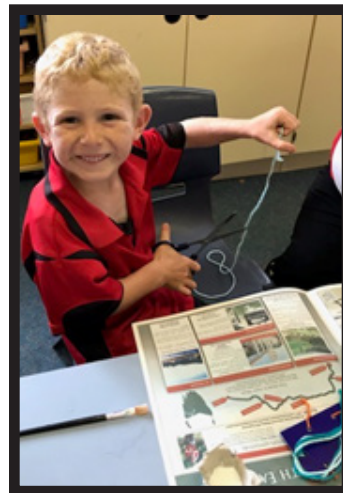
**Skylah**

*Stick Man lives in the family tree. One day he wakes up early and goes for a jog. Stick Man, beware of the person who wants to use you for a chair!*

*The person picks up Stick Man and uses him for a leg for a chair. A fat man sat on a chair and Stick Man broke.*

**Paul**

**Sewing is wonderful for hand-eye coordination. It's also a great calming and focusing tool.**







# St Joseph's Primary School

## THE KINDERGARTEN JOURNEY BEGINS

Our Kindergarten students have embraced their introduction to school life with joyful enthusiasm. Relationships are the foundation of any successful partnership and we are happy to acknowledge that students, parents and staff are continuing to work together to ensure each student reaches their potential. Our extensive Transition Program has certainly created a familiar environment for our students, along with our annual Belonging Day, held in January.

Students are learning all about the concept of 'story' in English. There is a kind of magic when we have the pleasure of reading a story to a group of attentive children... as teachers and parents we have the joint responsibility of developing the literacy skills of the children in our care. To develop comprehension skills, we have been looking at illustrations, vocabulary, sequencing and characters. We have been practicing nursery rhymes through song and dance. Students are already aware of the daily requirements of writing the date and a heading, that we read and write for a purpose. Importantly, students are encouraged to enhance their communication skills through a variety of speaking and listening activities.

Mathematics has been lots of fun too, as the students explore their number knowledge through counting, using charts, dice and a variety of materials. The students are enjoying the activities and have shown wonderful interest.

The children have been discussing "Jesus as a friend" in Religious Studies. Jesus was a true and loyal friend to everyone, teaching us to treat everyone kindly, with equality and respect. We've talked about ways we can all be a real friend to others, by listening and reaching out to those in need.

Science has seen us experimenting with toys, observing and recording how they move. Using positional language, the students will be designing an algorithm- a set of instructions on a grid. It is certain our students are IT specialists of the future... how exciting to be discussing physics and grid references with Kindergarten students.

During History, we are focusing on students' backgrounds, past experiences and memories,

and on important people in their lives. They will be provided with opportunities to compare themselves with others in their class and with people from different places and times. We will explore aspects of the Dreamtime and other special cultural concepts. Exploring our own and others' heritage gives us a strong sense of identity and belonging. We are looking forward to Harmony Day on March 23, when we will welcome some local guest speakers to our school.





## OPENING SCHOOL MASS

On Monday morning, students, staff and the wider school community gathered for our Opening School Mass. It was wonderful to see so many families in attendance, supporting the children.

Our Year 6 students were commissioned with their leadership badges and pledged to continue the fine traditions of leadership within the school.

Afterwards, our 2020 Kindergarten group, new students and staff, combined to plant a tree, which they will continue to nurture throughout their days at St Joseph's.



## WEEKLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the following award winners.

**Kindergarten - Annabelle Marshall** – for amazingly quick calculations and subitising during Mathematics

**Stage 1 - Isabel Williams** – For her excellent work ethic and attitude to all learning tasks

**Tommy Booth** – For taking his time to appreciate and create detailed artworks that show character through the eyes

**Stage 2 - Lilly Towell** – For her efforts in demonstrating perseverance to achieve her best during learning tasks.

**Annabelle Hunt** – For recognising and celebrating the beauty and excellence in others, especially when her peers achieve success.

**Stage 3 - William Collins** - For demonstrating a commitment during class discussion on qualities of Jesus

**Jeremy Hopkins** - For being able to identify and appreciate beauty and excellence during Visual Arts photography activities.

**Principal's Awards - Annabelle Marshall** – for a very settled start to Kindergarten.

**Eden Barry** – for her kindness towards others in the playground.

**Rihanna Hunt** – for her very positive start to the school year.

**Bethany Wightman** – for being an excellent role model to her classmates.

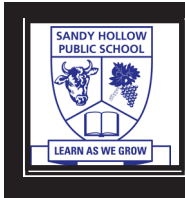
**Mr Ashley Borg**  
Principal

[ashley.borg@mn.catholic.edu.au](mailto:ashley.borg@mn.catholic.edu.au)  
6548 2035

### **Ringer Deadline!**

*Please remember to place  
your articles  
and advertisements into the  
**Merriwa Ringer***

by Mondays, at 12.00 noon



# Sandy Hollow Public School

## WELCOME BACK

Welcome back to 2020! Can you believe that we are already into Week 3? Our new kindergarten students have survived their first full week at big school with minimum tears and fuss.

We had an action packed start to the year and all students have settled quickly into their new classes. While we lost three students to high school, we have gained seven new students in Kindergarten, giving us a total enrolment of 22 students for 2020. There have also been a few changes to staffing.

The school has undergone some renovations over the January break. Our Administration building has had a complete make over with new paint, carpets, lino and a completely refitted bathroom and toilet. It was wonderful to move back and get settled in last week. We thank everyone for their patience over the last three months while the work was in progress.

And of course, we have a new fence!

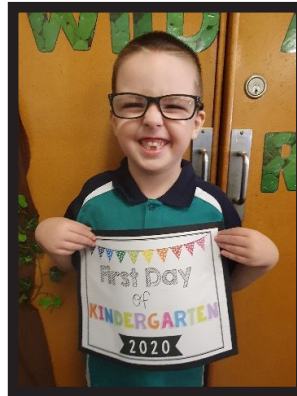
## STAFFING FOR 2020

We are quite excited to confirm our staffing arrangements for 2020.

- Mrs Darlington will continue to teach Kinder-Year 1-2 Monday – Wednesday and have Principal's Release on Thursday and Friday
- Mrs Parker will continue her role in teaching Year 3-4-5-6 and coordinate sporting events and opportunities
- Mrs Osmond will teach Kinder-Year 1-2 on Thursday and Friday and provide casual cover as needed.
- Mrs Smith will continue in her role as the School Administration Manager. Mrs Smith will also be supporting Year 1 in Literacy. She will work Monday, Wednesday and Thursday every week and every second Friday
- Mrs Curteis will continue in her role as SLSO, supporting Kinder-Year 1-2 Monday to Thursday
- Mrs L Smith will support Kinder-Year 1-2 on Friday as an SLSO

## KINDERGARTEN

It was wonderful to see our new kindergarten students start school last week with huge smiles on their faces. They are quickly making new friends and settling into school life. A big thank you to everyone who has helped to make our new Kindergarten students feel welcome.



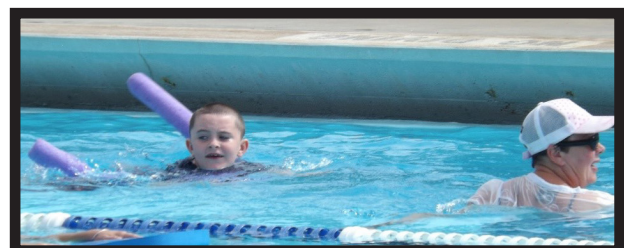
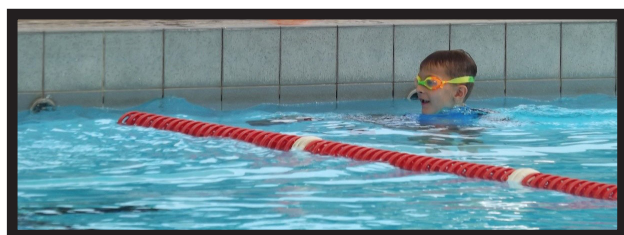
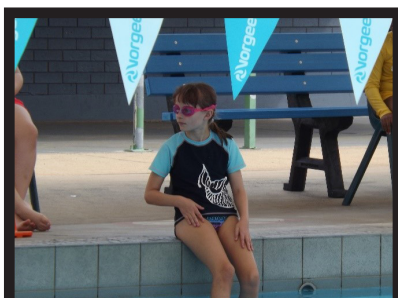
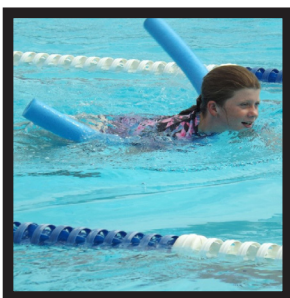
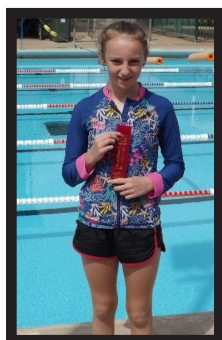
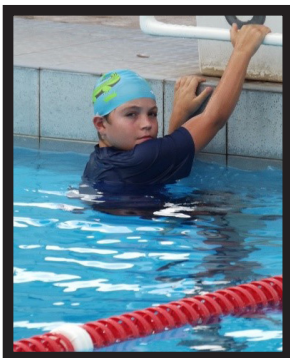
## ASSEMBLY

Our first whole school assembly will be held this Friday at 9.15am. All parents and members of the community are most welcome to attend. During our first assembly, we will be revealing our updated reward system. Watch out for more details in the next newsletter.



## SWIMMING CARNIVAL

Well done to all students who attended the swimming carnival on the first day back. Your wonderful behaviour showed that you are proud to represent Sandy Hollow Public School. For some students it was the first time they have attended a competitive sporting events and although nervous, they got in and gave 100%. Thank you to Mrs Parker and the parents who attended on the day. Thank you to the staff of Murrurundi Public School for organising and hosting the event. The swimming carnival was a very positive start to the year.



## NEW FENCE

The new fence means that we are now implementing new procedures at the entrances of the school. These procedures have been put in place to ensure the safety of all students. We hope that our new signage will be installed over the next week.

- All gates are unlocked and left open when the first member of staff arrives
- The administration and bus gate are closed and locked at 8.50am. They will remain locked for the whole school day. During the day, the main pedestrian gate will be closed, but not locked. (Please use the top latch to open and close the gate.)
- At 3.15pm, all gates will be unlocked and opened for easy exit of students
- Once all students have left, the main pedestrian gate and the bus gate will be locked
- The Administration gate will remain open until the cleaner has finished for the day – approximately 6.00pm

We ask that you please close the gate when you enter or exit the school during the day.

## STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

This week, all students will receive a statement of accounts. This will cover text book fees and school fees. Students will not be issued with their text books until they have been paid for. If you are having financial difficulties and require assistance, please make an appointment to speak to Mrs Darlington so that alternative arrangements can be made. All discussions will remain confidential. Teachers are hoping to start using text books within the next week.

**Christina Darlington**  
Principal





# Merriwa Pre-School and Activity Centre

## COMING UP - LIKE THE GRASS

We have quite a few things coming up at Pre-School which include a lovely event for families on Thursday February 13 at 10.30am. We ask you all to join us for a Meet and Greet the educators, especially the newest member of our team Miss Nikki Feeney. A shared morning tea will be provided for both the children and our visitors.

With Valentine's day around the corner we thought it was a great opportunity to display our character strength - LOVE with families and teachers together. On that note please remember to bring in your child's character strength star so we can begin our individual and group discussions about strengths.

Early in March we have a visit from Healthy Harold coming up and also the wonderful Jeral puppets, both of these events are designed to reinforce children's wellbeing and sense of Identity. Our school photos are scheduled for March 18 so please reserve this date so you can come along and take part if your child does not attend on a Wednesday. This year we are offering family photos on Tuesday afternoon March 17. This is open to the entire community so if you are interested please give the Pre-School a call and I will pass on their number to you for booking.

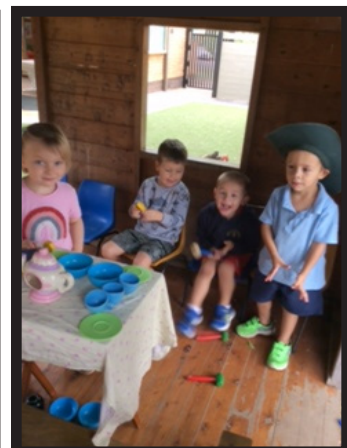
There is a committee meeting scheduled for February 18. This is most likely the last ordinary meeting before our Annual General Meeting. If you have interest in coming along and seeing if the committee may be something you could take on this year, you are more than welcome.

On the agenda will be the continued surfacing of our playground, plus plenty of general business. Here is a little bit about why the playground is so important to us all at Merriwa Pre-School.

Learning environments are a principal focus of educators' energy, attention and creativity. Educators know that respectful and beautiful environments don't just happen, whether indoors or outdoors. Many hours are spent thinking about and preparing environments to support children's learning and development. Any particular aspect of learning environments can contribute so much to the overall 'feel'

of children's programme. Alongside quality practice, the sensory-scape is what creates the feeling of welcome and belonging for each child, family and educator. It contributes to a sense of calm and yet offers intrigue. It provides familiarity and a sense of home and also entices with the promise of wonder and adventure. After all, our senses are ultimately the gateway to all learning.

Leah Folpp







# Anglican News

Phone: 0429 996 769

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **Sunday Eucharist** at Holy Trinity 9.00am
- **Friday Eucharist** at Holy Trinity 10.00am
- **Friday Extended Communion at MPS and Gummun Place alternately** - 11.00am.

Rev'd Pat Kirkby

## REFLECTION EPIPHANY 6 MATTHEW 5:21-27

This week's reading follows the Beatitudes to form the Sermon on the Mount. It contains no parables or miracles, only straightforward teaching. We find here strong ties to the Mosaic Law. The opening verses of Chapter 5 tell us that this Jesus has left the crowds and is teaching his disciples. Jesus is the teacher bridging familiar lessons from Jewish teaching to his own ministry as he instructs his disciples in the demands of a Jesus-following life.

We often read Jesus' statements in this discourse – "You have heard that it was said..." followed by "but I say to you..." as contrasting or even replacing prior Jewish teachings with his own. We must take care in such contrasts for Jesus neither erases nor discounts the teachings of the Law. He uses the traditional teachings on murder, adultery and prayer as essential grounds for building his case for righteousness. Using familiar teachings Jesus intensifies and radicalizes them for his listeners, extending these teachings into almost every area of life.

In this way Jesus does not abolish but fulfills the Law. No longer do the teachings on murder and adultery apply strictly to acts of murder and adultery. Instead they become doorways into the examination of many internal dynamics as well as external behaviours of one's life: anger, derision, slander, false generosity, litigiousness, arrogance, lust, temptation, alienation, divorce and religious speech.

Perhaps one of the most radical aspects of Jesus extension of the Law is its internalization of it, so that not only behaviours but attitudes and emotions fall within its scope. Of course this is not new to Jewish thinking. Throughout Hebrew Scriptures, the Law is to be taken to the heart and not outwardly observed. It is one thing to behave rightly. It is another thing entirely for one's heart to be orientated towards love. Just as it is easier to make a sacrifice at the temple than it is to do

Merriwa Ringer

justice, so it is easier to keep the commandment against murder than it is to avoid anger on one's heart. From "Text For the Week")

Love and blessings, Rev Pat Kirkby

## Merriwa Rotary

### THE ANGUS PEEBLES BURSARY

Tori McNaught attended our last Rotary dinner where she was presented with her award as this year's winner of the Angus Peebles Bursary. She is pictured here with our Club President, Peta Luke and Deirdre Peebles, mother of Angus.



### MERRIWA'S FINAL (2019) CHRISTMAS PARTY?

Many of our Rotary members and families were heavily involved in our community fire fighting effort prior to Christmas, thus celebrations were deferred until a later (and wetter) date. The welcome rain has lifted the spirits of the community and thus our Christmas gathering will be taking place in the same week as this Ringer appears.

It seems a good time to quote Hanrahan again

*In God's good time down came the rain  
And all the afternoon  
On iron roof and window pane  
It drummed a homely tune.  
And all the night it pattered still,  
And lithesome sleepless elves  
In dripping spout and window sill  
Kept talking to themselves.....*

### MANON

Our 12 month exchange student from Germany, Manon will get another taste of our wide brown land when she attends the Fire Fight Australia concert. ANZ Stadium is playing host to international and local music icons. All proceeds are going to support "Rescue, Relief, Recovery and Rehabilitation assistance in the affected areas.

Mark Smith

# Community Notice Board

## Merriwa Country Education Foundation

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**When:** Monday March 2  
**Time:** 6.00pm  
**Where:** Reg Fletcher Room  
 Merriwa RSL

All welcome to attend.

RSVP Jane Hegarty.



### MERRIWA COUNTRY EDUCATION FOUNDATION

On January 24 a number of Merriwa students were interviewed as part of the Merriwa Country Education Foundations selection process for students seeking financial support with their tertiary studies in 2020.

Students are eligible to apply if they live in the old Merriwa Shire Boundary and are aged between 18 and 24. They can be participating in a tertiary education programs from a University, TAFE or a private provider. Applications are made online on the Country Education Foundation website at [www.cef.org.au](http://www.cef.org.au) This website also has a range of information available to support all students who wish to participate in tertiary education, particularly their University Survival Guide and scholarship information from a number of campuses.

Funding for these grants comes from donations to the Merriwa Country Education Foundation, from local citizens and local organisations (namely the Merriwa Rotary Club and the Merriwa Welcoming Centre and Men's Shed) and local fundraising. This year were very grateful to the Merriwa P A H and I Association for selecting the Merriwa Education Foundation as the recipient of money raised from the Springtime Ball. The interview panel was made up of representatives from those organisations.

The successful applicants for 2020 were then presented with their certificates on Tuesday 4th February at 5.00 pm. The successful applicants for 2020 were:

Tarnisha Winsor Bachelor of Criminology  
 University of New England

Tori McNaught Bachelor of Psychology  
 University of Newcastle

Georgia Evans Bachelor of Education  
 Newcastle University

George Rodgers Bachelor Agriculture/  
 Business  
 New England University

Shai Blackadder Bachelor of Communications  
 Newcastle University.

This year members from the Merriwa Rotary Club and the Merriwa Welcoming Centre & Men's Shed have chosen to support a particular student interviewed. I am pleased to announce that Tori McNaught was the recipient of the Angus Peebles Memorial Scholarship from Merriwa Rotary and that Tarnisha Winsor was the recipient of the Merriwa Welcoming Centre and Men's Shed grant. The other students are all being supported by the Merriwa Country Education Foundation with individual grants.

We wish all the students the best of luck with their 2020 studies and will look forward to hearing how they are going during the year.



Jane Hegarty

Merriwa Ringer



# Community Notice Board

## Merriwa Women's Social Group

### FEBRUARY DINNER

**When:** Thursday February 27  
**Where:** Eat@153 - 6.30 for 7.00pm  
**Cost:** \$30pp includes 2 course meal, raffle and lucky door ticket

Bookings close February 24 at 8.00pm sharp

Payment to be made via direct deposit.

**Bsb:** 932 000

**A/C:** 764470 (\$3 for Regional bank customers)

**Account Name:** Merriwa Women's Social Group

BYOG, all welcome. Check out our Facebook page for more info.

**Megan Constable**



## St David's Uniting Church

### PIE/LAMINGTON DRIVE

2020 is moving on very quickly and Easter is just around the corner.

St David's will be running its annual Easter Pie Drive with delivery on Wednesday April 8, 2020.

This the ideal opportunity to get in goodies for the School Holidays.

Order sheets will be out and about in the next week or so.

**Barbara Campbell**

The Merriwa Community News is available to charity groups or non-funded, not for profit organisations and anyone wishing to advise of a special event (birthday/anniversary/etc). If you would like to make use of this free service, please contact us before 12.00noon on Mondays.

## Le Tour De Merriwa

Merriwa will be hosting the cycle event – Le Tour de Merriwa on Sunday March 8 and we are hoping to have plenty of visitors both riding and supporting the event and our local businesses.

We will be hosting a CHEESE and PASTA night at the MERRIWA SPORTS CLUB on SATURDAY MARCH 7, 6.30pm – 9.30pm The riders will need plenty of energy for their ride on Sunday and with the catering being carried out by Kylie Austin. There is a guarantee that the food will be great. Drinks can be purchased at Merriwa Sports Club.

The cost is \$30.00 for anyone who purchases a ticket before the deadline of February 29, after that the cost will be \$35.00. There will be limited tickets only, so don't wait too long.

Whether you are a cyclist or not come and meet our out of town visitors and let us show them what a wonderfully friendly town we are.

Tickets will be available from the Merriwa Tourist Welcoming Centre soon, but in the meantime make sure you keep the date free.

For more information about the ride on Sunday please contact Robert Smith, for the Saturday dinner contact Edith Shipway 0428 487 201

Hope to see you on March 7.

**Edith Shipway**

## Merriwa Hospital Auxiliary

The Merriwa Hospital Auxiliary will be having a General Meeting on Friday February 21, 2020. The meeting will be held in the Conference Room inside our Merriwa MPS at 2.00pm. We invite all our members to attend as well as any community members who want to see what we are all about and perhaps join our ranks as a member. We only have four meeting a year and all money raised goes directly to our Merriwa MPS for the purchase of equipment for the betterment of our patients and staff.

See you on Friday February 21 at 2.00pm.

**Elaine Sparrow**

# Community Notice Board

## Merriwa Interschool Horse Sports Association

(MISHA)

### NOTICE OF ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

**Date:** Thursday, February 27

**Time:** 6.00pm

**Location:** Merriwa RSL Club

De Patterson

## Merriwa Senior Citizens

### Please not the following events:

**Friday February 20** - invitation for morning tea at the Merriwa Library will be at 10.00m with a guest speaker.

**Tuesday March 31** - Coach trip departing Merriwa at 8.00am for Quirindi, Gunnedah and Coolah

Cost is \$60.00 which includes morning tea in Quirindi

**Friday March 20** - Merriwa RSI Auditorium - starting at 11.00am. Students arriving at 11.45am.

Lunch is 12.30pm with a cost of \$18.00pp

Hoi with many prizes, raffles, lucky doorprizes etc

Visitors from Scone, Denman and Cassilis.

### GAMES DAY

**Tuesday May 19** - Singleton visiting - \$7.00 lunch

**Tuesday August 11** - Visitors from Coolah, Cassilis and Denman

**Tuesday October 13** - Visitors from Muswellbrook

Details later for these games days.

Mary O'Neill

## Celebrating 102 Years

The Merriwa Community and Gummun Place Hostel would like to wish Mrs Beryl Llewelyn a "Happy 102nd Birthday". Mrs Llewelyn celebrated the day with residents at Gummun Place Hostel.



Julie Wilton

## arts UPPER HUNTER

### Dance Craze Video Comp

For young people 8 to 15 yrs

First Prize \$500

Total Prize Pool \$1,250

<https://artsupperhunter.us.launchpad6.com/>



Arts Upper Hunter is supported by:  
Dungog Shire Council, Muswellbrook Shire Council, Singleton Council and the Upper Hunter Shire Council.



# Community Notice Board

## Meals on Wheels

THANK YOU

On behalf of Merriwa and District Meals on Wheels, I would like to thank Robert Smith (Merriwa Pharmacy) for his continued support in organising a 100 Club on January 24. Support like this is greatly appreciated. Also thank you to Eva Towler for selling the tickets.

**Winners of this 100 Club:**

- First**            Jan Shean
- Second**        Eva Towler
- Third**            Eva Towler

**Diane Byfield**

## Congratulations

**BEN ROBINS AND JESSYCA MORGAN**

The families of Ben and Jessyca would like to congratulate them on their recent engagement. Wishing you all the best, love and happiness for your future.

Love Mum, your brothers and sisters, their families, Sharon, Al and their families.

**Cynthia Morgan**



**Valley of the Winds**

Harnessing nature's energy to power the future

# Community Information Drop-in Session

27 February 2020 | [valleyofthewinds.com.au](http://valleyofthewinds.com.au)

Valley of the Winds is an 800 megawatt wind farm that is in the early stages of planning. It is being proposed on cleared grazing land located to the south of Coolah.

We'd like to introduce the project to the local community. Come along and meet the project team. Ask any questions and find out more.

**When**  
Thursday February 27  
anytime from 2pm-7pm

**Where**  
Coolah Showgrounds & Recreational Reserve  
Dunedoo Road, Coolah

**More information at [www.valleyofthewinds.com.au](http://www.valleyofthewinds.com.au)**

# Business Merriwa Surgery

**DR EMAD JASEM  
FOR ALL YOUR MEDICAL NEEDS**

## **OPENING HOURS**

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday  
8.30am -5.30pm**

**Wednesday 8.30am- 2.00pm**

**Closed for lunch 2.00pm to 3.00pm daily**

**For bookings please call the surgery on 02 6548  
2305**

Just a reminder to the community that Dr Plaskitt attends the surgery three days a month. Dr Plaskitt is a GP and is qualified to deliver cognitive behavioural therapy (CBT), Psychoeducation and behavioural therapy and other focussed psychological strategies, as well as having training in clinical hypnosis.

These strategies are useful for Anxiety/Emotional disorders and Depression and Grief to name a few.

The techniques are also very helpful in conditions such as smoking, weight and lifestyle habits. For more information please contact the surgery.

For the ladies in the community, Merriwa Surgery runs nurse led clinics for Women's Health. Sharee is a trained and qualified Women's Health nurse and is available for your women's health needs including cervical smears previously known as pap smears. Due to the lack of local female GP's, you don't have to be a current registered patient to book. Phone Merriwa Surgery for more information and bookings.

For those that are worried, Dr Jasem has no intention and is not leaving the Merriwa community. Dr Jasem is settled in Merriwa and will continue to provide medical attention as a GP to the community.

REMINDER with booking appointments please SELECT OPTION 1 on your telephone to be put through to reception.

**Dr Emad Jasem**

## **Merriwa Newsagency**

**Congratulations to Hi-Anne Nguyen and K Borg, the winners of our ' Back to School ' promotion. Thank you to all our customers who bought their back to school supplies from us.**

**Congratulations to all the Australia Day Award recipients. We admire your dedication and abilities to do all that you do and we are very proud of you too!**

### **OUTBACK MAGAZINE**

- Top of the range; The Wilinggin rangers are rejuvenating community and creating a green economy on the northern Kimberley plateau, a breathtaking landscape of sandstone ranges, rivers and boab - dotted savannah country. It is unlike anywhere else in the world. This is the gateway to Wilinggin country of the Ngarinyin people and it stays that way for the next 63,000 sq km
- Rural Woman of the Year, Jo Palmer wants to remove geographic barriers between employers and employees. Growing up, Jo watched her highly qualified mother Margot Flynn work in any local job she could find. This had a significant impact on Jo, that has only dawned on her since her recent win as the AgriFutures Rural Woman of the Year. Jo's two year year old business Pointer Remote Roles has grown as a result of her mother's experience
- Doctor Timber; grazier Will Munsie is recycling timbers to turn old wool tables into beautiful dining tables to get him through the drought. Mentally woodwork's the big saviour, he says, keeping his brain off how bad it is outside.

### **AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S WEEKLY**

- Special Royal Report; How Diana inspired her son Harry to follow his heart and how he is honouring her legacy
- Black Summer, the Australian Bushfire Crisis, stories of hope and healing and the long road to recovery
- Protein salads; 'Flexitarian' means adding new beneficial foods to your diet. Delicious recipes to tempt the family. Try them out! Also tasty recipes to cook and freeze, saving you time and stress getting dinner on the table during the busy week.

### **BETTER HOMES AND GARDENS**

- Super Salads hit the spot, chicken, steak, salmon, tuna very satisfying! Beat the heat



with fruity boozy beauties, sorbets, granitas and ice pops plus a couple the kids can enjoy too!

- Escape to the garden; Love in a dry climate, embracing nature's ways in your garden
- Cruising, your ultimate guide. Amazing destinations, ships to suit you, new ideas to inspire and information to make cruising a thrill!

### AUSTRALIAN COUNTRY

- Family ties; respect for tradition and forward thinking have equal emphasis at Dunraven Station, which has belonged to Roberta Doneley's family for 110 years
- End of an era; after almost 90 years as the custodians of a property in central western Queensland, the McKenzie family is closing the gate for the last time
- Just add water; Dip a toe into the mineral-rich hot spring pools and artesian bore-filled waterholes across the country. As well as soothing and warm, mineral waters are rich in sodiums; chloride, sulphate and carbonate also carbonates, magnesium and calcium. Devotees claim all sorts of therapeutic benefits for many ailments from arthritis to muscular injuries to poor sleep quality.

### A TWIGSEEDS MOMENT

*You are the apple of my eye*

### BEANIE BOO

*My name is Petunia*

*I am a platypus, cute as can be, I'm also very colourful as you can see*

*My birthday is April 26*

**PHONECARDS: All cards are now available including Telstra, Optus and Vodafone. Cash and Effpos only.**

**Leanne and Neville Hook and the newsXpress Merriwa Team**

# Upper Hunter Shire Council

## DROUGHT COMMUNITIES PROGRAMME

Calling all Upper Hunter businesses, community and sporting groups, progress associations and interested residents.

Upper Hunter Shire Council is eligible to receive a further \$1 million in funding from the Federal Government's Drought Community Program (DCP), for projects that benefit our communities.

Council is seeking your proposals and your written feedback on a draft list of proposals (below), by February 28, 2020. Simply email [council@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au) and include details of your preferred project, and your name, address, best contact details and if you are representing a club or other organisation.

DRAFT - Proposed Drought Communities Programme Projects for Merriwa and Cassilis

- Merriwa Pool barbecue area
- Cassilis Park playground shade sale
- Cassilis rodeo ground seating upgrade

To be eligible for funding, projects must be able to be completed by December 2020, and must provide long lasting benefits to our local communities. The DCP targets infrastructure and other projects that lead to the employment of locals, benefit local businesses and stimulate our local economies.

For more information on the Program Guidelines visit: <https://www.business.gov.au/dcp>

Projects will be shortlisted against the criteria, then go to Upper Hunter Shire Councillors for endorsement before final approval is sought from DCP.

If you would like to discuss your project please contact Council's Grants Officer Jacqui Bakewell on 6540 1172 or email [jbakewell@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au](mailto:jbakewell@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au)

### JANUARY COUNCIL MEETING

At the ordinary Council meeting held January 28, 2020, Council received requests for donations from local community groups or individuals some of which cover organisations' costs to hire Council facilities for events.

Councillors supported the following donation requests from Merriwa and Cassilis community groups:

# Hunter Local Lands

## HUNTER LOCAL LAND SERVICES IS SEEKING YOUR INTEREST IN TRAINING OPTIONS FOR THE MERRIWA PLATEAU

- \$800.00 to St Joseph's Primary School Merriwa for their Junior Campdraft and Fete Day being held at Merriwa Showground in July 2020
- \$250.00 towards Cassilis Rodeo for the hire of a portable toilet block for their annual rodeo held January 31 to February 1
- \$200.00 to Merriwa RSL Club for their Bushfire Relief Fundraiser on January 18.

To apply for a donation/sponsorship, please write to Council at [council@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au](mailto:council@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au), PO Box 208 Scone NSW 2337, or visit an administration office in Merriwa, Murrurundi or Scone for more information.

### SENIORS FESTIVAL

Seniors Festival is just around the corner and we have a few workshops coming up for our fabulous over 50's and up !!

'Wellbeing and You' is a one hour workshop which focuses on strategies to help you take care of yourself, minimise stress and maximise feeling good! Rural Adversity Mental Health Program (RAMHP) coordinator Cas Mastrone will be coming over from Mudgee to deliver two workshops for the 'girls' and a 'Toolbox Talk' for the 'boys' on Thursday February 20. There will be a morning session at 9.30am followed by morning tea at the library, an afternoon session from 2.00pm to 3.00pm plus afternoon tea at Gummun Hostel while the Toolbox Talk will be over a light lunch at the Merriwa Men's Shed supper room from 12 noon to 1.00pm.

Upper Hunter Shires sports participation officer Nicky Western will also be popping over the range from Scone to deliver an Introduction to Gymnastics for Seniors session at the Merriwa RSL auditorium on Wednesday February 19 from 11.15am. Wear some comfortable shoes and free flowing clothes that are easy to move around in. This session is for all abilities!

To RSVP or find out more email Tash Taaffe on [ttaaffe@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ttaaffe@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au) or call 0458 574 015. All the workshops are free.

**Taylah King**

Following on from a recent landholder survey on "Box-Gum Grassy Woodland in the Merriwa Plateau", the upper Hunter team are seeking input from farmers and landholders into what training might be of interest to landholders who have woodland habitats, and an interest in restoring and enhancing it, on their land.

An Expression of Interest (EOI) survey form has been developed covering a range of identified topics from the survey, seeking EOIs to assist in our planning and delivery of these or similar events. We want to hear your level of interest in topics such as cultural or other burning for restoration, river management, grazing strategies for both production and environmental benefits on farms, and more.

Landholders in the upper Hunter are invited to submit their Expression of Interest for potential future training through a form accessed via this link

<https://hunterlls/wufoo.com/forms/eoi-courses-merriwa-plateau> or contact Catherine Conroy at our Scone office on 0427 578 937 who can register your Expression of interest over the phone.

For those who want to know more about the Box Gum Grassy Woodland survey results, a short summary is available online by following the link below, also check out the upcoming planned workshops we are running in the area too (last page of report).

[https://hunter.lls.nsw.gov.au/\\_\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0004/1193278/Merriwa-Box-Woodland-Survey-Results-Snapshot-Report-Dec19.pdf](https://hunter.lls.nsw.gov.au/__data/assets/pdf_file/0004/1193278/Merriwa-Box-Woodland-Survey-Results-Snapshot-Report-Dec19.pdf)

If you wish a hard copy of the summary to be posted to you, please contact Catherine Conroy on 0427 578 937 or email: [catherine.conroy@lls.nsw.gov.au](mailto:catherine.conroy@lls.nsw.gov.au)

**Catherine Conroy**



## Roma Station, Roma Road Merriwa

**\$420,000.00 (negotiable)**



Located just 30 minutes from Merriwa, this 40 acre property is extremely developed. The land is mostly open, good quality grazing country with a small section of creek flats and is ideal for sheep, horses or cattle. Water is supplied via a fully equipped bore feeding to header tanks. Farm infrastructure includes a shearing shed and steel yards, cattle yards, 4 x 40ft storage containers with an awning, a 4 bay steel shed, workshop and hay shed, a double garage, chicken coup and 3 stables with day yards. There are 2 homes on the property, plus a granny flat. The first home has 2 large bedrooms, both with built in robes, a big modern kitchen with 900mm gas cooker and an open plan lounge with a combustion fire. At the rear of the home is a BBQ area.

The second home is the original homestead which is in need of major renovation. There is also a DA to extend the main house which is fully approved. This would make an ideal family getaway or permanent farm and is ready for your inspection!

## 128 Rifle Range Road, Merriwa

**\$199,000.00**

Located on a flat 2.5 acre block, this property is ideal for someone with a couple of horses. The back paddock is flat and fully fenced. The house sits at the front of the block and is surrounded by beautiful shade trees and shrubs. The home consists of two large bedrooms, the main with built in robes and a ceiling fan. The living area is open plan and the kitchen presents in good condition with an electric stove. At the rear of the home is a covered entertainment area and there is plenty of room to do extensions. There are 2 carports, chicken coup, a cubby and town water. This is a well priced small acreage only 5 minutes to the main street.



VIEW AT [www.jtsrealty.com.au](http://www.jtsrealty.com.au)



## RAP SURVEYING

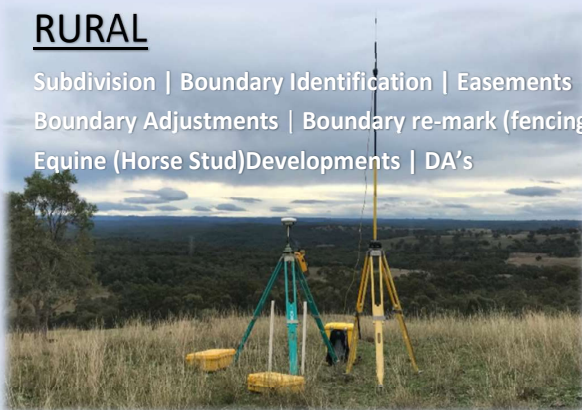
(0400) 863 950

Ross Peasley | Registered Land Surveyor E RAPSURVEYING@GMAIL.COM

Surveying in the Upper Hunter Valley Region for over 25 years

### RURAL

Subdivision | Boundary Identification | Easements  
Boundary Adjustments | Boundary re-mark (fencing)  
Equine (Horse Stud) Developments | DA's



### CONSTRUCTION

Civil works setout [Roads, Bridges, Stormwater/Sewerage]  
Commercial & Industrial Building setout | Quarries



### RESIDENTIAL

Subdivision | Strata Title |  
Detail & Contour surveys |  
Identification surveys | House  
setouts | Boundary Disputes



## RM Property & Livestock



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President: Jamie Edmonds 0428 308 010  
Secretary: Kellie Porter 0432 109 760  
Treasurer: Kelly Curtis

October Long weekend  
2020

[merriwacampdraft@gmail.com](mailto:merriwacampdraft@gmail.com)

## nsw FARMERS Growing the best

Merriwa Branch & District Council

"... a strong and united voice for our members on issues that affect their business, farms and families."

President: Patrick Ryan 0428 485 090

Secretary/Treasurer:  
Aileen Hogan 0455 455 760

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Businesses



Local Land Services  
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EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

### UPPER HUNTER offices

Merriwa 6548 2175 (Mon & Tues 9 - 4pm, Wed 9 - 3pm)  
Scone 6540 2400 (Mon - Fri 8.30am - 4.30pm)  
Singleton 6572 2944 (Mon - Fri 10.00am - 3.00pm)

### Direct Local Contacts for:

DISTRICT VET 0427 322311  
BIOSECURITY - PEST ANIMALS 0429 722944  
For more information on our range of services visit our website  
[hunter.ils.nsw.gov.au](http://hunter.ils.nsw.gov.au)



Merriwa IGA  
plus Liquor



104  
Bettington  
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Chest to  
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Neville and Leanne Hook

☎ 65 482 031

✉ [merriwa@newsxpress.com.au](mailto:merriwa@newsxpress.com.au)

🌐 [www.newsxpress.com.au](http://www.newsxpress.com.au)

Supports your local community.

MDHA Inc.

## NON EMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORT SERVICE

We will get you to your  
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special care.



Office hours are:  
9.30 to 2.30 weekdays

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

Te/Fax 6548 2653

# Russell's Earthmoving

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[russellsearthmoving@jrem.com.au](http://russellsearthmoving@jrem.com.au)

## Di's Clothing Patch



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Fax: 6542 5297

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Phone: 6543 2433

Email: [office@cgbllaw.com.au](mailto:office@cgbllaw.com.au) Web: [www.cgbllaw.com.au](http://www.cgbllaw.com.au)



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**Opening Hours**

Monday 9.00am - 5.30pm  
Tuesday 9.00am - 5.30pm  
Wednesday 9.00am - 5.30pm  
Thursday 9.00am - 5.30pm  
Friday 9.00am - 5.30pm  
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Treasurer: Leanne Hunt on 0487 761 253  
Secretary: Larissa Hockings on 0429 412 772



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[sales@welderup.com.au](mailto:sales@welderup.com.au)

**MCSP&C**  
MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL P&F ASSOCIATION

President: Julie Llewelyn  
Vice Presidents: Hollie Hunt and Keirra Hourn  
Secretary: Talitha Sawley  
Treasurer: Emma Douglas  
Meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm at Merriwa RSL Club



**Merriwa Anglican Parish Services**  
Holy Trinity Merriwa

9.00am Sundays  
10.00am Fridays  
Short Bible Study

Contact: **0429 996 769**

Rev'd Pat Kirkby - Local Priest



**St Davids Uniting Church**  
Vennacher Street Merriwa

**Service Times**  
1st, 2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays at 11.00am  
3rd Sunday at 6.00pm

Peter Campbell - 6548 5126



**Catholic Parish Merriwa & Cassilis**

**WEEKEND MASSES**  
St Anne's Merriwa  
1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday - Sat 6.00pm  
2nd & 4th Sunday - Sun 8.30am  
St Joseph's Cassilis  
2nd & 4th Sunday - 10.00am  
Parish Priest - **6548 2086**  
St Vincent de Paul - 6548 3092



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All enquiries welcome

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Ph **6548 2035**

P&F President - Andrew Luke  
Ph 6548 2993



**Merriwa Central School**

Phone: 6548 2119

[merriwa-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:merriwa-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
[www.merriwa-c.schools.nsw.edu.au](http://www.merriwa-c.schools.nsw.edu.au)



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**Cassilis Public School**

Principal: Mrs Katie Burgess

Coolah Road Ph: 63761009  
Cassilis NSW 2329 Fax: 63761005  
[cassilis-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au](mailto:cassilis-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au)  
[www.cassilis-p.school.nsw.edu.au](http://www.cassilis-p.school.nsw.edu.au)



**Schools**

**Merriwa Pre-School and Activity Centre**  
(PO Box 96) 43 Bow St, Merriwa NSW 2329  
Ph: 0265 482 083  
[merriwapreschool@tgs.com.au](mailto:merriwapreschool@tgs.com.au)

**Merriwa Pre-School**  
For children 2 - 5 years

**Activity Centre**  
For children attending Kindergarten to Year 6  
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**MEN'S SHED:**  
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**President: E Shipway**  
Telephone: 6548 3201

**CWA**  
Meets Second Monday of the month  
10.00am  
CWA Rooms  
159 Bettington Street

Visitors and new members are always welcome

Enquiries to:  
President: Penelope Fenley  
Phone: 6548 3060  
Email: [penelopecwa@inet.net.au](mailto:penelopecwa@inet.net.au)  
Secretary: Kim Clydsdale  
Phone: 6548 2558  
Email: [kmclydsdale@gmail.com](mailto:kmclydsdale@gmail.com)





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**Merriwa and Denman**  
 Monday – Friday 8.00am – 6.00pm  
**Merriwa**  
 Cnr Brisbane and MacKenzie Streets  
**Denman**  
 51 – 53 Ogilvie Street  
 For appointments please phone 6532 5013

**MERRIWA & DISTRICT**  
**LITTLE ATHLETICS CENTRE**  
**2018/19 starts Oct 15!**  
 Tots (3 & 4 yrs) to u/17 yrs  
**Mondays 5.30 to 7.00pm**  
 at Merriwa No. 2 Oval  
 (season ends 25 February)  
**New Members Welcome**  
 ph: Tash Taafe 0458 574 015  
 e: tashholden@bigpond.com

**MERRIWA SPORTS CLUB Ltd 6548 2028**  
*Golf, Bowls, Squash, Putt Putt, Darts, Pool, ATM and Club Keno*  
**Opening Times:**  
**\*Monday & Tuesday - 4pm \*Wednesday - Sunday - 12pm**  
 Thursday Night 7:00pm Bingo  
 Friday 5:00pm - 7:00pm Happy Two Hours and Free raffles  
 Saturday - **7.45pm** Monster raffles and members' badge draw  
 Sunday: 5:00pm to 7:00pm meat voucher raffle and members' badge draw.  
**The Sporties Chinese/Australian Restaurant 6548 3228**  
 Dine in or Take Away. Banquets and Function catering available.  
 Lunch Specials  
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 Dinner: Tuesday to Sunday

  
**Rotary Club of Merriwa Inc**  
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**Merriwa Magpies**  
  
 Rugby League Football Club  
**Merriwa Rugby League Football Club**  
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 Vice President: Marc Previati  
 Secretary: Vacant  
 Treasurer/Publicity Officer: Jessyca Morgan

**MERRIWA TENNIS ASSOCIATION**  
 Find us on Facebook  
**President:** Jason Bear  
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**2019 Merriwa Springtime Show**  
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 Marie Scott - Secretary  
**Tel: 0498 378 500**

  
**Clare Martin**  
 President 6548 2201  
**De Patterson**  
 Secretary 0416 194 501  
**Fiona Morgan**  
 Treasurer  
 Rally days every 2nd Sunday of month from February to October


  
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 President - Patrick Williams 0417 462 767  
 V/President - Trent Cooper  
 Secretary - Lee Cronin  
 Treasurer - Matt Morgan 0417 791 628

  
**Merriwa Swimming Club**  
**For swimmers of all abilities**  
 Season begins in Term 4  
 President: Melissa Collins  
 Registrar: Bronwyn Redgate  
 Secretary: Sandy Wallings  
[merriwa.swimming.org.au](http://merriwa.swimming.org.au)

BBQ area and Kids Play area  
**Friday**  
 Raffles and 3 Members Badge Draws  
**Sunday**  
 Raffles  
 Members Badge Draw between 11.30am & 1.30pm  
**Club: 6548 2157**  
**Bistro: 6548 2295**  
 For the information of members and their guests.

  
**President Andrew Constable**  
**Secretary Fiona Morgan**  
**Treasurer Kellie Porter**  
 All enquires to the secretary 0418417186  
 fionamorgan6@bigpond.com

**MERRIWA RACES**  
**April 18, 2020**  
  
 Race Club President - Paul Frampton  
 Contact - 0428 485 182  
 Visit [www.merriwaraceclub.com.au](http://www.merriwaraceclub.com.au)

**MERRIWA OLD BOY'S CLUB**  
 President  
**Bruce Blackadder**  
 0428 219 340  
 V/President/Publicity Officer- Trent Cooper  
 Secretary/Treasurer - Matt Morgan

**MERRIWA**  
  
**FESTIVAL of the FLEECES**

**Merriwa Cricket Club**  
 President: Jon Osmond 0428 714 648  
 Vice President: Mark Fieldsend  
 Secretary: James Armstrong 0412 926 525  
 Treasurer: Mick Curteis - 0475 980 254

**MERRIWA DISTRICT PROGRESS ASSOCIATION**  
 Have your voice heard on matters that affect the whole local community  
 Meets on 3rd Wednesdays at 6:00 PM Merriwa RSL  
[merriwaprogress@gmail.com](mailto:merriwaprogress@gmail.com)





# Clubs

## Merriwa RSL Club

### NEW MEMBERS LUNCH SPECIAL MENU

**\$12.50**

Crumbed calamari and chips  
Gourmet salada and garlic aioli  
Caesar salad  
Burger of the day and chips  
Beer battered fish, chips and salad

**Available Monday to Friday**

The Thursday Members Badge Draw for \$220.00 was not won the number was 118, this week it jackpots to \$240.00 and will be drawn between 6.00 – 7.00pm.

The Friday night Members Lucky Badge, 7.00pm draw for \$100.00 was not won the number was 606, this week it ackpots to \$120.00.

The 8.30pm Members Badge draw worth \$800.00 was won the number was 653, this week it ommences at \$850.00.

The 9.00pm Members Badge draw for \$120.00 was not won the number was 733, this week it jackpots to \$140.00. **LTPS/19/36118**

The Sunday Morning Members Badge Draw for \$550.00 was not won last week the number was 67, this week it jackpots to \$600.00 and will be drawn between 11.30am and 1.30pm and you must be present to win the money. **LTP/19/36118**

**Members must be present to claim any of the draws and present their current membership card upon request. It is an offence to NOT have your membership card on your person when on the premises.**

**Birthdays vouchers** each month are also available at the bar at the beginning of the month.

**Wednesday Nights from 6.00pm** - \$11.00 Pizzas and \$6.00 Pints

**Thursday Nights – Chicken Schnitzel Night** - \$12.50 – Members only

**Saturday Nights – Steak Night** - \$12.50 OR order any meal off the A la carte menu and get one kids meal for free – Members only

**Courtesy Bus** – the clubs courtesy bus if available for pickups on Friday's from 5.30pm (you must book by ringing the club), with drop offs at 9.15pm, 10.00pm and 11.30pm.

### HAPPY HOUR

Thursday 6.00pm to 7.00pm  
Friday 6.00pm to 7.00pm  
Sunday 11.00am to 12 noon

### Member's prices

\$3.50 schooners and \$2.50 middies

### BISTRO HOURS

Lunch 12noon – 2.00pm  
Evening 6.00pm to 8.00pm/8.30pm

**Matt Morgan**

## Merriwa Sports Club

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

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

**Wednesdays** - 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 raffle.

**Saturdays** - Monster Raffle. Tickets on sale at 6.45pm drawn 7.30pm, winners jackpot, dinner draw and Saturday Badge Draw.

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

### BINGO

Wednesday Night 6.30pm. Tickets on sale from 6.00pm. Lots of great prizes to be won. All welcome.

### BOWLS

Casual bowls available. Twilight Bowls every Friday night. 5.30pm roll.

### GOLF

Casual Golf available. Donations in honesty box.

### CHINESE SMORGASBORD

**February 23**

Smorgasbord all you can eat Chinese entrée, mains and desserts.

### RESTAURANT

Chinese/Australian Restaurant closed Mondays.

Open for dinner Tuesday to Sunday 5.00pm to 8.30pm. Open for lunch Wednesday to Sunday 12noon to 2.00pm.

For bookings and take away - **6548 3228**

### WEEKEND RESULTS

**Saturday Raffle - February 8**

Saturday Members draw, No 211, was not won – next week \$210.00.

**Dinner:** Eva Towler  
**Free Ticket:** Wendy Bolton  
**Bowls Raffle:** Ken Bevan

**Members draw - Sunday February 9**  
 Members draw, No 135 was not won – next week \$650.00.

**Save the Date:** Saturday April 18, 2020, Carrot Bowen and The Collective - 7.00pm till 11.00pm.

**Des Snelgrove**

**WOMENS BOWLS**

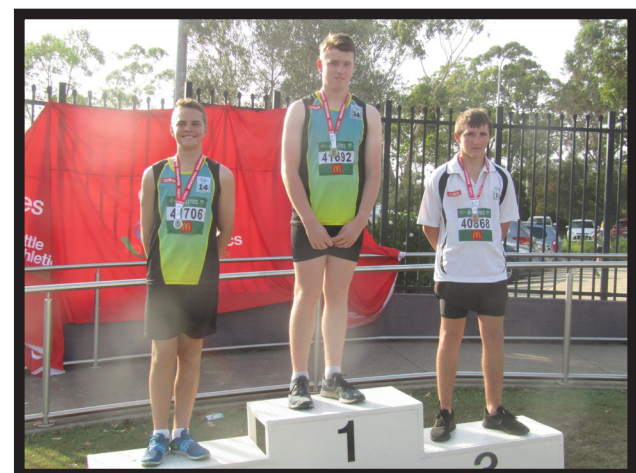
Dunedoo Friendship Day mixed bowls will be held on Wednesday February 19, 2020. Names are to be placed on the board at the Merriwa Sports Club or given to Loretta Cooper via mobile 0428 482 679 by February 16, 2020.

**Loretta Cooper**

**News**

**Sporting  
 Merriwa Little A's**

competing in events that they enjoy. 40 plus temperatures kinda takes the fun out of it and safety has to be a priority.





## Weekend two report – February 8 and 9

This weekend we had eight of our wonderful athletes travel down for a second time to get their events completed. This time round it wasn't the heat but the rain that we had to deal with. Cody had a busy Saturday with three events, he placed ninth in triple jump, tenth in 100mtr sprint and 11th in his 400mtr.

Thomas Campbell threw a big distance of 5.84m to place 11th in shot put.

Dylan placed equal third in his High jump, sixth in triple jump and ninth in his 100mtr sprint.

Morgan was very excited to get out in the long jump pit, placing 13th with a distance of 2.08m.

Aubree, as always brought her A game. Once again getting a medal, this time a bronze for her long jump, jumping a great 3mtrs. She also had a fantastic race in her 100mtr heat fighting to keep the lead the whole race, unfortunately the second heat was quicker and she was fourth fastest overall. On Sunday Aubree's last race over a long drawn out two weekends was her 200mtr race, with some hot competition she placed fifth.

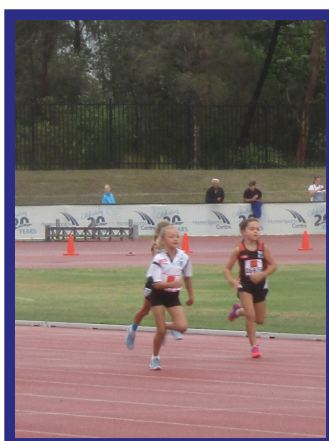
Rachel battled through the first weekend being called twice for her events only to be disappointed both times. To my delight and i am sure hers, she finally completed two of her events on a very wet track and sandpit. In her 80mtr hurdle she placed sixth in her heat and eighth overall with a fast time of 19 seconds, she also placed ninth in her triple jump.

Sister Rihanna was absolutely determined to weather the storm and get to her events and she was very excited to throw a new PB in shot put with a distance of 4.79m placing sixth.

Like Rachel, Sean was also called and marshalled for his 80mtr hurdles on the first Sunday only to be disappointed. He was thrilled to have a second chance and did amazingly well placing seventh overall with a time of 17.5.

Such a drawn-out process to get through this years regional carnival. Thank you to our wonderful Athletes and their parents for putting up with all the weather delays and the extra driving and the costs that go with travelling to these carnivals. Congratulations to each and every one of our athletes, you all represented Merriwa with pride and I so much enjoy the enthusiasm and competitiveness that you all

displayed.



# Merriwa Rugby League Football Club

Due to this beautiful rain, we have had to change venues for League Tag and Reserve Grade training, please contact Gaynor or Nathan for location.

Training this week is Tuesday and Thursday for League Tag, starting at 6.00pm sharp. If you need a rub down or strapping make sure you get there early to ensure you are ready to train with the rest of the group.

Reserve Grade training will be Tuesday and Friday this week, at 6.30pm. Again contact Nathan Barry for more information.

Merchandise is now available to order, please check out our Facebook page.

Book it in: We are having an Easter Raffle on Thursday April 2 at 7.30pm at Merriwa RSL Club. Our Vice President, David Martin has done a great job organising our Easter Raffle. Tickets on sale on the night from 6.00pm.

Jessyca Morgan

# Merriwa Junior Rugby League Football Club

## WELCOME TO THE 2020 SEASON!

We are still in need of coaches for this season. If you are interested in coaching our junior magpies please get in contact with Fiona ASAP so we can get those enrolled in courses if need be, 0418 417 186, fionamorgan6@bigpond.com

Registrations are now open. We would like all players registered as soon as possible. Please follow the link <https://profile.mysideline.com.au/> to register. Don't forget to download your active kids voucher from [www.service.nsw.gov.au](http://www.service.nsw.gov.au)

All players will be receiving a training set (shorts & shirt) with their rego. Please indicate on the form their size when registering. The gear is the same as last years club merchandise so use those sizes as a guide.

Club merchandise will once again be available to purchase, keep an eye on our facebook page for more information.

### COACHING AND SPORTS TRAINER COURSES

Saturday March 21, Aberdeen Bowling Club -

Club Coach course (covers all ages) 9.00am-3.30pm \$20.00

Saturday March 21 and Sunday 22 Segenhoe Inn Aberdeen – League First Aid, Level 1 sports trainer (blue shirt) and reaccreditation, Level 2 sports trainer (orange shirt) and reaccreditation and CPR update.

Saturday May 2 and Sun 3, Club Singleton – Level 2 sports trainer and reaccreditation.

A reminder to all committee, coaches, volunteers etc, everyone needs to register with the club. If you don't have a Working with Children Check please get this started [www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au](http://www.kidsguardian.nsw.gov.au).

At this time, we don't have a confirmed start date for the season but I will be sure to let everyone know! Keep an eye on our Facebook Page for all updates and date for our registration day.

Fiona Morgan



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Merriwa  
Open Monday - Friday 7.30am - 5pm  
Saturday 9am - 12pm  
Phone: (02) 6548 2071

## Ringer Deadline!

*Please remember to place  
your articles*

*and advertisements into the  
Merriwa Ringer*

by Mondays, at 12.00 noon



# PARENTS SHOWCASE

HELP SUPPORT YOUR CHILD  
MAKE INFORMED CAREER CHOICES!



## THE SHOW COVERS A RANGE OF HELPFUL TOPICS

- Industry Trends
- Jobs of the Future
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) Options: School -delivered VET, SBATs and EVET
- Apprenticeships / Traineeships
- TAFE / Private Training Providers
- Funding Options Available (Smart and Skilled)
- Useful Resources
- Opportunities to speak to VET Ambassadors

## A SHOW NOT TO BE MISSED!

**DATE:** Tuesday 24th March 2020

**6:00-7:30PM**

**LOCATION:** Merriwa Central School(hall)  
Bow St, Merriwa NSW

**COST:** Free

**BOOKING REQUIRED:**

<https://skillsandthrills-merriwacs.eventbrite.com.au>



**skillsone**

## Little Athletics

### AUBREE DOES IT AGAIN WINNING GOLD IN HURDLES

Little Athletics Regional carnival was held over the last two weekends at Glendale.

#### Weekend one report – February 1 and 2

First weekend events were suspended not long into both days due to extreme heat. Only Six of our

twelve Merriwa athletes who travelled down got to compete in one or more of their events before the temperatures got too high and competition was forced to be suspended for the remaining each day. But out of those six we had some fantastic results, the biggest by far being Aubree's effort in the Under 8 Girls 60mtr Hurdles.

With her tremendous speed and style, she breezed over those hurdles and won the race in a time of 12.31. Once again a fantastic effort Aubree and a big smile on her face as she was awarded her gold medal up on the winners podium.

Unfortunately Under 8 years age group does not proceed to state level so she will have to wait for next year for the chance at a bigger level. Dylan also got to hop up on the podium, receiving a medal for third place in shot put, throwing a new PB distance of 10.03m.

Eden was very lucky to get all her events completed placing a fantastic fourth in her Shot put throwing a distance of 4.49m, she also placed ninth in discus



and ninth in her 60mtr hurdles, well done Eden. Grace Campbell also qualified for the 60mtr hurdles where she placed tenth, well done Grace. It was a great sight to see, having three girls in the one event at regional level, Merriwa was certainly well represented for that race. Morgan also qualified for 60mtr hurdles, he got those little legs of his springing over those hurdles, placing 15th in a hot competitive race. Samuel put in a huge effort in his discus, throwing a huge 16.56m to place seventh in his event.

A big thank you to all our parents who travelled down for the weekend, I know it was hard waiting around in hot, hot temperatures but at the end of the day our children are there to have fun

More pictures on pages 28 and 29...

Belinda Keane

#### MCS in touch with our community



### The Merriwa Ringer

is proudly published by

#### MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL

Address: Bow Street, Merriwa, NSW, 2329

Tel: (02) 6548 2119

Fax: (02) 6548 2534

Email: merriwa2-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Web: www.merriwa-c.schools.nsw.edu.au

ALL MATERIAL DUE 12 noon MONDAYS

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