

MERRIWA Ringer

FREE

Issue 9
Thursday March 26, 2020

WHAT'S INSIDE



**Say NO to Bullying
Pink Shirt Day**


Pest Alert
Termite Solutions

Are Termites
eating your home?
(02) 6884 7557



Termites
Spiders
Rodents
Cockroaches
Ants

PROFESSIONAL SHOOTERS REQUIRE YOUR ASSISTANCE

For all your Kangaroo, Deer & Pig control Needs
contact your local professional shooters.

This is a **FREE** service to all farmers/landholders.
We are professional shooters trying to make a
living by selling the meat for human consumption
there are **NO COSTS** to farmers/landholders just
LESS vermin eating your valuable fodder.



Albert Smith
Professional Roo Shooter
0429 618 029
albertsmith81@mail.com



For more information or for Reference contacts
please feel free to call

Albert on 0429618029 or Dale on 0412291341



Merriwa Central School



Phone: 6548 2119

merriwa-c.school@det.nsw.edu.au
www.merriwa-c.schools.nsw.edu.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



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



Merriwa Pre-School and Activity Centre
(PO Box 96) 43 Bow St, Merriwa NSW 2329
Ph: 0265 482 083
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
www.cassilis-p.school.nsw.edu.au



Merriwa Central School

Deputy Principal's Report

COVID-19 INFORMATION FOR PARENTS/CARERS

Information is rapidly changing in relation to the COVID-19 outbreak, and its impact on the community and schools.

The Premier has urged parents to keep children at home to contain the spread of the virus. The Department supports parents in their choice to keep children at home. Schools will remain open for parents who have limited childcare options.

Our teachers have prepared work for students to complete from home. We understand many families do not have computers, or access to reliable internet. Students will be provided with hard copies of work to take home. In Kinder-Year 6 this will likely be a booklet, in Year 7-10 it may be worksheets, in Year 11-12 it could be work assigned from their text books.

School will not operate as normal for those students who do attend. Teaching staff will supervise students completing the set units of work.

The current circumstances are unprecedented. It is important that we stay calm, and follow advice from Health Officials.

Information for parents will be updated on the School Facebook page, and School App.

STUDENT WORK

Students work was distributed Monday March 23 in student folders. The remainder of students folders (students who were not in attendance on Monday) are being held at the office for collection. Please collect your child's work from Primary or Secondary offices or ring and make suitable arrangements for collection.

SCHOOL CANTEENS

The school canteens will be closed for the remainder of Term 1.

Please ensure that you have made suitable arrangements for your child.

Sharon Kenaly
Deputy Principal

Primary

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Kindergarten

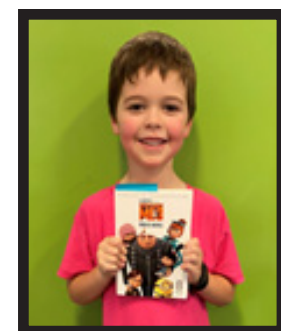
Congratulations to Kayden Milgate, for always displaying a positive attitude each day at school. Kayden has a passion for learning and is commended on this excellent behaviour.



Year 1 - Congratulations to Isabella Campbell, for always trying her very best in all areas. Isabella has been working extremely hard in literacy and has shown fantastic dedication in improving her writing.



Year 2/3 - Congratulations to Max Hourn, for his consistent high effort in writing. Max enjoys writing imaginative text and captivating his audience through his exceptional vocabulary choices and descriptive language.



Year 3/4 - Congratulations to Jase Whitby, for always trying his best in all areas. Jase has been focused on working hard to improve his spelling and transfer this effort into his writing.



Year 5/6 - Congratulations to Matilda-Rose Whitby, for her dedication to learning over the last week. Matilda has been working hard on achieving personal goals in both literacy and numeracy.



Library Award -
 Congratulations to Claire Bidner, for always being eager to take home books from our library and for being a conscientious student during library time.



CLASS OF THE WEEK

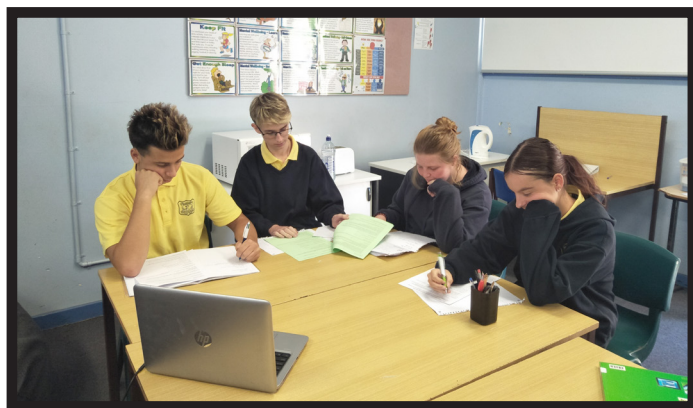
Congratulations to Year 2/3 for being awarded the Class of the Week for Week 8. This week's focus was on students displaying excellent behaviour during recess and lunch eating times. The award was accepted on behalf of Year 2/3 by Mia Wilkinson and Braith Hunt.



Talia Morgan
Relieving Assistant Principal - Infants

Secondary

This week past, four of our Year 11 leadership students participated in a video conference with other schools in the Upper Hunter area to organise the Upper Hunter Student Leadership Summit. Hasan, Harrison, Abby and Joanne will be a part of the organisation and running of the summit in May 2020 at Joseph's Aberdeen.



YEAR 8 SCIENCE NEWS

Year 8 science students dissected a sheep kidney last week as part of their body systems topic. This topic focuses on the main organ systems present, including: digestive, excretory, respiratory, cardiovascular and musculoskeletal systems. In layman's terms this means: intestines, kidneys, lungs, heart, muscles and bones.

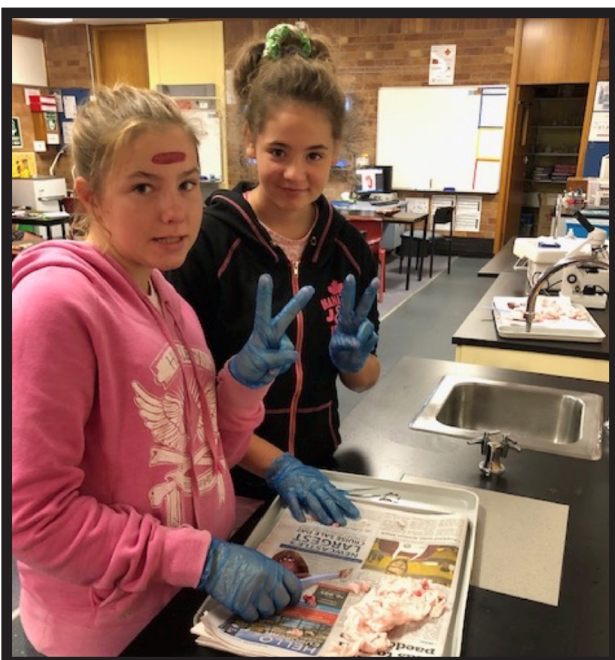
Students acquitted themselves well in viewing the internal structure of their sheep kidney and tracing the flow of blood filtering and urine excretion through this organ system.

PINK SHIRT DAY

Last Friday March 25 was National Day of Action Against Bullying and Violence. This day marked the 10th anniversary and involved all students and staff of Merriwa Central School dressing in pink on the day.

Year advisors spent part of the morning discussing issues around bullying and awareness. The year advisors spent this time building rapport with their cohort of students and provide them with strategies to use if they are bullied or witness bullying.

All students and staff had a positive day.





Anna Sansom
TAS/VET Teacher
SRC Coordinator

CAREER NEWS

MERRIWA CENTRAL SCHOOL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES COMING UP

Careers in the Graphic Design Industry

The graphic design and sign manufacturing industry, also includes the router, engraving, laser and fabrication industries, and is without a doubt one of the largest manufacturing sectors in Australia. The industry has over 7,600 businesses. The value of production is worth many billions of dollars. In an industry this big there are many great career opportunities available almost anywhere in Australia. <http://www.signcareers.com.au>

University of Wollongong - STEM for Girls: Apply from May 1

Our four-day summer STEM Camp provides young women entering Years 10 and 11 in 2021 a fun and hands-on STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) experience and an exciting introduction to careers in STEM. Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) shapes our world. STEM professionals manage our food and water supplies, promote health and wellbeing, and contribute largely to global productivity and



growth.

Connect your passions and spark your curiosity with hands-on workshops, industry site visits, and network with like-minded people, STEM industry leaders and current students studying STEM degrees. Find your STEMtype and see how you could shape the world.

<https://www.uow.edu.au/engineering-information-sciences/stem-camp-for-girls/>

Which Uni are the best for Nursing

Nurses are an integral role within the health sector — the role is not limited to hospitals and can extend to areas like the military, schools, dental offices or prison services. The path to becoming a qualified and registered nurse also varies depending on whether the student is considering specialised areas of the profession.

<https://www.australiancareersservice.com.au/industry-news/which-universities-are-the-best-for-nursing>

UNSW Medicine Low-SES Entry Scheme: From April

UNSW Medicine is making it easier for applicants from low socio-economic background to join their undergraduate Medicine program. A new Low-SES Entry Scheme is available for eligible students applying for the 2021 intake. Visit UNSW's website from April 2020 for eligibility criteria and application details.

The Pros and Cons about an Accountancy Career

The world is full of accountancy grads who aren't working as accountants. Some are musicians (Mick Jagger), some comedians (Eddie Izzard) and some novelists (John Grisham). Believe it or not, some are even mixed martial arts cage fighters (Chuck 'The Iceman' Liddell). Of course, most accountancy grads do go on to become accountants, at least for a period of time. But before you do so it's worth doing a little accounting of your own about the benefits and costs involved.

<https://youunlimitedanz-guide.com/career-planning/the-pros-and-cons-of-a-career-in-accountancy>

Whitehouse Fashion Illustration Workshop

Five Day Holiday Workshop

July 6 - 10. 10.00am - 3.00pm daily (Includes 1hr Lunch Break)

Whitehouse Institute of Design, 2 Short Street, Surry Hills, NSW 2010

The five day workshop is a recommended starting point for those wishing to develop their illustration skills in the fundamental areas of fashion illustration.

No drawing experience is necessary to undertake this program. The workshop is aimed at those wishing to develop their drawing skills and compile a portfolio required to successfully continue studies in fashion.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/fashion-illustration-workshop-winter-workshop-5-days-sydney-campus-tickets-92288428173>

Plan Now for the AgriFutures – What is your Industry?

Learn the various professional options in the agriculture and farming industries and where they are heading. Select from a range of options to see what it represents to our nation and where you want to head.

<https://www.agrifutures.com.au/rural-industries/>

All the Methods to Apply to the Australian Federal Police Force

Depending on your career choice, there are several ways to join the AFP:

Apply to join as an entry level sworn recruit

Apply to join as a Lateral Police recruit

Apply for a professional (non-policing) role

Whether in a non-policing support role, investigating transnational crime, people smuggling, investigating crimes against the ACT community and patrolling its city and suburban streets, providing high visibility protection to commonwealth infrastructure sites and establishments, or heading overseas to liaison posts or capacity building missions, you'll be on the frontline, contributing to keeping the Australian community safe.

Before you apply for a position, check that you meet the AFP's minimum requirements.

<https://www.afp.gov.au/careers>

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

Jane Hegarty
Careers Advisor



St Joseph's Primary School

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

Schools we have seen, as with life, has become a significantly different place, due to COVID-19.

St Joseph's have been working diligently to ensure that students who are attending school are not only receive the best education possible, but that they are having fun as well.

ENROLMENTS

If you know of any family who wishes to see the great work we do at St Joseph's, please promote us as much as you can. Your positive words in the community will be extremely beneficial.

For enquiries, email admin@merriwa.catholic.edu.au or Ashley.borg@mn.catholic.edu.au

LEARNING

Students have had a lot of fun in Science this week.

In Early Stage One/Stage One, students have been looking at making cars with rubber bands and cardboard! They have learned about the different forces used on the rubber band, such as tension, for the car to move effectively.

In Stage Two, students have combined mathematics and science to create sundials, which worked! They looked at the different angles of the rocks, sizes of the rocks as well as the position to place them in, to ensure that they are as accurate as possible.

In Stage Three, students have worked designing and making their own parachutes. They have used the COWS method. In basic terms, we are speaking like scientists. What can we CHANGE, MEASURE and keep the SAME in our experiment to test whether something works well or not. We even spoke about the various methods scientists use to create vaccines (quite a relevant topic right now!)

Thank you to our hardworking teachers, who in difficult times, are doing wonderful things with our students.





CATHOLIC SCHOOLS OFFICE ADVICE AND COVID-19

At this stage, Catholic Schools are very much OPEN FOR BUSINESS. We are trying to keep calm and keep the children happy and safe, as well as providing them with quality learning.

We will keep in regular contact with our parents and Parish community to keep you up to date with the latest news regarding schools and any potential closures.

On behalf of St Joseph's Primary School Merriwa, I would like to thank all the staff, students, parents and families for their wonderful support, hard work and their kindness towards one another and the school. I have received many messages of support, thanks and appreciation from the parents of the school. This gives me as a principal, great confidence to know that the attitude and ethic we have taken into this time has been the right one.

Take care, stay safe and God Bless you all.

Mr Ashley Borg
Principal



Cassilis Public School

STUDENT OF THE WEEK - Gordie Anderson

Gordie has been awarded Student of the Week for his mature and calm attitude at school last week. He was also noticed at different times being an encouraging role model both inside and outside the classroom. Gordie spoke to all staff members with respect.

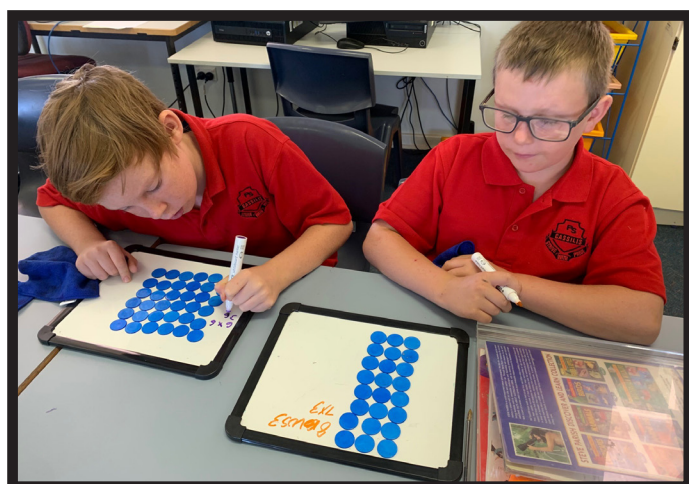
With his writing on Friday Gordie knew it was his job to write so he attempted to spell most of his words and even though his maths was challenging for him he kept trying and got through it.

Gordie has taken great pride in looking after the live birds at school. He was very helpful with sports, showed some great skills and encouraged everyone to just try.

Gordie put great effort into his creative writing plan. In his IEP time he enjoyed researching his Personal Learning Goal on the computer.

Congratulations Gordie on your efforts and achievements. You should feel really proud of yourself.

MAKING ARRAYS, GROUPS AND PATTERNS





CASSILIS CROSS COUNTRY IS CANCELLED

Unfortunately, with the current condition of school excursions being restricted and social distancing, the normal Cross Country has been cancelled.

The school is considering holding an event with just our students attending and running within the school grounds. We will let families know when plans are finalised.

Dridan chose skipping as his personal learning goal and has been working hard to achieve it! Great work, Dridan!

THIS WRITING IS GOLD!

Our students know that we can write narrative using some real information. This helps to make our writing interesting.

Skylah - In 1851 I was miner in a town called Newcastle. I was mining for gold nuggets it was hard digging in the hard ground. I found a big gold nugget and I kept it in the ground in a river.

Gordie - In 1859 in the big town of Byron Bay I was a miner looking for gold nuggets when the soldiers walked up behind me and asked for money. I said no and went back to work.

The school has a planned Gold Experience excursion to Gulgong on Tuesday June 16. This will be a fabulous opportunity and who knows... we may bring back a tonne of gold!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP

At school, we have always taught and modelled the importance of good hygiene including washing hands. Thankyou to our students for their efforts and for the families for supporting our work and ensuring that your child practices these good habits at home.

It is a good reminder for us all about the importance of good hygiene.

Katie Burgess
Principal





Anglican News

Phone: 0429 996 769

REFLECTION PALM SUNDAY

Matthew 26:14-27, 66

Today we hear the story that is at the heart of Christian faith. The death of Jesus was no ordinary execution. We believe that this death had a meaning that touches all human life, yours and mine. Matthew writes for a Jewish community who are familiar with daily sacrifices of animals and the pouring out of their blood for the forgiveness of sin. This is the theological meaning that Matthew sees in Jesus' death. During the final meal with his friends Jesus takes wine and says "This is my blood of the covenant which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins." This is the meaning of the cross as Matthew understood it from his Jewish background, and is the extraordinary good-news that the disciples proclaimed. In Jesus' death sin has been forgiven. The barrier between God and humanity has been overcome.

It saddens me sometimes to meet people who are weighed down with a sense of guilt and unworthiness. These people have forgotten the message of the cross and Easter. Sin is forgiven. God has forgiven us but can we forgive ourselves? Can we hold in our hands our unworthiness, our failures, our small-minded less-than-generous actions, and surrender these to God in order to be open to receive the blessings of Easter? If we cannot accept the love and forgiveness of God then Jesus' death for us has been in vain. As we listen to the passion, let us hear in it the depth of God's love for us, and not let self-doubt and guilt hold us back from receiving it. In the words of John Paul I 'The Cross is like a touch of eternal love upon the most painful wounds of our earthly existence' (Rich in Compassion, Encyclical 1980) (From "Sundays Under the Southern Cross" by Mary Coloe PBVM).

Love and blessings, Rev Pat

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- **9.00am Sundays - Eucharist at Holy Trinity**
- **10.00am Fridays - Eucharist at Holy Trinity**
- **11.00am Fridays - Extended Eucharist at Gummun Place and the MPS alternately**

Rev Pat Kirkby

Merriwa Rotary

WEEKLY MEETINGS CEASES

Unfortunately Rotary Merriwa, like many other organisations, has to cease having our regular weekly meetings, until all Corona dangers are no longer with us.

Our club meetings may not be happening, but Rotary will continue to be active, particularly in continuing to assist our community recover from the effects of the drought.

President Peta Luke and Club Secretary, Mark Inder may be contacted by organisations and individuals whom our club may still be able to assist.



Mark Smith

Rosemary for Legacy

As you may have heard, all ANZAC Day marches have been cancelled due to the Coronavirus. Therefore we will not be sending any Rosemary down to Sydney this year.

Please keep caring for your Rosemary plants by giving them a good trim at this time of year anyway.

Take care and stay safe.

Annie Rodgers

Ringer Deadline!

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

by Mondays, at 12.00 noon

Community Notice Board

St Anne's Catholic Church

With the RESTRICTIONS due to COVID-19 VIRUS, there will be NO MASS at St Anne's Catholic Church on weekends nor weekdays until further notice.

A printed copy of the Scripture Readings and Reflection and Prayers will be available each week at the back of the church.

Mark Smith
on behalf of St. Anne's Parish Pastoral
Committee

St David's Uniting Church

PIE/LAMINGTON DRIVE CANCELLED

Due to the present crisis with the COVID 19 St. Davids has decided to cancel the Drive. If anyone has paid for their order, please contact me on 6548 5131 or 0428 485 131 and we will arrange a refund.

"Thank you" the business houses who have displayed the order forms and "Thank You" everyone for your continued support. When life get back to normal we plan to have a drive, but in the present climate it would not be possible.

Keep safe and well everyone and God Bless.

Barbara Campbell

Janet Baihn

My Dearest JANET BAIHN,

You have been gone now for One Thousand and Ninety One Days, I hope you are well and seeing that you have missed birthdays, Christmas, Easter and funerals I still miss you here.

"Not a day goes by that I don't think of you and smile or shed a tear or both." 'DITTO' and Love to you my precious.

YOUR LOVING HUSBAND.

Bob Baihn

Red Cross Calling Results

Thank you once again, to all those who supported our Red Cross Calling Day on Friday March 13.

An amount of \$266.80 was forwarded to Red Cross and we are grateful to the Merriwa community for their commitment to helping those in need.

The winners of the 100 Club are as follows:

First	41	B Glover
Second	79	Max Barwick
Third	54	Paul Houlahan

The winner of the raffle was E Towler.

Cheree Walmsley
Liaison Officer

Merriwa CWA

KIDS COOKING CANCELLED

With the current environment we will have to cancel the Kids Cooking for April 22.

We are very disappointed but it is for the safety of our lovely little cooks. We will be having a nice big welcome back party as soon as we can, so keep your eyes open for more information.

We have also had to postpone our cake stall for April 9 as well.

NEXT MEETING

Our April and May meetings have had to be postponed until further notice. We will have to see what happens after that. I will still be putting up dates in the Ringer and on facebook.

We hope everyone stays safe and gets all those jobs done around the house or farms.

Enquiries to Penelope Fenley on 6548 3060 or Kim Clydsdale on 6548 2558 or 0421 910 658.

The CWA rooms are available for hire at very reasonable rates by contacting Kim Clydsdale on 6548 2558.

Kim Clydsdale

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

Merriwa and District

Community Drought and Recovery Assistance

Community groups and service clubs are donating funds and goods from time to time to the Merriwa CWA and Merriwa Rotary Club to distribute in our local district for drought and recovery assistance.

We are asking farmers, farming families, rural workers, agricultural contractors and anyone affected by the drought to register for

consideration via our new form. We cannot guarantee what help will be available and when. However the plan is by giving people the opportunity to register, we will be able to equitably distribute funds and goods when available to people who need it. This is especially important in these uncertain times so we hope this form will give people the opportunity to reach out for assistance and maintain their privacy.

The details provided will be kept confidential and only made available to the drought committee lead for each organisation. Please when registering indicate your preferred contact method and any other comments in the notes section.

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.

Please register and pass on this link to anyone else affected by the drought in the Merriwa, Cassilis, Gungal areas and surrounding district. You may also register others with their permission especially where they have no internet access.









This information will only be used to distribute assistance from available funds and donated goods.

To register go to:


<https://merriwacwa.snapforms.com.au/form/community-drought-assistance>

Maria Cameron


COVID-19: IDENTIFYING THE SYMPTOMS

SYMPTOMS	COVID-19 Symptoms range from mild to severe	COLD Gradual onset of symptoms	FLU Abrupt onset of symptoms
Fever 	Common	Rare	Common
Cough 	Common	Common	Common
Sore Throat 	Sometimes	Common	Common
Shortness of Breath 	Sometimes	No	No
Fatigue 	Sometimes	Sometimes	Common
Aches & Pains 	Sometimes	No	Common
Headaches 	Sometimes	Common	Common
Runny or Stuffy Nose 	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
Diarrhea 	Rare	No	Sometimes, especially for children
Sneezing 	No	Common	No

Adapted from material produced by WHO, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.



TOGETHER WE CAN HELP STOP THE SPREAD AND STAY HEALTHY.
For more information about **Coronavirus (COVID-19)** visit health.gov.au



Business

Merriwa Newsagency

Amid the current situation we would like to inform the community that we are staying open for business and that we will continue taking deliveries of newspapers and magazines.

We are also taking measures in keeping the shop in tip top shape and so we are asking that unless you would like to purchase soft toys please would you admire them from afar! We appreciate your understanding.

Onto other things now, we have loads of puzzles for everyone, as well as colouring books for kids and storybooks, also lots of cryptic crosswords, wordsearch, sudoku to name a few.

New in store, beautiful soft toys in the shape of cattle dogs, huskie dogs, rams, kangaroos, koalas and wombats . These will melt your heart and are perfect for a new baby in the family or a ' just because' gift!

Also come and see the wonderful new greeting card display with masses of lovely cards along with gorgeous wrapping papers and ribbons. Come in and check them out.

A TWIGSEEDS MOMENT

How wonderful that no one need wait a single moment...to improve the world.

BEANIE BOO

My name is Paris.

A cuddly buddy with a rainbow horn, the cutest panda that was ever born.

My birthday is March 12.

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

Leanne and Neville Hook and the newsXpress

TransCare

TransCare have made the decision to reduce non-essential services in the interest of protecting our clients, volunteers, staff and the community.

If you are able to help out by sharing information about our revised bus timetables that would be greatly appreciated.

No Tamworth bus service.

Merriwa to Scone will run on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday only.

Scone to Muswellbrook will run on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday only.

Murrurundi to Scone and Muswellbrook on Wednesday only.

I have attached a couple of pdfs, and all Interim timetables are up on our website - <https://www.transcare.org.au/interim-bus-timetables/>

The TransCare office will be closed to the public, but staff will still be manning the phones and in-home assistance services will still be delivered at this time.

Jemma Anshaw

Di's Clothing Patch



Clothing and Footwear for all the family

Mens and Ladies clothing

Children and Babywear

Shoes and joggers

Fashion Jewellery and Accessories

Handbags and Luggage

Bed Linen, Quilts and Towels

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Digitised Embroidery Service

Names and Logos

For clothing, Caps, Towels

School Items and Work Place Uniforms

Quality Clothing Friendly Service Affordable Prices

Phone: 6548 3023

Merriwa Surgery

Dr Emad Jasem

Dr Adrian Plaskitt (3 days a Month)

For all your medical needs

Opening hours

**Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & 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**

COVID – 19 INFORMATION FOR MERRIWA SURGERY PATIENTS

We are asking that patients who have respiratory symptoms of Corona Virus (COVID – 19) or similar, Please DO NOT present yourself to Merriwa Surgery. If you are a patient with respiratory symptoms, we ask that you, in the first instance call the healthdirect hotline on 1800 022 222, prior to calling the surgery.

Presenting yourself to the surgery could result in the surgery being closed and quarantined, leaving the Doctor and staff also quarantined and preventing healthcare to the community. Please think of others during this time.

A phone consult can be arranged for those with symptoms following contact in the first instance with the healthdirect hotline as above. For up to date information on COVID – 19 please visit www.health.gov.au

Dr Emad Jasem

Upper Hunter Shire Council

UPPER HUNTER EVENTS CANCELLED INCLUDING FESTIVAL OF THE FLEECES

The following events, organised by Upper Hunter Shire Council, have been cancelled or postponed for 2020, as a precautionary measure to help prevent the spread of coronavirus:

- Inaugural Adams-Watts Social Justice Oration to celebrate International Women's Day - March 18
- Murrurundi Uke Muster – March 20
- Saleyards Open Day – March 24
- Kia-Ora Youth Music Camp and Concert - April 1-3
- Festival of the Fleeces – long weekend in June.

More cancellations and postponements are expected.

Chair of the Merriwa Festival of the Fleeces Committee, Cr Ron Campbell said it was a disappointing but unavoidable decision and the committee was focusing on 2021.

"The red socks will stay in the cupboard and the sheep will stay off the street this year, but Festival of the Fleeces will be back bigger and better with the 30th event now in 2021.

"Sponsors and advertisers who have already contributed will of course, be reimbursed," Cr Campbell said.

"Even without the festival there's plenty to see and do around Merriwa and Goulburn River National Park, including rockpools, giant silo art, ancient indigenous art and rock formations. Come on up and experience our wide open spaces and country hospitality."

Council's General Manager Steve McDonald is urging community and sporting organisations, who have booked Council facilities and venues for events between now and the end of June, to contact Council.

"We are asking organisations to review their risk assessment and response plans, and to report these to Council, informing us of their proposed course of action. Council will review these plans and determine if they are consistent with current guidance and Council's position and liaise with organisers to determine the optimal outcome for the community," Mr McDonald said.

**Daele Healy
Communications Officer**

COUNCIL'S RESPONSE TO CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

Please be assured the safety and wellbeing of our Shire and our staff is of the upmost priority for Council as we navigate through an unprecedented and difficult time locally, nationally and internationally.

COVID-19 presents many challenges and with it changes to the way in which we live, work and interact with one another. Most of you are aware we have had to cancel many events and community gatherings that have been planned over the coming months, some having been an annual event for as long as we can remember. This is the start of a lot of tough decisions and measures that will need to be made to reduce the spread of the virus and maintain the health of our Shire.

We ask you to respect the decisions made by

Merriwa Ringer

governments at the local, state and federal levels, many of which are made with a greater knowledge and understanding of the full impact of the virus.

We ask you to be understanding, patient and kind to each other and remember that our community is made up of our family, friends and colleagues with varying levels of health and immunity. We need to come together, support each other and proactively think about how our actions can impact on others.

At Council we are operating 'business as usual' as much as is possible and will do our best to continue the provision of essential services for our communities. This will include keeping the public informed of any shire-related impacts of government decisions. We have a dedicated team of staff keeping abreast of the latest updates and information provided by the government through the purposefully created Pandemic Preparation Committee (PPC).

To keep you informed we have developed a webpage <http://upperhunter.nsw.gov.au/our-shire/coronavirus.aspx> which we will keep updated with the latest developments and we encourage you to follow us on Facebook.

We are encouraging everyone to consider the nature of their enquiries before attending our Administration Offices and encourage you to call us on 02 6540 1100 or email council@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au in the first instance.

Council also recommends individuals refer to NSW Health as a trusted source of information. The webpage is updated daily and contains the official and most up to date information, resources and advice.

The Shire is strong and I am confident if we remain calm and work together, we can achieve the best possible outcome for all.

Wayne Bedggood
Mayor

TEMPORARY CLOSURES AND CHANGES TO COUNCIL SERVICES

Upper Hunter Shire Council is temporarily closing some sites as a precautionary measure in the interests of public health. We are taking measures to reduce physical contact between people including Council staff. Many Council services will still be available online or over the phone.

TEMPORARY CLOSURES from Tuesday March 24

Merriwa Ringer

2020:

- Libraries – Aberdeen, Cassilis, Merriwa, Murrurundi and Scone. Visit www.uhrl.nsw.gov.au to access eBooks and more online any time
- Public swimming pools – Merriwa, Murrurundi and Scone
- Visitor Information Centres (VICs) - Merriwa, Murrurundi and Scone
- Youth Centres - Merriwa, Murrurundi and Scone. If you need to speak to a Youth Worker call 0439 090 891. Follow the centre's FB Pages for updates.
- Community halls
- Most sporting venues for group activities. You can still take the dog for a walk or kick a ball around with your kids, just keep up the social distancing and hand washing
- Cash payments at Council facilities (payment by card or cheque only) including Waste Management Facilities and Administration Centres.

CLOSED from Monday March 30, 2020:

- Administration Centres in Merriwa, Murrurundi and Scone will close Monday 30 March. Staff will still be available to assist you by phone or email.

The Administration Centres are currently open, however customers are asked to avoid coming in and call Council on 6540 1100, email council@upperhunter.nsw.gov.au or visit our website www.upperhunter.nsw.gov.au. Bill payments can be made over the phone or online.

If there are issues that cannot be resolved remotely, please call Council to make an appointment or other arrangements.

CURRENTLY OPEN with restrictions:

- Public toilets on highways and one toilet in each town will remain open, allowing us to double the cleaning schedules. BYO toilet paper is advised, as stocks are stolen from facilities
- Scone Animal Shelter, with social distancing arrangements enforced. You can still adopt make an appointment to view and adopt animals from the shelter
- Gummun Place, with restrictions that residents and families have been informed of

- Childcare - Early Learning Centre and SOOSH. Parents are encouraged not to bring children to the services (and never if a child or parent is sick) if other arrangements can be made.

Council is continually assessing the situation and will advise of any change in services as soon as possible. This information is current as at March 23, 2020. Get the most up to date Council information from our website at any time.

Further information about NSW and Australia-wide arrangements can be found here:

<https://preview.nsw.gov.au/covid-19/latest-updates>

<https://www.australia.gov.au/>

Steve McDonald
GENERAL MANAGER

MERRIWA LIBRARY NEWS

With 2020 in full swing we have been very busy at the Library.

We had the amazing Murphy Puppets come and entertain us in the school holidays with lots of laughs from the children and adults.



Library Lover's Day coincided with Valentine's day and all visitors that day received a library lover's book

mark and selected books from our display.

Seniors Week was full of activities around Merriwa with one of the Wellbeing and You Workshops held at the Library which was well attended and hosted by Cas Mastrone from Rural Adversity Mental Health Program (RAMHP).

A very informative Teaching someone to Drive workshop was held. This workshop provided simple steps on how to teach a learner driver and how it can be a happy experience.



Story time and craft is always fun and interactive with some wonderful creations and colouring.

We acknowledged International Women's Day with a window display and book display of Inspirational and well known women.

Book Club returned with much enthusiasm for some great books and discussions. This month's



book is Atmospheric Disturbances. If you would like to join book club and read this book come in and pick up copy.

Please Note:

In the interests of community safety, Council has decided to cancel a number of upcoming, non-essential events that could involve close contact, as a precautionary measure against the spread of coronavirus.

This includes children's activities, Book Clubs, Craft groups. This will affect all the activities for the upcoming school holidays as well.

We apologise for any inconvenience and look forward to returning to normal service delivery.

The best source of information available on the virus is NSW Health: <https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/Infectious/diseases/Pages/coronavirus.aspx>. This website is updated daily and contains the official and most up to date information, resources and advice.

Tash Taaffe

CANCELLED

Merriwa Races wish to advise the community that the Merriwa Races will not be proceeding for 2020 due to Covid 19. Thank you for all your patience at this time.

David Alker

nsw FARMERS **Growing the best**
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Secretary/Treasurer:
 Aileen Hogan 0455 455 760
www.nswfarmers.org.au

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NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMENT
AGRICULTURE & LIVESTOCK ADVICE
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.lls.nsw.gov.au

IGA
Merriwa IGA
 plus Liquor
 104 Bettington Street
 Merriwa
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 6548 2315

newsXpress
 155 Bettington St
 MERRIWA NSW
 Neville and Leanne Hook
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 ✉ merriwa@newsxpress.com.au
 🌐 www.newsxpress.com.au
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 Bottle Museum building or leave a message on the answering service for a call back.
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• Powers of Attorney	• General Legal Work

59 BROOK STREET
 MUSWELLBROOK NSW 2333
 Phone: 6543 2433
 Fax: 6542 5297
 100 BETTINGTON STREET
 MERRIWA NSW 2329
 BY APPOINTMENT
 Phone: 6543 2433
 Email: office@cgblaw.com.au Web: www.cgblaw.com.au

MERRIWA SURGERY

DR EMAD JASEM

OPENING HOURS
Monday to Friday 8.30am
to 6.00pm Saturday by
arrangement

For appointments
6548 2305

**Payment is required at
time of consultation**



MERRIWA TYRE & SERVICE CENTRE
141 BETTINGTON ST
MERRIWA NSW 2329
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65482063

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Closed for lunch 2-2.30pm
Merriwa PO, 82 Bettington Street
6548 2042



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
Saturday 9.00am - 12.00pm

Phone 6548 2213

Gummun Place Hostel

16 Room Aged Care Facility

A place for ageing community
members to enjoy life and receive
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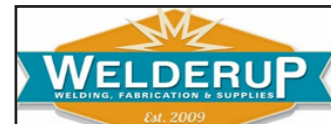
Merriwa Touch Football

Wednesday Nights Junior and Senior Comp

Senior Vice President: Kellie
Porter on 0432 109 760

Treasurer: Leanne Hunt on
0487 761 253

Secretary: Larissa Hockings
on 0429 412 772



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2329

Email: justin@welderup.com.au
sales@welderup.com.au



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

Churches



St Joseph's Primary School Merriwa

Empowering and challenging students
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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
www.merriwa-c.schools.nsw.edu.au

SANDY HOLLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL



Telephone Fax
02 6547 4521 02 6547 4450

Email:
sandyhollo-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au

Cassilis Public School



Principal:

Mrs Katie Burgess

Coolah Road Ph: 63761009
Cassilis NSW 2329 Fax: 63761005
cassilis-p.school@det.nsw.edu.au
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@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

MERRIWA TOURIST WELCOMING CENTRE & MEN'S SHED

Arts, Crafts, Farm Produce!

Clean toilets!

CENTRE:

Open every day

9.30am-2.30pm

MEN'S SHED:

Every Thursday

10.00am onwards

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@iinet.net.au

Secretary: Kim Clydsdale

Phone: 6548 2558

Email: kmclydsdale@gmail.com

Dress For Less



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DONATIONS WELCOME!

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9.00am - 12.30pm

Sat

9.00am - 12.00pm

118 Bettington St. Merriwa

Groups

Hunter Medical Practice

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 Taaffe 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

Lunch: Wednesday to Sunday.

Dinner: Tuesday to Sunday



Rotary Club of Merriwa Inc
ROTARY
SERVICE Above Self

Meets each Tuesday at the Merriwa Sports Club

7.00pm for 7.30pm

4 x 4m Marquee for Hire

0429 482 389

Merriwa Magpies



Rugby League Football Club

Merriwa Rugby

League Football Club

President: Ben Robins

Vice President: Marc Previali

Secretary: Vacant

Treasurer/Publicity Officer:

Jessyca Morgan

MERRIWA TENNIS ASSOCIATION

Find us on Facebook

President:

Jason Bear

Day - Night

Competitions

Junior

Competitions

Court Hire



2019

Merriwa

Springtime

Show

20, 21 & 22nd September!



www.merriwashow.com.au

Rob Tindall - President

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



Merriwa

R.S.L Club Ltd

Bistro/Snack Bar

Take Away

Lunch & Dinner 7 days

Parties & Weddings a specialty

**ATM, SKY CHANNEL
CLUB TAB, CLUB KENO
DARTS, SNOOKER, POOL**

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.

MERRIWA SSAA AND APA

Range facilities and Fire arm testing available

President: Nathan Telfer

Secretary: Phil Martyn

Contact 6547 6031 for information

Shooting weekends 2nd and 4th weekend of the month



Merriwa Petroleum & Ag Supplies

Offering a large range of rural merchandise including animal health, feed and produce, water pipe and fittings, fuels and lubricants, agricultural chemicals, hardware and much more!

Delivering bulk fuel to Merriwa, Cassilis, Scone, Sandy Hollow, Denman and surrounding areas

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Merriwa

Open Monday - Friday 7.30am - 5pm

Saturday 9am - 12pm

Phone: (02) 6548 2071



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



President Andrew Constable

Secretary Fiona Morgan

Treasurer Kellie Porter

All enquires to the secretary

0418417186

fionamorgan6@bigpond.com

MERRIWA RACES



April 2020

Race Club President -

Paul Frampton

Contact - 0428 485 182

Visit www.merriwaraceclub.com.au

merriwaraceclub.com.au

MERRIWA BUSHMAN'S CAMPDRAFT EST. 1947

President: Jamie Edmonds 0428 308 010

Secretary: Kellie Porter 0432 109 760

Treasurer: Kelly Curtis



October Long weekend 2020

merriwacamp-draft@gmail.com

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

Clubs Merriwa RSL Club

NEW MEMBERS LUNCH SPECIAL MENU

\$12.50

Crumbed calamari and chips
Gourmet salad 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 \$140.00 was won the number was 602, this week it commences at \$160.00 and will be drawn between 6.00 – 7.00pm.

The Friday night Members Lucky Badge, 7.00pm draw for \$200.00 was not won the number was 311, this week it ackpots to \$220.00.

The 8.30pm Members Badge draw worth \$650.00 was won the number was 439, this week jackpots to \$670.00.

The 9.00pm Members Badge draw for \$220.00 was not won the number was 89, this week it jackpots to \$240.00. **LTPS/19/36118**

The Sunday Morning Members Badge Draw for \$800.00 was not won last week the number was 778, this week it jackpots to \$850.00 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.

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

Footy tipping comp – with the 2020 NRL season start just a couple of weeks away names are now being taken for the footy tipping competition

Also Saturday nights – free juke box, pool comp, \$5.00 schooners and House spirits. From 6.00pm till close

Courtesy Bus – the clubs courtesy bus if available for pickups on Friday's from 5.30pm (you must book by ringing club), with drop offs at 9.15pm, 10pm and 11.30pm.

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

LUNCH TIME SPECIALS

Moroccan Lamb salad with date yoghurt dressing

Crumbed calamari rings with chips and salad
Beer battered fish of the day with chips and salad

Beef burger and chip

Quiche of the day with salad and chips

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 RESTAURANT

The Club is closed till further notice. The Chinese Restaurant will be open but takeaways only via Kitchen door as the club will be closed including toilets. Keep an eye on the club facebook page as we will keep it update of any changes.

Directors and Staff look forward to seeing you when things calm down, until then please look after yourselves! For take aways - **6548 3228**

WEEKEND RESULTS

Saturday Raffle - March 21

Saturday Members draw, No 100, was not won – next week \$320.00.

Dinner: Donna Thorley
Free Ticket: Sharon Russell
Bowls Raffle: Aaron Byfield

Members draw - Sunday March 22

Members draw, No 163 was not won – next week \$900.00.

Des Snelgrove



Sports Merriwa Rugby League Football Club

As most of you are aware, Merriwa Magpies have had to cancel all training sessions until further notice due to the coronavirus.

The season has also been moved back and like most things at the moment, we will find out more information in due time.

Our Easter Raffle will not be taking part at the RSL club but that will not stop us, we will still be doing a raffle online.

If you would like to purchase tickets please see myself, Gaynor Blackadder or David Martin. The footy club have over 100 Easter eggs to raffle off and tickets will be \$1.00each.

At this stage, we are still coming up with ideas but we are thinking off doing the raffle live on Facebook.

Payment to be made via internet banking.

Jessyca Morgan

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2245 Pembroke Road, Cassilis

\$199,000.00



Located 4 hours from Sydney, this 40 acre property is a perfect escape. The property fronts Jilly's Creek and ranges from creek flats to slightly undulating open hills. There is a 6 bay shed set up as a weekender. One bay is sleeping quarters. Another a lockable workshop, with the 4 bays in the middle open. There is 52,000 litres of water storage for the bathroom and drinking water. There is a solar system to run the lights and fridge. Offering beautiful views over the property to the mountains beyond it is ideally situated.

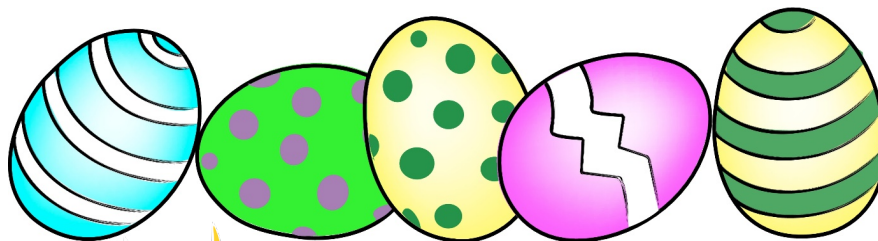
2359 Pembroke Road, Cassilis

\$320,000.00

Located 3.5 hours from Sydney and only 40 minutes to Merriwa, this 265 acre property offers plenty of options. It has a dwelling entitlement so you can build a home. Power and phone both run past the block. There is a timber cabin which is an ideal weekender. It is very private and has beautiful views. The land ranges from creek flats to timbered ranges. There are tracks through the property and it is all fenced. There is an abundance of wildlife with pigs, deer and rabbits. This block is the perfect getaway to escape the city.



VIEW AT www.jtsrealty.com.au



EASTER RAFFLE!

Tickets available at
MCS Primary and Secondary Offices,
and Secondary Canteen.

*\$2.00 per ticket or
\$5.00 for three tickets*

Raffle drawn April 9, 2020

Donations of Easter goods for the raffle would be
greatly appreciated and can be left at the Primary
Office – thank you!



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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