

MERRIWA Ringer

FREE

Issue 9
Thursday April 1, 2021

WHAT'S INSIDE



St Joseph's Open Day April 30


Pest Alert
Termite Solutions



Did you know that the recent rain
can cause higher Termite activity!
Have you had your House Inspected?

☎ 0439 464 966

A Walk Down Memory Lane

WITH JAMES CONSTABLE

ST HELIERS

St Heliers was first taken up by Lieutenant Colonel Henry Dumaresq. The homestead was built using convict labour. After the death of Henry Dumaresq on the 5th March 1838, St Heliers was managed by Mr John Hudson Keys for a long period after which Mr Ebenezer Hall became the proprietor. In the course of time, the younger members of the Hall family inherited the place and it was eventually bought from them by the late Malcolm Campbell (founder of Campbells Stores in the Upper Hunter) and for years managed by the late Mr John Crockett, a member of his wife Isabella's family. After the death of Malcolm Campbell in 1905, Isabella and her son, Mr J M Campbell controlled the property thereafter.

My grandfather, James Timothy O'Keefe moved to the Hunter Valley in 1922 to manage St Heliers for J M Campbell. He brought with him, his two eldest sons, Tom and George to work on the property with him. The following year, he travelled to Tumut to move the rest of his family to live in the homestead at St Heliers. In 1929, St Heliers was split up and sold off. The homestead block was purchased by Harold Watts and in 1932, he married Mollie, the eldest daughter of my grandparents, James and Clara O'Keefe. The McCully's Gap community farewelled the family and presented them with an attractive silver tea service. It seems that the family may have lived on at St Heliers for some time before moving to Cassilis in 1936 to manage the sheep property 'Wynola' owned by Les Weidman of Muswellbrook.

I grew up in the 50's and early 60's visiting the property and learnt about the dead tree just inside the front gateway where the road turned off the McCully's Gap road. The tree, it seemed was used to tie the convict labourers to, for punishment. We always knew of it as the

whipping tree. An article in an old newspaper mentions this and a bell which was rung to rouse the convicts to start work and to cease work at the end of the day. The bell is said to have been taken to Muswellbrook where it was used to summon help when fire broke out.

Photo 1 shows the old homestead from my grandparent's time. photo courtesy of Greg O'Keefe.



Continues page 15

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: Hollie Hunt
Vice Presidents: Nyssa Caban and Sarah Bidner
Secretary: Talitha Sawley
Treasurer: Emma Douglas
Fundraising Officer: Olivia Gear
Meets the first Tuesday of each month at 6.30pm at Merriwa RSL Club

SANDY HOLLOW PUBLIC SCHOOL



Telephone Fax
02 6547 4521 02 6547 4450

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



Create and Grow

Merriwa Pre-School and Activity Centre

(PO Box 96) 43 Bow St, Merriwa NSW 2329
Ph: 0265 482 083
merriwapreschool@tpz.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

EASTER BREAK

Wishing all Merriwa Central School families a happy and safe easter break. Students return April 20,2021.

SCHOOL PHOTO'S

Merriwa School photo's will be conducted on Tuesday April 20 2021. All students must be in full school uniform.



NAPLAN

NAPLAN tests will be conducted between May 11 -14, 2021. Information about NAPLAN is attached. Please contact the School coordinator Mr Hall if you have any questions

NATIONAL ASSESSMENT PROGRAM - LITERACY AND NUMERACY

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CARERS

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is conducted each year for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools.

The National Assessment Program - Literacy and Numeracy (NAPLAN) is conducted each year for all students in Years 3, 5, 7 and 9 in all government and non-government schools. This program, which has the support of all State and Territory Education Ministers, assesses the literacy and numeracy learning of students in all Australian schools.

The results of the tests provide important information to schools about what each student can do, and are used to support teaching and learning programs. Parents receive a report indicating their child's level of achievement. Each student's achievement will be reported against the national reporting bands, national averages and national minimum standard.

Background information (student name, gender, date of birth, language background and Aboriginality) is collected as part of this program. This information is treated confidentially and held securely to ensure that every student's right to privacy is maintained.

The tests are conducted across Australia on the same days for all students.

In the Numeracy tests students do not require any measuring tools such as rulers or protractors. In Years 7 and 9 there will be two Numeracy tests: one where a calculator is allowed and one where calculators are not used. For the calculator test the student should use the calculator that they currently use at school.

**Sharon Kenaly
Deputy Principal**

Coming Events

APRIL	
Thursday 1	Last Day of Term
Tuesday 20	First Day of Term 2 School Photos
Monday 26	Snake Tails
Tuesday 27	Where There's a Will

Primary

LIBRARY TIME

What a great start to the year for all classes in the library.

In Kindergarten we are enjoying sharing a book on the topic of friendship and belonging each week. Students also love to explore the library each Tuesday and choose their own book to borrow.

Year 1 have been studying books by Australian author, Mem Fox. Students are engaged in learning new skills on the computer such as typing and creating projects on Paint 3D.

In Year 2/3 we have explored books by another Australian author, Aaron Blabey. Thelma the Unicorn has been a class favourite!

In Year 3/4, we have been sharing a novel by Morris Gleitzman. Students have impressed me with their ability to comprehend and make predictions about the book.

Year 4/5 have enjoyed listening to a read aloud of books by Anh Do. Students find the 'Weirdo' books quite amusing! During this time, students engage in mindfulness activities.

This Term, Year 5/6 have been learning about the history of agriculture in Australia. We have recently finished reading the text, 'Young Dark Emu' which explored traditional farming practices. Students focused on the skill of summarising by completing activities based on the book each week.



Hazel Chin, Mia Horvath-Richards and Ashton Marchese enjoying their books at the library

TERM 2 EVENTS

We have a very busy Term 2 approaching with quite a few events and activities taking place in the first few weeks.

- **Week 1** School Photos
- **Week 2** Snaketails and Parent/Teacher Interviews
- **Week 4** Healthy Harold and NAPLAN
- **Week 6** Visiting performance, 'Then and Now'

BRONZE AWARDS

It is fantastic to see so many students starting to receive their Bronze Awards. Congratulations to the following students for your terrific achievement.



Abby Bidner, Olivia Purcell, Linsa Dahal, Paige Walker, Harrison Constable, Brayson Coles, Holly Martin, Claire Bidner, Rylee Munn, Jack Purcell.

STUDENT OF THE WEEK

Congratulations to the following students for receiving Student of the Week Awards in Week 9.

Kindergarten - Kyessa Richards - for always following class rules and her strong engagement during Mathematics lessons



Year 3/4 - Grace Campbell - for always working independently to achieve great results across all Key Learning Areas



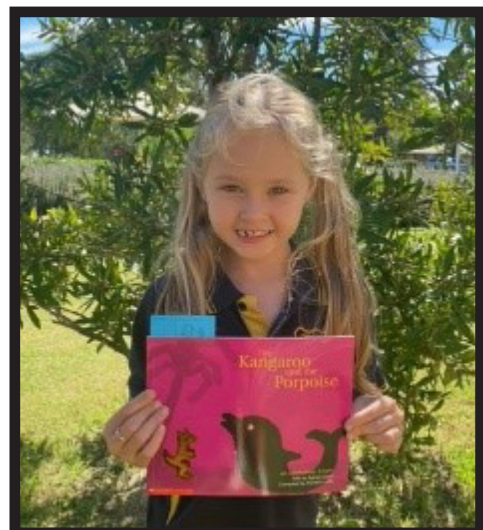
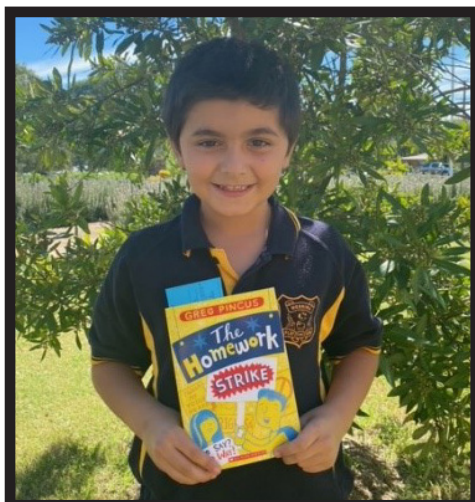
Year 4/5 - Makenna Coles - for always working independently to achieve great results across all Key Learning Areas

Year 1 - Ella Pryor - for excellent writing and great effort in spelling.



Year 2/3 - Beau Hall - for outstanding engagement in music lessons

Library - Taniel Roberts - for always entering the library safely and being in the correct area



CLASS OF THE WEEK

Last week teachers were looking for the class that was noticed being in the correct place throughout the day. We were very proud of students for ensuring they were playing in the correct areas during break times and for being punctual when returning to class. Although it was a difficult decision for teachers, Year 2/3 were the stand-out class. Claire Bidner and Holly Martin proudly accepted the award on behalf of Year 2/3. Well done, Year 2/3!



Emma Garbellini
Relieving Infants Assistant Principal



STUDENT OF THE WEEK TAMIKA DRURY

FAVOURITE SUBJECT: SLR because I am able to get active and I enjoy physical activity

BEST PERSONAL ACHIEVEMENT: Being nominated for Australian Young Citizen of the Year

CAREER ASPIRATIONS: Photographer

HOBBIES AND INTERESTS: Playing Music, Photography, Cooking/Baking, Soccer

YEAR ADVISOR COMMENT: Tamika has started her year 11 studies off with flying colours. She shows excellent dedication towards her work and shows the utmost respect to all of her peers. She should be proud of how she has begun her senior studies and is encouraged to continue her work ethic.

Lachlan Vaughan - Year Advisor



Secondary

WWI LIVING HISTORY

On Tuesday March 24, Merriwa Central School was visited by Shane Blackman, owner and operator of WWI Living History - a business dedicated to travelling around New South Wales and teaching students in an interactive manner about World War I using real artefacts and accurate replicas. While presenting to the school, Shane used a combination of genuine sincerity for storytelling, real world advice for students and comedy to keep the students entertained and engaged.

The premise for the double period session was simple: a student would come up to the display held in the hall and pick an item. Any item they wished. Shane would tell the school about the item what the item was made of and carefully demonstrate how the item would be used. But more importantly, he would recall stories of the very real experiences of men that fought in the war taken from various sources to paint a graphic and realistic picture of the horrors endured. The items were then passed around the hall and students were encouraged by Shane to hold, feel, smell and even taste (if they REALLY wanted to) the items.

Isaac Constable of Year 8 was the first volunteer allowed to choose an item. Now I thought that the first item chosen would be something along the lines of a grenade, rifle ammunition or the massive artillery shell that sat perched atop the display stand that I myself secretly wanted to be chosen. But Isaac instead turned around from the display holding a field-made club, or "whacker thing" as one student affectionately called it. Made from a shovel handle and a cog from farm machinery, Shane's description of it and its usage set the tone for the session - terribly interesting and terribly morbid simultaneously.

Alyssa Carrall of Year 9 did not hesitate at choosing the bayonet, but was not expecting that to go alongside this, she would also be handling the wooden replica training rifle that the bayonet would be affixed to. This training rifle is designed to not be able to fire at all - it has a wooden sealed barrel, no firing mechanism and rounds cannot be loaded into it. To demonstrate this, Shane had Dakota Turner of Year 10 pull the trigger while pointing the rifle upwards to show that it could not do anything. Dakota pulled on the trigger and Shane yelled out "BANG!" startling her, Miss Golden and a number of others nearby who were not expecting this. Training ammunition which cannot fire as well as a clip

and magazine were also shown to students.

Raine Gee of Year 7 went straight for the artillery shell, much to my delight while Jeremy Clarke of Year 9 plucked the large toy rat and began cuddling it. With the current situation around town regarding rodents, there were several displeased and even disgusted individuals from the prop and the stories of rats in the trenches, although Jeremy had no problems with holding it to his face and scratching its chin.

Annabelle Orton of Year 8 had the unfortunate experience of becoming a prisoner of war as she selected the steel handcuffs. Before these were properly passed around, Shane decided to lock them as Mervyn Turner of Year 8 had managed to lock one of them to his wrist and could not get it off. Consequently, Brooke McLennan of Year 10, who chose the pistol and harness containing a variety of gear such as a dagger, played the role of a stealthy capturer of prisoners as well as an enemy sentry to be taken out quickly and quietly. It was during this demonstration that Miss Waters is quoted as saying "Oh my God, no!" to one particularly gruesome description of how a dagger was used during times of war.

The grand finale was a full dress-up in a uniform including a tunic, scarf, harness, helmet, coat and the training rifle from earlier to be donned by a student. Roy Lawler of Year 9 was the lucky student who got to demonstrate the uniform. It shocked some students to know that teenagers not too much older than Roy looked very similar to him over 100 years ago.

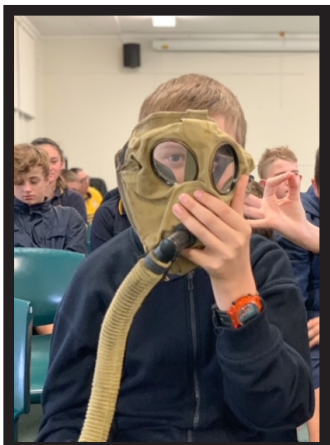
Shane continually demonstrated a deep understanding of World War I and World War II throughout the two periods. Even our resident war history enthusiast and difficult question asker Jack Sumpter-Cornish of Year 10 was impressed by Shane's knowledge as Shane answered every question Jack could think of. To have such knowledge of the Great War, especially in a time where there are no living survivors of

the war, is crucial for our students to help understand a period of time and a set of circumstances that we never want to see repeated. For this, I would like to thank Shane Blackman on behalf of Merriwa Central School





**Andrew Buchan
History Teacher**



CAREER NEWS

Micro journalism unit - Senior secondary students are eligible to enrol in Jscool's new micro unit, a short online course teaching the basics of news writing. The next intake is May 2021. Further details at <https://jschool.com.au/micro/>. Secondary students may also enrol in a selection of single subjects from Jscool's Diploma of Journalism:

<https://jschool.com.au/single-subjects/>

The ATOM Photo Comp 2021 - Closes 23 April 2021

The ATOM Photo Comp is an initiative of Australian Teachers of Media (ATOM). It provides Australian and New Zealand student and adult photographers with the opportunity to submit a folio of three (3) photographs adhering to a theme, and win fantastic prizes in the process.

The theme for the 2021 competition is Turbulence. Please click [here](#) for more detail about the theme.

The competition runs across five age-group categories:

- Lower Primary (Years F-3)
- Upper Primary (Years 4-6)
- Lower Secondary (Years 7-9)
- Upper Secondary (Years 10-12)
- Open

Prizes for winners of each of the five age-group categories include Ted's Cameras gift vouchers valued at \$500.00 for the primary categories, \$750.00 for the secondary categories and \$1000.00 for Open.

<http://atomphotocomp.org/about/>

Do the T Quiz: What tech degree is right for you?

Should you study a Bachelor of Information Technology or a Bachelor of Computer Science? This quiz will reveal what tech path you should walk!

T is definitely your favourite letter in STEM... But what does that mean for your future study and career path? Take our quiz below to see what popular tech degree is right for you – a Bachelor of Information Technology or a Bachelor of Computer Science.

<https://careerswithstem.com.au/quiz-what-tech-degree-is-right-for-you/>

Nursing Scholarships in Australia - Choosing to study a university degree can be one of, if not the most significant financial investment you will make. It will often determine who you will be, and the career pathway you will take. Making this decision is hard enough, than having to worry about how you will finance your nursing education. The government offers a number of ways for you to support your studies, the most common of which is a student loan. However, accumulating a massive debt, doesn't need to be the only option. Numerous institutions from around Australia offer a range of different nursing scholarships that can help you pay your tuition fees.

<http://nursingcourses.net.au/nursing-scholarships/>

Your Free Guide to Making Your Nursing Career

- Nurses can have a massive and lasting impact in the lives of those they treat. Registered nurse Laurie Bickhoff expands on that beautifully here. The scope of what people are doing with a nursing degree is expanding, and Australian College of Nursing CEO Debra Thoms speaks about nurse leadership from the ward to the boardroom.

<https://www.myhealthcareer.com.au/nursing-career/>

Digital Parents Showcase - SkillsOne has created the Digital Parents Showcase, a free 30 minute video for parents that promotes vocational education and training, industry trends, apprenticeships and traineeships and discusses post school careers options. Share with parents so they may register at :

<https://www.skillsone.com.au/digital-parents-showcase/>

Interactive ICT Career Wheel - Find out about every possible IT career here for every walk of

life. IT is everywhere and there is a place for you:

<https://www.careersfoundation.com.au/>

Register your interest Western Sydney University Free HSC Study - Our free HSC Study Sessions are led by highly qualified and experienced educators who will give you the skills and knowledge to maximise your HSC results.

Each workshop is an invaluable addition to your school studies, as you will develop a solid understanding of HSC exam techniques, subject knowledge, and HSC preparation skills.

Register your interest below and we'll be in touch with more information closer to the event.

<https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/student-life/events/free-hsc-study-sessions.html>

Opportunities for Future Teachers - High Demand Teacher Subjects Maths, TAS, Physics, Special Ed and Counsellors. <https://www.teach.nsw.edu.au/exploreteaching/high-demand-teachers>

Teach Rural - <https://www.teach.nsw.edu.au/find-teaching-jobs/choose-rural>

High demand Metro locations - <https://www.teach.nsw.edu.au/exploreteaching/high-demand-metro-locations>

Helping Students Save for Education - Saver Plus helps students (18+) who receive a Commonwealth social security benefit to save for their education costs and rewards that savings with up to \$500.00 in matched funds. For students considering tertiary education it not only helps them meet their education expenses, but also provides financial skills education to help them better manage their money!

<http://www.saverplus.org.au>

Five Essential Steps before You Apply for an Accountancy Job - Before you put finger to keyboard to fill in a job application for a grad position at an accountancy firm, it's an excellent idea to go through the following five steps.

<https://youunlimitedanz-guide.com/applying/five-essential-steps-before-you-apply-for-an-accountancy-job>

If you require any further information then please contact me at school.

**Jane Hegarty
Careers Advisor**



St Joseph's Primary School

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S OFFICE

What a Term it has been! St Joseph's students and staff have had an extremely busy time of learning, fun and exploration.

We have seen our new Kindergarten group grow and experience "big school" in the newly formed Successful Foundations Play-based pedagogy, to great success.

Our Stage One students have settled back into school routines and are working diligently towards their reading, writing and mathematics goals.

Stage Two continue to work hard on becoming more independent and "gritty" workers. They continue to make vast improvements in their overall output of work and their time management skills.

Our Stage Three group have excelled, especially in Writing, where students are becoming more expressive and using varied vocabulary and sentence structure, including imagery, to enhance their work.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank all our families for their support throughout Term One.

The highlight for me, personally, was to see the restrictions ever so slightly lifted to include our parents back into the fold. The canteen being open for students has given such joy to our students and families and I envisage our parent helpers getting that sense of satisfaction in assisting our school and being back on school grounds after such a long time away.



JOEY'S MOTHERS DAY FUNDRAISER

Our fundraiser for Mother's Day continues to build up a head of steam! Please contact the school for a copy of the order form.

All orders to go to Megan Constable before April 23.

Thanks in advance for supporting St Joseph's!

ST JOSEPH THE WORK DAY/OPEN DAY – APRIL 30

On Friday April 30, St Joseph's will be hosting an OPEN DAY to celebrate the feast day of St Joseph the Worker. St Joseph is Jesus' Stepfather and supported Jesus and his mother, Mary by working very hard to provide for the both of them.

As we celebrate this traditional feast day of our special saint, we will be having many fun activities throughout the day and will be celebrating workers in the Merriwa community.

Students will be asked to attend school on this day in clothes representing a profession of their choice. Asking your child, "What would you like to be when you grow up?" might assist you in making the clothing choice for the day!

We will also be having guest speakers from special occupations in the Merriwa community. So far we have:

- Paramedics
- Fire fighters
- Post officers
- Police officers

This is an opportunity for any member of the Merriwa Community, who loves their job and would love to share their expertise and skills with our students, to contact Mr Borg at the office either on 6548 2035 or ashley.borg@mn.catholic.edu.au We would LOVE to hear from you and have you showcase the great work you do in the community with our students!

This special day will also be showcasing St Joseph's in the community. We encourage all prospective families, who are considering a change, or new families to the area to come and join us from 9.30am on Friday April 30, to attend our Open Day and see the wonderful work that goes on each and every day at JOEYS.

IMPROVED BEHAVIOUR A HIGHLIGHT

Since the introduction of the Behaviour Matrix in Term Four, 2020, there has been a reduction of over 30% of behavioural incidents recorded on

Compass. This is a fantastic achievement and we believe it is down to the following factors:

- A greater consistency in rewards/consequences for students
- Students having a better understanding and awareness of rules and regulations at school
- Teachers having a clearer set of guidelines to use
- Parents supporting the school's stance of behaviour management

We thank all of our students for their terrific effort this Term and hope that you all enjoy your reward day on Thursday.

CROSS COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

This year's cross country represents the first sporting carnival we have held at school with our families since COVID.

It was a very exciting new course, carefully marked out and measured by Miss Brazier, Mrs Jackson and the staff, which incorporates many aspects of terrain, including grass, gravel and hills.

Congratulations to all our winners and any runner who managed to finish the course.

We will announce our squad to represent St Joseph's at the Diocesan Cross Country Carnival early in Term Two, as there are now strict qualifying times we need to adhere to.

A special thank you goes to our parents and the P and F who assisted with our supervision and BBQ on the day.

REWARD DAY THURSDAY APRIL 1

As stated in the note last week, students will be having a specific reward day on Thursday. For a gold coin donation to Project Compassion, students may come to school out of uniform.

They will also receive lunch, courtesy of Twisted Takeaway and Merriwa Bakery. The staff decided to use the winnings from the Le Tour de Merriwa prize to fund this endeavour. We believe it is a great way to show the students how much we appreciate them.

Thank you to our children for their hard work and dedication to the first term.

NAPLAN OMNIBUS TEST

Students completed the omnibus test on Thursday of last week. We hope that it was a positive experience for all students and gave

them an experience of the real thing next term.

You can access practice NAPLAN tests for your children at the following link:

<https://www.nap.edu.au/online-assessment/public-demonstration-site>

OLD FURNITURE

We are currently trying to sell some of our old furniture to the Merriwa community. Anyone who wishes to come and purchase any of the old desks, tables and chairs, please contact Mr Borg at the Office.

- Large Table - \$15.00
- Small Desk - \$10.00
- Cushioned Chair - \$10.00
- Chairs - \$5.00

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

DATES FOR THE DIARY

- **April 1** – Final Day for Students Term One
- **April 19** – Return to school Term Two – Easter Liturgy
- **April 20** – Parents and Friends Meeting – 5:30pm Staff Room
- **April 26** – ANZAC Day Liturgy at school 2:40pm
- **April 27** – Diocesan Cross Country
- **April 30** – St Joseph the Work Day / OPEN DAY

Wishing you every happiness over the Easter break.

God Bless

Mr Ashley Borg
Principal

WEEKLY AWARDS

Congratulations to the following award winners.

Week Nine - Strength Award – Humility

Kindergarten - Aman Diwadkar- for being an active and kind class member

Paddy Armstrong - for displaying humility when sharing his gifts and strengths with others

Stage 1 - Callum Nicholls – for his expressive, character voice used during his performance of 'We're going on a bear Hunt'

Myles Hivirt – for showing the strength of humility when helping others achieve during infants sports games

Stage 2 Hudson Wallace – for his inquisitive and thought-provoking questions in Religion

Samuel Williams – for demonstrating the strength of humility through his modest approach of showing kindness to others

Stage 3 - Chad Booth - for showing commitment and effort in his writing tasks throughout the term

Emma McLaren - for always demonstrating a great sense of humility by willingly contributing to whole class activities and accepting her contribution and achievements humbly

Principal's Awards - Samuel Williams – for improved efforts to write with similes and metaphors

Daniel Dallas – for continuing to give a lot of effort in his work.

Mr Ashley Borg
Principal

Ringer Deadline!

Please remember to place your articles

and advertisements into the
Merriwa Ringer

by Mondays, at 12.00 noon

Ringer returns for term 2 on April 19 for first publication on April 22



Anglican News

Phone: 0429 996 769

REFLECTION - EASTER 4 - John 10:11-18

The image of the Good Shepherd express Jesus' utterly free gift of himself for us. Later in Gethsemane there will be armed soldiers and he will be arrested, and from then on it could appear that Jesus is a victim of Jewish and Roman law. Today's Gospel makes it clear that Jesus' death is an act of loving self-surrender. He is the shepherd who places his own life at risk to defend his flock. He is the shepherd who will even die if that will enable his flock to live. This is a difficult image to transpose to our Australian culture. Perhaps we need to look at life-savers or firemen/women who go into danger for others. Jesus is a volunteer.

This then raises two questions: 'What does Jesus save us from?' and 'What does Jesus save us for?'

In this brief space I can only say that Jesus saves us from the evil of ignorance of God as Jesus knows God. The God Jesus reveals is one who loves this world and calls us to be beloved sons and daughters. In making this God known Jesus drew down the wrath of those whose god was too small and restrictive. Faced with their opposition, Jesus could have withdrawn and saved his life, but instead he chose to continue teaching and revealing his God, knowing that his choice would lead to death. So that we would know the depths of God's love, Jesus lays down his life. He is the shepherd who dies that we may be truly alive. (From "Sundays Under the Southern Cross" by Mary Coloe PBVM)

Love and blessings, from Rev Pat

DIARY DATES

April 1 - MAUNDY THURSDAY Service 6.00pm at Holy Trinity. Rev Anastasia and Bp Sonia will be sharing the Easter services.

April 2 - GOOD FRIDAY Service - 10.00am - Holy Trinity

April 3 - EASTER SATURDAY VIGIL - 6.00pm at Holy Trinity

April 4 - EASTER DAY - Eucharist at Holy Trinity 9.00am.

Rev Pat Kirkby

Merriwa Rotary

HEY! HAY!

By the time this Ringer hits the streets, the planned Rotary Merriwa Haylift will have delivered. Hay from Merriwa donors supplied to embattled farmers in the Manning....sometimes literally in the Manning.

There will be a spirit of satisfaction in being able to return the favour to communities which helped ours in the drought/ bushfire challenges of last summer.

WHERE IS ROTARY MERRIWA GOING?

Answer - Nowhere but maintaining our determination to continue the 50 year plus tradition of doing everything we can to assist our community, there are ideas being examined of setting up a circuit for teaching our very young ...on bikes and on foot....the rules of the road.

Like all the community, we are looking forward to the post Covid days when NORMAL is the NEW NORMAL.

WHAT DOES ROTARY MERRIWA WANT?

More than anything, we would like an upswing in our membership numbers.

All ages are welcome! Twenty one is not too young! Men and Women are equally welcome in Rotary.

People who walk irregular hours are welcome. Come when you can, it is the way Rotary thinks these days.

Our meetings are relaxed and informal....Where else but in Rotary Merriwa would you have your Secretary turn up in (stylish) thongs?

Currently our managing trio are Col Bates, Will Mulligan and Mark Inder. Robert Goodear will take over the Presidency in July.

ROTARY MERRIWA would be strengthened by new members.....Please give it some thought.

Have a good holiday all you hard-working teachers and staff. I am sure that there is an abundance of potential Rotarians, full of new ideas, in your numbers.

Mark Smith

Community Notice Board

Legacy

ROSEMARY FOR LEGACY NOT REQUIRED

Merriwa has for many years been known as 'The Rosemary town' since John Penninger started supplying Rosemary to be worn on lapels of those marching in the Anzac Day march in Sydney each year, for over 25 years. This has raised thousands of dollars for the Legacy charity.

Last year due to Covid 19 there was no march and hence no requirement for our Rosemary.

This year the Anzac day march will go ahead, but in a far reduced capacity and hence I have been informed that Rosemary from Merriwa will not be required.

However, it is important to keep your Rosemary bushes healthy by regular trims and I encourage you all to give the plants a good cutting back at this time of year, why not enjoy a good lamb roast garnished with Fresh Rosemary!

Annie Rodgers

Congratulations

Congratulations to Megan and David Brooks on their recent marriage.

Also well done to the many students over the past few weeks who have gained awards for their achievements.

A special thank you and congratulations to Eat@153 for the amazing catering job on Saturday.

Hylt Cronin

Merriwa Tennis Club

Merriwa Tennis Club is introducing more sports for 2021.

Netball for Juniors and adults

Futsal for Juniors and adults

For more Info contact Michelle Loft on 0425 216 505.

Michelle Loft

Trinity Markets

From March 30, Trinity Markets will again be opening Tuesdays.

New opening hours will be:

Tuesday, Thursday and Friday - 9.30am to 2.30pm

Wednesday - 9.30am to 1.00pm

Saturday - 9.30am to 12.00noon

As many Covid19 restrictions still apply donations can only be accepted on Thursdays and are not to be left in the doorway.

Watch out for our End of Summer Sale commencing this week.


Summer clothes - why not fill a bag full!

Shoes \$2.00 a pair

Books \$1.00 each.

See you in Trinity Markets where you can "Dress for Less".

Beatrice Voysey



TERM 2 CALENDAR 2021

Children's Mobile Playgroup 0-6 years of age

April 2021

	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
1	<u>19th</u> Jerrys Plains	<u>20th</u> Ellerston	<u>21st</u> Bunnan	<u>22nd</u> Settlement	<u>23rd</u> Wingen
2	<u>26th</u> McCullys Gap	<u>27th</u> Wybong	<u>28th</u> Gundy	<u>29th</u> Hebden	<u>30th</u> Cassilis

Community Notice Board

Merriwa Bushmans Campdraft

Merriwa Bushman's Campdraft and Rodeo Association are holding a meeting Wednesday March 31 2021 at 6.30pm at the Merriwa RSL Club to finalise the organisation of the May event.

Kellie Porter

Merriwa Red Cross

The members of Merriwa Red Cross unfortunately were unable to draw the winners of the 100 Club and Raffle held on March 26 in aid of Red Cross Calling.

Further tickets will be sold on April 9, 2021 when the winners will be announced. Many thanks to those who have already purchased tickets.

Cheree Walmsley

A Walk Down Memory Lane

Photo 2 shows early irrigation set up by Harold Watts, believed to have been one of the first in the area. The photo is from my mothers collection. Mum worked in Harold's dairy before the family moved to Cassilis in 1936.



James Constable



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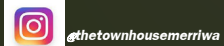
self contained in central location
 1 bedroom with queen bed, double sofa-bed separate (on request), full kitchen and facilities, spacious bathroom, lounge room, dining room, laundry, smart tv, wi-fi, air conditioning

STUDIO-STYLE ACCOMODATION

self contained in central location
 1 bedroom with queen bed, double sofa-bed separate (on request), full kitchen and facilities, bathroom with laundry facilities, living room, smart tv, wi-fi, air conditioning

BOOK THROUGH **AIRBNB**

Megan 0400 653446
 megan@rmproperty.net



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.



Monday - Saturday
 9.00am - 8.00pm
Sunday
 11.00am - 8.00pm
Phone 4063 0092



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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

Business

Merriwa Newsagency

Merriwa newsXpress invites you to enter the Mother's Day Competition! Draw a picture of Mum, Grandma or the one who is like Mum to you. Bring your entry in by April 30 2021 and the winner will be announced on May 6 in the Ringer. Pick up extra copies at newsXpress and all your beautiful entries will be displayed in the newsagency.

OUTBACK MAGAZINE

- On Air; Radio has been connecting rural Australians for 120 years. When TV first came in, the thinking was that radio would die but in rural Australia it is as relevant as ever! Radio informs and connects people in a way not found through other mediums. The scope and genres of content for listeners are exciting for the future of radio, so it will live on for generations
- The Decoy Man; former Victorian police officer John Byers is making and selling lifelike duck decoys and calls. Not only that, he has one of the largest collections of duck decoys in Australia
- Preparing for the past; members of an elite profession, two preparators from Castlemaine Victoria re-create the long distant past. What is a preparator you ask? It is the preparation of specimens for scientific examination or exhibition, using tubs of rubber, fiberglass, foam, timber and steel to carefully craft natural history objects.

AUSTRALIAN WOMEN'S WEEKLY

- William and Kate, the future of the monarchy is in their hands and they take it in their stride with enthusiasm and pride
- The last of the Flying Nightingales; Marge Wilson has kept an incredible secret from everyone but her family since World War II. Now she is ready to talk and what an amazing story it is!
- Women of the land; from the outback to green paddocks on the edge of town, The Weekly travels the continent to meet and celebrate Aussie women who live and work on the land.

FAMILY CIRCLE

- Life is good! 131 ways to spark joy!
- Great Grains; delicious recipes using popular grains which are high in nutrition and fibre . Why not create 'Quinoa, Chicken and Tabbouleh Bowls' or make 'Bulgur, Cauliflower Bowls with Olive dressing' or maybe try 'Sweet Potato Burrito Bowls with Cashew cream', sounds good! So many wonderful dishes, pies, cakes and biscuits to make for the family . Also in this issue, creative projects such as natural fabric dyeing, which will have you looking around for all types of plants, flowers and veggies for colour inspiration for your chosen items. Or why not make an adorable 'Snuggle Bunny' for your newborn, that will be treasured forever!

HUNTER VALLEY WEDDING PLANNER

- Your wedding guide for the entire Hunter region. Packed with pictures of real weddings, amazing venues, beautiful dresses and so much more.

A TWIGSEEDS MOMENT

The littlest feet make the biggest footprints in our hearts.

BEANIE BOO

My name is Buff

The colder weather is fun for me, I can fly down hills on my own two skis!

My birthday is November 28

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

Leanne and Neville Hook and the newsXpress

Quote for the Week



Q: What does the bunny trying to say when he is leaping about?

A: Hoppy Easter!



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Upper Hunter Shire Council

MR 358 RESIDENT UPDATE - MARCH 2021

The next community meeting will be held on Wednesday April 21.

As we expect the COVID venue restrictions to still be in place, we will be offering two session times (the same information will be provided in each session) to enable more members of the community to participate in the conversation.

You will need to register to attend ONE of the below sessions,

Wednesday April 21 2021 - School of Arts Hall, Merriwa - 4.00pm to 5.00pm

Please visit <https://www.trybooking.com/BPQKB> website to register your attendance.

Or 5.30pm to 6.30pm

Please visit <https://www.trybooking.com/BPQKI> to register your attendance.

Or call 6540 1100 or advise us in person at our Administration Centres and we will register your attendance.

Registrations are open now, names of all attendees are required when booking multiple tickets.

CONSTRUCTION OF AIRPORT TERMINAL AND HUNTER WARBIRDS ATTRACTION TO COMMENCE

The vision for the Scone Airport and Hunter Warbird's visitor attraction is another step closer to coming to life, with the commencement of the next phase of works for the \$23.5 million Airport project.

The Scope of work includes:

- Hangar museum for vintage war plane 80 x40m 3,200m²
- Airport terminal building
- Kiosk, offices, function areas, outdoor decking, toilets
- Carpark
- Landscaping

The lead contractor is Newcastle-based builder, Kingston Building Australia. The company is responsible for the design and construction of the terminal and Hunter Warbirds* attraction which is expected to be completed in November 2021.

To find out more please visit upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

MERRIWA RESIDENTS NOTICE OF WORK

Upper Hunter Shire Council wishes to advise that the footpath on Bettington Street out the front of Merriwa RSL to Merriwa Pharmacy will be replaced.

The construction details are as follows:

Period of work: Monday 15 March 2021 – Friday May 14, 2021 (Weather Permitting)

Time: 7.00am to 4.30pm, Week Days

Council will provide secure and disabled access to the businesses affected.

Council apologises for any inconvenience. For your safety please adhere to any exclusion areas and follow the secure access provided during construction.

YOUTH WEEK EVENTS

Upcoming Youth Week events include:

Drone Day - Get involved in the flying sessions and learn to fly a drone yourself

When: 10.00am - 2.00pm, Thursday, 15 April 2021

Where: at Aberdeen Bowling Club, Jefferson Park

Workshop cost - \$5.00

For ages 12-17

Lunch provided

Transport available from all youth centres—**BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**

Laser Tag Inflatable Fun Event - Laser Tag and Bungee Run, Sticky Wall!

When: 4.00-7.30pm, Friday, April 9 2021

Where: At Rosedale Complex, Murrurundi (Murrurundi Youth Centre)

FREE EVENT

Sausage sizzle and drinks available to purchase

Free bus services from Merriwa Youth Centre and Scone Youth Centre - **BOOKING IS ESSENTIAL**

Download your travel permission notes and timetables at upperhunter.nsw.gov.au

MERRIWA AND CASSILIS WORKS SCHEDULE

The following construction and maintenance works are happening in Merriwa and Cassilis this week.

- Toilets, garbage
- Parks, sports fields and reserves mowing and maintenance
- No 1 Oval canteen maintenance
- Golden Highway – Heavy patching
- Bunnan Bridge to Kars Springs construction works
- Bettington St footpath construction works
- Action requests as required

The following roads are to be inspected next for the grading/maintenance program:

Gummun Road and Mountain Station Road

POSITIONS VACANT

FIELD OFFICER – SALEYARDS

Location: Scone

Applications close: 5/04/21

Enquiries: Brett Peel on 0419 423 138.

COMMUNICATIONS ADVISOR

Location: Scone

Applications close: 5/04/21

Enquiries: Kristian Enevoldson on 6540 1123.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES OFFICER – EARLY CHILDHOOD TEACHER

Location: Scone

Applications close: 5/04/21

Enquiries: Jodie Royston on 6540 1166.

Ringer Deadline!

Please remember to place your articles

and advertisements into the Merriwa Ringer

by Mondays, at 12.00 noon

Ringer returns for term 2 on April 19 for first publication on April 22

Interruption to power supply

Ausgrid is carrying out essential upgrade and maintenance work on the local electricity network.

Crews plan to carry out essential work on the network which supplies Merriwa Zone Substation.

Unfortunately, to safely carry out this work we will need to interrupt the power supply for customers in the Merriwa area on

Sunday 11 April 2021 - between 8.30am and 4.00pm (weather permitting).

The areas affected will include:

- Merriwa Town, Flags Rd (Merriwa end only), Depot Rd, Coulson's Creek Rd, Cullingral Rd, Forrest Reserve Rd, Bow, Idaville Rd, Ringwood, Golden Highway.

We apologise for the inconvenience this essential work may cause. Our aim is to minimise disruption caused during this work, however the times listed may change in the event of unforeseen circumstances or weather.

For more information before the interruption, please contact: **Chris Power 02 6542 9043**

On the day of the interruption: call Ausgrid on **13 13 88**.

Under Section 52 of the Electricity Supply Act 1995, the network operator (Ausgrid) may interrupt the supply of the electricity to a customer at such reasonable times as Ausgrid determines.





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Businesses



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Mon to Fri 8:30am to 4:30pm

Visit our **UPPER HUNTER** offices:

Merriwa 6549 8600 Mon-Tues 9am-4pm; Wed 9-3.30pm

Scone 6540 2400 Mon to Fri 8:30am - 4:30pm

Singleton 6571 7373 Tues to Thurs 10:00am - 3:00pm

We connect people with information & support to improve agricultural productivity, biosecurity & natural resource management. Stay connected at:

WEB: lls.nsw.gov.au/regions/hunter - **FACEBOOK:** Hunter LLS



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Street

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Community

Chest to

support your



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President Ivan Gant

Secretary Hannah Waters

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Fax: 6542 5297

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BY APPOINTMENT
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Email: office@cgbllaw.com.au Web: www.cgbllaw.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


Can Assist
CANCER ASSISTANCE NETWORK

Merriwa Can Assist

Financial support to locals facing hardship due to a Cancer diagnosis.

Phone Marlene Rogers
0431 939 093


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Merriwa Pharmacy

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

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Holy Trinity Merriwa

9.00am Sundays
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Short Bible Study

Contact: 0429 996 769

Rev'd Pat Kirkby - Local Priest


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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


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Ph 6548 2993

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Principal:
Mrs Katie Burgess

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

Schools


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President: E Shipway
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CWA
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10.00am
CWA Rooms
159 Bettington Street

Visitors and new members are always welcome

Enquiries to:
President: Barbara Campbell
Phone: 6548 5131 or 0428 485 131
Email: barbaraj911@gmail.com
Secretary: Kim Clydsdale
Phone: 6548 2558
Email: kmclydsdale@gmail.com

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Merriwa
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Denman
 51 – 53 Ogilvie Street
 For appointments please phone 6532 5013

MERRIWA & DISTRICT LITTLE ATHLETICS CENTRE
2020/21 starts Oct 12!
 Tots (3 & 4 yrs) to u/17 yrs
Mondays 5.30 to 6.30ish
 at Merriwa No. 2 Oval
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Merriwa Rugby League Football Club
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 Vice President: David Martin
 Secretary: Gaynor Blackadder
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Season starts Term 4
Make a SPLASH!
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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 JUNIOR RUGBY LEAGUE FOOTBALL CLUB

President Bernard Constable
Secretary/Treasurer Kacie Neale
 All enquires to the secretary 0419 850 043
 westernbling@hotmail.com

MERRIWA RACES
April 24, 2021
Race Club President - Paul Frampton
Contact - 0428 485 182
 Visit **www.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
merriwacampdraft@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
 Get involved in influencing decisions on matters that affect the whole local community
 Meets on Third Wednesday every month at 6.00pm Merriwa RSL
 merriwaprogress@gmail.com



Clubs/Sports Merriwa RSL Club

The Friday night Members Lucky Badge 7.00pm draw for \$460.00 was not won the number was 660, this week it jackpots to \$480.00.

The 8.30pm Members Badge draw worth \$1300.00 was not won the number was 722, this week it jackpots to \$1350.00.

The 9.00pm Members Badge draw for \$120.00 was not won the number was 329 this week it jackpots to \$140.00. **LTPS/19/36118**

The Sunday Morning Members Badge Draw for \$850.00 was not won last week the number was 142, this week it jackpots to \$900.00 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.

A reminder that the club will be closed on Good Friday, raffles this week will be on Thursday April 1 2021.

The Board of Directors, Management and Staff would like to wish all our valued members and guests a safe and Happy Easter.

Wednesday Nights from 6.00pm - \$6.00 PINTS. For every pint sold between February and June 30, the RSL Club will be donating \$1.00 to help with Miranda Boland's recovery.

Entertainment – Friday March 26 live entertainment in the main lounge from 8.30pm.

Saturday nights – free juke box, pool comp \$100.00 first prize, \$5.00 schooners and House spirits. From 6.00pm till 10.00pm.

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, 10.00pm and 11.30pm.

HAPPY HOURS

Friday 5.30pm to 7.30pm
Saturday 6.00pm to 10.00pm
Sunday 11.30am to 12.30pm

Bistro hours – lunch Thursday – Sunday 12.00/2.00pm, Dinner Monday – Saturday 6.00/8.00pm

Matt Morgan

Merriwa Sports Club

EASTER

Merriwa Sports Club Directors and staff would like to wish our members and guests a happy and safe Easter. Please note that we will be closed Good Friday but will be operating as normal every other day this weekend.

SATURDAY NIGHT RAFFLES

Raffles are still on this Saturday, 10 meat trays and 5 fruit and veg trays up for grabs. The trays have been looking amazing, thanks to Max's Country Cuts and Merriwa IGA. Raffle begins at 7.30pm. The members draw was drawn on Saturday night, member number 19 was not present so the badge draw jackpots to \$425.00 this week. Drawn anytime between 6.30pm and 8.30 pm, you must be there to win.

HAPPY HOURS

Friday - 5.00-7.00pm

Saturday - ALL DAY! That's right, all day happy hours. \$5.00 schooners, house spirits and wine. ALL DAY. "Happy Satdy" everyone!

RACE NIGHT

When the Merriwa Races finish on April 24 why end the good times there? We have secured a band for the race weekend, come along and dance the night away with Carrot Bowen and the Collective. Don't forget that it's Happy Satdy all day and night.

POOL AND DARTS COMP

Join us for pool and darts on Thursday nights. Names in by 6.00pm. \$5.00 entry for each competition, winner takes all.

CLUBS OPENING HOURS

Mondays 3.30pm
Tuesday 3.30pm
Wednesday 3.30pm
Thursday 3.30pm
Fridays 3.30pm
Saturdays 12.00pm
Sundays 3.00pm

RSA AND RCG COURSES

The RSA course is on Tuesday April 27 and the RCG April 28. If you have put your name down to do the course please pay at the Club, \$185.00 for the RSA and RCG is \$135.00, before April 13.

HONKI HAUS RESTAURANT

Honki Haus now doing lunch time specials on a weekend. Come on in for a delicious meal, whether it's for lunch or dinner. Honki Haus Restaurant closed Mondays and Tuesday. Open for dinner Wednesday to Saturday 4.30pm to 8.00pm. Sunday dinners 4.30pm to 7.00pm. Open for lunch Saturday and Sunday 12noon to 2.00pm.

HONKI HAUS

Weekend Lunch Special*

\$15

Two Course Meal:

Light Entree

Choice of one Stir Fry Below (Chicken or Beef)

Satay
Black Bean
Curry
Mongolian
Garlic
Chilli
Peking
Sweet and Sour Pork
Honey or Lemon Chicken
Chow Mein

+\$2.00 for Change to Fried Rice
+\$4.00 for Change to King Prawns

*Subject to Availability, while stocks last
*Terms and Conditions Apply

Merriwa Rugby League Football Club

Our annual Easter Raffle will be held on Sunday March 28, at our major sponsor, Merriwa RSL Club at 1.00pm. Tickets will be on sale on the day, at the club.

Jessyca Morgan

MASSIVE GARAGE SALE

**1621 Wollara road, Merriwa.
Saturday April 3. 8.00am-2.00pm.**

Gas Fridge, Microwave
Ladders
Qty nuts, bolts and screws
2xSolid timber doors
Garden Tools
Power tools, Hand tools
Jerry cans
High pressure gurneys
Camping equipment
Eskies
Plumbing supplies
New gun safe
Trolley Jack
Car Jacks
Fencing material
Plus more too much to list.

Any questions call 0418 968 618

For bookings and take away – 0460 817 606

Brendan Cowell

Happy Easter



Ringer Deadline!

Please remember to place your articles

and advertisements into the

Merriwa Ringer

by Mondays, at 12.00 noon

Ringer returns for term 2 on April 19 for first publication on April 22

MCS in touch with our community



The **Merriwa Ringer**

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ALL MATERIAL DUE 12 noon MONDAYS

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