Creepers Loss—History Exposed

By AVRIL PARKER

The building now operating as Merredin Bed & Breakfast at 30 Bates Street was opened on the 31st July 1928 as the English Scottish and Australian Bank. With the advent of war it closed as a bank on the 1st December 1941. Following the closure it reverted to a doctors surgery and residence for many years and at one stage was leased by Hendy Cowan the politician.

This area of Bates Street was the financial hub of the town in this period with the WA Bank in 1913 being located in little more than a tin shanty behind the post office. Then came the National Bank on the corner of Mitchell and Bates Street in 1923. Commonwealth and R&I Bank also opened at this time.

The Road Boards’ (now Shire) vision at the time was to make this area of Bates Street the Business hub of the town. In the 20’s Merredin was prosperous and

expanding. Farming was good and banks were established to cater for the financial needs of the people.

The story of the creeper. I don’t know when it was planted and I know it looked beautiful in Summer and Autumn, but it was a nightmare! The roots travelled metres underground, the tendrils on the branches stripped the paint off each year when it was pruned and the leaves continuously dropped but didn’t break down in the garden. It was a continuous source of maintenance and invaded the roof tiles and gutters. My apologies to everyone who misses it (so do I) but it just ‘had to go!’ It is my intention to try and remove the boards at the top of the façade in the hope it will expose the name of the bank which it is thought to be behind them. Removing the creeper has now exposed the lovely corbels and decoration of the front façade which was designed by Summerhayes Architects, we think, who designed many of the banks in country towns.

The beautiful creeper in all its glory

The English, Scottish and Australian Bank which closed down in December 1941 and became Dr Byron’s Surgery for some years.
Merredin Community Calendar

Friday 30th September
Merredin Youth Disco—Avon Youth & Commins Theatre—held at Commins Theatre—6pm—9pm.

Monday 3rd October
Nyosongar Sports—Merredin College Gym—10am—2pm.

Tuesday 4th October

Wednesday 5th October
Avon Youth Bickley Quarry Abseiling—Contact Avon Youth for more details.

Thursday 6th October

Friday 7th October
Avon Youth Fremantle Prison Tour—Contact Avon Youth for more details.

Monday 10th—16th October
Festa Italiana—contact the Central Wheatbelt Visitors Centre on 9141 1666 for more information.

Regular Events
0–4: Amity Health Playgroup—Playgroup for 0–4 year olds. Contact Emma Fitzsimons on 9041 1532 or efitzsimons@amityhealth.com.au.

Boostzooking—Monday nights, 7:30pm until 9:30pm at the Masonic Lodge in Coronation St. First night is free. Beginners to advanced. Call Anjoen on 9041 3005 or see Sue at the Chemist or Lyn at the Post Office.

Camera Club—Meeting 12th October at Merredin Playgroup. Opposite the pool. Photos due in 10 days prior (Sunday evenings). dainasutherland@bigpond.com. October theme: Two.

Men’s Shed—Thursday 2—5pm, call Dennis on 9041 1041 225 for more info.

Merredin Community Singers—All levels welcome. Monday nights 7:00pm at the Senior’s Centre.

Merredin Museum & Historical Society—Meets every Wednesday each month, 5:00pm at Railway Museum. All Welcome.

Merredin Riffle Club—1st and 3rd Sunday of the month, 9am—12noon. Call Stephen for more info on 0418 424 213.

Playgroup—Every Wednesday at 9.00am—11.30am during the school term at Throssel Road, opposite the pool. Contact Deina on 0409 292 262.

Red Hat Lunch—Second Sunday of each month, 12 noon. Shed Restaurant unless otherwise advised, contact Julie Townrow on 9041 424 377 or email julietrownrow@westnet.com.au.

Senior’s Centre Craft Group—Wednesday mornings 9:30—12:30, bring your own crafts or just come for a chat.

Senior’s Centre Morning Tea—Every Thursday morning 10:00—11:30 at the Senior’s Centre. Free. All Welcome.

Senior’s Gentle Gym—Tuesdays 2:00—3:00 at the Senior’s Centre. Afternoon tea to follow. Free.

Story-time—Every Tuesday at 10.00am at the Merredin Library, for children up to 5 years old.

Tales of Times Past—All welcome to tell their stories or just listen. Mondays 10:00am—11:30am, starting with morning tea. Senior’s Centre. $2.

Tribal Belly Dancing—Fun and fitness for all ages and levels of experience. Mondays 5:30—7:00pm. First night is free. 120 Barrack Street, Contact Kirsty 9041 9424.

Church Services

All Saints Anglican Church
Corner of Haig Road & South Avenue, 9am Sunday Worship (except 4th Sunday), 4th Sunday 11am Eucharist, Rev Brett Guthrie
Su Riley paradim@westnet.com.au

Roman Catholic Church
South Avenue, 6.30pm Saturday, 11am Sunday, Father Zygmunt Smigowski
Ph 9041 1118

Church of Christ
Throssell Road, 10am Sunday Worship and Sunday School Ph 0408 484 711

Seventh Day Adventist Church
Kitchener Road, 11am Sunday Family Worship, 9.30am Saturday Bible Study.
Ph 0457 423 060 or 9045 3056

People’s Baptist Church
Kellerberrin, 10am Sunday Worship
Ph 0435 284 796

Revolution Youth
Church of Christ, Throssell Road
Fridays 7pm—9.30pm (School terms)
Emma Atkin 0487 351 167

Merredin United in Prayer
Cornerstone Christian Bookshop
7am last Thursday of the Month

Uniting Church
Fifth Street, 9am Sunday Service
Ph 0457 329 850

Community

Merredin Community and Regional News

Fortnightly
Merredin Community Resource Centre
110 Barrack Street, Merredin
Ph: 9041 1041 Fax: 9041 1042

Deadlines
(A WEEK BEFORE ISSUE DATE)
Articles: 5pm Wednesday
Advertising: Booking 5pm Thursday
Copy finalised 11am Friday
Classifieds: 10am Monday

Contact:
Content—Kirsty Rochford 9041 1041
administration@merredinrc.com
Advertising—Corey Tucker 9041 1041
marketing@merredinrc.com

Upcoming Editions
14th & 28th October

Years Gone By—1912

By PADDY CROOK

With little else than a tent and sharp axes two of my fathers brothers embarked on clearing 5 acres each of allocated farm land at Nukarni north of Merredin.

Two dogs were a necessary part of the project to catch dinner—rabbits.

Each year at Christmas time their mother at Fremantle would send them a Christmas pudding. It was customary back then to put small silver coins, six penny and three penny’s in the pudding. One year they hung the pudding close to the top of the tent to keep it away from the rabbit catchers. All to no avail. The dogs cleaned it up. Charlie said “What do we do now?” Albert replied “No problem, we will tie the dogs up for a couple of days and collect the coins”. A total success.

Tales of the Past

In early 1930, at the beginning of the Big Depression it was resolved to take the water from the Merredin pumping station to Neening Rock some 25 miles as the crow flies NW of Merredin.

Across the road from our farm was a tent city to house the men working on the project, and working with picks and shovels. Amongst these people was a young man, his wife and tiny baby. At weekends he would ride his push bike to our farm and do some odd jobs for my father, ie, cutting chaff, tailing lambs etc and for payment he received eggs, milk, butter and cream etc. When all was done he would take me for a ride on his bike.

Once a month he rode to Northam to see his parents—his wife on the cross bar of the bike and the baby snug in a box on the carrier of the bike.

Library Musings

Conspiracy Theory or fact? Was JFK killed by one of his own guards and not Lee Harvey Oswald? Was it an accident? “Mortal Error: the show that killed JFK” by Boar Meniger is an interesting look at the “Facts” that led to a ballistics experts’ astonishing discovery of the fatal bullet that Oswald didn’t fire.

Would you like to make your own Kimchi, or Safe Jam? How about making your own Kefir or even Crème Fraiche? The “DIY Fermentation” book by Katherine Green will take you through step by step instructions for over 100 home fermentation recipes.

Did you know that both Roald Dahl, the author of “Charlie and the Chocolate Factory”, “Matilda”, “The BFG” (and more) and George R R Martin, the author of “The Game of Thrones” were born in September. Roald Dahl would have been 100 years old on the 13th September and George Martin turned 68 on the 20th September.

Come into the library to find out more.
By TANYA KILMINSTER

A joint initiative being sponsored by the Merredin and Districts Farm Improvement Group (MADFIG) and the Far Eastern Agriculture Research (FEAR) group along with the Department of Agriculture and Food WA is being introduced to growers and agribusiness in the eastern wheatbelt at a Markets Update event.

This event is part of the $400,000 project “Investigating Flexible Farming Systems” which aims to contribute to the State government’s goal of doubling the value of agriculture by 2025. Funding was secured through the Royalties for Regions, Seizing the Opportunity program, Agriculture Sciences grower group research and development fund and is a fantastic opportunity for growers in the eastern wheatbelt to develop strategic links with both the sheep and grains supply chains and seek out new opportunities for investment.

This Markets Update event will highlight four keys speakers, including Tanya Kilminster from DAFWA Merredin who is heading up the project. She will provide an overview of the project and explain the opportunities for local farming businesses and key players in the supply chains to be involved over the next three years.

Ben Thomas, Market Information Manager from MLA based in Sydney, will be providing an update on Australia’s sheep trade and where Australia is positioned in the global setting. There is high demand for breeding the Merino ewe and Ben will provide insight into current and future markets for lamb and other segments of the market, along with providing some forward projections on price.

Richard Simonaitis, CEO of the Australian Export Grains Innovation Centre, will provide great discussion with growers on domestic and export markets, our customers and competitors, the growth of the industry and where there is the most potential. Current grain prices are in everyone’s minds at the moment and Richard will be able to provide some insight into where the price might sit over the next 12 months and grain selling strategies.

Lucy Anderton from LA.ONE Economics and Consulting will be discussing comparative gross margins for a typical eastern wheatbelt farm based on the market outlook. Attendants at this event will be able to discuss with Lucy the economic analyses that can be investigated in this project.

The main outcomes of the project are to build more resilient businesses with the capacity to adapt, create new supply chain opportunities and improve return on investment for growers in the eastern wheatbelt.

The Markets Update event is next Tuesday 4th October at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre in Merredin from 1pm. For further information, contact Tanya Kilminster at DAFWA tanya.kilminster@agric.wa.gov.au or to RSVP, Beck Watson at MADFIG admin@madfig.com.au. The first correct answer received at coordinator@merredincrc.com will get a family pass to The Railway Museum, so get guessing!

Lilith Selene, welcome to the show!

Congratulations to Cummins Theatre Managers Ben and Emma Davis on the arrival of Lilith Selene Davis on 17 September.

Emma said “One week home and our little family are doing pretty good. Getting used to the broken sleep, eating with one hand, and have become a pro at tummy time fun. This little person has changed so much in the past week! I could not be happier at the moment”.

Lilith Selene, welcome to the show!
By MICHELLE MARKS

I recently had a conversation with a young lady (she was in her mid to late teens) who was nearing the end of a period of work experience. My conversation with her was about where she wanted to go for a living. For some reason, I love asking that question and always have, even when I was her age. I think it is suggestive of endless possibilities and demonstrates the diversity in interests throughout the population. Of course, when asked, this young girl said she wasn’t sure. She also mentioned she’d felt a little bit of pressure from school, as if she had to decide the next 40 years of her life in high school. I remember that same pressure from my career counsellor all too well. In hindsight, I don’t think the young lady was asking us out, but to open our minds to thinking what we could achieve and how to get there.

Honestly, I don’t think I’ve ever met someone with a concrete view of what their career plan was, regardless of whether they were 15 or 50! When I was in school I had my ideas of what I wanted to be; a vet, a designer. Those ideas have changed owing to changes in interests, but is a rounded view of what your values are and how you would like to see your life. With this bigger picture in mind, it might look like this: “I am healthy and happy, body and mind and nurture a strong loving relationship with my partner. I am a good parent, and enjoy seeing my children grow happy and healthy. I enjoy my job, which provides a comfortable home for my family.” This paragraph will be a little different for each person, but is a rounded view of what your values are and how you would like to see your life. With this bigger picture in mind you can see your priorities inclusive of every priority. As you look into the different connections between your values, you begin to see how there are more factors influencing your decisions than you realise. For example, someone working as a tradesman out in the sun, lifting heavy objects might aim for personal health. Working towards a supervisory position where he can still work in the industry he enjoys, without sunburn and a backache will help him achieve both goals. All of your priorities deserve nurturing, so why not take a collective look at them, which may help you make decisions like ‘should I change careers?’

My Thoughts

A Small Community

Community—a society of people under the same laws. Mutual participation.

To live in a small community is to be careful with control. Be aware of the individuals who work in the local surrounds. I have been guilty of whistling and calling out to outside workers. I’ve also been guilty of marking potholes with white spray paint. Not wanting to offend people, I’d like to apologise.

Sometimes things need to be said, not in a meeting with a committee or with a royal commission. One person doesn’t make a community, it takes all characters to keep it functioning. Everyone can have an opinion, it’s how they put it out there. In a community people don’t need to be told how to live their lives, they need to enjoy a life that they choose. Enjoy your life.

Wendy Carroll—Westonia

Letter to the Editor

Do you have something to say?

Send a “Letter to the Editor” at administration@merredincrc.com
Police Report

By SERGEANT BRETT DORGE

A big hello to everyone in Merredin from your local police. The last couple of weeks have been pretty good, with the exception of a few reported crimes to police.

We would ask that everyone remain vigilant in regards to suspicious people or persons and report anything that is out of the ordinary to police. We have had a couple of attempted burglaries where unknown person/s have tried to gain access to a premises in the town centre, so if you see anyone suspicious, please contact Merredin Police on 90411322 or Crime Stoppers on 1800333000.

Further to that, we have received reports of trespassing in the last couple of weeks, so again, please report anything that appears unusual or of character to us as we would like to speak those people or persons responsible.

Merredin Police executed a drug warrant during the last week which resulted in two people being charged with several drug offences. Another reminder that the use of illegal drugs will not be tolerated and any information the public can supply to us through the usual channels is greatly appreciated.

As we approach the school holiday period, we will be ramping up our traffic campaigns, which is usual for this time of the year. You can expect to see a greater police presence on the roads, and it is a good time to remind all road users to take care on the roads, be mindful of your speed, and be respectful of other road users.

I would also like to take this opportunity to plug our first ‘Coffee with a Cop’ morning which will be held at Café 56 on the 14th of October between 9am and 11am. This is an opportunity for members of the public to come and speak with police in an informal setting about anything they like. Whether it be advice or a complaint or just to say hello, we welcome everyone to come and say hello.

That is all from Merredin Police for this issue, stay safe and take care.

Festa Italiana

By MICHELLE MARKS—Shire of Merredin

Festa Italiana, the Italian Festival in October, is set to be one of the biggest events in Merredin this year. There are only two weeks left until the excitement begins and organisers are urging you to register for the activities or purchase tickets before they sell out. The dinner show at Cummins Theatre tickets sold out within two weeks of being available! There are still tickets available for the movie day and cooking demonstrations with Daniela and Stefania.

On Saturday 15 October, there will be great activities for the whole family at Merredin Rec Centre. Football West is hosting a soccer clinic where you can learn how to play soccer or improve your skills. Following the clinic, they will hold a round robin style soccer competition. Gather your friends and family and start a team!

If bocce is more your thing, you can join in with Laguna Veneto Bocce Club who is also hosting a competition.

Prefer to test out your poker face? You are welcome to join in a few card games too. These games will be starting at 10:00am and continue throughout the day at Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre. Contact Marilyn on 9041 3033 to register your interest.

Check out page 9 for a rundown of all the events during Festa Italiana, or contact the Central Wheatbelt Visitors Centre on 9041 1666.
Nungarin’s October Harvest Festival

Stay the weekend at our lovely hotel and caravan parks which include The Woolshed Hotel and Mangowine Homestead. Information is available from the Nungarin CRC 9046 5400

Nungarin Heritage Machinery & Army Museum Casserole Tea Friday 30th September

Join us at the Nungarin Community Rec Centre for a “Casserole Tea” Adults $15.00 Kids $2.00
Enter the Harvest Festival Photo Comp & win a $50 Visa Gift Voucher card to spend at any shop you choose.
For an entry form please phone the Nungarin CRC on 9046 5400 or email: nungarin@crc.net.au.

Mangowine Concert Saturday 1st October
Gates open 4:30pm
Tickets at the gate
Adults $25
Children under 17 FREE
Food and drink for sale or bring your own picnic.
Licenced Bar NO BYO
This is a smoke free event

FOR VIP TICKETS
Please phone Gary Coumbe 9046 5037

Wheatbelt Markets-Sunday 2nd October

Free Bouncy Castle & Train Rides
Blessing of the Header at 10.30am
Sausage sizzle in aid of St John Ambulance
Craft Shoppe open
Café in the Hall
Stall Booking /Enquires 9046 5174
Lunch at The Woolshed Hotel 9046 5084
Coffee & Lunch at Wegner’s Rural 9046 5507
Nextra Merredin
News & Stationery
100 Barrack Street
Merredin WA 6415
Ph: (08) 9041 1161

DON’T PARTY WITHOUT US

Nextra Merredin are excited to launch their
NEW PARTY SUPPLY SECTION
ON WEDNESDAY 5TH OCTOBER
MAKE ANY PARTY SUPPLY PURCHASE AND GO IN THE DRAW TO
WIN GREAT PRIZES,
ALSO LOTS OF GIVEAWAY’S, SUPER SPECIALS
AND MUCH, MUCH MORE, COME IN AND JOIN IN THE FUN
BRING THE KIDS DOWN TO MEET OUR
GIANT TEDDY BEAR AT 10AM, 1PM, 3PM

BRING THIS COUPON IN ON OCTOBER 5TH
AND RECEIVE A SATURDAY SYSTEM 7 IN
THE 21 MILLION LOTTO SUPERDRAW ON
THE 29TH OCT WHEN YOU BUY $35 WORTH
OF PARTY SUPPLIES
By LINDSAY MCNEILL

A big group of students, industry representatives and members of the public were inspired by the business philosophy of the guest speaker at this year’s Muresk Lecture.

Delivering the address at Muresk Institute on August 11, managing director of Milne AgriGroup, Graham Laitt, gave an overview of his introduction to agribusiness in WA along with the philosophy behind his vertically integrated family business.

Milne AgriGroup owns a number of well-known brands including Mt Barker Free Range Chicken, Plantagenet Free Range Pork and Milne Feeds along with meat processing and packaging facilities.

Mr Laitt explained how, after a career as a lawyer he took on the role of CEO at Peters and Browns with the intention of restructuring it before selling it off. “It was then that I gave up my job as a lawyer and was hooked by the challenge of agribusiness,” he said. To make the brand new ice cream factory at Peters and Browns pay, he ventured into the export of ice cream to Japan and soon discovered the challenge of demand outstripping the local dairy industry’s ability to supply.

“While Asia is promoted as the market of the future, there are challenges in meeting the demand of any market. “Asia is not the panacea for all future growth. “We are mindful when it comes to producing what is needed by these markets. “This was illustrated recently by China shedding a third of its hog herd which is equal to the pig production of the US and Canada combined,” Mr Laitt said.

After Peters and Brownses was sold to Fonterra, Mr Laitt bought Milne Feeds and used it as the foundation on which he built the Milne AgriGroup. A focus on free range chicken and pork production gave the company a point of difference and access to markets for high quality products that command premium prices. “We are one of the few companies that is certified free range by the RSPCA. “It is all about integrity and authenticity. “We have strict production protocols for our producers and in return they share the benefits,” he said.

In conclusion, he said that to capitalize on export opportunities, producers need to co-operate to increase production. It was important to do this in ways that preserve the social and economic fabric of the bush and keep regional communities alive.

Planning and market analysis were essential for good business decisions and to avoid wasting money. The most valuable thing education could provide for students was skill in modelling with mathematics and analytical thinking for problem solving, Mr Laitt said.

The lecture was organized by the Muresk Student Association with support from Charles Sturt University staff at Muresk, Central Regional TAFE, Muresk Institute and sponsorship from the CBHI Group.

Muresk Lecture Brings Inspiration

Among those at the 2016 Muresk Lecture with speaker, Graham Laitt (centre) were - Professor Christine Storer (left), Angela Ryan from Doodlakine (9th from left) and Member for Central Wheatbelt, Mia Davies MLA (and from right).

Grains scholarships up for grabs

The future of grains innovation in Western Australia has been bolstered by four postgraduate research scholarships provided by the Department of Agriculture and Food.

In addition to the full, four-year scholarships, the department will provide a suitable mentor, access to resources, including field plots and equipment, as well as office space.

Department grains research and development transformation executive director, Mark Sweetingham, said the scholarships were an investment in the future scientific capability of the grains industry.

“Research and development is essential for the WA grains industry to continue to grow and remain internationally competitive,” Dr Sweetingham said.

“These scholarships provide a great opportunity to inject a strong grains industry perspective and commercial relevance into research projects, which will complement the scientific excellence provided by the host university.”

The one-off scholarships, valued at about $190,000 each over four years, will be provided via the department’s Boosting Grains Research and Development project, made possible by Royalties for Regions.

All scholarships are required to have a significant field-based research component, which will be supported by the department through its regional network.

Dr Sweetingham said the scholarship program had been designed to encourage a diverse range of research proposals of direct relevance to the WA grains industry.

“Grains research spans many different disciplines, including crop nutrition and crop protection, digital and precision agriculture, genetics, soil management, systems agronomy, agricultural economics and product integrity,” he said.

“The department is at the forefront of national and international grains research and collaborates with partners from around the world.

“The scholarships provide a unique platform for students to launch their professional career in WA’s vibrant and rapidly expanding grains industry.”

The closing date for applications for the Grains R&D Postgraduate Scholarship 3pm WST, Monday, 31 October.

For more information contact Alexandra Douglas on (08) 9821 3246 or email alexandra.douglas@agric.wa.gov.au

DAFWA development officer Jackie Bucat discusses the department’s grains postgraduate scholarship opportunities with Grains R&D Transformation executive director Dr Mark Sweetingham.
YOUR EVENT GUIDE TO

Festa Italiana

Celebrating all things Italy!

This October is a celebration of our town’s Italian families and their vibrant culture. Share of Merredin invites you to join our Italian community as they share with us some of their favourite pastimes like cooking, soccer, bocce, cards and most of all, fun and family! Refer to the event schedule to right more information on the activities or visit www.destinationmerredin.com

Daniele & Stefania

Daniele and Stefania, two lovable cousins, who were contestants on My Kitchen Rules in 2011 will be coming to Merredin for Festa Italiana. The ladies will be sharing their love of cooking in two demonstrations on Saturday 15 October at Merredin Recreation Centre. They will be cooking a savoury dish in the morning demonstration and showing us their signature sweets in the afternoon.

Tickets to these demonstrations can be purchased from the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre or online on TryBooking.com.

Family Histrories

Did you know that the Musea family originated from San Piero Patti in Sicily? Or that the Potts Motor Inn was built by the Potallafo family in 1973 and was named after Tony a.k.a “Potty”?

With the help of the passionate Italian community, we have been compiling fascinating and moving stories of their family’s timeline, traditions and significant life moments. You can learn more about their history with over twenty family stories on display during Festa Italiana.

Festa Italiana is proudly sponsored by:

Event Schedule

MOVIE, COFFEE & CAKE 10 OCTOBER
Enjoy coffee and cake to celebrate Cummins Theatre’s 87th birthday and two sessions playing ’Le Meraviglie’
Cummins Theatre | $10 pp | 2:00pm & 7:00pm

ART EXHIBITION 13-16 OCTOBER
Merredin Fine Art Society Exhibition at the Merredin Railway Museum. Museum entry fee.
Railway Museum | Thursday 6pm-8pm | Friday 9am-5pm | Saturday 10am-4pm | Sunday 10am-12pm

AFTERNOON TEA 14 OCTOBER
Join us for afternoon tea on the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre lawn.
Visitor Centre | Gold Coin Donation | 3:00pm

ELDERS GOLDEN SAUSAGE 14 OCTOBER
All are welcome to Elder’s annual Golden Sausage Competition at Cummins Theatre. Dinner and gelato will also be available for purchase on the night.
Cummins Theatre | $5 for Tasters | 6:30pm

SOCCER, BOCCE & CARDS 15 OCTOBER
Learn the art of soccer, or join in on a game of bocce or cards. All games held at Merredin Rec Centre from 10am. Lunch and gelato will be available for purchase throughout the day.
Merredin Recreation Centre | Free | From 10:00am

COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS 15 OCTOBER
Daniele and Stefania are sharing their love of cooking in two demonstrations at the Recreation Centre. Tickets available on TryBooking.com or at the Visitor Centre.
Merredin Rec Centre | $10pp | 11:30am & 2:00pm

DINNER SHOW 15 OCTOBER
Cummins Theatre are hosting a night of delicious Italian cuisine and amazing entertainment. Buon appetito! (Please note there are no more tickets available)
Cummins Theatre | Sold Out | 6:30pm

CHURCH, TOURS & LUNCHEON 16 OCTOBER
Wind down with a Church service or tour of the town followed by lunch at the Tivoli Room.
Services (Various locations & times) Town Tours (Contact Visitor Centre) Lunch at Tivoli Room

For bookings or more information on the events listed please contact the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre on 9041 1666
22ND OCTOBER 2016

SHACK-TOBERFEST
11AM - 11PM

Come to Shackleton for all the Fun in October
Barrel Races, Bratwurst eating competitions, Stein carrying competitions, Live Music, Prizes for best Dressed.
Free Bouncy Castle for kids
Free Buses from Bruce Rock, Corrigin, Quairading and Kellerberrin.

Buses also available from Merredin, call for details

Tickets – If purchased prior to the event $40.00
- Limited Tickets at the door $50.00
(Tickets include entry, $15 Food Voucher, $10 Drink Voucher, Souvenir Stein, Entrainment and nibbles. Extra drinks on sale)

Shackleton District Club
We are the Centre

German Beer on Tap

German Food available all day

Live entertainment from Queensland and Perth

Free Camping On Shackleton Oval

The Greatest Show at the Centre of the Wheatbelt.

SHACKLETON DISTRICT CLUB INC.
Jermyn St, Shackleton 6386
Like us on Facebook
22nd October 2016
11am to 11pm

Call 90641146 to book—don’t miss out
By GRANT STAINER

Around 45 people attended the free music and pizza night at the Cummins Theatre on the 16th September, relaxing and in some cases dancing to the sounds of three sets of musicians.

Starting the night was the duo band *The Mindeles*, featuring WAMbassador Erin Pope and Mhairi Foulner, who played a variety of songs that they have written, as well as a cover song. They used guitars, drums, a rainstick, and straight singing to great effect.

Next up was a solo effort by Darcy Hay from Geraldton, who played a guitar and an instrument that hung in front of his mouth, as well as singing.

The final set of musicians was a 5 member band led by singer, guitarist, and WAMbassador Pete Byfield, with Mark Schelfhout, Grant Arthur, and Ben Hollister on guitar, and Bob Clarke on drums.

Each set of musicians played a large number of songs, with audience members starting to dance when the final set of musicians began playing.

This event is part of the Western Australian Music (WAM) 2016-17 Wheatbelt Touring Circuit, and involved the Wheatbelt WAMbassador program, seeking to promote road safety messages. The WAMbassadors are local musicians who are passionate about music and their communities. The WAMbassadors are Erin Pope (Moorine Rock), Hayden Sprigg (Mukinbudin), Pete Byfield (Grass Valley), Ash Nardini (Narrogin), Polly Medlin (Wagin), and Merredin’s own Jayden Crook.

Overall, everyone had an enjoyable night at this free event hosted by the Cummins Theatre, relaxing to good music and company.

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**Peter J Jackson - Funeral Directors**

Caring for the families of the wheatbelt

Peter J Jackson have been supplying professional Services in the wheatbelt area for 29 years. Arranging a funeral is an emotional and daunting task and the last loving thing you can do for the one who has died. Located on 10 Fifth Street, Merredin. Give us a call to find out more on how we can help. Our office will be closed every Wednesday unless a prior appointment with Peter has been made.

“Good men must die, but death cannot kill their names” - proverb
Windows 10

The Merredin CRC held an Intro to Windows 10 workshop on Wednesday 21st of September. It was well attended and those that participated provided very good feedback. Therefore the CRC is looking at holding another workshop if there is interest. If you would like to come to a Windows 10 workshop please contact the CRC to register. Once we have the minimum of 4 names a date will be scheduled for the workshop. Phone Merredin CRC on 90411041 or email merredin@crc.net.au

Merredin CRC AGM held and Committee Elected

The Merredin CRC is a community, not for profit, organisation that is managed by a group of volunteers – Merredin CRC Management Committee.

The Committee provide the direction and guidance to the staff.

The Committee elected at the AGM on 20th September were –
Chair – Sue Olcorn
Vice Chair – Diane O’Dowd
Secretary – Christine Campbell
Treasurer – Wendy Porter
Committee – Bill Mottershead and Jasmin Cockram.

“Blokes Brekkie and Bonding” - FREE Breakfast for men on Wednesday 12 October at the CRC

This event is part of Mental Health Week which is between 5 – 12 October and coincides with Blue Shirt Wednesday, which is raising the awareness of the significance of mental health issues within men. So let’s see lots of people wearing BLUE shirts on Wednesday 12 October.

Come along to the Merredin CRC on Wednesday 12 October between 7am and 9am and have a chat while you have breakfast.

The breakfast will provide opportunities for male community members come together and listen to a guest speaker from Regional Men’s Health and talk to other health professionals who will be in attendance.

The Blong-Commit project officer at Eastern Wheatbelt Primary Health Service has been involved in the event planning and will be supporting the Act-Belong-Commit message at the breakfast.

The breakfast is an informal way to increase awareness of mental health services that are available in Merredin, with many of the service providers being in attendance.

Attendees will receive an information bag and have the opportunity win some great prizes.

This event has been made possible through funding from WA Primary Health Alliance and support from Act-Belong-Commit, Mental Health Service Providers and Radio West.

The September Markets were held last Sunday with around 16 stalls participating. The weather held off which was wonderful and gave a lot of locals and visitors the opportunity to browse, have a cuppa, sausage sizzle or ice cream and a chat with friends.

The CRC staff are looking at some different ideas to improve the markets and would love anyone who has fresh fruit and vegetables to consider having a stall. This might be an option for the community garden group. Merredin has a lot of craft people and people who sell through party plans, so we would love it if you had some stalls at the markets, even if a couple of you combine on the one stall. It might be a good way to promote your items to a different audience.
Golf Clinic

On Tuesday of Week 8 we were lucky enough to have a full day of golf clinics. Billie May, the Game Development Officer for Golf WA, came to school to run the clinics and impart her wealth of knowledge to the students. Her role at Golf WA consists of the development of skills and promotion of the game.

The students participated in five hitting stations where they could practice and perfect their golf swing and game knowledge. All the students had a great day learning new skills.

Assembly and Open Morning

The Year 1 students hosted the end of term assembly on Thursday 22 September. They performed Jonah and the Whale much to the delight of everyone present.

Following the assembly, we held an open morning where parents were welcomed into classrooms to spend time with their child/children sharing the learning that has been taking place over the term.

Light – wave or particle?

By Grant Stainer

Is light made of discreet particles (photons) or waves of light (electromagnetic waves)? This question has been debated in physics for hundreds of years, and there is still no definite answer.

Sir Isaac Newton proposed that light was made of streams of particles, as it explained many physics problems at the time.

However, in 1803, Thomas Young performed a key experiment that changed the understanding of light at the time.

Now known as the “double-slit experiment”, he used a single wavelength (monochromatic) source of light and shone it at two closely spaced slits. When the light passing through the two slits fell on a screen, it produced a distinctive interference pattern of light and dark lines. This is due to the interference of the peaks and troughs in the waves, much like ripples in a pond. Where the peaks of the wave are in-phase, they combine and produce a bright line, but where they are out of phase, they destructively interfere and cancel each other out, resulting in dark lines.

In 1900, German physicist Max Planck proposed that light was made of discreet packets called quanta (now called photons), whose energy is proportional to the frequency of radiation. In proposing this, he was effectively reinvigorating Newton’s particle theory. Planck’s theory was reinforced by new experiments that monochromatic light shining on a metal can eject electrons that have an energy related to the light’s frequency.

This phenomena is due to the energy of the incoming photon giving an electron enough energy to jump up an electron shell level. When it falls back down, the energy is released as a photon of the same frequency as the incoming photon.

This means that there are two key experiments that give contradictory answers as to what light is.

The study of this area has led to the development of the incredibly complex area of quantum mechanics. In quantum mechanics, each photon is associated with an embedded wave function, so as to account for the wave-particle problem.

Whilst not satisfactory to many, this joint feature seems to hold up in quantum experiments. For now...
Interschool Carnival

Friday the 16th of September started out as a cool morning but turned into a lovely day for the Interschool Athletics Carnival between Merredin College and St Mary’s. Well done to both schools for a fantastic competition and congratulations to all the students who participated. A special thanks to the parents that came to watch and all the helpers who volunteered their time. Congratulations to the Trophy winners.

Junior
- Runner Up Boy: Aidan Ludke 13 points MC
- Runner Up Girl: Shaimane Shiosaki 11 points MC
- Champion Boy: Nathaniel Shelton 16 points MC
- Champion Girl: Keysha Oakley (MC) and Joyce Oladipo (SM) 16 points

Intermediate
- Runner Up Boy: Alex Settineri 10 points SM
- Runner Up Girl: Alannah Rose Taylor 13 points SM
- Champion Boy: Malakai Pickett 24 points MC
- Champion Girl: Alexis Mongoo 16 points MC

Senior
- Runner Up Boy: Joey Rose 15 points SM
- Runner Up Girl: Emma Moslin 17 points SM
- Champion Boy: Seniach Dixon 16 points MC
- Champion Girl: Malakai Pickett 24 points SM

Merredin College Connects Community to support R U OK?

As part of the 2016 R U OK? Day campaign on Thursday 8 September, our Secondary School students were encouraged to make more time for the people in their lives who matter most and in the process, help create a more connected world for all of us.

R U OK? is a not-for-profit organisation that aims to create a world where everyone is connected and is protected from suicide. R U OK? Day is its national day of action and a reminder for people to have conversations any day someone is struggling.

All students in secondary and our two upper primary classes were provided with a helpful contact card with a list of numbers to call at a time of crisis. Our event was one of the hundreds of events that took place across the country.

To inspire people at Merredin College to reconnect, Mr Baltovich and Mr O’Neill kindly coordinated a football match on the oval at recess and lunchtime for students to watch and participate. An R U OK? football was awarded to the best and fairest player on that day and was presented to a worthy Cooper Creek in Year 10.

We also encouraged students and staff to wear something yellow for a gold coin donation to recognise and support the cause. We were able to raise a total of $107 to donate to the R U OK? charity.

This event hopefully will reinforce the positive role that the school community can play in one another’s wellbeing. We hope to remind people that it’s important to spend quality time with each other and have conversations about life’s ups and downs.

We know that a sense of connection and belonging contribute to our resilience and mental wellbeing, so we hope our students took that message away from this day.

Max Law Retires from Merredin College

I would like to acknowledge the outstanding ten years of service as a gardener which Max Law has given at Merredin Senior High School and Merredin College. Max has been a highly committed staff member who ensured the school grounds were pleasant and inviting. Always approachable, Max has contributed to the smooth running of the school by willingly carrying out a multitude of extra tasks like setting up for assemblies and shifting furniture. A retirement morning tea was held on Wednesday 7 September. We wish Max and his wife Gail all the best in their retirement.
Handing over the farming reins

While it probably comes as no surprise that over half of Australia’s farm owners are over 55 years old with the majority retiring in the next 15 years, what is surprising is the number of farmers who are failing to discuss and adequately prepare for the future.

As a result, many are discovering their options are limited when it comes to retirement and the transfer of ownership and control.

Business advisory firm Chapman Eastway, in conjunction with Charles Sturt University have released a new report Australian Farming Families: Succession and Inheritance.

The report looks at intergenerational changes in attitudes towards family business ownership and how this affects succession planning, as well as implications of an ageing agricultural workforce and the consequences of inadequate succession and retirement planning.

Farming has changed significantly over the past 20 years, with younger farmers adopting new models of business ownership and displaying greater willingness to engage in discussion and formalised business planning. Farm succession planning needs to move and adapt to those changes.

The report identifies a number of tips for farming families when it comes to succession planning:

- Be proactive and start conversations early - involve all family members in discussions and planning, and have regular family meetings
- Run your business like a business, for example house your business in a formal legal entity, with formal financial reporting and decision making
- Write it down - draw up a family charter clarifying the terms of involvement for all parties and consider a legal partnership or operating agreement
- Assemble a strong team of advisors and seek advice in areas where there is a lack of expertise
- Adopt a mentality of stewardship - ensure your family views the business as something to be protected and maintained for future generations instead of something to be divided up.

Chris’s Corner

By CHRIS VAN DER MERWE

Fitting blades to brush cutters

If you are looking at fitting a metal blade instead of line to your brush cutter, you need to know what type of machine you have. Typically metal blades can only be fitted to straight shaft brush cutters as opposed to bent shaft machines. Bent shaft units have a flexible drive and use a metal bush at the cutting head end. Straight shafts usually use a solid steel drive and have a gearbox with bearings at the cutting end. There are less breakages with a solid drive shaft and less wear with a gearbox and bearings on the cutting end.

If you have a question you would like answered about your lawnmower, chainsaw, line trimmer or other piece of equipment just email it to chris@merredinmowers.com.au.

Telstra 2G to Close

The Telstra 2G mobile network is closing on 1st December 2016. This means that customers who are connected to 2G will no longer be able to make or receive phone calls on their mobile phone. Customers will know if they’re currently using the 2G network as they will have a 2G icon at the top of their phone screen.

It’s important that 2G customers understand what they need to do to switch to 3G or 4G services before 1 December 2016.

Making the switch is easy and service providers are here to help. If a customer is connected to 2G we encourage them to visit a Telstra store or contact their service provider as soon as possible to avoid any disruption to their service.
Talk to a mate… It will help!

By BRENDAN - Regional Men’s Health Initiative

The message that underpins everything we do at the Regional Men’s Health Initiative is ‘before it all gets too much’ Talk to a Mate.

Human beings are fundamentally social in nature, staying connected and feeling valued for who we are is of primary importance to us. Talking to other people about issues in our lives or telling our stories helps us to normalise our experiences and realise we are not alone in having them. As blokes we have a tendency to retreat into ourselves when things are turning pear shaped, ‘cave time’. Much to the frustrations of most women this is a normal part of the way men tend to start processing their problems.

Metaphorically stepping into the cave can be helpful to get a handle on things but it is important that we are able to acknowledge and recognise when it is time to step back out and seek the support we need. Having a plan already in place that identifies who our mates are that we can turn to is really important. Without a network of true mates we become susceptible to feelings of isolation and loneliness.

As blokes we can recognise three main categories from where we find and establish real mate ship. These exist usually in the forms of a partner (intimate relationship), a peer (someone around the same age that perhaps has a similar experience of lifestyle and activities to us) and a mentor (an older person who’s lived experience we place value upon). A real mate is more than just an associate, it’s someone that knowingly respects and values who we are and is willing to make the time to genuinely listen to us. Think about who you would classify as a mate; and about the blokes you know who perhaps have few or none of these categories in their lives?

Often it is said that blokes in general don’t really like to talk about stuff but the reality is quite different. Given the right environment, in which they feel comfortable most men will willingly share their story and talk about issues that matter to them. Being a good mate is about supporting a person in that space and genuinely listening to what they have to say. We don’t have to be an expert or necessarily have any of the answers to people’s problems, just the ability to listen.

Being a good mate is also about actively looking out for those people we care about and taking action when we recognise that something is not quite right. A simple question like the one proposed by the recent R U OK? Campaign can be a significant step in connecting with someone and giving them the opportunity to chat about what’s on their mind. If you have a gut feel that someone you know is not travelling well ask them how they are going and don’t be afraid to ask more than once!

Remember, Talk to a mate!! It will help.

CSIRO Media Release

Australia’s largest ever diet survey has confirmed that the vast majority of Aussies eating habits are below par. The 2016 CSIRO Healthy Diet Score report canvassed the dietary habits of more than 86,500 adults across the country over a 12 month period.

An early snapshot of the survey results released in August 2015 awarded the nation’s diet a score of 61 on a 100-point scale. With almost 47,000 additional surveys completed since then that figure now stands at just 59 out of 100, confirming that Australian diets are worse than first thought.

“We have an image of being fit and healthy, but with a collective diet score of 59/100 that image could be very different unless we act now,” CSIRO Research Director and co-author of the CSIRO Total Wellbeing Diet, Professor Murray Noakes said. According to the 2016 Healthy Diet Score, 80 per cent of respondents received an individual score below 70, which is a benchmark figure. “If we can raise our collective score by just over 10 points, we help Australia mitigate against the growing rates of obesity and lifestyle diseases such as heart disease, Type 2 diabetes and a third of all cancers,” Professor Noakes said. “All people need to do is halve the discretionary food you eat and double your vegetable intake.”

People across Australia in all occupations and age groups were invited to participate in the online survey between May 2015 and June 2016. CSIRO researchers have used this information to create a detailed picture of the country’s eating habits. The closest we get to meeting Australian Dietary Guidelines is the fruit food group where 49 per cent of respondents meet the recommended intake. That means one in two of us still have room to improve. But of greater concern is dietary performance in regard to discretionary, or junk foods. Just 1 per cent of Australians are abstaining from junk food, while more than one third admitted to eating more than the recommended maximum allowance. “We find that there is often a tendency to under-report on certain types of food, so in all likelihood that figure is even higher,” Professor Noakes said.

The report showed that women have better nutritional levels than men (60 v 56/100). Construction workers were among those with the poorest diets, while public servants, real estate agents and health industry workers reported some of the healthiest eating patterns. The 2016 CSIRO Healthy Diet Score also tracked food avoidance in diets for the first time, and found that approximately one in three Australian adults are avoiding one or more foods such as gluten, dairy or meat.

To get involved CSIRO is asking people to undertake The Healthy Diet Score – a free online assessment which evaluates diet quality and identifies individual areas of improvement, as well as providing a personal diet score out of 100. “It is never too late to eat better and increase your score, and the nation’s,” Professor Noakes said. “We encourage people to also take the test regularly to ensure they are improving their eating behaviour and overall health and wellbeing. For more information, or to take the free CSIRO Healthy Diet Score, please visit www.csirodietscore.com
Meet Aradhana

By EMMA AITKEN

Meet Aradhana Thavare - the newest addition to the Aim Dental Merredin team. Aradhana is an Oral Health Therapist and while she might be new to Merredin, we hope she’s here to stay!

So, what does an Oral Health Therapist do? Aradhana provides dental hygiene programs for adults and children specific to their needs, as well as dental treatment for children under the age of 18. She takes special interest in developing good relationships with her patients, which enables her to follow their journey from dental disease to health. This is especially important as gum disease is something that affects 1 in 5 Australians and has recently been linked to heart disease, diabetes and strokes.

Aradhana’s easy going nature and encouraging attitude helps patients feel at ease at their appointments.

Although Aradhana has previously worked in Perth and enjoyed expanding her skills, one of the most rewarding experiences was volunteering on board the MV Doulos and MV Logos Hope (Non-profitable ships). Aradhana volunteered with them for 2 years and said an unforgettable memory was when they were sailing The Red Sea, the ship was chased for 10 hours by Somalian pirates!!!

Why did you choose to work in Merredin and what do you enjoy most about it?

I really wanted to work in a rural area, a few friends who have worked in Regional Australia had described it as some of the best times of their life. Another consideration was being closer to my parents who have lived in Narembeen since 2013. It’s nice to be able to see them as often as I do now.

I am really enjoying the crisp country air, and the quiet life Merredin offers. Above all, I’m really excited to be working at Aim Dental. It is such a privilege to utilize my skills and to provide the best dental care to Merredin and the greater community.

Q. What do you enjoy most about your job as an Oral Health Therapist?

I take pride in challenging myself to utilize new and modified ways to provide quality dental care to my patients. Growing up as an extremely dental phobic child, I do consider it a privilege to treat dentally anxious patients’ and see them become relaxed with their dental visits.

Q. From all your experiences with Oral Health Therapy what was your favourite?

There has been many, but one of my favourites was being able to provide dental care to the prisoners in Sierra Leone, West Africa. We worked in a very humid room without electricity treating some of the most difficult dental cases. It was tough but incredibly eye-opening.

Q. What do you enjoy doing outside of work?

I really enjoy oil painting on canvas, predominantly landscapes, walking along nature trails, and cooking.

Where is one place you would like to visit?

I would love to go to Europe on holidays, just because it sounds amazing!

Having Aradhana in Merredin is a huge asset to the Merredin community. We know you’ll like Aradhana just as much as we do. To book an appointment for you or children to see, call Aim Dental Merredin on 9041 1735 today!

FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

Child Dental Benefit Schedule coming to an end!

The Child Dental Benefit Schedule (CDBS) which has been in place since the 1st of January 2014 is due to close from the 1st of January 2017. The CDBS provides individual benefits for a range of services including examinations, cleans, fissure sealing, fillings and more.

The total benefit entitlement is capped at $1,000 per child and is due to close in less than 3 months! We encourage all parents looking to take advantage of this benefit to book in soon before it closes and before our books fill!

Wheatbelt Continence Clinic

Trouble toilet training children? Night time bed wetting?

Child refusing to poo – then having an accident?

Can’t make it to the toilet on time?

Leakage when you cough, sneeze or lift something heavy?

Did you know there is financial assistance up to $1000 per person?

Need a prescription renewal?

Would like a home visit – catheter change?

Located in York, but happy to travel!

Kim Allison: 0437 649 798
wheatbeltcontinenceclinic@outlook.com.au
Early Photographs Adorn Visitor Centre

In tribute to the early residents of Merredin, the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre has restored a series of photographs of Merredin CBD dating back over 100 years. The four images show a glimpse of Merredin life in the early 1900s and include visions of railway workers and the town from 1900 to 1932.

Recreation Centre Under New Management

Shire of Merredin has appointed Belgravia Leisure to take over the management of Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre from 1 October 2016. Belgravia Leisure is an aquatic, fitness and recreation management specialist. Belgravia was selected because the company is able to bring benefits to Merredin and the regional community with its broad variety of skills and experience in sporting and leisure aspects of community life. Welcoming the new partnership, Belgravia Leisure Chief Executive Nick Cox stated "We look forward to building on, and introducing high quality and innovative recreational programs suited to the needs of every member of the community.”

Shire of Merredin CEO, Greg Powell adds, “Both Council and staff look forward to working with Belgravia Leisure to increase the usage and range of activities available at the Centre.”

Amended Fees and Charges

Avon Waste, the Shire’s waste services provider, has adjusted their pricing structure in accordance with recent market demand and increased profit return for cardboard as a recyclable product. As a result, the Shire amended its Fees and Charges, which were adopted in its September Council meeting. This allows the commercial sector in Merredin to benefit from the decrease in relevant recycling charges (roughly 25%), encouraging businesses to dispose of their recyclable product in an increasingly responsible manner. The decrease in the cost of recycling cardboard is also set to benefit the landfill’s capacity considerations as businesses opt to receive the service and cease to dump the bulky waste in to the general refuse area.

Reporting to Your Shire Council

Have you seen something that needs attention in your town? Shire of Merredin aims to provide quality facilities and high level services to all our residents and ratepayers. If you see anything in your town that requires work or attention you can contact the Shire Administration team directly who can arrange for the relevant staff to take action. The nature of some incidents will require immediate response or an action request or report to be submitted. For this reason, we ask that you contact a staff member in person or over the phone. We advise against reporting through social media channels as they are not likely to be received immediately. Reports can be made in person to the Shire office or by phoning 9041 1611.

Pet Registrations Due

Resident dog and cat owners are reminded to renew their pet registration, which expire on 31 October each year. Pet registration is a compulsory obligation in all local Councils. Microchipped and sterilised dogs and cats can be registered for $20 per year, or a lifetime registration costs $100. Pensioners may be eligible for a discount on these rates. Dog and cat registrations can be renewed at the Shire office. For more information on dog and cat registrations please visit our website: www.merredin.wa.gov.au

New Fire Control Officers

At its September meeting, Council appointed Shire of Merredin Ranger, Kim Fries, as Fire Control Officer. Geoff Ryan (Baandee Bush Fire Brigade) and John Nicholls (Doodlakine Bush Fire Brigade) were also appointed as Dual Fire Control Officers for the Shire of Merredin as well as the Shire of Kellerberrin increasing the availability of fire control officers to our community.

Want the Full Newsletter?

The Shire of Merredin releases a monthly newsletter which is available digitally or in paper form. You can pick up a copy from the Administration building, Visitor Centre, Recreation Centre or Library.

To be added to the email or postal list please contact the Shire on 9041 1611.
Movie Review

Magnificent Seven

By CALAMITY JANE

I won’t lie to you folks; I have never been a great lover of Westerns. Their dusty, dry landscapes always made my skin crawl. It’s nice to see some greenery when you live in Merredin, even if it is just through a screen. However, after watching The Magnificent Seven previews, I was persuaded… perhaps by the talent filled cast… or maybe I just couldn’t miss out on the tall drink of water that is Chris Pratt in a cowboy hat!

After her husband is killed by the ruthless industrialist Bartholomew Bogue (Peter Sarsgaard), who has taken control of the Rose Creek farming community to pillage a nearby mine, Emma Cullen (Haley Bennett) enlists the aid of a virtuous bounty hunter, Chisolm (Denzel Washington), in the hope of driving the villainous tycoon out of town. Knowing that Bogue and his enforcers will not leave Rose Creek without a fight, Chisolm recruits a motley crew of outlaws and hustlers to defend the town against Bogue’s army of guns-for-hire, including: Charming scallywag Josh Faraday (Chris Pratt), war hero Goodnight Robicheaux (Ethan Hawke) and his partner Billy Rocks (Byung-hun Lee), Mexican gunman and outlaw Vasquez (Manuel Garcia-Rulfo), reformed Indian hunter Jack Horne (Vincent D’Orofrio) and noble Comanche warrior Red Harvest (Martin Sensmeier).

Westerns haven’t had the best reputation in the past few years. With films like, ‘Lone Ranger’ and ‘Cowboys and Aliens’ disgracing the genre who in their right mind would take on such a risky project? Antoine Fuqua that’s who! Fuqua (Training Day) had always been an avid fan of westerns and it shows. He leaves no genre element untouched from gun spinning to trick riding. He saves most of the action for the end but you don’t really notice the lack of it due to the amusing repartee between the characters, thank you writer, Nic Pizzolatto (True Detective). I doubt this film will have anywhere near the cinematic legacy of those that inspired it but it is, nonetheless, an immensely entertaining film filled with excellent actors whose enthusiasm and sheer joy of the process reflect throughout.

So The Magnificent Seven wasn’t so magnificent, but it has good old fashioned jokes and gun slinging Clint Eastwood would envy. You won’t be disappointed.
TO THE FARMER

Aerial photos of your property have been taken and are on display!*

DON’T MISS YOUR CHANCE TO VIEW AND ORDER YOUR PIECE OF AUSTRALIA!
Call in and chat with Anita and enjoy the displays or make an appointment by calling Anita on 0455 716129 or Ian on 0429 876226.

You can view your farm photographs on display at the

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9:00am – 5:00pm

*Historical Images from 1980’s are still available and can be sent after the displays

“I believe this imagery of your property is the finest available”

At no cost, we can fill in air seeder misses, shut shed doors, remove chemical drums, remove rubbish or even the neighbor’s car.....or just leave it as it is as a true historical record at this point in time. You choose.

Ian business is based on his farm in the Western Districts of Victoria
His Imagery is of the highest quality and captures a historical point in time of your property development.
Aerial photographs are a true record of your hard work - perhaps for a gift or presentation.

Postal Address: Ian Oswald-Jacobs  79 Chastons Road, APSLEY VIC 3319  0429 876226

IMAGERY IS RETAINED INDEFINITELY

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY
P  0429 876 226
E  ian@ioj.com.au
W  www.ioj.com.au

Farm Address
79 Chastons Road
APSLEY VIC 3319
By MARILYN SAYERS

The Community Garden group held an open day on Sunday 18 October with a community luncheon and fun garden activities for all ages.

The luncheon was from all home grown produce with herb teas, fresh vegetable and fruit juices and homemade lemonade. Thanks to everyone for coming.

Watch the community garden space for the giant sunflowers on show in summer!

If you would like lend you willing hands to the garden project please come along 1st Saturday and 3rd Sunday of each month 2-4pm or just pop in and see where you can help anytime (Bates Street adjacent the Men’s Shed). All your skills and passions can be used in the garden no matter what they are.

Sunshine and Smiles in the Community Garden
Fantastic exposure for your business

Min 4 editions—$30 per issue
8 editions—$25 per issue
12 editions—$22 per issue
Any Artwork is $30

Call 9041 1041 to place your Trades Advert today

COLLGAR COMMUNITY FUND

The Collgar Community Fund, established by Collgar Wind Farm Pty Ltd, provides sponsorship to fund local projects that benefit the Shire of Merredin and surrounding areas.

The focus areas of the Community Fund include:
- Education and Training
- Community Development
- Health and Wellbeing – we need applications!!
- Environment – we need applications!!

Collgar Wind Farm has a genuine interest in building the capacity of the communities in which we operate and a Grants Committee has been appointed to assess all applications and determine how best to allocate funds and in-kind contributions to maximise benefits for the community.

Please contact us on (08) 9486 4152 or email enquiries@collgar.com.au to see if your project, initiative or organisation is eligible for sponsorship.
See your business in the trades today. Call 9041 1041 to place your advert.
New & Used Vehicles
Vehicle Servicing - Tyres

MERREDIN NISSAN

Shop local and drop in for a visit to discuss how we can help you.

PET MEAT
BEEF
CAMEL
KANGAROO
1KG MINCE
$5

Wheatbelt Country Supplies (2016)
114 East Barrack St, Merredin
Ph: 9041 1988, Fax: 9041 799
accounts@wheatbeltcs.com.au

MOVEMBER IS HERE!
Start your stash November 1st and join us at the end of the month to shave it off.

Prizes to be won

Commercial Hotel
12 Barrack St

FRIDAY 25TH NOVEMBER
7PM TO CLOSE
Merredin Community & Regional News  Friday, September 30th, 2016

Classifieds

Wanted

Private Collector looking to buy all things farm related. Tractor sets, old steel wheels, oil bottles, tops and racks, oil and petrol tins, old signs, bowsers and anything farm related. Happy to look through dusty sheds. Don’t throw it out I’ll clean it out. Call Glen on 0408 920 941.

For Sale (Under $250)

TV Unit on casters 2 glass doors 4 door bottom storage $150. Upright Freezer 1m x 50cm $800 call 9041 2383.

Memorial


RANDALL, Valma Ruby - 28 September 1919 – 23 September 2016. Treasured wife for 62 years of Eric (dec), precious mother of Delys and Kevin, Lyndsay and Joanne, Don (dec) and Julie, Nola and Brandon. She was a pivotal part of our family and the lives of her nine grandchildren and six great grandchildren. She was friendly and hospitable and lived her life making others happy. The simple things in life were appreciated and she was always positive. We always knew we were very much loved and she supported us in every way she could. Now resting peacefully and looking forward to the Resurrection. She will always be missed and lovingly remembered. The funeral will be held at the Seventh-day Adventist Church, Kitchener Road, Merredin at 1:00pm on Friday 7 October 2016.

St Mary’s P&F Raffle Results.


Notice of Appointment of Fire Control Officer and Dual Fire Control Officers

Take notice that the Shire of Merredin has appointed:
• Mr Geoff Ryan (Baandee Bush Fire Brigade) and Mr John Nicholls (Doodlakine Bush Fire Brigade) as dual fire control officers for the Shire of Merredin and the Shire of Kellerberrin; and
• Mr Kim Friss as a fire control officer for the Shire of Merredin

These appointments will have immediate effect.

GREG POWELL
Chief Executive Officer

Positions Vacant

Community Liaison Officer

The Shire is seeking applications from an energetic, self-motivated person for the full time position of Community Liaison Officer, to work on a range of community development activities under direction of the Deputy Chief Executive Officer.

The position’s two key focus areas are:
• to develop a united and sustainable community by working collaboratively; and
• to promote, develop and initiate projects, activities and services that will enable Merredin to be a prosperous, sustainable and attractive Regional Centre.

The remuneration level and conditions of employment are in accordance with the Local Government Industry Award (LGIA) 2010.

Potential applicants are encouraged to contact Mrs Rebecca McCall, Deputy Chief Executive Officer for further information. Alternatively, a position description is available via our website or by contacting Vanessa Green on (08) 9041 1611 or ea@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Applications including a covering letter, addressing the selection criteria and including a detailed CV are to be emailed to careers@merredin.wa.gov.au by no later than 12.00pm, 10 October 2016.

GREG POWELL
Chief Executive Officer

3 x 1 Home

with patio & reverse cycle air con, quiet area $250pw Call 0444 292 294.

Notice of Annual General Meeting.

Merredin Community Mens Shed Inc. 27th October 2016 at 4.30pm Bates St Merredin.

For Sale (Over $250)

3 x 1 Cottage Style Home reverse cycle a/c, fire place, security screen, pets neg $220 p/w. Call Viewing Friday 7th Oct 3pm. Call 0449 536 339.

For Sale

Notice of the appointment of Fire Control Officers

Notice that the Shire of Merredin has appointed:
• Mr Geoff Ryan (Baandee Bush Fire Brigade) and Mr John Nicholls (Doodlakine Bush Fire Brigade) as dual fire control officers for the Shire of Merredin and the Shire of Kellerberrin; and
• Mr Kim Friss as a fire control officer for the Shire of Merredin

These appointments will have immediate effect.

GREG POWELL
Chief Executive Officer

For Rent

Neat and Tidy 3 x 1 Cottage Style Home reverse cycle a/c, fire place, security screen, pets neg $220 p/w. Call Viewing Friday 7th Oct 3pm. Call 0449 536 339.

3 x 1 Home with patio & reverse cycle air con, quiet area $250pw Call 0444 292 294.

Community Resource Centre

Contact Keen Bros (WA) Pty Ltd direct on 1300 365 575 or your local participating Community Resource Centre

Helen Cobin Ph: 9685 1007
Kellerberrin Ph: 9045 4991
Narembeen Ph: 9064 7055
Bruce Rock Ph: 9061 1687
Merredin Ph: 9041 1041

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“HR, HC and MC Training and Assessing in both Automatic and Road Ranger” We provide all Trucks & Equipment for Training & Assessing, along with our own Accommodation and Office.

HR Lesson/Test - $470  HC Lesson/Test - $780  MC Lesson/Test - $1310

HR Lessons - $120  HC Lessons - $130  MC Lessons - $140

Applications including a covering letter, directing the selection criteria and including a detailed CV are to be emailed to careers@merredin.wa.gov.au by no later than 12.00pm, 10 October 2016.

GREG POWELL
Chief Executive Officer

Neat and Tidy 3 x 1 Cottage Style Home

with patio & reverse cycle air con, quiet area $220 p/w. Call Viewing Friday 7th Oct 3pm. Call 0449 536 339.

St Mary’s P&F Raffle Results.


Notice of Appointment of Fire Control Officer and Dual Fire Control Officers

Take notice that the Shire of Merredin has appointed:
• Mr Geoff Ryan (Baandee Bush Fire Brigade) and Mr John Nicholls (Doodlakine Bush Fire Brigade) as dual fire control officers for the Shire of Merredin and the Shire of Kellerberrin; and
• Mr Kim Friss as a fire control officer for the Shire of Merredin

These appointments will have immediate effect.

GREG POWELL
Chief Executive Officer

Private Collector looking to buy all things farm related. Tractor sets, old steel wheels, oil bottles, tops and racks, oil and petrol tins, old signs, bowsers and anything farm related. Happy to look through dusty sheds. Don’t throw it out I’ll clean it out. Call Glen on 0408 920 941.

For Sale

TV Unit on casters 2 glass doors 4 door bottom storage $150. Upright Freezer 1m x 50cm $800 call 9041 2383.
Northam Art Prize 2016 highlighted

By CLIFF SIMPSON

At the recent launch of Avon Valley Art Society Inc.’s 2016 Northam Art Prize, Local Member the Hon. Mia Davies opened the exhibition with a graceful speech. Mia remarked on the bravery of artists to put their work out there for criticism and comment, the depth and breadth of talent here in the Wheatbelt, and acknowledging the hard work of the AVAS Inc. committee of volunteers in putting the show together.

The event was well attended with over 80 people enjoying an evening of good food, wine and ambience, viewing the works of the very talented artists living in our midst. The Northam Town Hall was a wonderful setting, with 80 pieces of work on display.

“Best in Show”, the main prize of the night, was awarded to Tanya Jaceglov for her exquisite painting entitled “So Many Happy Ever Afters”, which will make a fantastic addition to the Shire of Northam’s extensive art collection. This Award was presented by Shire President Steven Pollard. Other awards went to the following Wheatbelt artists:

Second prize, sponsored by AVAS Inc., was awarded to Brian Aylward for his painting “Karri Light”. The AVAS Inc. award for work depicting Life in the Wheatbelt was won jointly between Davina Edwards and Holly Lamey.

The RSM Australia acquisition award for a painting went to Carol-Ann Wescombe. Best Artwork by a Local Artist went to sculptor Paul Marres for his challenging piece “Spirit of Lost”. This award was sponsored by local Members of Parliament Mia Davies, Martin Aldridge and Paul Brown.

The Judges Award was won by local artist Graeme Butler for his outstanding piece “Hope”. AVAS Inc. sponsored this award. The Judges also awarded “Highly Commended” to Lyn Howieson for her painting “For Dennis” and to Graeme Butler for his print of the old Northam Hospital “Countdown to Demolition”.

Robert McCaffrey of Merredin and Mikaela Castledine were the two judges for this year’s Northam Art Prize.

The People’s Choice award, chosen by visitors to the two-week exhibition, comprised vouchers from local businesses to the value of $500 and went to Brian Aylward for “Karri Light.”

Another highlight of the opening event was the presentation of the Sue Muntz Bursary Award, created in memory of the late Sue Muntz of Bruce Rock to assist Wheatbelt artists aged 16-24 in the development of their artistic careers. The Hon. Mia Davies and Mr. David Muntz presented these awards to the very talented young artists Eleisha Kastel and Den Scheer.

There is a second chance to see selected works from Northam Art Prize at the Northam Visitor Centre, from 23rd September.
HINES HILL

‘Tuppens’

- Tuppens’ consists of some excellent country and is located 25 km South West of Merredin
- A total of 5 lots over 2 titles of undulating land, being mostly raised above the valley floor
- 2016 has seen approximately 60% cropped to wheat and 40% left to pasture, with pastures spray-topped early in the season to optimise weed control
- Well suited to both grain and livestock production with a mixture of soils types. Owners estimate there to be equal percentages of heavy, medium and light soils
- Scheme water is supplied via four meters and three dams

The property is available to purchase as a whole or in the following 2 parcels
1) Tuppens North  552 hectares (1364 acres)
2) Tuppens South  415 hectares (1025 acres)


Offers to Purchase

MERREDDIN

6 Nolan Way

- A great home with large open kitchen, dining and lounge area with a secondary full sized living room
- Originally a brick home, the house has been fully transformed and extended to become a great sized family home, with a fresh and modern look throughout that has broad appeal
- Solar hot water system, refrigerated reverse cycle air-conditioning plus ducted evaporative air-conditioning.
- There is also a study nook, timber laminate flooring throughout the living areas and quality 900mm freestanding oven
- Located in a quiet part of town with a well fenced backyard for kids and pets to play and a colorbond shed of 6m x 9m
- Decked undercover outdoor entertaining area which is sheltered and well protected and able to be used comfortably for most of the year.
- Don’t miss out, call to inspect today


$325,000

For further information please contact your local area real estate specialist:

SIMON CHEETHAM  0428 147 359

simon.cheetham @landmark.com.au

Landmark Harcourts WA
48 Endersbee Street, Merredin

Immaculate presentation on this fully renovated home and ready for new owners to just move in and enjoy. All the hard work has been done and viewings are highly recommended. Lounge entry leads to kitchen/dining that opens to rear sun-room. All fully neet-a-screen colourbond fenced with gates to rear lane and side gates to carport. Neat front and rear yards with lush lawns and roses. Two rear garden sheds, timber deck entertaining patio and rainwater tank. Large block with total land area of 1102m².

3 Beds
1 Bath
2 Parking

4A - 4B Boyd Street MERREDIN
$235,000 - WEB ID 10060230

Solid investment opportunity for a cash flow positive property. Potential rental yield of $26,000 to 27,040 per annum for investors.
• 6 bedrooms
• 2 bathrooms
• 2 car parks
• Land Area 987m²
• Air Conditioning

19 Cummings Crescent, MERREDIN
$485,000 - WEB ID 9804043

Suit a young growing family who wants room for kids to play or a retiring farmer who needs to move into town but doesn’t want any close neighbours. All the work has been done by the sellers and is ready for new owners to move straight in.
• 4 Bedrooms
• 2 Bathrooms
• Swimming Pool

3 French Ave, MERREDIN
$208,000 - WEB ID 10353551

This rock solid brick and tile home is built on a large corner block with excellent location. Only a short stroll to the main street CBD and shops. Close proximity to Merredin District Hospital and both of towns schools.
• 3 Bedrooms
• 1 Bathroom
• 3 Carparks
• Air Conditioning

Lot 50 Chandler-Merredin Road, MERREDIN
$38,000 - WEB ID 10131191

Don’t delay your inquiry to avoid missing out. This 12.07 Acre Hobby farm block is only 5 minutes drive from Merredin town site on the bitumen sealed Chandler-Merredin Road. Perfect for running a few sheep or just a weekend escape for the kids or from the kids. Lot 50 on Diagram 12667 with 4.86 Hectares or 12.07 Acres in total land size. Excellent soil type of medium loams and gentle sloping country with wonderful views and some granite outcrops.
Mates4Mates stop in Merredin on their ride through to Corrigin

By DEBBIE MORRIS

Mates4Mates is an organisation with the aim of raising awareness about depression, mental health and suicide prevention.

The Kalgoorlie-Esperance group set off from Kalgoorlie on Saturday morning (24th September) following a breakfast cooked by the Hannans Goldfields Lions. The group of bike riders called in to Merredin around lunch time which made a spectacular site in the middle of town.

The group were on their way to Corrigin.

Some 6MD Merredin history

By JOHN TUPPEN

6MD was built during 1940-41 by A.W.A, under contract to WA Broadcasters Ltd. The site about 5 miles west of Merredin, is in the centre of WA Wheatbelt and about 160 miles east of Perth. It consisted of a transmitter building and accommodation for one of the two on-site technicians, with the supervising tech/station manager having a separate house a few yards away from the main building. At the rear of the transmitter building were a storage shed, and an engine room, for the diesel-driven alternator, which supplied the necessary power. Several hundred yards further on stood the quarter-wave vertical mast on its insulator, with guy-wires at each of the four corners to hold it up. Initially, the mast was fed via underground coaxial cable, but this had to be changed later.

6MD went to air in June 1941, as a relay of 6IX. The station would transmit from about 06:30 till about 09:30, then close, to reopen at 17:00 in the afternoon, to run through till around 22:30 in the evening. In the 1950’s the morning session was extended to 12:30, and in the mid ‘60’s this was changed to continuous operation from 06:00 to 23:00 daily. In about 1957, a local program called “Merredin Roundup” was put to air each Friday from 12:30 to 13:00. The announcer was local personality Fred Mead. Fred went on to be involved in radio at Albany and (I think) Kalgoorlie. Gradually, during the ‘60s, more local content was included, until the station was bought from the 6IX group by a local consortium headed by John Ventris, a local man who had been working with 6IX as an announcer. This group, Mid-Districts Radio, completely changed the station, to become, throughout the late ’70s and the ’80s, one of WA’s leading stand-alone commercial stations, generating practically all their own programs and advertisements, with very up-to-date studios and offices in Merredin’s main street. At this time, there were 2 on-air studios plus a production studio, as well as a complete automated (computer controlled) program system, called Cuerack, as it depended on sub-audible cue-tones for its operation. Most folks who had the need to work on it called it by other, less polite names. Nonetheless, it was a marvel for its day, and amazing in its operation when it worked well, which was not often enough.

During this time, the staff consisted of 5 announcers, accountant, schedules clerk, receptionist, advertising salesperson, station manager and a technician (me, part-time, from 1985 to 1990). It was an exciting time to be associated with the place, and the program was a credit to 6MD’s management.

In the early 1990’s, the local consortium owners sold the station to (I think) Rural Press, and it was not long before the local programming content was reduced, and the station once more became mostly a relay for programs originating in either Bunbury or the Eastern States. My knowledge of the station after this time is quite limited, and I am running out of remembered facts – and maybe rambling a bit! Hope this helps to preserve some of our broadcasting history. Happy 75th Birthday 6MD!
By KELLIE ROUTLEDGE

The Merredin Rifle Club held its annual Merredin Shoot on the 10th and 11th of September at the Merredin Rifle Club. There were 49 WA shooters and 1 Victorian shooter who participated on the days.

Winner with the highest score in the FTR division was Anna Whittemore from Subiaco with 409.25 points.

Winners in the F Open were Robert Kinnear from Wurgabup with 411.33, Bruce Piper from Geraldton/Greenough on 409.21 points and Dave Ogle from Wurgabup with 404.20 points.

FSTD winners were Edward Jacobs from Corrigin on 442.4 points, William Hallam from Subiaco on 420.37 points, Cathy Keogh from Subiaco on 414.33 points, Mahlon Reid from Boddington on 414.26 points, Denis Blechynden from Beverley on 413.28 points, Michael Henley from Esperance on 412.28 points, David Cole from Yarloop on 412.27 points, Anthony Whitmore from Subiaco on 407.27 points, Larry Lipple from Geraldton/Greenough on 400.26 points, Ronald Lockley from Wurgabup on 397.19, Murray Harris from Wurgabup on 340.30 points and Dean Brandis from Corrigin on 331.8 points.

In the TR Division, winners were Neil Hughes from Yarloop on 352.6 points, Peter Watkins from Yarloop on 350.33 points, Shayne McDonald from Kambalda on 350.30 points, David Felton from Subiaco on 348.33 points, Ian Syme from Dalwallinu on 346.24, Michael Green from Kambalda on 345.25, Mervyn Eaton from Northam on 343.26, Stephen Crago from East Perth on 341.27 points, Kim Martin from Darling Range on 338.16, Jodie Hitch from East Perth on 336.19 points, Neil Townsend from Perth/Fremantle on 339.30 points, William Barrett from Kalgoorlie on 339.20 points, Laura Felton from Subiaco on 336.31 points, Lara McCarthy from Perth/Fremantle on 326.16 and Hugh Harris from Yarloop on 324.15 points and Bradley Probert from Bencubbin on 320.11 points.

A big thanks for Eastways, Allways Foods, Signs etc, Merredin Supa IGA and Merredin French Hot Bread shop for contributing to the event.

Normal club days are held on the first and third Sundays of the month, 9am—12noon. If you would like more information or are interested in joining the Merredin Rifle Club, please contact Stephen King on 0428 412 213.

Time for a break. Participants at the Merredin Rifle Club Annual Shoot.

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I run on-farm trials to get local data to calibrate and validate recommendations.

Six trials in 2015 focussed on nitrogen and phosphorus responses, potassium rates and placement and demonstrated barley and oat variety options for eastern wheatbelt sandy soils. Added to this, 75 Fuel Gauge strips provided real-time, specific and local response information for in-season nutrient decisions.

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Hockey

MERREDIN Women’s Hockey Team Awards

By MEG GETHIN

Dynamic centre forward Mikaela McCall took home the top honour in the Merredin Women’s Hockey team awards held recently. McCall pipped regular vote getter Maxine Christie to be named Fairest & Best for the 2016 season. McCall was surprised and uncharacteristically speechless when her name was read out by club president Chesney Maloney, but she had an outstanding season where she regularly contributed to the team's scoreboard.

Not only did McCall also win the club’s Highest Goal Scorer trophy but she was also runner up in the same award for the entire East Avon Women’s Hockey Association.

McCall might be brilliant with a stick but that didn’t stop her also walking away with the club’s “Pearler Award” for collecting the most club fines during the season.

In other awards, Maxine Christie received the Runner Up Fairest & Best, Kate Dixon won the Coach’s Award for most consistency throughout the season, Meg Gethin won the President’s Award for being a valued team member and Nicola Lane won the very prestigious Kirby-Gethin Best Defender award.

The club thanked its supporters, sponsors and coaching staff (Vaughan Smith & Chesney Maloney) for helping make 2016 such a success on and off the field.

Lawn Bowls

CIVIC BOWLING

By MARGARET JOHNSTON

It was pleasing to see a good crowd turn up for the final day of Winter Scroungers recently. The players enjoyed a beautiful afternoon tea, and after that a presentation was made to the winners. The overall winner was new member Phil Sachse, and the rink winners were Darren Postans, John Gearing, John Henderson, Barry Smith and Maurice Lane. There was a tie for the chocolates being Norma Henderson and Bev Drakeford. The overall winner for the Winter Scroungers season was Darren Postans, Runner up Alan Wolfenden and third place John Henderson. This event was sponsored by the President Denis Hobson. All the players voted it a successful season.

The summer season of bowls for the 2016—2017 season commences on Sunday October 2nd, names in by 1.30pm. An invitation is extended to all new and old members and visitors to attend. There will be an afternoon tea to finish off the day, so it would be appreciated if the members could bring a plate of afternoon tea. The Office Bearers for the new season are as follows: President—Denis Hobson, Vice President—Norma Henderson, Secretary—Debbie Heinrich, Men’s Captain—Match Committee, Ladies Captain—Thelma Metzel, Ladies Secretary—Beth Gearing, Treasurer—Roger Drakeford.

Men’s Pennants commence on Saturday 8th October, Ladies Pennants commence on Wednesday October 12th. Ladies there will be a roll up of the pennant teams on Wednesday October 5th at 9.30am.
Football

By KIP STAPELY

Saturday night, September 17th saw Merredin's Grandstand Bar decorated with red and black for the 2016 Nukarni Football Club awards night.

MC Michael Sharp made sure things ticked along nicely, announcing over 20 awards and honours.

The Life Member list gained another inductee, with Pep Alvaro receiving the club's highest honour by becoming a life member.

After many years of service to Nukarni and a very impressive list of personal achievements as a player, this award was extremely well deserved.

Congratulations, Pep!

The League team’s Fairest and Best came as no surprise to the 100+ crowd, with Dan Whitehead leading the pack by a massive 50 votes at the last game. While Dan's brother, first year player Dave Whitehead, took home Runner Up.

The Reserve's Fairest and Best went to well deserved Aaron Ludke, who had an incredible season and was also Runner Up in the overall association Neville Giles Medal. The Reserve's Runner Up Fairest and Best was Kris Hayden.

Thank you to all of Nukarni’s members, sponsors and supporters for their continued support.

The night was the perfect way to finish the 2016 season and thanks to