

Merricks Matters

Autumn Winter 2014

Newsletter for the Merricks Beach Community

Happy Easter to all the village residents and guests!

April	Saturday	19	7pm	MYC Easter BBQ at the MYC
	Wednesday Thursday	16 17	9am-12.15	Tennis coaching: Grant O'Callaghan 0417 528 502
	Thursdays			Drinks in the MYC clubhouse
April - May	Look out for the sandwich board notice			Merricks Beach Foreshore Committee working bees
	Look out for the sandwich board notice			Friends of Bill Carroll Reserve working bee and meeting
May	Saturday	24		Merricks Yacht Club AGM at the clubhouse MYC presentation dinner
June	Saturday Sunday	7 and 8	10-12 noon	MBRA indigenous plant distribution at the tennis courts

In this issue:

Congratulations!	Page 1
Update from the MBRA.....	Page 1
Planting time and free plants.....	Page 1
Aub's Shed	Page 2
Merricks Yacht Club	Page 2
Merricks Meanderings.....	Page 2
Roads and Drains	Page 4
Merricks Matters' new sponsors.....	Page 4

Congratulations!

This year's sand modelling competition had a record entry of 143 with over 400 people on the beach – the best ever. The MBRA BBQ provided 600 sausages and drinks, so many thanks to Robyn O'Brien, the O'Brien clan, Sue Rutley, and Frankston Rotary Club. The winners were: Rosebowl, Meagan Douglas, *Dolphin Rising*; Most Original, Jeremy Spencer, *UFO – We are not alone*; Junior Encouragement Award, Edward McIntyre, *Turtle Laying Eggs*; Open Group, Nic and Will Holdsworth, *Lolly Pops*.

Update from the MBRA

The MBRA is trying to address the poor mobile and internet reception at the village. We have made a submission to the Federal Government's mobile black spot program. Thank you to those who took the time to share your experiences with us. Stay tuned for the government's response. We are also revising and updating the MBRA rules...more on that soon. We've been thinking of adding another park bench to our flotilla so please let us know your preferred location. The committee always welcomes new members, and Kathy Clarke, a village resident for over 20 years, joined recently. Committee members for 2014 are: president – vacant; Roy Wiedemeyer (vice-president); Peter Cash (secretary); Greg Sutherland (treasurer); Bernard Barrett (chair, Roads & Drains sub-committee); Rosanne Pittard, Ken Rowe; Lucille Fitzgerald; Susie Gibson; Kathy Clarke; Gai Wilson; Andrew Ellery; and Simon Jaski.

Planting time and free plants

Now that the cooler weather has started, it is a great time to plan your work in the garden. If you prepare the soil in April-May the area will be ready for the MBRA Plant Give-Away on the Queen's Birthday long weekend in June. They will look great by Christmas! Don't hesitate to plant your nature strip. If you're not sure about what you should or could do, don't hesitate to get in touch with Roy.

Roy Wiedemeyer, MBRA

Aub's Shed

You might remember that our Summer edition included some 1993 sketches of Aub's Shed by Carol Milton. After reading about the shed, the editor received the following update from Tom and Ann Davies.

"We were very interested to see the article about the above shed in your last edition. When we purchased the land the main shed was still there and it is still in use to this day, we couldn't get rid of it. It was an old wooden shipping container with the name Captain Buys, Royal InterOcean Line stenciled on the side. When we were building we had to move it on rollers to make way for the house to be built. It was fitted out with two sets of bunks, shelves and even had lights installed. We have never painted it and we call it the black shed with the name Uncle Tom's Cabin on it, the sign which came from our house in Bluff Road which has been pulled down and rebuilt. It now houses our gardening tools etc. We do have some photos of the shed in January 1994 when we first bought the land, if anyone is interested."

Tom and Ann Davies, 6 Surf St.

Merricks Yacht Club

Most of you have had some involvement with the Merricks Yacht Club over the decades. I have recently started trying to sail and certainly it has been a challenge. I've bottled (tipped over) every time I've been out on (in) the water! They're a friendly bunch of helpful sailors, only too happy to assist. There are also plenty of children and teenagers who are excellent sailors and who are more than capable. On Thursday nights around 5pm there are sunset drinks. Best view of Bass Strait ever! All welcome. Join the community.

Roy Wiedemeyer

Merricks Meanderings

Members of the MBRA thought that you might be interested in the various activities that keep Merricks Beach residents busy when they are at the village and so we present *Merricks Meanderings*. We are very keen to hear about your and your family's interesting pastimes so please email the editor with a photo and a short paragraph and you may see yourself in print!

Did you know that Merricks Beach has its own resident poet? In this edition, Tony Lintermans tells us a little about his family and shares his award winning poem (2011 Peter Porter Poetry Prize), composed on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

"My father first saw Merricks in the early 1940s, probably from the air, when he did some air force training at Somers, later becoming a Lancaster pilot in England during the Second World War. After the war he was drawn to the rural tranquility of Westernport, and we camped at Pt Leo, then did many day trips to Merricks. My parents bought a block in about 1960, and we camped there for years, before building a kit house – a log cabin with gaps in the walls. Those gaps are now closed, so the bats can't get in, and the night man with his steel hat for carrying the toilet can is long gone, but otherwise it's still quiet, especially in winter."

Self-portrait at Sixty

What am I? A crushed
hominid.
A can of couscous,
seeding.
A shudder of my
former self, a
self-defrosting fridge.
Good
with dogs, at looking
after dogs,
at looking dog-like.
Mosquito slapper, hopeless
unwrapper
of shrink-wrapped cheese.

What am I here for? To look after
my fading father, to bury and
speak
when the time comes for scatter
and ash.
To be a glorious father, hah.
To bother and fret like waves at a
beach.
To be pointless, mute, obtusely
loving.

Where do I live? In squalor,
dreaming
of valour. In the dingo's tent
taking what moves. In polar
silence
where voices of friends locate me.
In a log cabin with gaps in the
walls,
books on the shelves, a ravenous
fire
framed and fed, the sea a snore
away.

What do I miss? Everything.
A mother's voice cannot be
recalled.
The tall man will never be small
again.
The beautiful moments mimicking
amber.

When am I happy? In the sea,
always,
in the sea on a wave in the sea.
When the backhand winner
bludgeons doubt.
When doors are open and weather
walks in –
cumulus drama of women, cirrus
blokes
streaking the high days with
laughter.

Where am I going? Home.
The longed-for soup.
The hand-built fire.
To the garden, often.

© Tony Lintermans

December saw the launch at Merricks Beach of a new collection of Tony's poetry, *Weather Walks In*, by his neighbor, Brian Stagoll, and another local writer, Garry Disher. Tony read his poems of the beach and the bush, of family and friends, and life here and elsewhere to a large Merricks crowd. *Weather Walks In* Tony Lintermans 2013 Hybrid Press. Also available from Tony.

Don't forget to buy your copy of the *Merricks Beach Story*. Contact Meg Paul.

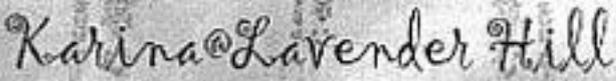
Roads and drains

We have noticed that where we have re-shaped the drains, vehicle speed does reduce. The key to achieving a well-shaped drain is for residents to have well placed cross over pipes. Our *bete noire* is certainly Palmers Hill Road (PHR). There are good examples of cross overs throughout the village (1 & 4 Minto St., 4, 5 & 7 Bluff Road, 2 Wave cnr Foam, 11 Foam St, 15 & 21 Spray St, and 16 & 18 Palmers Hill Road). If you would like us to put you in touch with a contractor or if you require an assessment, please get in touch with Bernard or Roy.

New Merricks Matters sponsors

New this year are **Mick Denman** of MKD Excavations who has installed crossovers for many Merricks residents and **Sam Goode**, a carpenter who specializes in decks and renovations etc for your home. **Peter Tickell** is a plumber who knows Merricks backwards and **Chris Hall** can solve all your electrical problems. **Andrew Satchwell** will help with the sale or rental of your property and **Karina Hilterman** has a great range of herbal remedies. **Please Support our Advertisers** as production and postage costs for Merricks Matters are offset by them.

We welcome any items of interest and photos for future editions of Merricks Matters. Please email your copy to Gai Wilson, wilsong@iinet.net.au To join MBRA contact Roy Wiedemeyer 0418 148 123

 <p>Coolart Carpentry & Construction Quality work at a fair Price!</p> <p>Sam Goode 0422-060-449 Postal Address: (03) 5983 5984 P.O. Box 310, Balnarring, 3926 ABN 5413902681 coolartcarpentry@bigpond.com</p>	<p>Satchwells Real Estate Just love selling properties in Merricks Beach. We are very good at it. Our results & success for over 25 years speak for themselves. 14 Balnarring Village Phone 5983 5509</p>
<p>PLEASE CALL MICK DENHAM +STAINLESS AND ALLOY WELDING +MOTORBIKE REPAIRS AND PRODUCTS +GENERAL WELDING AND MACHINERY REPAIRS</p> 	 <p>Karina Hilterman B.H.Sc., Dip. Med. Herb. MNHAA Medical Herbalist & Herbal Dispensary</p> <p>Merricks Beach, Vic 3926 Ph: +61 3 5983 1534 • Mob: 0400 019 567 Em: karina@lavenderhillherbals.com • www.lavenderhillherbals.com</p>
 <p>COOLART PLUMBING Drainage Roofing</p> <p>Peter Tickell Licence N° 22232 ABN 25 006 899 041</p> <p>3 Bayview Rd, Balnarring Beach Phone: 03 59 835 936 Mobile: 0407 329 800 Email: coolartplumbing@hotmail.com PO Box 59, Balnarring, 3926</p>	 <p>HALL power</p> <p>REC 29664 Chris Hall – A Grade Electrician 0438 087 852</p> <p>New Homes & Extensions Oven & Stove repairs Power & Lighting Safety Switches & Switchboard Upgrades Phone, Data & TV points No obligation free quotes</p> <p>www.hallpower.com.au</p>