

# The Big Picture

MERRIFIELD NEWS, UPDATES AND MORE - NOVEMBER 2017

merrifield

Edition 13



**Population  
Boom!**

*In this issue:*

**COMMUNITY GRANTS | CUTE CANINES | MERRIFIELD FARMERS' MARKET... AND MORE!**





*The Herring and Roberts families look forward to welcoming new families to Merrifield next year.*

# Population Boom!

## THE MERRIFIELD COMMUNITY IS ABOUT TO BOOM AS A RECORD WAVE OF CONSTRUCTION ACTIVITY NEARS COMPLETION.

Nearly 760 new lots will be completed between September 2017 and February 2018, bringing plenty of new faces to our community.

Merrifield Project Director Matt Planner said it will be wonderful to welcome hundreds of new families to Merrifield.

"As our population grows, we are able to deliver more of the infrastructure, services and facilities that the Merrifield community needs."

Matt added that the growing population numbers were very exciting and key to delivering on the ground.

"As a development team, we can progress at a faster pace once we have families moving into their homes."

Merrifield is currently planning and advocating for a range of services and amenities identified in the masterplan. In particular, schools, retail, open spaces and community facilities are a real focus. Further announcements are expected in the New Year.

"We are proud of our rapidly growing community and take the responsibility of meeting its needs very seriously," said Matt.

"Rarely do we have the opportunity to plan for a community of this size."

It is expected that Merrifield will ultimately reach a residential population of more than 30,000 people.

"The northern growth corridor of Melbourne is planned to accommodate over 300,000 new people over the next 30 years," said Matt. "The opportunity in the north is really exciting, especially as Merrifield is at the centre of it all."

A relatively young demographic is taking advantage of this opportunity, making the decision to start a new family in Merrifield. And it's not simply isolated to Victorian purchasers either.

"Merrifield is receiving interest from all areas of Melbourne, particularly within the north corridor, and has also seen a growing trend in the number of families relocating from Sydney to establish a new home at Merrifield," said Matt.

"Sydneysiders are really seeing the value of purchasing at Merrifield, given the relative proximity to the CBD" Matt continued, "and are excited about the long term vision for our community including employment and education opportunities."

"We are creating a genuine city environment, not just another residential subdivision with a few local shops," Matt added. There is a real focus on job creation – from neighbourhood centres, to the City Centre and Business Park.

For Matt, it all starts with a couple of simple questions. "How do families want to live and work? What makes an ideal community? We've created a 'live, work, play' strategy that plans to deliver everything close to home."

Matt is in no doubt that the strategy is already bearing fruit. "Purchasers are certainly confident in the vision and opportunity on offer in Merrifield," he said. "We're excited to see it grow."



## DULUX PAINTS A BRIGHT FUTURE FOR MERRIFIELD RESIDENTS

**Merrifield is founded on the ability for residents to live close to work, schools, retail and the other amenities expected from a modern city life.**

It's an idea that has now truly come to life for two Merrifield residents who have joined the Dulux team at its new world-class facility in Merrifield Business Park.

Barry Singh and Rick Martorella are now Production Operators at the new \$165m Dulux water based paint manufacturing facility, set to be the largest paint factory in Australia and New Zealand.

Both are relishing a lifestyle close to their workplace. With less time spent commuting, Barry and Rick are able to spend more time with family and getting involved in all the activities Merrifield has to offer.

"The Merrifield community is like one big family – no matter where we're from, what we do or what our differences may be," says Barry.

Dulux is set to employ a total of 70 new recruits, proving the case that Merrifield is indeed a city brimming with opportunities.

**To stay informed of job opportunities in Merrifield and the surrounding area, register your details on the Merrifield Jobs portal today!**

[merrifieldjobs.com.au](http://merrifieldjobs.com.au)

# Fresh to Merrifield



Delicious fresh food and produce is now available on our doorstep with the introduction of the Merrifield Farmers' Market.

The weekly market takes place at our neighbourhood park – located on the corner of St. Georges Boulevard and Hawksburn Place – and will operate each Saturday from 8am-12pm.

Merrifield Community Development Manager Tennille Bradley-Ow said farmers' markets create a wonderful village atmosphere and a great meeting place for Merrifield residents and the surrounding community.

"We are delivering a market filled with fresh fruit and vegetables, meats and cheese," said Tennille. "And, kids can enjoy activities and entertainment just for them."

The Merrifield's Farmers' Market will be managed by experienced market manager Don Linke, who also runs the Flemington and South Geelong Farmers' Markets.

**For further information contact Don Linke on 0407 411 198, and don't forget to 'like' the Merrifield Farmers' Market Facebook page to keep up-to-date on weekly activities.**

[facebook.com/merrifieldfarmersmarket](https://facebook.com/merrifieldfarmersmarket)







# FINAL SIREN ON FIRST SEASON

Our first season of Auskick wrapped up with a celebration BBQ event in early August.

Participants enjoyed a delicious BBQ by The Corner Store and received certificates acknowledging their involvement in the inaugural Merrifield Auskick team.

Community Development Manager Tennille Bradley-Ow said that Auskick has been warmly embraced.

"This season saw six parents involved with running the program," said Tennille. "We are thrilled that participation and interest has been so high and we send a big thank you to the parents!"

The next season of Auskick will kick off in April 2018. Keep an eye out for registration details early next year.

In 2018, parents will be given the opportunity through the Auskick program to complete a Certificate I in Coaching in preparation for the 2018 season.

If you are interested in the next round of the Merrifield Auskick Program, open to boys and girls aged 5-12 years, please email [Tennille Bradley-Ow at community@merrifieldmelbourne.com.au](mailto:Tennille.Bradley-Ow@community@merrifieldmelbourne.com.au)



# Cute canines

It's undeniable – Merrifield has the cutest canines in the land!

And they were out to impress at the Merrifield RSPCA Cupcake event in August.

On a beautiful, sunny Sunday afternoon, over 300 people and 60 pet dogs enjoyed a range of activities to raise money for the RSPCA.

From a dog food truck serving up a range of doggie treats, to a dog agility course demonstration, our canine residents were certainly well catered for!



Visit the Merrifield Sales Centre if you'd like to pick up a copy.



# HANDY GUIDES

Following the recent Merrifield residents' survey and community consultation event, we have developed a 'Merrifield Community Vision' booklet that outlines key findings and priorities.

Merrifield Community Development Manager Tennille Bradley-Ow said that the booklet provides a great overview of our wonderful community.

"Did you know that the median age at Merrifield is 28? Or that 72% of residents previously lived in metropolitan Melbourne?" said Tennille.

The booklet provides a fantastic snapshot of the rapidly growing Merrifield community.

"Our commitment is to use this information to plan, advocate and influence to meet the needs of the community," said Tennille.

Copies of the 'Community Vision' have been letterbox dropped to each home.

The Merrifield team has also prepared a handy guide to implementing environmentally sustainable practices at home, specifically tackling energy efficiency, and waste and recycling.

"This handy little guide provides straightforward ways to start living green in your new Merrifield home," said Tennille.





## Kids Talk

We asked the Herring sisters, Isabelle (aged 10) and Madisyn (aged 8) what they love about living in Merrifield.

*How long have you lived at Merrifield?*

Isabelle - 9 months. Madisyn - Well, really it has only been 8 months, nearly 9 months.

*Where did you move from?*

Craigieburn

*Why do you love living in Merrifield?*

There is heaps of stuff do, but mostly the park and the playground.

*What is your favourite thing to do in Merrifield?*

Ride our bikes to the park, Auskick, play on the playground, kick the footy with Dad, go to The Corner Store café.

*How would you describe Merrifield to other people?*

There have been loads of activities, there is lots of space and it's not as busy as Craigieburn. Everyone is really nice, we already have four friends in our street, and four more friends from Auskick.

*What activities or events have you been part of so far in Merrifield?*

RSPCA Cupcake Day, Kelly Sports Holiday Program, Auskick, Community and Easter event day.

*What are you looking forward to seeing in Merrifield in the future?*

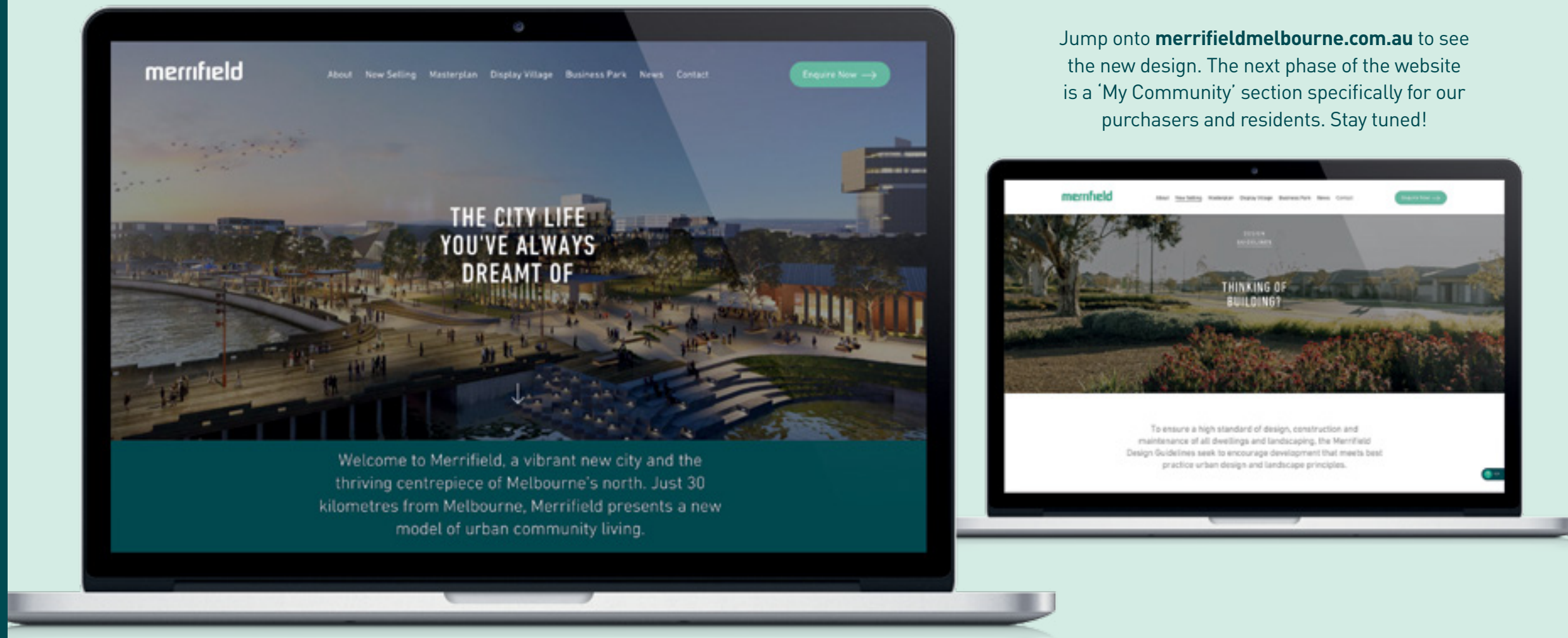
Isabelle - Maybe a Basketball thing like AusKick but for Basketball and also a sports oval. Even a library. Madisyn - I'm thinking like a café or something, and some more parks and playgrounds to ride my bike to. I really want a flying fox.

# A fresh face



Merrifield's website has undergone a fresh, new look!

Jump onto [merrifieldmelbourne.com.au](http://merrifieldmelbourne.com.au) to see the new design. The next phase of the website is a 'My Community' section specifically for our purchasers and residents. Stay tuned!



## KOOL KIDZ CHILDCARE

Construction Update



Construction of the Kool Kidz childcare centre and kindergarten is well underway.

The centre is on schedule to be completed by the end of the year and open for business in early 2018.

To register your child's details, visit [www.koolkidzmerrifield.com.au](http://www.koolkidzmerrifield.com.au)



## LAND TITLES

View titles updates in the news section of our website.

STAGE	RELEASE	EXPECTED TITLE
20	Camberwell/Errol	November 17
22	Bringa/Bangalore	November 17
24	Nightingale	November 17
26	Dorcas	November 17
28	Docker/Straun/Tivoli	November 17
25	Bastings	January 18
27	Barnato/Puckle	January 18
29	Barkers/Hawthorn/Alfred/Denbigh/Faraday	February 18
34	Walker/Lansdowne/Rochester	August 18
35	Valere/Wheatley/Weston	October 18
36	Tooronga/Goodwood	November 18

## Community Conversation

MAKING YOUR HOME GREEN SMART -PART 1

Did you know almost half of our garbage bin is filled with food waste each week?

Composting at home reduces your waste to landfill, creating free fertiliser for your garden and better quality soil.

To find out more about how to compost your food scraps at home or meet the friendly worms that can help you recycle food scraps, come along to our home composting workshop.

Followed by 'Meet Your Neighbour' time and light refreshments.

4 x Worm Farms to be won!\*

DATE:

Wednesday 8 November 2017  
Time - 6:30 - 8:30pm

WHERE:

Merrifield Sales Centre, 8 Hawksburn Place, Mickleham

Please RSVP for catering purposes to [community@merrifieldmelbourne.com.au](mailto:community@merrifieldmelbourne.com.au) or 8681 2247

\*Must be a Merrifield resident to be eligible.



# World-class resort coming to Mickleham



**A NEW FOUR-STAR RESORT IS CURRENTLY UNDER DEVELOPMENT IN MICKLEHAM AND IS SET TO BE A WORLD-CLASS TOURISM FACILITY LIKE NO OTHER IN REGIONAL AUSTRALIA.**

Marnong Estate, set to open in March 2018, will offer historic homestead accommodation, Day Spa, 250 guest capacity event space, a 250-seat restaurant, a vineyard, brewery, piazza, maze, farmers’ market and operational farm producing first class Angus Cattle.

The scale of the property and its broad offerings will generate more than 200 jobs and stimulate economic growth, whilst focusing on sustainability and protecting the rich history of the homestead and its location.

The \$35 million dollar development is led by hospitality industry stalwart Gerald Ackroyd, who plans to revive the existing homestead and establish an integrated heritage resort facility that contributes to the local community.



Artist's impression

Members of the Merrifield team were invited to a recent ‘hard hat’ launch at the site to hear what is proposed. Merrifield Project Director, Matt Planner, said the plans are very impressive.

“Marnong Estate will really lift Mickleham’s profile,” said Matt.

“This promises to be an amazing facility for our residents and businesses to have at their doorstep. We look forward to seeing the vision come to life.”

**For further details, including job opportunities, visit [marnongestate.com.au](http://marnongestate.com.au)**



## Community Grants Program

Recipients of the inaugural Merrifield Community Grants Program have been announced!

A huge congratulations to the following:

**M-Fit Pilates and Fitness**  
New fitness business, delivering a weekly timetable of classes in Merrifield.

**Mickleham Primary School**  
Part funding of a covered walkway to support students moving comfortably between classrooms.

**Donnybrook Cricket Club**  
To introduce junior cricket to the immediate area and to encourage participation in the MILO IN2CRICKET program.

**Merrifield Wellness**  
Facilitation of health and wellbeing workshops for residents in Merrifield.

**SPAR Consulting**  
Implementation of Chin Up Project Workshop – a mentoring program for young people - in Merrifield.

Merrifield Community Development Manager Tennille Bradley-Ow said that the number of applications exceeded expectations.

“The applications were from a wide range of organisations and start-up businesses,” said Tennille. “It’s great to read about the wonderful ideas and initiatives in our community, ranging from health and wellness to education and business development.”

The 2018 Community Grants Program is planned for September next year.

**Look out for further details and updates from grant recipients in future editions of The Big Picture.**

