

Merrijig Matters

Merrijig's Monthly Newsletter

July 2014

Issue No. 15

Index

Quote of the month.....	1
Feedback / local Justice of the Peace.....	2
Calendar.....	3
Rezoning Merrijig Township Q & A meeting.....	4 - 7
Who's doing what lately?.....	7 - 14
Some old photos found by John Steele.....	14 - 16
Wild dog baiting.....	16
Bike Club News.....	16
RSL Historian Graham Godber's article.....	17 - 18
Free Plants.....	18
Word from the shire.....	19 - 23
School news.....	23
McCormack Park.....	24
Merrijig Family Fun Day.....	24 - 25
Bush Walking Club.....	25
Rodeo News.....	27
What's going on at Merrijig Hall?.....	27
What's on at the local?.....	28
Adverts.....	28
End of Newsletter Joke.....	29

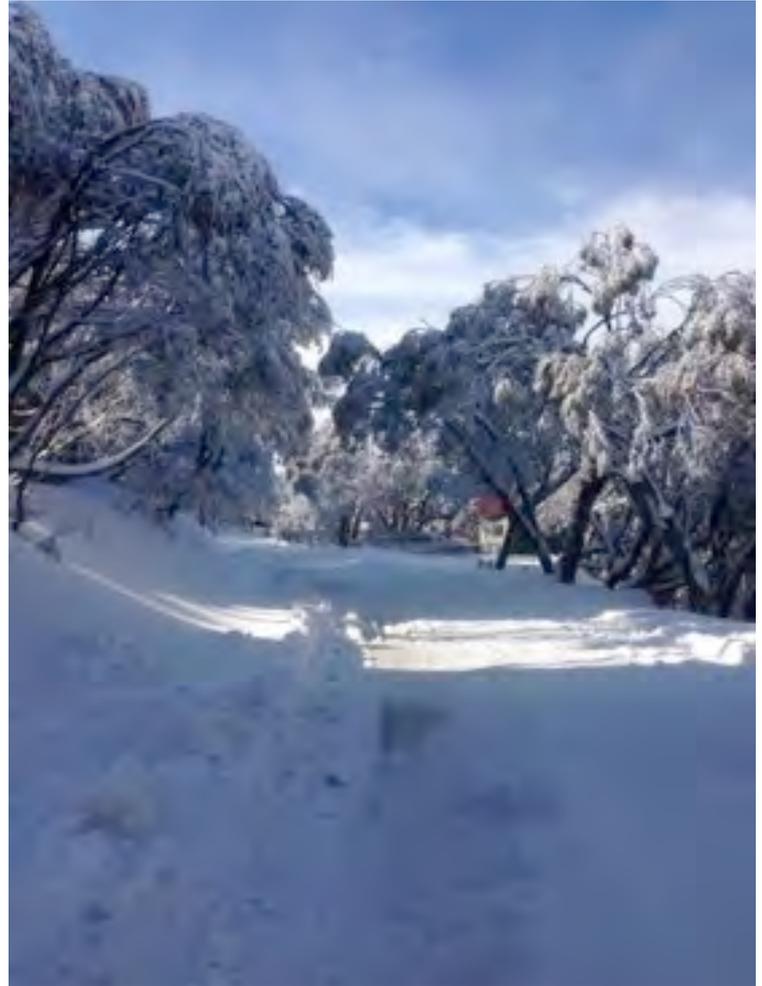
Quote of the month

Human beings, by changing the inner attitudes of their minds, can change the outer aspects of their lives

William James (1842 to 1910)

William was an American Philosopher and psychologist wrote "The Principles of Psychology" back in 1890

Winter has begun for 2014 Brrrrrrrr!



Photos by Andrew Jurrjens on June 30th, 2014

Feedback is back

As always, an excellent newsy newsletter!
Thanks Adele, I really do appreciate that you keep everyone in the loop. The sense of community this fosters is very special, about as special as Merrijig itself!
Thank you and keep doing it, I admire your energy.

from Eliza Foster.

If you're looking for a **Justice of the Peace**, our local one is

Laurie Jacob, Buttercup Rd

0439 280 333

Back issues of the newsletters can be viewed on the Merrijig Community Web site at
http://www.merrijig.com.au/html/local_news.html

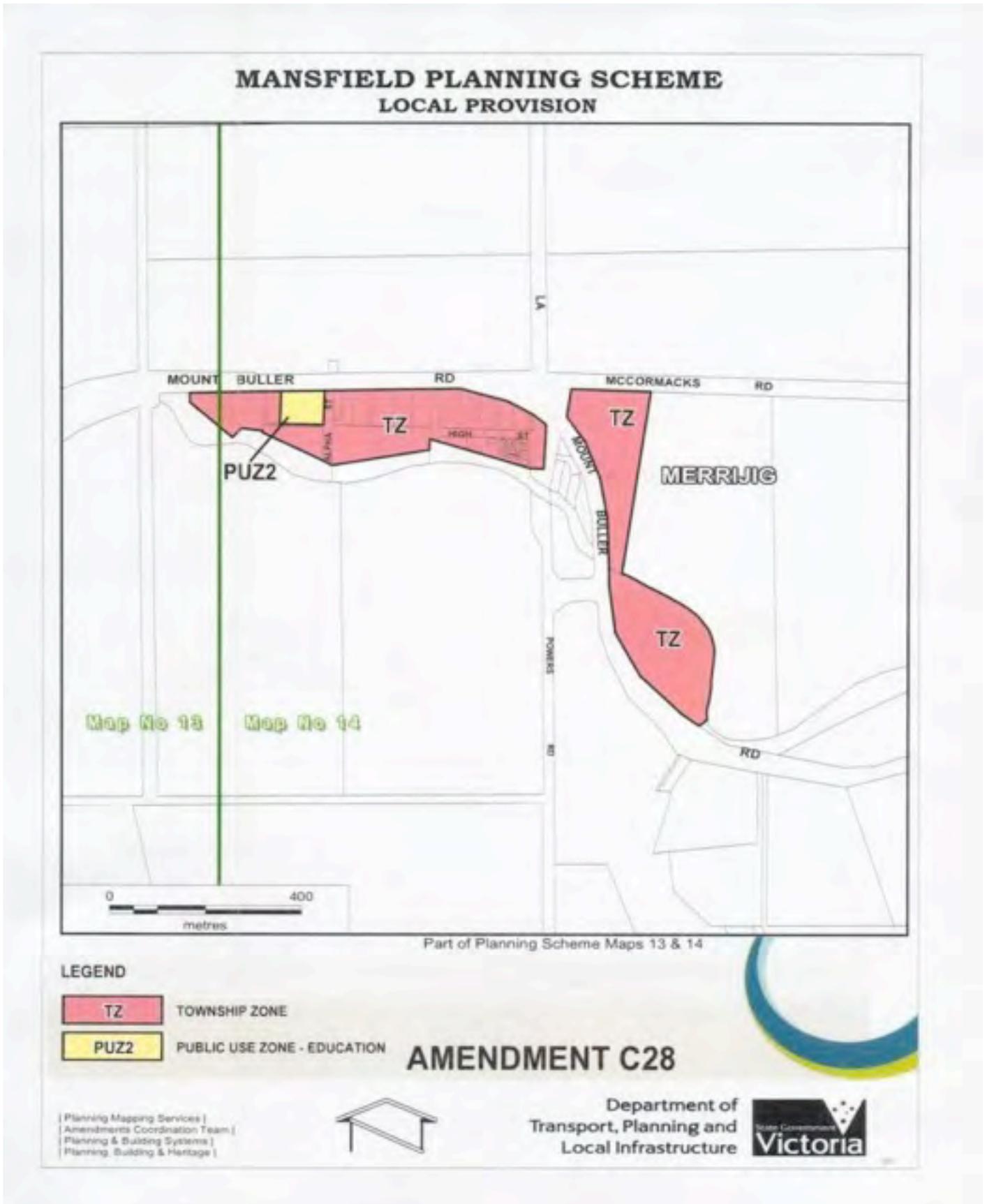
Some articles in this newsletter may be picked up by the Mansfield Courier so consider this if you are submitting stories you could be sensitive about sharing with the community wider than Merrijig.

July 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 Pub Trivia Night .	2	3 Rubbish bin day.	4	5
6	7	8	9	10 Recycling and Rubbish bin day.	11 Close of nominations for Vic Senior of the year	12
13	14	15 Pub Trivia Night .	16	17 Rubbish bin day.	18	19
20 Motobike club day at Merrijig.	21	22	23	24 Recycling and Rubbish bin day.	25 Submissions close for comments on rezoning of Merrijig Township	26
27	28	29 Pub Trivia Night .	30	31 Rubbish bin day.		

Re-zoning of Merrijig Township - report by Adele McCormack

The questions and answers meeting held at Merrijig Hall on Saturday, June 28th attracted 25 locals interested in what this means to the area. Some were landowners affected by the proposal, others with neighbouring properties, but all with an overall love of the district and with its best interests at heart.



Mansfield Shire Council has supported exhibition of the application to re-zone originally the area from the Hunt Club Hotel west to Alpha Street, before the Merrijig Primary School (but excluding Delatite Apartments). This was suggested as being too limiting by the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure and the area was extended to what is on the plan today being the area of Merrijig partly serviced by the sewerage system, something that many other small rural areas do not have access to, making Merrijig a desirable area for development from Mansfield Shire Council's point of view. The land in the proposed area is not, and has not been used for farming for some time.

The application was initiated by landowners who hired Civil Engineer Roady Macey to act for them so that the land will be able to be subdivided, as currently farm-zoned land cannot be subdivided into smaller allotments than 40ha (or 100acres).

Various questions were raised by those present including what restrictions would there be on land close to the river, some of it on flood prone land, and what planning controls would be on waste water runoff into the river because the river being one of the greatest natural assets Merrijig has, it needs to be protected.

Council's Development Services Manager, Michael Bismire, advised that Council would not support development on flood prone areas, and only sewered sites will be able to be developed. Although the future cannot be guaranteed to the last detail, it appears from the applications in hand, that development would be modest - possibly 30 to 40 lots over 20 or more years. All the water authorities have been working closely with Council's planning department on this re-zoning proposal, giving advice and direction in order to protect the waterway and catchment area, which are their responsibilities.

There were questions raised about the zone changes affecting the Merrijig Public Hall in relation particularly to being required to pay rates on a newly zoned community owned property. After seeking confirmation, Council's Strategic Planning Officer, Victoria Brown, informed Noel Willaton, the Merrijig Hall Committee President, that there would be no rates charged under the re-zoning, The current arrangement on the Merrijig Public Hall property would continue.

Peter Howarth outlined about how for the past 10 years, efforts have been consistently applied for the creation of a strategic plan for the Upper Delatite region (an **Upper Delatite Structure Plan** or 'UDSP') together with a Township Structure Plan to guide any future developments in Merrijig. There had been numerous public meetings from 2006 onward, after Council committed to creating structure plans which would form part of any future amendments and guide future development of the area. Peter, Sandy Tod and Len Foster were asked to serve on a Steering Committee to work with the officials from council and state authorities to bring this about. For various reasons, the UDSP did not receive Ministerial approval and despite Council's subsequent position in 2010 that there were significant issues that need to be resolved regarding the UDSP and future development in the Upper Delatite (including Merrijig), together with a commitment to start work on this in late 2010, there has been no apparent progress.

Michael Bismire thanked Peter for outlining the past history, but he pointed out that there is an overlay covering the area, the Significant Landscape Overlay, and its requirements as well as that of the planning zone have to be met. This means there will be a process which must be fulfilled before development can take place.

It was pointed out that it was last century that Merrijig was gazetted as a township; on checking this date it was on July 24th 1942 that in the Government Gazette, the Village of Merrijig was proclaimed a Township. Gazettal however, is not a town planning process.

Questions were asked as to what sort of development is likely, would there be a possibility of more commercial buildings for instance, such as a bank or a shop which would be offering services to Merrijig which are now only available in Mansfield. Michael pointed out that with the land being zoned farming as it is at the moment, many commercial developments would not be permitted, which would be permitted with the new zoning, so there is potential for such services if the land re-zoning proposal is successful.

A question was asked about adjoining landowners being invited to be included in the re-zoning but Victoria said that the application was led by the clients of Roday Macey and the only additional land were those included after a strategic review, that were either small residential allotments or were used for non-agricultural uses, suggested by the Department of Transport, Planning and Local Infrastructure.

Chris Dunlop commented that his commercial business has operated on the same site for 32 years and Merrijig Motor Inn for around 30 years and it should follow that as they are definitely not farming businesses so they should be zoned appropriately. One of the lease holders of the Merrijig Motor Inn asked a question regarding the one access road from Mt Buller Road which could cause traffic and safety issues if the owner decided to subdivide. Michael pointed out that this was the responsibility of VicRoads and council has no influence over what they decide.

Michael outlined that from now on his department and Council will be expecting submissions from the community and we are encouraged to participate in this stage of the process. These submissions will be dealt with at council meetings and will either affect changes to the proposal or may be abandoned.

If it becomes necessary, the proposal can be taken to Planning Panels Victoria which will sort through the submissions and make recommendations about the decisions that should be made. This process can take some time.

There was much concern from those present about the lack of a Merrijig Township Structure Plan to avoid the worry of guessing what developers may choose to do once the land is re-zoned. It was suggested that instead of battling via government panels and potentially causing discontent in the Merrijig community between those who support the re-zoning and those who are uncomfortable with it proceeding without a Township plan in place, that such a plan be developed right now, without waiting for the much more complex plan for the whole of the Upper Delatite. Any Merrijig re-zoning which fitted that plan could then proceed without generating broad community concern and fit with Council's position stated in 2010.

Peter Howarth who strongly supports the growth of Merrijig within a Township Plan accepted by the community, commented that it might only take six months to put in place if properly resourced, as much of the preliminary work had been done.

When asked what does a Township plan entail, Michael outlined briefly that it would include circulation routes, public facilities, walking tracks, open space, design guidelines of building, i.e. rooflines and much more.

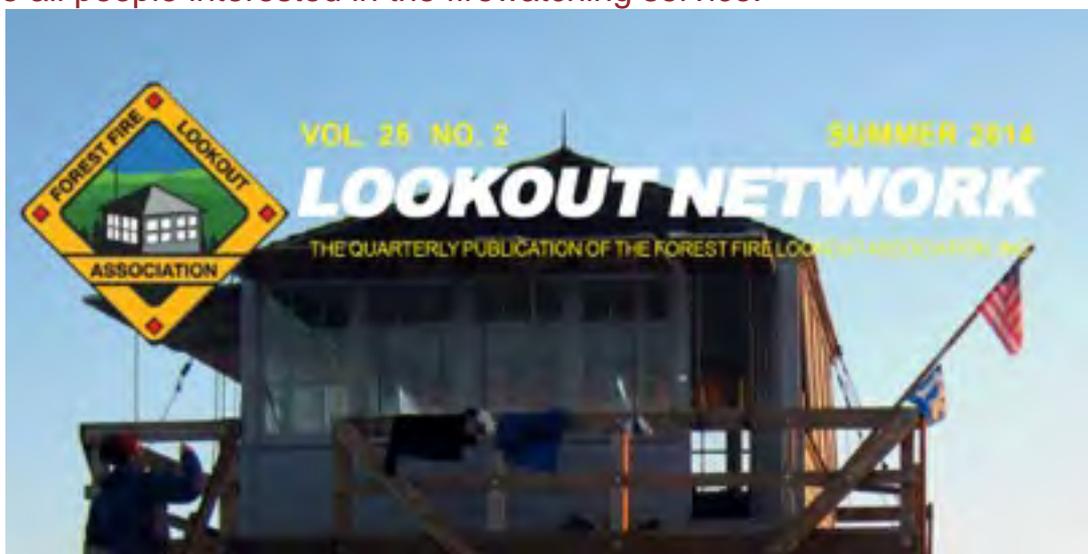
It was then strongly suggested that rather than waiting for the strategic plan for the whole of the Upper Delatite, why not simply do a Township plan for Merrijig proper. Councillor Marg Attley, who chaired the meeting acknowledged this comment with the nod of her head but there was no commitment given that any steps would be taken to create such a plan.

Mr Bismire informed the meeting of an extension to the time available to make submissions to the proposed re-zoning of Merrijig Township to Township Zone to Council for consideration, which now closes on 5 pm, Friday, July 25th. Submissions must be sent to the Chief Executive Officer, Private Bag 1000, MANSFIELD VIC 3724.

Who's doing what lately?



You will probably recall the story about Chris Deutscher retiring; well he headed off to the USA and I imagined he was taking Helen on a retirement trip of a life time; well he did of course but also took in a convention of 'firewatch' folk from around the world. His story was picked up and his daughter Sam's story was re-printed in the international magazine circulated to all people interested in the firewatching service.



It included an article from Australia on the **15th Annual Fire Lookouts Get-together** Licola, Victoria, Australia, 3rd - 5th May 2014.

This piece was extracted from that article:-

This was our 15th gathering and the first time that the weather wasn't co-operative. A special mention has to be made about Chris Deutscher. Chris had to retire from his beloved Mt. Buller tower this year due to ill health. He spent three years on The Paps tower and the last 34 years on Mt. Buller; quite an achievement. Chris attended the weekend but he had left before the group photo was taken.



The class of 2014 (L-R): Geoff Broughton (Mt Wombat), Phil Searle (Mt Hickey), John Cardwell (Mt Benambra), John Dunn (Mt Porndon), Peter Skilbeck (Mt Tarrengower), Matt O'Brien (Mt Sam), Peter Barrand (Annya), André Belterman (Relief on Poley & McVeighs and Tower Research), Ron Jardine (Mt Arapiles), Dick Noble (Mt Moornappa), Rhonda Barrand (Mt Clay) - in front with her continuous supply of Liquorice Allsorts at her feet, Robert Gaudion (Mt Raymond), Terry Parker, (Mt Useful), Ray Lucas (relief on various West Gippsland towers), Jerry Williams, (Mt Buck), Paul Jones, (Mt St Leonard). Absent from photo: Chris Deutscher, (ex Mt Buller)

André has set up the Australian tower website, www.firelookoutsdownunder.com. If this subject is of particular interest to you you can learn more by checking it out.

Helen reported via Facebook that they enjoyed Nashville with live performances from some of their favourite artists before flying to Hawaii for a week. They are happy to be home again after an enjoyable trip.

Report prepared by André Belterman

Michael Warhen who, with Martina, Annie and his brother Henrik built and share the property "Lavola Estate" on Bakers Creek Rd, Merrijig, wrote this article about Annie's and his brother's 'very interesting hiking adventure'.

Merrijig residents Henrik Wahren and his wife Annie Leschen left Merrijig on May 19 for a hiking trip in Norway. First stop was in Finland to see family and to organise some of their food supplies and to ship them to their re-supply stops in Norway. They commenced their hike at Lindesnes on Norway's southern tip on June 1st, their destination Mehamn on Norway's northern tip approx. 2800 km and 126 days later.

Some of us, me included, think this is a pretty nutty venture, however for these hiking lovers it is probably a dream trip. The two of them prepared and trained (sort of) for 12 months prior to leaving. This included several hikes, growing and drying all the vegetables for the trip prior to leaving, weighing every bit of gear to minimise what they carry. When in Finland they sourced dried meat and then packaged all the boxes for their re-supply spots. Their re-supply spots will be huts run by Norwegian hiking and parks associations. We get a daily message from the Eperp they carry that shows their position and can be viewed on Google maps.





On the 12th of June they reported in from Haukeliseter Fjellstue (Mountain Lodge) their first section (289 kms) safely negotiated. The following from Annie.

“Amazing combinations of granite massifs, vast expanses of snow covered hills and valleys, rocky meandering rivers (some with large rising trout), blue lakes, ice, alpine willows, gnarled birches, flowering blueberries and cloudberries... and we still haven't entered a national park, clear now from periodically coming across cute sheep with bells and real fair dinkum tails, plus sod-covered huts. We've seen reindeer, a swimming moose, lots of little rodenty things (voles? lemmings?), ptarmigans (sounds like a cross between a frog and a creaky door) and other vociferous birds. In two weeks we've only met three hikers and it seems like we are the trail breakers for the season as we haven't seen any footprints on most of the tracks.... understandable given the amount of snow we've walked on... including the odd, slightly dodgy snow bridge over the odd, slightly raging torrent. But now we can relax in comfort for a couple of nights, and catch up on a bit of news, before we set off again on Saturday. Bound for Glitterheim and beyond!

Wow, what an adventure, Michael promises to keep us informed on their progress.

Sadly condolences are extended to **Judy Kirkham** of Changue Road whose mother passed away in June in New Zealand.

“Even in sad times” Judy told me “you can find something to laugh about!” then she went on to share this story she is happy for you to all read about.

I flew back into Melbourne Airport from NZ (*for the 2nd time in a month*) - last week to farewell my mother who passed away quietly in her sleep, so I have another tale to tell regarding my

trips abroad. I was completely laden with heavy bags full of goodies, I struggled down to the baggage department – it seemed like miles – only to find one bag missing on the carousel and of course after a long journey extremely exhausted, having left Tauranga 10 hours earlier, I was feeling rather frayed.”

I did eventually find it and proceeded to the first checkpoint, slid in my passport and struggled on to the next. I had left my passport in the first checkpoint but it was returned to me before I went any further. Anyway at the next checkpoint, customs, I had to declare what I had brought back, including my mother’s ashes. Well I couldn’t find my passport anywhere and after holding up the queue while I searched for it they got fed up and took me away to an area where I/they could search everything.

Meantime the phone was going off madly, searching, searching, finally I found it to hear Fritz saying “Where are you?”. By this time I was completely distraught, I cried to Fritz “I have been detained in customs” whilst at the same time the Custom Officers (four of them) were hovering around asking if they could go through my belongings. Apparently Fritz heard me yell “do what you ...ing well like!!!!”.Did I really say that?!! *(No of course not, me thinks it must have been the woman on the next checking station)!*

With that they emptied out my handbag, **shock horror**, they were about to go through my back pack when I yelled “Don’t touch that, my mother is in there!”

Yeah right – *(that’s what they all say)* drugs!.

Anyway I still had no passport, even after retracing my tracks in the airport and seeing by this time I was beyond any form of responsiveness, the customs officers decided I could leave without my document.

So out I go - Fritz is nowhere to be seen. ***** where is he? So find my phone again and go to ring him, ***** , no more credit, but I did find a text from Fritz saying he would be at the drop off point outside. So off I go, with my heavy load - trudged up - and down, and still no Fritz. I pulled myself together and politely asked to borrow a phone to call Fritz and there was no answer.

By now I am freezing *(as of course it happened to be the coldest day on record for years)* I’m cursing him under my breath no end. After some time and out of the blue he came racing towards me, gave me the hugest hug, *(something he is not prone to do)* which expelled all the evil thoughts I was having about him.

So at last, two hours after arriving, I get into the car, footsore and weary, the first thing I do is to take off my boots.

Hello - what’s this?

I had forgotten I had stuffed my passport down the side of my boot when it was returned to me after I left it at the first check point !!!!!!!!!!!!!

I am **Sooooooooo** glad to be home.

Adele's short trip up the East Coast

Following yet another wonderful Merimbula Jazz Festival on the long weekend in June, during which I caught up with a former Merrijigger Gael (Walsh) now Vanderdrift, I decided to check out places I had always only driven past on the way to somewhere else and discovered some absolutely lovely spots. It was refreshing to be able to 'amble' along without the responsibility of towing a caravan too as I 'motelled it' this time having sold my campervan 'Fonzy' (to another Merrijigger) and on the suggestion of my mechanic, who said when I told him I was not sure if I would buy a bigger motor home or not, "you can stay in a lot of motels for that money." The only thing I really didn't like about 'motelling it' was that you can't just stop where you like as you can with a van. Yet I did enjoy the comfort of everything being in the same room space.

I was able to catch up with some old friends I had not seen for a few years and also spent time with some cousins before I turned back toward home to arrive just as the weather turned FREEZING cold to find my reverse cycle A/C just doesn't cut it in my 1940 built, high off the ground drafty house - so I've been scratching around for firewood as the Coonara keeps the chill off the house beautifully.

Here are just a few pictures taken during my trip including some of the beautiful coast of NSW.



1/ The crowd Wizard and Oz attracted in their open concert....I will keep trying to get them back here one day



2/ Juri - known as the bouncing check, used to come to Merrijig with 'Madam and her Ragtime Jazz Band' and the pub would be packed and shanking on its foundations. He was happy I recognised him and told some stories about their visits down south.



Fresh prawns were a must!

I stayed at Tuross Head where Cyril and I had once had a wonderful stay and always promised ourselves we would return, finally I was ready to do so and it's still a special spot where a tidal river meets the ocean.



The sea swimming pool at Bermagui, built in 1930



A peaceful place to have lunch - out of the way at Bondil Lake



My favourite shot, just in the right place at the right time, the tidal lake at Tuross Head as the sunset in the West the moon rose in the East reflecting on the pink-tinged still water.

36 years later and Its still standing - by John Steele

In 1978 John and Sylvia Steele bought a block of land at the end of Gonzaga Lane. It was called the old Shady Glen. It had been ring barked by Norm Purcell and family for a firewood supply and not regarded as much use for anything else but we both loved the view, the seclusion and it was not far from a main road.

Norm had recently sold the block to Hans Steiner who was keen to sell and we were happy to buy. After a lot of thought, designing and research we bought a kit house to build on the block and we eventually ordered our dream home. It arrived on a truck in December. The driver refused to take it up to the house site, which as I mentioned was not far (in Merrijig terms) from the main road. After a big panic, Peter and Judy McCormack offered to have it left at their house paddock and shearing shed as a stop gap.

Pete was happy to help and I think enjoyed it all.

Each morning we would load up a trailer and old long-wheel base Land Rover, drive it up the hill and start work. This continued over the summer and we had a roof on by the end of the school holidays. Pete and Jude were terrific, with building, meals, cups of tea and lots of advice. Pete had a lot more building experience than me and was only too happy to grab his hammer and show me how to solve the myriad of problems that pop up when building. The house is still standing ...Thanks to Pete.



The picture shows Sylvia looking at the load with a rather stunned expression at Pete and Jude's house.



The last pic is Sylvia and Peter at the dip. We had assorted coloured sheep at the block (they were very trendy in the 70s) and every year we would bring them down to the McCormack shearing shed for shearing and dipping.

(This was an arsenic based dip to kill lice and bugs on the sheep in order to keep them healthy. The 'dip' the cement trench or bath the sheep had to swim through had this arsenic 'strong smelling' chemical was mixed with water. The pole in Sylvia's hands was used to duck the sheep's head under while they swam through the 'dip' so their head had no bugs on it either. The sheep then drip dried in a pen and the water ran back into the dip via drains in the drying pens. This system has of course been replaced by easier methods in 'spray on' nonpoisonous based bug deflecting chemicals. Still the days of sheep dipping were fun, in a way, it was highly organized as this was not a 'one person job' this insert written by Adele)

Peter McCormack was a passionate member of the firer brigade and as a phone fire line was at their house he was always first to the shed. And Judy would then 'man' the fire phones. He insisted on me joining and I was a member till our move to Melbourne in 1998.



Peter and Judy McCormack circa 1978

The Merrijig fire brigade had an old Willys Overland four wheel drive. Pete was a very enthusiastic part of the brigade and looked after the tanker. I think this was at the same time we were building the house.

Wild Dogs – there will be aerial bating in the near future in the meantime our contact person is David Klippel – if you are suspicious of wild dog action call him on 0428 503 169.

Motor Bike Club

With the Tri-series fundraising meets completed the bike club resumed their meets on their Merrijig Track. Beautiful clear-skied day but plenty of great mud to get stuck into assured a great day for the riders, but possibly not so great for Mum’s washing machine when everyone got home. Still Michelle Kelly wrote on the clubs social page, “Once again thanks for an AWESOME day! Riley and Thomas are stoked to be members of the club! They can’t wait to get there again. Thanks for all the help you gave them” and to prove they had FUN FUN FUN they gave the day the thumbs up. It’s a fantastic family fun day and new members are always welcome. Tania Allatt posted this picture of the big boys having a ball taking some air.



19 Year Old Student Shapes World History

By Graham Godber, Mansfield RSL Historian

With the centenary of the outbreak of the Great War of 1914-1918 to be commemorated in early August this year it is the Saturday in June (the 28th), that is to be remembered as the centenary of the incident, perpetrated by a 19 year old Bosnian Serb student that ignited the unstable political situation existing at the time in Europe into a war of unprecedented enormity and cost, both in human life and national wealth.



The map of Europe in 1914 was very different to that which exists today with the then Austro Hungarian empire, ruled by the Hapsburg monarchy, embracing much of eastern Europe including what is now Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and also provinces in Italy, Poland, Ukraine, Romania and others. Considerable political instability had developed in many of these states perhaps typically in Bosnia which had only been annexed by Austria some six years before and where an increasingly influential political movement to become part of a Greater Serbia was developing and gaining credence.

It was during this volatile period that the heir to the Hapsburg throne, Arch Duke Franz Ferdinand had arranged, against the advice of his staff, to travel to the Bosnian capital city of Sarajevo on a goodwill visit. He was to be accompanied by his wife, Sophie who, being of Czech origin, was expected to be received very warmly in this region of the empire.

It was at this time, too, that a 19 year old Bosnian student named Gavrilo Princip was completing his higher school studies in the Serbian capital, Belgrade. Princip had become a passionate and active propagandist for the Greater Serbian cause and had joined the secretive Black Hand Society which was dedicated to that end. A demonstration during the Sarajevo visit by the royal couple was proposed, this developing into the incredible decision to assassinate the Arch Duke. Princip and a number of accomplices were recruited and trained and so it eventuated that after an earlier unsuccessful attempt by one of his companions Gavrilo Princip stepped out from among spectators as the royal motorcade passed by, drew a pistol and shot both the Arch Duke and his wife, Sophie, both dying a short time later.

Princip was immediately seized upon by guards and police and arrested but not before he had managed to swallow a cyanide tablet which had been previously planned as a suicide to prevent the possibility of others being implicated in the murder. The pill however only produced severe stomach pain and violent vomiting, it being apparently too old to be lethal.

The consequences of this unsuccessful suicide attempt were to be truly momentous as, had it been successful, the Austrian authorities would have probably remained ignorant of any Serbian link to the assassination and there probably would have been no Austro Serbian crisis to follow. In the event however the act of Gavrilo Princip provided the spark which ignited the countries of Europe into a war which eventually engulfed most of the world, changing the world forever, and which became, arguably, the precursor for the second great conflict of the century just 25 years later.

Maybe it can be said therefore that an unknown 19 year old Bosnian student had the greatest impact on the history of the 20th century than any other individual.



Gavrilo Princip being arrested after the assassination (pic taken from the internet)

Anybody who would like some white Irises



This bed needs to be thinned out again. They will be free to anyone who wants them, as you can see they make a magic display when they are out. Just drop me a line or give me a call, you can either pick them up when you pass or I could drop them off if I am going your way. We thin them out every couple of years, and this is the year. Adele



A WORD FROM THE SHIRE

Cr Marg Attley:- Your local representative on Mansfield Shire Council.
Available to be contacted on: 5776 2231 or marg.attley@mansfield.vic.gov.au

This official Media release was sent to me for inclusion in the newsletter

PLANS TO RE-ZONE MERRIJIG VILLAGE

Public comments are currently sought for a planning proposal to re-zone Merrijig Village from Farming Zone to Township Zone, and the Merrijig Primary School, from Farming Zone to Public Use Zone 2 (Education).

The Merrijig Hunt Club, Merrijig Motor Inn, High Country Horses, Delatite Apartments, Merrijig Public Hall, Merrijig Primary School, and some residential allotments are included in Mansfield Planning Scheme Amendment C28.

Through the amendment process, the C28 proposal intends to rezone 16.6ha of land in Merrijig Village as the current Farming Zone does not adequately reflect the long standing township uses of the area. It will also correct the erroneous zoning of Merrijig Primary School to Public Use Zone 2 (Education).

The historical uses and small size of land parcels affected are not likely to result in a loss of agricultural land, as they have not been used for agricultural purposes for decades, but will place the land in a more appropriate zone.

The Township Zone:

- encourages development that respects the neighbourhood character of the area;
- seeks to implement neighbourhood character policy and adopted neighbourhood character guidelines; and
- allow educational, recreational, religious, community and a limited range of non-residential uses to serve local community needs in appropriate locations.

“Merrijig is identified in the Mansfield Local Planning Policy as a preferred area for small town growth, especially as it is the gateway to Mt Buller and Mt Stirling,” Mayor Ray Robinson said.

“We encourage any resident in the area who may be affected to read the amendment documents, attend the information session, and have a say, so that we can consider their feedback.”

The Mansfield planning scheme amendment C28 documents are available to be viewed at www.mansfield.vic.gov.au or at www.dpcd.vic.gov.au/planning/publicinspection

And that's not all from the shire- there's more

Attention Athletes

Securing Sponsorship Workshop

Are you an up and coming athlete looking to take that next step in your career?

This workshop will look at ways that individuals, clubs and groups can secure the support of key businesses to alleviate some of their operating costs to compete.

For athletes, competition fees can be costly, not to mention the equipment and travel required to compete at higher levels. Securing sponsorship to cover some of these costs can take pressure off the athlete and allow them to train and compete more often.

Facilitator Anne-Maree Playfair has won national awards for sponsorship partnership building and has a wealth of experience in this area. The workshop will run over the course of two sessions.

For more information or to RSVP for the workshop, please contact Sport and Recreation Officer Dan Purcell on 5775 8529 or at dan.purcell@mansfield.vic.gov.au



Questioning:

- What really is sponsorship?
- What do I need to put in place to get it?
- What can you offer?
- Who can you approach?
- What makes you stand out?
- Why you and not them?
- Where do I start?

When: Tuesday July 15th & 21st

Time: 6:00—8:00pm

Where: Mansfield Football Club Social Rooms

Free!





MANSFIELD SHIRE

Victorian Senior of the Year Awards



VICTORIAN SENIOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS NOMINATION FORM

Who is eligible for the awards?

To be eligible for these awards, the nominee must be an Australian citizen, a resident of Victoria and be aged 60 years or over. Nominees will be assessed on their volunteer contribution and achievements since reaching the age of 60.

What are the selection criteria?

Nominees will be assessed on

1. How they make a difference to community wellbeing through volunteering.
2. Their good standing in the community.
3. How their positive attitude to ageing inspires others.

Step by step guide to making a nomination

1. Complete the form on this page following the instructions carefully.
2. Keeping in mind the selection criteria above, on two separate pages tell us:
 - a. How your nominee makes a difference to community wellbeing through their service to social, cultural or civic life.
 - b. How their positive attitude to ageing involves and inspires other people.
3. Attach
 - a. You must attach at least two letters supporting the nomination from colleagues or individuals in the community.
 - b. You can attach photocopies (not originals) of up to 10 pieces of supporting information about your nominee such as awards and media articles.
4. Send completed nominations to

Victorian Senior of the Year Awards
Department of Health
GPO Box 4541, MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Further information

For more information or help with completing a nomination form, telephone Seniors Information Victoria on 1300 135 090 or email askcota@cotavic.org.au

The awards are judged by a selection panel with representatives from the Victorian Government, COTA Victoria, other seniors organisations and Victorian Seniors Festival partners.

The decisions of the panel are final. Information supplied with this form will not be returned, will be kept confidential and will not used for any other purpose.

Nomination details (Please print clearly)

NAME AND AGE OF PERSON YOU ARE NOMINATING

Ms / Mrs / Mr / Dr / Prof / Sr _____
 Date of birth _____
 First Name _____
 Surname _____
 Address _____
 _____ Post code _____
 Telephone _____
 Mobile _____

WHICH AWARD(S) ARE YOU NOMINATING THE PERSON FOR (Please tick)

- Premier's Award for Victorian Senior of the Year
(will also be considered for COTA Awards)
- COTA Victoria Senior Achiever Awards
- Promotion of Multiculturalism Award
- Healthy and Active Living Award
- Veteran Community Award

YOUR DETAILS (Please print clearly)

Ms / Mrs / Mr / Dr / Prof / Sr _____
 First Name _____
 Surname _____
 Position (if representing an organisation) _____
 Name of organisation (if relevant) _____
 Address _____
 _____ Post code _____
 Telephone _____
 Mobile _____
 Email _____

HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THE VICTORIAN SENIOR OF THE YEAR AWARDS? (Please tick)

- Department of Health Newspaper
- COTA Victoria The Senior newspaper
- Seniors Online website Fifty-Plus News
- Seniors Information Radio
 Victoria 1300 135 090 DVD/Presentation
- Other (please specify) _____

The closing date for nominations
is Friday 11 July 2014

2014 award nominations now open

Nominations for the awards are accepted until **Friday, July 11, 2014.**

Download a nomination form now

Assistance with your nomination

If you require assistance, you can call Seniors Information Victoria on **1300 135 090** or email askcota@cotavic.org.au.

GREAT VICTORIAN BIKE RIDE - COMMUNITY FUNDRAISING OPPORTUNITIES

Bicycle Network understand that communities are an integral part of the RACV Great Victorian Bike Ride (GVBR) and encourage all communities along the route to become involved in the ride.

Every year, RACV Great Vic Riders vote 'community spirit' as the one thing that most shaped their experience on the event - they love the warm welcomes, local hospitality and the opportunity to really discover the best that Victoria has to offer!

So how can your group get involved, and maximise the opportunity for everyone?

Click on the link below which provides ideas and an expression of interest application:

<https://www.bicyclenetwork.com.au/racv-great-victorian-bike-ride/communities/2409/>

Once your group has decided to commit to an offering, please contact Mansfield's GVBR Community Contact **before** sending off your expression of interest application:

Nicole Nye, Tourism & Economic Development Officer - nicole.nye@mansfield.vic.gov.au

This will ensure we don't have multiple groups all providing the same offerings.

In addition to fundraising activities, RACV is running a competition for the **Warmest Welcome.**

There is \$1500 up for grabs for a community group which provides the Warmest Welcome to the riders of GVBR.

Second prize is \$500.

For further information of the competition, please click on the link below:

<https://www.bicyclenetwork.com.au/racv-great-victorian-bike-ride/communities/2412/>

JUST FOR YOUR INFORMATION

MANSFIELD COMMUNITY HEALTH OFFERS

Mansfield Carers Group Buckland Centre

Contact: Paul Wood 5775 1933 /Helen Green 5779 1049/Leo Kerrin 5775 1837

Mansfield Living With Parkinson's Support Group

Buckland Rooms Contact; Deb Smith , Steph or Melba 5775 1933

Walk and Talk Group

Mansfield Library, 10.00am Contact: Deb Smith or Stephanie Zammit, 5775 1933

The Parent-Child Mother Goose Program® (P-CMG®) for parents/carers and preschoolers
Mansfield Community Centre, Erril St Bookings essential Bookings/Enquiries 5775 1933

For parents/carers and babies Mansfield Library Bookings/Enquiries Mansfield Library 5775 2176
Lymphoedema Support Group Contact: Eileen Wettenhall, or Steph Zammit on 5775 1933

Mansfield Bereavement Support Group Buckland Centre Ph: Marie Hogarth 0447 710 136

Services provided at Community Health - Dietetics Counselling - Community Health Nursing - QUIT
Education - Diabetes Education - Speech Pathology - Occupational Therapy - Lymphoedema
Management

Bookings and Enquiries: 5775 1933

Mansfield Happy Hearts Group Social and health support for people who have had a significant
cardiac event. Contact Pam on 0421 659 734

ADDITIONAL SERVICES Drug & Alcohol Counsellor, Ovens & King CHS Tel: 03 5723 2000

Goulburn Valley Health/McGrath Breast Care Nurse Tel: 0408 132 105

Mansfield Support Group for Children with Special Needs Tel: 0400 256 035

Disability Advocacy & Information Service Outreach 02 6056 2420

Specialist Grief & Bereavement Counsellor Marie Hogarth Australian Centre for Grief & Bereavement
1300 664 786 Pip Else,

Rural Housing Network Ltd. Phone 03 5722 8000 for appointments.

Merrijig School News

CROSS COUNTRY RUN

Congratulations to **Emily and Tiffani Bohun** who competed in the Zone Athletics Carnival. Emily has qualified to compete in the Region Athletics at Broadford.

WICKED excursion. Years 3-6. Principal Carole McCluskie reported they had a fantastic day when she took the senior students to the new season at the Regent Theatre in Melbourne.

Carole said "We drove to Seymour, then took the train to Melbourne and caught a tram to the theatre. The reverse on the way home was broken by dinner at the Chinese café in Yea. The students were all well behaved and were thrilled when people complimented them on how well behaved they were."

On the show itself she said that "Reg Livermore was outstanding as the wizard and the rest of the cast were brilliant."

THE SCHOOL SKIING PROGRAM WILL COMMENCE next term.

News from McCormack Park

It was decided via our email meetings that the donation which has now been received from Rodeo for McCormack Park will be used to help with the cost of fencing off the spectator area from livestock which graze McCormack Park when it is not being used for an event. As you can imagine they DO make a mess.

The plan devised by Merrijig Campdraft incorporates two wide gates which will be able to swing back to rest against the fence, leaving a huge opening for spectators to wander through when an event is happening.

Some of the locals who have recently been enjoying the free use of the venue actually took up a collection and made a donation, and this money will also be offered toward the spectator areas protection fence.

Merrijig Family Fun Day



On Sunday, November 2nd

Make a commitment to become involved TODAY.

Site holders – it's
first in best site.

Community groups – its free sites for fundraising opportunities

The committee continues to work on doing what is necessary to get this up and running. There is now interest from some corporations who will have free gifts for people attending. The list of free games ideas continues to grow, a recent suggestion for the "over 50's footy kicking contest" will test all those former players to see if they've still got it. Another suggestion was for the funnies shaped vegetable (idea pulled from a Vicar of Dibly show). There has been a suggestion for a photo display, and this will be looked into. The colouring competition pictures, original pictures for this event drawn by Michele Lunam, are finished and will be distributed throughout schools, and newsletters, hopefully placed at checkouts in the supermarkets, at banks and maybe even in pubs and restaurants so children can be kept busy while waiting for meals. There will be prizes for each age group of free family entries including up to 3 adults so that grandma can come along too, once sponsorship is sought there may be even more surprises. Kym Stubbs, one of our local artists, has agreed to judge the contest.

The Fun day committee is excited by the enthusiasm of the wider community. The Hall committee has approved a gift of grant money to pay for advertising of the event which is wonderful as we have two banners which have been donated, one from Signs by Design and a big one from my shed, this grant money means we now can have them made. Bruce McCormack of McCormack

mountain Trail Rides has agreed for the large banner to be on display in his 'school paddock' so it will be seen by passing traffic throughout winter in the hope visitors will be encouraged to return in November.

Marg Attely our areas council rep has been really supportive and has even agreed to attend the next meeting to answer questions as she is involved with Tolmie Sports so has a lot of valuable information this committee needs. Jude Campbell who with her husband used to run the Goughs Bay Fun day is so delighted that another group has picked up the ball and is running with it has also agreed to attend a meeting to allow her brain to be picked. Various others from the community are offering suggestions and volunteering to join the "Friends of McCormack Park" to be part of the excitement in the immediate lead up to and on the day because they simply can't afford the time at this stage to be more involved but want to be part of it and show the committee their support. All this is very encouraging and the committee wants to urge everyone to have an input. This is a project that came from the community and the committee wants it to be OWNED by the community - so don't hold back, if you have some ideas, jot them down and email them to anyone on the committee, put your name down for Friends of McCormack Park to run one of the games on the day or cook a sausage or sell a beer.

President	Paige Webster	paige_dog_1@hotmail.com
Vice Pres.	Ashleigh Jurrjens	musicgirl101@live.com.au
Sec/Treas.	Adele McCormack	adelemac15@bigpond.com
Members	Frank Johnson	delaview2121@bigpond.com
	Juliette Jurrjens	ajs_place@bigpond.com
	Julie Webster	harleyw@dcsi.net.au
	Paul Jackson	lemoustachejackson@yahoo.com
	Jacquie Pollard	brianjacquie@gmail.com
	Andrew Jurrjens	ajs_place@bigpond.com

Postponed snowshoe walk

Report supplied by Jackie Noble

"The snowshoe day was cancelled as the white stuff did not appear, it has been postponed till September due to lack of snow & bad weather," said Anne the walk leader.

Next club activity:-

AUGUST 30th Mt STIRLING X country skiing
Grade moderate. Need some XC ski experience Led by - Stirling Experience Craig and Barb Jones. Saturday ski tour - Lower trails. (Option for ski lessons.)

Overnight camp will be at 'Cricket Pitch', using Tepee and permanent tents. Cost TBA Organisers will arrange for the gear to be taken to the campsite.

See Website Mansfield Bush Walking Club.

For Day Ski tour check list. And the alpine overnight camping equipment list.

Jacky Noble.
Secretary,
Mansfield Bushwalking Club
PO Box 344
Mansfield 3724
walkers3722@gmail.com

HUNT CLUB HOTEL SPECIALS

OPENING HOURS

Monday to Thursday from 2.00 p.m.

Friday, Saturday Sunday from 11.00 a.m.

Bistro open from 6.00 pm for dinner 7 nights

**Mondays: Kids Under 12 Eat Free with purchase of a main meal
(excluding Public Holidays)**

Tuesdays: Trivia every 2nd Tuesday

**Wednesdays: Pizza/Parma/Steak Night
Parma & a Pot of Boags \$20.00
(Ask for a loyalty card and receive
every 5th Parma Free, (conditions apply)**

**Thursdays: Happy Hour from 5.30pm - 7.30pm
Bar Snacks & Prize Draw at 7.30pm
1Jug of Boags and 12 Chicken Wings \$20.00**

Lunches: Friday, Saturday Sunday

12.00 noon - 2.00 p.m.

Phone: 5777 5508

**Keep an eye on the notice board on the roadside
to catch when live music or special events are coming up so you won't miss out.**



Live Music



Watch the sandwich board on Buller Road side of the pub.

Meals from 6.00pm

Entertainment from 8.30pm (Free Entry)

Bookings Recommended



Merrijig Rodeo

Many people ask me quite often about what is going on with the rodeo? The best way to find out is to contact a member of the rodeo committee.

The event pulls a lot of money into the district, with all the people attracted by a professional rodeo. My late husband Cyril was a founding member, along with numerous honourable members of the Merrijig community, when the association was set up to be a community based 'not for profit' association. For more details about the rodeo visit the website at: www.merrijigrodeo.com

What's going on at the Merrijig Hall ?

hallsec@merrijig.com.au

enquiries@merrijig.com.au



MERRIJIG HALL IS AVAILIABLE FOR HIRE FOR ANY FUNCTION AT MOST REASONABLE RATES

when looking for a venue for a birthday party, wedding, family reunion keep your community hall in mind it's there for your use.

Call Sen Davies 0407 565 962 or 5777 5656

Some of the regular activities held at the hall include

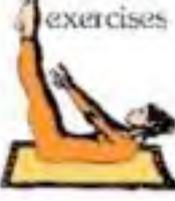
At Merrijig Hall
On Tuesdays
between 10 to 12
& only costing \$3.00




Muscle Gym

Don't do any of these workouts pictured.

Its good fun & light muscle strengthening exercises


The group gathers on Thursdays at 11am, finishing up around 3pm. Everyone brings along a small plate of goodies to share for morning tea and/or lunch. Tea and coffee are supplied.

New members welcome. Cost per session is \$4. For further details contact Kerrie on 04 3738 0384



"Which" Craft?



Ever needed a face painter ?

Keep Michele in mind for when you find you need a childrens' entertainer.

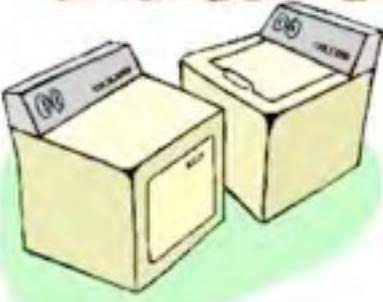
To hire Michele for a birthday party or club fundraiser check out the notice below.

Chele's Face~Painting.
\$50- p/h.



Fundraisers
Having a Family Fun Day, Fete, Trash & Treasure?
Pay for 2 hours get 4 hours and charge a minimum of \$6 per full face and \$3- per cheek to keep for yourself.

AJ's
Laundry Services



4 Stirling St Merrijig
Juliet Mobile 0419 210468
Merrijig Office: (03)5777 5967

NOW FOR A FINAL GOOD LAUGH!

Sean is the vicar of a Protestant parish on the border of Northern Ireland and Southern Ireland, and Patrick is the priest at the Roman Catholic Church across the road.

One day they are seen together, erecting a sign which says,

"THE END IS NEAR.

**TURN YOURSELF AROUND NOW,
BEFORE IT IS TOO LATE."**

As a car speeds past them, the driver leans out his window and yells, "Leave people alone, you religious nutters. We don't need your lectures."

From around the next curve they hear screeching tyres and a big splash.

Shaking his head, Father Patrick says "Dat's da terd one dis mornin'." "Yaa," Sean agrees, then adds, "Do ya tink maybe da sign should just say "BRIDGE CLOSED"?"

Bye for now Adele

Adele McCormack
45 McCormacks Rd
Merrijig 3723
☎ 03 5777 5637 **Mobile:** 0409 600 655