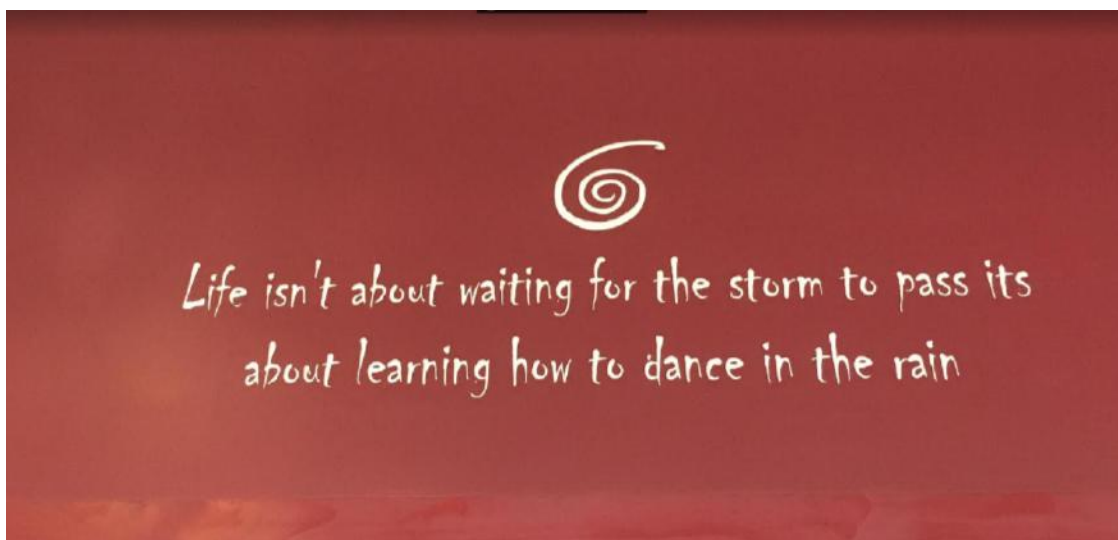


Merrijig Community Newsletter February 2017

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Quote of the month.



Quote submitted by Louise Jacob

Back issues of the newsletters can be viewed on the web 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.

If you're looking for a **Justice of the Peace**,
 Laurie Jacob, Buttercup Rd 0439 280 333
 Catherine McNish, Sawmill Settlement 0429 482 309

Merrijig Defibrillator is located at Merrijig Motor Inn

The procedure in case of an emergency where a person is possibly having a heart attack is to dial **Triple Zero**. The call takers at **Triple Zero** have the location of the Merrijig AED registered and will advise the caller of its location if that is the closest unit to your location. If it is then the Merrijig Motor Inn should be contacted by phone. The motor inn phone number is **5777 5702**.

February 2017						
◀ January						March ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2 Rubbish & Recycling	3	4
5	6	7	8 Forum on Community Insurance for clubs and organizations	9 Rubbish	10	11
12	13	14	15	16 Rubbish & Recycling Final day to register your child's or grandchild's school interest in the Moran free photo workshops	17	18
19 The Gourmet farmer at the Mill Inn Come & Try day Motorbike Club at Merrijig	20	21	22	23 Rubbish	24	25
26 Charity Golf Day by Hospital Auxiliary	27	28	Notes: March 11th Merrijig Rodeo March 18th Merrijig Family Fun Day  Needed for these two activities if you're interested in becoming more involved in the community.			

As this Community Newsletter is in essence a diary of what happens in Merrijig – *as pointed out by former Merrijig Resident John Steele* – it is important that those people who make up our community are not forgotten when they pass away –



Sadly with genuine and deep regret Merrijig grieves the loss of some people who meant so much to our little community.



Jan Purcell lost her battle with cancer on January 17th. Jan's desire was to keep a low profile while she was ill, and as her close friends respected her wishes, this news of her passing was a surprise to many in our community as a considerable number of people had not been aware that Jan had been on a personal battle for her health.

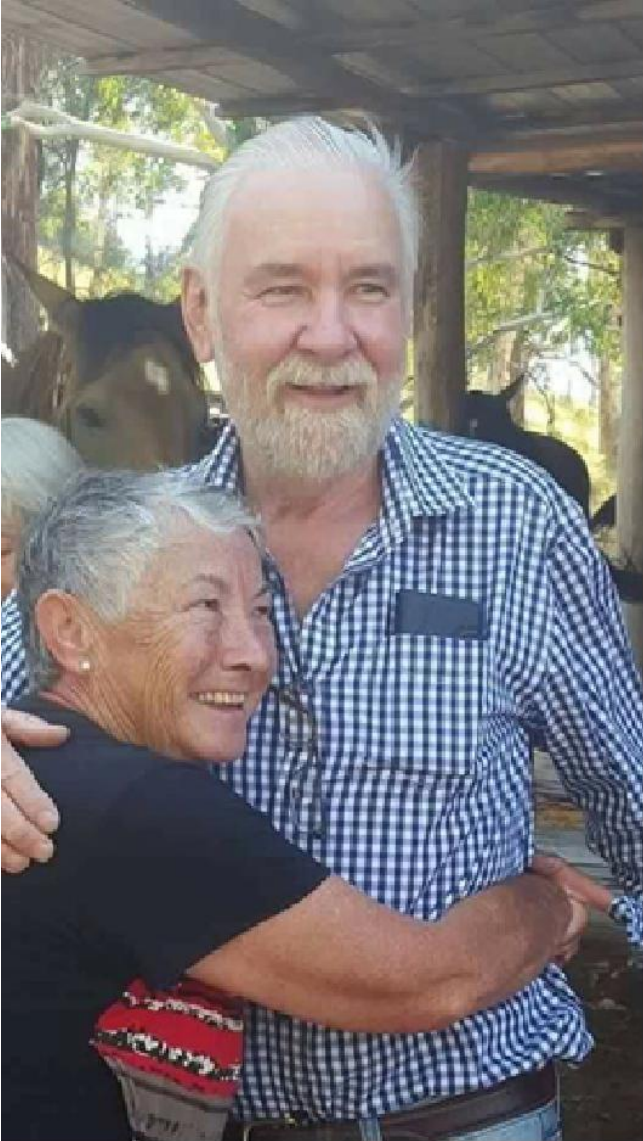
Jan was very well known by anyone who had anything to do with Geelong Grammar School Timbertop campus as she held the position of secretary to the Principal there for more than three decades. In the days when the Purcell's owned the Merrijig Hotel, Jan first became known to most of Merrijig when she married Paul, the then manager of the Hunt Club Hotel. Her familiarity around Merrijig grew as she took on operating the hotel kitchen, giving her new mother in law Bonnie and Aunty Jean a break from the chore.

Jan was one of the people who stood up against government moves to turn Mt Stirling into another downhill ski resort and her legacy is that Stirling is still naturally beautiful for everyone to enjoy.

She was always a keen horsewoman and was a committed member of the Mansfield Hunt club its entire lifetime. At almost every Anzac Day ride since they began in 2008 Jan has ridden in a prime flag bearing position.

She was a lady of dignity and those who were fortunate enough to know her will feel her loss greatly.

A farewell service for Jan Purcell was held at the Timbertop chapel on Friday 27th of January which overflowed with respectful mourners.



Photos courtesy of Jacquie Pollard

On a very personal note Jacquie said “I have known Glenda and Charlie since I was 18 years old and have spent many wonderful times riding in the high country and sitting around the camp fire meeting so many new people, many of whom have remained lifelong friends.”

And to Glenda, Jacquie told her “Glenda - it was you and Charlie who inspired me to make Merrijig my home 17yrs ago. You were such a wonderful, strong lady and I will miss you dearly. R.I.P my wonderful friend Glenda, love Jacquie xx”.

Glenda Lovick passed away on January 19th and will be most desperately missed by her husband Charlie and their children Wayne, Craig and Kellie and their partners, along with the grandchildren on whom she doted.

The outpouring of personal feelings of her loss from the wider community, (just over the pages of facebook), gives only a brief look at the thousands of lives, other than her family, Glenda has touched.

She was a woman who was, at the same time, able to be kind and gentle, thoughtful and fun but when the need arose she worked as hard as any man and was of the same breed as those pioneer women who built our country. There was nothing that could stop Glenda reaching goals she had set herself. Glenda will be a great loss to the Merrijig community – The Lovick High Country Adventures community and the Mountain Cattlemen community.

Her funeral was held on Saturday 28th of January at St Francis Xavier Church in Hunter St Mansfield after which Jacquie Pollard submitted the following “Today our small community said farewell to a wonderful lady, Glenda Lovick. She touched the hearts of so many people, locals and those from all different walks of life, which showed today with the amount of people who came to say goodbye and support her loving husband Charlie and all the Lovick families.”



As one with her horse

Georgie Deyell of Sawmill Settlement lost her father on January 14th. Georgie works hard for the Merrijig community and successfully wins many grants for works to improve the Merrijig Community Hall and Service Memorial Park so it is with sorrow for Georgie that we record the passing of her father George Schusztter who was born in Budapest, Hungary on March 2 1934.

George was a champion swimmer in Hungary winning a silver medal when he had the honour to represent his country internationally in the 1500mtrs freestyle.

It was during Hungary's tumultuous years that Georgie's grandfather with George packed up the family and escaped from the Hungarian revolution. Australia became his home where he had a productive life with his wife Magda working in various corporate areas until he settled on owning his own textile business.

George kept up his interest in swimming and was selected for the 1956 Olympics in Melbourne unfortunately due to tonsillitis he was replaced in the team. He did though compete in the master's games at the age of 69 in the 400 metres event.



He was struck with prostate and melanoma cancer in 2005 and his health began to fail from that point.

In 2015 George and Magda celebrated their 60 wedding anniversary renewing their vows and receiving cards and letters from the Queens, The Governor General and other dignitaries.

He was 82 years old

A wonderful Australia Day Photo

It couldn't be more Australian. What did you do on Australia Day?



This Australia day I (Adele) arrived back in Melbourne from a short cruise with my granddaughter.

Once again Merrijig was represented at the Shire's Australia Day celebrations with Geoff Webb of Buttercup Road and his daughter Sally and Granddaughter Bec Watson bringing in the flags as they represent the high country horsemen.



CONGRATULATIONS

Congratulations to Cobie McCormack of Merrijig Primary school, who recently participated in the Australia Day Writing Competition. Cobie did a great job and came home the winner in the Year 3-4 section.

What's coming up in Feb?

Mark these activities on your calendar.

Feb 8th at 6pm Forum on Community Insurance

At the shire offices there is to be a FORUM on community Insurances. The Shire formally had an umbrella system in an arrangement with insurance brokers with allowed community based groups coverage at reasonable rates due to bulk policies. This changed last year and premiums are out of the realm of most not for profit community groups. This Forum – initiated by Merrijig Community Hall and organized by the Mansfield Shire council hopefully will share some useful information and allow these groups to access reasonably priced cover.

This could be valuable information for your organization and a representative attending may make a big difference to your events proceeds benefitting the club or the insurance companies.


Hello Everyone

Happy New Year
from the Mill Inn.

We are SUPER excited to
be hosting this luncheon
on Sunday 19th February
– bookings are essential.
Please contact Vanessa
on 0487771071 to reserve
your seat.

We look forward to seeing
you at this fabulous event.

Marcus and Vanessa van
Clute
The Mill Inn
1 Alpine Ridge Drive,
Merrijig
03 5777 5868
0400 968 113



**Sunday
foodies
lunch**

**SUNDAY
19TH FEB**

**AS SEEN ON
THE GOURMET
FARMER
SBS TV**

Luncheon at
The Mill Inn from 12pm.
\$100 per head.
4 Course luncheon including wood fired meats by Ross & Mill Inn
pasta matched with premium local wines as rated by James Halliday

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EST. 1988

MOUNT TERRIBLE

Made by Ros Ritchie.

MANSFIELD HOSPITAL AUXILIARY MARTINS GARAGE CHARITY GOLF DAY

\$65 pp

book by 20 feb
numbers limited

Sunday 26 February 2017

- 8.30 for 9.30 am shot-gun start-

get in the hole on the 9th

WIN A HOLDEN ASTRA



MARTINS GARAGE
MANSFIELD - VICTORIA



- * 18 holes 3 person modified Ambrose
- * Teams of 3 – ladies, men, mixed, family, veteran
- * Fantastic auction items
- * Morning tea, on-course BBQ and 2-course lunch
- * Non-golfers welcome for lunch at \$25 pp and prebookings are essential.
- * Registraton forms are at the Mansfield Golf Club or contact Sue Parsons on 0427 764 250
- * Donations of prizes and auction items are welcome
- * Contact Val Doyle on 0407 877 102



FOODWORKS
Supermarket



Feb 19th is the Free “Come and Try Day”

This is where new riders between the ages of 4 and 15 have the chance to give it a go and see if the club is for you. No licence required on this day only.

This club has a wonderful family oriented membership with close to 130 young riders and everyone appears to have fun at any club event. Kids of course love learning new skills and trying them out on the 3 graded tracks while the parents, aunts, uncles and Grandparents enjoy being track marshals or spectators.

Three times a year mum and dad get to ride with the kids during the ‘grass track series’ held on private properties around the district which provides the whole family to ride, camp and eat together with their likeminded friends as well as allowing the club to raise enough money to keep afloat comfortably.

Check out the web site or facebook for more information

<http://www.mansfieldmc.com/>

<https://www.facebook.com/mansfieldmotorcyclesportsclub/>

..*(*.*`♥`*..)*.. ♀..*(*.*`♥`*..)*..

Who's doing what?

Reunion at Tunnel Bend

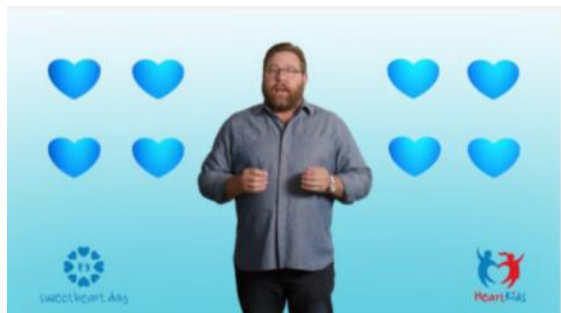
On New Year's Eve day time Jacky Noble spent her time with her daughter son in law and their friends and families at Tunnel Bend. The parents of the children are all old school friends and regularly meet up to spend quality time together.

Jacky said “I spent my day of NYE in the river, supervising, 15 children riding the rapids, along with other exhausted adults.” She continued, “Everyone did have great fun, later on we all dined on camp oven cooked food and of course liquid refreshments - Mine a limited intake of bubbles of course as I was driving out prior to the fireworks at Rennie's”

“A big thankyou to Rennie, for sharing the fun of the fireworks display along with his family and friends, who obviously were having a great night. The fireworks were also enjoyed by other locals on the other side of the fence in Buttercup. There was much cheering and tooting to show appreciation.”

“One day in the life of Jacky “she concluded –

Here's an update on William Arrowsmith's efforts to raise awareness and funds for Heart Kids



- Here is William's interview with Shane Jacobson on Youtube. His parents say "we love it, just so gorgeous!!"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jKop5M2PCfg>

Here is William's personal crowd funding page for Sweetheart Day. All donations go straight to HeartKids - with no government funding for research into child heart disease or for family support – if you would like to help out you can do so through the link below.

<https://sweetheartday17schools.everydayhero.com/au/william-s-heartkids-crowd-funding-campaign-1>



Merrijig has one of the best accommodation spots in the world.

187 Merrijig

A simple and unpretentious business name that doesn't scream out – "come and book in for that unique quiet spot away from the hustle and bustle of the cities" - but it seems enough – people, who mainly come from Melbourne, have discovered this little treasure and have given it the thumbs up.

When Ross and Ainsley May chose their property in McCormack's Rd Merrijig, it was with the eye to develop some sort of accommodation business, they did not rush in but carefully considered what they would like to provide and sought some research statistics on what sort of accommodation was required in the North East before launching into their plan to turn half of their home into top quality guest accommodation. The whole redevelopment of the property has been done to please them, so it is extremely rewarding to know that it also pleases other people so well.

Providing accommodation was not all they thought to do though, they not only provide breakfast, if guests desire it, but it is a special 'grazing breakfast' where guests can take their time enjoying a spread including meats, breads, cheeses and cooked dishes to choose from all this adds to the

experience for their guests along with the evening selection of mostly local wines and cheese platters around the pool or on the deck, even by the fire on cold winter evenings.

“These times of sharing with our guests gives them something extra as they then get to know us as people and not as only the accommodation venue owner” Ross explained.

Ainsley said that she believes the guests book in believing they will have comfortable accommodation while they look around the high country “Yet when they get here they often just stay, they may swim in the pool or rest on their own deck and enjoy the spectacular scenery the property offers”



Ross and Ainsley have worked very hard on the property since they purchased it only a few years ago when it was a building in a paddock, now it has a marvellous garden of mostly native plants which have thrived following the good rains before summer. The trees have really taken to their new positions and are adding shade and windbreaks to the property.

The couple enjoy sharing their piece of Merrijig Paradise with family and friends as well as the guests who come to their very comfortable apartments which offers a king size bed, their own lounge room and deck as well as all the provided for each apartment a BBQ for which a BBQ pack of meat and fresh salads can be provided if desired – just one other little extra 187 Merrijig offers to their guests.

187 Merrijig has its own web site from where people can book but they also take bookings through Bookings.com and it is from here that they were acknowledged as one of the BEST accommodation venues in the world. After people have been to a place they booked through Bookings.com

they are asked to do a survey where the standards of various areas of the accommodation are rated. Ross and Ainsley were one of 12 Australian businesses who received a score of 10/10 for every survey from their guests.

“Living Large”

The Australian National Newspaper
Features Merrijig’s Harold Mitchell at his property
on Mt Buller Rd
in an article by Damon Kitney

The story tells how Harold so enjoys coming to Merrijig and how he chose to be here to read the final draft of the manuscript *Living Large, The World of Harold Mitchell*. An autobiography about his life published by Louise Adler

Harold admitted to becoming tearful as he relived his time growing up without a mother who was an alcoholic and how she did not know him even though he cared for her at the end of her life. He also mentioned in the interview with the author of the Australian article that he had to regroup after his marriage of 50 years fell apart but is now in a happy place.



Harold Mitchell at his holiday house in Merrijig, Victoria. Picture: Paul Jeffers

His holiday house fondly known as the \$2 house due to it being 4 shapes similar to 50c coins therefore equalling \$2 did in fact cost him quite a lot of \$2's.

The story quotes Harold saying “It was close to the river, it had great character, and enough space.”

“It needed to be redeveloped and I was in the fortunate position of having some great people help me rebuild it. A group of 20 people came up from Melbourne and totally rebuilt the place, including putting in a magnificent cedar ceiling in the main lounge room area. In the end we replaced everything. It isn't grand. It is comfortable.”

The million-dollar renovation included hauling in local stone from Mount Buller for the two grand fireplaces, one in the main living area and one in the guesthouse. The article said.

Harold's book will surely be an interesting read as he was a Sawmill kid to begin with and his first job was a timber getter at the age of 16. His life story goes to prove that one needs to set a goal and go for it. He has given his time to various areas of life in Australia from being chairman of The Melbourne Rebels Rugby Club to that of the Melbourne Symphony Orchestra.



Harold Mitchell AC presenting a trophy at the first Merrijig Family Fun Day

Yet Harold is a modest man who is just as happy shaking hands with a little kid who won a trophy as rubbing shoulders with upper crust, at times such as in 2010, when he was awarded the **Companion of the Order of Australia** for eminent service to the community through leadership and philanthropic endeavours in the fields of art, health and education and as a supporter of humanitarian aid in Timor-Leste and Indigenous communities.

★ 。 ☆ 。 ★

New Merrijig Students



Merrijig Primary School welcomed two new students, Eve Cronin to Prep and Riley Adams to Year 4. The little school community is also very happy to welcome new parents Rebecca and Ben Adams.

Good move Cathy McGowan

Cathy truly does appear to listen to the community she represents and is acting to make changes that the wider Australian Community is also interested in putting right.

Cathy and a colleague have a motion before the next parliament calling for a 12 month old enquiry into parliamentarian's entitlements and abuse of such, be acted upon to start with. To have a deeper look at the system and implement an audit on all travel claims as well as immediate reporting of expenses claimed not 12 months later reporting. A call for abuse of the system to be reported to the Fed Police for investigation is included in the motion.

NOTICE OF MOTION

MEMBER FOR DENISON: I give notice that on the next day of sitting I shall move that this House:

1. Acknowledges:
 - a. The high level of concern in the community, especially in recent years, about the generosity and leniency of the current parliamentary entitlements framework; and
 - b. the fact that current parliamentary entitlements are out of line with community expectations.
2. Notes that the An Independent Parliamentary Entitlements System review, led by Mr John Conde AO and Mr David Tune AO PSM, was delivered to the Government in February 2016, but so far there has been little progress on implementing its recommendations.
3. Acknowledges that there is a need for a much deeper overhaul of the parliamentary entitlements system, including:
 - a. An audit of all Members' and Senators' travel claims during this and the previous Parliament;
 - b. real-time online reporting of entitlement expenses and the requirement for more detail of the substantive reason for the expenditure; and
 - c. provisions to refer misuse which forms a pattern of misbehaviour to the Australian Federal Police.
4. Calls on the Government to commit to meaningful reform of the parliamentary entitlements framework that would put it in line with community expectations.



Mover, Member for Denison



Seconder, Member for Indi

I feel sure that many people would be very supportive of this move Cathy has taken. Good to know that OUR representative is not just there for the entitlements.

If you want to have a direct say on this topic, there is an online petition collecting signatures before going to the Prime Minister – you can add your signature if you wish by going to the web page https://www.change.org/p/stop-mps-wasting-taxpayers-money-on-personal-expenses-federal-corruption-watchdog-now?recruiter=29149105&utm_source=share_petition&utm_medium=facebook&utm_campaign=autopublish&utm_term=mob-sm-share_petition-reason_msg

keep up to date with what our local member of parliament is doing on <http://www.cathymcgowan.com.au>

Locals be warned

There are croc's loose in Lake Eildon, several have been spotted along the banks and this picture was captured by Gavin Powell On January 9th.

Now this may be the appropriate spot for the NEW –

DAD JOKE

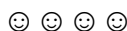
section...

Dad announces at dinner "I was walking down the street today when the cheese shop I was passing exploded"

The family stare at him in silence waiting for the punch line "No one was injured – But oh .. da brie !"

GROAN

Submitted by Alex Pouloupoulos – *feel free to send in your own favourite Dad joke for next month.*



Free Photographic workshops for schools

Sawmill Settlements Jim Filmer operates these school workshops and was one of the judges for the students entrants in the recent competition where he was an adult finalist in which he won an exhibition in Sydney later in the year.

The students Jim has already trained at Merrijig Primary School LOVE photography and know how to create wonderful photos.

Many readers are not permanent residents of Merrijig - for those readers – suggest to your local or your children's schools that they get involved in this this Moran Arts Foundation project.

Register interest before Feb 16th

<http://www.moranprizes.com.au/request-school-workshop>



A large part of the Moran Arts Foundation's patronage of the arts is supplying over 100 free photographic workshops to schools around Australia. We are currently accepting applications for the 2017 workshops — register your interest for your school online by 16 February!



Request a School Workshop | Moran Prizes

The Moran School Photographic Workshop Program is open to Australian schools and students enrolled in Years 3 to 12. Please fill in the form below to request a workshop for your school in 2016. Schools will be selected...

MORANPRIZES.COM.AU



High Country Massage Centre

Massage Therapy, NES Health Treatments, Bowen Therapy



People



Horses



Dogs

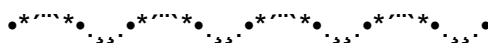
This business owned by Di Horkings – formally of Glenroy Rd (which we count as Merrijig too) has moved to where she can keep her horses on the same property she lives on.



Di is like a magician if you have an animal not in as good health as normal or you are not on top of the world yourself.

I go to Di myself for massage and for NES treatment to help manage my autoimmune condition so I can recommend her.

This though is to let you know that she has moved and is no longer in Glenroy Road phone is still the same 0431 044 634 New address is 155 Piries Goughs Bay Rd.



Who cares for the local Cemetery?

“Upon visiting Mansfield's cemetery yet again” Sue O'Brien said, “I have observed basic neglect of this public space. Grass is long, a potential fire hazard. Pot holes exist, drains, gutters and bins all needing attention too. Large sections of the lawn areas need top dressing and reseeding. Bench seats need new paintwork. “

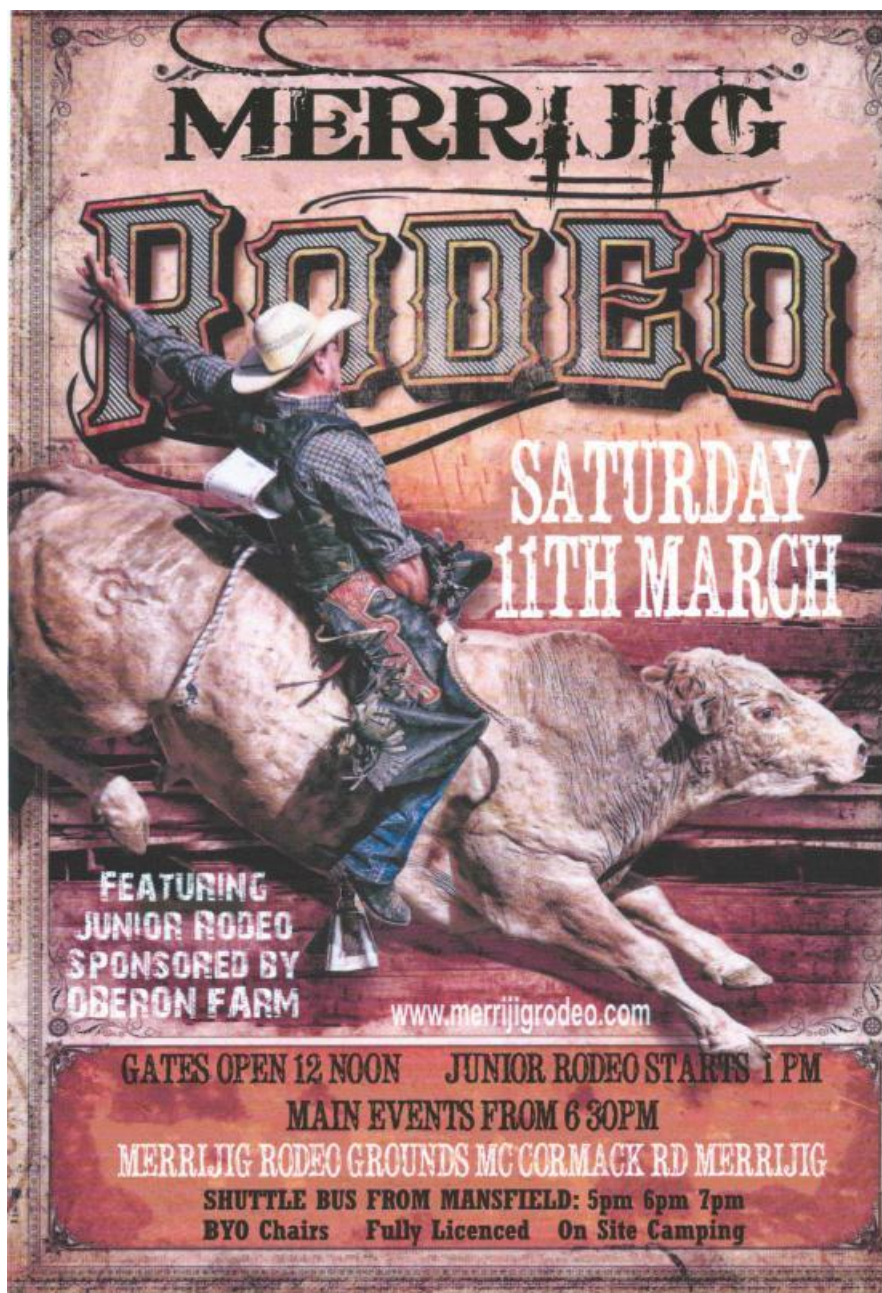


"But....." Sue continued, "As you approach Mansfield from Benalla the lawns are well kept, so too Melb side."

"Gotta love tourism." She concluded.

Marg Attley, our local councillor, raised this question of neglect of the cemetery at the cemetery trust meeting held on Jan 17th. Attention will now be given to these particular areas and Marg said that each cemetery in the shire is on a maintenance rotation and at times some take longer to bring to order than others, and she suggests that when some residents notice, as Sue has done, that the maintenance is falling behind to put in a notice to the Cemetery trust works department at the shire office so that the particular area needing attention can be brought to the trusts attention.

Look What's coming up in March!



Highlight these 'not to be missed' dates on your calendar for March.

The Famous Merrijig Rodeo In its 39th year.

This popular event began as a fundraising activity for the Footy Club when Kerrie Lovick (now Burrows) worked to raise money via the Queen Quest.

Young blokes had been bouncing on the odd horse being broken in and young steers just for fun, so it seemed like a good idea at the time to turn the fun into a fund raiser.

It has proved to be a very good idea and this well-loved event has stood the test of time to be looking at running for almost 40 years.

Now days several local organizations and clubs benefit such as the local CFA and the hall, and sporting clubs as well.

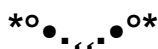
Mark this one on the calendar for next month.



While on the subject of the Rodeo Mary Dunn has the job or ‘**rounding up**’ some volunteers to man a couple of booths at the Rodeo this year to benefit the Merrijig Community Hall.

Not only will you be assisting the Merrijig Rodeo to run smoothly, you can also help the Merrijig Hall with one single donation of your time.

Mary is calling for volunteers to work on two booths – one booth selling bar tickets and the other moving the merchandise at the Rodeo. “I think if volunteers can help out for a two-three hour time – it would be wonderful” Mary said. “Please get them to get in touch with me...0437 374001”



Merrijig Family Fun Day Sat 18th March

Oh boy is this going to be fun in 2017

The Jumping Castle man is healthy again this year and will be bringing a surprise castle; he has not told us what he will bring. - We have a horse and cart lady who can take people for a hay ride and line dancers are going to give a demonstration.

The popular dog jumping is on again, dogs of all sizes are able to win themselves a supply of dog food as well as a ribbon and perhaps a trophy if they are champion jumpers.

Displays of vintage vehicles will be setup around the park as well as working dog displays and a few others if we can get commitments from people.

To volunteer on this day for free entry and meal ticket contact Adele
0409600656
adelemac15@bigpond.com

Merrijig Family Fun Day

**SATURDAY
MARCH 18TH
10AM-4PM
Last entry 3pm**

Line dancing
Wagon rides
Easter egg hunt
Jumping castles
Amongst other fun
FREE games

**GOOD OLD
FASHIONED
FAMILY FUN!**

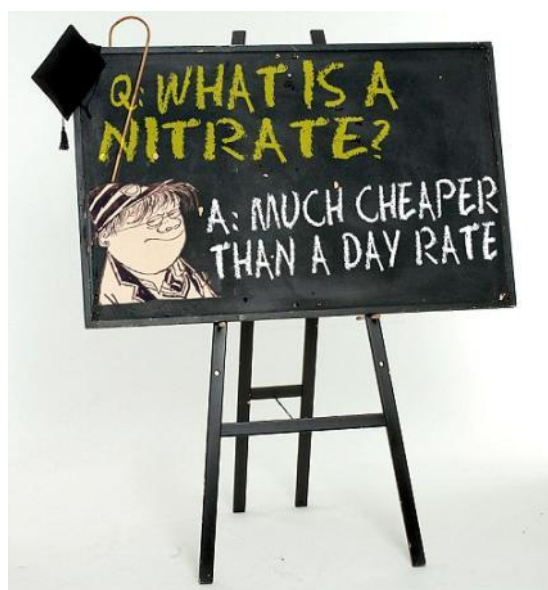
Monster Raffle, Face Painting
Vintage Motor Bike & Tractor display
Food & Drink stalls, Dog Jumping Comps
Novice Gymkhana Events & Horse Riding Demos
& Heaps More

McCormack Park (Rodeo Grounds) McCormacks Rd, Merrijig
Cost - All kids under 16 FREE \$10 Adults, \$5 Pensioners & Students



NOW FOR A FINAL GOOD LAUGH!

Why Teachers Drink.....



What was Sir Walter Raleigh famous for?

He is a noted figure in history because he invented cigarettes and started a craze for Bicycles.

What did Mahatma Gandhi and Genghis Khan have in common?

Unusual names

Name one of the early Romans' greatest achievements.

Learning to speak Latin.

Jokes submitted by friends on facebook

Bye for now Adele
Adele McCormack
45 McCormacks Rd
Merrijig 3723
0409 600 655