

# Merrijig Community Newsletter June 2017



Quote of the month.



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Back issues of the newsletters can be viewed on the web at  
[http://www.merrijig.com.au/html/local\\_news.html](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**.

June 2017						
◀ May						July ▶
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Rubbish	2 Live Music at Mill Inn	3 Mabo Day (Indigenous Australians)  Free entry to Mt Buller this weekend for Locals
4 Free entry to Mt Buller this weekend for Locals	5 Western Australia Day (WA)	6 Queensland Day (Qld)	7	8 Rubbish & Recycle	9 last day for Sport and Rec Survey	10 Ski Season Opening Weekend
11	12 Queen's Birthday	13	14	15 Rubbish	16	17 Erril Street Lamp parade & street party
18 International Picnic Day	19	20	21	22 Rubbish & Recycle	23	24
25 Gourmet Farmer 4 course meal at Mill Inn	26	27	28	29 Rubbish	30	Notes:



This is issue #50 Woo Hoo who would have thought!

## The Mill Inn is the place to be in June



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

**SUNDAY 25TH JUNE**

**sunday foodies lunch**

Luncheon at  
The Mill Inn from 12.30pm  
\$100 per head  
4 course wood fired luncheon  
matched with local wines

WITH  
**ROSS O'MEARA**  
BRUNY ISLAND; TAS/ CHEF, AUTHOR,  
LICENSED GAMEKEEPER,  
SAUSAGE & MEAT KING  
[www.brunyislandfood.com.au](http://www.brunyislandfood.com.au)

This all begins tomorrow so better book in straight away so you don't miss out .....

On **Friday 2nd** June the Mill Inn presents live music with Simon Marks from 8:00pm

The following weekend – the **Queen's Birthday weekend** the place will be ready for all locals and visitors as they will be open every evening over the long weekend as well as LUNCH on Sunday 11 June.

Wow what a wonderful opportunity awaits on **Sunday 25th June**

- lunch with Gourmet Farmer (SBS TV) ROSS OMEARA

Provided will be 4 courses with matching wine \$100pp  
Bookings for this event are essential

Cheers

Vanessa  
The Mill Inn Restaurant



1 ALPINE RIDGE ROAD/ MT BULLER ROAD  
MERRIJIG-SAWMILL

**BOOKINGS: CONTACT VANESSA 0487 771071**  
03 57775868 - [themillinn@bigpond.com](mailto:themillinn@bigpond.com)  
[WWW.MILLINN-MERRIJIG.COM](http://WWW.MILLINN-MERRIJIG.COM)



## Who's Doing What Lately?

"Can't recommend Africa enough".... said Fiona Goldman about a week into the trip off the bucket list for she and Chris Dunlop.



Fiona is very fond of breeding coloured horses and has some beautiful specimens delivered each year by her brood mares but this one pictured above is pretty special and hung around the pool apparently, must have known they were "horsey people"

"Believe it or not this bad picture is a lion" Fiona said, "It's the First lion seen in Chobe National Park in nearly a month" with great pride she added "and I spotted him!"

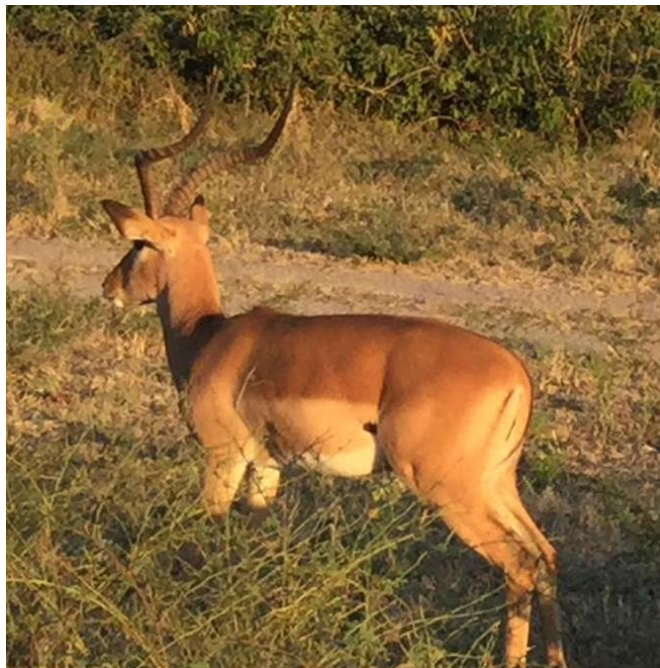
"It was right on dark coming back from safari and it made our day!" she happily concluded.





Fiona mentioned that life is quite hectic on this holiday, "After a 6am safari where we saw a leopard and a pack of wild dogs (very rare) we packed our bags and headed to Zimbabwe. Getting over the border was chaotic to say the least but we finally got here. Off on a luxury sunset river cruise tonight and thank god no 5am start tomorrow! Tired but relaxed"

Some of the wonderful photos from the safari. ↓





"Botswana is amazingly." Fiona said, "Within our first hour of arrival we saw Impala, Water Buffalo, Baboons and Warthogs. By the end of our fourth hour we added Elephants, Hippos, giraffe and baby crocs! Then this morning on our 6 am safari, we added zebras to the list. The people are colourful, happy and incredibly hospitable."



"I have a goat, a sheep, a cat and a dog not to mention numerous horses!" Fiona mentioned,

"Now meet Warwick the Warthog! I'm TRYING to arrange transportation to Merrijig. I'm sure Warwick will give Millie and Sammy a run for their money! 😊🐶🐱"

Chris is also making the most of this long awaited trip, enjoying the wildlife and climate to the max.





## **Surprise Surprise – It’s a wedding at Buttercup**

Ashleigh Jurriens and Matt Anderson are very good at keeping secrets and there is definite proof of this as they had been planning a weekend of activities to gather family and close friends to Merrijig for their Engagement Party.

In the lead up to the scheduled Engagement party on May 27<sup>th</sup>, Ashleigh’s mother Juliet had gone into the Epworth hospital for delicate surgery on her back on May 16<sup>th</sup> and this could not have been worse timing for the happy event to go ahead, as she was meant to remain in hospital for two weeks but was home within only 10 days on 26<sup>th</sup> following a mere 5 days of rehab. Juliet was happy to be home and as a treat, Ashleigh had booked a hair dresser to do her hair as welcome home for her mum who had not had a comfortable trip home.

As people are all so busy, the couple decided to combined several fun activities into the same day so that as many people as possible could be encouraged to come on this special day. Ashleigh had her grandparents agreeing to attend her engagement party and Matt had his also attending, so the young couple suggested everyone wear their nice clothes for a family photo together at Ashleigh’s favourite Merrijig spot, Bruce and Deb McCormack’s Buttercup block.

As Juliet and Andrew were preparing to go to Buttercup for the photos Ashleigh rang her father to see if he could get her mum’s brother to drive her to Buttercup, as she needed his help and she was at Bruce and Deb’s house. So this was quickly arranged and as Andrew walked into the McCormack home to see his daughter having professional make up applied he said ‘You’re getting married aren’t you’ - that was the first he knew about it and he unashamedly burst into tears.





Deb drove the bride and her father to Buttercup where the horse "Kip" had been carefully prepared and hidden by Bruce to surprise those present when the bride rode up on horseback. Andrew joined her half way through her ride bringing her bouquet and then walked her to meet her groom with the celebrant.

This having been a long held dream of Ashleigh's to have a happy casual wedding at Buttercup was now a reality. The young couple put in a heck of a lot of careful planning and only include very close friends in the plan so that EVERYONE was surprised including mums and dads.

With all this happening in the Jurrjens family it makes you wonder how Matt's family managed their surprise.

The Merrijig Hall was booked for the Engagement Party and now turned into the Wedding breakfast celebrations where family and close friends had a wonderful time.

Ashleigh and Matt own AM Cleaning and Garden Services and they were back at work on Sunday following their wedding as their staff members were all

tied up with other things. They will take a break as soon as they can, to celebrate their successful surprise wedding on their own with a short honeymoon on the Murray River.

# Beechworth Camp

For  
Merrijig School kids



A whole lot of fun was had by the senior students of the Merrijig Primary school during their school camp at Beechworth between May 15<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. The Principal Carole McCluskey and Collette Clarke even gave them "RED CORDIAL" from the Murray brewery (cordial factory) then wondered if they should leave them penned up under control in Harry Powers Jail cell till they calmed down.

Amongst the adventures around Beechworth the children enjoyed bushwalking, checking out the Eldorado Museum where they were able to dress in period costumes and even had a go at ten pin bowling one evening. They tasted fresh honey and tried on Ned Kelly's helmet, even held a trial for Ned in the Beechworth court house, they even managed as well to fit in enjoying music provided by Lazy Harry to which they danced.

This will be a school camp that will be hard to forget.

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## Want to know more about the NBN

and what it will do for your business and when!

Then pop along to the NBN Sky Muster truck

**Thursday 8 June between 10am - 2pm**

High St, Mansfield opp Marks IGA

A blue NBN Sky Muster truck is parked on a grassy field under a clear blue sky. The truck has a large satellite dish on its roof and is decorated with the NBN logo and network map. The background shows rolling hills and a single tree.

**The nbn™ Sky Muster Truck in Mansfield**  
Thursday 8 June - 10am-2pm

The nbn™ Sky Muster Truck is on its way to Mansfield.

Visit the team in High St, Mansfield (opposite Marks IGA) to learn more about the nbn™ and what it means for you.

Visit the website for more information on the nbn™:  
[www.nbn.com.au](http://www.nbn.com.au)

 Australia's broadband network

## Beneficiary's night from Merrijig Rodeo – held at the Merrijig Hall May 17.



Representatives from the organisations who helped make the rodeo possible are pictured at the beneficiary's night at Merrijig Hall recently.

From left rear Peter Scales; Tom Swan, Peter Bowker, Ian Davies; Mansfield Apex Club's, Craig Skinner ; Rodeo president, Beau Purcell; Nicole Nye.

Front row: Noel Willaton, Helena Simpkin; Susan Taylor, Robyn Baddeley, Rachel Nash; Sen Weir and Sharon Simpkin.

President Beau Purcell was extremely complimentary of the work done by the various committees and their volunteers. "Without them contributing to the running of the event it would not be possible" he said.

## McCormack Park – Yours for \$50

The venue where the Merrijig Rodeo, Merrijig Camp draft and the Merrijig family fun day are annually run is now available for use by the public through a newly created membership of only \$50 per family per annum.

This is a beautiful arena which has been brought up to Australian Campdrafting standards with a deep sand surface.

Bruce McCormack, President of the Grounds Management committee said the management committee feel the venue is under-utilised and that it should be used by local people to work their horses, practice for events and enjoy access to this great facility in our community.



The grounds have developed since 2003 when Merrijig Rodeo relocated to the spot offered by the late Cyril McCormack so that the event he was a founding member of would not be lost to Merrijig. Helena Simpkin, who is still on the current Rodeo committee chose the site which is consistently praised by people who use it. Work by the then Rodeo committee members had the area ready for the March event in 2004.

Over the next 13 years the venue has progressively developed with Merrijig Campdraft association being formed and adding to the facilities on the site.

Due to the community putting so much into the area, Cyril's widow Adele decided to have the area surveyed so that now a 7.5 acre area, which goes from McCormacks Rd to the tree plantation along the creek is officially named as McCormack Park.



Mountain Cattlemen have had their annual gathering at this venue twice and have also added to the growth of the site. Merrijig Family Fun day have held 3 Gymkhana and fun days and now the management committee want to encourage more locals to share in the asset the community as developed.

*Mountain Cattlemen's get together 2011- not just about horses !*

Eventually the committee hope to have a permanent ablutions block replacing the couple of builders toilets currently available for users and the necessity of hiring portable toilets for events. Power supply options are another area the

management committee are looking at.

President Bruce recently said to the Courier journalist "There are very few arenas that can be accessed by the general public – meaning that unless you are a member of a club user group, the facilities are kept under lock and key" he went on to say that "regular families cannot build their own safe arena for children and new riders to practice on in order to build riding confidence to ride on the bush trails and these are the very people we think can benefit from a family membership"

To become a member of McCormack Park contact Secretary Jan Nelson on [janomnelson@gmail.com](mailto:janomnelson@gmail.com)

The funds raised through this membership will be used for the development and upkeep of the venue.

The venue also has a large building used by large events as a bar, it would also be great for parties or social gatherings – the whole venue is available for hire by any club, group or organization such as

the recent Enduro Motorbike association who held their 4 day event using McCormack Park as its base. Secretary Jan is the person to arrange for the hire of the site at any time.

## Working Bee fixes wash away of Arena Sand

Still on McCormack Park – following the top dressing the arena with 10 cm of sand a few years ago and then sadly seeing some of it be washed away by heavy rains, Jason Egan, who is the management committee's arena manager acquired some disused SEC poles and with a few other enthusiastic volunteers set about working on a remedy. The poles will support the lower edge of the arena keeping the sand where it needs to be thus avoiding the need to constantly top up the sand.



Jason has great knowledge of horse arenas being a member of the Egan family who are all deeply entrenched in the love and working of horses and what they need to stay safe and in good condition.

“The arena must never be deep harrowed” Jason said, “if the clay base is disturbed it will mix with the top sand and make it a mix of clay and sand so only harrowing with upside down harrows should ever be done now that the surface is soft thick good quality sand.”

One other thing to keep the arena in good condition is when people use it they must leave all the gates closed when they leave, gates left to swing in the wind will put pressure on the hinges and they will not be able to swing freely or they may break altogether.

“This is an amazingly valuable asset in the community” Jason often says. “Merrijig is so lucky to have it”



Weekly Times (Melbourne, Vic. : 1869 - 1954), Wednesday 19 August 1942, page 14

## HERE'S TO MERRIJIG

**MERRIJIG**, a settlement on the Delatite River, 15 miles from Mansfield, has been promoted from a village to the status of a township. Its transformation was effected by a proclamation, signed by the Governor and published in a recent Government Gazette. I feel that a township with such a happy and whimsical name as Merrijig deserves a slab of verse all to itself, so here goes:

*I now take up my humble pen  
(I use a pencil now and then),  
And don my false poetic wig  
To pen some verse to Merrijig.*

*This modest little one-horse town  
Has lately gained far more renown  
Than many towns three times as big.  
And hence my hymn to Merrijig.*

*Now faces oft with interest light,  
And questions are asked day and night  
By folk who never cared a fig  
Till recently for Merrijig.*

*Of city bustle tired grown,  
'Tis now the wish of some to own  
Some fowls, a house, a horse and gig,  
And spend their lives in Merrijig.*

*Some others, keen on larger stock,  
No doubt would like to keep a flock  
Of sheep, a cow, a goat, a pig  
And live on them in Merrijig.*

*You there encounter friendly men,  
Who greet you cheerily, so when  
You hear a genial, "Hullo, Dig!"  
You'll feel at home in Merrijig.*

*The place has such a strong appeal  
For me that I confess I feel  
Like putting on my Sunday rig,  
And jaunting off to Merrijig.  
But as a bard I lack the fare  
That I would need to take me there,  
So in default of that I'll swig  
A silent toast to Merrijig.*

### Song of the West

**WHEN** Mae West grows old and settles down some admirer may compose a song to her entitled: "My Little Grey West In The Home."

### Tongue Trouble

**MANY** ships have doubtless been lost in this war through thoughtless convoy-sations.



National Library of Australia

*John Peerybingle*



← Pre Alex's Dad Jokes



<http://nla.gov.au/nla.news->

## New Facebook page if you have some things too good to throw out



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/538963636288241/>



## Our isolated Aussie Indigenous families need your help

**Many people support children and communities overseas through UNICEF or World Vision – here is a chance to assist people in a similar position on our own door step.**

These notices below are copied from Facebook they give information of where to send things we don't need for those who do need them. "I recently received a very nice thank you letter from Ti Tree, one community mentioned below, who were grateful for books I sent for the school children." Said Adele McCormack.

If you are thinning out your own wardrobe or the kid's clothes, you may like to consider sending a \$17:50 post pack to these places as they will truly appreciate them. That is less expensive than sponsoring a child through one of the established organizations and your donation is 100% going to the people who really need it, not into admin costs but to those who are genuinely in need.

"I've been sending one parcel of clothes my girls have grown out of per month for almost a year now" said Michele Lunam, "I think it's good Karma to share what we can with those who have little"

The copied messages follow .....

Hi all, This is Elsa from the Kalumburu Mission in the Kimberleys, WA (the poorest & remotest mission in Australia).

Currently they are in need of the following: -Size 0 to 1 babies (as new born babies basically don't have anything to wear)

-Underwear of all types -summer kids clothes in all sizes as many only have one change of clothes



-Large cotton dresses, tops and skirts for older ladies (big sizes only)

-Men's shirts, T-shirts and cargo shorts in large or XL

-Towels, single linen sheets & pillowcases

-Thongs all sizes (not for toddlers)

If you have some of these items that you would like to donate (I can assure you that when they reach the final destination they will be fairly distributed to each of the final users by Sherrie) you can fill up a prepaid 5kg satchel from the post office \$17.50 (this is by far the most economical way to send stuff to there) and send it to Clinic Att: Sherrie Vickery Postal Address: PMB 12, Via Wyndham, Kalumburu WA 6740

Also

Kids clothes (as many kids only have one change of clothes, some have none so can't go to school) and school type equipment pencils, books, those wipe on wipe off game books, learning games and toys. *(Enquires were made and there is no need for electronic, DVD's, CD's, or computer games)*

You can address the post pack as follows

ATT: Geoff Gillman Ti Tree Preschool. Education Stores Shed 9, 66a Smith Street Alice Springs, NT 0870



On a personal note:-

Ti tree is almost 200km North of Alice Springs and is professed to be the most central pub in Australia. I (Adele) had the urge to sing "I am Australian" in this most central pub when I visited there in 2008 and I stayed a few days, the people are nice and there are two camps of Aboriginal groups, the bush people and the community people.

I think these gifts would help the bush people integrate into the community. Help the kids to fit in and the parents will want to follow. It's very little effort on our part and can make such a difference to those who have nothing.

*Inside the most central pub in Australia – on the day I sang in this pub a bus load of O'seas visitors pulled in and enjoyed some Aussie songs – I was shouted dinner that night – truly singing for my supper – yes that is a coffin. One of the publicans fancied having his coffin made pre passing and here it waits- it's got shelves and **spirits** in side – of course.*

## Local jobs available

### **AM Cleaning and Garden Services**: have jobs available for winter season

We Clean Lodges and Holiday apartments on Mt Buller and have Holiday Rental properties in the Merrijig and Bonnie Doon areas.

We are Looking for Casual employees to join our team From Early June through to mid/ end of September (or until Snow melts)

We have Cleaning Shifts Between 10am-4pm Sunday-Friday.

We also have some commercial cleaning available to the right candidate. (This is after/ before work hours.)

Tasks Associated with our cleaning work include but are not limited to:

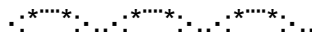
- Cleaning Bathrooms
- Cleaning Kitchens
- Making beds
- Vacuuming
- Mopping
- Dusting
- Restocking Supplies

On the job, Training will be provided.

**\*\*We would prefer someone who is available to work Fridays and Sundays**

Please Contact Ashleigh on 0411290799 or amcgs1st@gmail.com

For wage rates and any other information required



## **Looking for a new challenge?**

Do you want variety in your job with genuine growth opportunities within the biggest Hospitality group in Australia, and to be part of a team that recognises YOU?

If so, we invite you to become a part of The Sebel Pinnacle Valley Resort team.

We have employment opportunities available for the right people as:

Casual Resort All Rounders Successful applicants may be trained and work in a variety of departments,

such as: • Food & Beverage • Housekeeping • Ski Shop • Front Office



These roles are perfect for those wanting variety in their work.

Take the next step or make a new start in your hospitality career and become part of this exciting growing business.

Please send your resume to [vicki.rutter@accorvacationclub.com.au](mailto:vicki.rutter@accorvacationclub.com.au)  
or mail to Assistant Manager, 1 Mimosa Drive, Merrijig, Victoria 3723. Phone (03) 5777 5788

Also Sebel are now seeking an experienced **Ski Shop Supervisor** to manage and run our Ski Shop for the 2017 Ski Season (Commencing end of May to close of season)

Working in our onsite ski rental store, you will assist our guests with selecting, fitting and rental of ski/snowboard equipment and clothing.

You will also clean, service and repair the equipment to maintain quality and safety standards. Stock control and point of sale assistance will also form part of your duties.

Ski Shop Supervisor What we need from you:

- Provide professional advice and fitting of rental Ski Equipment to Ski Shop customers
- Ensure guest records and equipment sheets are fully completed and processed according to resort policy
- Be knowledgeable of current and forecast snow conditions at all times in order to assist guests and anticipate peak demand periods
  - Pro-actively up-sell the full range of retail items
- Keep all equipment in good repair and Ski Shop premises in a clean and organised state
- Perform daily opening and closing in accordance with resort policy based on seasonal demand
- Perform cashiering and other daily administrative tasks

If you understand Ski Shop hire equipment, and you are looking for the ultimate winter job that allows you to talk snow at work and the flexibility to spend plenty of time on the slopes this winter, then apply today for the 2017 Ski Season.

Email your CV to [Vicki.rutter@accorvacationclub.com.au](mailto:Vicki.rutter@accorvacationclub.com.au)

ERRIL STREET & MANSFIELD LANTERN

# *Festival*

Food & Beverage Stalls / Music / Open Fire / Lantern Parade

COME AND JOIN THE STREET PARTY

Saturday 17th of June

Erril St Rejuvenation launch  
4:30-5pm

Mansfield Lantern Festival 5-9pm  
Lantern Parade 5:30pm  
(no open flames)

Fun for the whole family!

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





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

## **A WORD FROM THE SHIRE**

<http://www.mansfield.vic.gov.au/home.aspx>

Council is keen to ensure all community based sporting clubs and groups as well as individuals have an opportunity to provide input into this important planning project. Council has developed two on-line community surveys in order to encourage broad community input into the planning project.

1. A survey specifically for SPORTS CLUBS. One survey per club should be completed and we encourage the Secretary of each club (or relevant officer) to complete the survey on-behalf of your club. Access to the sports club survey can be found at the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MansfieldClubSurvey>

2. A survey specifically for individual COMMUNITY MEMBERS which all residents are also encouraged to complete. We encourage you to forward a link to this survey to all your club members. The community survey can be found at the following link:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MansfieldCommunitySurvey>.

In addition to the surveys, written submissions, comments or suggestions for the Sports Facility Strategy are now invited. Submissions do not need to be overly sophisticated, a simple letter or email with dot-points is acceptable.

### **As an example, submissions may wish to consider:**

- What is working well in terms of sport facilities in the Shire?
- What could be improved?
- Are your needs currently being met? If not, what is missing?
- Any other comments, suggestions or feedback in relation to possible future use, development or improvement of sports facilities across the Shire.

The on-line surveys, written submissions or suggestions should be **received by 9 June, 2017**. Submissions can be emailed or posted to:

Dan Purcell  
Sport and Recreation Officer  
Mansfield Shire Council  
Private Bag 1000  
Mansfield VIC 3724

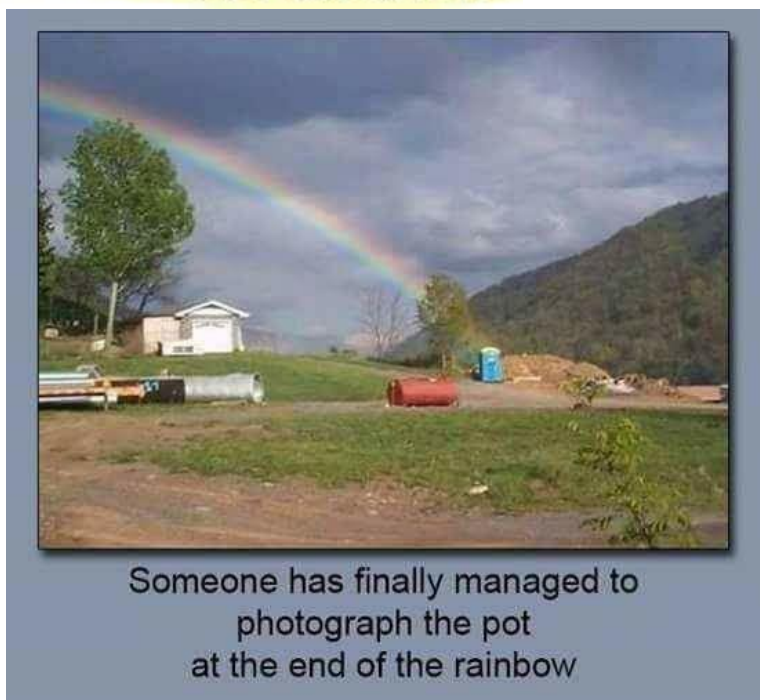
Email: [dan.purcell@mansfield.vic.gov.au](mailto:dan.purcell@mansfield.vic.gov.au)

More information about this project can be obtained from Dan Purcell, Sport and Recreation Officer, Mansfield Shire Council on Tel: 5775 8529 if required.

**Last year very few people participated in the survey – we have a very good shire council here who want to know what WE want from them, so please take a few minutes to take the survey and help to improve our shire sporting and rec areas.**

\*~>(\*~♥~,\*~),~\*~ \*~\*~>(\*~♥~,\*~),~\*~

**NOW FOR A FINAL GOOD LAUGH!**



Bye for now Adele

Adele McCormack  
45 McCormacks Rd  
Merrig 3723  
0409 600 655