

Merrifield

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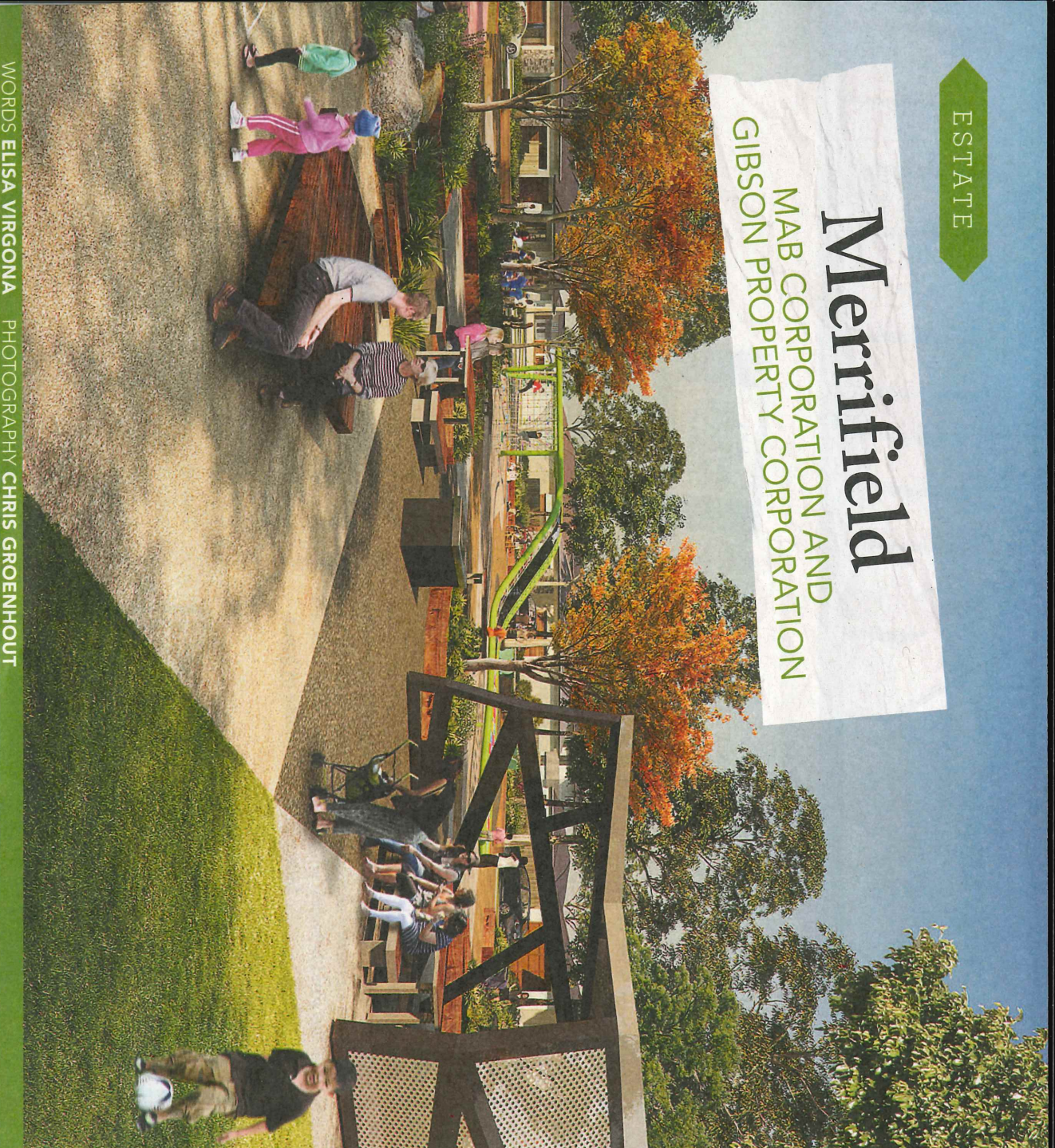


IMAGE SUPPLIED BY MAB CORPORATION

CHECK IT OUT

Your first stop at Merrifield will be the sales centre – and the good news is the kids are catered for. This clever children's nook (pictured below) has two wall-mounted iPads to keep the little ones entertained with games while Mum and Dad check out all the plans and latest land releases for Merrifield. The sales centre also has an outdoor area for the kids to explore.



WORDS ELISA VIRGONA PHOTOGRAPHY CHRIS GREENHOUT

Showing just how grand the scale is for Merrifield is its planned 3000ha business park plus 110ha city centre – that's about 1.5 times the size of Melbourne's CBD, with the potential to create 20,000 new jobs.

The Mickleham development is in its infancy, but it's set to change the face of Melbourne's north, with room for 5000-plus homes (more than 15,000 residents) and Merrifield Park, a State Government-proposed parkland.

Project director Matthew Planner says Merrifield represents "a modern, progressive vision of urban living".

"This truly diverse and sustainable community will be a thriving destination for work, leisure and residential living," he says.

And this year has been a big one for Merrifield: the first six land releases are now sold (more than 200 lots), civil works began on the first five residential stages (two are now complete) and a 35-home display village is now being built (to open mid-2015).

The masterplanned community's big vision includes a city centre with retail hubs, supermarkets, cafes/restaurants and outdoor plazas. Then comes the proposed community and recreation facilities, which include four schools (two primary, two secondary), a community centre with kindergarten, maternal and child health centre, child-care centre and meeting rooms, a council library, 9ha sports reserve (including two football ovals and six tennis courts) and a council aquatic centre.

Medical and health facilities, including a hospital, are also proposed. Plus, all homes will be within a five-minute walk of a park.

Merrifield Park, presently the Kalkallo Retarding Basin, is also proposed to become a regional landmark.

Merrifield is about a 35-minute off-peak drive to the city via the Hume Freeway and CityLink. The closest train stations are Donnybrook and Craigieburn (five and 10 minutes' drive away, respectively). ■



top An artist's impression of Merrifield. Once completed, there will be plenty of outdoor recreation options

above Deal with a view: Enjoy the scenery while you explore your options at the sales office

left and below The Merrifield sales office is a hi-tech showcase that hints at the sophisticated design of the estate



AT A GLANCE

BLOCK SIZES	From 262sqm to 610sqm
PRICE RANGE	From \$127,000 to \$214,000
SALES OFFICE	Donnybrook Rd, Mickleham (Melway 366 C4) Daily, 11am-5pm 9684 8120
OPEN PHONE	Daily, 11am-5pm 9684 8120
COUNCIL	Hume City Council
merrifieldmelbourne.com.au	

IN THE AREA:

Fun things to do on the weekend

★ Smell the roses at the Alister Clark Memorial Rose Garden. A stroll through the garden featuring world-famous roses developed by Alister Clark is spectacular when in season. Open daily, the garden is at the corner of Bulla Rd and Green St, Bulla (Melway 177 B7).

★ If you fancy some plane spotting, head to these aircraft-viewing areas to watch the jumbos as they fly overhead and on to the runway at Tullamarine Airport: Operations Rd (Melway 4 J7) and the corner of Sunbury Rd and Oaklands Rd, (Melway 177 H9).

★ Meet legendary retired racehorses at Living Legends at Woodlands Historic Park. Pack a picnic and explore historic Woodlands Homestead on the same day. Guided tours operate twice a day. Open daily, 10am-4pm, at Oaklands Rd, Greenvale (Melway 177 H9).
livinglegends.org.au

