

# Mernda Villages springs into celebrations

*Spring is in the air and nowhere is that more obvious than at Mernda Villages, where sunshine and warmer weather make our beautiful parks and open spaces really come to life.*

It's the time of year when we get ready for the football finals, think about spring cleaning the house and start getting our gardens ready for the warmer months ahead.

We've got something extra special to celebrate this spring: Mernda Villages is turning 10.

What a decade it has been. In the 10 years since the first lot was sold, Mernda Villages has grown to have more than 2,000 homes and about 6,000 residents. It also has a town centre, 13 parks, two primary schools and a retirement village.

We are still growing. Stockland recently unveiled the final village at Mernda Villages. The Outlook is in the south-west corner of the community, close to Bridge Inn Road and the Mernda Village Shopping Centre.

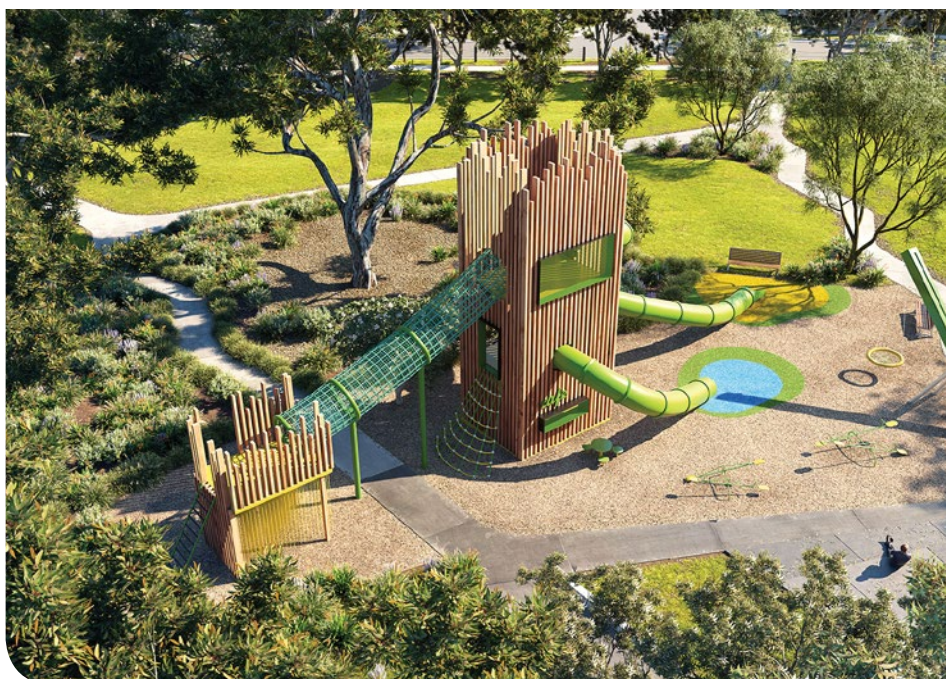


## Happy birthday to us – party time

Get ready to celebrate our 10th birthday with a family fun day on Saturday, 8th October.

Come together with your friends and neighbours for live music, a jumping castle, photo booth, food trucks, giveaways and – of course – birthday cake!

The party will be held at Mernda Villages Park located on Galloway Drive, from 2pm-4pm.



## Win with 'I Love #MyMernda'

*As part of our 10th birthday celebrations, Stockland is giving you the chance to tell us what you love about Mernda Villages – and win one of 10 \$100 Stockland Gift Cards.*

Go online and submit your favourite photo of Mernda Villages, or a photo of you and your family enjoying yourselves at Mernda Villages between 3/9/16 to 18/9/16 OR tell us in 25 words or less what you love about the community between 19/9/16 to 2/10/16. Use the hashtag #MyMernda

The top entries will be featured on the Stockland website and the Link & Learn North Facebook page at [facebook.com/linkandlearnnorth](https://facebook.com/linkandlearnnorth).

For more information go to [stocklandpromo.com.au/mymernda](https://stocklandpromo.com.au/mymernda)

## Treehouse takes park to new heights

A stunning treehouse will be the centrepiece of a playground to be built in a new park on Texel Drive in Stage 74 at Mernda Villages.

The park – the 13th built at Mernda Villages – will also feature climbing nets and tunnels, slides, a play cafe and a grassed kick-about area for ball games.

Existing river red gums are being retained at the new 5,500 square metre park, which is in the north-west corner of the community.

Final lots in Stage 74 are now selling, some with never to be built out park views. Call 13 LAND or visit the sales centre for pricing and availability.



## First move for Mernda Chess Club

Chess players, and those curious about the game, can now make their first move at the new Mernda Chess Club.

The club is open to players of all ages and abilities, bringing them together over pawns, rooks and queens at the Mernda Villages Community Activity Centre every Thursday evening.

A \$1,000 Stockland grant on behalf of Mernda Villages helped the new club buy boards, pieces and time clocks.

The Mernda Chess Club meets from 7pm-9pm every Thursday. There is no cost and players can arrive and leave at any time. You can find out more about the club via its Facebook page at [facebook.com/merndachessclub](https://facebook.com/merndachessclub)



## Stockland grants community wishes

What do a bike group, community garden, calisthenics club and cooking group have in common?

They will all receive a \$1,000 Stockland community grant on behalf of Mernda Villages.

Stockland's community grants program supports the efforts of local organisations that can achieve more with some extra funding.

This year's grants went to Whittlesea Bicycle Users Group, Whittlesea Community Garden, Mernda Calisthenics Club and Multicultural Cooking Group, Mernda Chess Club and St Joseph's Catholic Primary School.

## Getting your garden ready for spring

*Spring is the time of year when most gardens are waking out of their winter slumber.*

Our landscape experts at Mernda Villages have three tips to help make the most of your garden at the change of seasons.

**1. Prepare your lawn.** Most people have warm season lawns, so now is the time to prepare them for the growing season ahead. The start of spring is the time to aerate the lawn surface – using either a pitchfork or an aerating device – and then apply a fertiliser and wait for the spring sunshine to play its part.

**2. Mulch your beds.** Put down a good layer of mulch. This is important to suppress weeds and prevent the evaporation of moisture from the soil surface.

**3. Fertilise deciduous plants.** Feed your roses, trees and other deciduous plants to help them prepare their new spring growth.



## Link & Learn for new opportunities

After a short mid-winter break, Link & Learn North is getting ready to return.

Link & Learn is a Stockland program designed to encourage residents to connect with each other and gain new skills through fun and creative events.

We are making some exciting changes to the Link & Learn North program at Mernda Villages, with new classes and activities planned. Details will be announced soon, so stay in touch through the Facebook page at [facebook.com/linkandlearnnorth](https://facebook.com/linkandlearnnorth).

The popular Ready Steady Go Kids will continue twice a month at Eucalypt and Highlands.