

# MIV

Ford  
motoring  
ahead with  
Merrifield

Setting the  
Tempo for  
Box Hill

Taking  
business  
next level







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## Ford motoring ahead with Merrifield.

Locating a new state-of-the-art parts distribution centre to Merrifield is key to Ford Australia's dynamic plans for future growth.

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## Setting the Tempo.

Innovation meets aspiration, as MAB changes the game for apartment living in Box Hill.



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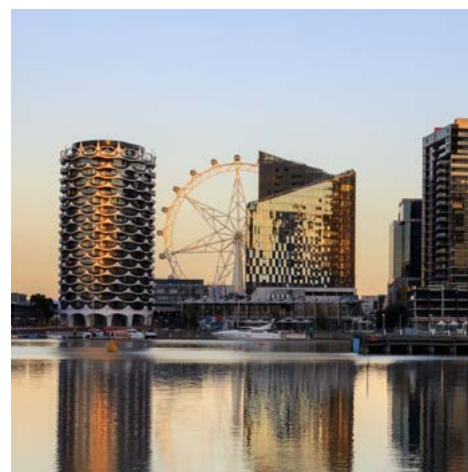
## Shoppers in their Element.

MAB's new \$28 million retail development delivers big brands to the fast-growing City of Casey.

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Recent commercial office projects reflect MAB's passion to create inspiring work environments.



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**So much has been written during 2020 and so many have tried to forecast what will happen and when with both the nation's health and economy. It is through this lens that MAB has recently completed its MABPlan which is our three year business plan that shapes our business in uncertain times.**

**However what is certain is MAB's customers will be seeking greater choices in where they live, work and establish their businesses. MAB's urban model has always been framed around creating jobs close to where people live and in a post COVID world, this will continue to be an important consideration for the broader community.**

Our work continues to plan new communities for people to live and for businesses to grow and prosper. How we plan the communities of the future will be influenced by the experience we have gained through the crisis.

As we celebrate MAB's 25 years of business, we enter this next phase in a position of relative strength, with an experienced and highly capable team, a strong balance sheet and a diversified pipeline of projects that is set to deliver over \$1.1 billion of projects over the next three-year period. The projects

include 2,400 residential apartments and townhouses, 4,500 residential lots for new housing and over 40 years supply of land within our existing and future business parks at Westmeadows and Avalon.

In this issue of MAB Vision, we are delighted to report on one of the biggest industrial deals in Melbourne for 2020 with Ford Australia pre-committed to a 51,480m<sup>2</sup> facility at Merrifield Business Park. The carmaker will join Dulux, D'Orsogna and Steritech at the 415-hectare business park.

As we move into the second half of 2020, there will continue to be a high level of activity with planning approval being secured for our Northside Communities projects at North Melbourne, Westgarth and Preston together with construction continuing with our mixed-use Escala project at NewQuay in Docklands. ●



**DAVID HALL**  
CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER

**COVER PAGE IMAGE // FORD AUSTRALIA'S NEW MANUFACTURING FACILITY. ARTIST'S IMPRESSION**





# Ford motoring ahead with Merrifield.

Locating a new state-of-the-art parts distribution centre to Merrifield is key to Ford Australia's dynamic plans for future growth.



**MAIN IMAGE AND RIGHT // FORD AUSTRALIA'S  
NEW PARTS AND DISTRIBUTION CENTRE.  
ARTIST'S IMPRESSION**

**“The facility will consolidate Ford’s spare parts operations into one purpose-built facility and help them service their customers faster and more efficiently. We look forward to welcoming them in 2021.”**



**MICHAEL MARTIN**  
GENERAL MANAGER COMMERCIAL  
& INDUSTRIAL



**One of Australia’s largest automotive parts distribution centres will open at Merrifield Business Park in late 2021, with Ford Australia signing a 10 year pre-lease for a 51,480m<sup>2</sup> facility**

The new purpose-built parts distribution facility, to be constructed by Texco, will comprise a 50,580m<sup>2</sup> warehouse, 900m<sup>2</sup> office occupying a site of 87,691m<sup>2</sup> and features a 5-Star Green Energy rating, super awning and 14.6 metre clearance height to enable Ford to store parts for current and future generation cars.

It will also offer Ford staff onsite parking facilities, a cafeteria and a walking track within the Merrifield Business Park, where it joins a growing network of businesses including Dulux, D’Orsogna and Steritech.

The new logistics facility represents the biggest investment in Ford Australia’s parts business in 60 years.

General Manager Commercial and Industrial, Michael Martin, said Merrifield Business Park’s close proximity to key rail, road and airport infrastructure, along with the ability to efficiently service the eastern seaboard helped secure the deal.

“Merrifield Business Park is becoming a preferred location in the North for large warehousing, manufacturing, distribution and storage facilities, due to its scale and proximity to the Hume Freeway”, he said.

Kay Hart, President & CEO of Ford Australia and New Zealand, said adding Merrifield as a fifth site to Ford’s existing four-site footprint in Victoria was an important step in continually improving service for customers and dealers.

“Our focus is on giving our customers the best experience possible, and that means making sure we have an efficient parts supply system for both our dealers and Ford owners,” said Hart.

“With space and great transport infrastructure links, this new site will enable us to store and distribute the parts we need for the current and future generations of vehicles, including electrified vehicles. It will also give our team the space it needs to grow our business into the future.



## // Business Parks



“We know that it isn’t enough to offer great vehicles; we also need to offer exceptional customer service and to support our dealers to do that. That’s why this investment is so important to us.”

CBRE was the advisor and broker on the deal, led by Victorian Executive Managing Director Dean Hunt and Associate Director Daniel Eramo.

“The preparation prior to the launch of Ford’s lease requirement has ensured that the right building solution is being delivered to meet Ford’s needs,” Mr Eramo said.

Melbourne-based industrial construction specialists Texco will design and construct the purpose-built facility, working closely with MAB and Ford Australia to meet its logistics and workplace requirements.

“We’re excited to be building Ford Australia’s new parts distribution solution and will be working closely with them to deliver a facility that provides a more efficient storage and distribution outcome” Texco Co-founder and Director Tom Bull said.

**One of the fastest growing communities in Victoria, Merrifield will eventually become the largest mixed-use masterplanned community in the state, with 4,000 residents already calling it home.**

Merrifield City will open its first retail stage including a Coles supermarket later this year, with a primary school, community centre and sports grounds to come in 2021.

Merrifield Business Park in Mickleham will be the largest business park in Victoria when completed. Bigger than the Melbourne CBD, it will span 415 hectares and create up to 25,000 jobs.

The estate offers sites up to 30 hectares with the ability to offer lots for sale or deliver pre-lease and turn key solutions with purpose-built facilities. ●

Visit: [merrifieldbusinesspark.com.au](https://merrifieldbusinesspark.com.au)

**MAIN IMAGE // THE PURPOSE-BUILT FACILITY INCLUDES STATE-OF-THE ART OFFICE SPACE AND WAREHOUSE FACILITIES. ARTIST’S IMPRESSION**



# Taking care of business.

**MAB Business Parks continue to thrive, delivering on location, infrastructure and job opportunities.**

## ELEMENT PARK

Final lots for sale have been released at Element Park and seen strong interest from local businesses and investors.

The site in Clyde North continues to attract buyers for the growing population, proximity to major roads and high exposure location.

Previous stage release sold out in just 3 weeks.

This marks another major milestone over the past 12 months including the upgrade of Berwick-Cranbourne Road, completion of Bunnings and the recently completed \$28million Clyde North Lifestyle Centre.



## Alliance Business Park

Strong sales results continue at Alliance Business Park in Epping. The most recent, a national self-storage group, purchased a prime 6,268m<sup>2</sup> lot with Edgars Road frontage. The transaction was executed and brokered by Mario Moscon at JLL in conjunction with MAB development manager Dan Rush. The Australian-owned and operated self-storage business will be developing a quality purpose-built facility set to become its flagship store in the north.

Works continue at Alliance Business Park to deliver 800m of Edgars Road which will connect Cooper Street to O'Herns Road. Delivery of Edgars Road will ease congestion for approximately 45,000 residents in Epping North and hundreds of businesses in the area – enhancing community wellbeing and providing greater business opportunities in Melbourne's north. ●



**TOP IMAGE** // ELEMENT PARK, CLYDE NORTH

**BOTTOM IMAGE** // EDGARS ROAD UPGRADE  
AT ALLIANCE BUSINESS PARK, EPPING







# Setting the Tempo

MAB's breakthrough apartment building invites tenants to live to their own beat.



**Delivering the type of tightly held real estate typical in Manhattan's best neighbourhoods and Melbourne's own East Melbourne apartment set is the intention behind a new project launching in Box Hill by MAB.**

The 19-level, 159-apartment building Tempo within the cultural suburb is designed to elevate the quality of local residential living in order to attract discerning long-term buyers who recognise that quality, not necessarily price, delivers the strongest returns.

MAB General Manager Residential David Allt-Graham said he expected Tempo would raise the bar for people choosing to live in Box Hill.

**MAIN IMAGE LEFT** // A WARM AND WELCOMING FACADE ANNOUNCES TEMPO AS PART OF THE COMMUNITY. ARTIST'S IMPRESSION

**IMAGE THIS PAGE** // TEMPO INTRODUCES LOFT LIVING TO BOX HILL. ARTIST'S IMPRESSION

**"MAB aims to deliver long-term value for customers and it's a commitment to quality that ensures value, not discounts and incentives."**





“Tempo will deliver long term capital growth for residents by focusing on the fundamentals to nurture the creation of a community within the apartment building. MAB has completed more than 15 apartment buildings and transient hotel-style living is not what we’re aiming for, its quality and community focused.”

Designed by Hayball, Tempo’s diverse range of apartments includes lofts featuring breathtaking 4.4 metre-high floor-to-ceiling windows, multigenerational apartments designed with family in mind and a penthouse equipped with an indoor fireplace and sunny terrace.

“Tempo’s adaptable layouts acknowledge the way we are living is always evolving and that our buyers want unique apartments that reflect their individual style. Tempo’s design reflects its vibrant and unique setting and its apartment layouts are reflective of the location,” said Mr Allt-Graham.

Tempo builds on MAB’s previous success creating loft product for Melburnians with a series of one and two bedroom double-height residences featuring a mezzanine level suited for use as a parents retreat, home office or flexible guest room.

“As more people work from home, lofts are becoming increasingly popular for the flexibility they provide. We pioneered loft living in NewQuay Docklands and it has become one of our most popular apartment designs to date. With Tempo, we are now bringing loft living to Box Hill for the first time,” said Mr Allt-Graham.

**Tempo’s selection of multigenerational apartments build on the concept of privacy and flexibility. With dual-key access, the apartments are designed to work as either an integrated two bedroom residence, or provide a separate self-contained studio. This provides owners with the option for older family members to live in the self-contained studio complete with kitchen and bathroom, or even lease the studio for additional income – a concept aimed at first homebuyers who might like help with the mortgage.**





Hayball Director Sarah Buckeridge said: “Our design intent was to create apartments that felt individual but within an integrated environment that promotes a relationship between residents and the wider community. We wanted Tempo to speak to quality and bring a sense of warmth to the environment, while creating a feeling of community in the diverse Box Hill area. We intentionally created moments for the project to interact with its surrounds, so that the project behaves with inclusivity, rather than operating as an enclave.”

Tempo comes to life on the street level with a planned alfresco café planned for Bruce Street, located beside a warm and welcoming entry. Verdant green climbers on the façade create a relationship between the building and the surrounding leafy precinct, while a pedestrian walking path along the northern edge provides a private entry to courtyard apartments.

Amenity within the building is second-to-none and is configured to suit a variety of groups and activities. A generously proportioned north-facing terrace at level one sits adjacent to a circular grand music room, lounge, gym and common library areas, while a resort-style BBQ and spa terrace on level 11 boasts magnificent views of Box Hill Gardens. ●

Visit: [tempoboxhill.com.au](http://tempoboxhill.com.au)



**DAVID ALLT-GRAHAM**  
GENERAL MANAGER RESIDENTIAL

**MAIN IMAGE TOP LEFT** // FLEXIBLE, MULTIGENERATIONAL APARTMENT DESIGN. ARTIST'S IMPRESSION

**IMAGE ABOVE (TOP)** // LIBRARY LOUNGE. ARTIST'S IMPRESSION

**IMAGE ABOVE (BELOW)** // TEMPO SPA DECK. ARTIST'S IMPRESSION





# Display sweet

Tempo's stunning display suite can also be experienced from the comfort of home.

MAB's latest residential display suite, Tempo Box Hill, invites you to discover for yourself the exceptional attention to detail, and well considered design aesthetic that Hayball, one of Australia's most experienced design practices, excels at.

Showcasing one of the three unique colour schemes to select from, the bold Expressionist scheme displayed features dark chocolate tones combined with luxurious burgundy vein marble splashbacks and benchtops. Standouts are the timeless premium ribbed glass detailing throughout the kitchen and bathroom cabinetry accented with brushed gold tapware. This scheme radiates glamour to suit a vibrant lifestyle.

Complementing the display suite experience is 3D modelling technology to assist in demonstrating design features of the building including MAB's innovative loft and multigenerational apartment design. This technology also allows the on-site display experience to be transported into the virtual environment so customers can experience Tempo in the comfort of their own home. ●

Tempo Box Hill Display Suite  
2 Bruce Street, Box Hill

*Temporarily closed*



**MAIN IMAGE //** BATHROOM DESIGN FEATURES INCLUDE MARBLE SPLASHBACKS & BRUSHED GOLD TAPWARE



# Shoppers in their Element.

**MAB's new \$28 million retail development delivers big brands to a fast-growing catchment.**

**Clyde North Lifestyle Centre is now open with major retailers ALDI, Petstock, Hungry Jack's, Repco and RSEA Safety .**

The new Centre joins MAB's growing portfolio of retail developments in both Melbourne and the United States.

MAB General Manager Investments Nick Gray said the portfolio has increased to 13 properties with an estimated value of more than \$700 million.

"Building on the success of Uni Hill Factory Outlets, we are thrilled to launch the Clyde North Lifestyle Centre and also continue construction at Merrifield City in Mickleham," said Mr Gray. "In addition, we have completed seven retail developments in the USA with three more underway in the country's south east."

The \$28 million Clyde North Lifestyle Centre was completed in April, opening with major retailers Aldi, Petstock and Hungry Jack's. Repco and RSEA Safety opened for trade in July.

**The Lifestyle Centre forms part of MAB's \$150 million Element Park industrial development, which includes over 70 industrial lots and the \$39 million Bunnings Warehouse which opened in September 2019.**

"The calibre of retailers we have attracted to Element Park shows the confidence in the location. Retail giant Aldi were attracted to the centre due to the significant growth and ongoing investment in the City of Casey," said Mr Gray.



**NICK GRAY**

GENERAL MANAGER INVESTMENTS

"Our new fresh format store at Clyde North was chosen to accommodate the expected demand from the local catchment," said Aldi spokesperson. "This enables us to place a considerable focus on fresh produce and a wide selection of our special buy offers which we are known for."

The Clyde North Lifestyle Centre is located on Hamersley Drive, Clyde North. ●

Visit: [clydenorthlc.com](http://clydenorthlc.com)

**IMAGE THIS PAGE // CLYDE NORTH LIFESTYLE CENTRE**





# A walk in the Park.

**Sensational quality and ease of purchase drive Townhome by Merrifield's 'Parkfront' immediate sell-out.**



**The 'Parkfront' release of Townhomes by Merrifield proved irresistible to new home buyers, with all 11 homes sold within three weeks.**

Delivered in partnership with TownLiving by Metricon, this release was brilliantly located within the exclusive Midtown precinct, nestled alongside the very best amenity that Merrifield has to offer. Even more appealing was the outlook over the adjacent Ace Reserve, offering lucky purchasers the ability to walk out of their front door right into a beautifully landscaped park – featuring spacious and lush lawn spaces, shelter and seating areas, walking tracks, a tennis court and play equipment.

“The ‘Townhomes by Merrifield’ collection recognises the need for affordable homes that don’t compromise on style and quality,” says Matthew Planner, MAB General Manager Communities. “More and more buyers are prioritising easy living – from well laid out floorplans and efficient use of

land purposely designed for modern living – whilst in the process securing contemporary, turn-key homes at very competitive price points.”

Georgia Konstantellos, 20, was lucky enough to snap up one of the highly sought-after Parkfront Townhomes and opted for the floorplan layout that included a 4th bedroom. “Townhomes are a great way to get a modern, quality house with enough space to live in,” she said. “A four bedroom home in a great area at this price – it’s a no-brainer.”

Georgina Galea feels the same. Already living in Merrifield with a friend, she wasn’t in the market to buy a home as she expected prices to be out of her reach. “A friend recommended I look at the Townhomes by Merrifield and the incredible value, with no more to pay, suddenly made home ownership a reality for me.”

**Merrifield is the largest mixed-use masterplanned community in Victoria and has established itself as a premium destination in Melbourne’s growing northern corridor. Merrifield offers purchasers the opportunity to live amongst a broad range of amenity and services – having already delivered monthly markets, new public transport, local parks, a café, child care and a convenience store.**





**MAIN IMAGE** // PARKFRONT OVERLOOKS  
ACE RESERVE. *ARTIST'S IMPRESSION*

**“The ‘Townhomes by Merrifield’ collection recognises the need for affordable homes that don’t compromise on style and quality,”**

The next 12 months will see the arrival of some major new amenities and services in Merrifield, including the much-anticipated opening of stage 1 of Merrifield City – featuring a Coles supermarket and over 20 speciality stores – as well as a new primary school, community centre, sporting grounds and more local parks. Many of these will be open by the time the owners receive the keys to their brand new Parkfront Townhomes.

Georgia was initially surprised at how established the Mickleham area has become. “Originally I refused to look for a home past Greenvale, and I even put a deposit on a block of land. But when I visited Mickleham to inspect display homes, I loved the area. I then cancelled my land purchase and bought a Townhome by Merrifield instead!”

In addition to the benefits of a well-established community, Mr Planner said the simplicity of purchasing a ‘Townhome by Merrifield’ was also of

great appeal to many buyers, which removes the complexity that can sometimes exist with a house and land purchase – such as the options and upgrades, uncertain site costs and the need for progress payments.


“The turn key offer means there are no hidden costs or surprises – quality inclusions, landscaping, fencing and site works are all accounted for in the price, giving the buyer complete peace of mind,” he said. “The process is simple. Our customers just need to deposit 5% upon contract signing, with no more to pay until settlement – which means they’re able to continue saving during construction of their homes.”

Georgia agrees, explaining that she’s never seen so much included for a fixed and competitive price. “I couldn’t believe the value of what I was buying into – the quality of the townhome, the position adjacent to Ace Reserve and the friendly neighbours around – I really can’t wait to move in.” ●



**MATTHEW PLANNER**  
GENERAL MANAGER COMMUNITIES





# The Quay to great living.

NewQuay residents share why they wouldn't live anywhere else.

MAIN IMAGE // NEWQUAY, DOCKLANDS

OPPOSITE PAGE // NEWQUAY RESIDENTS WENDY AND HENRY



### Docklands News reporter Farah Hissim speaks with local residents about why they love NewQuay.

"Being on the waterfront gives us a feeling of being on holiday," one local resident told me. He added: "For city living, there is no better location. It is so close to everything, the freeways, walking distance to the station and shops. We can enjoy the fireworks on New Year's Eve and the Fire Light Festival."

Another resident said: "What we love most about living in the Docklands is its proximity and easy access to the city and the riverside while still maintaining a pet- and family-friendly atmosphere."

### The expansion of The District has made a difference to the quality of our lives. A local resident said: "I like The District ... no, I love The District. It's amazing!"

Another resident told me: "In the five years my wife and I have lived in NewQuay we have seen significant development towards it becoming a family-orientated suburb. Within walking distance, we now have everything we need for our daily shopping or entertainment needs and will shortly have a school as well, which will further attract more families to the area."



The area is growing in its recreation offerings too. A local resident said: "As a mum, I really enjoy the bicycle paths around Docklands. My children can manage the cycle, because it is flat and it is in good condition. It takes us to numerous playgrounds around the Dock. I also like that the cinema and shopping complex are so close. Access to the Library at the Dock and Marvel Stadium for events are great. Soon there will be a primary school. We will never want to leave."

Another local resident said: "I enjoy walking the dog to Ron Barassi Snr Park, and the Railway Canal Reserve under the bridge, and seeing the rabbits and birdlife. It must be so amazing for tourists, especially with the Free Tram Zone and the ferries. And you only need to take one tram from Docklands to the MCG and Telstra Dome."

Monique, one of Docklands' longer residents said: "I fell in love with Docklands when I first saw it almost two decades ago now. It wasn't much then, a few towers, a new football stadium and an enormous barren site on which we now have Victoria Harbour. But I could see the potential, and didn't hesitate in becoming a resident. Some would say that potential that I saw back then, hasn't been realised to the full, but that's what I actually love in Docklands."

**"It's the people, the families and the pets that have made this place their home. Not a day goes by when someone doesn't greet me with a smile, or say hello to my two fur babies – Gidget and Gizmo – who everyone seems to know and that's what I truly love about Docklands. It's the people that have turned this once barren port site into a home for me."**

Undoubtedly, the quality of offerings in our village have improved greatly. The new school will add to this, as does the library. We're also looking forward to the marina promenade being extended to Ron Barassi Snr Park, which will make our sundowner walks so much more pleasurable. ●

Originally published in Docklands News 29 January 2020 by Farah Hissim

Visit: [newquay.com.au](http://newquay.com.au)



# Taking business next level.

**MAB's commitment to delivering inspiring workplace environments is showcased across two of its latest commercial developments.**

## YARRABERG WORKSPACES

Yarraberg Workspaces marks the latest addition to MAB's commercial portfolio.

Situated on Blazey Street, in Richmond the new strata development offers businesses the opportunity to own their own office in a prime inner city location.

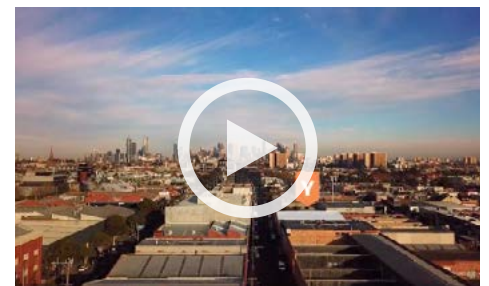
Yarraberg Workspaces features offices across 5 floors, conference suite, rooftop terrace with views to CBD and Main Yarra Trail, secure basement parking and end of trip facilities.

Richmond's industrial history and heritage has played a big part in office design with polished concrete floors, exposed ceilings and natural light.

**"Yarraberg Workspaces is a true reflection of Richmond's rich heritage, paying homage to traditional red brick warehouses and intricately detailed facades. Its historically sensitive yet pioneering design is set to create an outstanding legacy if office accommodation for years to come"**  
**- Plus Architecture**

Visit: [yarrabergworkspaces.com.au](http://yarrabergworkspaces.com.au)

Take a look at Yarraberg Workspaces



**MAIN IMAGE // YARRABERG WORKSPACES**  
SITUATED ON BLAZEY ST. ARTIST'S IMPRESSION

## 7 ORMOND UNIVERSITY HILL

7 Ormond continues to be a popular choice for medical and business professionals.

In our latest video we find out why Tim Grant at Knight Frank believes this location has proven so popular with a range of local businesses and medical professionals.

We discover the building design through the lens of the architect Craig Smart at Watson Young Architects and the inspiration that led to 7 Ormond's striking architecture. ●

Visit: [7ormond.com.au](http://7ormond.com.au)

Discover more about 7 Ormond









# Jesse's World.

MAB and Merrifield are the latest exciting destinations for world traveller and MAB Project Accountant, Jesse Farmer.



MAIN IMAGE // JESSE IN ICELAND





**AINE MURPHY**  
HR MANAGER

### Aine Murphy, HR Manager, talks with Project Accountant Jesse Farmer

#### Aine: What do you enjoy about working at MAB?

**Jesse:** There is a lot to enjoy about working at MAB. The culture is really good. Right from the start you feel part of the company, which is not always the case in other companies. The role itself is really interesting, it's not your standard accounting role where you are just crunching numbers all day. There is a lot of variety in what I get to do which is quite appealing. I love being a part of the Merrifield project - it's exciting.

#### Aine: What was it specifically about the culture that helped you settle into the role?

**Jesse:** Everyone was so friendly, the events the sports and rec committee run, which is a really good way to get to know people outside your team. I went to the Australian Open at the start of the year that was my first time going. The bowls night was also good fun.

#### Aine: What do you enjoy about working from home since COVID-19? Have you taken up any interesting hobbies?

**Jesse:** I just started watching the AFL (Jesse is originally from New Zealand). I had never watched it before and always thought it looked stupid! With moving to Melbourne, everyone talks about it non-stop so I thought I would give it a go. Since I started watching it I can't turn it off! It's such a good sport.

#### Aine: Who do you go for?

**Jesse:** I've been supporting Carlton but that's mainly because of my mate!

#### Aine: What's one little-known fact about you?

**Jesse:** Last year I visited Chernobyl. I got to go 200 metres from where it all exploded. It's actually so green and pretty around there, it really surprised me, nature has taken the land back. When you go there in the van they show you a video. The statistics they share are understated compared to what you see on the Chernobyl TV series. They are still very much in denial about what happened there.

#### Aine: How did you find the experience?

**Jesse:** It was so green, I expected to be moved more than I was, I think that was just due to the beautiful surroundings.

#### Aine: Tell me a little bit about your career.

**Jesse:** I never really planned to become an accountant. I was doing Commerce at University and I was doing an accounting paper and enjoyed it way more than I should have! I changed majors to accounting. The more I studied it the more I enjoyed it. I finished Uni and did an internship at Deloitte. After that I moved to London for a couple of years and worked for a couple of really big property companies - that's where the interest in property came from. One of the companies was one of the biggest in the UK so it was really good working there as I worked with industry leaders.

#### Aine: Tell me a little bit more about what you are actually working on right now.

**Jesse:** At the moment it's year end and it has been busy. It's my first one at MAB so I have been trying to learn the process

over Microsoft Teams which is difficult, but I am getting through it and making progress. I'm dealing with the residential side of Merrifield, maintaining the budgets and processing the settlements as they come in. I make sure there is enough money in the bank account and if there isn't, I arrange funding. I'm also doing financial reports and whatever the Development Managers need from me. I enjoy the ad hoc elements of the role.

#### Aine: If you could switch your role with anyone else in MAB who would it be?

**Jesse:** I would swap roles with one of the Development Managers just because they are more hands on and I think it would be very interesting.

#### Aine: What is your "go to" karaoke song?

**Jesse:** It's Tenacious D, Tribute.

#### Aine: If you were to write a book what would it be about?

**Jesse:** It would be about travel. When I lived in London I got to travel a lot of Europe in a short amount of time, so I would write about that and my own experiences and recommendations and some of the hidden gems that we don't necessarily think of.

#### Aine: What would you favourite hidden gem be in Europe?

**Jesse:** I think Kiev and Ukraine are places people don't necessarily go but it's really interesting with great history. A few of the eastern European countries that don't get recognised as much such as Montenegro is great and it is so cheap there.

#### Aine: Have you any places on your bucket list that you would like to visit?

**Jesse:** I would like to go to Sri Lanka and Japan. ●



# Fiona finds her Dream Team.

MAB Commercial and Industrial Team Assistant  
Fiona O'Doherty reckons her role is magic.



LINDA HOWIE  
HR ADVISOR



**Linda Howie, HR adviser, talks with Team Assistant, Fiona O'Doherty**

**Linda: What do you enjoy about working at MAB?**

**Fiona:** I'm the Personal Assistant to Michael Martin and Team Assistant to the Commercial and Industrial Team. It's quite a varied role, and includes anything from diary management to Salesforce administration to a range of administrative tasks for the team. It's different from home as administrative roles are typically based in the office, but we have found new ways to communicate with each other through technology and it works well.

**Linda: What do you enjoy about working from home since COVID-19? Have you taken up any interesting hobbies? Have you learned any new skills?**

**Fiona:** I actually really enjoy working from home and have got into the flow of it pretty quickly. From being on maternity leave last year, I'm used to being at home so I've adapted well. I'm spending more time outdoors doing walks. I've also got back into reading.

**Linda: What's one little-known fact about you?**

**Fiona:** Now that I've become a citizen and am getting a new passport, I'm changing my surname to my married name; and I used to be a Personal Trainer back home in Ireland.

**Linda: What's your work from home set up like?**

**Fiona:** I'm set up in our dining area at home and it works well. I pack it all up on the days I'm not working so that my son doesn't play with the equipment; like this morning when I found my computer mouse in his toy box!



**Linda: Tell us about your career path?**

**Fiona:** Starting as a Personal Trainer and completing a Holistic Dietetics and Nutrition course back home, I then came to Australia and shifted to administrative work. I was an Executive Assistant for 5 - 6 years before going on maternity leave last year. Following maternity leave, I started in my role with MAB, which has turned out to be the perfect job for me.

**Linda: What did you want to be when you grew up?**

**Fiona:** I don't remember wanting to be something in particular, but my dad says I always wanted to be a princess.

**Linda: What are you enjoying in your work right now?**

**Fiona:** I'm enjoying learning more about Salesforce. I had initial training from the team, and now I continue to learn on the job and it's really interesting.

**Linda: What fictional character would you like to meet and why?**

**Fiona:** Ron Weasley from Harry Potter. In the last two books, I really fancied him. He seems chilled and I think he would be a good laugh.

**Linda: If you could switch your job with anyone else within MAB who would it be?**

**Fiona:** Maybe you (HR Advisor), if I could talk to my 18 year old self, I would say "Do HR, it's you." You get to mix with everybody, it's a varied and busy role, and you have a good team.

**Linda: What is your "go to" karaoke song?**

**Fiona:** 'Kiss Me' by Sixpence None the Richer. When I was a teenager, my friends and I took over from the live band playing at the pub one night (there was no actual karaoke) and performed it for everyone. I'm so glad it was back in the day when there were no mobile phones to record it!

**Linda: If you were to write a book, what would it be about?**

**Fiona:** Something to do with Harry Potter, it's devastating that there are no more books. ●

MAIN IMAGE // FIONA WITH HER FAMILY



# // Imagine the possibilities

Tempo Box Hill.  
Launched May 2020.







# MAB

## // 2020 Milestones

**FEB**

Commenced construction of Escala

**FEB**

MAB office refurbishment completed

**FEB**

Launch of Yarraberg Workspaces

**APR**

Clyde North Lifestyle Centre opens

**MAY**

MAB commits to new mixed-use project in Westmeadows

**MAY**

Launch of Tempo Box Hill

**JUN**

Final stage release at Element Park

**JUN**

MAB WeChat hits over 500 followers

**JUL**

Ford announces its new facility at Merrifield Business Parks



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