

Romsey Golf Club Women's Report

Wednesday 17 Oct as the greens had been cored and sanded there was no golf.

Thursday 18 Oct. Lorraine ventured to Woodend taking Wendy with her so she could enjoy the challenging walk around the course and help push the buggy up the hills. Wendy enjoyed the views and found the course interesting.

Tuesday 23 Lorraine and Denise played in the Trentham Tournament while the weather was cool it remained fine. Denise (a 45 handicap) won't forget her par on one of the difficult holes while Lorraine would like to forget a few holes altogether.

Wednesday 24 Oct Wendy (45) and Beryl (25) combined well at the Trentham 4BBB to win the day with 46 points. The weather was perfect and the course in top condition. The gardens were in full bloom which made the course very colourful.

Wednesday 24 at Romsey was Monthly Medal day which was won by Lorraine 111-32-79

Thursday 25 Beryl travelled to Marysville to compete in their tournament. The course up there is in good condition and she spotted an azure kingfisher, so much for the concentration on the day.

Wednesday 31 we played 12 holes Irish Ambrose, which was an adaption of the rules of Texas Ambrose. This was a fun day enjoyed by all and followed by our AGM where we were all re-elected to our same positions.

Wednesday 7 Nov. was another fun day. This time it was Burke and Wills. We certainly went overland just like them but we survived. Neryl-Lea was winner.

Monday 12 Nov. Lorraine and Beryl played in the Captain Presidents Day hosted by Golf Victoria. We played 4BBB at Northern on an extremely windy day. Everyone over estimated travel time and arrived early and were relaxed by hit off time. Scores were low and we ended up with 27 pts and the winners had 29 pts.

Wednesday 14 Nov. We played a Stableford round which was won by Beryl (24) 34 pts. Weather was fine and ended up pleasantly warm. Course is good with some run if you can stay on the fairways.

Thursday Lorraine and Beryl supported Lancefield's tournament. Lorraine played to her handicap but there were some better scores. We were surprised at the amount of summer run on their course compared to ours. We had to lay up several times to avoid the creek but managed to come home with our original balls.

Recipe for this month Melt and Mix Shortbread

250g butter
1/3 cup pure icing sugar
1/3 cup corn flour
1/4 cup sugar
1/2 teasp vanilla
2 1/3 cups plain flour

Melt butter over low heat, allow to cool, or leave on the window sill till very soft.

Sift icing sugar and cornflour into bowl, add sugar. Add butter and vanilla. Beat mixture until thick and creamy. Add sifted flour, mix well. Press mixture into 18cm x 28cm lamington tin, smooth over with spatula; mark into fingers with sharp knife. Bake in moderate oven 30 mins or until light golden. Cut into fingers while still warm. Cool in tin

Beryl Cole
54295411

Now that the weather is getting warmer it time to come out and join us. Wednesday mornings at 9am at the clubrooms. Hope to see you there.

Romsey Street Festival 2013

Finally a fine day for the annual Romsey Street Festival held on November 24th, although for a while there it looked like rain might be on the way! There was something for everyone, including rides, stalls, displays and demonstrations, a talent show, a criterion bike race, a show and shine, and all kicked off with a street parade led by none other than—with the theme of transport—Thomas the Tank Engine! Hopefully everyone had a great day and is looking forward to an even bigger and better Romsey Street festival in 2013.



THE ROMSEY RAG

Issue No. 311

2070 copies produced each month at Romsey Primary School as a service to our community and proudly supported by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council

December 2012

THE DECEMBER EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY
- Heskett Primary School -

Food, Glorious Food at Heskett Primary School

The students at Heskett Primary School produced and participated in the annual whole school concert at the end of last term. The concert was held at the Romsey Mechanic Hall and was attended by the families and friends of the students.

The theme of Food, Glorious Food meant that the students sang and danced to numerous songs and music with lyrics that had a food theme. The title song was from Oliver and saw the whole school on stage. The junior school students sang and danced about the Good Ship Lollipop and Purple People Eaters, while the middle school students ate vittals with the Beverly Hillbillies and chocolate with Willy Wonka. The senior students sang about eating Vegemite sandwiches from the Land Down Under and the B52's song about Rock Lobsters.



The Heskett Skippers also had the audience clapping loudly as they performed their fantastic partner and individual routines.

Heskett Primary School senior students in their "rock Lobster" costumes.



The junior school students dressed for The Good Ship Lollipop item at the concert.



The grade 3/4 students dressed for their item as players in the story of Charlie and the Chocolate Factory.

The Romsey Rag team wishes all readers a happy and safe Christmas and a prosperous New Year. We look forward to bringing you the next edition of the Rag in February 2013 after a well-earned break. Thank you to all our readers, our regular contributors and advertisers, and particularly the fabulous volunteers who keep the Rag going.



The closing date for copy for the November edition of the February Romsey Rag is January 15th. There is no edition for the Romsey Rag in January. We cannot guarantee inclusion of copy received after this date.

Please email your copy to the Romsey Rag email address: romseyrag@romseyps.vic.edu.au
We require submissions to be in Word document format, and for graphics to be in Jpeg format, as we cannot guarantee that we can open or print other formats. Please also ensure that you have permission to use photographs of people included with your article.

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Articles should be left at the Romsey Post Office (fax 5429 5134) or Romsey Primary School (fax 5429 5765) by 12 on the 15th of the month.

We prefer articles to be submitted electronically or on disc. Legible typed or handwritten items may be accepted. All material submitted for publication must be named and have contact details.

Articles can be sent via e-mail to: romseyrag@romseyps.vic.edu.au

Please ensure that any text is sent as word documents and logos / photos are sent as .jpg files.

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editorial Committee. All contributions remain the responsibility of the author.

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Full page: \$200 per issue

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Cheques must be made payable to Romsey Primary School Station Street, ROMSEY 3434

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2070 copies delivered to the Romsey community at the commencement of each month.



Macdon Ranges Shire Council - Generous supporters of the Romsey Rag

Romsey Rag Publication Deadlines 2013

Edition	Closing Dates for Copy	Collating Date
February 2013	Tuesday January 15th	Thursday January 31st
March 2013	Friday February 15th	Thursday February 28th
April 2013	Friday March 15th	Thursday March 28th
May 2103	Monday April 15th	Wednesday April 24th
June 2013	Wednesday May 15th	Thursday May 30th
July 2013	Saturday June 15th	Thursday June 27th
August 2013	Monday July 15th	Thursday July 25th
September 2013	Thursday August 15th	Thursday August 29th
October 2013	Sunday September 15th	Thursday September 26th
November 2013	Tuesday October 15th	Thursday October 31st
December 2013	Sunday November 15th	Thursday November 28th

Dear Friends

Christmas! No matter how we may dread the rush, the long Christmas lists for gifts and cards to be bought and given—when Christmas Day comes with the hot roast on a summer's day, and mum's magic pudding there is still the same warm feeling and anticipation we had as children.

Christmas is a time for families and friends, a time for sharing. It is a time for caring for those we love. But there are many people who do not have that same love and support.

We should ask ourselves what we really need, and perhaps, more importantly, to ask what others really need that they won't be able to afford?

This Christmas, let's all make a small sacrifice for those in the community who need it most. It might simply be taking a moment in your day to offer a neighbourly hand, or perhaps involve a small donation at a 'giving tree' near you.

We are very fortunate in our community to have wonderful emergency organisations, service groups and churches who tirelessly contribute to our community all year round and especially at Christmas time.

A big thank you to our local CFA, SES and emergency organisations who spend the holidays protecting our homes and properties, and our service groups and churches who provide food and shelter to those less fortunate in our community.

Wishing you and your family a happy and safe Christmas & New Year.

Warm regards

Joanne Duncan MP

STATE MEMBER FOR MACEDON

Payment by Direct Deposit

The Romsey Rag is now able to offer payment by direct deposit into the bank for advertising. Bank details will appear on future invoices. For further information please contact Romsey Primary School on 5429 5099.

Please note that, due to increasing production costs, advertisers with outstanding invoices will not be able to book further advertising until invoices are paid.



Romsey Golf Club – Men's Report

http://romseygolfclub.net

Saturday November 17th - Stableford

Another clear, still day with temperatures between 15C and 20C, perfect for getting out on the course and carding a good score. Little rain over last few weeks meant that the fairways had hardened and players had to be more thoughtful about club selection off the tee; the wrong club would see you well passed the corner and into the rough. A few tricky pin placements also kept the field honest. Of course there were the usual hard-luck stories, "a crow swooped down and just snapped up my ball on the 4th" etc. However, for the second week running, many players scored close to or above their handicaps. The day's results were;

Winner; Rob Rea (20) 39 pts from Graeme Clement (16) 38 pts, Les Gaunt (6) 35 pts, Dean vanDenHeuval (13) 35 pts & Steve Poulton (36) 35 pts
NTPs went to 1 - Dean vanDenHeuval & 15 - Les Gaunt

Saturday November 10th - Stroke

Conditions were almost perfect for golf as players hit off in the club's stroke competition. The club welcomed back, after long absences, Shannon Wright (9) and Gary Watts (16); both were very impressed by the wonderful condition of the course, a great credit to the many members who donate so much of their time. It was also great to catch up with Dean Jones for a chat and a quiet drink after the round. The day promised some good scoring and a number of players took up the challenge; quite a few also played just over their handicaps. The day's results were;

Winner - Dean vanDenHeuval (now four wins out of five weeks!) - 81 /14/67 from Pat Chisholm - 89/21/68, Les Gaunt - 77/5/72 and Gary Watts - 88/16/72
NTPs: 1 - John Laing, 15 - Chris vanDerVliet, 16 - Graeme Clement. Kev Milner also recorded an eagle on the 440m par 5, 17th

Tuesday November 6th - Melbourne Cup Day Stableford

Players hit off under warm, clear conditions but with the hint of less benevolent weather to come. The course continued in great nick and all greens were beginning to come back to their best. The morning went from humid to cool to very pleasant conditions before turning quite nasty just before the round concluded. Loud thunder echoed across the park and lightning flashed as the final group

putted out on the 18th. The day's results were;

Winner - Anthony Freeman (22) 40 pts from Anthony Lakey (20) 38 pts
NTPs went to 15 - Les Gaunt and 16 - Andrew Laing.

Saturday November 3rd – Par

The sun was out, the sky was clear and the course was in top condition as players assembled for the club's Par competition. While sprinkler damage had effected two greens the remainder were really coming back to their best. There was the odd gust of wind but in general conditions were perfect for golf, cricket and bowls, all of which were in play at Romsey Park. On such a wonderful late spring day the club was pleased to welcome a few old faces back to the course. It was also good to see the vast majority of the large field play to, or close to, their handicaps. The day's results were;

Winner Dean vanDenHeuval (15) +1 from Neil Jarman (13) Square, Kev Milner (9) Square, Graeme Clement (15) -1 and Pat Chisholm (21) -1
NTPs were - 1 - Les Gaunt, 15 - Neil Jarman & 16 - Mal Mottram

Saturday October 27th - Monthly Medal, Stroke & Putts

Players hit off in the October Monthly Medal under clear skies with almost no wind and the prospect of the sun breaking through the clouds for a wonderful round. The fairways were in great nick and the greens were beginning to show positive results after the recent works. Whilst they were still a little slow, they were consistent across the course. By half way through the round the sun was shining and players enjoyed a very pleasant afternoon. The day's results were;

Winner and October Monthly Medalist - John Freestone - 91/21/70 from Dean vanDenHeuval, continuing his recent great form - 76/15/71 and Kev Milner - 83/10/73
NTPs went to Dean vanDenHeuval 1 and 15. Least putts - Les Gaunt - 26

Sunday October 21st - 9 Holes Texas Ambrose and Presentation Day

Although a little cool early Saturday's excellent weather continued into Sunday for the club's Presentation Day. Groups of three or four hit off for the nine-hole (front nine) Texas Ambrose competition. There was much laughter and good natured stirring as the groups passed each other or as wayward shots fell on to the wrong fairway. After the round a num-

ber of life members and other friends of the club joined the players in the clubrooms for a relaxed drink and an excellent meal. Our thanks to all those who prepared salads and sweets and to "Richo" who did a great job on the BBQ. The day's results were;

Winners; Kevin Dunn, Elaine Scanlon, Steve Poulton & Andrew Laing - 49 pts from Pat Chisholm, Jan Harver and Graeme Clement - 45 pts and Peter Scanlon, Bruce Robb & Dean vanDenHeuval 44 pts. NTP - 1 - Dean vanDenHeuval.

The year's awards went to;

Club Champions - Andrew Clement & Kath Jekabsons,
B Grade Champion - Rob Rea, C Grade Champion - Dave Richardson.

Medal of Medalists - Andrew Laing & Kath Jekabsons

Peter Scanlon Shield - Rob Rea (Best H/C during the Club Championships by a player 55 yrs and over)

John Jeffries Shield - Dave Richardson (Best overall H/C during the Club Championships)

Ampol/W E Tom 4BBB - Daniel Wright & Dean vanDenHeuval

Elaine Scanlon Shield - Kath Jekabsons

Algie Mitchell Singles KO - Les Gaunt

John Laing Shield - Rob Rea (H/C Matchplay)

Eclectic - Kath Jekabsons

Relative Pairs - John & Andrew Laing (4BBB Stableford)

Saturday October 20th - Stableford

Who could ask for a better day, brilliant sunshine, virtually no wind and the fairways in great nick. However the greens, only very recently scarified, cored, top-dressed, seeded and fertilised (they were also unmown) were a little more challenging. It took all players quite a few holes to come to grips with the speed and the surprising lack of borrow so the scores for the front nine were not so good, performances on the back nine were much more impressive. However, on such a brilliant day, only one person was able to "tame the beast" and play exceptional golf to break his handicap. The day's results were;

Winner; Dean vanDenHeuval (16) - 39 pts NTPs 15 - Graeme Clement

The RGC team of Les Gaunt, Dave Richardson, Tony Freenman & Rob Rea turned in a great performance at the Woodend Tournament to run 5th with 63 off the stick for a handicap result of 52 2/3.

“ATTENTION CITY COMMUTERS”

The Lancefield Romsey Commuter Bus offers a Mon-Fri return service direct to the CBD at the cheapest rate available in the shire. **Only \$45.00 per week** for permanent travellers. We also cater for casual & adhoc travellers. Departs Lancefield General Store 6.35am, & Romsey Hotel 6.40am, arrives CBD 7.40am. Departs Cnr William & Latrobe Sts 5.20pm, arrives back in Romsey 6.20pm & Lancefield 6.25pm
Seats currently available. For more details ring Muir on 0354 255505

Bolinda & Monegeetta News

COMMUNITY NEWS:

AND THE WEATHER 116pts of rain (29mL) for October; our season is still good, but we are ready for rain when it comes! Gardens have been wonderful.

HALL COMMITTEE:

Members are busy trying to get photos, memorabilia, etc, for our centenary next year. Any photos or brochures you have would be very welcome to us. We would photocopy and return the originals to you promptly. Please scout around in that old photo drawer/box.

HISTORY: FROM THE MINUTE BOOK:

Meeting held February 10th, 1933. Moved...that a Euchre Party and Dance be held on the first Wednesday in May. Prizes to the value of about 5/- for the Euchre. Prizes 1/- for the Euchre. 1/6 for the gents and 1/- for the ladies for the dance and that Mr Ladd be secured if possible for the music for the dance. An advertisement to be inserted in the Romsey Examiner at the beginning of April. Carried. The Secretary was instructed to secure Mrs Dickens to scrub and clean the back room.'

BOLINDA HALL (Melways 610 J9; cnr Mullaly's and Melb-Lancefield Road): *Don't forget our community hall is available for hire at very cheap rates. We want to see it used by the community.*

BOL-DARRA (Bolinda-Darraweit) GARDEN CLUB:

Wonderful visit to Denise and Bert's in October. Their large garden was looking wonderful and their hospitality was also wonderful as usual! November 24th sees us going to visit Elizabeth and Brian's; they are very aware of how gardens can fit naturally into the landscape. Sunday, December 2nd is the Open Day at Future Farms, cnr of Bolinda-Darraweit Road and Kennedy's Lane. It is amazing to see those beautiful Arabian horses go through their regimes. You will be enraptured! Buyers from around the world

come to make their selections and it is a most interesting day. Entertainment for the children and a barbeque lunch for all. Don't think all our visits are to large or hard-to-live-up-to gardens. Our January visit is to a garden where the owner has had health problems and has come up with some great ideas to compensate for less mobility. We're going to look at a patch about 2m sq! We meet at Bolinda Hall at 1:30 for a chat and problem solving session...and then we move off to our garden visit about 2:00. Please feel free to join us.

PEOPLE OF THE MONTH: *Actually, it's PLACE OF THE MONTH this time!*

"MINTARO" AT MONEGEETTA For most people their home is their castle, and so it was with Mr Derek Rae at his home of 'Mintaro'. Completed in about 1881 at a cost of around £22,000, Captain Gardiner's mansion has seen a succession of owners. Keatings of Woodend negotiated the sale of Mintaro on 15th of November, 2012, before a very interested crowd of onlookers (though auctioneer Mr John Keating pointed out that they had arranged the sale for a Thursday to limit the interested spectators. He should have known better!). The property sold after auction for the reserve price of \$3 million. For many, it was an opportunity to see into the mansion (and into the lifestyle of some previous owners) rather than that quick look from the road outside. And we loved the wonderfully grand entrance and the formal rooms, working rooms - all of it! Some of us were particularly interested in the grounds; these having been laid out by Baron von Mueller. Derek knew the botanical name of every tree in the grounds and there is a significant range of fascinating conifers. There are other lovely trees too, not least the stunning oaks, one at least with a trunk of diameter 6 feet plus and beautiful branch-ches that sweep the ground. The property was bought by a private couple who wish to restore and live in the mansion. Wishing all our readers a wonderful peaceful and safe Christmas and many blessings for the New Year. Cherio from Bolinda & Monegeetta

First Romsey Swap Meet and Car Motorcycle and Truck Show

The first Romsey Swap Meet and car, motorcycle and truck show was run by the Lancefield/Romsey Lions Club in conjunction with the Macedon Ranges Masonic Lodge on Sunday 11 November 2012 at the Romsey Recreation Reserve.

It was great to see these two community groups working together for the good of local projects. Some of us found we were working on unfamiliar tasks, but we all helped one another and the day was a massive success. The weather was perfect 22 degrees with a slight breeze.

With stallholders arriving from 5:30am on the day to set up, the traffic controllers were very busy early, helping stallholders find their sights and later parking show vehicles on the oval.

The BBQ was ready with bacon and eggs going for the early morning risers as was the morning coffee. Trade was brisk for most of the day.

At 11.00 am the RSL conducted a One Minute Silence Ceremony.

The area was silent but for the slight rustling of the trees. The BBQ was popular with a larger menu available at lunchtime, and sold solidly until about 1.00pm.

Around 1.00pm the Raffle of goods and services, mainly donated by local traders was drawn. We thank all those generous people who made the raffle possible.

At 1.30pm while the crowd was assembled on the oval, the trophy presentation to the show vehicles was held. There were 16 trophies in all. The Swap Meet Committee would like to thank the generous sponsors of our trophies. We could not have run the event without them. Three of the trophies that created much interest were the Lion's Club Choice, the Masonic Lodge Choice, and the Macedon Ranges Council Choice - Presented by Cr. Joe Morabito (thank you for making the presentation). With 60 sights already booked for next year, we feel sure this will go on to be an even bigger and better community event for Romsey in the future.

Kind Regards



TOGETHER WE LEARN AND GROW

ROMSEY PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Opening of Romsey Primary School Community Oval

After many years of negotiations between the Romsey Primary School Council and the Macedon Ranges Shire Council, we celebrated the opening of this joint usage facility for the young people of Romsey. During school days the oval is available for school use and after hours the community can benefit with this quality oval. For many years Romsey Lancefield Little Athletics have managed on an inferior site on the school ground and now will have a flat fully irrigated surface for their events. Junior cricket and junior football will also benefit. The oval was opened by The Honourable Minister for Sport and Recreation Hugh Delahunty. Also in attendance were a number of representatives from The Macedon Ranges Shire Council including the Mayor, Roger Dukes, Peter Johnston, Rod Clough and Graham Treadwell whom we worked closely with to see the completion of this excellent project. Other guests included local councillors and Donna Petrovich.

I was particularly excited to attend and to be able to acknowledge the work of our School Council in negotiating the Joint User Agreement, in particular past presidents Jenny Stillman and Sue Hayes who gave significant time during these negotiations along with all school councillors. A group of year 5 students and the school captains Abbie Q. and Keith T. accompanied me and were excellent role models and enjoyed meeting Hugh Delahunty the Minister for Sport and Recreation. After he'd declared the oval open he joined the students for cricket and Abbie hit several good shots off his bowling. The oval is an outstanding facility for our school and will be enjoyed by Little Athletics, junior cricket and junior football and we look forward to our first school athletics carnival being held there. This project was funded jointly with the Victorian Government from Community Facility Funding contributing \$500,000 and the Macedon Ranges Shire Council \$466,662. The Macedon Ranges Shire Council has worked hard to achieve this joint project and a great sporting facility for Romsey community.



Romsey

Street Festival

Local organisers had excellent weather for the Romsey Street Festival. The members of the school community joined the parade and gathered behind the school banner with a group of students riding their bicycles or scooters. It was pleasing to have parents, grandparents and younger students joining with present students. Thank you to Emily W., Emily M., Gabriella M. and Jorja B. who helped by carrying the school banner. I'm sure everyone one who attended the festival had a fun time.

Transition Visits for All Students

At Romsey Primary School we believe it is very important for students to transition smoothly to their next level of school. Kindergarten students have several visits to the prep area and when the first day of school begins they know the area well and feel com-

fortable within the school environment and with the types of things that happen in classrooms. It is equally important for students to feel confident if they are going into year 1/2, 3/4 or year 5/6. Within each area of the school there can be different expectations so we organize 3 visits to their next year level. Each student will have the chance to work with different teachers and to ask questions about what may be different. Today students had their first visit and they all did a writing task. With the whole school approach to teaching, literacy and numeracy students will hear the same language and there will be similar expectations about how they will do their work. Next week on Tuesday there will be another visit focusing on numeracy and the final visit will be on Tuesday 18th December when they will find out their class and teacher for 2013. Year 6 students have their orientation visit to secondary providers on Tuesday 11th December.

Bicycle Education

Year 4 students recently began the school's bicycle education and safety program which will culminate in a town ride. We are pleased to have a close association with the Romsey Police Station and three of their members have conducted the bike safety check. This is an important program for our students as safe riding skills are essential especially correct hand signalling and scanning and are sometimes not taught by parents/guardians.



All bikes are safety checked by local police before the Bicycle Education Program commences.

Year 3/4 Energy Inquiry Learning

The year 3/4 classes are having an exciting time enjoying a range of experiments related to their inquiry learning on energy. Each teacher is specializing in a different area and on a weekly basis classes rotate around the rooms. In Mrs Woods' room students experiment with heat energy, Mrs Dettmann covers light, Mrs Byrne/Mrs Petran wind energy, Mrs McGuffey sound energy and Miss Hipwell electrical energy where they learn about conductors and circuits. As I visited their rooms all students were highly engaged and enjoying the hands on experiments.

Enrolments for 2013

Planning for 2013 is well underway with all students visiting their next level of schooling for 2013. We will be having small classes and would welcome new families to Romsey to make an appointment to visit our first class facilities. If you would like to organise a tour please contact Joan Gibbs to arrange a time. Enrolment packages are available from our office.

For all enquiries phone 5429 5099 or email romsey.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

GRAAP Update

Council Collaboration Continues

GRAAP is continuing to collaborate with Macedon Ranges Shire Council (MRSC) as Council proceeds with a feasibility study to explore acquisition options for the old Romsey primary school site. Jodie Turner, MRSC's Coordinator Places and Partnerships, has been incredibly supportive to the GRAAP committee, having invited comment about the study's process. GRAAP will assist the study by providing evidence based input as to the value of this open space site both generally and in the context of the GRAAP project.



New Postcards
Keep an eye out for the GRAAP old primary school postcards to be launched at the Romsey Festival and coming soon to prominent points around town.

Swap Meet Fundraising

GRAAP conducted a very successful food stall at the recent inaugural Romsey Swap Meet. This event, organised jointly by the Masonic Lodge and Lions Club, was very well attended with over 126 swap sites and approximately 200 show cars. Great weather ensured plenty of hungry spectators were present to indulge in both GRAAP's and the Lions Club's hot food and cold drink offerings! GRAAP Committee is most grateful to the organisers for inviting the group's participation.

Romsey Festival

By the time this Rag goes to print, another Romsey Festival will have passed. GRAAP's plans for the festival include involvement in both fundraising (through a hot popcorn stall) as well as talk to community members about the old primary school site and the progress of acquisition discussions with MRSC. Events such as this are a great way for groups such as this to interface with its community. A sneak preview of GRAAP merchandise will also be available at the GRAAP stall. A full report will follow in the February edition of the



ROMSEY COMMUNITY HOUSE NEWS DECEMBER 2012

Be Part Of It As the end of the year fast approaches our thoughts begin turning to all we have to do in preparation for the holiday season. It is easy to forget how much we need to look after ourselves during this busy and often stressful time. Here at the "House" we offer a variety of activities specifically designed with you in mind that might just be the answer to the Silly Season and there is still time to get a taste of what we have on offer before the year's end:-

Information and Activity Group

We are busily preparing our program for next year and have a few new things on offer and are bringing back some old ones too. 2013 will see the Information and Activity Group return to the House. This will again be held on the last Friday of the Month and include a light lunch and the opportunity to hear a speaker on a topic of interest. If you have any particular topic you would like to know more about then please call us on 5429 6724.

Events scheduled for 2013

Sustainability Event on 23 February as part of the Sustainable Living Festival

Antiques Fair on 27 & 28 April

Closing Dates Over Christmas

Our programs run to coincide with the school year therefore we take a break over Christmas and close the House to the public.

Our closing dates are: close Friday December 21st, reopen Monday January 14th.

Merry Christmas to All

I'd like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Committee of Management to thank all the wonderful people who contribute to the House in one way or another and wish you all a terrific Christmas and a safe, happy and prosperous New Year. We look forward to seeing our regular friends in 2013 and hopefully we'll get to meet some new ones too!

All the best,
Judi Nicholson
Romsey Community House Coordinator



Macedon Ranges Montessori Preschool is taking enrolments:

3 year old 9.00am-12.30pm (\$28.50 per session)

4 year old Full Day placement 9am -3pm (\$36.30 per day)

Playgroup placements (from 20 months) \$60.00 per term.

Take the time to consider all your options.
03 5428 6376

The Anglican Parish of Christ Church Lancefield with St. Paul's Romsey

"We have beheld His glory, the glory of the One and Only, who came from the Father, full of grace and truth"

John 1:14

Usual Service Times:

9.00am St Paul's Romsey
10.00am Christ Church, Lancefield

Christmas Services

Monday December 24th—Christmas Eve
11.30pm—St. Paul's, Romsey

Tuesday December 25th—Christmas Day

10.00am—Christ Church, Lancefield

Services during January will be as usual. All welcome!

Oh may we keep and ponder in our mind
God's wondrous love in saving mankind;
Trace we the Babe, Who has retrieved our loss,
From His poor manger to His bitter cross;
Tread in His steps, assisted by His grace,
Till man's first heavenly state again takes place.

May the Lord richly bless our community with His love,
Peace and Joy this Christmastide.

Minister: Rev. Bill Carroll Office: 54291380
Mobile: 0427918607

Correspondence: Doreen Morgan 5429 6060



Romsey Playgroup Inc.

Romsey Community Hub,
98 Main Street, Romsey

WHAT IS PLAYGROUP?

- Provides families and carers of young children a fun & safe environment to participate in semi-structured play outside the home
- Offers age appropriate toys, craft, painting and physical activities. Outdoor activities include sandpit, pirate ship with outdoor play kitchen, swing sets, small bikes, balls, hula hoops and slides
- Offers several open age sessions. Sessions are casual and run by parents - a wonderful opportunity for both parents and children to make new friends
- Parents contribute to the functioning of the sessions through a combination of the following – helping set up, cutting up fruit, doing dishes, cleaning up etc
- Offers Mums & Bubs sessions for Mother's Groups who wish to continue to meet as a group but in a setting away from home. We provide a venue and all the facilities of a playgroup but you are free to run the sessions to suit your group. These sessions are open from age 0 – 18 months

Where is playgroup held?

Playgroup is held in the back room of the Romsey Library/Community Hub at 98 Main Road, Romsey. There are 2 entry doors – one is through the Library and the other is at the back of the Library from the car park.

Session Times Ages - 0 – 4 years - Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday - 9.30am – 11.30am

The Romsey Library runs the following sessions for FREE during our session times – so the majority of families with children in these age brackets will participate in these:

Tuesday- 10.30am – 11.15am Storytime 3 – 5 year olds
Wednesday - 10.30am 10.50am Rhyme Time 0 - 2 year olds

Playgroup Costs

As of 2013 Annual Insurance fee of \$30 applies (\$20 if you are a concession card holder). Your membership is valid for 12 months from payment as of 1st March 2013. Pay terms fees in full by due date and only pay \$35 per term (30% Discount) Or

Pay for the full year by 1st March 2013 pay only \$150.00 to cover the 4 terms, Insurance and fundraising levy (40% discount) - What a discount!!!

Our playgroup is open during the Victorian school term.

Contact US!!

If you would like to enquire further or enroll for playgroup please do not hesitate to contact Leighann Moon or Rana Scott who are 2 of our friendly committee members for 2012/2013:

Leighann 0405 507 805 Rana 0439 529 553
Email: romseyplaygroup@gmail.com

NEW FAMILIES ALWAYS WELCOME!!!!

Stay Water Wise Over Summer: Western Water

Western Water is asking Romsey residents to keep up their waterwise habits this summer, despite a boost to local reservoir levels in recent years. "Even though the drought is over, people need to make sure they don't become complacent about water," Western Water's Managing Director, Neil Brennan says. Western Water's reservoirs are currently more than 90 per cent full. "Our customers have developed some fantastic water-saving habits over the past ten years," Mr Brennan says. "We are encouraging everyone to keep up the good work to help ensure water security in our region for the future." Over summer don't forget:

- Check water restrictions to ensure you are using water correctly around the home and garden
- Western Water can't guarantee your water supply will be maintained in the event of a fire – it's important to have an independent water supply
- Look out for fire hydrants in your area and make sure they are clear of vegetation and debris so CFA officers can access them easily

There are great rebates for water-saving appliances and other items such as drip systems, mulch and water tanks Filling (from empty) a swimming pool that is over 2000 litres capacity requires a Water Use Plan approved by Western Water.

"You can go to our website at westernwater.com.au for lots more information about saving water, rebates, Water Use Plans and being fire-ready," Mr Brennan says.

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84 MAIN STREET, ROMSEY
PH: 5429 5300



Cuttings for Christmas 2012

December finds Cuttings in Romsey decked out with festive cheer. Each year we change our look for the festive season, and this year we are featuring a vintage, rustic, and natural style that mixes well with any home decor. We have a reputation throughout Victoria as a special shop to visit during the holiday season, and love presenting our special style to all. We feel everyone's home can have a beautiful look and feel for Christmas, and we are here to help you achieve this for your own home.

Our beautiful Christmas decorations are all in stock, and many gift giving items are arriving daily, after months of Christmas planning. Every day brings new and beautiful goodies to unpack; it's so exciting. Many of our decorations and table trims are custom made exclusively for us, to guarantee our own uniqueness and creativity. Included this year is an expanded range of Christmas candles, Christmas table linen, and boxed Christmas cards; lovely. We have also just held our VIP Christmas Night, which was a big success and so much fun for all. If you missed out on this fabulous night, please be sure and get on our mailing list to ensure your own invitation for next year. Our complimentary Christmas gift wrap is also available for all your pressies purchased from us. We are known for our beautiful gift wrapping, and love providing this service; especially during the holidays. We will assist with all your gift giving needs, and are very skilled at finding just the right gift for everyone on your Christmas list. The men too are catered for, with items in stock for the "hard to buy for." We even offer local delivery for those large items, such as furniture and garden goods. There is now truly no need to travel, or shop, anywhere else this festive season. Especially for employers/business customers, we offer a professional and convenient hamper service. We provide

custom, gourmet food, gift hampers for all your clients/ employees/customers; all beautifully wrapped and ready for giving. Just phone in, or pop in-store with your order, and leave the rest to us. Of course, gourmet hampers can suit anyone on your list, and can be made up for any \$ amount; even for Grandad, your favourite teacher or next door neighbour.

We will be opening extended hours over the holiday season, and can also arrange private shopping sessions by appointment, for your convenience. We are planning a few more special events during December, so be sure and pop in the shop for updates. Better yet, to keep up with new items, and to regularly find out what's happening in the shop, please follow our Facebook Page, and "LIKE" us on Facebook facebook.com/cuttingsculinaryandbotanica Finally, as this year draws to a close, we would like to take this opportunity to thank all our lovely customers who enjoy our little shop and support us. As we enter our 6th year of business, we are always sincerely grateful for your patronage. Thankyou, and enjoy the Holiday Season. Cuttings Culinary and Botanica. 120 Main St. Romsey (next to the fountain).

Open
Tuesday - Sunday; closed Monday. Ph - 5429 3636.
www.cuttingshomewares.com.au
Email- mcmg@optusnet.com.au



The Romsey Inaugural Antiques and Collectibles Fair

is coming!

April 27th and 28th
at the Romsey Mechanics Hall.

Expressions of interest from stall holders
is now being sought.

If you are a dealer in antiques and collectibles and
would like to be a part of this annual event, please
contact Robyn on 0412 275 152.



Keep watching the Romsey Rag for further details

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The Hair Room

As usual, a lot of new and exciting things are going on in The Hair Room!

Jodie, Jess, and Jade, are so happy to announce the great news...Olivia is back! After a year of blazing a trail in London, and flitting around Europe we are so proud to have our favourite redhead back in Lancefield. Just in time to join in the fun and festivities of the silly season in the salon!

Here we go again with lots of fabulous Christmas hairdo's, joy and laughter. This year we have launched the full range of "Cloud Nine" hair stylers, wands and amazing rollers! They have to be seen to be believed! Please pop in for look, or a try!

We have the new range of Bamboo - certified organic products. Natural luxurious shampoos, conditioners, and styling aids! Our favourites...De Lorenzo also have their Christmas packs. This time beautiful conditioning products, and great value! Remember to come in and pick up a free "two for the price of one" voucher for the VersaSpa Tanning Booth. You can tan up for Christmas and New year for half the price!

We are happily opening right through the Christmas/New Year period.

'Tis the season to be jolly—May your holidays be filled with everything that makes you smile :) Merry Christmas to all.

Jodie Jade Jess & Olive xxxx

De Lorenzo Rewards Hair Room

This year De Lorenzo Haircare were proud to invite Jodie and her team at The Hair Room Lancefield to join its Prestigious Aspya Salon Membership Group.

The Hair Room has shown commitment to the Hairdressing Industry by providing very high quality hairdressing services to their local regional community and a true commitment to continually improving the salons professional services for their clients.

The Hair Room has also shown a passion to develop through attending ongoing technical and educational classes enabling them to bring the latest and innovative techniques to share with their salon clients. This has enabled The Hair Room to stay abreast of fashion trends and be first to offer new products, techniques and knowledge to their clients.

De Lorenzo Aspya program has been able to develop a unique business development program that supports our members' salons in creating a unique salon experience.

De Lorenzo's Cathie Rudd congratulates Jodie and her team at The Hair Room Lancefield on their achievement.



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Honour an Extraordinary Local Woman

Donna Petrovich today called for the Sunbury and Macedon Ranges community to honour extraordinary women by nominating them for the 2013 Victorian Honour Roll of Women.

Each year, the Honour Roll acknowledges women from across Victoria who have made a lasting impact on their communities through their vision, leadership, commitment and hard work.

"I encourage people in Sunbury and the Macedon Ranges to nominate local women who have made a significant contribution locally, nationally or internationally," Mrs Petrovich said.

"They may come from the many diverse areas where women are making a difference, including health, science, law, social justice, environment, arts, media and education."

The 2013 Victorian Honour Roll of Women builds on the success of previous Honour Rolls, reflecting the diversity of Victorian women and their skills, strength and personal determination.

Almost 500 women have been inducted on the Honour Roll since it began in 2001 as part of Victoria's Centenary of Federation celebrations.

"If you know of a woman who has been instrumental in making an exceptional difference in their community or field of endeavour, then nominating them is a great way to recognise their contributions," Mrs Petrovich said.

Nominations are open until Friday 7 December 2012 and on-line application forms and guidelines can be found on www.dhs.vic.gov.au/womenshonour roll
Twenty new inductees will be announced as part of the International Women's Day March 2013.

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ROMSEY CWA

RECIPE FOR A HAPPY MARRIAGE



1 cup of Consideration
 1 cup of Courtesy
 2 cups of Praise
 1 cup of Contentment
 2 cups of Flattery, carefully concealed
 1 small pinch of In-Laws
 2 cups of "Milk of Human Kindness"
 1 reasonable Budget
 1 gallon of Faith and Trust in Each Other
 1 generous dash of Co-operation
 1 cup of Confidence and Encouragement
 3 tsp of I'm Sorry
 1 cup of Blindness to the Other's Faults
 10 cups of Love
 Flavour with Children, frequent portions of Recreation, and a dash of Happy Memories.
 Stir well and remove specks of Jealousy, Temper and Criticism.

Romsey Branch of the Country Women's Association is winding down for 2012. Our AGM was held on November 1st, where our new President, Mrs Jay Brooks, was elected. Secretary and Treasurer were re-elected for a further term. We were invited to an Oak's Day function run by the Central Highlands Group early in November and in lieu of November Craft Day, a cake decorating demonstration was held. Christmas Break-up for members and husbands is to be held early December at Season's Restaurant in Riddells Creek and a Group meeting early in December at the CWA Hall in Mt. Macedon.

We wish all readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year.

We meet at the Mechanics Hall Supper Room on the 1st Thursday of each month for our meeting and on the 3rd Thursday of the month for Craft. Make it your New Year's Resolution to come along and join us for fun and friendship. Please contact Secretary, Val Jordan on 5429 2311.

SEASONS GREETINGS FROM DEEP CREEK LANDCARE GROUP

2012 has been a fruitful year for the Deep Creek Landcare Group. We have seen the establishment of many wonderful local projects, one of which the Port Phillip Westernport Catchment Management Authority saw fit to award our group the 2012 "caring for public land" landcare awards for revegetation and land protection works conducted at Sheehan's Reserve (Romsey). The Lancefield Show proved to be a wonderful day, the weather being kind, and we managed to give away 500 free trees and shrubs to members of the community as well as a range of literature regarding weeds, local indigenous plants/trees, a presentation on the importance of honey bee's in agriculture and therapeutic properties of bee products. We are also excited to let the local community know that we will be running some interesting community educational workshops in early 2013 which will include basic beekeeping, bats, monotremes (echidna's and platypus) and indigenous food and fibre workshops. All workshops are completely free to attend and we look forward to presenting them to you. We would like to acknowledge and thank the Romsey and Lancefield Community Bank's community investment program for providing funding for such worthwhile community interest workshops. If you are interested in attending any of the free workshop/presentations, check out our website in early 2013 for details at www.deepcreeklandcare.org.au and feel free to email us your interest via the link. Everyone is welcome to attend the regular meeting held at 8pm on the second Monday of the month at the rear of the Lancefield Mechanics Institute, unless that day is a public holiday, or feel free to give president Robin a call on 0428 315 846 or secretary Jayne on 0433 251164.

The Deep Creek Landcare Group would like to wish you all a safe and happy festive season.



St. Mary's Parish - Lancefield & Romsey

27-29 Chauncey St, Lancefield & 85 Main Rd, Romsey

Parish Priest: Fr. Arnold Heredia
 Pastoral Associate: Mrs. Joanne Reuther
 School Principal: Mr. Anthony Falls

Presbytery: 5429 2130
 Presbytery: 5429 2130
 St. Mary's Primary: 5429 1359

MASS TIMES

Saturday:

6.00 p.m. Lancefield

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month:

8.00 a.m. Lancefield and 10.00 a.m. Romsey

2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month:

8.00 a.m. Romsey and 10.00 a.m. Lancefield

RECONCILIATION

After weekday Mass or by arrangement.

BAPTISMS

February, April, June, August, October, December.

For more information, please phone 5429 2130.

REGULAR EVENTS

SVDP Drop-In: First Thursday of each month, 10.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., St. Mary's Church Hall, Romsey. All welcome to come for a game of cards/chat and free lunch.

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

As a spiritual preparation for Christmas, there will be a celebration of the Sacrament of Reconciliation on Tuesday 11th December at 7.30pm at the Romsey Church.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2013

Parents of children not attending St. Mary's Parish School wishing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation (grade 3 above) or Confirmation (grade 6) in 2013 are asked to contact Joanne Reuther the Pastoral Associate of St. Mary's Parish Lancefield/Romsey on 54292130.

There will be a meeting on **Tuesday 26th February at 7pm at St. Mary's Church in Lancefield.** All children are required to attend with their parents. This will be the final date to enrol in the St. Mary's Sacramental program for 2013.

Reconciliation

11th December Romsey 7.30pm

Anointing of the sick/Christmas Mass -

28th November - Karinya Nursing Home 1.00pm

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2012

Christmas Eve Family Mass

24th December - Lancefield Church 6.00pm - Nativity

Midnight Mass: 11.30pm Carols - Romsey

Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

25th December - Romsey 9.00am

GETTING TO KNOW FR ARNOLD HEREDIA AND PAKISTAN

Fr. Arnold Heredia has been appointed Parish Priest of St. Mary's Catholic Church Lancefield/Romsey and commenced mid September 2012.



My sister and family had migrated to Melbourne in 1981. If anyone had then said that one day I too would be migrating to Australia, I would have said: "Go tell that to the Marines." Because of my involvement in demonstrations and rallies against violations of human rights and increasing Islamic fundamentalism, my sister was increasingly concerned about my safety. It was only in 2001,

when I faced the likelihood of being booked under the 'blasphemy law', that I heeded her plea to come to Australia. I experienced no problem in feeling at home here, as I had travelled to several countries, including Australia since 1970.

I was born on 10 October 1940, in Karachi Pakistan. I was ordained a priest on 24 January 1965. Besides being a pastor for 35 years, I was rector of the national seminary for 6 years. I also headed the inter-religious Justice and Peace Commission for 25 years. I was among the founding members of the national Human Rights Commission of Pakistan. Both my parents have passed away, as also my elder and younger brothers and sister.

Pakistan is the size of Britain and France. It gained independence from the British in 1947. Its present population is 170 million, 95 per cent of whom are Muslim. Christians and Hindus are about 1.5 per cent of the population (5 million each). Though rich in resources, Pakistan continues to be a poor country because of endemic corruption. The political, economic, educational, social and health systems are in shambles. There is high unemployment. Barely 50 per cent are literate. The infant mortality rate is very high. Child labour and honour killing of women is rampant. Most of the budget is spent on defense. Pakistan prides itself of being a nuclear power.

In 1979, the US secured Pakistan's assistance to fight its proxy war of ousting the Russians from Afghanistan. The US termed it a 'Jihad' (holy war). This constituted the beginning of Pakistan becoming an Islamic state. A host of ancient Islamic laws were promulgated. A ban on alcohol, gambling, lashing was introduced, chopping of hands, stoning for adultery, etc. The latter two were never implemented by the government. Even voting, right up to 2002 took place on religious basis.

After ousting the Russians, the US did nothing to rehabilitate the thousands of young Islamic militants from several Muslim countries and the widows and orphans of Afghanistan. There was chaos in Afghanistan, with one tribe warring against the other to gain political supremacy. Mullah Omar was able to harness the young militants to form the Taliban and establish a barbaric Islamic rule. Osama bin Laden came from Saudi Arabia, to assist the widows and orphans and formed his social welfare group called Al-Qaida. The Afghans and the militants were seething with anger for having been used by the US. It was now pay back time. The Taliban and Al-Qaida joined forces and initiated a series of terrorist attacks on US establishments, which culminated in the 9/11 tragedy, which shook America and the world.

Pakistani militants made their anger felt by targeting churches, Christian educational institutions and social welfare organizations. They were set alight, or blown up with hand grenades and time bombs. Militants also gunned down worshippers in churches. On 25 November 2002, two armed militants entered the J&P Commission Office. They rounded up the 8 staff members present, bound them to chairs and shot them in the head. One survived miraculously. When I planned to go on a vacation to Pakistan in 2004, I was cautioned not to come, as the militants were on the lookout for me.

BINGO

Every Thursday evening St. Mary's Church Hall at Romsey
Doors Open 7.00 p.m. EYES DOWN 7.30 p.m.
 \$3.00 per 15 game book
 No entry fee Canteen facilities Free tea and coffee

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ST. PAUL'S ANGLICAN OP-SHOP

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Now open 3 days a week

Thursday 12.30—4.30pm

Friday 12.30—4.30pm

Saturday 10.00am—1.00pm.

Please note: We are unable to take any electrical goods, computers, TVs, baby prams, baby seats, bike helmets or any large furniture. Clothes, bric-a-brac, books, toys in good condition are most welcome. *Goods can be left at the back of the Op Shop.*



Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society Inc.

E-mail: lancefieldcourthouse@gmail.com
Website: www.lancefieldcourthouse.org

P.O. Box 101
LANCEFIELD 3435

The Christmas Breakup will again be held at the Cottage. Open House from 10.30am to 3.00pm. Members and visitors are most welcome. The time and place were greatly enjoyed last year. Members to bring a plate of food to assist catering.

Those interested in family research (genealogy) are most welcome to visit us. We hold records for Victoria and our professional genealogist can search her extensive personal collection of records or guide your research in other states and overseas. Our Archives at the Lancefield Courthouse are available for perusal Monday, Wednesday, Friday 10-2. Contact Archivist Robyn Miller tel. 0418 172 659 for appointment at other times.

PLEASE NOTE Our Archives will be closed between 14th December 2012 and the 4th February 2013.



Personal responsibility when burning off

With the Fire Danger Period having already commenced in several municipalities across the Loddon Mallee Region, and the introduction of these in Greater Bendigo, Campaspe, Loddon, Central Goldfields and Mt Alexander Shires at 1:00 AM on Monday 26 November, it is likely that the Macedon Ranges Shire will follow on Monday 10 December.

With hot weather forecast over the next week, CFA is urging Victorians to take extra care when doing that last minute clean up and burning off prior to the start of restrictions. The community are also urged to register any burn-offs by calling **1800 668 511**.

CFA Operations Officer Justin Daly said "Residents *must* take responsibility and be aware that any fire they light is their responsibility. The size or location doesn't matter as all fire has the potential to get away if not properly controlled. You are also liable for any damage caused by a fire you have lit."

He went on to say that "If people register their burn-offs, we know what is happening in that area, which is very helpful when brigades are being dispatched to jobs". "This reduces the chances of CFA being called out to a false alarm when the public calls about a fire they have seen."

"The community needs to understand that, for the most part, we're talking about volunteers who have

to leave their work or spend time away from their family by responding to false alarms" he said.

Mr Daly also said that "residents should also be aware of council by-laws." He added that "people should also be careful with their burn-offs when weather heats up."

"During these conditions it is important the community take extreme care. If a fire is left unattended in windy conditions it can spread quickly and burn into bushland or onto neighbouring properties,"

A few simple steps landowners must take when burning off:

- Take responsibility for any fire you light;
- Never leave a burn off unattended;
- Be aware of council by-laws;
- Register the burn on **1800 668 511**;
- Check weather conditions;
- Tell your neighbours when you plan to burn-off to avoid brigades being called out unnecessarily to a fire reported by a neighbour or passer-by;
- Ensure an adequate supply of water is nearby in case a burn-off escapes;
- You should leave a 3 metre fire break, free of flammable materials around any burn-off;
- If the fire does get out of control call '000' immediately;

For further information please check www.cfa.vic.gov.au



Pastor's Parables

O Come let us ADORE HIM.

Whom do you adore? What do you adore?

- The ancient Egyptians adored the cat. At one time, the penalty for killing a cat – even accidentally – was death.
- The Hawaiians worshiped the shark god and sought to appease it with human sacrifice.
- Many Hindus adore cows and consider them to be holy animals that cannot be harmed. The Nandi Temple in India is used exclusively for the worship of the sacred bull.
- The Buddhists adore a tooth purportedly snatched from the funeral pyre of Buddha. The tooth was placed in a golden lotus blossom surrounded by gems. "The Temple of the Tooth" was built to house it in Sri Lanka where pilgrims come to pray before it.
- Many ancient peoples such as the Greeks and Romans have worshiped the sun, moon, and planets. Some cultures have worshiped nature, including trees.

All these things are created matter and are not eternal. Only the One who made us is worthy of worship - the God of the Bible. His Son, Jesus, was God in the flesh. Jesus was the Word – the expression of God.

As the Apostle John said, "*In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God....and the Word became flesh and dwelt among us...*" (John 1:1, 14).

Christianity is NOT a religion. It is a Relationship with the ONE whom we ADORE!

Jesus gave up the glories of heaven for the agony of the cross so that we would be **forgiven** of all our wrongdoings! What love! What a cost! What a Saviour! This is the God who "*shows His love for us in that while we were yet sinners Christ died for us*" (Romans 5:8) - *.So that we could spend eternity with Love HIMSELF.*

Come to Him. Come to the One who was born in a lowly Bethlehem stable. Come, let us adore Him.

*Yea, Lord, we bless Thee, born for our salvation;
O Jesus, for ever be Thy Name adored;
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;
O come, let us adore Him, O come, let us adore Him,
O come, let us adore Him, Christ, the Lord.*

If you would like to know more about faith in Jesus please contact the Encourage Church Office on **5429 6327**. We would be happy to assist you in your search for the true meaning of Life.

You are also invited to join us at one of our Sunday Services or one of our fortnightly Life Groups.

We also offer Before & After School care; Fortnightly Youth events and weekly Children's programs.

Pastor Marilyn Hunter - "**ENCOURAGE CHURCH**"



We wish you a Happy Christmas and a blessed and prosperous New Year

Encourage Church - Romsey & Woodend
Office: 7 Mitchell Court Romsey
Ph (03) 5429 6327
Email: encouragechurch@iprimus.com.au

CHRISTMAS GIFT WRAPPING SERVICE & ITS FREE!

Take advantage of an offer from Encourage Church to wrap your Christmas presents FREE just prior to Christmas.



Romsey:

Date: Monday 10th December Time: 10am – 2pm
Venue: 7 Mitchell Court, Romsey

Riddells Creek:

Date: Wednesday 12th December Time: 11:15am – 2pm
Venue: Riddells Creek Neighborhood House
Main Road, Riddells Creek

Woodend:

Date: Thursday 13th December Time: 10am – 2pm
Venue: Woodend Community Centre,
High Street, Woodend

Please bring your gifts in black plastic bags with your name on it and enjoy a chat with a free Devonshire Tea while your gifts are being wrapped.

For further details please contact Encourage Church Office 5429 6327

We would also like to wish everyone in the local community a very happy Christmas and prosperous New Year.

ROMSEY LICENSED POST OFFICE

Are You Ready For Christmas?

Come in and let **Romsey Licensed Post Office** help you!

- Stocking fillers from \$1.00
- Christmas gifts for the young and young at heart
- Extensive range of diaries for 2013

Look out for our extended opening hours from 1st to 23rd December .

Santa's Mailbox available from 1st December



Romsey Uniting Church

Pohlman Street, Romsey. 3434

Minister Rev. Dr. Avril Hannah-Jones: 5429 5351

Mobile: 0408 380 962

Church Council Chairperson: Noel Shaw - 5429 5509

Secretary: Jeni Clampit - 5429 5480



You are most welcome to come to the Romsey Uniting Church Services and share in fellowship and worship

Members of the Romsey Uniting Church wish everyone a very happy Christmas and peaceful New Year.

Rev. Avril Hannah-Jones will be preaching her final service at Lancefield Uniting Church at 10.30am on Sunday 30th December. Avril has accepted a call to Williamstown Uniting Church. Everyone at Romsey, Lancefield, Riddells Creek & Mt. Macedon Uniting Churches wish her well in her new posting.

The Uniting Church is hosting the annual Christmas Carol Service on 16th December in the Romsey Mechanics Hall.

Act for Peace Christmas Bowl Breaking the cycle of conflict and poverty

The Christmas Bowl is the annual program of Act for Peace, the international aid agency of the National Council of Churches in Australia.

The Christmas message is one of love, peace, hope, and joy to the world. For more than 63 years, the Christmas Bowl has been helping to build peace and reduce poverty in many of the world's most conflict-affected countries, including Sudan, Somalia, Zimbabwe, Pakistan, Burma/Myanmar and Sri Lanka. Peace means more than the absence of direct or physical violence. Building peace is a long-term process to achieve justice and security, and help communities to manage conflict without violence.

With support from people of faith through the Christmas Bowl, Act for Peace works with communities to address the root causes of conflict and ensure that communities have the tools to build peaceful, cooperative societies. Working together, Australian churches can be a powerful voice for peace and justice in our world.

Thank you for supporting this important ecumenical initiative, and for keeping in your prayers those around the world who live daily with conflict and violence.

How a gift to the Christmas Bowl can help:

- **\$15** can provide tools, seeds and agricultural education for one Ethiopian farmer
- **\$70** can provide a course of treatment for an anaemic child in Gaza
- **\$100** can clear 100 m² of landmines and bombs in Iraq
- **\$375** can provide a Burmese refugee with one year's worth of nutritious food

Empowering rural communities in Ethiopia

In Ethiopia, 44 per cent of the population is undernourished. Several times over the past 30 years, the country's precarious food security has tipped over into full blown famine. Last year, famine in the Horn of Africa left more than four million people in need of emergency food assistance. Act for Peace empowers rural communities in Ethiopia by supporting a program to improve food security and manage water distribution by controlling soil erosion. Through this program, communities have been able to build and maintain more than 360 check dams and establish tree nurseries throughout the Goncha region. Local people have been given skills in safe and effective construction of small dams, as well as seedlings, tools and the techniques for successful propagation of seedlings.

"Thanks to your support," says Abebe Gellae from the Goncha region of Ethiopia, "Our community had the seeds, tools and training last year to harvest more than 600,000 seedlings in this nursery. Our land is protected from further erosion, and I can plant crops to feed my four children and wife."

Clearing mines, saving lives in Iraq

Iraq is one of more than 70 countries in the world littered with landmines, cluster bombs and other explosive remnants of war as a result of decades of conflict. The presence of these weapons means that people's lives are in constant danger, and farmers can't use the land to grow and sell food. Act for Peace supports work to safely clear land of these unexploded weapons of war. Last year, our project partner cleared 4 million square metres of land in Iraq-the equivalent of over 400 soccer fields. When the land is cleared, farmers can go back to their land to grow food for their families. "Soon after the first rain, I started ploughing the land you have cleared for me. I will use the land for growing wheat and barley which will increase my income and improve my family's life," says Khorshed Jabar, a farmer from Farqan in Iraq.

Healthy families in Gaza

In the Gaza Strip, communities live with the daily threat of air strikes and struggle to rebuild due to a lack of access to building materials, as well as other daily needs such as medicine. Act for Peace supports family health centres in Gaza, which provide much-needed medical care. Maha, 25 years old, says, "My children suffered from malnutrition and anaemia because we were unable to provide the proper food and milk. Thanks to the family health centre, we are provided with the necessary treatment, medication and milk for my family. The staff's kind attention and proper treatment with follow up, both at the clinic and our home, have helped my children overcome malnutrition and anaemia. I cannot imagine what would happen to them without their help."

Thankyou for supporting the Christmas Bowl – to give, please:

- Free-call 1800 025 101 Visit www.actforpeace.org.au
- Look out for Christmas Bowl giving envelopes at your church
- Write to Locked Bag 199 QVB NSW 1230.

Church Services in December 2012 & January 2013

During December & January services will be conducted alternatively at Romsey and Lancefield at 10am.
2nd & 16th December 10am. Worship Service at Romsey

9th & 23rd December 10am. Worship Service at Lancefield

23rd 7.30pm Romsey Blue Christmas Service

24th 7.30pm Romsey Christmas Eve Service

25th 9.30am Christmas Day Service at Romsey.

30th 10.30am at Lancefield Uniting Church.

Final Worship Service

conducted by Rev. Avril Hannah-Jones.

6th & 20th January 10am Worship Service at Romsey.

13th & 27th 10am. Worship Service at Lancefield.

Families urged to update details for January Schoolkids Bonus

This week families with kids who could be starting primary or high school next year will receive a text, email or letter from Centrelink asking them to update their kids' enrolment details in order to get the Schoolkids Bonus in January.

About 400,000 families need to go online and update their kids' school details before the end of the year to ensure they receive the right amount of Schoolkids Bonus. The Gillard Government is helping lighten the load for around 10,000 families across the McEwen electorate with the new Schoolkids Bonus. Each year eligible families will receive up to \$410 for each child in primary school, and up to \$820 a year for each in high school. The Schoolkids Bonus – paid in two instalments in January and July each year - helps parents buy uniforms, shoes, school books and stationery, as well as other costs like school excursions, music lessons and sports registration fees.

Federal member for McEwen, Rob Mitchell MP, today encouraged parents to go online and update the school details for their kids.

"The next Schoolkids Bonus payment comes in early January. If you don't let Centrelink know your child is starting school next year, you could miss out on \$410," Mr Mitchell said.

"And if your child is starting high school we also need to know, so you can get the \$820 high school payment.

"Christmas and January are a busy time for many families, so that's why we want parents to update their details now before the silly season kicks in."

Once families have updated their details, they will receive the Schoolkids Bonus straight into their bank account in January and July next year.

"The Schoolkids Bonus replaces the Education Tax Refund, which means families no longer need to keep receipts and wait months to claim back education costs through their tax return.

"All they need to do instead is check and update their children's study details online, then receive their bonus in time for the school year."

Families receiving Family Tax Benefit Part A, as well as young people in school receiving Youth Allowance, and others receiving certain income support or veterans' payments are eligible for the Schoolkids Bonus.

To find out more about the Schoolkids Bonus and other Government payments you may be eligible for visit humanservices.gov.au/schoolkidsbonus.

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73 Main St, Romsey VIC 3434
Contact us at:
Ph: 5428 5418 or 5429 6354
email: muddy27@bigpond.com



Macedon Ranges Masonic Lodge

**Meet 1st Thursday except January
Installation - June**

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ROMSEY AND LANCEFIELD UNITING CHURCHES CONT'D.

CELEBRATING CHRISTMAS

You are warmly invited to join the Lancefield Uniting Church in December to celebrate Advent and Christmas.

Advent is the season of preparation before Christmas. It is a space of mindfulness, a time to reflect on the meaning and mystery of Christmas. For the church, Christmas is not just the celebration of the birth of a baby, wonderful as every birth is, but a celebration of the coming of God into the world bringing liberation and justice and peace. To prepare for that coming, we try to do our part to help the world become a more just and peaceful place. We do this through gathering together to worship God, and through giving of ourselves and our resources to those in need.

The Uniting Church joins with eighteen other churches around Australia in donating to the Christmas Bowl, which raises money for the aid work of the National Council of Churches in Australia. Since 1949 money raised by the Christmas Bowl has helped to lift people from the world's most conflict-affected countries out of poverty. This year, money will go to support refugees who have fled violence in countries like Burma/Myanmar, Sri Lanka and Palestine. You can support the Christmas Bowl by putting money into the Bowl at the Combined Churches Carols, or making a donation at the Christmas Eve or Christmas Day services.

COMBINED CHURCHES CHRISTMAS CAROLS

7 pm, Sunday 16 December, Romsey Mechanics Hall: Everyone welcome!

SUNDAY SERVICES

10 am, 2 December, Romsey Uniting Church: Worship Team

10 am, 9 December, Lancefield Uniting Church: Rev. Dr Avril Hannah-Jones – Eucharist. We'll also be collecting toys for those in the local community who would otherwise get few Christmas presents. The Lancefield Uniting Church will be collecting toys for Broadmeadows Care and the Macedon Ranges Toy Shop. Toys need to be unwrapped and suitable for children between 0 and 12.

10 am, 15 December Romsey Uniting Church: Rev. Dr Adam McIntosh

10 am, 23 December, Lancefield Uniting Church: On-The-Spot Nativity Play. All children are welcome to come, dress-up and participate in a telling of the Christmas Story.

SPECIAL SERVICES

7.30 pm, Sunday 23 December, Romsey Uniting Church: Blue Christmas Service. While Christmas is a time of great joy, it can also be bittersweet. All the emphasis on celebrating and the gatherings of family and friends can remind us of the people and events that have been a part of our lives in the past, but that are now changed or gone. A Blue Christmas service is a quiet, meditative worship service that makes time for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. It is a particularly helpful for people who have lost someone this year and are facing their first Christmas without them, but many people find it a helpful moment of quiet in the midst of the busyness of the Christmas Season.

7.30 pm, 24 December, Romsey Uniting Church: Christmas Eve Service

9.30 am, 25 December, Romsey Uniting Church: Christmas Day Service

10.30 am, 30 December, Lancefield Uniting Church: Farewell Service for Rev. Dr Avril Hannah-Jones, who is moving to Williamstown Uniting Church – Electra Street.



Barefoot Bowls Christmas Party

This month the Romsey Region Women's Network would like to kick off the festive season by extending an invitation to all members and their families for a relaxing Sunday afternoon on the bowling green. No prior experience is necessary, basic coaching is provided. Just bring some flat-soled shoes (runners or thongs) or bare feet, and your sense of humour!

Where: - Romsey Lawn Bowling Club, Cnr Parks Lane & Barry Street

Date: - 2nd December 2012 **Time:** - 11am to 4pm

Cost: - Adult - \$15 / Under 15yrs - \$8. (Kids free if not bowling)

Food: - BYO picnic hamper, BBQ facilities available
Licensed bar on premises - basic alcoholic beverages and soft drinks available at bar prices. Please note this facility is NOT BYO RSVP: by 30th November to info@rrwn.org.au or call into CharLu for Kids, Romsey. Payment required with confirmation of acceptance.

If you are wondering what the RRWN is about, we are a group that aspires to connect local women in our rural communities in a warm and welcoming environment in which they can exchange ideas, share about their lives and have some laughs. It's a great way to meet new people in the local area, tap into the wealth of knowledge local women have to offer and not only network in a business/professional sense but also meet like-minded women and form new friendships. We will resume gatherings

to the usual 3rd Thursday of each month at 7pm in January; venue has yet to be decided. You are under no obligation to pay the membership fee the first night unless you decide there is something you will benefit from joining our gatherings. Follow us on Facebook - 'Romsey Region Women's Network Inc. (RRWN)' – to keep yourself updated on our upcoming events and any other useful local information that we hear on the grapevine!! If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Enquiries: - Annual membership: - \$20

Romsey Region Women's Network Inc.

Tracey (President) – 0416 497 623

111 Main Street, Romsey VIC 3434

Natasha (Secretary) – 0421 289 137

Email: info@rrwn.com.au

Fran (Treasurer) – 0427 825 989

Garage Sale - December 8
58 Shaw Drive, Romsey
8am to 4pm (no early callers please)
Household items, men's & women's clothing & shoes, camping accessories, 4WD accessories.

LOCAL ORGANISATIONS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY FOR ENVIRONMENTAL COMMUNITY GRANTS

Parliamentary Secretary for Sustainability and Environment, Donna Petrovich, is encouraging local Landcare and environmental groups, schools and community groups to lodge their applications for around \$1 million in community grants to support a range of environmental partnership initiatives.

Mrs Petrovich said \$700,000 in round two funding was available as part of the Victorian Coalition Government's \$20 million *Communities for Nature* program and \$300,000 for the *Healthy Parks Healthy People* program. "Communities for Nature grants are targeted towards local community groups and organisations, including schools, to support them in improving, protecting and conserving our environment," said Mrs Petrovich. Mrs Petrovich says successful Round One funding recipients included Baynton Sidonia Landcare Group (\$6,000), Newham & District Landcare Group (\$5,310) and St Mary's School Lancefield (\$9,260). "Healthy Parks Healthy People grants are available to

community-based groups and not for profit organisations to help them deliver projects which protect and enhance the natural, cultural and heritage values of parks and reserves," said Mrs Petrovich. Environment and Climate Change Minister Ryan Smith officially launched the grants program and the Coalition Government's *Environmental Partnerships* plan last week. "We all have a part to play in keeping our environment healthy," Mr Smith said. "The Coalition Government is focused on practical local action that delivers on-the-ground results for our community and the environment, now and into the future. "The grants programs will help local groups deliver projects that protect and enhance the natural, cultural and heritage values of our parks, reserves, waterways and bays as well as benefit local economies and the people that take part in them." Information on the Coalition Government's environmental community grants programs is available on the following websites:
<http://parkweb.vic.gov.au/get-involved/healthy-parks-healthy-people-grants> (Parks Victoria)
<http://www.dse.vic.gov.au/conservation-and-environment/biodiversity/communities-for-nature-grant-program> (DSE).



Outdoor Pool Opening Hours

In the November edition of Macedon Ranges Shire Council's newsletter, the opening hours for the Lancefield Pool when the temperature is over 30 degrees weren't printed correctly. Included below is the complete list of opening times.

During school terms: 1–21 December 2012 and 29 January–10 March 2013				
Temperature	Under 23°	23–26°	27–30°	Over 30°
Woodend	Closed	3:30pm–6pm	11am–6pm	11am–6pm *
Lancefield	Closed	3:30pm–6pm	11am–6pm	11am–6pm *

School holidays, weekends and public holidays				
Temperature	Under 23°	23 to 26 °	27 to 30 °	Over 30°
Woodend	Closed	1:30pm–6pm	11am–6pm	11am–6pm *
Lancefield	Closed	1:30pm–6pm	11am – 6pm	11am–6pm *

* Centre managers may decide to extend the opening hours past 6pm, depending on patronage, staff availability and weather conditions.

For further information contact the Lancefield Pool on 5429 1546 or the Woodend Pool on 5427 2268.



Happiness continued:

Hello everyone. I can't believe it's nearly Christmas.

I really love this weather, when you wake up in the morning the sun is shining, you can feel alive and somehow it quickens your step. and I really get excited that a new year is about to begin.

Your action for this month is to take a good look at what you have **achieved** this year. You might be surprised . take notes and look hard for those positive things and CELEBRATE!

So now you are doing what your love, gratitude is overflowing, you have started to take action around what you want, so what is your next step ?

But, hang on a minute . Something is not quite right !

Everyone needs a positive environment that will support them to be true to themselves.

Life is something that is richer when you have people around you to share experiences with, by you sharing your life with others you can make others happy too. Gratitude can exist from both sides.

CAROLS AT THE ROCK CALLING ALL SINGERS !!! INCLUDING YOUNG ONES!!

The spirit of Christmas will be celebrated by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council at Hanging Rock on Saturday 15th December. Come and join a choir formed specially to be a part of this event. The choir has places for 100 singers and will be led by dynamic local choir leader and singer Polly Christie. Polly founded the Pollyphonics choir in Woodend five years ago, and has previously led massed choir and band events at Christmas time for various councils in Melbourne. The singing repertoire will include carols and other songs of a reflective nature. There is no charge to be a part of this wonderful event, and all singers are welcome, including children accompanied by an adult. There are three rehearsals in Woodend on Saturdays leading up to the event, and a compulsory dress rehearsal the night before the event. To enrol, email pollychristie@bigpond.com or to find out more ring Polly on 0417-059434.



Gates open at 5.00pm. Pre concert entertainment at 7.00pm. Main Concert at 9.30pm. Guest artists include Wendy Stapleton, Ginger and Tonic, Humphrey B Bear, Santa and Sally cooper. Hosted by Dennis Walter. Admission is free, gold coin donation to SES for parking at Woodend.

You may never be truly happy if you do not have people to share your joys of life with. When you have great friends, great family and a romantic love of your life then you feel much more like a complete person (don't forget to show them you appreciate them.)

“Happiness is like a kiss. You must share it to enjoy it.” – Bernard Meltzer

Don't fret if you don't feel you have this in your life right now. I know you have the ability to attract the right people into your life. You just have to believe you can and let your light shine, as there are people out there who can support you .

And that brings me to my next point. In 2013 I will be running some amazing programs that can support you to be true to yourself and help you live the life you deserve. Keep your eyes open for news on this.

Keep positive! Have a really Happy Christmas and a Safe and Prosperous New Year.

Until next time, love, laugh, dream, believe and inspire
Be empowered to live the life you deserve.

Gillian

from **Life Circle Solutions** for more information contact Gillian on m:0409801082 p:542925448

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- Tree Limb Removal
- Gutter Cleaning
- Odd Jobs



ROMSEY KINDER NEWS

NOVEMBER 2012

16 th November	Toy fundraiser orders due
10 th December	Kinder AGM

Timetables

All parents of kinder children should have received a letter informing them about kinder acceptance for 2013 from TRY. TRY, the teachers and the council are still in consultation about the timetable and if anyone has any queries and concerns please feel free to contact TRY regarding these matters. Hopefully the timetable for 2013 will be finalised in the next week or so.

AGM

The 2012 AGM will be held on Monday the 10th of December at 7:30pm. Parents are invited to attend to hear about all the comings and goings around the kinder throughout 2012. It has been delayed due to TRY needing to confirm the timetables for 2013

Trivia Night/Fundraising

A big thank you to all who donated or attended our Trivia Night this year. We raised \$850 from raffles, door prizes and ticket sales. Thank you to Louise and Kylie for getting all the donations and preparing them for the night. Thank you to Michael for running the night doing the trivia and the raffles. Thank you to Alison and her husband for setting up the tables and donating \$100, and to Kristy who was suffering from tonsillitis and still managed to get donations from Lancefield business. She also organised a float and a table for the night. And thank you to Beth and Andrew for finding the venue. Thanks goes out to our Grants Officer Kellie and the Bendigo Bank for the \$2000 grant to be spent on new blocks for the kinder.

Our Toy fundraiser orders are due by Friday the 16th of November.

Grandparents Day.

On the 24th and 25th of October our 4 year old groups had their Grandparents' day. A big thank you to all who attended as there was a fantastic turn out for all groups. Also a big thank you to Louise for organizing all the refreshments

on the day and making everyone welcome. –Andrew
Be Sunsmart Just a reminder to all parents that it is now summer and all children need to be sunsmart while at Kinder.

Hats – Children are required to wear appropriate hats for outside playtime, otherwise they will have to play under the verandah. Hats are available for purchase for \$10

Sunscreen – apply before dropping your child at Kinder
Clothing – During Term 4 & 1 children need to wear clothing that will cover and protect their shoulders from the sun.

Water – don't forget to fill your child's water bottle!

Books!

Read Books! Share Books Give Books Buy Book Talk Books! Enjoy Books! Own Books! Borrow Books!

Reading is one of the most important skills that children need to achieve. Learning to love books will get them off to a great start. Here at kinder we aim to foster a love of books and literature, and to develop the child's imagination by exposing them to a wide range of books suited to their age and development.

How can parents help their children to enjoy books and reading?

- Enjoy books, magazines and newspapers yourself.
 - Give books as gifts to your children and their friends.
 - Allow children to have their own library shelf which contains their special books.
 - Read to your child every day and spend time talking about the story and illustrations.
 - The local library is a great resource - visit it regularly.
- Liz Keily

Contact:UNIT

- 1 **Kim Bates & Catherine Tighe 5429 5294**
- **UNIT 2**
- **Liz Keily & Kay Futcher**

Shoppers note! The Lancefield & District Farmers' Market runs on the THIRD SATURDAY this month!!

It's that time of the year again. Christmas is approaching, and the farmers' market at Lancefield makes a shift one week back to allow a wee break for the producers. So, the market will be running on Saturday 15th December this year, with the same great selection you see each month and the Riddells Creek Farmer's Market will be taking a break till January 2013.

Farmers' Markets are not only a great place to shop for your weekly provisions, they are also treasure troves of interesting gifts for the special people in your life. Consider buying a locally produced gifts this year and support the local economy in doing so. Christmas dinners are made all the more enjoyable and significant when you purchase free-range meats for your meal. Orders are being taken for hams and turkeys at the moment from

our producers, please call Meggs on 0407860320 for more information. These will be available for collection from the Farmers' Market on the 15th.

A great new development in the market is the MOBILE DEMONSTRATION KITCHEN. If you are in the market round 10am be sure to swing by and check out a great local chef whipping up a storm in this amazing new community facility. Seasonal farmers' market produce will be featured each month.

So we look forward to seeing you all at the market enjoying the sweet sounds of our buskers, perhaps grabbing a cake from the Lancefield Primary School stand or a sausage from the community BBQ. Please bring your own bags, baskets or trolleys. This market is an initiative of the Lancefield Neighbourhood House. More information, please call Meggs on 0407860320.



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Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life. Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd March 2013.

Lancefield Park

It's not too late to join in. Register now or donate to a team.

www.relayforlife.org.au

or ring

1300 65 65 85

Money raised in Victoria, stays in Victoria. This means that no matter where you live, your fundraising will benefit people in your local community. Every dollar you raise helps.

In the past 10 years, Relay For Life events in the Shire of Macedon Ranges have raised \$984,249. This money is helping the 217 people diagnosed in the Shire of Macedon Ranges every year

Survival

Five-year survival is now at 64%, the highest it has ever been. Two decades ago, this figure was just 47%. This increase is largely due to breakthroughs in early detection, prevention and treatment.

Support

If you or someone close to you is facing cancer, we can help. Call our Cancer Council Helpline (13 11 20) and speak to friendly cancer nurses who can answer questions, provide advice and information and link you to other support programs.

Did you know? By raising \$5000 or more your team will be eligible for a Research Award – which will give you the chance to fund a world-class cancer research project.

In 2011 the Cancer Council Victoria:

- Over \$26 million was spent on world-class cancer research to find new ways to prevent, detect and treat cancer.
- We supported biomedical and clinical researchers in leading universities, hospitals and medical institutes, as well as Cancer Council researchers in tobacco control, epidemiology and behavioural studies.
- A world-first study was launched into 15 less common, but highly dangerous, cancers like bladder, multiple myeloma and kidney. The Forgotten Cancers Project aims to understand the causes, find ways to prevent them and improve survival. Visit forgottencancers.com.au for more info or to take part.

Celebrate Remember Fightback!



News For December 2012

Romsey Community House Inc.
A Learning and Activity Centre
 96-100 Main Road, Romsey, Vic 3434
 Email: romseyhouse@bigpond.com
 Ph/Fax: 03 5429 6724

Exercise and Mindfulness

Yoga

Mondays 7pm-8.30pm @ Romsey Community House
 \$14 per class when term is paid before end of Week 1
 \$18 Casual Participation: Enquiries to **Leisa Kirk on 0408 934 656**

Thursdays 7pm-8.30pm @ Romsey Community House
 \$15 per class when term is paid before end of Week 1
 \$18 Casual Participation: Enquiries to **Lisa Moore on 0448 345 338**

Sun Style Tai Chi

Tuesdays 1pm—2pm
 \$8 per class (Minimum Numbers Apply)
 To join—Contact **Jan on 5428 1223** or
0412 219 900

Gentle Exercise for Over 50's

Mondays 10am - 11am. These classes are designed to be fun and are specifically tailored to meet the capacity of each participant. This class may assist with balance, mobility, bladder control and joint pain. Chair based exercises also available. Cost \$5 per class

Enquiries to **Jan on 5428 1223** or **0412 219 900**

***Join us after class for a cuppa and morning tea (\$2/ Gold Coin Donation)**

Heart Foundation 'Walk Together' Program

Tuesdays 9.30am - 10.30am. Meet with group leader Eileen at the Lions Park on Main Road (near Five Mile Creek).

Workshops for Children and Adults

Creative Expression through Music for Children and Adults Classes will include:

Relaxation: Meditation for beginners and advanced.

Sound Vibration: Through the use of Tibetan/Crystal bowls, gong and chants participants will engage in a harmonious therapeutic experience.

Children: Every 1st Wednesday of the month. 4.30pm-5.30pm.

Adults: Every 1st Monday of the month 10.30am-12.30pm (additional sessions by arrangement).

For more information or to book – Contact Stavroula: 0400 032 518

Line Dancing

Mondays 9.00am - 10.30am at the Mechanics Institute Hall. Cost: \$6 per class. Open Age. All enquiries to **Anne on 5429 1650**

Creative and Caring

Art Classes

Children's Classes with Tanya Salter: Tuesdays and Thursdays 3.45pm - 4.45pm (weekly)

\$80 for a ten week term.

\$8 for new students and then pay \$72

Bring your own materials.

Advice available on improving your career in the design and art sector.

For all bookings call **Tanya 0400 053 829**



Craft Group

Thursdays 10.30am - 12.30pm. Come and practise a variety of crafts including; quilting, card making, knitting, smocking, embroidery etc. Gold coin contribution on the day. Contact **Leanne on 0407 053 806**.

Writers Group

Meets on the 2nd **Tuesday** of each month. We share our work and ideas whilst providing encouragement, feedback and support. Gold Coin contribution.

For further information call **Sue 5428 6951** or **Lila 5429 3732**

It's All About You 4 Women.

Let's get together and chat in a relaxed, safe, fun and supportive environment. If you have something you want to share, learn or understand please come along to the Romsey Community Hub. Sessions include meditation, a free cuppa and a different topic each week (if needed). Sessions will be led by Gillian Gorrie, Life Circle Solutions, Tutor, Teacher, NLP Practitioner. For more information contact **Gillian on M:0409 801 082** or **H:54295448**.

Open House — We'd love to see you!

Our 'Drop in Room' is open to the public weekdays 9.30am - 5.00pm. Enjoy a quiet cuppa; peruse our community brochures or spend some time socialising with friends. You never know you might even make some new ones! Gold coin donation applies.

Information and Activity Group

We are busily preparing our program for next year and have a few new things on offer and are bringing back some old ones too. 2013 will see the Information and Activity Group return to the House. This will again be held on the last Friday of the Month and include a light lunch and the opportunity to hear a speaker on a topic of interest. If you have any particular topic you would like to know more about then please call us on 5429 6724.

Events scheduled for 2013

Sustainability Event on 23 February as part of the Sustainable Living Festival

Antiques Fair on 27 & 28 April

Closing Dates Over Christmas

Our programs run to coincide with the school year therefore we take a break over Christmas and close the House to the public. Closes 21st December, reopens 14th January.

Merry Christmas to All

I'd like to take this opportunity on behalf of the Committee of Management to thank all the wonderful people who contribute to the House in one way or another and wish you all a terrific Christmas and a safe, happy and prosperous New Year. We look forward to seeing our regular friends in 2013 and hopefully we'll get to meet some new one too!

All the best,
 Judi Nicholson

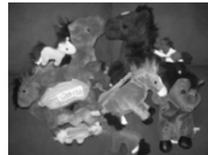
Romsey Community House Coordinator

For All Bookings & Enquiries
Phone: 5429 6724

FOR SALE



For Sale – Beanie Kids (very loved) - \$50 O.N.O
 25 Big Beanie Kids and 14 babies
 Contact – 0417035078



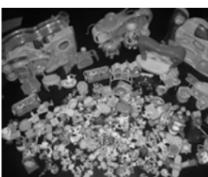
For Sale - Collection of 11 Horse soft toys (very loved) - \$20.00 O.N.O
 Contact – 0417035078



For Sale – Collection of Barbie/ Bratz dolls (pre loved) & accessories - \$90 O.N.O
 31 good condition
 8 missing limbs & heads!
 3 lrg make-up heads
 1 Scooter
 1 Tent with 2 sleeping bags
 2 cars
 2 horses
 Accessories, shoes and clothes
 Contact - 0417035078



For Sale Renault Laguna 2008 - \$9999.00
 Diesel, used for open road driving
 Registered until May 2013, New Wheels, New Windscreen
 Contact - 0417035078



For Sale – Littlest Pet Shop toys & accessories (good condition – worth new \$500) - \$150.00 - O.N.O
 100+ toys
 Light up studio
 2 lrg houses
 1 lrg car
 Contact – 0417035078



Wall hangings Farm Range from "Off the Wall" Collection - \$120.00
 One pinboard
 One mirror
 4 Animals
 Contact - 0417035078

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Ask about Discount Local Rates

A Christmas treat: Home Made Irish Cream recipe

2 eggs
 1 can condensed milk
 600ml bottle of cream
 200ml whisky
 3 tsp vanilla essence
 3 tsp coconut essence
 3-4 dessertspoons chocolate essence.

Combine all ingredients. Will make approx. 700ml plus a small bottle. If using an empty whisky bottle do not wash it before putting Irish Cream in. Keep refrigerated. Enjoy!

ROMSEY / LANCEFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS Meet each Monday.

Come and enjoy lunch, a game of cards, indoor bowls or just a chat with a very friendly group of people. Bus trips arranged each month.

For details, please ring Rae Hooke on 54291602.



Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club

President: Mrs. Jean Buist 5429 1116
Secretary: Mrs. Jeni Clampit 5429 5480

Probus Meetings are held at St. Mary's Hall, Main Street, Romsey at 10am on the **fourth Thursday** in each month.

Probus is a mixed club for men and women. There is a guest speaker at each meeting.

We have an outing on the third Wednesday of the month. (Either a trip or luncheon)

Friday Morning Coffee



Musical Afternoons each month.

Ten Pin Bowling each fortnight.



On Wednesday December 19th we will be celebrating Christmas at the Australiana Restaurant at Wondong.

There will not be a meeting during December.

We will be having a get-together BBQ on January 16th, 2013, at the home of Jean Buist.

Persons interested in this club and wishing to have more information can please contact the President or Secretary at the above phone numbers.

Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club now has a website as follows:

rlprobus.org.au

If you have a computer, please check it out!

Macedon Ranges Christmas Toy Shop

For the past 2 years the Combined Churches of the Macedon Ranges have organised a Christmas "Toy Shop" for families living in the shire who might struggle to afford a Christmas gift for their child. Each year we assist over 100 local families, or 250 children. This year we anticipate the need to be even greater.



The Toy Shop relies completely on the generosity of our community, to donate gifts to stock the shop. Families are referred to us by local support and welfare agencies and are given a personal invite to attend the shop and pick out toys for their children. As we rely on donated goods, there is no cost to the families for these gifts. We also offer gift wrapping and a cafe style space to enjoy free tea and coffee and home baked goodies.

For families who are facing challenging times, Christmas can become an incredibly stressful, lonely and sad season. Unable to participate in many of the traditions that our culture has come to know as "normal" these families can feel even more isolated and marginalised.

The Toy Shop gives struggling families the opportunity to enjoy what most people take for granted – to choose something special for their child and be able to give it to them on Christmas morning. Many of these families would otherwise be unable to give their child a gift on Christmas morning, and many of these children would miss out on the joy of opening a gift that is just for them. For our community, the Toy Shop is a fantastic opportunity for local people to embrace the true Christmas spirit, and reach out in generosity and love to those in their own community who are facing a tough time. Whether you are an individual or a business, you can get into the Christmas spirit and give some joy to local people who really need it.

The toy shop relies 100% on the goodwill and generosity of our community. We need your donations to make this important initiative possible. We require donations of toys for boys and girls aged 0-16. Gifts need to be new and valued around \$20. We also welcome donations of books, plush toys and smaller items that would be suitable as stocking fillers.

How to Donate:

- The Uniting Church and Target Woodend are again running "Operation Santa" and have kindly agreed to donate all gifts to the Toy Shop. Members of the public can donate by leaving a gift at the tree located in Target Country Woodend.
- Donations will also be received at the offices of Cobaw Community Health in Kyneton and Woodend
- Contact Emily Townsend (0409213757) or Georgina Harvey (0404442891) directly to arrange pick up of donations

Donations of both gifts and money will be gratefully received. All financial donations will only be used to purchase toys to stock the shop. Gifts need to be received by Monday 17th December to allow time for sorting and setting up of the toy shop.

All Enquiries: Emily Townsend (0409213757) or Georgina Harvey (0404442891)

Romsey Golf Club Inc.

Charity Golf Day

Four Player Ambrose

Proceeds to the 2013 Lancefield & Macedon Ranges Relay For Life

Sunday 17th
Feb, 2013



9.30 am for 10.00
am hit off

Nearest The Pins

"The Old Course"

Many novelty & fun events during the round.

Entry Fee – \$80 per team (\$20 pp)

Includes traditional Romsey BBQ Lunch

Entries to: Tony Freeman Ph: 0414 296 418

Jan Harver Ph: 0402 905 982

Entries close 10th February

Straightest Drive (Entries also accepted on the day if field permits)

Refreshments available throughout the day

Community Christmas Fun Day

Saturday 8th December, 2012
12.00 – 4.30 pm

at the

Macedon Ranges Masonic Lodge

73 Main Road, Romsey

On the day:

Santa Kids Games & Races Handball Reindeer Shoe Throwing Bouncing Castle Free Harley Rides and lots more

ALL AGES WELCOME

FREE ADMISSION

Free Drinks for Kids

In association with

The Bendigo Bank - Lancefield and Romsey
Lancefield Motorcycle Run
Freemasons, Victoria



Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association (RRBATA)

UPDATE

2012 – The Year in Review

The first part of 2012 began with a "bang" as RRBATA organised the "Light up the Sky" fireworks event at Lions Reserve. This successful night was made possible with generous sponsorships from local businesses, particularly Countrywide Building Services and Custom Built Mobile Homes.

The inaugural Community Group RoundUp was well attended by representatives from Romsey community and sporting groups. Identification of challenges and preliminary discussion of solutions was a feature. Work towards a community calendar through Romsey Online to facilitate coordination between groups will commence in early 2013.

RRBATA has conducted some "navel gazing" of its own, to identify its own challenges and possible solutions with the assistance of MRSC's Economic Development and Tourism Unit.

New businesses continue to become established in our region, particularly home based ones. RRBATA sees this demographic as one for focus in 2013 in addition to the traditional "shop front" businesses.

The Community Bank Development

RRBATA waits with interest, as does the Romsey community, further news in early 2013 on the progress of the Community Bank development at 105 Main Street.

Christmas Greetings

With the end of the year rapidly approaching, RRBATA Committee of Management wishes to extend its best wishes for a happy and safe Christmas and New Year to the Romsey region community.



RRBATA looks forward to a prosperous 2013 for business and tourism in the Romsey region!

Romsey Online Update

RRBATA is continuing its review of Romsey Online to ascertain whether its appearance and function can be further improved. RRBATA's Committee of Management recently agreed to conduct a survey of users and listing businesses/organisations to ascertain feedback to assist the site's ongoing development. The website is an important resource for both local residents and potential visitors to our town as well so it is important that a fresh appearance is maintained. Feedback regarding the website is welcome so please email your comments to info@romsey.org.au.

And don't forget, *ANYONE CAN BE A REPORTER!* Whether it is sporting results, photos, reports on events etc, the website is waiting for your "news". This is a FREE service!! Please ensure a note of consent from people featured in any photographs accompanies your submissions. Remember, the website is only as good as the information fed to it at info@romsey.org.au.

Thinking About Membership?

RRBATA is only as good as its membership. Consider being a beneficiary of the exciting initiatives planned ahead by becoming a RRBATA member so as you can be heard!!

Membership Enquiries:

Joanne Hagan (Secretary) Phone: 0432 320553

Email: hages10@optusnet.com.au

Tai Chi Classes

Saturdays at 11am.

Beginners are most welcome at any time. Passive exercise & meditation for all ages that offer balance of mind & body for health, vitality and wellbeing.

Come and try a complimentary class.

Traditional Goju Ryu Karate

Children & Adult beginner classes for self protection, fitness, discipline and confidence – Tuesdays & Thursdays.

Traditional Chinese Medicine

Oriental Barefoot Doctors Clinic
Incorporating massage and offering a holistic treatment for improved vitality, many health related issues, chronic & acute injuries.

- by appointment only

GIFT VOUCHERS AVAILABLE



WU LIN RETREAT
47 Sherwood Court
LANCEFIELD
VIC 3435

Phone: 54292122

Mob: 0417 350 398

Email: james@jamesumarac.com

Website: www.wulinretreat.com

COMING EVENTS

11th – 13th January 2013

We Proudly present Grand Master Chen Yun Ching from Taiwan. Workshop will include Tai Chi Chuan and Walking Stick self defence.

Book early as places fill quickly

Booking may be made through www.wulinretreat.com
go to coming events/programs.



FIRE READY VICTORIA



MUST-HAVE INFORMATION FOR THIS FIRE SEASON

What is Fire Ready Victoria?

Before and during each fire season in high risk bushfire or grassfire areas across Victoria, CFA hosts free community meetings as part of our Fire Ready Victoria program.

How can I find out about meetings in my local area?

Visit cfa.vic.gov.au/meetings or contact your nearest CFA district office.

I've been to Fire Ready meetings before. Is it worth my while to go again?

Absolutely. Every meeting is different because every fire season is different. Local conditions, shelter options and emergency warning systems can all change year to year, so come along with questions you'd like to ask.

Fire Ready meetings are also a great way to make contacts in your local area, share experiences and views, and even talk about pooling resources.

So I'll find out locally specific information?

Yes, you'll hear seasonal information about where and how fires are most likely to start, spread and threaten around your local area, and the potential effects of a wind change.

You'll also find out how to access local fire information and warnings.

Can CFA come and speak to groups?

CFA encourages clubs, groups or employers to book a customised Fire Ready session – we'll come to you.

Where are the meetings held?

Meetings may take place at your local hall, fire station, park, footy club or even street corner, so remember to look out for signs or notices around your area.

What if I can't attend a meeting? How do I find out more?

You can find information and advice to help you plan and prepare at cfa.vic.gov.au/bushfire. You can also call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667 to request a *Fire Ready Kit* or book a visit from CFA's free Home Bushfire Advice Service.

FREE Fire Ready meetings cover the essential decisions you and your family need to make before and during the fire season.



cfa.vic.gov.au/meetings

Scouts and Jamboree 2013

Our local Romsey Scouts are off again to the Australian Jamboree which starts in early January for an action packed, exhilarating, 10 day camping experience of a lifetime, with 13,000 other like-minded people of the same age group.

There are many fun-filled, adventure activities including flying foxes and rock climbing, not to mention the infamous and much anticipated "Challenge Park". To succeed at the challenge park, scouts are required to work together to get over, under, through or around as a patrol or as individuals, teaching them about team work or allowing them to show off their scouting capabilities, in a safe, supervised but fun environment. Essentially, the challenge park is an over-the-top commando course for kids, complete with mud and all.

But that's not all. Other activities that scouts will experience first hand, shared with their newly made mates and those from home, include day trips to Fraser Island, flights over the Great Barrier Reef and even the opportunity to go up in gliders, to name a few. Jamboree—a place where the experiences are many, activities for everyone, no-one is left out, skills are gained and displayed, fun, laughter and great memories. Days are full of activities and by night the entertainment allows social relaxation and more fun. At the last Jamboree in Sydney in 2010, there was a concert by Blue Juice and even a demonstration organized by some of the Crusty Demons organized especially for our scouts.

Every Jamboree the organizers go out of their way to make sure the next Jamboree is even better than the last, as this is the pinnacle of scouting. They make sure it is a hassle-free, fun-filled experience of a lifetime, so that hopefully no-one leaves after 10 days feeling disappointed or with regrets. Scouts leave knowing that that they can now advance in the scouting ranks. Once you have been part of a Jamboree you will never forget it for the rest of your life.

From St Mary's School, Lancefield

Another String to Their Bow

St. Mary's Primary School Lancefield grade three students Hunter White and Ella Marr each achieved a sterling result in their first ever violin exams in August. They both received Honours. They sat the Australian Music Examination Board practical exam in Preliminary Grade which involves presenting a program of technical syllabus and three pieces of music. Lizanne Richards has been teaching Hunter and Ella violin since July 2010.



Lancefield and Romsey Welcome Fr. Arnold

St Mary's Primary School wishes to thank their major sponsors, *Bendigo Bank, CHESS property Consultants and RTA: Robot Technologies Taking Technology Further*, who supported the recent Drive In Movie night.

The Parish along with St Mary's Primary school have warmly welcomed their new Parish Priest Fr Arnold Heredia. He brings to our community a wealth of experience both here in Australia and Pakistan. Fr Arnold meets regularly with the school and is pictured here with the school's Religious Education Leader Miss Kahli Murtagh.



Veggie Garden at St Mary's

The students at St Mary's recently planted out their veggie gardens with some spring time delights. The vegetable patches are part of the school's master landscape plan. The students are hoping their crops will yield some vegetables before the long Christmas holidays. Pictured by the wheel barrow are Grace Marr, Elle Choate, Jaya Broadhurst, Daniel Azzopardi, Patrick Holmes and Reuben Schembri.



In Search of Christmas Presents By Mary Wallace

With shining eyes, the little tot
Gazed in awe through Myers window.
He saw the elves hard at play.
Spoke to every Santa he saw that day...

And he dreamed of Christmas presents.

As years passed there stood a child
Locked in solemn contemplation,
Of tinsel and trees and a little toy drum
And he knew that it could never come....

But he longed for Christmas presents.

In time he grew to be a man,
And with a Christmas dawning,
He felt the touch of a little hand,
Watched his son as he tried to stand...

He knew of special Christmas presents.

With shining eyes, the little tot
Gazed in awe through Myers window.
The young man's eyes cloud with pain,
As the circle begins again...

The need for Christmas presents.

In church they stood, a family group,
To hear the Christmas story.
A new life sacrificed for all,
With joy and love they heard the call...

And felt the Christmas presence.

