

THE ROMSEY RAG

THE APRIL 2000 EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

Issue No. 170

- Romsey Recreation Centre -

April 2000

1500 copies produced each month at Romsey Primary School as a service to our community

WANT TO PLAY BASKETBALL???

The Romsey Recreation Centre is looking for players (Male or Female) for its brand new winter basketball season. New teams are to be made and our goal is an even competition. We are looking for players in the age groups of: U/10, U/12, U/14, Open age mixed, and Ladies.

Our U/8 Romball competition will continue to run unchanged incorporating both a skills and game element each week. The ladies competition will be either on a weekday morning or Saturday afternoon.

INTERESTED IN SQUASH???

The Romsey Recreation Centre has two well maintained squash courts available for bookings at cheap rates. We are also interested in starting a social squash competition but we need your help - give us a ring and let us know if you want to be a part of it!!

COMING SOON

Watch out for our Easter egg hunt

Win \$CASH\$ in THE ROMSEY SHOOTOUT!!!

Events include basketball, netball, squash and golf.

FOR ALL ENQUIRIES CONTACT GRAHAM AT THE ROMSEY RECREATION CENTRE ON 5429 5637



WHAT'S MISSING???

Give you a hint - travel north through Romsey - go over Five Mile Creek and look to your left. It's like a smile with a missing tooth. A row of terrace houses with a vacant block in the middle. No more trees along Romsey's magnificent avenue of trees with one GONE!

A naughty fallen limb did cause power problems for us all but within 24 hours we didn't just have a tidied up limb, Romsey's avenue was minus a whole mature tree. The Romsey Rag team felt this needed further investigation. We had many questions. How did a major work happen so quickly in Romsey? Who authorised it? What are the processes? Do people get notified?

Naturally many calls to the Macedon Shire Council turned a couple of questions into a saga but we are glad to report a professional response came from Mr Rick Keen who as part of the Contract Management Unit of the Council initiated the sending of a



contracted Arborist to tidy up the problematic limb. The Arborist identified that the tree was suffering with a fungal disease and not safe. The decision was made to remove the tree for safety reasons and in the winter replant with a new tree. Mr Keen has procedures of notification he follows in various circumstances but as this tree was considered unsafe to the public it was acted on immediately. To clear up

any other fears about our beautiful treed avenue, most particularly the Elms, the next edition of the Romsey Rag will publish snippets from the Council's 'think tank' looking into the discovery of the Elm Leaf beetle in our region. The missing tree was not cut down due to the Elm Leaf beetle. We hope this little investigation alleviates any questions residents have.

Primary School News

School Carnival an Explosive Hit!

All the fun of the fair came to Romsey Primary School on Friday 24th March. There was tremendous excitement as the school bell rang with a feast of attractions available for children of all ages. Families from near and far came to enjoy the outstanding entertainment, seek out great bargains and play games of fun and chance. With a range of rides, including a giant slide and Harley rides, wonderful food and lots of fun activities including the chance of throwing cream pies at the teachers. The Carnival concluded with a spectacular fireworks display.

'The Carnival really brought the whole school community together', commented Parents Club organiser Mrs Leecia Angus. 'The school community's response in helping out, organising activities, and supporting the school has been quite overwhelming'. The school expects to make in excess of \$7000, from the Carnival. This money will be used directly on equipment and resources for the school's students.



Teddy's on show



Taking aim - Students getting their own back in Students Revenge



Assistant Principal - Tracy Hammill cops a face full at the pie throwing



On the slide - one of the many popular attractions at the Carnival



Doing a roaring trade - All the stalls proved very popular



ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD CENTENNIAL TRACK Inc.

We held a very busy meeting on Monday, 20th March, at the Romsey Shire Office. Applications for grants have been lodged with the Victorian Federation Grants Scheme and the Minor Facilities Funding through the Macedon Ranges Shire and we should know if we have been successful with those later in the year. We have also lodged an expression of interest with the Queen's Trust for Young Australians.

Around 2,500 letters have been sent out to all ratepayers in the Romsey-Lancefield district inviting them to purchase a metre of track (or two or three!) for \$20.

We have received part of the Federal Government Centennial Grant of

\$27,000 (balance of \$3,000 will be paid on completion of a progress report due in February, 2001) giving us a total contributions in cash and kind to date of \$31,136.30. We still have a long way to go to reach the estimate of \$150,000 but we are confident that we can do it with your help!

Please be assured that if the project is not totally funded, all donations will be entirely refunded.

Our next fundraiser is a Luncheon to be held at the Romsey Hotel on Wednesday, 12th April, with Dr. Jeff Brownrigg our Guest Speaker. Dr. Brownrigg is the Director of the Peoples Choice Project promoting the Centenary of Federation and is currently touring

Australia lecturing on life as it was back in 1901. He is reportedly not to be missed! Tickets are \$15 each which includes admission, a two course lunch and coffee. Tickets can be obtained from the Romsey Post Office, Charlie Smith at Lancefield Home & Rural, Mr. Trevor Turnham - (Treasurer on 54295 413) or by mail to Margaret Howatson, Secretary, P.O. Box 293, Romsey, 3434.

Our next meeting will be held Monday, 3rd April, at 7.30p.m. in the Lancefield Mechanics Institute. Please join us in this very exciting project - or give me a ring with any ideas you may have.

Margaret Howatson,
Secretary - 5429 5724
or fax 5429 5719.

ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD AMBULANCE AUXILIARY

At our August meeting last year, Mr. Rob Knowles - Minister for Health and Aged Care, announced that the funding for an ambulance station in Romsey was in place and would be well on its way by June, 2000. Mr. Knowles was well and truly questioned as to the fact that this was just an election stunt as, although an election had not been called, rumour was in the air. He emphatically denied that this was the case and stated that even if there was a change of government we would get our station! We were all over the moon that this was now going to happen after

3-1/2 years hard work on the part of Ambulance Victoria and ourselves.

Then the government did change - we heard nothing - so late last month made enquiries only to find out that Ambulance Victoria had just been requested to do yet another feasibility

study! We immediately held a meeting with Joanne Duncan over in Gisborne and our President, Cr. Geoff Neil, Mr. Doug Kimberley, CEO Ambulance Victoria and two of his Department Heads and myself attended. Ms. Duncan was very sympathetic - of course - and would make enquiries to the Health Department and in Parliament on our behalf. I think she got the message that we were not too happy about the whole situation!

We have now received a letter dated 7th March from her and I quote...

"I have received correspondence from the Hon. John Thwaites, Minister for Health.... At this stage it appears that no funding has been allocated for a new station at Romsey. Opportunities for extending the Governments policy platform to expand ambulance resources will be considered once the

Service Delivery Plan has been prepared, which is due for release after mid 2000. I have met with Mr. Thwaites over this issue and I am mindful that the people of Romsey have worked hard for this. I continue to lobby the Government over this issue and will continue to work at achieving a new station at Romsey. We have also put in a submission for consideration in the May budget."

That's about all Ms. Duncan can do at this stage and we will not let up in our fight - and that is what it has now evidently turned into - to get our station! Just a pity politicians can't be recalled and made accountable for their actions!

I will keep you all informed,

Margaret Howatson,
Secretary - 5429 5724.

ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD CENTENNIAL TRACK INC.

**INVITES YOU TO ATTEND A LUNCHEON
TO BE HELD AT THE ROMSEY HOTEL
ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH APRIL 2000
TIME: 12 FOR 12.30 P.M.**

**GUEST SPEAKER
DR JEFF BROWNRIGG**

CULTURAL HISTORIAN

&

**DIRECTOR OF THE PEOPLES CHOICE PROJECT
CENTENARY OF FEDERATION**

**WHO IS A DYNAMIC SPEAKER TOURING AUSTRALIA
LECTURING ON LIFE AS IT WAS
WHEN OUR GREAT COUNTRY UNITED IN 1901**

**\$15 PER HEAD WHICH INCLUDES
A TWO COURSE LUNCH AND COFFEE
(DRINKS AT BAR PRICES)**

**TICKETS CAN BE PURCHASED FROM
THE ROMSEY POST OFFICE**

Plus

**Charlie Smith's Lancefield Home & Rural
Mr. Trevor Turnham on 54295 413
Or by mail to Mrs. Margaret Howartson, Secretary,
Romsey-Lancefield Centennial Track inc.,
P.O. Box 293, Romsey, 3434**

This is a fundraising project for the Centennial track

ROTARY AUCTION HUGE SUCCESS!!

On Friday night 17th March, the Rotary Club of Romsey-Lancefield held their second annual charity auction. This was held at the magnificent Glen Erin Vineyard Retreat in Lancefield. The proceeds of the action are designated to the Skateboard Park Project. The Rotary Club have pledged to build a permanent Skateboard facility based on the success of the temporary ramp which left town several months ago.

Brendan Coxon with assistance from local celebrity Anne Phelan made for great auctioneers on the night. With generous sponsors and an enthusiastic group of bidders the night was full of fun, novel and once in a lifetime buying opportunities. These included a day on the set of Neighbours, a night in the 3AW commentary box with Rex Hunt and Ron Barassi, laps of the Calder Park Circuit with Glen Seton and Craig Baird in their V8 Supercars and a marvellous

collection of local vintage wines. Dining and accommodation packages were also keenly sought after, as well as a host of sporting items and useful items such as a lawnmower, chainsaw and brushcutter.

I would publicly like to thank all of our sponsors, donors and buyers. The members of the Rotary Club all did a great job in the preparation and on the night, and can feel justifiably proud of the brilliant result!

That result was a breathtaking profit of just over -

ELEVEN AND A HALF THOUSAND DOLLARS!!!!

It is so refreshing to see the community spirit alive and well!

Craig Jamieson, President, Romsey Club Romsey-Lancefield

HELPFUL HINTS

We've attempted to start this little column monthly hoping that the spirit of sharing ideas is strong and thriving in our community. So far the only hints we have received have come from within our editorial committee. It would be great if someone could put pen to paper and drop their innovative hint/s into the Post Office for the May Edition.

HINTS FOR APRIL:

The inside bladder of a wine cask can be used as a cushion/back support with as little or as much air blown in as required through the one way tap. Great to keep in the car. Let down when not needed.

Need space in the kitchen cupboard? Screw hooks into a piece of wood which can be secured across the ceiling of your cupboard, great for hanging cups and mugs.

Recycling idea - A Great job for the older kids to prepare for our cold winters - Making Newspaper Logs

Boil 2 or 3 litres water and add washing soda. When it has dissolved, add newspapers and boil for 10 minutes, stirring and prodding with a stick. When cool, mould into tightly squeezed balls and allow to dry thoroughly. Start your fire as normal then add a 'log' or two. They should burn for an hour.

THANKS

As a candidate in the recent Macedon Ranges Shire Elections for the Mt William Ward, I would like to thank the people of Romsey/Lancefield and outlying areas for their support in the polling on Saturday the 18th.

As you will not doubt be aware by now, your new Councillor is Alice Aird who lives in the Newham/Cobaw area. I wish the people of the area all the best and hope their newly elected councillor serves them well.

Yours sincerely

HARRYDREGER

ATTENTION: ROMSEY BUSINESSES & SERVICES

NEW LOCALITY GUIDE FOR ROMSEY

A new Macedon Ranges Tourism map will be placed at the entrance of the Shire Offices in Romsey. It will also include a town map of Romsey. This is an initiative of Christine Sullivan from the Macedon Shire Council and she has received support from Margaret Goodman from the Romsey Shire

Offices and Mrs Kym Raverty who is volunteering to collate information that will be recorded underneath the Map of the town of Romsey.

The team above ask that if you, your business or service wish to be recorded on this Locality Guide/Map could you

please fill out the form below and return it to Margaret Goodman at the Romsey Shire Office as soon as possible.

For further information:
Kym Raverty Ph: 5429 5901

Name of Business or Service:

Street/Road & Number:

Phone: Distance from Shire Office: (eg 2 kms North)

THE LATEST NEWS FROM EUROPE

The ROMSEY RAG has received this bulletin fresh from our Brussels based hack. The European union Commissioners have announced that agreement has been reached to adopt English as the preferred language for European communications, rather than German, which was the other possibility. As part of the negotiations, her Majesty's Government conceded that English spelling had some room for improvement and has accepted a five year phased plan for what will be known as EuroEnglish (Euro for short).

In the first year, 'S' will be used instead of the soft 'C'. Certainly sivil servants resieve this news with joy. Also, the hard "c" will be replased with "K". Not only will this klear up the konfusion, but typewriters kan have one less letter. There will be growing publik enthusiasm in the sekond year, with the troublesome "PH" will be replased by "F". This will make words like fotograf 20% shorter. In the third year, publik akseptanse of the new spelling kan be

expekted to reach the stage where more komplikated changes are possible. Governments will enkourage the removal of double letters, which have always ben a deterrent to akurate speling. Also, al wil agre that the horrible use of silent "e's" in the languag is disgrasful, and they should go.

By the fourth year, peopl wil be respktiv to steps such as replasing "th" by "z" and "w" by "v". During ze fifz year, ze unesasary "o" kan be dropd from vords kontaining "ou" and similar changes vud of kors be aplid to ozer kombinations of leters. After ze fifz year, ve vil have a reli sensibl riten styl. Zer vil be no mor truble or difikultis and evrivun vil find it ezi tu understand echozer. Ze drem vil finali kum tru.....

ED. I luv it! Di yu se how ze "I" kam before ze "e" after ze "c" becam an "s" in ze vord "receive" upon korektion. My komputer spel chek has just blown up!

The Mount Players Inc presents an exciting new adaptation of

DAVID WILLIAMSON'S



"MONEY & FRIENDS'..."

In this play friendships are tested, not just by money, but by truth. The difficulty of maintaining friendship within marriage is also explored.

SEASON: March 24 - April 16th

TICKETS: \$17 - \$14 - \$10

VENUE: Mount View Theatre

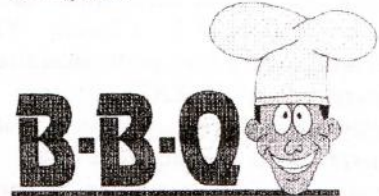
56 Smith St. Macedon

BOOKINGS:

Phone: 9744 3567 or call into Sunserve Bookings (Old Sunbury Courthouse, Macedon St, Sunbury)

ROMSEY GOLF CLUB INC.

Open Day will be held on Saturday 8th April. Assembly at 12.30 for a 1 o'clock hit off. Members and non-members are welcome. The competition for the day will be 4BBB. This will be followed by a BBQ tea.



The club will be holding a Wine and Beer Tasting on Friday 5th May commencing at 7.30 p.m. Cost \$10 per head. Wine will be from Buller's and the beer will be from Holgate's Brewery. Bookings can be made with Mary Campbell 5429 5629



If any one would like information about joining the Golf Club (male or female) contact the Secretary Rod Campbell 5429 5629

Editorially Speaking

H - E - L - P!!!

Many hands make light work is most appropriate when it comes to putting together the Romsey Rag for distribution to the community. Each month the RAG needs collating, stapling & folding. It is not hard work. It is very social. The collation team are committed but the March edition only had three people initially and it took them three hours instead of the usual 1 - 2 hours. The RAG won't make it to your letterboxes by itself. SO, PLEASE citizens of Romsey surely there must be individuals or mates who can squeeze even 15 minutes in their busy routine to come and assist the team. Call Romsey Primary School for Collation Day and time.

COLLATING DAY FOR THE MAY EDITION WILL BE MONDAY MAY 1ST 2000 AT ROMSEY PRIMARY SCHOOL.

WE ARE TRYING A DIFFERENT TIME OF THE DAY. PLEASE COME ALONG FROM 7.00PM.

Romsey Rag Publishing Information Page

Readers of the Romsey Rag are reminded that ALL contributions should be left only at the Romsey Post Office before 12.00pm on the 20th of April for the May issue.

These contributions can be handed in or alternatively faxed through to the post office Fax No. 5429 5134. We appreciate legible material, any photographs, graphics or logos to be separate from the written or typed material so they can be computer scanned. The Editorial Committee do not accept responsibility for items not presented by the deadline. If you are available to help with collating please notify the Romsey Primary School office or the Collation Co-ordinators.

Advertising Rates:

Front Page Sponsorship - \$50 for half page graphics and words

Business Card - \$10.00 for 1 month or \$100 per year in Business Trade Directory

Quarter Page - \$20.00

Half Page - \$40.00

Full Page - \$80.00

Small "For Sale" Ad - \$5.00

DISCLAIMER:

The Editorial Committee of Romsey Rage wishes to advise that the comments and opinions expressed within this and any other edition of this publication remain the responsibility of the author and do not reflect in any way the opinion of the Editorial Committee. For publication, political or public comment is included for information purposes only and should remain of a position nature, signed by those accepting responsibility.

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Collection/Distribution -
Romsey Licensed Post Office -
Beryl & Ron Cole

Collation Team Co-ordinators -
Helen Watts & Leonie Armistead

CENTRAL RANGES NATURAL THERAPIES

Massage -
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Remedies

97a Main Street Romsey
Ph: 54 29 6608 Mob: 0412 628 029



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e-mail: compacct@kynetnet.net.au

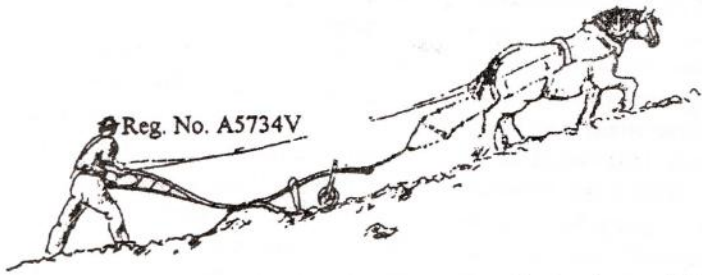
Phone 03 5429 5337

Fax 03 5429 6152

Historically Speaking

Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society Inc.

P.O. Box 11,
ROMSEY, 3434.



At our Annual General Meeting in February, the following Office Bearers were elected:

PRESIDENT: Mrs Doreen Morgan
1st Vice President: Dr Lindsay Francis
2nd Vice President: Rev. Tom Morgan
SECRETARY: Mrs Jean Clement
TREASURER: Miss Helen Broad
ARCHIVIST: Mrs Mary Hall
COURT HOUSE: Mr Jim Hall
COTTAGE: Mr John Clement
NEWSLETTER: Mrs Bronwyn Wilson

We have a full and interesting program for the Year 2000, and look forward to welcoming new members to all these events.

General Meetings will be held at the Historic Seymour Cottage bi-monthly, from March 28th (each 4th Tuesday), at 8.00pm, and visitors are always welcome. A Calendar of events will be published in the first newsletter for 2000 which will be mailed to members shortly - keep it handy so you can support when you are able. If you wish further information on becoming a member please contact Mrs Jean Clements on 54 29 5417. The first thing on our Calendar of Events you may have already missed. It was called "Lucy's Story" and we thank Bronwyn Wilson and the Court House team for their work in bringing the Public Record's Office Exhibition to Lancefield. People who were able to make time to read "Lucy's Story" were most favourable in their comments, we thank these people for their support.

The Historical Societies first Morning Coffee & Conversation will be held on Wednesday April 5th from 10.30am. Please look out for RED posters around town. It will feature a talk by Mrs Josie Francis of Tickawarra Faming Gallery on "The Complexity of Framing pictures through History" Get a few friends together or why not just drop in to a cuppa & cake & conversation and meet other residents. Contact Mrs Kym Raverty for further information: 5429 5901.

Recently Romsey's only historic home "Seymour Cottage" was alive with young voices. The Grade 3 and 4 pupils of Romsey Primary School visited the Cottage in Palmer Street. Let's hope this will lead them to enjoy history in their local community and why its preservation is so important to us all.

LANCEFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

"OUR HOUSE IS YOUR HOUSE"

Are you bored at home? Do you want to meet new friends or just do something for yourself this Autumn. Well then why not try some new classes at the Lancefield Neighbourhood House. Or if you would like to do something interesting that we don't offer just ring our new Co-ordinator Rhonda John and she will do her best to arrange it.

We have a power walking class for those that want loose a few extra kilos and get fit. We depart from the front gate of the neighbourhood house at 9.30am and arrive back at 10.30am followed by a Cuppa and a chat. Cost \$2.00.

We also have monthly bus trips, so if you hate to drive, pay for petrol, park in town and E Tags, well then why not let us get you there in style with Les our friendly bus driver. We will pick up from Romsey Post Office by

arrangement. Cost \$10/Children \$2. Our Next trip is Friday 19th May to either Highpoint or Footscray Op Shop 'Savers', the trip with the most people goes.

Next term we are offering some more Food Hygiene and Safety Courses. Training to maximise food Hygiene quality and safety for food retailers, handlers and processors. A certificate of completion will be given. Don't be disappointed Book Early!

We will also be doing a First Aid Course so if you need to renew yours come and put your name on the list and pick up a first term newsletter or ring for one or if you have any questions about all the above ring Rhonda at the House (Tuesdays and Thursdays 9.00am to 3.00pm) on 5429 1214. (We have Message Bank).

Have a safe and Happy Easter. Linda Davies (Secretary)

MEDIA RELEASE

GDR FM 101.5 Community Radio is HERE!

Over the last 18 months a very dedicated, hardworking team of volunteers, proudly supported by service clubs and local business, took the dream of a Community Radio station, turning it into a reality.

Based at the Kilmore Race Complex in the Mitchell Shire it is Romsey's closest community radio so tune into 101.5 GDR FM on a Friday, Saturday and Sunday 8.00am until Midnight with support the final objective of a 24 hours, 7 days a week transmission will be achieved.

More information phone 5781 1889.

from the Council Chambers

COUNCIL NEWS - MONEGETTA WARD

Results of the Council election on Saturday 18th are as follows - Barringo Ward, Clemence Gillings - Black Forest Ward, John Connor - Bullengarook Ward, Deb Dunn - Campaspe Ward, Greg McIntyre - Hanging Rock Ward, Donna Petrovich - Jacksons Creek Ward, John Letchford - Monegetta Ward, Geoff Neil - Mt William Ward, Alice Aird and Pastoria Ward, Noel Harvey.

Council now comprises 5 males and 4 females with four of the previous councillors returned (5 if you count Donna Petrovich who was elected 3 months ago to fill the vacancy left by the former Cr Gilbert Gordon - deceased).

Works have begun on the footpath in Main Road, Riddells Creek. I am aware that access to shops etc at the moment is difficult and causes inconvenience, particularly to the elderly, but I again ask for residents to be patient. Good weather will ensure the works are completed in quick time. We have been notified of Federal Gov't Black Spot funding for the next financial year to

seal the shoulders of the Melbourne-Lancefield Road between the Monegetta intersection and Bolinda Bridge (\$450,000) and intersection improvements (splitter islands) at Barry Street/Main Street intersection at Romsey (\$20,000). Whilst the shoulder sealing works are in progress, I have requested that Council staff look at including turning lanes at all intersections along this stretch of road to improve safety. Residents will note that turning lanes have recently been completed at the Mullalys Road intersection (outside Bolinda School). Works at the Barry/Main Street intersections will be to enhance the visibility of the intersection to motorists travelling along Barry Street and put an end to the collisions and near misses that occur.

Rectification works on the Main Street of Romsey, through the town centre, due to the road surface breaking up are hoped to be completed by the end of this financial year. This will include making the pedestrian refuges a

permanent structure. Due to feedback received, a reduction in refuges from three to two (deleting the northern most one) may occur. This will enhance parking along the main traffic lanes for larger vehicles. Also Dalys bridge construction is due to commence in May with at least one weekend road closure (Wallan Road - end of May/start of June) programmed. We are also working towards the replacement of the Forbes Road Bridge by the end of June. After some contractual difficulties, work on the Romsey Mechanics Institute rejuvenation is due to start by mid April.

Finally, just a short note to remind residents that I am available to them virtually 24 hours a day. Ring the number below and if I don't answer please leave your name and phone number on the machine. You are assured of an early response.

Till next time. (Cr.) Geoff Neil
ph/fax 5429 6785

ALICE AIRD - MT WILLIAM WARD

In this first letter, I want to warmly thank the Mt William community and to begin to let you know how I will approach the honour and responsibility of representing you.

Naturally my first thanks go to those who voted for me! Whether you gave me your first or second preferences, I appreciate greatly the confidence you showed in me. I have enjoyed very much talking to the many people I have met during the campaign and thank you all for the time you gave and the many interesting conversations I have had with you. I have increased my knowledge of the local issue enormously and look forward to developing my understanding further.

I value democracy enormously and was very pleased to participate in such a fair and democratic election process. Thank you Harold Dreger, Joe Morabito, Russell Mowatt and Rod Hardy for the fair way you played the game.

An election campaign is a team effort as all candidates will tell you. Supporters came forward and offered their help in many ways and this is what

makes it work. I would like this team approach to continue as a councillor. I will be more effective working with you through this regular column, I will be letting people know what is happening at council in relation to local issues and ways in which they could participate. I am not looking for a few people doing a lot but rather, 'many hands making light work'. A small amount of energy in the right place at the right time with a positive attitude can make such an enormous difference!

Everybody tells me what a big job I have undertaken, and I have no doubt this is true. As your councillor, I want to be accessible and effective. One dilemma is that if I am too accessible I will be unable to be effective! To resolve this difficulty, I am establishing systems for handling your concerns and requests. With a good system in place I will be able to respond effectively and promptly and follow up well. In this way I hope to achieve a satisfactory outcome for a many as possible. Also there will be a lot to learn about many issues in these first few weeks and I have some existing commitments to finish up. So I am asking for a little

time to get 'up to speed' and put systems in place.

If you have a concern that can wait a short time, I would appreciate your waiting until after the Easter break to contact me. If it can't wait, a written request will help me greatly! You write to me care of the Shire offices at 129 Mollison St, Kyneton 3444.

You are all invited to the first community meetings on April 11th at Lancefield Mechanics Institute and on April 13th at Romsey Shire Offices both at 7.30pm. I will hold several meetings like this during each year.

I see people as our greatest resource and teamwork as our greatest strength. I want to assist people in the area to work together and to link with all available support and resources both in and beyond the Shire. I am very excited by this opportunity and am looking forward very much to working with and representing you, the Mt William community, on the Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

PRETTY AND PRACTICAL

120 MAIN STREET ROMSEY
5429 6080

We are moving . . .

to new premises and will be concentrating on a larger and more exciting giftware range.

To enable us to do this we must clear all of our secondhand stock, so come on in and have a look.

No reasonable offer will be refused, and don't forget to look for our newer and brighter shop soon to be opened.

mrcc.file

Seniors Seminar

Microsoft have produced a presentation called "Seniors and Technology", which the Macedon Ranges Computer Club will be presenting on the 13th of May at the Gisborne office of Macedon Ranges Further Education Centre (MRFEC) from 3:30pm to approximately 5:00pm.

Don't let the "Seniors" tag frighten you, it is of interest to all who are interested in the use of computer technology, but were afraid to ask.

It will consist of a basic briefing by MRCC members, a short video, followed by a question and answer session to clarify any points. Topics covered: computer hardware, software and the Internet.

Bookings are essential by the 6th May. Use the "Club Contacts" opposite to book your place.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Third Sunday of each month
16 Mar, 21 May, 18 Jun
2:00 p.m. at BUNGAWITTA (old primary school) in ROMSEY Cnr. Palmer and Main Rds.
Bring a plate for afternoon tea

Got a problem?

If you have a computer problem you would like addressed please feel free to come along to our next open forum meeting that we are continuing to hold so that everyone can benefit. To assist in the resolution of your problem, you can either bring in your computer or print a description of any error message(s) and a copy of your configuration files.



Est. 1994
Macedon Ranges
COMPUTER
Club Inc.

New Web Presence

The Macedon Ranges Computer Club has recently changed Internet service providers. We now have a new association with Hotkey Internet Services of Sunbury. As a result, our web pages have been totally revamped along with our new e-mail address as noted below. Come check out our web site and let us know what you think.

Club Contacts

President: Stuart McMinn - 5429 5563; stuartm@internet.net.au
Secretary: Trish Watson - 5428 1562; t_watson@primus.com.au
Web page: www.hotkey.net.au/~mrcc
E-mail: mrcc@hotkey.net.au

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For Sponsorship for The Pacific School Games
For helping

EMMA NEELY

Represent Her State Victoria and Primary School Romsey
Compete In the 50m and 100m Backstroke.
At Homebush Sydney, April 28th- May 8th 2000.
Thank-you it mean't everything to me.

ALL RESIDENTS WHO PARTICIPATED IN OUR LOCAL RAFFLE ON 05/03/00. WINNERS WERE:-

D28	1st:	JULIE COOKE
C61	2nd:	JENKINS FAMILY
A57	3rd:	RICKY ERWIN
D100	4th:	VAL STREIFF
G68	5th:	GODDEN FAMILY

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Drawn By Mr & Mrs Cole .

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Public Notices



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH LANCEFELD / ROMSEY

Fr. George O'Connor: 5429 2130; Sr. Patricia
(School); 5429 1359,

Sr. Frances (Convent); 5429 1582

Mass Times

Sat.	10am	Romsey	
	7.30pm	Lancefield	
Sundays of the month	1st, 3rd		2nd, 4th, 5th
	8am	Lancefield	Romsey
	10am	Romsey	Lancefield
Daily Masses: as advertised in the weekly bulletin.			
Reconciliation (Confession): 11am Saturday or by arrangement.			

PRAYER LIFE

- Rosary recited before weekday Masses and Sat. night Mass.
- Rosary also recited at St Mary's Church, Romsey every Friday 2.30pm.
- 'Holy Name of Jesus' Charismatic Prayer Group: Tuesday 11am -12.30pm at 57 Metcalfe Drive, Romsey. Please contact: Merle De Silva 5429 5672.
*We are a praying community and if you request prayers for family or individual needs please write clearly, no names necessary, to: The Holy Name of Jesus Prayer Group, 57 Metcalfe Drive, Romsey.
- Christian Meditation (silent prayer) St Mary's Church, Romsey. Monday. 8-9pm. (side door), or Ph Stephen 5429 5907

DROP IN CENTRE

The St Vincent De Paul Conference of Lancefield/Romsey welcomes our community to the Drop In Centre at St. Mary's Church Hall, Main treet, Romsey on the 1st Thursday of every month.. 6th April, 4th May 10.30am start. Coffee/tea morning and afternoons. A table of goods is also offered, plus card games and more. 20c for card game...money distributed among winners! Free lunch. Come to just look...Come to chat and be part of the fun. For transport ph. 5429 2130

OP. SHOP (St Vincent. de Paul)

Open every Thursday at Romsey 10.30am - 12.30pm. **Great bargains!** No article of clothing over \$1. For donations of clothing or furniture ph Rose 5429 5270

PENTECOST 2000

Saturday 17th June, Camberwell Civic Centre Ecumenical Celebration and Worship.
Registration mailed before June 2nd
dult \$15, married couple \$20,
pensioner/student\$10
Registration on day \$20, \$25, \$15 Phone 9629 2544

EASTER SERVICES

STATIONS OF THE CROSS each Friday during Lent 2.15pm Romsey
EARLY MASS during Lent 6.15am Romsey

RECONCILIATION Wed 5th April 7.30pm Romsey

HOLY THURSDAY 20th April 7.30pm Romsey

GOOD FRIDAY 21st April
Way of the Cross 10am St Mary's Lancefield
Passion 3.00pm Lancefield

EASTER VIGIL Sat 22nd April 7.30pm Lancefield

EASTER DAY Sun 23rd April 8.00am Romsey
10.00am Lancefield

In the next couple of months we hope to explain the different types of prayer which are happening in our parish.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

'The all important aim in Christian Meditation is to allow God's mysterious and silent presence within us to become more and more not only a reality, but the reality which gives meaning, shape and purpose to everything we do, to everything we are...' These are words by the late Benedictine Monk John Main a teacher of Christian meditation throughout the world. Meditation is learning to 'pray ceaselessly' as St Paul tells us. Many Christians have lost touch with their own tradition of prayer and we no longer benefit from the council of great teachers of prayer.

Meditation is also known as contemplative prayer or deep prayer. It is the prayer of silence and listening, the place where direct contact with the Christ within can occur, once the never-ceasing activity of the mind has been stilled.

The Meditation Group meets Monday evenings 8-9pm St Mary's Church Romsey. It is ecumenical. The group usually listens to the words, by tape of Dom John Main, Dom Laurence Freeman or from written texts. Before meditating the group calms the body by either simple yoga exercises or deep yoga breathing. Meditation is 25 mins followed by discussion and sometimes coffee. For more details ph Stephen 5429 5907

'We are held captive by the material world, the world of reason and common sense; only when we have broken with the illusion of this world and faced the reality which is hidden in the depths of our being can we find peace'

Dom Bede Griffiths: The Golden String

The Country Women's Association of Victoria

Together with LifeForce

Invite you to join them at a

New Suicide Prevention Strategy
Workshop

Did you realise that every day in
Australia 7 people commit suicide?

This tragedy has a profound effect on
family, friends and society as a whole

90% of suicidal persons do not want
to die, they simply want to stop the
emotional pain

Come on Monday 10th. April 2000 at
10am.to the Uniting Church Gisborne

Cost \$10 (includes printed material &
refreshments)

RSVP Mrs. Wendy Laing

41Main Street
Romsey, 3434
Ph: 5429 5231

All welcome

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 2000

Many thanks to all at St Mary's
Catholic Church Lancefield, for hosting
this year's service and also to the
members from all the local Christian
Churches for their participation.

Mr Ron Viney was a very interesting
Guest Speaker on the theme planned
by a committee of Indonesian women
entitled "Talitha Cum - young Woman,
Stand up".

The offering received totalling \$164.85
was forwarded to the World Day of
prayer Victorian Committee. The Year
2001 World Day of Prayer service will
be held at the Lancefield Uniting Church
on the 1st Friday in March 2001.

HELEN W. CLEMENT



ROMSEY UNITING CHURCH

25 Pohlman Street

ROMSEY 3434

Minister: Rev Alan Williams
25 William Street

Ph/Fax: 5429 5351

Mobile: 0408 380 962

What's On

- 2 April 7.30am Men's breakfast.
Guest speaker is Geoff Neil on the work
towards an ambulance station for
Romsey
- 9.00am Worship & Sunday
School, including Holy Communion
- 9 April 9.00am Worship
- 12 April UCAF (Ladies Guild) meet
at the church at 1.30pm
- 16 April 9.00am All-Age Worship as
part of our Palm Sunday celebration
- 17 April Holy Week reflection at
7.30pm
- 18 April Holy Week reflection at
7.30pm
- 19 April Holy Week reflection at
7.30pm
- 20 April Maundy Thursday foot-
washing service at 7.30pm
- 21 April Good Friday worship at
Lancefield at 8.30am, before joining
Combined Churches Walk of Witness
at St. Mary's at 10.00am
- 23 April 9.00am Easter Day
Celebration
- 30 April 9.00am worship & Sunday
School
- 5 May KUCA begins Term 2, meeting
from 5.00-6.30pm at the church, for
Primary School Age & Year 7 children
- 7 May 9.00am worship & Sunday School
including Holy Communion

What's News

Whilst many people have been getting
ready for Easter and the school holidays
by shopping etc, the Church has been
doing it's own preparation for Easter.
This time of preparation is called Lent,
and at the Uniting Church we've been
considering what it is we believe
through a 4-week study called BASICS.
Easter is much more than Hot Cross
Buns and Chocolate, and the Church
has a responsibility to know just what
it is that makes Easter special. After all,
without Easter, the Church has no
purpose.

Easter won't be the end of our
learning. It's hoped that we will run
further BASICS studies for the Church
and anyone else who might be
interested in finding out more about
Christianity. We will also be running
Confirmation classes, an opportunity for
people to refocus their faith and the
place of the Church in their lives as they
reconsider and reaffirm the promises of
their baptism.

This might all sound like hard work,
or even worse, like a whole lot of
theory, but the Church needs to have
it's roots firmly grounded in its faith so
that it can be effective as part of the
community in which it lives. We are
already doing a number of things, and
we want to do them better, along with
other, new things that will make a
difference to Romsey.

You are warmly invited to any of the
activities listed, and we hope that you
will see the Romsey Uniting Church as
an important part of our community.
On behalf of the Uniting Church, have
a happy and safe Easter and school
holiday season.

Rev. Alan Williams

Public Notices

Romsey Red Cross Unit

Three of our members were very pleased to be present at the historic Year 2000 Launch of the Red Cross Calling March Appeal, by the Governor of Victoria, Sir James Gobbo at Government House on Saturday 3rd March, at 2pm, when the world's largest hand knitted rug was spread on the spacious extensive lawns, and will be entered for recognition in the Guinness Book of Records.

Mr Johnny Young of Young Talent Time fame was the compere and we enjoyed a really wonderful recital by the Welsh Male Choir.

It was specially pleasant to meet with other Red Cross volunteers many who

had travelled from many different parts of Victoria to be present.

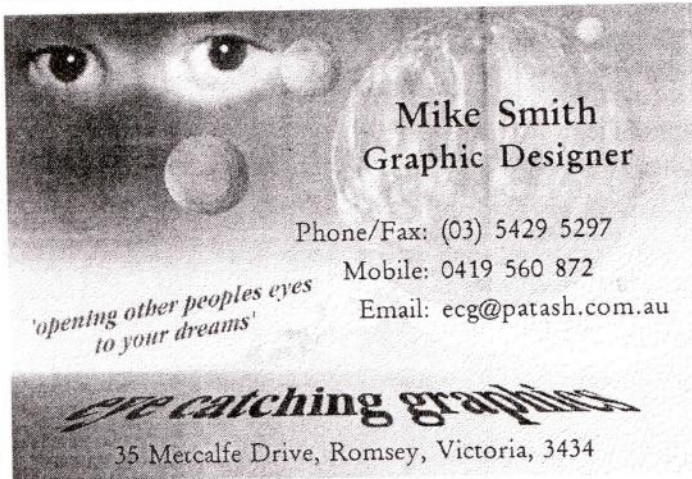
We will sell Red Cross Major Raffle tickets and issue receipts for donations to Red Cross Calling at the lions Club Market Day in April and also will be outside the Newsagency in Romsey on Saturday 18th and 25th March, and 1st and 8th April, when we are hopeful local residents will donate funds generously.

Our April meeting will be held on Wednesday 16th April at 1.30pm at the home of Lyn and John Van Arkel, 1 Drovers Retreat, Romsey, and we thank our Foundation member, Marion Spring, for hosting our March meeting on

Wednesday 22nd March at 1.30pm in her home at 68 Main Street.

We are hopeful that many local residents will delay purchasing their new winter woollies until Danny Blume will once again visit Romsey with his display and sale of jumpers, jackets, slacks and skirts in Australian made wool and mixtures. This special day will be held on Friday 9th June at Romsey Uniting Church Hall at 10.30am. A \$6.00 donation will assist Red Cross funds and morning tea/coffee is included. Please come and join us and bring your friends too. New members will be particularly welcome.

HELEN W. CLEMENT



Mike Smith
Graphic Designer

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Public Notices

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH LANCEFIELD AND ST PAUL'S ROMSEY

Weekly Services

Sunday Services

9am Family communion: St Paul's, Romsey

10:30am Family communion: Christ church, Lancefield

(both services have Sunday School)

Wednesday 10am Service Christ Church, Lancefield

Wednesday 6pm - 7 pm CEBS/GFS kids club in Romsey church hall during term time only

HOLY WEEK AND EASTER SERVICES

Palm Sunday	16 th April 9am	The Passion Reading	at Romsey
	16 th April 9am	The Passion Reading	at Lancefield
Monday	17 th April 7.30pm	Service of light and Compline	at Romsey
Tuesday	18 th April 7.30pm	Service of light and Compline	at Romsey
Wednesday	19 th April 7.30	Service of light and Compline	at Romsey
Thursday	20 th April 6.00pm	Middle Eastern Supper followed by a Eucharist and stripping of the alter	at Lancefield
Good Friday	21 st April 10am	Combined churches Stations of the Cross	at Lancefield
Easter Sunday	23 rd April 6.30am	Resurrection dawn service, lighting the new fire and the renewal of baptism vows	at Lancefield
Easter Sunday	23 rd April 10am	Celebration Eucharist at St Paul's	at Romsey

Visitors, explorers, newcomers are always made welcome at any of our services. You may just turn up or phone and let us know beforehand.

Please feel free to ring anytime for any pastoral or religious concerns.

Vicar: Paul Wood,

33 Chauncey Street,
Lancefield VIC 3435

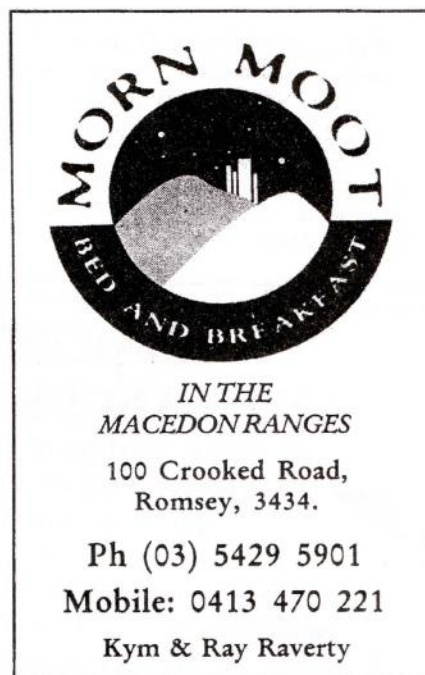
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2ND FRIDAY OF MONTH AT WOODEND COMMUNITY CENTRE.

3RD FRIDAY OF MONTH AT ROMSEY. COBAW COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICE. MAIN STREET. (SHIRE OFFICE)

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL - PHONE 54223011.

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- Pap smear tests
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- Information & advice on health concerns

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Woodend 2nd Friday of the month
Romsey 3rd Friday of the month
Riddells Creek 4th Friday of the month

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St Mary's School, Lancefield

Upcoming Fundraising Events 2000

17th June - Goods & Services Auction

15th October

- St Mary's Country Harvest A Family fair & Market day at St Mary's Church grounds - Romsey
11.00am - 4.00pm. Stalls available to hire for \$20.00

Application forms for stall hire available at St Mary's School or "Books Alive" Romsey.

All products must be Homemade, Home Grown or Home Baked.

Keep these dates free.

For Sale

Closing Down Sale
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Poppyfields Fashions
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Enquiries to Jean on
Phone: 5429 5417

The Romsey Rag April 2000

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Phone: 5429 5480 A.H.

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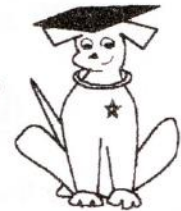
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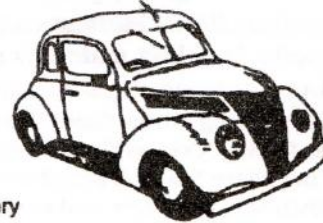
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Mobile: 0407 865 586

Did you know that Romsey Mowers is your local onga pump dealer?

Here is some information for you to consider.

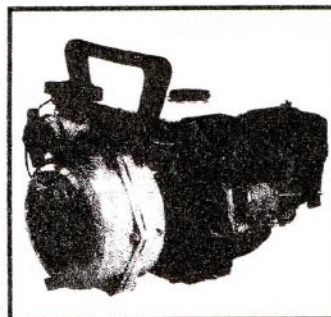
Onga/Honda powered Fire Fighters or general purpose transfer pumps can pump to a head of over 80 m and up to a flow of 450 lt per minute.

This is an ample amount of water to run two 1 inch outlet fire fighter hoses, or great for transferring water, boom sprays, tank filling and many other applications.

Onga pumps are available in a range of engines, **Romsey Mowers** stock **Honda** because they are known for their easy starting and smooth performance. **Onga** combined with **Romsey Mowers** give a full back up service with their pumps.

Fire fighting pump prices start at \$429 for the 5 Hp GC160 **Honda** engine and are in stock now. Go in and have a look at the range of pumps in store. Fire fighting hose kits consist of 2 x 6m outlet high pressure hose with nozzles and 1 x 4m suction hose with a strainer for \$130 or hoses can be cut to required lengths.

You can find **Romsey Mowers** at 55-57 Main Road or give them a call for more information on 5429 6977.



Business & Trade Directory

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