

THE ROMSEY RAG

THE ~~MARCH~~ 2001 EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY
Issue No. 181 ~~MARCH~~ **APRIL** - Martins' Wine Bar - April 2001

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



The exact opening date is still a secret known only to our builder, but we look forward to welcoming you starting at some time in mid to late April.

Come in and meet the new additions to Romsey, Paul and Sandra Martin.

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OPENING SOON!

Martins' Wine Bar

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Martins' Wine Bar will provide a haven of fine wine and food for Romsey. Air-conditioned in summer and with open log fires in winter, the relaxed atmosphere will be complemented by smooth jazz and blues. Modern artworks will decorate the walls and these works shall be changed regularly.

The focus is not only to be on wines from the Macedon Ranges wine region, so the wine list shall include selected wines across all price ranges and styles from Australia's premium wine areas. The daily wine list will be supported by a Cellar Listing of exclusive vintages collected by the Martins over thirty years.

The menu shall lean towards Mediterranean flavours utilising the freshest ingredients, and hence our menu shall change weekly.

118 Main St., Romsey
(opposite Foodtown Supermarket)

LETTERSTOEDITOR

Is it time all the Romsey Community got together to get Vic Roads and the Council to reduce the speed limit back to 60K through town. I have tried the independent approach and I know others have also written to try and bring about this much needed change but to no avail.

Their argument, I understand, is that Romsey has service roads! Well maybe the so called experts who deem this a sufficient reason not to lower the speed it should try to cross or turn their vehicles right at the Wallan/Woodend/Romsey - Melbourne/Lancefield Roads

intersection at busy times or try crossing Main Street with trucks parked at the side of the road to name just two problems.

At a time when the TAC are advocating a slow down to 50K for safety surely we should be able to return to 60K. All the surrounding towns are 60K why can't we be.
Helen Watts

Ed. The Romsey Rag would like to hear other people's opinion on this suggestion. Upon ringing Vic Roads myself after an accident at Barry St - Melb/Lancefield Roads I was told you have to have deaths at the intersection before it could be considered for any traffic flow change. As a Historical Society member I've discovered

that the same intersection once had a roundabout with fountain. Maybe a fountain is out of the question but a small roundabout with an artistic signpost could slow traffic down and give people time to see what Romsey has to offer when they are travelling at 60km rather than at 70km.

Kym Raverty

Editorially Speaking

Romsey Rag Editorial Committee

Editor - Barney Healy

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Editorial Asst/Typist - Kym Raverty

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Eye Catching Graphics

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

Collation Team Co-ordinators -
Helen Watts & Leonie Armistead

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 21st of every month.

ALL FAXED CONTRIBUTIONS SHOULD ALSO GO TO THE POST OFFICE ON FAX: 54 29 5134

We accept only legible material, any photographs, graphics or logos to be separate from the written or typed material so they can be computer scanned. *Articles can also be sent as attachments via email to romsey.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au Please ensure that any text is sent as word documents and any logos/photos are sent as .jpg, .tif, .eps file formats at 300dpi.* If you wish to present your material via a disk and wish the disk to be returned please included a stamped self addressed envelope. 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.

In light of our increased distribution and costs the committee has had to consider charging organisations who wish to advertise separate specific events in the Rag, (APART FROM IN THE BODY OF THEIR ARTICLE). After they have dropped copy into the Post Office, Margaret Howatson will contact the organisation to discuss appropriate costing.

Advertising Rates for 2001
All prices quoted are inclusive of GST:

Front Page Sponsorship = \$75 for half page graphics and words

Business Card = \$15.00 for 1 month or \$150 per year in Business Trade Directory

Quarter Page = \$30.00

Half Page = \$60.00

Full Page = \$120.00

Line ads - For Sale/Births/Deaths/Marriages/ Engagements = \$5.00

****Note:** Births/Deaths/Engagements/Marriages - must all be authorised by the persons involved and name, address and telephone number provided in order that authenticity can be confirmed prior to printing

DISCLAIMER:

The Editorial Committee of Romsey Raga 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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A "GREEN" TREATMENT

On Sunday April 1 gum boots and gloves will be the prescribed fashion for staff of Western Water and members of the Romsey Landcare Group and any other interested people, young or old, who will be planting trees to create a windbreak at the Romsey Wastewater Treatment Plant.

The new windbreak of over 1,500 native trees will improve the environmental aesthetics and also assist in odour management at the treatment plant. So if you have an hour or two, contact Mary-Beth Hayes on 0409 432 202 or 54 21 9449.

ANGLICAN 'OP SHOP'

The \$5 Bag is Back !

St Paul's Anglican "Op Shop" in Main St, Romsey will be selling clothing, no matter what the price, for \$5 for all you can fit in the supplied bag.

This fabulous selling spree will be held throughout the month of April on Friday's 12.30pm to 4.30pm and Saturday's 10.00am to 1.00pm.

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The Romsey Rag April 2001

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C.W.A. & THE ARTISTS

The Romsey Branch of the Country Women's Association of Vic. Inc. would sincerely like to thank all the people who supported the recent Romsey Art Show. The attendance, although not as good as we would have liked on the Opening evening, was wonderful. We had approx. 400 people come through the doors over the weekend.

The Artists who painted over the weekend were very well received and many people watched and asked questions. Some even tried their hand at the Chinese Art. The Craft Display by C.W.A. drew a lot of admiration and some new members may have eventuated, we certainly hope so. The Art Group also hopes that a few new members are going to join. We would especially like to thank the Romsey CFA for their help in setting up and taking down the lights and display boards, this would be a very difficult task for the CWA to attempt. Those of the CFA who attended the Opening and called by

during the weekend were very pleased not to be doing all the work yet again, and were able to just enjoy themselves.

Thanks also go to Romsey Garden World for lovely plants, the Post Office for selling Special Effort tickets, Romsey Foodway for assisting with Drinks and glasses, Noel Shaw - Mechanics Institute Hall - for his usual help and assistance, Hanging Rock Winery for the donation of a Gift pack and Mt Macedon Winery also. All these people helped to make this a very special and successful venture for the Artists and us.

Once again anyone interested in joining the Artists, who meet on Tuesdays at 9.00am in the CFA Rooms, Stawell St. Romsey, can contact Jan Thomson on 54 29 5634.

C.W.A. meet on the 2nd Thursday of the month, 10.00am at the Mechanics Institute and enquiries can be made to Joan Strawbridge on 54 28 7022.

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All correspondence to:
Box 342, Essendon, 3040

Also at:
106a Main Street, Romsey, 3434. Tel: (03) 5429 5477 Fax: (03) 5429 6778
Consulting only:
2nd Floor, 316 Queen Street, Melbourne, 3000. Tel: (03) 9326 0211

COURAGE PERSONIFIED

How many locals would know that a highly decorated war hero lies buried in the Lancefield cemetery?

HUGH JOSEPH SLATTERY, a labourer from Garvoc in the Western District, enlisted in the A.I.F. in July 1915 aged 33. A small man of 5ft 6ins* and weighing just over 10 stone which makes his later physical exploits seem even more remarkable.

He became a stretcher bearer in the 8th Battalion and first saw action at Gallipoli and then later in France. He was twice recommended for the Distinguished Conduct Medal (the next bravery award after the Victoria Cross) and was awarded the D.C.M. once and the Military medal on another occasion. During his war service he was also mentioned in despatches three times, was wounded on three occasions and gassed several times.

The citations for his two main awards read as follows:-

Military Medal at Pozierer - France - July 1916

"As stretcher bearer in B Company, performed superhuman work in getting wounded out of front trenches back to the aid post. On his return to the front line he invariably brought two tins of water for his company. This work was performed under terrific fire."

This recommendation was originally for a Distinguished Conduct Medal, but on this occasion a Military Medal was awarded.

Distinguished Conduct Medal at Zonnebke east of Ypres - France - October 1917

"Private Slattery did excellent work as a stretcher bearer, working continuously between the front line and the aid post, declining rest, and with utter disregard of safety. On one occasion a party of 9 men were caught in a barrage, three being killed and six wounded; Slattery tried to get through to them with his squad of bearers but the squad were all knocked out. He then went forward into the barrage alone, dressed the wounded where they lay and then carried them one by one to a place of comparative safety. He then returned to the line, organised a squad of bearers and got the wounded back to the aid post. His courage and devotion to duty was an inspiration to all ranks who came in contact with him, and his gallantry was the means of saving many lives."

Returning home after the war and due no doubt to the horrors he'd not only seen but also experienced, he was unable to settle down and became an itinerant labourer wandering over many parts of Victoria. His lifestyle continued into the Great Depression of the thirties and it was in 1934 at Romsey his body was found in the Five Mile Creek just north west of the town. He was buried at Lancefield and lay in an unmarked

grave for 58 years until a niece who just happened to be in the area, attended the grave to pay her respects and was greatly disturbed that her war hero had lain there totally unrecognised over all those years by the country he had served so well.

This niece with the assistance of her two brothers and a close friend and having obtained Slattery's war service record, approached Canberra and after extensive negotiations the authorities finally agreed to pay for a headstone and grave surrounds. When work was completed a dedication service was organised for many of his relatives and conducted by the local Romsey/Lancefield R.S.L. About fifty people attended and fittingly the Last Post and Reveille were sounded by one of the hero's great, great nephews.

The Government allowed the family to choose a suitable epitaph, and, after the usual particulars on the head stone are these words:-

'HERE LIES A MAN OF EXTRAORDINARY COURAGE. AT PEACE WITH CHRIST'

Hugh Joseph Slattery - you were indeed a very, very brave man.

Charlie Fricker - Romsey/Lancefield R.S.L.

Ed. Lest We Forget

(For our younger readers *167cm.)

mrcc.file

We've Moved

Last October heralded the move of the Macedon Ranges Computer Club to new digs at the meeting rooms at Macedon Ranges Further Education Centre.

Got a computer problem?

If you have a computer problem you would like addressed please feel free to come along to our open forum meetings that we continue to hold so that all 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.

To print a screen dump, press the key marked <Print Screen> by itself, then using a program such as paintbrush or Word, paste this into a new document and print.

FUTURE MEETINGS

Third Sunday of each month

22 Apr, 20 May, 17 Jun

2:00 p.m. at M.R.F.E.C.

Hamilton St. Gisborne

Bring a plate for afternoon tea

Tip of the Month

This tip comes from the PCUSER web-site www.pcuser.com.au
Setting the default dictionary to English: Australian in Office 97.

Office 97, has a trap for unwary installers. If you choose Standard installation (which most people do), it will install the US dictionary, to be offered the choice of Australian (or any other) English, you have to do a Custom in-

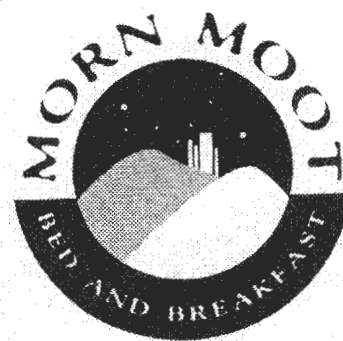
stallation

If you have already installed Office 97 then the proper way to fix this is to uninstall and reinstall Office, choosing the Custom option. The easy way is to open Control Panel -- Keyboard -- Language and install Australian English keyboard, then make it the default.

While in control panel, you should also check "Regional Settings" as it will also most likely be set to "English (United States)" which will affect things like page sizes and setups.

Club Contacts

President: Trish Watson - 5428 1562, t_watson@primus.com.au
Secretary: Deb Burgo - 5428 6077, debgary@hotkey.net.au
Web page: www.hotkey.net.au/~mrcc
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IN THE

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Kym & Ray Raverty

Seeing Romsey...

I see Romsey through a hole in the wind used to in late autumn, in the southern gales, just there, not vibrating with changes but like a model that has grown to its full height. The timber houses have roofs painted with iron, the brick ones are lowering with warm tiles. The tree near me is the one I climbed fifty-three years ago. I smell roses on the fence where once the whole air was brushed with cypress. Proust's Madeleine, nothing. Even the smell of trains that haven't run here for forty years. Smelling strong as they slow down. Smell of the comics they brought each Saturday. Proust's Madeleine was nothing to this, or Eliot's hyacinths and lilacs or that great heap of blossom in Yeat's window. Nothing to this. To the fire smell of the forge, squeezing into the smell of burning hoof. Incense though the voices singing *O Salutaris hostia* at never sing Latin any more.

I smell the printer's ink, and books, and dust that flashes when raindrops hit it as it takes the rain into itself.

Vincent Buckley.

One of Romsey's favourite sons
of Vincent Buckley -

who was born in a cottage at the rear of his grandfather's Romsey Hotel in 1929. His formative education was provided by an Australian order of nuns, the Sisters of St. Joseph, at the local Romsey Catholic primary school. From there he won a scholarship to a Catholic school in Fitzroy, but Father Timothy Daley from Lancefield arranged a place of Vincent and his brother to attend St. Patrick's Jesuit College in East Melbourne. Vincent's intellectual life centred around the University of Melbourne where he held a personal chair in English. Another local, Tim Peglar, son of the past Uniting Church minister, who has taken instruction from Vincent says :

He lectured in a relaxed and amused manner as if he had long accepted the fact that the bulk of those in attendance would not be paying attention.... Professor Buckley was a popular tutor in a world where intellectual egos and aggressive opinions could scare students into silence.

Whilst Buckley is internationally recognised for his poetry, he is acclaimed at home for his work as an editor, essayist and reviewer. His largely autobiographical book

'Cutting Green Hay' includes many reference to Romsey and the stimulation of Frances Buckley who had been responsible for the Mechanics Institute Libraries in Romsey and Lancefield. Vincent Buckley's contribution to the field of literature was recognised with the release of a canonical anthology of modern Australian verse soon after his death in 1988.

Taken from "When Memory Turns the Key"

GIVE CREDIT WHERE IT'S DUE

By Harry Dreger

Generally speaking, we are quick to criticize our politicians and public figures when we aren't happy with them, but praise seems slow in coming. Many would say, "that's because they seem to do more things that are worthy of criticism than praise", and if we look at our ever worsening plight under our numerous civil and civic "leaders" it would often be hard to refute that sentiment. But never mind, I will start off this article with a good measure of praise, and it's for Cr. Geoff Neal (again).

On Feb. 13 *The Express*, reported that Cr. Neal and Cr. Dunn moved and seconded a motion to put a halt to any further spending of ratepayers funds this year for Councilors to attend seminars and conferences. *The Express* reported that one conference alone was going to cost ratepayers \$11,500 for 6 councilors to attend. As Councilor Neal said, in a climate where we are \$9 million in debt, this

expenditure is simply not justifiable. However, all other councilors opposed the motion. It was defeated.

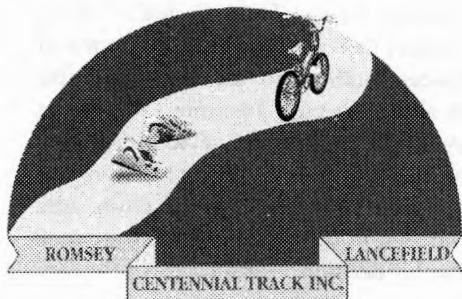
Along the same lines, both *The Express* and *The Regional* recently reported Council fielding a proposal to provide a pay rise of around 12% for Councilors and the Mayor after consultation with the ratepayers. In *The Telegraph*, (27/2) Cr. Neal has again voiced concerns regarding the value of such a proposal, considering the Council's financial situation. (And still it seems he's a lone voice). However, the ex Mayor (Cr. Harvey) who supports the rises has gone one step further and stated publicly that it is insulting and demeaning to have to ask the people for their opinion on these rises (*The Express* 20/3). Oh really!!

By no means am I a member of Cr. Neal's 'fan club', but I feel morally bound to stand up and support him in his lone stand for the sensible allocation of his constituents resources (their money). It seems that Cr. Neal understands that it is the people who elected him, and his primary responsibility is to represent the will and the well being of the people and not the Council, the Mayor or the CEO. I'll bet Cr. Neal is copping some flak in Council over his outspoken and brave stand regarding these issues. (It wouldn't hurt to keep him in your

prayers if that's what you do). Good on you Cr. Neal.

Sadly, all these things come amidst an ever increasing drain on rate players funds. We only need to read the local paper, and every week the Council is funding some new project or service, issuing a grant or employing someone else that creates additional drain on our financial reserves and our rate dollar. Granted, all those things may be of some value, but we must be aware, as Cr. Neal says "this is amidst an environment of substantial debt and requirement for funding allocation for existing financial programs. It was Mayor Harvey himself (*The Telegraph* 27/2) who said "we shouldn't get too excited about the Governments allocation of an extra \$1M for road maintenance as the Council was still severely limited in funding for road maintenance and many other of the basic and fundamental disciplines it is required to service".

As Cr. Neal has suggested, "it all comes down to responsible budgeting and priorities", and I pray daily that our Council will remember that.



ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD CENTENNIAL TRACK INC.

P.O. Box 293
 Romsey, Victoria, 3434.
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 (03) 5429 5254 (B.H.)
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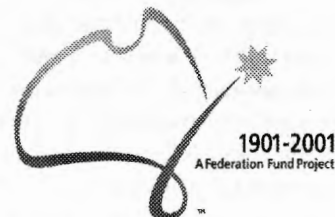
President: Mrs Jean Tom, AO
 Vice President: Leo Vandervalk
 Secretary: Mrs Margaret Howatson
 Treasurer: Mr Trevor Turnham

After the excitement of the Opening on Australia Day - we are still very busy coming up with new ideas to raise money for the track and still collecting \$20 for a metre of track from many residents. We have recently put some application forms in some of the local businesses or you can use the one that is printed in the Romsey Rag. Every metre bought brings the two ends closer!

On the drawing board at the moment is a Classic Car Display which will be held in Romsey towards the end of May - date and details still being worked out!

We plan a great day for all you petrol heads out there and something to keep the kids amused when the adults are going over all the classic vehicles. Then in August (or thereabouts) we will hold another "Dinner with Anne Phelan and Friends"!! at the Romsey Hotel. After the success of the dinner last year and the disappointment expressed by many who did not have tickets - Anne has kindly agreed to repeat the show again this year for us and bring along some very interesting friends! Watch next month's Rag for all the details!

Margaret Howatson, Secretary.



The Romsey Lancefield Centennial Track is supported by the Commonwealth

ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD CENTENNIAL TRACK Inc.

(A Centenary of Federation Project)

P.O. BOX 293, ROMSEY, 3434

Drop off points:-

Romsey Post Office
 Romsey Medical Centre
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REQUEST TO PURCHASE A METRE OF TRACK FOR \$20

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NUMBER OF METRES BEING PURCHASED:

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RING President Marie Snowball on 54 29 5536 or Secretary Rae Hooke 54 29 1602

NOW

Primary School News

Literacy Development at Romsey Primary School

The development of Literacy skills for all children is a high priority for the educational program at Romsey Primary School. The school has a strong commitment to this area of the curriculum with a designated two hour literacy block for all classes every day. We have two of our teachers trained as coordinators, in turn training staff members in advanced methods of teaching literacy skills to our children.

The school has implemented a special Literacy Support program for students who need extra help in reading and writing. This program is being conducted by our Assistant Principal, Ms Tracy Hammill. Currently twenty-nine children who have been assessed as benefiting from extra assistance in addition to that provided through classroom programs are being targeted through this program. It builds on the classroom Literacy program and involves parents as important key players in accelerating the progress of these children. Children in benefiting from Literacy intervention are drawn from the Junior, Middle and Upper Units. To date parents, students and teachers are very enthusiastic in regard to the likely success of this program in helping our students meet their true potential in Literacy acquisition.

This program is offered in addition to the Reading Recovery program for selected Year 1 students conducted by Mrs Margaret McLennan.

Junior School Council

Junior School Councillors have been elected by their peers for 2001. Junior School Council will meet regularly throughout the year working to represent the opinion of students to the Principal and school leadership as well as having direct involvement at our full School Council. In the past Junior School Council have come up with some very positive suggestions for the improvement of the school, organised events such as discos, and raised money for worthy causes. Junior School Councillors report back to their classmates and take suggestions to their meetings from regularly held class meetings. It is important to the school that all students develop a strong sense of ownership for our school as well as a sense of empowerment in having an effective say and being able to be heard and where appropriate have their ideas acted upon.

Our Junior School councillors are: Jessica Baker, Jaysson Wright, Stacy Turp, James Menzies, Matthew Keane, Jesse Craven, Aimee Ireland, Clinton Iacuone, Matthew Goodwin, Mallory Mueller, Kristyn Barnes, Danny Harrison, Daisy Quarrell, Tim Neely, Danielle Evans, Jason

Young.

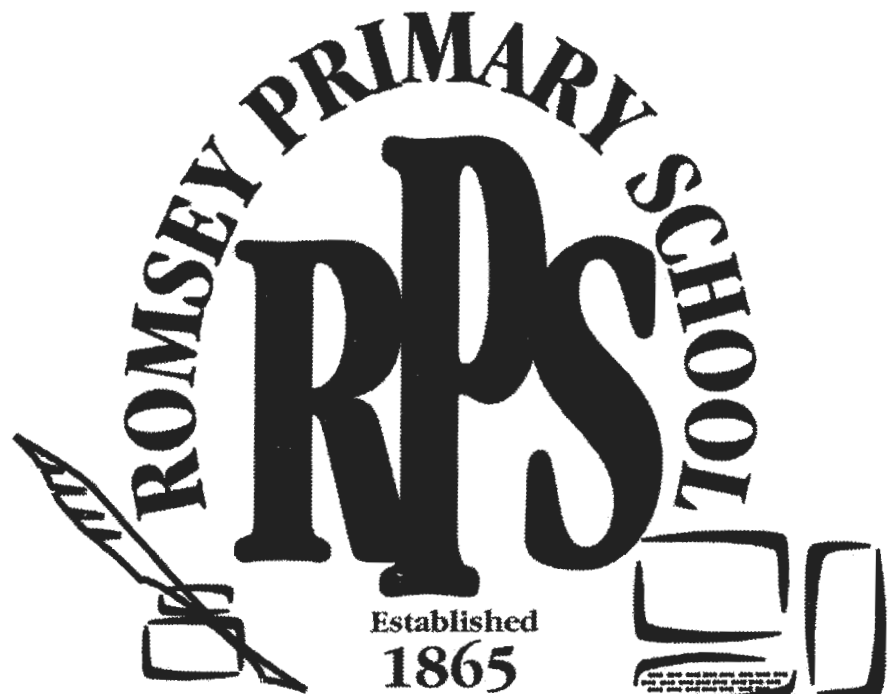
We look forward to another very productive year for the representation of student opinion for our school.

School Cooperative

Romsey Primary School is already gearing up for next summer with plans well underway for the construction of shade structures for all major pieces of playground equipment. The school is establishing a cooperative of parents and friends of the school to allow us to access an interest free loan payable over three years. Our hard working Parents Club has set its sights on meeting the school commitments for this project over the next three years. This is a very exciting project and reinforces the school's strong Sunsmart program which aims to reduce the risk children face of UV exposure in the summer months.

ANZAC Day in Romsey

This year the ANZAC Day ceremony will be held in Romsey. Traditionally the service alternates between Lancefield and Romsey. In 2001 it is our turn. The Service commences at 8.30am at the war memorial. All members of the community are most cordially invited to attend.



TOGETHER WE LEARN AND GROW

SPEAKER – Ps. DON PROUT

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Come along for an exciting night of fossils, facts and artifacts, from *The Babylonian Flood Tablet, The Cyrus Cylinder, The Nabonidus Chronicle* and plenty more.

What a wonderful opportunity to witness some bizarre historical truths from archaeological discovery. And it won't be boring with - Ps. Don will see to that!

THURSDAY APRIL 5th

15 TODD LANE
ROMSEY

7.30 pm (sharp)

PHONE 5429 5523 (after hours) FOR MORE DETAILS



COBAW FAMILY DAY CARE

CHILD CARE VACANCIES

Full-time, Part-time, Casual and Before and After School Care.

We have places available in Romsey, Woodend, Kyneton and Lancefield.

Child Care Benefit available to eligible families.

For further details please contact Family Day Care on 5422 301 1.

Bereavement Thanks

Frank Crossman and Family wish to personally thank everyone who supported us through the recent sad loss of Gwen, our wonderful wife, mother and grandmother.

The hundreds of cards and tributes were a testimony to the high regard in which Gwen was held throughout the community. She will be greatly missed.

Your on-going kindness is very much appreciated by all of us. God Bless all of you.

LANCEFIELD KINDERGARTEN

is now offering

TWO 3.Y.O. SESSIONS PER WEEK

with a qualified teacher

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TUESDAY 9 - 11 AM

Enquiries: Ph: 5429 1388



ANNUAL WOOD \ FUEL RAFFLE THE LIONS CLUB WOULD LIKE TO ANNOUNCE THE ANNUAL WOOD OR FUEL RAFFLE.

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at \$10 per ticket.**

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\$1000 WORTH OF FUEL**

**Tickets available through any lion member
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**Buy one yourself or form a syndicate with a
friend. Be quick tickets always sell fast.**

Drawn in time for the winter freeze.

MOTHERS DAY RAFFLE

Tickets on sale for our mother's day raffle.

Prize: Porcelain Doll in glass display case

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**Thank you for your consideration,
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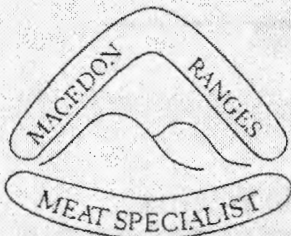
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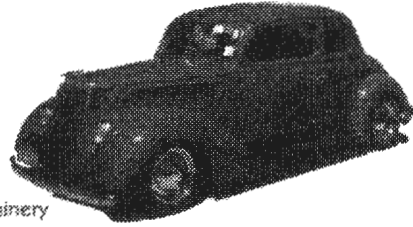
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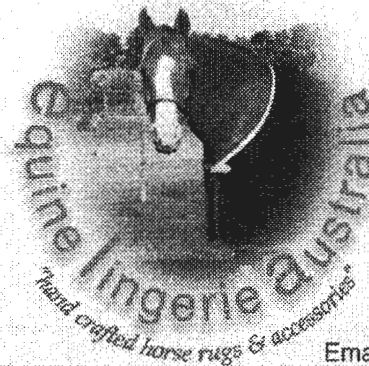
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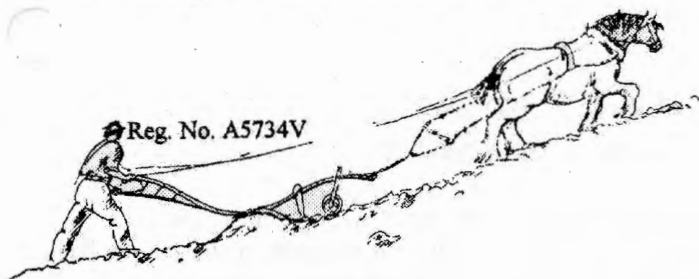
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Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society Inc.

P.O. Box 11,
ROMSEY, 3434.



2001 A BUSY CALENDAR OF HISTORICAL EVENTS FEATURED IN THIS FEDERATION CELEBRATION YEAR.

To get the celebrations started the Society has utilised local young talent Miss Strings at Seymour Cottage, which publication of the Rag sadly will be over. So to whet your appetite for all things historical in our region we have engaged the services of McGowan's Café in Lancefield to provide a supper for an evening of discovery and discussion as one of our many events planned at our recent A.G.M. Members of the Society will now be aware of our new 2001 Office Bearers thanks to Bronwyn's Newsletter. This newsletter also enclosed a membership form for renewal of membership. If you are interested in becoming a member just ask the Post Office to put your \$15 in to our P.O. Box 11, Romsey, addressed to our new Treasurer, Lindsay Francis. Helen Broad, our past Treasurer for many years has stepped down. We thank Helen for her tireless efforts.

Talking Post Office boxes, if you require materials or information for any research you may be doing the Lancefield Courthouse is open the first Sunday of each month from 1.30pm to 4.00pm but at other times just write to the Society at P.O. Box 101, Lancefield with your request and our volunteers will contact you.

Dates for your Diary:

Wednesday 18th April at 10.30am - LANCEFIELD CEMETERY PROJECT

The Courthouse Committee has invited members of the Woodend Heritage Society to come and talk to us about how they recorded data off gravestones and have created a wonderful historical resource for future generations. This exciting project is one that could be done by a volunteer in their own time or with a friend so come along and see what teamwork will create.

Tuesday 22nd May at 8.30pm - SLIDE NIGHT on ROMSEY & DISTRICT

This event will happen after a usual committee meeting in a member's home and slides will be provided by Lindsay Francis. For further details closer to the event ph: Sec. Jean Clement 54 29 6522.

Tuesday 29th May at 8.00pm - SUPPER AT MCGOWAN'S CAFE, LANCEFIELD

The Society welcomes everyone to come and enjoy a delicious supper at McGowan's and discover the history of this interesting building and its many reincarnations and uses over time. Several speakers will explore the history of the town. Bookings and tickets available from Doreen Morgan on 54 29 6060 at \$10 per person.

Remember all are welcome to Society Meetings on the fourth Tuesday of the Month at Seymour Cottage.

ROMSEY GOLF CLUB

The Romsey Bowl was held on the 19th of March and was keenly contested by 17 teams which was a full field. Winners on the day were Alexandra 11 comprising of J Mc Donald D Howie and B Dodge with 97 points. A Grade winner J Coleman 36 points from Marysville, B Grade was won by J Wheeler from Avenel with 37 points. N T P J Coleman on the 1st and K Herron on the 10th. CCR for the day was 72.

OPEN DAY Will be held on 7th April. Assembly is 12 midday for a 12.30 hit off. All members and non members are welcome. A BBQ tea will follow \$6 p/person or \$12 a family.

Coming events

Night Golf 7th May, commencing with a BBQ. Again all members and non members are welcome to enter. Cost for the night will be \$12 and a deposit of \$5 is required to book your spot in the field. Make up a foursome and send your entry to PO Box 200 Romsey. The BBQ is included in the charge and non players are welcome to join the BBQ for \$6. BBQ will commence approximately 6pm.

June Tournament 2 & 3 June, details later but open to any golfer with a current handicap.

Trivia night 7th July, more details later but keep the night free for an excellent nights entertainment. Start studying now!!

The men's pennant season has started with mixed results so good hitting for the rest of the season fellows. The ladies pennant starts on the 2nd April, so let's hope the weather holds.

Anyone wishing to join the club or requiring more information, phone the secretary Rod Campbell on 54295629



Romsey Uniting Church

25 Pohlman Street

Minister- Rev Alan Williams

25 William Street

Romsey 3434

Ph/Fax: 5429 5351

mobile: 0408 380 962

What's News

We sometimes hear about art imitating reality. There is an almost constant debate about whether the media reflects reality or shapes reality. Oddly enough, sit-coms seem to be just as much a part of this debate as dramas.

The Games was almost prophetic in the way it raised issues about the Olympic Games, especially with last week's news on the problems at Stadium Australia. Yes, *Minister* may have been a little extreme, but most of us probably believe it was closer to reality than politicians are likely to admit.

In the life of the church, we have *The Vicar of Dibley*. There are times that the stores and characters are just a little too much like reality

In one episode, the Christmas sermon is described as "the keynote address at the annual party conference." Whilst this is a useful analogy, I believe it applies more to Easter Sunday than Christmas.

Christmas is an important festival in the life of the church. It is a unique event in history, where God enters human existence. However, the full significance of Christmas is not made known until Easter.

Good Friday is also an important day for the church. The death of Jesus Christ on the cross has become a symbol of both human weakness and failings, and what God has done to give us hope. That is why crosses are so prominent for Christians. A Roman instrument of execution is, for the church, a symbol of victory over human limitation.

But the Easter story is incomplete without Easter Day, the remembrance that Christ was raised to life (the resurrection), The death of Christ would be meaningless without the resurrection. This is the greatest celebration on the church's calendar.

In fairness, Easter Day can only have its full meaning because of both Christmas and Good Friday. After all, if God didn't come to us and die, the victory over death could not be won.

Rev Alan Williams

On behalf of the Romsey Uniting Church, I wish you every joy at Easter, and a safe School Holiday time.

Ph/Fax: 5429 5351

mobile: 0408 380 962

What's On

1 Apr 9:00am
worship and Sunday School,
including Holy Communion. To be
followed by a congregational meeting
to receive the 2000 annual report.

12:00pm Sunday School picnic.

8 Apr 9:00am
worship, celebrating Palm
Sunday. Whilst there is no Sunday
School during the School Holidays,
there will be a creche for younger
children, with activity sheets available
for older children.

9 Apr 7:30pm
Holy Week reflection.

10 Apr 7:30pm
Holy Week reflection.

11 Apr 1:30pm

UCAF (Uniting Church Adult
Fellowship) meets at the church for
an Easter service, All welcome (men
and women).

7:30pm
Holy Week reflection.

12 Apr 7:30pm
Holy Week reflection.

13 Apr 9:30am
Good Friday worship.

11:00am
Combined Churches of
Lancefield and Romsey walk of
witness. Meet at the church.

15 Apr 9:00am
Easter Day worship, including
Holy Communion.

22 Apr 9:00am
worship.

29 Apr 9:00am
worship & Sunday School.

4 May 5:00-6:30pm
KUCA Club meets at the church for a
games night to begin second term.
KUCA is for children from grade 3 up
to year 8, but there is a group for
younger brothers and sisters.

6 May 9:00am
worship and Sunday School,
including Holy Communion.

You are most welcome to come along
to any of these events and share in
our life together.

If you have any questions about the
Christian faith or the church, please
feel free to ask Rev Alan.

Probus Club Romsey - Lancefield

Meetings of the Romsey - Lancefield Probus Club are held on the
4th Thursday of each month at St Mary's Church Hall,
corner of Main and Barry streets Romsey at 10:00am.

Probus is open to all retired and semi retired people to enjoy a
great social and friendly atmosphere.

Contact:

Ron Viney (President) on 54 295 584

Dawn Dickson (Secretary) on 54 295 498



COUNCIL NEWS - MT WILLIAM WARD

What should a councillor do?

As a councillor, there is no clear position description, each of us has to invent and reinvent the job. There is plenty of guidance available, and some of it is very useful, however ultimately we each have to develop our own understanding and do what we believe is right. We must of course attend the Council meetings and we must conduct ourselves at the formal Council meetings according to the local law. Many are unaware (as I was before I joined the Council) that a councillor must vote when a vote is called for in the Council

meeting by the chair. Abstaining is not allowed. This means that it is vital to be well informed about a matter before it is put to the vote. It is for this reason that we have an agreement to give at least a few hours notice of our intention to put a motion in the 'Other Business' section of the meeting. Because of its formal rules of debate, a Council meeting is a difficult forum in which to discuss a new issue. Sometimes the words in which a motion is framed do not clearly communicate the intention of the mover and trying to clarify this in a formal debate and amend the words to say what is intended can lead to long, frustrating and confusing debates. At the end of one of these, when the vote is put, I can sometimes find it very hard

to put up my hand either for or against the motion, and yet I must. This to me is not good decision making, and making sound and well informed decisions on behalf of the community is surely what the Council is there for. One of my key reasons for wanting to serve on Council is because of my very strong belief in the democratic process. Democracy is not perfect, but I agree with Winston Churchill: 'Democracy is the worst system of government, except for all the others.' We have to keep defining and redefining what democracy really is. There are no tablets of stone

telling us without any doubt when we are and are not being democratic.

One of the most difficult questions is what to pay politicians. One view is that to represent the people is an honour and our representatives should be volunteers. It is an honour and I wholeheartedly concur that there is nothing greater than to serve the community as a volunteer. I greatly appreciate and admire those who keep so many services going in a voluntary capacity. On the other side of the debate however there is the question of good governance. The role of a councillor is complex and getting more so every day, as State government and the community increase their expectations of local government. It requires many hours a week to do it well. Really the problem is to find a balance - because there is so much to become informed about and so many requests and issues to respond to, because there is so much public scrutiny, and because it is so interesting, the challenge is to not let Council take over your life! So, who can afford to do it for nothing? No-one admires a person who spends all their time in voluntary work to the detriment of their family's well being. In some types of employment serving on council is supported, but this is not the norm. The councillor allowance goes some way to addressing this issue. If the allowance is too low, the number of people who can put their hand up for the job is severely limited. Does restricting the candidates in this way serve democracy well? It is proposed by the current Council that the councillor allowance (currently \$12,000 annually) be raised to \$15,000 and that the mayoral allowance be raised from \$36,000 to \$46,500. The mayor performs a very demanding role, which in my view is at least equivalent to a full time job, and includes a huge number of engagements in the evening and on the weekend. There will be public consultation about this

issue and I ask you to consider the points I have made here, and other information which will be presented to you on this issue, and to contribute your thoughtful views to the debate.

Consulting the community is now a fundamental part of local government. The question is no longer whether to consult but how we will do it, and the methods are becoming more interesting. Participating in consultations is a very important way of serving your community! Lancefield people have given a resounding thumbs up to the Regional Transaction Centre proposal, both by attending the consultation meetings in good numbers and by a very pleasing over 25% response to the survey. The survey results indicated very strong support for banking in the town. Surprise! This won't need to be part of the RTC of course, because our community bank is being prepared for opening right now. Staff ads have been placed and soon the bank will open its doors. Congratulations to all who have worked so hard for this and in particular to those who have backed their community by investing in shares.

The business plan to apply for the RTC funding looks like including professional rooms (for medical and similar services), a tourist information service with an outlet for local produce, other community information and government agencies and good public toilets! You can still contribute to shaping this plan. Look out for how to do this soon.

I am aware that I have talked a lot about Lancefield lately, due to the bank and the RTC process. Next month I want to focus more on Romsey!

Till next time,

Alice Aird

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The Romsey Recreation Centre

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INDOOR CRICKET STARTING

The Romsey Rec has been asked if Indoor Cricket could possibly be started.

If you or son/daughter are interested in playing please ring us and put your name down. Anybody is welcome to play.

INDOOR SOCCER COMPETITION

Due to the success of the U11's indoor soccer, we will be starting a competition in early April. We are looking for players new for the U/16's so we can also start a competition. The new season for the seniors will be starting in late May, so if you would like registering a team, contact the centre for more information.

BASKETBALL

We are now taking registrations for senior mens night competition. We are still taking registrations for the U/13's competition; the competition is getting stronger with now 4 teams in it.

ROMBALL

If you would like your child to learn the basics of basketball, romball is a fantastic way to learn. Monday nights at 4.00pm.

SQUASH

The squash courts are available for bookings; 7 days a week by contact the centre.

FOR ALL ENQUIRIES PLEASE CONTACT FARON AT ROMSEY RECREATION CENTRE ON 54 295-637,

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ROMSEY RED CROSS UNIT

Winter fashions will be displayed and sold when "Danny Blume" Fashions again visits Romsey to aid our fundraising efforts. The function will be held on Friday 11th May at 10.30am in the Romsey Uniting Church Hall with a donation of \$6.00 including morning tea.

Many thanks to all who have given donations and bought raffle tickets as part of our March Appeal. We will continue to have collectors between the Newsagency and supermarket on Saturdays until Easter.

Helen W. Clement

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Cut your own
and save \$\$\$



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC PARISH LANCEFIELD / ROMSEY



Fr George O'Connor 5429 2130; Sr Patricia
(School) 5429 1359;
Sr Frances (Convent) 5429 1582.

Mass Times

Sat. 10 am Romsey
7.30pm Lancefield
Sundays of the month 1st, 3rd 2nd, 4th, 5th
8 am Lancefield Romsey
10 am Romsey Lancefield
Daily Masses: as advertised in the weekly bulletin
Reconciliation (Confession): 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 Thursday 9.30am before Mass.*
- '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 Street, Romsey on the 1st Thursday of every month. 10.30am start. 5th April, 3rd May, 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

Helping grieve for the unborn

Pregnancy loss is a deeply sensitive issue that affects women through miscarriage, adoption and abortion.

But no matter how a woman loses her unborn baby, it is something that remains with her for the rest of her life, says Anne Neville, of Open Doors Counselling in Ringwood.

Ms Neville said the service had supported many women through their grief. She said women who were pregnant or had lost their unborn baby could receive independent counselling at Open Doors.

"We have a very wide age range of women," Ms Neville said. "We have girls as young as 14 through to women in their early 40s. We had a lady in her 70s who came in to talk about her pregnancy loss that she

went through years ago."

Twenty-two female counsellors work at Open Doors, most of them volunteers.

Ms Neville said the most common scenarios for clients were women aged between 19 and 25 who were unexpectedly pregnant and confused about whether to keep the baby.

"Often well-intentioned people, friends or family, may push the woman for an abortion," she said. "A lot of people say it will be too hard for them and that saps their confidence. We're here not to make decisions at all."

Open Doors hosts remembrance services to help women grieve for their unborn babies.

To contact Open Doors Counselling phone 9870 7044

Thank you to "The Mail" January 23 2001

ENQUIRY EVENING

Have you ever...

- wanted to be baptised?
- wanted to explore your faith journey?
- wanted to be a Catholic?
- wondered what Catholics really believe?

If so, we invite you to an enquiry evening at
St Mary's Presbytery.

Thursday evening 3rd May 7.30pm

For further information please phone Fr George 5429 2130 or Sr Frances 5429 1582 (No obligation to continue)

EASTER CEREMONIES

Reconciliation - Wed 4th April 7.30pm Lancefield

Palm Sunday - 8th April 7.30pm Lancefield

8.00am Romsey

10.00am Lancefield

Holy Thursday - 12th April 7.30pm Lancefield

Way of the Cross - Ecumenical - Fri 13th April 11am

Uniting Church Romsey

Passion - Friday 13th April 3.00pm Romsey

Easter Vigil - Saturday 14th April 7.30pm Romsey

Easter Sunday - 15th April 8.00am Lancefield

10am Romsey

WHY BE A MAN?

Exploring men's spirituality

An afternoon for men. We might even get some answers!

Time: Sunday 29th April - 2 - 4 pm

Venue: Our Lady of the Rosary Presbytery

53 Ebdon S, Kyneton

Cost: donation

Facilitator: John Stuart

Enquiries: Fr George O'Connor 5429 2130

CHARISMATIC MASSES

The Parish of Lancefield/Romsey will be celebrating Charismatic masses on

• Fri 27th April, 7.30pm, St Mary's Church, Romsey

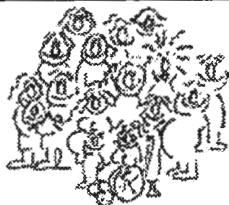
• Fri 17th August 7.30pm, St Mary's Church, Romsey

• 26th or 28th October (to be notified)

• Intercessory prayers for spiritual and physical healing

• Uplifting music • Fellowship • coffee/tea

Cobaw
Community
Health
Service



GENTLE EXERCISE TO MUSIC GROUP

How often have you thought about joining an exercise group and done nothing about it?

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE

**EACH WEDNESDAY MORNING
AT
ST. MARY'S HALL ROMSEY.**

9.30am ---- 10.30am.

*Come and join the group to have fun whilst
gently improving your fitness*

COST \$4

For more information please contact Cobaw
Community Health Service on 5422 3011.



ACTIVE FOR LIFE



Take Off Weight Naturally T.O.W.N. Clubs of Victoria

If you have a weight problem, we
might be able to help you.

TOWN CLUBS OF VICTORIA is a voluntary organization
to encourage weight loss through weekly meetings
which include weigh-in and group therapy.
Members are encouraged to adopt a healthy controlled
eating style and take up suitable exercise - no artificial
methods are permitted.

TOWN CLUBS OF VICTORIA provide a nonexpensive,
encouraging environment that raises your self esteem as
you work towards, and then maintain, your goal weight.

Meetings held weekly at St. Mary's Parish Hall, Romsey
Tuesdays; weigh-in from 7-7:20 pm, meeting from 7:30pm

For more details contact:

Karyn Gottschling 5429 6919

Judy Van Den Heuvel 5429 5692

2001

CONGRATULATIONS 'GOT A JOB! GOING BACK TO WORK!

WORRY FREE BEFORE & AFTER SCHOOL CARE

LOOK NO FURTHER

ENROL NOW!

**GOVERNMENT APPROVED
CHILD CARE BENEFIT REBATE**

- ✓ Experienced Co-ordinator
- ✓ Caring Staff
- ✓ Breakfast - Before School
- ✓ Nutritious Afternoon Snack
- ✓ Indoor Play Activities
- ✓ Outdoor Activities
- ✓ Sports & Games
- ✓ Planned & Informal Activities
- ✓ Assistance with Homework

WHEN! 5 Days a Week 7am - 8:45; 3:30pm - 6:30

WHERE? Lot 7 Mitchell Crt. Romsey
Access through gate at the rear
of the Primary School

For registration forms and further information
PHONE 5429 6196

The Co-ordinator Elsie Parkinson.

KIDZONE Outside School Hours Care

**You Won't get Burnt
at these Prices!**



**Honda Powered/Onga
Fire Fighters \$569**
**In stock now at
Romsey Mowers**
55-57 Main Road, Romsey
Phone: 5429 6977



*S.C.M. Computer
Solutions*

Stuart McMinn

Ph: 0419 585491

Fax: (03) 5429 5623

e-mail: stuartm@internet.net.au

Independent assistance and advice.

**The Anglican Parish of
Christ Church Lancefield & St Paul's
Romsey**

On normal Sundays

9am Family Communion :St Paul's, Romsey.
10:30am Family Communion:
Christ church, Lancefield.
(both services have Sunday School)

Wednesday's 10am Communion Christ Church,
Lancefield. (Term time)

Children's club (CEBS/GFS) Enquiries welcome

Visitors, explorers, newcomers are always
made welcome at any of our services or events.

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

Rev. Doug Edmonds

*Vicarage, 33 Chauncey Street, Lancefield,
Victoria, 3435 Telephone 5429 1380*



**Macedon Ranges Health Care
Romsey Medical Centre**

99 Main Street Romsey, 3434

Phone: 5429 5254 Fax: 5429 6147

Email: doctors@iaa.com.au

Clinic Hours and Appointments

Monday to Friday 8:00am to 8:00pm

Saturdays 9:00am to 5:00pm

Sundays 9:00am to 5:00pm

Public Holidays 9:00am to 5:00pm

We try to minimise waiting time by operating an appointment system. Appointments are routinely of 10 - 15 minutes duration. You can help us run on time by advising the reception staff if you anticipate a longer time for complicated procedures such as:

- Insurance, pre-employment or licence examinations
- Annual reviews or check ups
- Multiple medical problems
- More than one family member attending
- Counselling or emotional problems

Please note that emergencies are seen immediately and take priority over booked appointments. Home visits are available. Please call the Medical Centre to arrange for these appointments.

**LANCEFIELD GARDEN
& FARM SUPPLIES
SPRING SPECIALS**

Organic Top Soil for your garden beds for
fast and better growing at \$40.70m³
(Cheaper in Bulk loads)

B.G. Crushed Rock 20m³ \$440 10m³ \$242

Granitic Sand 20m³ \$440 10m³ \$242

Top Soil 20m³ \$440 10m³ \$242

Used Sleepers from \$13.20 Each

New Sleepers 200 x 50 x 2.1 \$9.35 Each

New Sleepers 200 x 75 x 2.1 \$11.55 Each

(Cheaper in pack lots)

Split Red Gum Firewood - \$82.50m³ Picked Up
and \$88.00 Delivered

90mm x 6.0m. Storm Water Pipes - \$15.00 Each

Barastock Chicken Pellets \$14.00 40 Kg. Bags

Plus - Sand, Screening, Mulch, Compost
and much more!

All Prices GST Included

95 Main Road, Lancefield

Business Hours - Mon-Fri 8am-5pm Sat 8am-3pm

Phone: 54291 311

Romsey Gardens

Bed and Breakfast

RACV rating ★★★★★

Quality ensuite accommodation
with separate entrances.

Queen or twin suites available,
set in two acres of gardens.

Spoil yourself with some gracious living

10 Garden Place, Romsey. 3434

Call for a brochure

Phone: 03 5429 5337

Fax: 03 5429 6152

Visit our Home Page on:

<http://www.netcon.net.au/romsey>

e-mail: compacct@netcon.net.au