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# THE ROMSEY RAG

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THE JUNE 2001 EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
Issue No. 183 -Central Ranges Natural Therapies - June 2001

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

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## WINTER ACHES AND PAINS BEGONE

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phone 5429 5262

118 Main St., Romsey

## Thank You, Romsey

Your response to our wine bar has been overwhelming, and we really appreciate your enthusiastic support.

We must however apologise to those whom we could not fit in because we were full.

It appears that bookings will be essential on Friday and Saturday nights, so please phone us to ensure a table (or the couches!)

### Hours of Opening

Thursday	12 till 10
Friday	12 till 11
Saturday	12 till 11
Sunday	12 till 5

# Editorially Speaking

## Romsey Rag Editorial Committee

**Editor** - Barney Healy

**Editorial Assistant** - Jenny Clampit

**Editorial Asst/Typist** - Kym Raverty

**Layout and Design** - Mike Smith  
Eye Catching Graphics

**Advertising/Sales/Front Page Sponsorship** - Margaret Howatson  
Phone: 5429 5254 or 5429 5724

**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 21<sup>st</sup> 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 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 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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## Proposed Romsey Car Wash

An application has been made to construct a 4 bay do-it-yourself car wash with a five bay vacuum, on the corner of White Avenue and Main Street, directly opposite the rotunda in the Lions Park.

This will affect the homes in the vicinity as it will operate from 6.00 am to 11.00 pm during Daylight Saving Time and 7.00 am and 10.00 pm Eastern Standard Time, 7 days a week. It will have large illuminated signage with additional lighting. It will be minimally manned. Peaceful weekends with only picnickers and the Sunday Market, will be a thing of the past.

The traffic, already extensive will be increased from White Avenue and will make any turns from the service road past the kindergarten and Maternal & Child Health Centre more difficult to negotiate. Regan Drive traffic, especially that turning right into Main St will become a greater problem. When school and kindergarten traffic is added to the equation, the problem will be further exacerbated.

School children, kinder families, skate boarders, users of the Lions Park, as well as nearby residents, will be affected by this proposed development. Drivers from White Avenue, Regan Drive and Station St will all face new hazards.

Not only is traffic an issue. Romsey residents should be mindful that commercialism in our town can threaten the peace and quiet we have all believed to be an important attribute of the Romsey environment. A beautiful street-scape can become an icon to all the commercial urban features so many of us moved to Romsey to escape. The service station on the eastern side of Main St had prior use as a fuel depot so was reluctantly accepted by nearby residents. The site on the corner of White Avenue was a home site and it is completely unexpected that it could become a car wash.

No one in Romsey should believe their home will remain their sanctuary. We need

to let the Macedon Ranges Shire Council know that we disapprove of this type of development at the entrance to our town, amongst homes and near to schools, kindergartens, parks and places frequented by children.

Please sign a petition, phone the Shire on 1300656578, or Sue Little (54295767), John or Wendy Laing ( 54295231), or Donna Perry (54295045) to register your concerns about this development, and encourage the Shire and future developers to consider their sites and enterprises carefully.



RACV ★★★★★ RATED  
IN THE

MACEDON RANGES  
100 Crooked Road,  
Romsey, 3434.

Ph (03) 5429 5901

Mobile: 0413 470 221

Kym & Ray Raverty

## 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 on Friday's 12.30pm to 4.30pm and Saturday's 10:00am to 1:00pm.

## ROMSEY CHILD CARE CENTRE

10 HORTING DRIVE

ROMSEY

PH: 54 29 6442

HOURS 7:00AM TO 6:00PM

Offering quality Full Day Child Care for ages birth to 6 Y.O. - Before and After School care is also provided with pick-up and Drop-off. - Children are also taken to and from the local Kindergarten. - Programs run in each room for age appropriate activities. - Morning/Afternoon tea provided as well as a Hot Lunch. - 3 Year Accredited. - Child Care Benefits available to eligible families.

\*FULL TIME CARE AVAILABLE FROM  
\$100 PER WEEK

Enquires to Betty or Anne  
PH: 54 29 6442

The Romsey Rag June 2005

**Mike Smith**  
Graphic Designer

From Business Cards to magazine layouts  
Eye Catching Graphics can even help you with  
your web site *opening other people's eyes  
to your dreams*

Phone/Fax: (03) 5429 5297  
Mobile: (0419 56) 872  
Email: [vcg@pataish.com.au](mailto:vcg@pataish.com.au)

*catching graphics*

13 Mervale Drive, Romsey, Victoria, 3434



Last month we spoke of C.W.A. local projects, but little is known about the International side of our Organisation. C.W.A. is one of many societies throughout the world that belong to the A.C.W.W. [Associated Country Women of the World] This Organisation was first formed in 1933, and some of our aims are to raise the standard of living of rural and city women, and families, through education, training, and community development programmes, and to give rural women a voice at International level through its links with the United Nations agencies.

We have members working in almost every part of the world. C.W.A. in Australia help the countries in the South Pacific region, which include Fiji, Christmas Island, Kiribati, Niue, Tonga, Tuvalu, Western Samoa, and Papua New Guinea.

Some of our projects at the moment are supplying water tanks for certain parts of the Fijian outer islands. Kindergarten articles such as colouring books, and pencils etc.

We also send boxes of materials and sewing aids for learn to sew projects. Recently a school burnt down in Tuvalu, and we supported them with school aids.

### FEDERATION HONOUR

Congratulations to Mrs. Joan Tom.

As part of the Federation celebrations held last week in Melbourne, Mrs. Tom was named as one of 230 significant women, past and present on an honour roll read out in State Parliament. She has a long background of advocating and helping on rural issues for women, such as 3 years on the National Consultative Council for Women, and also for her long involvement with the C.W.A. such as former Australian President, and many other roles in our Organisation.

Romsey branch is very honoured to have such a member.

Any ladies in the Romsey area that would like to know more about C.W.A. and when we meet, please phone Mrs. Joan Strabridge on 5428 7022.

## KRAMMER & PARTNERS ACCOUNTANTS

Suite 7, 2nd floor, 902 Mt. Alexander Road, Essendon, 3040

Tel: (03) 9326 0211 (4 lines), Fax: (03) 9370 0759

Email: [kandp@isc.net.au](mailto:kandp@isc.net.au)

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

# 'The Birth of a Nation'

When the Anglican Archbishop of Brisbane, Peter Hollingworth, agreed to succeed Dr. William Deane as Governor General of Australia from mid 2001, the role of Chairman of the National Council for the Centenary of Federation passed to Professor Geoffrey Blainey.

Geoffrey Blainey was born in 1930, son of Rev. S.C. Bailey and educated at Ballarat High School, Wesley College and University of Melbourne. He became not only an eminent historian but also a prolific author - the sequence of his books - *The Peaks of Lyell* (1954); *The University of Melbourne: A Centenary Portrait* (1956), *A Centenary History of the University of Melbourne* (1957), *Gold and Paper: A History of the National Bank of Australia* (1958), *Mines in the Spinifex* (1960), *The Rush that Never Ended: A History of Australian Mining* (1963), *The Tyranny of Distance* (1966), and subsequently many more. In addition he has contributed regularly as a columnist to *The Australian*, *Melbourne Herald*,

*Australian Business Monthly* and *Melbourne Age*.

He delivered a speech at the Centenary of Federation celebrations in the Royal Exhibition Building in Melbourne on 9th May, 2001.

He was also the guest speaker at the launching of *The History of Romsey Shire* on 21st June, 1992. From 1987 a small team spent untold voluntary hours researching this history. Generous financial assistance was received from many residents, the Romsey and Lancefield District Historical Society, The Romsey Shire Council and the Australian Bicentennial Authority. Informal meetings were held at Jean Newell's home, Romsey House, to start the project and in September 1987 the first formal meeting elected Joy Green President, Jean Newell Secretary and Co-ordinator and Gavin Smith Treasurer.

The Council was invited to provide a Representative and five other residents agreed to serve as committee members.

Research and writing was shared, resulting in a huge draft which ABC Broadcaster and journalist, John Rea agreed to edit. Sadly Joy Green died within a few days of the decision to publish 'When Memory Turns the Key'. The Shire of Romsey History Book Committee at the time of publication was - Carol Moore President, Dorothy Viney Secretary, Gavin Smith Treasurer, Kevin Tully Council Representative, Peter Mitchell Cliff Shaw, Chris Johnson, Ray Hemphill, Connie Calwell and Greg Powell. A few copies of this book are still available from the Romsey Newsagency.

After Macedon Ranges Shire was formed, amalgamating the Shire of Romsey and others, the name of the book publishing group was changed to West Bourke Books Inc.

Many thanks to Gavin Smith.

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## The Anglican Church

Christ Church Lancefield and St. Paul's Romsey

The Anglican Parish of Lancefield/Romsey is currently looking at the possibilities for two Bible study groups, one in the daytime and a night group. No prior knowledge is needed and discussion will be at a level to suit everyone. It's a chance to explore the Christian faith in an open and relaxed way, with questions encouraged.

Also on in June is a dessert and coffee night featuring a unique slide show. The Vicar, Doug Edmonds has long had an interest in the history of the Vikings and will show slides of visits to the Orkneys, the Shetlands, Denmark,

Norway and the Faeroe Islands. On Friday June 22 have your main course at home and come to the Christ Church Lancefield hall at 7.30 pm with your favourite dessert to share. A donation for parish funds will be invited.

The parish's Opportunity Shop at St. Paul's Romsey is open every Friday, 1.30 - 4.30 pm, and Saturday, 10 am - 1 pm. A large range of good quality clothing is stocked along with books and household items. Donations of good quality goods are always welcome, although electrical goods are no longer sold for safety reasons. Call in and see the amazing range of goods available.

Regular Sunday services in the parish are:

**9 am**

Family Communion at St. Paul's Romsey

**10.30 am**

Family Communion at Christ Church Lancefield

Sunday School at both services during term time

As well, a service of Holy Communion is held at Christ Church Lancefield at 10 am on Wednesdays during term time.

The Rev. Doug Edmonds

33 Chauncey Street Lancefield 3435

Telephone 5429 1380

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## 3+ FUNTIME

Vacancies are available  
(Child must turn 3 by April 30th)  
Educational activities offered in a safe environment with fully qualified staff  
Wednesday 9.30am - 12.30pm  
Riddells Creek Leisure Centre,  
Sutherland Road.  
For more information phone  
Jan Smith on 9740 9435  
Or Faron Egan on 54287 155.

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## The Romsey Walking Group

affectionately known as the 'Mafia', meet each Tuesday 9am outside the Laundrette. Our walks are very varied and cover different areas all around this lovely shire.

We stress everyone walks at their own level of fitness. There is always someone to keep you company for a chat and a laugh. We do really have lots of fun! Cost is the very occasional

\$1 for kitty. Good walking shoes are a must, bum bag or small back pac and a drink.

Come and have some fun while exercising - all ages and sexes very welcome!

Helen Watts, 54295 250.



The Bike Track Fundraising Committee

Invite you to have

## DINNER WITH ANNE PHELAN

And friends - including Betty Bobbit,  
Ron Challanor (Denise Drysdale's writer)  
and more....

**At the Romsey Hotel**

On

**Saturday, 28th July, 2001**

Commencing 7.30 p.m.

Music by our one and only

David Allen

**\$25 per head**

Which includes a 2 Course Meal

Tea/Coffee and Slices

Drinks at Bar Prices

Limited Tickets Available

From Margaret at Romsey Medical Centre

And Charlie at Lancefield Home & Rural

Or ring Margaret a/h on 54295 724



The Romsey Lancefield Centennial Track is supported by the Commonwealth

## LANCEFIELD-ROMSEY LIONS CLUB INC. SUNDAY MARKET

CONTACT No: Mobile 0438 414 245

We invite you to join us at our Sunday Market

4th Sunday of every month except:

January - No Market, and

December - 3rd Sunday

Fees \$10 per site, paid on the day

Commence Set-up from 7.00 a.m.

Complete Set-up by 8.30 a.m.

### MARKET DATES

- |               |                   |
|---------------|-------------------|
| 1. 25TH March | 6. 26th August    |
| 2. 22nd April | 7. 23rd September |
| 3. 27th May   | 8. 28th October   |
| 4. 24th June  | 9. 25th November  |
| 5. 22nd July  | 10. 16th December |

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Phone Mia or Greg on: 5429 6080

Shop: 6/112 Main St, Romsey, 3434.

## SHOPPING TOUR

Romsey Primary School Parent Club will be holding a shopping tour on Saturday July 28<sup>th</sup>. A wide range of outlets including toys, manchester, chocolate, giftware, Holeproof, to name a few, will be visited.

The cost, which includes bus and lunch at Pizza Hut, will be \$34 per person. Pick up points will be at Romsey, with additional stops for family and friends possible at Goonawarra and Tullamarine. Limited seats are available. Secure your seat(s) by completing the attached tear off slip and return it with your \$10 deposit per person to the red mail box at the Romsey Primary School foyer. First come first served - don't miss out.

### ROMSEY PRIMARY SCHOOL SHOPPING TOUR:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of seats: \_\_\_\_\_ Pick up Point: ROMSEY GOONAWARRA TULLAMARINE

Deposit amount enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ For further info: Sue Pyke 54 29 5144 or Bev Beaumont 54 29 6189



Lancefield



Kindergarten

## Enrol for 2002

3 & 4 year old groups  
\$5 booking fee &  
proof of age required

### Enrol at Kindergarten on:

Tues 12th June 10.30am-11am

Mon 18th June 2.30pm-3pm

Ph: Kindergarten 5429 1388

Nicki Bennetts 5429 2154



## Probust Club of Romsey / Lancefield

Our Probust club is a community service project of the Romsey/Lancefield Rotary Club. At the same time we are completely autonomous and responsible to the Probust Centre South Pacific Inc. Our aims are to provide a social outlet for the Romsey/Lancefield community. We are nonsectarian, non political and we welcome all ethnic background people to our membership. As the name suggests the club was formed for all retirees and semi-retirees professionals and business people and those who have held responsible positions in the community. We are

not fund raisers and depend for our day-to-day expenditure on our membership payment which is, at the present time, twenty dollars.

We meet once a month where we try to have a speaker who usually speaks on topics suitable for our club.

We also organise trips of interest to our members and also have a monthly morning tea which is quite informal

For further information please contact our Secretary - Leonie Miles 5429 50 or our genial President - Bill Black 54 5170.

### 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

Lancefield Home & Rural

Lancefield Motors

### REQUEST TO PURCHASE A METRE OF TRACK FOR \$20

PRINCIPAL FAMILY MEMBER:

ADDRESS:

TEL. NO. :

NUMBER OF METRES BEING PURCHASED:

IN THE NAMES OF:

I enclose my cheque/cash for : \$

Receipt required : Yes / No



# DIRECT

LOCAL PLASTERBOARD SUPPLIES

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0419891406

PH/FAX  
03 54295 554  
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## ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD SENIOR CLUB INC.

A9935434P

If you are male or female • Aged 55 years or older

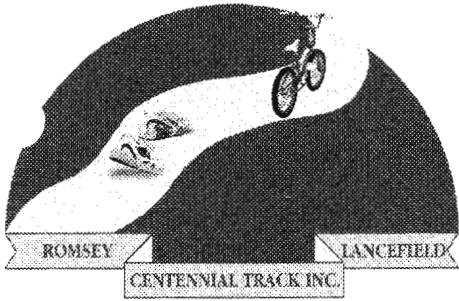
JOIN US - Every Monday 10.30am - 3.30pm

WE PLAY • CARPET BOWLS • CARDS • CHAT & HAVE CUPPAS

The Club is situated behind the Romsey Mechanics Hall and with a joining fee of \$2 A YEAR - why hesitate !

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

NOW



## ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD CENTENNIAL TRACK INC.

P.O. Box 293  
Romsey, Victoria, 3434.  
Phone (03) 5429 5724 (A.H.)  
(03) 5429 5254 (B.H.)  
Fax: (03) 5429 5719

President: Mrs Jean Tom, AO  
Vice President: Leo Vandervalk  
Secretary: Mrs Margaret Howatson  
Treasurer: Mr Trevor Turnham

ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD CENTENNIAL TRACK INC.

Fundraising Committee is holding a

# CLASSIC CAR/MOTORBIKE DISPLAY

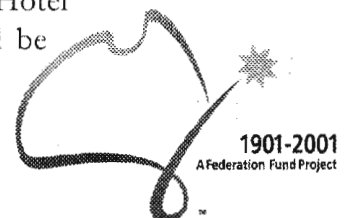
On Sunday, 17th June at the Rotunda Reserve,  
Main Street, Romsey from around 10am to 3pm

We invite all persons who would kindly like to  
display their classic/vintage car/motorbike  
to participate.

This will be a fun day for all ages - refreshments  
And various fundraisers going on throughout the day.  
There will be no entry fee for either participants or  
The general public.

For more information and to register your entry  
Please ring Margaret Howatson (Secretary)  
On 54295 724 a/h or fax 54295 719.

(Please note: Anne Phelan & Guests Dinner at Romsey Hotel  
will be held on Saturday, 28th July 7.30pm ñ tickets will be  
available soon)



The Romsey Lancefield Centennial Track  
is supported by the Commonwealth

# Primary School News

## Family Maths Night



The recently held maths night at Romsey Primary School was a great success with between 70 and 80 parents attending with their children. While the night covered activities in all streams of the school's maths program, everyone discovered that maths activities could be lots of fun. Families moved between rooms covering the concepts of number, space, measurement and chance and data. Parents and children were also encouraged to enter answers to special maths problems targeted for specific year levels. The evening began and ended with a whole group chance and data activity, which everyone enjoyed. Many parents reported gaining greater understanding of the school maths curriculum, and realised the challenges that their children face and solve regularly in our school program.



## Federation Celebrations



All children have received their Federation Medallions as part of the celebration of the centenary of Australia's federation. Following this the students were treated to a performance of the Great Federation Story. This was a most entertaining and informative account of this aspect of Australia's which had the children (and teachers) both enthralled, entertained and highly amused. The school will be holding a great Federation tree planting on 2nd June where all students will be able to plant a tree as a lasting memento of this memorable year in Australia's history.



## Scienceworks

Not only do we have gifted students, but their parents can be very talented too. Following a recent trip to Scienceworks one of our parent helpers was inspired to write these lines.



To Mrs Byrne & Mes van Gils, from Ali Ashley

The Planetarium trip,  
Wow! What a day,  
All thanks to my group,  
What can I say?

So well behaved,  
Co-operative, polite  
All six students  
An absolute delight.

In particular I mention-  
No bias intended,  
To Jacqui, Jaysson and Marlee  
My thanks are extended.

Well mannered and helpful,  
Beyond duty's call,  
Be proud of these students,  
They're a credit to the school.





# Business & Trade Directory

For Advertising Information please ring Margaret Howatson 5429 5724 or 54295254

## Copling & Son's Auto Service Pty. Ltd.

- \* Specialising in all types of recover and repair work
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## Michelle's

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Jazz Ballet for children 3 to 18 years of age.  
Dancing for fun, fitness, co-ordination and self-esteem. Romsey Mechanics Hall.  
No exams or competitions.  
Annual Concert.  
Enquiries - Michelle Caldwell 9340-7864

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## ROMSEY MECHANICS INSTITUTE

Main Street, Romsey

The Hall (or meeting room) can be hired by contacting the Booking Agents

**Frank Crossman**  
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Note: the main hall is centrally heated



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email: beryl@netcom.net.au

## Romsey Veterinary Surgery

80 Main Street, Romsey, 3434  
Phone: (03) 5429 5711  
Fax: (03) 5429 6259



CONSULTING HOURS:  
Mon-Fri 9.00-10.30 am  
4.00-5.00pm  
Sat 9.00-10.30am  
Sun 9.30-10.30am  
At other times by appointment

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*Maurice P. Wiltshire* B.A., LL.B.

Exp. Family Law  
Barrister and Solicitor

Proprietor of the firm of  
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## Margaret Deakes Puppy School

Learn to train your dog  
using gently positive methods

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Phone: 5429 6636



Appliances, Bookshelves, Coffee tables, Dining tables,  
Entertainment units, Fire screens, Garden furniture,  
Benches, Benches, Jug & bowl sets, Kleenmaid products,  
Lounge sofas, Mattresses, Not enough space to mention  
everything. Oil, Paints, Question - will you get it? YES,  
Refrigerators, Sandwich makers, Tables, Utility boxes,  
Vacuum cleaners, Washing machines, Xmas special  
service, Yvonne, Charlie & Colin welcome you to their  
store. Zylite's full lines.

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Australian  
Wood Heating  
Association Inc.



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Gas Conversions

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## ROMSEY- LANCEFIELD AMBULANCE AUXILIARY

members were very please to read that the funding for our new ambulance station is listed in the recent budget. Ambulance Victoria are hopefully that this will go ahead by February, 2002, and be sited next to the new Police Station in Main Road, Romsey.

Great news! Margaret Howatson, Secretary.

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on 14th May, at around 3.30p.m. in Coleraine Drive. Very important personal papers need urgently. If found, please phone 0438 390 127 or

Leave it at the Post office, Romsey, with no questions asked.

### LOST: SMALL GOLD KEY -

Found outside Romsey Mechanics Institute on Saturday, 19th May. Please ring Margaret on 54295 724 a/h.

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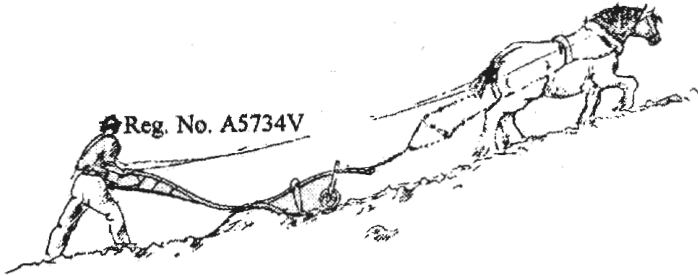
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Thank you for your consideration,  
Margaret Howatson.



# Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society Inc.

P.O. Box 11,  
ROMSEY, 3434.



## LANCEFIELD CEMETERY RECORDING PROJECT

The next Meeting for this project will be held on Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> June from 10.30am at the Lancefield Court House/Museum.

Members of the public are warmly invited to come along and discover how you can be involved, and enjoy morning tea!

Volunteers are needed to help record

the inscriptions and monuments at the Lancefield Cemetery, so that a complete register can be recorded, to help enquirers in the future.

Once the project is up and running, friends can meet in their own time to do an hour or two whenever it is convenient to them, and this need not necessarily be on a regular basis. The Co-ordinator will allot certain areas, so

that there is no duplication, or waste of time. This will be an interesting and worthwhile project, and may suit some who do not want to come to our General Meetings, nor become members. For further information, please ring Bronwyn Wilson on 54 29 1360 or come to the meeting at the Museum on June 4<sup>th</sup>.

JEAN CLEMENT

## 13<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL VICTORIAN WOMEN ON FARMS GATHERING - 2002

Three Romsey women, Kym Raverty, Jean Tom and Carolyn Young, have received the go ahead to organise a weekend gathering to be held in the Macedon Ranges in April 2002.

They are asking for committed rural women of any age who wish to help organise this gathering of rural women from throughout Victoria to contact them. This year's event held at Beechworth was a great success with nearly 300 hundred women networking, skill sharing, workshoping and making friendships. If you've never been on a committee before or organised an event before don't be put off as long as you feel your life is tied to the land you will

be welcomed with open arms. This event will showcase the beautiful region we live in and each committee person's individual love of this region will ensure that the visiting women will go home wanting to return. Be part of a team who want to make the 13<sup>th</sup> Annual Victorian Women on Farms Gathering an event not to be missed.

Any rural business that wishes to sponsor or have their business or product showcased at this event can also contact Kym, Jean or Carolyn.

Contact: Kym Raverty 54 29 5901 or 041 347 0221

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# 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 in June

A couple of weeks ago, our congregation took part in the National Church Life Survey. Not only was this a chance to practice for the census in a couple of months, but it was also an opportunity for us to evaluate where we are and where we are going.

It's all very well for the church to keep going as it has been, but I believe there is more to our task than that. After all, if we believe that our message continues to be relevant, then we must be able to communicate it to each generation.

In some ways, this is one of the problems facing the church today. Many people outside the church have a picture or impression of what the church is like. For those of my generation and older, it may be based on memory of Sunday School or when they were growing up. For younger people, it may be based on assumptions, or what they've been told, or their experience of weddings and funerals. In either case, it is a picture of the church in the 60's and 70's.

One issue for the church to consider is whether it still fits that profile. If so, is that what we want to do? If not, how do we let everyone else know that things are different now?

Our church building may be about 135 years old, but I'd like to think that we are trying to meet the needs of people today. I'll be the first to admit that we do some strange things in the church, but they do have a purpose and meaning, otherwise we wouldn't do them. Maybe we need to explain them sometimes. It may also be that some have passed their used by date and need to be replaced. However, we need your help to know which ones to dump!

Even though I'm a professional Christian, it is my heartfelt belief that the message of faith is of relevance to our world. My struggle is not so much how to share the message (without being seen as a Bible-basher), but how to have the opportunity. The church has had so much bad press over the years, most people are wary of anything we might have to say. It could be interesting to see how things pan out in the months ahead.

*Rev Alan Williams*

## What's On

### 1 June 5:00-6:30pm

KUCA Club meets at the church for a Pentecost Workshop. This will be similar to the Advent Workshops held before Christmas each year, but on the theme of Pentecost. All children all children are welcome.

### 3 June 9:00am

worship and Sunday School, including Holy Communion and the celebration of Pentecost.

### 12:00pm

bring and share lunch (with bonfire?) as a continuation of the Pentecost celebrations.

### 8 June 5:00-6:30pm

KUCA Club meets at the church for a night of board games. KUCA (Kids of the Uniting Church in Australia) is primarily for children in grades 3 to year 8, but there is also a group for younger children.

### 10 June 9:00am

worship and Sunday School with Rev Robert Wheeler.

### 13 June 1:30pm

UCAF (Uniting Church Adult Fellowship) Winter Luncheon. All welcome (men and women).

### 15 June 5:00-6:30pm

KUCA Club meets at the church for a puppet night.

### 17 June 9:00am

worship and Sunday School with Rev Robert Wheeler.

### 22 June 5:00-6:30pm

KUCA Club meets at the church for a Fancy Dress night to end the term. This will be a family night, and includes supper.

### 23 June 9:00am-2:00pm

Monster Garage Sale at the Mechanics Hall. For enquiries about stalls or to donate goods, please contact Helen Quinn (5429 5358).

### 24 June 9:00am

worship and Sunday School.

### 1 July 9:00am

worship, including Holy Communion. Creche will be available for pre-school children.

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:

Bill Black (President) on 54 295 170  
Leonie Miles (Secretary) on 54 295 071



## COUNCIL NEWS - MT WILLIAM WARD

Letter to Mt William Ward May 2001

### IS ANYBODY OUT THERE?

I'm not sure if I'm getting through. Am I starting to speak 'bureaucratese'. If I write this letter to sound like a Council report, no-one will want to read it. But I have to learn to speak this language to understand Council papers and speak on your behalf in all kinds of meetings and so on. The hard thing is to translate all this into ordinary language. Even the names of things are long enough to make you yawn. Who wants to hear about the *Macedon Ranges Cultural Recreation Strategy*!!!! It's really interesting reading! Honest! I kid you not. Well, it's not like a thriller, but it has got some good bits. Like the mobile arts centre, and the theatre, and the art gallery, and the Arts Foundation (to get us funds for all the others!). It's got principles and values and themes and proposals and all sorts of good stuff like that. And having it will really, truly make a big difference. You've got to have all this strategic planning to get the money to do interesting things and to get us all pulling or pushing in something like the same direction.

Many thanks to the artists (of many kinds) on our Reference Group. We all gave up many long evenings to struggle with deep and meaningful questions about culture and recreation - and had a lot of fun too! Thanks also to Dean Michael our excellent Cultural Service Officer for long hours polishing this document. It's impossible to give you more than a tiny taste of the Cultural Recreation Strategy here (even though the name is a big mouthful), but you can read it at any of the Shire Offices or take home a copy of the summary to digest at your leisure.

It's very clear that any strategy will only be a true reflection of the way our community wants to go, if a good representation of the community puts into its development. Which is why I keep stressing community consultation and asking you to respond when asked for your input. It is also why I am very pleased that there has been a good response from people asking for copies of the Macedon Ranges Natural Environment Strategy, which is now also

in the Shire Offices. Please read it and give us your comments. This is a vital issue for our future.

For both of these strategies you will be hearing more through the usual Shire News Page in the local papers and/or the Macedon Ranges Update. No-one expects everyone to comment on everything. Just keep a look out for the issue which you have a real feeling for and then do it. I have often asked for comment in this letter but only a few respond and I thank them very much. As your elected local representative I need you to *present* your thoughts/ideas/views/comments/proposals to me so that I can *re-present* them in other places where a decision may be influenced. To 're-present' means to 'present again'. To *present something again I must hear it clearly in the theatre*.

It was great to attend the opening of the Romsey Toy Library the other day. What a great start to a very worthwhile venture for the Romsey and Lancefield district, with an excellent range of suitable toys for borrowing displayed (membership of the toy library is a bargain at only \$25 per year), and a jumping castle, sausage sizzle, and kids clothing sale to launch it with a bang. Well done to Donna Perry and her committee for their initiative, skill and commitment in getting this off the ground.

Talking about cultural recreation, I joined about 200 people, including some from Lancefield and Romsey, at a *wonderful* cultural event in the Kyneton Town Hall on Sunday afternoon of May 20th. Tiny children to first class professional pianists tried out our grand old lady of the Town Hall, the new restored Rotisch grand piano. We heard a range of excellent pianists playing music from swing medleys and movie themes to Liszt and Chopin. This rare and historic instrument is now in good working order, and as the only publicly available grand piano in the Shire, it's important. This old lady is still not up to the antics of her modern descendants, but her sound thoroughly entertained the enthusiastic audience

(and she needed no newfangled microphones to fill the Hall).

What great news about our ambulance station at last - Congrats to all the amazingly committed team of volunteers who have worked so patiently for this. Good news too about the police station at Romsey.

With me luck as we go into the Shire budget discussions over the next few weeks. There are so many good projects and our resources can't cover them all. I find it agonising to choose but it has to be done. Thank God for strategies, which definitely help by giving principles to base our decisions on. But there's still not enough in the coffers to do it all, so I need your prayers and blessings!

Till next time,

Alice Aird,

Councillor Macedon Ranges Shire.

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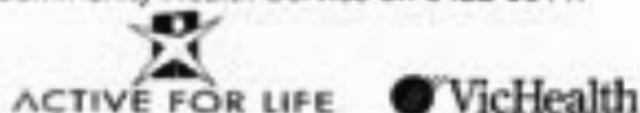
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