



THE ROMSEY RAG



Issue No. 200 1550 copies produced each month at Romsey Primary School as a service to our community December 2002

THE DECEMBER EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

- Pretty & Practical -

"Pretty & Practical"

CLOSING DOWN!!!

We would like to thank all our loyal customers for your support and friendship over the past 6 years. Some of the stories that have been shared in the shop have led to laughter, tears, counselling sessions (which, may we add, we never charged for), a good chin wag and friendships that have been developed that will last a lifetime.

It's never easy to say good-bye, but we have been here for most of your birthdays, anniversaries, baby births, baby showers, Valentine's Day, Easter and of course we are concluding with Christmas celebrations.

**THE DOORS WILL CLOSE FOR THE LAST TIME ON:
SATURDAY JANUARY 11TH, 2003.**

Looking forward to retirement, but we will appreciate all the memories of being in business in such a wonderful country town. Of course we could not have done it without a great team of staff, friends and family who have always been willing to roll up their sleeves during the busy times.

These people have helped to make our business the success it is today. A sincere thankyou to Carol Taylor, Glenn Browitt, Dawn Dickson, Suzanne Prior, Marcelle Eude and Bev Skeggs.

We wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.

Once again, many thanks from Mia and Greg.

FAREWELL FROM THE PRETTY & PRACTICAL TEAM.

Shop 6/112 Main Street, Romsey, 3434. Ph: 5429 6080



This month we celebrate the 200th edition of the Romsey Rag, and in doing so the editorial team, the typists and the collators would like to wish everyone in our community a very safe and Merry Christmas, and good fortune for the New Year.

The Rag team will, as usual, have a well-earned break over the Christmas – New Year season, and the next edition of the Rag will be available at the beginning of February 2003.

Editorially Speaking

Romsey Rag Editorial Committee:
Barney Healy, Kym Raverty, Robyn Moore

Layout and Design:
Robyn Moore

Advertising / Sponsorship:
Margaret Howatson – 5429 5254
or 5429 5724

Collation Team Co-ordinator:
Joan Sparks

Contributions:

Articles should be left at the Romsey Post Office (fax 5429 5134) or Romsey Primary School (fax 5429 5765) by 12 noon of the 21st of each month (or last business day prior to the 21st).

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

Articles can be sent via e-mail to:
romsey.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

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

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

Advertising:

Rates are GST inclusive.

Front page sponsorship: \$75 per half page
Business card: \$15 per month
\$150 per year in Business Directory
Quarter page: \$30
Half page: \$60
Full page: \$120
Line ads: eg- For sale, births, deaths, marriages, engagements - \$5.

Cheques must be made payable to Romsey Primary School

Distribution:

1500 copies delivered to the Romsey community at the commencement of each month.

CHRISTMAS HOUSE DECORATION COMPETITION

The Romsey Business Association again invites you to join their Christmas competition simply by decorating your home in a Christmas theme.

Local traders are sponsoring the competition and donating some great prizes.

The categories of the competition are

1. Best decorated house 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes
2. Best theme 1st prize
3. Best illuminated window 1st and 2nd prize

Proudly sponsoring the competition are

- Romsey IGA \$200 Groceries
- Regional Real Estate \$100 voucher
- Romsey Hardware \$50 voucher
- Tom O'Deas \$70 voucher
- Forbes Auto \$50 voucher
- The Clay Craft and Coffee Shop \$50 voucher

Decorations to be displayed from the 1st December
Competition judged 14th & 15th December
Winners announced and notified 16th December

Entry forms can be obtained from sponsors.

ST PAUL'S ANGLICAN CHURCH HALL, ROMSEY

“OPPORTUNITY SHOP” will be CLOSED during DECEMBER & JANUARY.

Re-opening on Friday January 31st
12.30PM - 4.30PM.

We are quite happy to accept donations of good quality items during regular hours on Fridays 12.30pm - 4.30pm and Saturdays 10.00am - 1.00pm but unfortunately, due to safety reasons and lack of storage space, we cannot accept electrical goods or furniture.

LANCEFIELD/ROMSEY COMBINED ANGLICAN PARISH STREET STALL
at
ROMSEY SHOPPING CENTRE
outside I.G.A.
SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH
9.00AM

Christmas gifts, cakes, Christmas Cakes & puddings etc.

CLOSING AND COLLATION DATES FOR 2003

Edition	Closing Date	Collation Date
February 2003	Tuesday January 21st	Thursday January 30th
March 2003	Friday February 21st	Thursday February 27th
April 2003	Friday March 21st	Thursday March 27th
May 2003	Monday April 21st	Thursday May 1st
June 2003	Wednesday May 21st	Thursday May 29th
July 2003	Friday June 20th	Thursday June 26th
August 2003	Monday July 21st	Thursday July 31st
September 2003	Thursday August 21st	Thursday August 28th
October 2003	Friday September 19th	Thursday September 2
November 2003	Tuesday October 21st	Thursday October 30th
December 2003	Friday November 21st	Thursday November 27th

**ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD &
DISTRICT AMBULANCE AUXILIARY**

We were all looking forward to the official opening of the ambulance and police stations on the 22nd November, but due to the fact that an election had been called, the opening has had to be postponed until further notice and I guess the result of the election!

Just to take this opportunity to thank all the people of Romsey and Lancefield and district for their continuing support over the past years – have to tell you that every one of the auxiliary tell me that every time they pass the new ambulance station they have a grin from ear to ear – its just great – so hope you can all join in this latest recreational activity!! The auxiliary are hosting the Romsey Australia Day activity and are planning an open day/sausage sizzle at the ambulance station with the help of the staff. Just watch the Council advert coming nearer to Australia Day.

A very merry Christmas and a safe New Year to you all!

Margaret Howatson, Secretary.

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@ssc.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:
4 Floor, 316 Queen Street, Melbourne, 3000. Tel: (03) 9326 0211

THE MYSTERY OF THE MISSING PLANTS!

At the Medical Centre we thought we would try and brighten up Stawell Street by planting some shrubs in the garden bed outside the Medical Centre. Unfortunately, to our total amazement, most of them have walked in the past week or so! They have been taken out of the bed by someone who knows what they are doing – the garden bed being restored as if the plants had never been there!

A bit sad really here in our lovely Romsey – but there you are!



suzanne's
totally natural
beauty therapy
& nail studio

**Fully Qualified Beauty Therapist /
Nail Technician**
20 years experience

"newly renovated salon"

- **Acrylic Nails** New Airbrush designs / French
- **Waxing**body and facial, XXX, Brazilian
- **Solarium** 15 minute bed - buy 10 get 3 FREE
- **Make Up** weddings and special occasion
- **Facials**FREE skin analysis
- **Gift Vouchers available**

December special
20% off full set of
acrylic nails
(on presentation of this ad)

Ph 54295176

**cnr 110 Main rd and Stawell st
Romsey**
[behind Kontek Real Estate]

*Sue hopes everyone has a happy
and safe Christmas*

Getting Ready to Start School

Our preparation for next year's prep children and their parents is well underway with information sessions recently held in both the afternoon and evening. Topics covered for the parents were focussed on preparing these young students for school, some of our school routines, and organisation for the first days of school next year. There will be further parent sessions in the first weeks of school next year to cover settling in for the first terms, and more detail on our school programs and parent and school expectations for the first year of school. Recently a number of our Junior School Councillors visited the Kindergarten. They joined in and helped the children with the activities and became friends with many. This is aimed to ensuring that these young students find a number of familiar friendly faces as they start school life next year. Our new prep students will be having a number of further visits to the school over the next few weeks with their teacher for 2003. Again we look forward to all our new students settling in well for a happy, exciting year of learning as they start this new chapter in their lives.



in well for a happy, exciting year of learning as they start this new chapter in their lives.

Environmental Project Takes Shape

Not prepared to rest following the school again receiving an *Achievement Award* in this year's School Garden Awards, students, parents and teachers recently undertook a major planting for our *Honeyeater Haven* project. Planting over 500 native shrubs and grasses together with the installation of a path leading to a quiet seating area, this part of the school will really enhance our students appreciation of the natural environment in the coming years as we continue to attract greater numbers of native birds to our school grounds. The *Honeyeater Haven* project was developed principally by a senior and prep class, working as part of a cross age program. The students and teachers have designed the area and were active participants in the digging, planting, mulching and watering of this area. Special thanks to our many parent helpers,

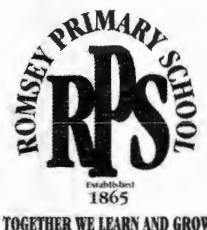
and especially Bradley Nuttall – Central Victorian Tree Care for supplying the mulch to help keep these plants alive over the coming summer months.

Enthusiastic workers mulch the newly planted shrubs and grasses in "Honey Eater Haven"



Writer's Workshop

Rachael Tonkin, published author and illustrator, recently concluded a series of special workshops for fifty of our students. Over the six weeks of the program group stories, plays and poetry were produced. These well written and illustrated stories have been published in-house and will shortly be available for all our students to borrow from the school library. The workshops allowed students and teachers an insight into the different ways to motivate children to write. This was a fantastic experience for students and staff alike, and we thank Rachel very much for her work with our children.



TOGETHER WE LEARN AND GROW

ROSMEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

Cup Eve Gala

Our Cup Eve Gala was a wonderful success, again well supported by both the school and the wider Romsey community. A special thankyou to our organising committee whose creativity came to the fore with a variety of activities throughout the evening that kept everyone entertained. Overall this event raised approximately \$4000 for our school.

A sincere thankyou to the following businesses for their support:

The Grand Chancellor Hotel, Melbourne
Romsey Hotel

Boomerang Holiday Ranch Daylesford

Top of the Range Mt Macedon

Craigieburn Mountain Retreat

Australian Tennis Open

Hoyts Cinemas

Melbourne Sports & Aquatic Centre

Victorian Ranges Indoor Park Climbing Centre

Ann Phelan for signed photos and scripts from "Marshall Law" and the wonderful family who donated the Melbourne footy jumper.

Thankyou also to the following families for their help with setting up and cleaning up: Barnes family, Blicblau family, Neyland family, Meson family, Elaine Ireland, Bev Beaumont and Ellis family. Thankyou donna Atkins for helping out with raffles on the night.

Thankyou to our MC on the night – Geoff Pyke, and his helpers Doug Sale, Bill Hickey and John Boyce. Thankyou to those who donated balloons.

It was a terrific night for all involved. A special thankyou to our sub committee members and of course those who attended and made the night so successful.

IGA Supermarket Romsey

Romsey Bakery

Hill St. B&B Daylesford

Cope-Williams Winery

Hanging Rock Winery

Sovereign Hill Ballarat

Village Cinemas

Melbourne Observation Deck

Bill Hickey for Bulldogs Football and wood splitter

Mitre 10 Romsey

Elsie Parkinson Kidzone

Daylesford Boathouse Café

Glen Erin Retreat

Adventure Park Geelong

Melbourne Aquarium

Kyneton Racing Club

McCoy's Café Lancefield

Signy's

The silly season has arrived, where we eat,
drink and be merry !!!

To ensure your Hair, Waxing and Nails are
in order for Christmas.

EARLY BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

THIS MONTH CHRISTMAS SPECIAL

With every Colour and Foils
you will receive a

"FREE MANICURE"

*Signy's would like to wish all our
customers a Merry x-mas and a
safe and Happy New Year.*

PH: (03)5429 5322

SHOP 7, 111 MAIN ST, ROMSEY, 3434
(NEXT DOOR TO NEWSAGENCY)

Letter to the editor:

Dear Editor

Next year we have council elections in March, so I'm putting an idea on paper for others to think about.

I've enjoyed getting to know people in Romsey – those who've just come and others who have lived here for twenty or fifty years. A mixed group, but for all that there's a kind of local sense of people knowing at least some of the community.

I know that older residents still miss the familiarity of the smaller local council. I'm not sure how many council staff I meet really know this local community, and I ask how can this larger "regional" council best help people here? There's a mushrooming of plans and visions and consultants in these regional councils.

So...I'd like to elect councillors who agreed to a 10% reduction each year in the budget for consultants, and a 10% increase in managers spending time getting to know local people.

I'd like to have managers out there learning about the local community and being known. Dollars for consultants could be effective in employing staff to work in our local area – keeping parks and streets looking good, and youth and others getting the help they need, but in the process coming to understand what the local area means to people. I want managers who know local people well enough to know which groups may be concerned, have the confidence to work with them to bring the issues to council in a considered way, and build local projects which last. Not just have another vision or plan on paper, written by someone who comes and goes. There are no magic skills in this.
Sue Kirkgard.

PS. I'm not critical of consultants, but in this situation believe their transitory involvement is not worthwhile, and counterproductive to building the base for good local community planning.

CUBBIE HOUSES

2400 x 2100	\$888
2400 x 1800	\$750
1800 x 1800	\$688

KENNELS

XL	\$145
L	\$138
M	\$100
S	\$90

All cubbies come with a blackboard and two shelves

- **All kennels easy to clean with lift off roofs.**

Order now for Christmas!

Phone Warwick on 0407 295 292

**Drive by the Recreation Centre, Romsey,
To check them out and the Colourbond
roofs!**



CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION (Integration Aide) Course

Deakin University at

Melbourne: March – September 2003

Geelong: May – July 2003, and

Warragul: July – September 2003

Designed for those already employed or seeking work in schools as Integration Aides, or for parents of children with special needs.

Contact: Consultancy and Development Unit

Telephone: Lynette Haar (03) 9244 6188

Email: cdu@deakin.edu.au

Website: www.deakin.edu.au/education/cdu

"ROMSEY HOUSE"

The disastrous bomb explosions at Kuta Beach, Bali, on 12th October, 2002, are not only a reminder of the World Trade Centre and Washington disasters on 11th September, 2001, but also of the Indonesian invasion of East Timor from 16th October, 1975.

Some readers may not know the story of the five Australian journalists who were slain in Balibo, East Timor: Greg Shackleton, Gary Cunningham and Tony Stewart were sent on assignment by HSV 7 Melbourne, while Channel 9 sent from Sydney, Malcolm Rennie and Brian Peters. These TV journalists were mostly in their early 20's and they established a base in a house in Balibo which became well-known as the home of the "Balibo Five" and was a centre for Australian hospitality near the border with Indonesia – the present Foreign Minister of the new nation of East Timor, Ramos Horta, was a frequent visitor as was Jill Jolliffe who published her account of the role of the Whitlam government in hiding the facts of the Indonesian invasion, in her book "Cover Up". During the invasion the journalists filmed the attacks by

the Indonesians on the Timorese, but they were caught, stabbed to death and buried in an unmarked grave.

In June, 1978, the widow of Greg Shackleton bought the 118 year old Romsey House which had been converted from Romsey Hotel. Shirley Doreen Shackleton converted the bar room into tearooms and installed a new kitchen in which she prepared lunches and afternoon teas. By late 1980 it was apparent that the "Romsey Larder" was not a profitable venture to Shirley returned to live in Melbourne and tried to sell her property in Romsey. This took until July, 1982 when Graham and Jean Newell moved in, with their three sons. Graham died in August, 1994 but Romsey House remained in Newell hands until 2002 when it was sold.

The house used by the "Balibo Five" in East Timor has fallen into disrepair but in October, 2002, it was agreed to restore it for some form of community use to be negotiated by World Vision; this project is a partnership of Multiplex, the Victorian Government, Channel 7 and Channel 9 who have agreed to invest \$50,000.

Best wishes, Gavin Smith.

CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP

Wars, conflicts, economic hard times, crime, drugs, AIDS, suffering in the world in general and in our families.

Where's it all leading?

What's the meaning of life?

Romsey and Lancefield Christian Fellowship is a community-based Church with a love for Jesus Christ.

We believe God, through Jesus Christ, has the answer to these and other questions.

We invite you to join us in learning about God and the life-changing impact a relationship with Him can have.

We meet every Sunday morning at the Romsey Mechanics Institution (behind the new fountain) at 10.00 am.

For enquiries contact our minister –

Graham Mau on 5429 1488.



Romsey Gardens

Bed and Breakfast

AAAT rating ★★ ★

Quality ensuite accommodation.

Separate entrances.

Air conditioned Queen or Twin suites available.

Set in extensive private gardens.

Spoil yourself with some gracious living

10 Garden Place, Romsey 3434

Call for a brochure

Phone: 03 5429 5337

Fax: 03 5429 6152

e-mail: compacct@netcon.net.au

For full details and photographs visit our

Home Page:

<http://users.netcon.net.au/compacct>

Placing Animals To Caring Homes Equine Service



Sale Register

Michelle Naphine DHBM

Ph/Fax: 54 296 339

Mobile: 0413 582 311

E-Mail: patches@netcon.net.au

Providing Professional and Personalized service.

FOR HIRE ROMSEY MECHANICS INSTITUTE

For all occasions...

**For enquires and
bookings**

**ring Noel Shaw on
54295 509**

Protecting Your Animals From Wildfire

When developing your bushfire survival plan, it not only means protecting your home and family, but also the extended members of the family, the pony, the goat, the dog and anything else that has endeared themselves to the family. Farm stock should not be forgotten either – remember that animals will also suffer during bushfire, this is highlighted by some horrific news footage of sheep and cattle after a fire has ripped through the area. By including them in a bushfire plan, you can help provide them with their best chance of survival.

Romsey Fire Brigade's 3rd Lieutenant Ralph Hermann said there are many things that can be done to help protect animals against bushfire. "It's all about forward thinking and planning. Animals will be frightened during a bushfire, so think about how they will behave and prepare around that. On high fire danger days, if you have to go out to work decide whether to take your animals to a safer place before leaving home. Remember, in the event of fire, you may not be allowed back to your home to rescue them", Ralph said

"If your bushfire survival plan is to take your pets with you on a day of high fire risk, shut your pets in the house early so you can quickly get them in order. Have a kit pre-packed – thinking about leashes to restrain animals, any medication, food, a water bowl and kitty litter or newspaper as your pet may be restrained for a long time. Also, ensure your pets are registered in case you become separated", he added.

Cats, rabbits and guinea pigs need a secure cage; snakes and lizards need a container with a tight fitting lid and air holes. A pillow case (tied firmly) or an overnight bag (firmly shut) is also an alternative for all of these animals. Birds, ferrets, mice etc need to be moved in their cages or in secure boxes with small air holes. Fish may be transported in a large jar, with a wide neck and a secure lid, filled two thirds with water. Preparing contact details and attaching it to your pet can help if pets become separated.

"Include your name, address, phone numbers and the number of a friend or relative who is not in a threatened area, your vet's phone number, your pet's name, vaccination history, medical information and food requirements", Ralph said.



If caught driving into bushfire, remain in the car and cover yourself and your pets with woollen blankets, keeping down below the level of the windows.

If deciding to stay and defend the home in the event of fire, remember that animals will be frightened. CFA advises to restrain small animals inside, giving them plenty of water to avoid dehydration and to make a curtain out of wet hessian to fit the cage of poultry and aviary birds which will be affected by smoke.

"If possible, identify the safest paddock on your property or neighbouring property to move animals to. Ideally this would have a large dam, clear access and closely grazed surroundings with minimum fuel for fire.

If fire does threaten, hose your animals off, remove all equipment such as horse rugs, plastic headstalls and metal buckles, and move animals to open space.

"Don't shut animals up. They can cope well on their own if they're given maximum space and can move in the open. That doesn't mean allowing them to escape onto public roads where they will be a threat to themselves and other road users. Try to provide them with plenty of water, as one of the most common threats after the fire has passed is dehydration."

Ralph added that by acting responsibly, being prepared and developing an effective bushfire survival plan, animal owners can help ensure the safety of their pets and stock during a bushfire.

For further information, check the CFA website at www.cfa.vic.gov.au or contact Peter Moore on 0409 407 725

TO CONTACT ALL EMERGENCY SERVICES IN THIS AREA -

- ◆ FIRE BRIGADE
- ◆ AMBULANCE
- ◆ POLICE
- ◆ STATE EMERGENCY SERVICE (S.E.S.)

PHONE 000

THE AUSTRALIAN ORGAN DONOR REGISTRY

Registration forms from the
Romsey Medical Centre or
Via the Red Cross donation service -
"Life Gift"
by ringing
(03) 9349 2278 or Freecall on 1800 777
203

**"THINK About It - TALK About It -
TELL your family!"**

It's a!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

It's a Affenpinscher, a Bichon Frise, a Havanese, a Italian Spinone, a Large Munsterlander, a Hamiltonstovare, Petit Basset Griffon Vendeen, a Sloughi, a Bouvier Des Flandres, a Pumi, a Leonberger, a Lagotto, a Eurasier.

It's a DOG, and with a little bit of luck you will be able to see some of these rare dog breeds at the annual dog shows conducted by Lancefield and Central Highlands Kennel Clubs on Saturday 28th and Sunday 29th December. As per usual the venue for the shows is Lancefield Park in Chauncey Street. Each day judging will commence at 9.00am and go through till approximately 3.00pm.

Following on from the success of last year, at Central Highlands Kennel Club on the Sunday there will be herding instinct tests. This is where show dogs are tested as to their ability to herd sheep. This type of event has only been conducted in the last 12 months in Australia and Lancefield and Central Highlands Kennel Clubs are the only all breeds clubs in Victoria currently holding these type of events.

And whilst at the shows don't forget to wander over to the canteen where the Romsey Lancefield Ambulance Auxiliary will be feeding the multitude. The auxiliary's profits from the venture will be going to provide equipment for the new ambulance station in Romsey.

With a judging panel of seven highly respected judges from Sydney officiating each day, we are hoping that some of those rare breeds will be out and about strutting their way around the rings.

All we can hope for now is that the weather will be kind to us. Hope to see you there.

Don Gray Lancefield Kennel Club Ph 5429 1828
Peter Renwick Central Highlands Kennel Club Ph 5427 0278



ROMSEY LICENSED **POST OFFICE**

OFFERS THE FOLLOWING **SERVICES:**

BILL PAYING
FAX SERVICE
PHOTOCOPYING
LAMINATING
OPTUS PRE-PAID PHONE CARDS
TELSTRA PHONEAWAY
TELSTRA PRE-PAID PHONE CARDS
PASSPORT APPLICATIONS
OFFICE STATIONERY
CITILINK DAY PASSES
COMPUTER DISKS
COMMONWEALTH
NATIONAL &
GIROPOST BANKING



All the staff at Romsey Post Office would like to take this opportunity to wish our valued customers a Merry Christmas and a prosperous New Year. Enjoy the festive season, take care and drive safely.

Macedon Ranges Arts Advisory Committee needs new members

The Macedon Ranges Arts Advisory Committee (MRAAC) is looking to expand its membership with artists and arts workers from across the Shire, for the next twelve months.

The MRAAC advises and assists the Macedon Ranges Shire Council in the promotion and development of art and culture throughout the Shire of the Macedon Ranges, and provides art and cultural advice and guidance to Council.

There are four positions left to fill and priority will be given to artists and arts workers:

- from outside Kyneton and Macedon, and/or
- who work in areas other than theatre and the visual arts.

If you are interested in joining the Committee or need more information please call Dean Michael, Cultural Services Officer on 5422 0319 or via email on deanm@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au.

NOTE TO ALL ADVERTISERS IN THE ROMSEY RAG

Since the closure of the Commonwealth Bank in Romsey, the Romsey Primary School is no longer able to deposit cheques made out to "Romsey Rag". Could all advertisers therefore please make cheques payable to "**Romsey Primary School**" when paying for advertisements in the Romsey Rag?

Thankyou for your co-operation
Margaret Howatson, Advertising / Sponsorship

St. Mary's Catholic Parish

Lancefield-Romsey

Fr. George O'Connor 5429 2130
Sr. Frances (Convent) 5429 1582
St. Mary's School 5429 1359



Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil 7.00p.m. Lancefield
1st, 3rd Sunday 8.00a.m. Lancefield
10.00a.m. Romsey
2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday 8.00a.m. Romsey
10.00a.m. Lancefield

Baptism:

To arrange Baptism please ring the Presbytery on Tuesdays, Thursdays or Fridays.

Prayer Times

Meditation Group: Mondays 8pm St. Mary's Church Romsey
Charismatic Prayer Group: Tuesdays at 11am at 57 Met-
e Drive, Romsey

Christmas Drop In Centre Gathering

The St. Vincent De Paul Conference of Lancefield/Romsey welcomes our Community to the Christmas Drop In Centre at St. Mary's Church Hall, Main Street, Romsey on Thursday, 5th December. There will be Mass at 11am followed by Lunch.

For transport phone Rose 5429 5270.

Op Shop (St. Vincent De Paul)

The Shop will be open on Thursday, 12th December. It will be closed then until late January, 2003.

Great bargains! No article of clothing over \$1. For donations of clothing or furniture phone Rose 5429 5270.

Christmas Dates for your Calendar

Tuesday, 10th December

Irish Sacrament of Reconciliation: St. Mary's Romsey: 7.30pm

Sunday 15th December

Ecumenical Carols By Candlelight: Mechanics Hall Romsey: 7pm

Tuesday, 24th December

Christmas Eve Family Mass: St. Mary's Lancefield: 7.30pm
Midnight Mass: St. Mary's Romsey

Wednesday, 25th December

Christmas Day Mass: St. Mary's Lancefield: 9.00am

St. Mary's Community

Wishes everyone a Blessed Christmas

And a safe, relaxing holiday time

Romsey Beauty Spot ●

Opening Early December

Shop 2
112 Main Street
Romsey
Ph. 5429 5499

For all *your* beauty needs:

- All body and facial waxing
- Manicure and Pedicure
- Make-up – all occasions
- Tinting – Lash and Brow
- Nails – Acrylic and Gels
- Ear Piercing
- Basic and Deluxe Facials
- Hair lightening – Face and Arms
- Massage
- Body Scrubs
- * *Electrolysis (Permanent Hair Removal) - coming in January*

Gift Vouchers Available



GARAGE SALE

163 BARRY STREET
ROMSEY

SATURDAY DECEMBER 7TH

9.00AM – 5.00PM

AND

SUNDAY DECEMBER 8TH

10.00AM – 5.00PM

A CAMPING WE WILL GO!



GUIDES
AUSTRALIA
VICTORIA

Romsey/Lancefield Guides went camping on Friday 15th – Sunday 17th November 2002. We joined with other guides in Black Forest Region to camp at the Rotary Rowallan Sheila Cameron Campsite at Riddells Creek. Black Forest Region guides come from Sunbury, Woodend, Trentham, Gisborne, Riddells Creek, Romsey and Lancefield. The theme of our camp was Outback!

On arriving at camp on Friday the guides put up their tents and met the other guides (approximately 140). At nightfall the guides learnt about the stars and followed a night trail.

Saturday was activity day. The activities included orienteering, initiative course, swimming pool races (with no water), making boats for the Henley on Todd races, making red back spiders, guide gadgets and bushwalking. Saturday night the guides sang the night away with a campfire.

Sunday we held a Guides Own; which is a non-denominational service to say thanks. The guides then began to pack up their belongings and tents. After a sausage sizzle lunch the guides held their Henley on Todd races. Received a lovely Outback badge, said their goodbyes and headed off home. Looking forward to meeting the other guides again in February at our next Region Gathering.

The Platypus Guides (6-11 year olds) meet at 5.00-6.30pm
The Wombat Guides (10-16 year olds) meet at 6.45-8.45pm
Both at the Youth Centre/Mechanics Hall, The Crescent, Lancefield.

For any information regarding Guiding please contact:
Rita Vandervalk 5429 1996 or Carolyn Atkinson 5781 0728

e
*For all your printing and
graphic design needs ...*

**eye catching
graphics**

Mobile: 0419 560 872

Ph/Fax: (03) 5429 5297

email: ecg@patash.com.au

St. John's op shop The Bargain Box.

We wish you a Merry Christmas, and a Happy New Year. We will close our door on Saturday 22nd Dec until late January but keep up your donations please. Make it a safe Holy-day. Till next time - from all the volunteers.
Chris 5428 6526.

Gisborne Secondary College Chaplaincy Committee.

Thank you for reading our items throughout the year and for your support in all the things we do. We look forward to a well earned rest. God bless your Christmas and keep you safe.
Chris, Publicity Officer.

CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT

When – Friday 20th December.
Be at the Lake Park anytime before 7.30pm for 8pm start (have a picnic) for our annual community carols.
Bring family and friends, a chair/rug, mosquito spray, light or candle (some glow sticks will be available for sale).
Wet weather venue – St. John's Church.

Pramercize

Starts 26-11-02

from the Lions Park.



Mothers looking to get fit

Join in and get outdoors while having a chat.

Mother and child in a one hour enjoyable exercise session.

Combined walking and gentle exercises.

When: Tuesdays at 10.00am

Where: Romsey

Interested?

Ring Michelle on 5429 6339

ROMSEY JUNIOR TENNIS

Summer season is well and truly under way and we are thrilled to have developed our junior numbers to a point where we are fielding 4 teams. This is the biggest the club has been for a decade or more.

The section 2 teams comprise Tim and Kieran McNamara, Elisha Ireland, Toby Smithies and Andrew Hudson. This team won the section 3 grand final in last year's summer competition, and has found the tennis much tougher in section 2 during the winter. This team is currently 7th out of 8 teams in the competition at this level.

The section 5 team is Elizabeth Baker, Stephanie Ireland, Daniel and Dean Lavars and Kieran Dockley. This team was almost undefeated in section 7 during the winter and has been upgraded. This team is currently 3rd out of 8 teams.

The section 8 team is Aimee Ireland, Sean McNamara, Stephen Blicblau, Tim Krstic and Cameron Baker. This team again had a very good season, finishing 3rd in section 10 and getting upgraded to section 8. These players will be participating in singles matches for the first time. This team is currently 5th out of 8 teams.

Our 4th team is in section 9 and 10, and the players only play doubles. The players are Chulee Traill, Nicole Wadden, Shannon and Daniel Wright and Kirsty Dockley. This team is currently 6th on the ladder.

Thanks to our very capable tennis coach Brett Rees, who has trained and developed most of the existing players, and encouraged more to join in the fun of tennis. Brett conducts small group lessons after school during summer and on Sunday mornings during winter. Brett can be contacted on 5429 6716.

Throughout daylight saving we will be having a social hit and sausage sizzle on Friday from about 5.00pm. So please come along and join in. Our courts and clubhouses are on Park Lane between the Recreation Centre and the football

c

So if you would like to join us, or just find out more about Saturday morning junior tennis, please call Bev Davis on 5429 5954, Kaye McNamara on 5429 5622 or Elaine Ireland on 5429 5636.



WEEKEND LUNCHES AT CLEVELAND WINERY

NOW OPEN SATURDAYS & SUNDAYS



With the appointment of our permanent Chef, Graham Lockyer, the Carriage House Restaurant at Cleveland Winery is now open for lunch from 12 noon on Saturdays as well as Sundays.

Following a complimentary wine tasting, diners can enjoy vineyard views from the balcony or restaurant while sharing an antipasto or cheese platter, or a delicious lunch from the new à la carte menu.

All entrees are priced under \$12, main courses \$15 to \$23. A number of vegetarian options are available and a special menu will be available for children if notified in advance. Bookings are appreciated on 5429 2414.

Group Dinners

The restaurant is currently not open for dinner, however groups of 10 or more can book a Friday, Saturday or Sunday night three-course dinner at \$45.00 per head plus wines. Our Chef will personally tailor a menu to suit the group's wishes. Notice by 10am on the Wednesday is necessary to allow selection of produce.

Christmas Day Lunch

The CarriageHouse Restaurant will be open for a Christmas Day lunch. The cost for the four courses, a pre-lunch drink and coffee is \$68 per person. A selection of Cleveland wines, matched to the meal by winemaker Keith Brien, will be available by the glass, as well as all Cleveland wines by the bottle. Tables are limited and payment will be required in advance. Reservations 5429 2414.

New Year's Eve Dinner

The CarriageHouse Restaurant will also be the scene for a New Year's Eve Dinner where the emphasis will be on food, wine and conversation. Starting at 8pm with a pre-dinner drink on the balcony, diners will be able to welcome in the New Year at the Winery or finish their dinner in time to be back at their nearby accommodation by midnight. Tables are limited and payment will be required in advance. The cost \$68 for four courses, a pre-dinner drink and coffee. Reservations 5429 2414.

Please note our new contact numbers

Enquiries about the restaurant, functions, weddings & conferences 5429 2414
Enquiries regarding wine sales 5429 1449

Contact: Simone Williamson **Email:** simone@clevelandwinery.com.au

Jesus is the reason for the Season

Living Word Christian Church



We at the "Living Word" Christian Church
Would like to take this opportunity to wish all of the
Romsey Rag readers and residents of our community
a very blessed Christmas and a prosperous New Year.
Also to congratulate and sincerely thank the editors an
workers of the Romsey Rag for the marvelous work that
they are doing for the community.



Special Carols Service

Christmas Day 25/12/02 at 9.00am – 10 am.



Please note there will be no Evening Services over the holidays
or Midweek Life Groups.

Sunday Morning Services will commence at 10.00 am each week.

All welcome.

Lot 7 Mitchell Court, Romsey.

Phone 5429 6327.

For Sale:

Powder pink girl's bed – metal v
decorations and swirls and mattress.
V.G.C. \$120.
Phone: 5429 5743.

For Sale:

1 full size drum kit by Dixon.
\$400 O.N.O.
2 electric guitars with amps.
\$300 each O.N.O.
Phone Jodie on 5429 6117 after
6.30pm.

WANTED TO BUY:

Pokemon red version, Pokemon yel-
low version, Marioland games for
Gameboy colour. I am happy to pay
\$15 each.
Phone Sue on 5429 5144

FOR SALE

Greenfield 28" Model
Ride on mower \$790
2 X Oil skin longline coats to suit
child - fully lined
Size 4 & 6 barley worn \$30 each
16" Girls Bike - Malvern Star \$25
PH: 54 29 6646

ROMSEY SERVICE STATION

88 MAIN STREET

(Opposite the Romsey Hotel)

Ph: 5429 5800

Fuel, oil and lubes

Bikes and bike parts and repairs

Work clothes and boots

Fresh flowers Thursdays – orders taken

Driveway service

OPEN 7 DAYS

Monday – Friday 6am – 6.30 pm

Saturday / Sunday 8am – 5pm

Romsey and District Rostered Playgroup

Enrolments for 2003

Following our successful open days, we now have a
fully appointed committee for 2003, and we are
pleased to advise that Playgroup will resume on
Tuesday February 4th, 2003 at 9.30 am,
with a group of very enthusiastic mums and their chil-
dren. If you have a child turning 3 by April 30th, 2003
there are still some vacancies available. (Younger sib-
lings are welcome under parental supervision).

For all enquiries please contact:

Collette Chapman on 5429 1930

Carol Toy on 5429 5160

YOUR HOME and OUR SKILLS - A WINNING TEAM Communication

At Connally's we believe that any successful home sale de-
pends on accurate, timely information. There's so much riding
on the sale of your home you need to make a sound decisio
For agents committed to keeping you informed on the prog.
in marketing you home, call

Mel Leece-Roberts or John Smith

on

03 5429 6842.



John Smith
0408 704 082



Mel Leece-Roberts
0409 537 235

CONNALLY'S REAL ESTATE
82 Main Street, Romsey 3434
Phone 54 296 842

Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd

ABN44093517714

TEMPERATURE'S RISING ON BIG THERMOMETER

Romsey's push to get its own Community Bank is steadily progressing, with residents subscribing almost half of the pledge level required to go the next step. We can all keep an alert eye on how we're going, with the red paint in the neck of the thermometer on the big white sign in Main St charting our progress towards the \$400,000 target.

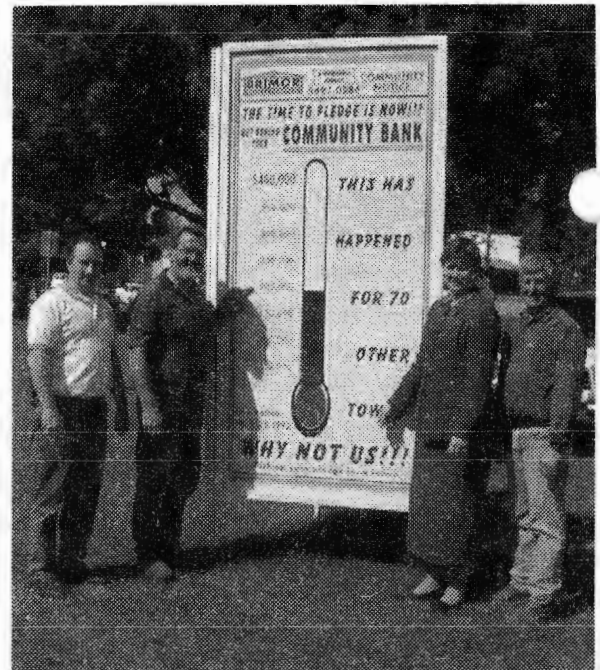
Members of the Romsey Steering Committee – solicitor Maureen Wiltshire, retired school principal Trevor Turnham, earthmoving contractor Doug Newnham, butcher Peter O'Rourke, management consultant and vigneron Bruce Knight, barristers' clerk Ric Howells, estate agent John Woodham, publican John Chisholm and journalist Graeme Walker – are watching the contributions come in with keen interest, and are always ready to answer questions on the project.

Mrs Wiltshire, who chairs the Steering Committee, said local residents and businesses needed to realise that a pledge – to take out shares in a Romsey Community Bank branch of Bendigo Bank – was vital if the project was to succeed. "There are now more than 70 Bendigo Bank Community Bank branches around Australia, all of them owned by people in their towns and suburbs who took out a pledge and bought shares," she said. "What we're doing with Romsey is nothing new or nothing different to what Lancefield and the other communities which have their own Bank have already done. Having our own Community Bank means we can 'bank-proof' Romsey, and ensure that we will always have a Bank branch in our town. Pledge forms have been mailed to all Romsey households, and are available at a number of shops and

outlets around the town. I urge people to make a pledge without delay, which will enable us to get our Bank up and running as soon as possible."

Pledge boxes and forms are available at the Romsey newsagency, bakery, IGA supermarket, southside service station, butchery and The Clay coffee shop. In Lancefield, there's a box at the Community Bank at 20B High St., or pledges can be mailed to the Bank at this address.

People wanting more information on the Bank project can ring Trevor Turnham on 5429 5413, Maureen Wiltshire (5429 5292) or Graeme Walker (9370 1802).



GRASS SLASHING

*PREPARE FOR THE FIRE DANGER PERIOD



*10 ft Heavy duty slasher
100 HP tractor
Large or small blocks
Clean up and
rubbish removal.*

Phone Rick Selleck – Lancefield – 5429 1459
Mobile 0428 505 098



R.A.C.V. ★★★★★ RATED

IN THE
MACEDON RANGES
100 Crooked Road
Romsey, 3434.

Ph. (03) 5429 5901
Mobile: 0413 470 221

Kym & Ray Raverty

The Rag In Retro

The December 2002 edition of the Romsey Rag is also our 200th edition! Who would have thought that we would still be going strong, bigger and brighter than ever, way back in August 1984 when the first ever Rag was published?

The Rag has seen a lot of changes over the 18 years of its history. The first edition was just four and a half A4 sheets, double sided, with no advertisements and no graphics. The circulation was 500 copies. By 1985 advertisements began to appear, and the number of pages varied from month to month depending on the amount of copy submitted. Over the next few months the front cover was printed on a different colour – pink, yellow, white, blue and green. In February 1987 the front cover became consistently green and the circulation was 625 copies. In October 1987 the beautiful Old English masthead appeared, and continued until the very late 1990's. In November 1987 - a small line drawing to accompany an advertisement. This trend grew, and in April 1990 the first separate "Trade and Business Directory" appeared. Circulation steadily increased over the years as Romsey's population grew, reaching 1000 copies in September 1993, incidentally, the 100th edition of the Rag. By March 1997 1100 copies were produced, and this year we reached a monthly production rate of 1550 copies. Photos appeared for the first time in the June 1999 edition – number 161, and have been used ever since to add interest and visual appeal to our stories.

Throughout the history of the Rag we have been able to track issues, events and projects important to our community. Projects like the Ambulance Station, Centennial Track, the building of the new school and the kindergarten and Infant and Maternal Welfare Centre, are but a few examples. We have shared the optimism, the hopes and the frustrations and the setbacks of the individuals and committees who worked tirelessly to achieve these vital goals. In the July '85 edition we learned of plans to rebuild the school on its old site, and in subsequent years we see glimpses of the efforts, hopes and disappointments of the committee which ultimately triumphed with the building of the new school. In 1991 the tendering for planning and construction of the new school was announced, with the hope that it would be ready for occupation by term 3, 1992. In October 1993 the Junior School Council conducted tours of the new school, but it wasn't until January 1994 that classes commenced there. Since then we have kept abreast of major improvements to the school, including the construction of the Performing Arts Complex, and significant developments of playgrounds, gardens and other facilities. This is but one example of how the Rag has kept us abreast of community developments.

Over the years the Rag attracted a number of regular correspondents. Syd Wheller, for many years, submitted detailed and well-researched articles on gardening. The Romsey Rambler, later revealed to be clergyman Adrian Peglar, wrote a regular, sometimes provocative, commentary on local events and life. He covered a wide range of topics including the behaviour of youth, local planning and development issues and policy, traffic in the town, litter, church matters, dogs, compulsory voting and the list goes on. Local police officers made regular contributions for a period of time, as did solicitor Maureen Wiltshire. There have been other regular, and some not so regular correspondents, and shire councillors have been very reliable in their contributions. Sporting and service clubs and churches too numerous to mention have also been faithful contributors to the Rag, and continue to contribute to this day.

Through the Rag we have shared the successes of groups

and individuals in our area. Sporting and academic achievements, completed community projects and support of individuals in need have all been recognised through articles in the Rag. The Rag has paid tribute to local identities whose passing has left a gap in our community over the years. It is very interesting, when one looks at articles over a period of time, to realise that the same names appear in connection with many of the voluntary community organisations to be found in the town, such as the CFA, the CFA Ladies Auxiliary, the Ambulance Committee, the Centennial Track Committee, the various sporting club committees, the churches, the Red Cross, the CWA and so on. Our community owes a huge debt of gratitude to these people who keep things purring along, mostly without acknowledgement.

The issues and events brought to light in the Rag over the years have been many and varied. The Rag chronicles changes in our community (apart from those mentioned already) such as the changes to the speed limits in town, land subdivision and development in and around Romsey, the forming of the Safety House Committee (and its demise), the amalgamation of councils, the establishment of the new fire station, the closure of the Commonwealth Bank; and issues that remain unresolved such as connection to natural gas.

Romsey Primary School and other local schools including Bolinda, Lancefield, St Mary's and Heskett, have been reliable contributors to the Rag. In particular we have been able to follow the development and growth of programs at schools brought about not only by change of Education Department policy over the years, but also because of the dedication, the striving for excellence and the professionalism of the staff at the schools.

Sadly, too, we can follow the rise and fall of some of the local businesses in our community through the Rag, particularly from the advertisements. Who can remember Cruise In, Miss Millie's Mercantile, the Toy shop, Road Board Market and Muffinry, Roseallan Tearooms, Corner Crafts, The Strawberry Patch, Little Poppet, the Book Exchange, to name a few? It prompts one to ask – what happened?

What is the future of the Rag? It would seem that its future is assured, judging from the continued support it receives from its sponsors and advertisers. But it would be great to see many, many more contributions from members of the community who want to spread the word about matters important to them, their friends and families, and the organisations they belong to. In these rather difficult times of world politics we need to be using the Romsey Rag to promote cohesion and harmony and a sense of pride in our community. One does realise, however, that from a global perspective, not much has been achieved since this article was published in the December 1986 edition, commemorating the Year of Peace: *In response to the question,*

If you were given a chance how would you create peace in the world? Aaron Dalton, then in grade 5, wrote:

"I would get all the leaders together and form peace around the world. If a leader went against it I would elect another and if he tried to start a war he would be punished. We would put all the nuclear bombs in a rocket and blast them up in space so there would be peace throughout the world. There would be no starving countries and no terrorists. There would be no drugs and people who killed would be sent to an island for the rest of their lives."

When asked for his thoughts on the current state of the Rag, inaugural editor Trevor Turnham said he believed the Rag continued to meet its original three primary aims:

- To keep residents informed about their own community (particularly with a large and increasing population of commuters in the district);
- To provide a vehicle for accurate reporting of events that may not otherwise get coverage in other local press, and
- To provide a regular interface between the school and the community.

In conclusion Trevor offered his congratulations to the current editorial committee for the great improvements in quality of production and presentation of the Rag achieved in recent times.

And finally, it would be unfair to close without mentioning

the people whose hard work has brought the Rag to us every month for 200 editions. In the early days, without the benefit of computers, digital technology and high volume printing machines, the Rag was produced using typewriters, spirit printers and stencils (and then photocopiers), and was, and remains a hand collated paper. The editing, typing, printing, collation and until recently delivery of the Rag has been achieved all this time thanks to the efforts of many very willing, enthusiastic and dedicated volunteers. It would be impossible to mention everyone by name – and unfair to attempt to do so in the knowledge that some people would be left out. So – you all know who you are. Pat yourselves on the back, take a bow and thank you all so much!



The Anglican Parish
of
Lancefield
and
Romsey



CHRISTMAS RECESS

Evening services and Wednesday services in recess during January 2003. Commencing again in February 2003.

Lancefield & Romsey Guilds will hold a combined CHRISTMAS LUNCHEON On Thursday 12th December 11.30 am in Christ Church Hall, Lancefield - ALL WELCOME.

Anglican Men's Society are having a Carols & Supper Break up on Thursday 12th December at 8.00pm.

Starting at "Glenryse" Jan & Laurie Thomson's home, Woodend Road, Romsey for Soup and Sandwiches then to Rev Tom & Doreen Morgan's home at 5 Jinker Way, Romsey for Dessert and Coffee. - ALL WELCOME

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve - 24th December

Christingle Childrens Service at St Paul's ROMSEY 7.00PM

Christmas Eve Service at St Paul's ROMSEY 11.30PM

Christmas Day - 25th December

Christmas Day Service at Christ Church LANCEFIELD at 9.00am

RAFFLE RESULTS

1st Prize (Painting) - J Mitchell

2nd Prize (Personal Organizer) - F Carter

SEWING DESIGN

Dressmaking, Alterations & Repairs

In Romsey Area

20 years experience

Swimwear and Leotards

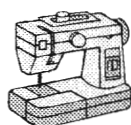
Made to Measure

Own Choice of Design

Ring Teresa

5429 6635

0414 290 068



BUNGAWITTA
ROMSEY
PLAYGROUP INC
Cnr 98 Main Street &
Palmer Street,
Romsey



Tuesday 10.00am - 12.30pm
Wednesday 10.30am - 12.30pm
Thursday 10.00am - 12.30pm
Friday 10.00am - 12.30pm
(if sufficient interest)

Are you expecting a child, have a newborn or children up to the age of 5? Does your child need other children to play with?

A great way for children to play together
A great way to meet parents and make new friends

Come and meet an all **new Committee and members** over a coffee and a chat. The 2002 season has already commenced.

Bring a snack for your child for morning tea

For more information please call:

Kitty 54 29 6307

Renee 54 29 6692

RETAIN A WALL

ASK FOR DARREN

- *FREE MEASURE & QUOTE
- *A-GRADE RED GUM SLEEPERS
- *FAX: (03) 5429 6317
- *MOBILE: 0402 065 857

ABN: 77 623 971 858

Water Saving Ideas for House and Garden

By Kerri Mewett

- Use the rinse water from the washing machine on the garden (use a low or no phosphate detergent)
- Bath the kids together, put the bath water into the washing machine.
- Only use the washing machine and the dishwasher with a full load.
- Hand wash clothing in a bucket.
- Flush the toilet less.
- Clean teeth using a cup of water for rinsing.
- Put a basin in the sink to collect rinse water and tip on pot plants.
- Mow the lawn at the highest setting – the longer the grass, the larger the root system and the longer the grass will cope with dryness.
- Choose a small area of lawn to try and maintain (eg. Near the front door) and let the rest go.
- Deep watering of lawn encourages deeper root growth and more tolerance of dry conditions.
- Mulch, mulch and more mulch.
- Mulch around trees and shrubs within lawns. This reduces the competition from grass. Make a circle 1 metre across keeping mulch away from the trunk.
- Mulch garden beds, vegetable patches etc. Never use straight grass cuttings or sawdust. Lancefield Tip sells mulch or source stable straw with manure.
- Water plants deeply once a week or fortnight rather than daily sprinkling. Deep watering encourages deep root systems which cope better with dryness.
- Change your plant choice. Steer away from northern hemisphere style plants and try mediterranean plants better suited to dry conditions. Avoid annuals in times of drought.
- Group plants with similar water requirements.
- Plant indigenous plants which are best suited to our local weather conditions. Once established they require little or no watering.

Indigenous Plant Profile

By Kerri Mowett – Deep Creek Landcare Group

Indigenous plants, or in other words plants which are native to our area, are best suited to our local soil types and weather conditions. Indigenous plants have adapted to rely on natural rainfall and so, once established, additional watering is not required.

Consider using indigenous plants in your garden or on your property.

Acacia verticillata – Prickly Moses

Prickly Moses varies in size from 2 – 6 metres in height with a spread of 3 – 5 metres, depending on soil types and available water. It naturally grows in most forests, scrub and forest foothills. It can tolerate periods of waterlogging. Prickly Moses has spiky, needle-like green foliage which provides an excellent refuge and nesting site for small birds. Flowers of yellowspikes occur from June to December. Prune young plants to encourage denser growth and prune once a year if in the garden environment. Plant in clumps of 3, 5, etc to create a cat-proof haven for small birds. The spiky foliage provides a contrast within the garden setting. In my Romsey garden Prickly Moses has grown to nearly 2 metres in 8 months with only a couple of waterings over summer to help establishment. A good choice for a spiky hedge.

Eucalyptus ovata - Swamp gum.

Swamp gums vary in size from 8 – 25 metres in height with an 8 – 20 metre canopy. It grows on swampy flats and poorly drained slopes and hollows and on foothills (to 800m). It is often found growing amongst swamp paper-barks, manna gum and messmate. The swamp gum is a fast growing tree which provides useful shade for swampy areas and creek banks. Foliage is dark green and shiny and flowers are creamy-white, occurring between March and November. Swamp gums shed long strips of bark in summer and autumn, revealing new smooth grey bark. Swamp gums are a useful and valuable tree for moist areas and will tolerate winter waterlogging and summer dryness. The leaves are eaten by koalas.

References:

Flora of Melbourne (1991) : Society of Growing Australian Plants Maroondah Inc.

Native Trees and Shrubs of South-Eastern Australia, Leon Costerman (1981) ; Weldon Publishing. ISBN 0947116761

CENTRAL RANGES NATURAL THERAPIES

6 Pohlman Street, Romsey, 3434
Phone : 54296 608 Mobile: 0412 628 029
(Ring for appointment)

Massage - Christine Ryan

Therapeutic (Relaxation), Remedial, Workcover, incorporating Eastern & Western Methods. Health Insurance Rebates Available.

Also available Tuesday & Thursday Evenings....

Reiki and Seichim – Mary Stevens

Reiki and Seichim are forms of cosmic energy healing. Reiki is Japanese and Seichim is Egyptian. These methods help your body to heal itself by opening up your Chakras and channelling universal energy. Excellent for not only physical ailments but also for stress related or emotional issues.

Meditation, Egyptian Tarot, Ring and Jewellery Readings & Essential Oils also available.

WATER QUALITY CONTROL

WATER - We all need it!!
QUALITY- Concerned about the **Quality** of your water?
CONTROL - Now you can **Control** how **PURE** your water is with a

Reverse Osmosis Filtration System
for more information:

PHONE: 54 29 6088 or Mobile: 0409 254 069

The Romsey Rag Business & Trade Directory

For advertising information please ring Margaret Howatson 5429 5254 / 5429 5724



Compaccounting at Romsey

MYOB Certified Consultant Internet & e-mail installation
Hardware Upgrades Modems & Backup drives
Systems design and improvements

Brian & Judy Carne at Compaccounting
MYOB Consultants in the Macedon Ranges since 1991

10 Garden Place Romsey
Phone: 5429 5337 Fax: 5429 6152

ROMSEY AUTO ELECTRICAL

STREET ROD & CUSTOM REWIRING

MOBILE
SERVICE

Cars
Trucks
Farm Machinery

Nail & Bry Davis
Mobile: 0419 933 395

c/o
Alternators
Starters

All
Electrical
Repairs



A/H: (03) 5429 5954



Active Office Solutions

For all your administrative needs!

John & Joanne Tucker

egan Drive,
Romsey, Vic 3434

Phone: (03)5429 5113
0408 368 014

Fax: (03) 5429 5660

E-Mail: sales@activeoffice.com.au

- Computer sales & service
- Hardware & software installation
- Database design
- Spreadsheet design
- Word processing
- Web page design
- Windows & Office training
- Data analysis
- Data entry
- Report presentation
- Document scanning
- Digital photography

Dr Susannah T Hawke

BVSc MRCVS MACVSc
Member Aust. Vet. Chiropractic Assoc.



Equine Rehabilitation and Chiropractic

46 Crooked Road,
PO Box 325
Romsey 3434
Email: brodiefarm@iprimus.com.au

Mob: 0412 687 053
Tel: (03) 5429 5478
Fax: (03) 5429 5278



Jenny Sinclair School of Dance

Qualified and registered CSTD Dance Teacher.
Classical Ballet, Tapping and Jazz Dance.
Available to all ages and standards.
One class covers all styles of dance.
Very reasonable rates.
Optional exams and no competitions.
End of year concert for all students

Phone: (03) 5429 5507 Mobile: 0412 177 877

ROMSEY TAXI SERVICE



Operating 24 hr Service for your convenience
All Major Credit Cards Taken

(03) 5429 5823
Mobile 0412 676 552

Tickatwarra Framing Gallery

CUSTOM FRAMING

Josephine Francis

72 Main Street
Romsey Vic 3434

Phone 54 29 5588

LANCEFIELD – ROMSEY LIONS CLUB INC.

Sunday Market – Resumes in February

Plenty of bargains – pottery, crafts, plants, clothing, homemade cakes and preserves etc.
If you wish to hire a stall or gain further information – contact Alan Bailey 0438 414 245

The Romsey Rag Business & Trade Directory

For advertising information please ring Margaret Howatson 5429 5254 / 5429 5724

CORNING & SON'S DIPLOMATRY PTY LTD

- * Specialising in all types of recover and repair work
- * Free pick-up and delivery
- * All work guaranteed

PH:(03)54 295 712

Lot 1, Park Lane Romsey, 3434

Fax: (03) 54 296 320

PLASTER & INSULATION

SUPPLIES

Supply and Install
Builders and Owner-builders
Free Quotes

SAM HOWATSON – Consultant

ENDEAVOUR PLASTER –

SUNBURY

Phone: 9740 9300

Mobile: 0408 668 777

Fax: 9744 4602



Beryl's Tailoring

DRESSMAKING, ALTERATIONS
BRIDAL, EVENING AND DAY WEAR
LADIES AND MEN'S REPAIRS.

Beryl Lewis-Bachelor

Qualified Dressmaker (03) 5427 0568

NEWHAM 3442

0418 510 179

email: berylfb@netcon.net.au

ROMSEY BOBCAT HIRE



- *Post Holes
- *Site Levels
- *Driveways
- *Site Cleans

Jason Smith

0407 041 434

P.O. Box 205, Romsey 3434

SLASHEZ PTY. LTD.

A.B.N. 41 764 051 177

Grass Slashing
Large Area Mowing
Lawn Mowing

Tractors & Slashers
Outfront Mower
Ride-on Mower
Brushcutters

Ian & Rhonda Wilkins

18 Main Road,
Romsey 3434 Vic.

Phone/Fax: (03) 5429 5842
Mobile: 0407 865 586

LANCEFIELD HOME & RURAL

34 High Street, Lancefield
Ph: 54291 600 a/h 54291 471

BEDDING
BASKETS
FURNITURE
HEATERS

AND THERE'S MORE.....
AT YOUR LOCAL FAMILY STORE!

- *FREE DELIVERY
- *GOOD PRICES
- *FRIENDLY SERVICE

HERITAGE HARDSCAPES

CONCRETING

MICK BOMBARDIER
MANAGER

Phone (03) 5429 1893
Mobile: 0412 547 152

The Romsey Rag Business & Trade Directory

For advertising information please ring Margaret Howatson 5429 5254 / 5429 5724

CONTACT
SCOTT ON
0419891406

PH/FAX
03 54291272
A/H

SLR. PLUMBING & DRAINAGE

SEWER CONNECTIONS.
SEPTIC + TREATMENT PLANTS.
OWNER BUILDERS . ALL DOMESTIC PLUMBING .
DRAINAGE & SEWER SPECIALIST.
5 ton excavator and tipper for hire

35 Golfhouse Lane Lancefield 3435 LIC No 39880

ROMSEY MECHANICAL SERVICES

All mechanical repairs Disc Machining
Farm Machinery Licensed Vehicle Tester
Gas Tuning & Fitting Brakes & F/end Work
Air Conditioning Servicing

Rudy Cordina
No.3 Mitchell Crt. Romsey

Phone 54 296 010
Fax: 54 296 618

FENCING CONTRACTORS

Contact:
John or Philip

- Colorbond
- Pool Style
- Metal Panel
- Mesh Panel
- Hand Rails

Mobile: 0407 546 867
or 0408 147 558

Ph/Fax (03) 5429 1672

G T CABINETS

Specialising in: Timber & Vinyl
Kitchens • Vanities • Wall Units etc

ph. Graeme
54295875 or 0409 931075
Fax: 54295747

FROST'S SAWMILL

Timber & Building Supplies
Sunbury-Lancefield Road

Monegetta

Suppliers of quality building materials to builders and dypersons at trade prices.
Stumps *Bearers *Joists
*Flooring *Plates *Studs
*Windows *Trusses *Roofing
*Doors *Lining *Oregon
*Treated Pine Sawn *Treated Pine Sleepers *Farm Fence
*Gates *Paling Fence *Pickets
*Poly Pipe & Fittings
*Buildings Hardware *and much more!

BY THE PIECE OR BY THE PACK - BUY DIRECT AND SAVE!!!

Open Mon-Fri 8am-5pm
Sat 8.30am-2.30pm
Phone (03) 54285156
Fax (03) 5428 5144

ROMSEY AUTO SALES

L.M.C.T. 9146



Quality Used Cars

(03) 5429 5976

Peter Newell
0418 587 247

SHOP 1, 33 MAIN RD ROMSEY 3434

ROMSEY AUTO CARE



For all your
Mechanical Repairs,
Servicing and
Gas Conversions

(03) 5429 5976

Peter Newell
Shop 1, 33 Main Rd Romsey 3434

The Romsey Rag Business & Trade Directory

For advertising information please ring Margaret Howatson 5429 5254 / 5429 5724

Pretty & Practical



Specializing in Giftware and Antiques.

Phone Mia or Greg on: 5429 6080

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

GISBORNE CLEANING SERVICE

Head Office: Mollison St Malmsbury 3446

GORDON MUNRO Prop...

Carpet & Furniture Steam Cleaning

Home, Office & Commercial Cleaning

Heating Duct Cleaning

Client Satisfaction is our guarantee

We only use natural cleaning products

PHONE: (03) 5423 2555 or 0418 509 648

FAX: (03) 5423 2883

TRAVEL TOWER HIRE

no job to large or to small

* tree lopping * tree removal

* wood chipper * storm damage work

fully insured, 12 yrs experience

for free quote ring, Les....

0417 107 522



MACEDON RANGES MEAT SPECIALIST

◆ Quality Assured ◆

◆ Bulk Meat ◆

◆ Farmer's Stock ◆

Shop 3
112 Main Street
Romsey 3434

Phone (03) 5429 5240



Phone 5429 5262

118 Main St. Romsey

Hours of Opening:

Wednesday to Saturday

4.00pm onwards

Wednesday is Kebab Night

Bookings advisable on Friday and Saturday nights. Please phone us to ensure a table (or the couches!)

CENTRAL TREE CARE

Professional Tree Service

BRADLEY NUTTALL

Adv. Cert. of Arboriculture

Travel Tower
Wood Chipper
Tree Climbing
Tip Truck

18 Palmer Street,
Romsey, 3434

Phone: (03) 5429 5549
Mobile: 0409 023 282



NEWNHAM ELECTRICAL SERVICE

ALL TYPES OF ELECTRICAL WORK

R.E.C. 11549

A Grade
Contact Darren

NO OBLIGATION FREE QUOTES

Mobile: 0408 511 439

A/Hrs (054) 296 269

Maureen J. Wiltshire B.A. LL.B.

Dip. Family law
Barrister and Solicitor

Proprietor of the firm of
James Kelleher
75 Main Street
Romsey, Vic. 3434

Tel: (03) 54 295 292
Fax: (03) 54 295 726

To all local organisations wishing to hold a stall within the shopping centre complex - please telephone 9846 7225 to make a booking, as only one stall on any one day is allowed.

To all advertisers in the Romsey Rag Trade Directory:

If you require alterations to your advertisement please provide a new business card with your new details. Business cards that have been scanned in to this directory cannot be altered by the compilers of this paper.

Thankyou.

News from the Romsey Park

With the hot weather comes the threat of fire and snakes. With this in mind, the Committee of Management has been having regular working bees in the park to dispose of the dry undergrowth, tree limbs that have come down etc. Unfortunately there are some people who think that the park is a dumping ground for their own garden refuse and consequently, as fast as we clear the area, they dump more rubbish and garden waste. We ask these residents to remember that the houses along White Avenue could be at serious risk if a fire broke out because of this rubbish, not to mention the risk of snakes. It is illegal to dump rubbish on Crown land and offenders can be prosecuted.

There is also a problem with some White Avenue residents driving their cars through the park as a short cut through to the main road. This action puts golfers,

walkers and children playing, etc at great risk and contravenes the regulations of the park.

It has been noticed that children are building "cubby houses & fortresses" in and under the pine trees. Some have even dug hollows in the ground and put corrugated iron on the top of the hollow and covered the iron with earth and tree branches. This is extremely hazardous and we ask parents to make sure their children are not at risk from this potentially dangerous play.

The Romsey Park is for the enjoyment and recreation use of the community of Romsey and it is disappointing to see that a few irresponsible people are spoiling the park for the majority of users.

The Committee of Management.
Romsey Public Recreation Reserve.



HAVING VISITORS OVER THE FESTIVE SEASON? HERE'S A LIST OF ROMSEY EATERIES.....

Clay Craft & Coffee Shop
Tuesday to Sunday 9am-4pm
54295058

Cope Williams Winery
Sat/Sun Luncheon/Sat Evening Dinner
54295 428

Country Garden Chinese
Wednesday to Monday Lunch & Dinner
54295 252

Martin's Wine Bar
Thursday to Saturday 4pm onwards
54295 262

Rendezvous Eat In 'n' Take Away
Open Tuesdays to Sunday
54296 033

Romsey Hotel
Open 7 Days Lunch & Dinner
54295 260

Romsey Pizza
Open every day except Tuesday
54295 870

Sam's Café
Open 7 Days
54295 420

Macedon Ranges Health Care

Romsey Medical Centre

99 Main Street, Romsey, 3434
Phone: 5429 5254 Fax: 5429 6147
Email: doctors@bigpond.com



Clinic Hours and Appointments:

Monday to Friday	9.00am to 8.00pm
Saturdays	9.00am to 5.00pm
Sundays	10.00am to 1.00pm

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

- Insurance, pre-employment or license examinations
- Annual reviews or checkups
- 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.

GARDEN UNITY

At One With Nature

- | | |
|--------------|------------------|
| -Landscaping | -Stone walls |
| -Gardening | -Paving |
| -Design and | -Retaining walls |
| -Maintenance | -Stone edging |

Shaun Hunter

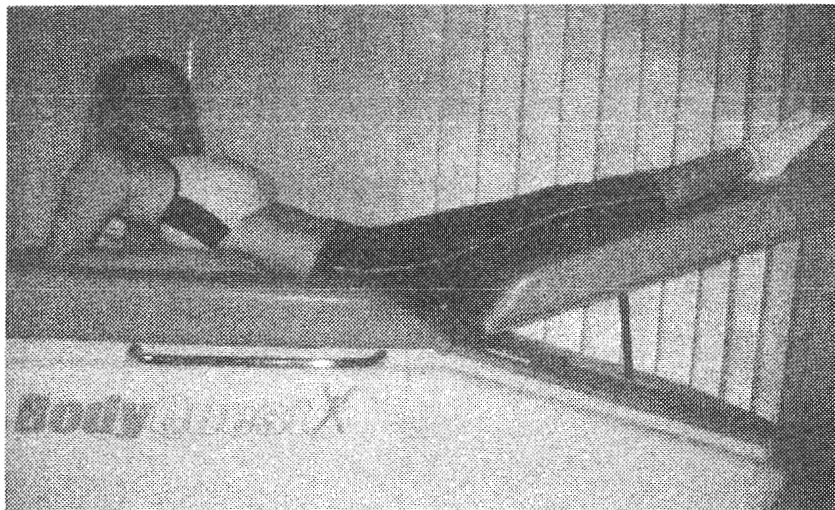
0428 327 507

Lose those inches for Summer

Relax and feel your body tone on our passive
exercise machines.

For a more slender shape with
no sweat

1st session only \$6



Stressed? Need to relax?
Come along and have a therapeutic massage

Ezy-Az Figure Toning & Relaxation Centre

Shop 4, 112 Main street
Romsey

Phone 5429 5656



Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Presents



“Carols By Candlelight”

22/12/02

ROMSEY LIONS PARK (Beside 5 Mile Creek)

7:15pm

FREE sausage sizzle

Photos of children dressed as Nativity characters (Cost \$1.00)

7:45pm

Fun & games for the whole family
&

FREE lollies for kids

8:45pm

Carols with FREE song sheets & candles

For further information please contact Marilyn
on 5429 5381 or Elsie on 5429 6327

(Co-sponsored by the Living Word Christian Church)

ROMSEY TOY LIBRARY

The Romsey Toy Library will close on Tues-
day December 17th for the Christmas

holidays and re-open on

Saturday February 1st 2003.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays from
the Romsey Toy Library

DOG CLIPPING
& GROOMING

Pauline Freeman

5429 6918

0419 513 201

Santa’s Super Stocking Stuffers!!

Time running out to get all those presents for family & friends? Let the ladies of the Mitchell Mobile Library make your day, week and Christmas with the following GREAT suggestions!

Fiction

Plain Truth - Jodi Picoult

Dead Famous - Ben Elton

Open Season - Linda Howard

Café Scheherazade - Arnold Zabel

Non-fiction

Billy - Pamela Stephenson

Pint-sized Ireland - Evan McHugh

The Road to McCarthy - Pete McCarthy

Love, Greg & Lauren - Greg Manning

Kid’s from toddlers to teens

Olga the Brolga - Rod Clement

The Perfect pet - Carol Chataway

“Let’s get a pup!” - Bob Graham

Ella Enchanted - Gail Carson Levine

Diary of a wombat - Jackie French

Artemis Fowl - Eoin Colfer

Finding Grace - Alyssa Brugman

The Spangled Drongo - Steven Herrick

Chain of Hearts - Maureen McCarthy

Enjoy!!

Have a happy and safe Christmas and we look forward to seeing you sometime during the summer holidays - after all that’s what holidays should be for - veging with a great little book.

Don’t forget that the truck needs a holiday too and the service will close down for the Christmas/New Year week from 22 Dec - 1Jan inclusive.

Merry Christmas from all of us - Yvonne, Kahli, Sue, Katherine, Pauline, Leonie, Helen, Natalie & Jenny.

**St Vincent de Paul
Op Shop**

Open every Thursday at
The G.F. Shehan Memorial Stall
Between 10.30 am and 12.30pm
Come along and get a bargain,
No article of clothing over \$1.00!

From Your Councillor, Alice Aird

Hullo everyone! It's been a full month again and here we are at the last issue of the Mercury for the year. Something's got to be done about the rate at which our years are disappearing! It's just not possible that it's December is it? Seriously, it seems that the more busy we get the faster time goes, so perhaps we DO need to find a way to be less busy and have more time to get things done!! Hmmm.

As my family's two minutes of fame on Channel 9's "Getaway" program showed, having WWOOFERS (**Willing Workers on Organic Farms**) is a very useful and enjoyable addition to our rural life. Having visitors from many countries expands all our horizons and the contribution wwoofers make to the upkeep of our place, in exchange for their board, is fantastic. What's ordinary and even boring for us is fascinating for them, so everyone wins. Good for the Shire too, as they help with land management and things like weed removal. To find out more call WWOOF on 5155 0218 or go to www.wwoof.com.au on the web.

The Drought

The dry goes on. Some good news here in one respect, with Macedon Ranges being 'officially' declared as a drought area. This does give farmers the possibility of being eligible for up to \$20,000 in drought relief. Bruce tells me that from his aerial photography work you can see a narrow band of green from Trentham to Lancefield so Mt William farmers have a little more reserve than some parts of the region. Anyone affected by the drought can ring the Statewide Drought Response Network on 13 61 86. This number links to Dept of Natural Resources and Environment support as well as providing personal referral to support services like Centrelink and Lifeline if needed. I rang this line and found knowledgeable and individual support available to find solutions to drought related problems. The Shire is coordinating a meeting with DNRE, neighbouring shires and water authorities to focus on stock emergency water supply and other technical matters related to the drought. Watch the Shire Newspaper in the local papers for updates.

Quarry Trucks

The experience of the trucks varies a lot with location and outlook. In general, the impact is greater on quieter rural roads than in the town it seems. Generally the drivers are staying within the agreed speed limits but we are passing on reports of breaches. Alternatives are being examined still to reduce impact in specific locations. Please let me or Nick Haslinghouse at the Romsey service centre know if you have a particular problem.

GAS is coming to Romsey! And getting closer to Lancefield! There is an absolute commitment from the Shire to get gas to all our towns. Realistically, it must happen in stages and this first announcement about Woodend, Gisborne and Romsey is most welcome. Lots of people are claiming credit for this, but I for one would like to acknowl-

edge the persistent work of our current Mayor, Geoff Neill, on this issue over many years. Although Geoff is very pro Romsey, he is a former Romsey Shire councillor and (care about Lancefield (and the whole Shire) as well and has joined me in pushing for gas for Lancefield too. Even though the pipeline is so near Lancefield, there is a huge cost (millions!!) for each pressure reduction valve and therefore the success of the first stage will set the scene for adding in towns like Lancefield. So, when it comes, the more people in Romsey switch to gas for heating and cooking the better! Better for the environment than electricity too.

The **Farm Safe Forum** at Lancefield Park was a great initiative by the CFA. It brought together many services including police, ambulance, WorkCover and although the attendance was low, there is commitment to keep doing it and determination to get more people along. Those who attended got a lot out of it and hopefully will tell their friends to come next year. The statistics about injury and death on farms are startling and we need to take these messages about prevention seriously.

If you are interested to give your views on the **Draft Rating Strategy**, the **Rural Zone Amendment to the planning scheme**, and the **General Local Law No. 8**, all of which are out for public exhibition. Call in at the Romsey Service Centre to read or obtain a copy. A great deal of innovative work has been done on all these strategies and we really want feedback from the community. Copies of the recently adopted Natural Environment Strategy are also available. This is a fine document which has reached a much higher level through further officer work. This further work was prompted by response to the draft version from many people, from both within and beyond Macedon Ranges. Many local people's suggestions were adopted and included. This is what public exhibition is for – to allow the creativity and expertise of our community and other interested parties to increase the quality of our plans and strategies – and it works. Please give your community the benefit of your unique perspective.

Merry Christmas to everyone and may you have a peaceful and happy holiday period. May 2003 start well for you.

Till next time,
Councillor Alice
Phone/Fax 5427 0156

Thankyou

To everyone who has helped this year in any way in cleaning up the creek – with your effort, bringing rakes and equipment, loan of tractors etc, and CFA expertise. Thank you for making the time.

Five Mile Creek is so different now to what it was last Christmas. We hope you have the time to go for a walk and enjoy it this Christmas.

*Cr. Geoff Neil, Cr. Alice Aird,
& Sue Kirkegard for Five Mile Ck Assoc'n.*

Romsey Uniting Church
Pohlman Street



Minister: Rev Alan Williams
25 William Street
Ph/Fax: 5429 5351
Romsey 3434
mobile: 0408 380 962

What's News

It's been a roller-coaster year. We've had the excitement of the Winter Olympics and the Commonwealth Games. There's been the tragedy in Bali, bushfires and drought. And after much uncertainty about timing, we eventually went to the polls to elect a new state parliament.

In many ways, the ups and downs of this year are simply a reflection of life. Personally, things don't stay the same for very long. Each week (or day) there are highlights and low points. That this is carried into wider society and the world should not be surprising.

Against this tumultuous backdrop we now prepare for Christmas. And even Christmas evokes a range of emotion.

For some, Christmas will be somber, a reminder of the death of a loved one, or some other form of separation. For others, Christmas will be a time for reflection, to take stock of all that has happened and is continuing to affect us. For others, Christmas will be a time of celebration and joy, a bright spot in the struggles of life to be savoured whilst it lasts.

When life is tough, I find it helpful to be around children at Christmas. The unrestrained joy and enthusiasm for even the smallest gift is a message for us all. It doesn't take much to make a difference in the lives of others, and ourselves. A small act of generosity can have a disproportionate impact. And this joyful difference gives hope to both the recipient and the giver at this time of uncertainty and worry.

In churches throughout the world this Christmas we will be remembering a small, simple event that we believe gives the world hope. It is the birth of a baby in a town in Israel to a teenage mother over 2000 years ago. In that birth, we believe that God has come to us, giving us an example to strive for, and a hope to cling to, in all things. If you're feeling a bit overwhelmed by life, why not stop into a church sometime this Christmas and be reminded that someone does care for you. *Rev Alan Williams*

On behalf of the Romsey Uniting Church, I wish everyone a happy and safe Christmas, and a joyous, hopeful New Year.

What's On

- 1 Dec 9:00am Worship and Sunday School, including Holy Communion.
- 5 Dec 3:30-5:00pm Advent Workshop at the church for primary and pre-school aged children. As this is our last session, parents are invited to join us afterwards for a sausage sizzle, with a gold coin donation appreciated.
- 8 Dec 9:00am Worship and Sunday School.
- 15 Dec 9:00am Sunday School presentation and Christmas break-up.
7:00pm Combined Churches Christmas Carols at the Romsey Mechanics' Hall.
- 22 Dec 9:00am Worship, with creche available for pre-school children.
- 24 Dec 7:00pm Christmas Eve service.
- 25 Dec 9:30am Christmas Day service at Lancefield.
- 29 Dec 9:30am Worship at Lancefield, with creche available for pre-school children.
- 5 Jan 9:30am Worship, including Holy Communion. Creche will be available for pre-school children.
- 12 Jan 9:30am Worship, with creche at Lancefield.
- 19 Jan 9:30am Worship, with creche.
- 26 Jan 9:00am Worship, with creche.
- 2 Feb 9:00am Worship and Sunday School, including Holy Communion. This service will also include a commissioning for the year ahead.

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.

Same Name Enterprises

ABN 40 730 209 130

- Lawns Mowed
- Garden Maintenance
- Rubbish Removal
- Painting

Call Clive on:
5429 6451
0417 320 276

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 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 5429 5170



Dromkeen

1012 Kilmore Road Riddells Creek 3431

Ph: 5428 6799

Tuesday-Friday 9am to 5pm
& Sunday 12 noon to 4pm

Christmas shopping?

A book makes an ideal present.
Present this for 10% discount on books at The
Dromkeen Bookshop.
Valid until Thursday 19 December 2002.

Join the Dromkeen Dragons in 2003.

7-12 year olds from all over Victoria
belong to this club.

Meetings are held 4 times a year
during school holidays.

A Grand Dragon who joins in the fun is crowned
each year in July.

The current Grand Dragon is Krista Bell.

Look who is coming to Dromkeen in 2003.

Helen Leach
Irena Sibley
Geoff Kelly
Lorette Broekstra
Frane Lessec
Michael Dugan
Alan Hicks
Sophie Laguna
Martine Murray

All the best for Christmas and
the New Year from Dromkeen

Romsey Cricket Club Report

With the local cricket season underway its time for the Romsey, Cricket Club report. All three sides (McIntyre Cup, C Grade and D Grade) have started the season off in good form and will be looking to press on to make this one of the most successful seasons for the club in years. Currently all the sides sit in finals contention thanks to some good cricket from older senior players and the younger ones rising up through the ranks. Off the field the club is also having a successful season with two functions already come and gone. We invite all members of the local community to come along and support future functions to keep our great club a major focus of the local township. This can be done on **November 30th** at the clubrooms with a family evening planned from 6.30pm onwards. So come along and enjoy the family atmosphere that the Romsey Cricket Club provides and kick back with barbeque and other activities. Also it's not too late to join the club. All new players are welcomed and training is every Tuesday and Thursday nights starting at 5.30pm.

S.C.M. Computer Solutions



Stuart McMinn
Mobile: 0419 585491
e-mail: stuartm@ssc.net.au

Recently bought a computer? Thinking about buying a computer? Confused by all the megabytes, RAM and ROM?

We can provide solutions for your:

- ◆ Windows environment
- ◆ Local Area Networking
- ◆ Problems resolved with hardware or software

WHAT IS THE LANCEFIELD/MACEDON RANGES RELAY FOR LIFE?

A local committee has commenced planning the Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay for Life to be held on **29th and 30th March 2003 at Lancefield park**. Much support has been provided by the Lancefield park Committee to stage this event.

Relay for Life is an overnight team event to raise funds for The Cancer Council of Victoria (formerly the Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria). In Victoria, Relay for Life has grown from just one event in 1999 that raised \$75,000 to 22 events in 2002 that will raise approximately \$1.9 million and in 2003 in Victoria aiming to raise over \$2 million.

Teams are formed of 10-15 people – friends, colleagues, family or workmates who take turns to walk or run a few laps at a time, to keep their baton moving around the track. Many teams create a theme with costumes, banners and decorated campsites.

There will be a festive village atmosphere with entertainment and games for everyone to enjoy.

Relay for Life celebrates people who have survived cancer and the Survivors Walk opens the event. A Candlelight Ceremony remembers friends and family who have died from cancer and supports people fighting cancer. The Relay for Life is open to everyone in the community. We are seeking teams, sponsors and businesses who could provide goods or services, and volunteers from community groups and individuals in lancefield and surrounding towns.

For further information please contact:

Bronwyn Wilson (Chairmanager) on 5429 1360 or 0409 379 760

And email artscape@ssc.net.au

Bev Anthony (Secretary) on 5429 1651

Karen Bowden (Team Recruitment Co-ordinator) on 5429 2060.

Look out for more information in the next issue.

ROMSEY GOLF CLUB

At the recent annual meeting the following people were elected for the coming year 2002-2003.

President: Andrew Laing.

Secretary: Steve Wilkins.

Treasurer: Ian Mearns

Captain: Geoff Pyke.

The outgoing president Phil Norton gave a comprehensive annual report raising some very good points and thanking the past committee, especially Rod Campbell who had been an excellent secretary for almost 10 years.

The course is currently in good condition but alas is drying out. Coring of the greens will probably be completed by publication of this article.

Despite numbers playing on Saturdays being down due to cricket and bowls, competitions are still continuing on Saturday afternoons. Assemble at the clubrooms 12.30 pm for a 1.00 pm hit off. New players are always welcome. If you are thinking about joining and want to try before committing please come down for a hit, and stay for the social drink and chat afterwards.

Steve Wilkins
54295173

MELANIE'S FLORAL DESIGNS

FLOWERS FOR ALL OCCASIONS

Fresh and dry flowers in baskets and boxes
Specialising in Wedding and Funeral Tributes
Free delivery within the Romsey / Lancefield radius
Also to local hospitals
Notice in advance for all orders is required

Please Call Melanie
Phone: 5429 6779
Mobile: 0911 733670

Romsey CFA

Service in New South Wales

Once again Members from the district provided valuable support to their NSW counterparts.

Lancefield	Barry Barnett
Darraweit Guim	Mike Duncan
Romsey	Ron Cole
	Bill Salathiel
	Peter Brooks
	Phillip Norton

The team flew out on Sunday and returned the following Wednesday afternoon.

"Our work consisted mainly of back burning operations. The aim was to completely surround all the fires with control lines to limit the fires ability to spread further." said Barry Barnett.

The team worked as Strike Team Leaders supervising 5 tankers and their crews.

KILMORE APPLIANCE SERVICE *The In-Home Specialists*

Over 30 years' experience
Service agent repairs for:
Hoover, Simpson, Chef, Vulcan,
Kelvinator, Westinghouse,
Whirlpool and Asko
Accurate and trustful service to:
Washers, Dryers, Dishwashers,
cooking appliances, etc.
ALSO MICROWAVE PICK-UPS

Phone:
ALDIS GIRSTUNS
0407 371 332
Office: 57 821 254

FREEMASONRY RIDDELLS CREEK LODGE

MEETS AT THE ROMSEY MASONIC CENTRE,
MAIN STREET
1ST TUESDAY EVERY MONTH.

FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT
RON JACKSON – 5429 6354
KEN BALDWIN – 5429 6063

Romsey Lancefield Senior Citizens Club INC A00354P

If you are 55 years of age or over (male or female) and would like to join a happy and friendly group of people, look no further than the seniors rooms situated at the rear of the Mechanics Hall in Main Street, Romsey.

For a yearly joining fee of \$2 you can play carpet bowls, cards or just chat. We are there every Monday from 10.30am to 3.30pm. There is also a coach trip organised on the first Wednesday of each month. Transport can be provided and you will be made most welcome.

Contact: Rae Hooke (Secretary) 5429 1602



YOUR HEALTH

Welcome to the December issue of YOUR HEALTH. I mentioned to you in the last issue of the

Romsey Rag that we had a new puppy and her waking me up had led to me taking a morning walk. The good news is that even though the pup is not howling in the morning I am still getting up at the same time each morning! I can assure you that for me who has been a night owl all my life this is quite an achievement! It is surprising the number of people I have been talking to who have been wanting to do this themselves for quite a while. They have now got the courage to go with their convictions and make use of the short time we have before New Year and the possibility of New Year resolutions. There is still time to grasp the opportunity and start your journey to a new you. As I have been talking to people there seem to be a few common threads

between each person I talk to. **For You Only.** Your decision to do this has got to be for you only and no-one else. If you do it for someone else because they have dared you, or nagged you then your success chances are reduced.

At Your Pace. Anything you do to change your lifestyle has got to be at your pace. If you start walking with someone who is fitter than you, ask them to keep to your pace and distance or find someone who is at the same level as you. Also start small if you need to. A little bit of something is far better than nothing and there is no sense in punishing yourself with too much too soon

Make it enjoyable. If what you do is enjoyable then you will also have much more chance of sticking to it. A

part of this can be giving yourself rewards such as a massage when you reach a certain goal. **Take note of changes.** If you are aware of subtle changes as you go along, such as your pants or dress sliding on easier, the belt going up an extra notch, your walk seeming a bit easier, less back ache, less snoring, not as grumpy, joints moving easier, make a mental note so that your mind can concentrate on the good that is coming out of your decision.

Whatever you decide over the next while, I hope you are able to enjoy being you and the unique person you are. Good health to you.

Phillip Elston



**PHILLIP ELSTON Dip.R.M. A.M.T.A.
MASSAGE THERAPY & BOWEN THERAPY**

ROMSEY PHARMACY 5429 6496 Bookings & Treatment
Remedial Massage, Relaxation Massage, Bowen Therapy,
WorkCover, Sports Therapy, Health Fund Rebates

Has your child missed out on a place at 3 year old kinder?

Why not come enquire about Romsey rostered 3-year old play group and see what we can offer your child?

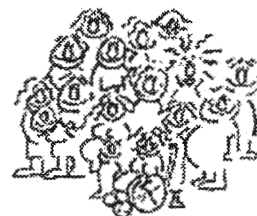
Activities include:

- Structured activities
- Free play
- Painting / Play dough etc
- Cooking
- Story time / Music time
- Outdoors play

Fees are approx. \$30 per child Per term plus insurance.

Enquiries – please contact
Colette – 5429 1930
Carol – 5429 5160

**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



BOLINDA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Do you believe that this will be our final item for the year? No doubt you are all saying, "where did it go?" As teachers working with children we know that life is never dull, every child is an individual, every day brings another challenge, another new experience, and the year truly does fly when you're having fun together.

Our new Preps and their mums have had an Orientation Day already with their new teachers in readiness for their new adventure next year. If you missed our two days but you are still considering your options for 2003, feel free to drop in for a chat at any time, have a look at Bolinda and talk to us about what we can do for your child. Grade 5's will be going to Gisborne Secondary College for an Introduction Day shortly and of course the Grade 6's time at Bolinda is quickly running out as they prepare for a new phase of their lives at secondary school. We shall miss them but they are ready for their new challenge and we wish them every success for the future.

It is very pleasing to tell you that our school performed very well in the statewide AIM Testing involving Grade 3 and Grade 5 children. In Grade 3, nearly all children performed at or above the Statewide average in maths, spell-

ing and reading. In Grade 5, all children were at or above the state average in maths and the majority were above the state average in spelling and reading.

We have had our Athletic Sports day with Clarkefield and Darraweit Guim. A day full of running, jumping, relays, bocce, skittles, skipping and other activities to make it a great fun day for the children. Many parents from all schools came to enjoy the day and have a picnic lunch with their children.

Our Children's Fundraising Committee organized and ran a lunch time disco to raise money to help free the captive moon bears of China that are kept in cages for bile milking. Some bears have been kept in cages for 22 years. We are also having a "Go Troppo for Cancer" day where we will all dress in a tropical theme and have a BBQ lunch to help raise the awareness of children to the dangers of skin cancer and how to be Sunsmart, and also to raise money for the Cancer Council of Victoria for their continuing research.

Well, that's some of the Bolinda news for this month – best wishes to all our readers for a very happy and safe Christmas Season - cheerio for now.

Keith Jenkins - Principal - 5428 5317



Red Chili

Catering for all occasions

Call us for our menu and quote.

Amanda 5429 1325

Kelly 5428 5428


mob: 0408 306 163

*A Very Merry Christmas
And a Happy and Safe New Year
From
The Doctors and Staff
At
The Romsey Medical Centre*

ROSE SALE

**Potted rose plants available
Monday – Saturday
throughout December**

**David Austin Hybrid Tea
Floribunda
Standards**



**Wholesale Rose
Grower
166 Crooked Road
Romsey
Phone 5429 5206**

COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VIC INC. ROMSEY BRANCH

RECIPE FOR A "FRIENDLY CAKE"

Ingredients:

1. Several friendly ladies
2. A quantity of talk time
3. Tea or Coffee to taste
4. Numerous meters of craft material
5. Some kilos of community interest

Method:

Mix friendly ladies with the Tea or Coffee

Add the craft materials and fold in the talk time

Blend all of the above with the community interest

Place together in a warm/cool environment for 1-2 days a month depending on taste

New Members welcome and desperately required.



Would you like to share in this Recipe and exchange some more?

Our monthly meetings are held at the Mechanics Institute, in the front meeting room on the first Thursday of each month at 10.00 a.m. We bring our lunch and then have social time together. Sometimes we do craft, other time have a speaker or just talk about interests that we share. The meetings are finished usually by 2.30p.m. Our first meeting for 2003 will be in February.

We also have open Craft Days, these are held on the first Tuesday of each month at 10.00 a.m. to approx 2.30p.m. in the Supper Room. This is open to anyone in the community who would like to share craft and friendship. You can bring anything you like to do, or share in other things that are offered. It is a BYO lunch, tea/coffee is provided. A small charge of \$3 is required to go towards rental of the hall. Please come along and join in the fun and laughter, there is no obligation to join CWA.

We have a good time together and many new friendships are being made. Children are welcome but please bring something for them to do or play with. The next date for craft is December, 3rd 2002.

Please feel free to come along and see what CWA is all about, or if you would like more information you can call Joan Strawbridge On 54287 022 leave a message if I'm not there with your name and phone number and I will call you back.

Joan Strawbridge, Secretary.

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 organisation 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 non-expensive, encouraging environment that raises your self-esteem as you work towards, and then maintain, your goal weight.

Meetings are held weekly at St. Mary's Parish Hall, Romsey, Tuesday nights; weigh-in from 7 – 7.20pm, meeting from 7.30pm.

For more details contact:
Belinda Mitchell 5429 6740
Judy Van Den Heuvel 5429 5692

Spring into Romsey Mowers

55-57 Main Road, Romsey

Honda
Husqvarna
Victa
Murray
Ariens
AMC
Echo
SupaSwift
Onga pumps
Karcher



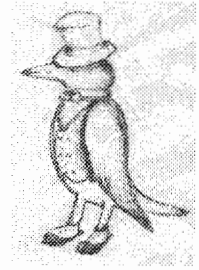
Mowers
Pumps
Chainsaws
Brushcutters
And More!

Sales
&
Service

Ph: 5429 6977



THE OLD CROW TRADING POST



Has been in Lancefield in the historical Weigard Buildings next to the Mechanics Hall for five months now. We are stocking a wide range of new clothing, Including dancewear, Judder skatewear and Exception clothes. Also, we are sorry to see Mia is retiring and Pretty & Practical will be closing down. With her approval we are now carrying some of her lines of giftware as well as adding new lines to the already diverse nge of products available at The Old Crow Trading Post. We've got Christmas presents for everyone so come in and have a look around!!

***14 High Street,
Lancefield
Phone: 54291 217***

Lancefield Neighbourhood House 5429 1214

Santa's Coming to Town!

Another year gone by and what a busy year we have had. The range and scope of the activities offered by the House has increased significantly. It's great to see so many people in and out of Our House, doing a wide variety of things and the House becoming a meeting place and a hub in our town.

We recently held our AGM and it was pleasing to see many made an effort to attend! I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone and 'Welcome aboard' the following Committee Members: Peter Quinn, Caroline Middenway, Gae Peterson, Linda Davies, Lynette Simmons, Maree Cardinale, Margaret Love, Bob Sherran, Betty Garner, Elaine Lawry, Megan Hannes-Paterson.

Bus Trip

Vic Market Friday 13 December, 8am start. Due to popular demand our last bus trip is full – but if you would like to put your name down on a waiting list we may have some last minute cancellations and you may be able to go!. I hope all those who go have a great time Christmas Shopping!

Christmas Lunch

Our famous Community Lunch will be held on Wednesday

11 December, 12am. This is our way of saying thankyou to all those who support us throughout the year, our many volunteers, tutors and House participants that call this home.

This lunch is free – just bring yourselves and have a great time!

Folk Art Christmas Pudding

A special one day workshop where you make a fantastic decorative napkin holder. The workshop costs \$30 which includes all materials (except if you need paints, an extra \$2). Bookings must be made by 4 December so Pudding bases can be ordered.

Funding Grants

We have been successful in receiving a number of grants lately. These include money through the Community Funding Scheme from the Macedon Ranges Shire Council to renovate the Kitchen and from the Adult Council of Further Education money to improve the lighting, upgrade the storeroom and buy some new trestle tables. Hopefully by the time you're reading this, the new worker for the 'Lancefield Together' project will have started work and some of you will have already met them.

Full Moon Meditation

20 December, 7.30 pm

The Committee of Management would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a Safe New Year.

ROMSEY GOLF LADIES REPORT

We are delighted to report the response to our "come and try" days has been great. The men and ladies are enjoying the fun games, and its great to look around the course and see and hear people out enjoying themselves with no pressures. Anyone still wishing to join us please do, remember no experience or equipment necessary. We are organising beginners clinic on Wed 4th December commencing 9.30am-please assemble at the clubrooms 9am. Cost will be \$5. For more information Phone Beryl Cole 54295411, Marg Crump 54263510 or Shirley Shelton 54295271. The ladies will be having a break over the Christmas period. Last playing day will be Wed 11th Dec. and recommencing January 8th with an Ambrose game. So until next year may all your Christmas wishes come true and please enjoy a Safe and Happy Christmas. We look forward to seeing you all and more new faces in the New Year.

Recipe for this month

CHREAMY CHOCOLATE.

Base 1 prepared chocolate Swiss roll sliced.

Filling 1 Tablespoon gelatine

1 Tablespoon instant coffee.

½ cup cold water

500gm Philadelphia cream cheese (soften at room temp)

¾ cup castor sugar

300gm cooking chocolate melted

375gm can evaporated milk chilled and whipped

Topping chocolate curls.

1. Arrange Swiss Roll slices into base of spring form pan.
2. Mix gelatine and coffee with cold water, heat in saucepan or microwave on HIGH for 30 secs, until dissolved.
3. Beat cream cheese until smooth, add sugar. Fold in chocolate, gelatine mixture and evaporated milk. Po into a prepared cake base and chill.
4. Decorate with chocolate curls.

B. Cole
54295411

Romsey Lancefield Senior Citizens Club INC **A00354P**

If you are 55 years of age or over (male or female) and would like to join a happy and friendly group of people, look no further than the seniors rooms situated at the rear of the Mechanics Hall in Main Street, Romsey.

For a yearly joining fee of \$2 you can play carpet bowls, cards or just chat. We are there every Monday from 10.30am to 3.30pm. There is also a coach trip organised on the first Wednesday of each month. Transport can be provided and you will be made most welcome.

Contact:

Rae Hooke (Secretary) 5429 1602

St. Mary's School Twilight Fair:

Thank you to all who attended St. Mary's Fair. Winners on the night were:

\$1,000 Gift Voucher: Mrs. R. Moore

\$100 Petrol Voucher: Notman Family

Christmas cake: Marita Foster

Christmas Plum Pudding: Agnes McMaster

Cow Lotto - \$100: Maryanne Hodgson

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
4.00-6.00pm
Sat 9.00-10.30am
Sun 9.30-10.30am
At other times by appointment

Romsey Veterinary Surgery

Extension of Hours

Our office hours have been extended.

Our new office hours will be

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

8:30 AM – 8:00 PM

Tuesday and Thursday

9:00 AM – 6:00 PM

Saturdays and Sundays

9:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Our consulting hours

at 80 Main Street Romsey will be

Monday – Sunday 9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

Monday – Friday 4:00 PM – 6:00 PM

No appointments are needed during our consulting hours.

Appointments outside our consulting hours can be made by phoning (03) 5429 5711

80 Main Street
Romsey