
THE ROMSEY RAG

Issue No. 202

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

March 2003

THE DECEMBER EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY
-Martin's Wine Bar -

Martins' Wine Bar & Restaurant

118 Main Street

Romsey 3434

Telephone 54295262

Email docs_vic@bigpond.com

Opening Hours

Thursday 3pm - 11pm

Friday 3pm - 11pm

Saturday 9am - 11pm

Sunday 9am - 4pm

Breakfast - Lunch - Afternoon Tea - Dinner - Functions

Full Bar Available

Childrens Meals

ALL ADVERTISERS – PLEASE NOTE

AS FROM THE APRIL, 2003, EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG – ALL CASUAL ADVERTISING MUST BE PRE-PAID.

THIS WILL CUT DOWN ON INVOICING AND SENDING OUT ACCOUNTS EACH MONTH, SAVING BOTH TIME AND MONEY FOR THE RAG.

PLEASE INDICATE THE SIZE OF THE AD YOU WANT TO PLACE ON THE FORMS THAT WILL BE AVAILABLE AT THE POST OFFICE AND PAY THE APPROPRIATE FEE. YOU WILL BE GIVEN AN INVOICE/RECEIPT AT THE TIME OF PAYMENT.

YEARLY ON-GOING BUSINESS ADVERTS WILL BE INVOICED AT THE APPROPRIATE TIME AS USUAL.

**THANK YOU – ANY QUERIES JUST GIVE ME A RING.
MARGARET HOWATSON.**

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 Sparkes—5429 5848

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:

1550 copies delivered to the Romsey community at the commencement of each month.

Volunteering

The Cobaw Community Health Service is again seeking people who are interested in volunteering to help with some of its programs. Volunteers regularly assist with a range of interesting programs such as the Day Activity program for elderly and disabled people, Cobaw's water exercise program at the Ray M Begg Pool or in the Men's Shed. Some also assist by driving clients to these activities in one of the vehicles owned by the Service. Should anyone have some time to spare on a regular or occasional basis and would like to help, please leave a message at Cobaw Community Health Service for Margaret Derricott or phone 5421 1666 so that she might contact you.



ROMSEY REGION BUSINESS ASSOCIATION INC

The association is in the process of developing a Romsey township web site incorporating places of interest, history, list of business, tradespersons, community groups and coming events.

There is a developed package available and the association is looking for a community spirited person or persons who may be able to assist us with developing and entering data to the web site.

Please contact Ron Cole 54295411 for further information.

ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD CENTENNIAL TRACK

Australia Day 2003

President Mrs. Jean Tom cuts the ribbon with Mayor Geoff Neil and Cr. Alice Aird to hand over to the Shire for upgrading and on-going Maintenance. The Committee's job is now complete!
Margaret Howatson, Secretary



Edition

Closing Date

Collation Date

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 25th

November 2003

Tuesday October 21st

Thursday October 30th

December 2003

Friday November 21st

Thursday November 27th

Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd.

BUSINESSES BACK OUR COMMUNITY BANK

Romsey shops and businesses are proudly showing their support for the project to open a Bendigo Community Bank Branch in our town.

Romsey Community Bank Steering Committee chair Maurenn Wiltshire and other committee members have been presenting laminated certificates to businesses and shopkeepers who have put up their hands and made a pledge to the project.

"These committed local businesses are displaying the certificates in their windows or on their counters, letting everyone know that they are proud partners in the move to "bank-proof" our town," Mrs Wiltshire said. "I urge local residents to look for these certificates, and support the shops and businesses that are supporting our community. Our local businesses are the best ambassadors for our own Romsey Community Bank. Many of them are already Community Bank customers through the Lancefield branch, and can testify to the benefits of having a local bank committed to the local community. A locally-based manager who understands local business and community needs is an added bonus."

Mrs Wiltshire urged residents and businesses who had not yet signed a pledge to take up shares in a Romsey

Community Bank branch to do so without delay.

"I encourage everyone to follow the example set by the businesses which are displaying our certificates, and make a positive commitment with a pledge," she said. "Community Bank branches are owned and operated by community shareholders. We make the business decisions. Provided we can raise the share capital and generate enough business to make the branch viable, our Community Bank project can ensure that Romsey will always have a bank in our shopping centre."

Mrs Wiltshire said that \$171,200 had been pledged so far towards a target of \$400,000 needed to go to the next stage of the project—an independent feasibility study on potential business levels.

Pledge forms were attached to the last edition of the Romsey Rag, with details on where they can be lodged. Pledge boxes and forms are also available at the Romsey Bakery, IGA Supermarket, Southside Service Station, the butchery, The Clay Coffee Shop and the newsagency. In Lancefield there is a box at the Community Bank at 20B High Street, or pledges can be mailed to the Bank at that address.

People wanting more information in the bank project can ring Trevor Turnham on 5429 5413 or Maureen Wiltshire on 5429 5292.

YOUR HOME and OUR SKILLS - A WINNING TEAM Communication

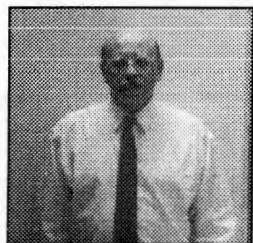
At Connally's we believe that any successful home sale depends on accurate, timely information. There's so much riding on the sale of your home you need to make a sound decision.

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John Smith
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Mel Leece-Roberts
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Suzanne's Totally Natural Beauty Therapy and Nail Studio

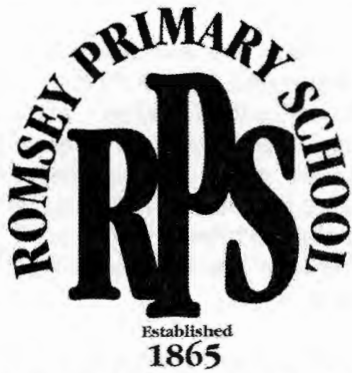
Fully qualified beauty therapist and
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* during the month of March *

For an appointment call Sue
on 5429 5176

Shop 2/110 Main Street
Romsey
(Corner Main and Stawell Streets—
behind Kontek Real Estate)



TOGETHER WE LEARN AND GROW

Student Leadership at Romsey Primary School

The development of student leadership at all levels at Romsey Primary School is an area of great focus throughout the year. While we have peak representative bodies and positions for our students, nonetheless, there are real and meaningful leadership roles for all students.

Every week all classes have a *grade meeting* where students are able to voice concerns, raise issues and offer suggestions. In most classes students are able to chair these meetings with all students being given the opportunity to assume this role during the year.

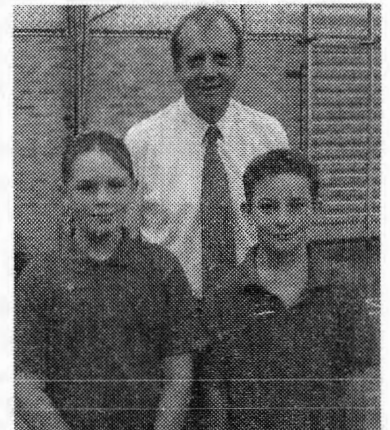
Additionally there are other roles such as Peer Mediation, where students are empowered to assist others sort out their minor problems in the playground. Training in becoming an active listener, negotiator and mediator are really useful life skills.

All classes are linked with *buddy grades* where students of different ages undertake activities to enjoy each other's company, help each other and on occasions develop special projects within the school. One such project last year was where a 5/6 class and Prep grade developed, designed and helped implement our new environmental habitat area *Honeyeater Haven*.

School Captains

Each year students are invited to nominate for the position of School Captain. School Captains are selected through the presentation of a written application responding to selection criteria, an interview with principal and assistant principal, and through the school contacting referees. The school captains are expected to be highly responsible, loyal, articulate, be able to represent the school and students on particular occasions, and undertake one or more special project throughout the year.

This year the school is happy to announce that our school captains for 2003 are Caitlin Whelan and Josh Ellis.



Junior School Council

Our Junior School Council meets weekly. Representatives are drawn from all middle and senior grades, with students allocated to report to, and draw ideas and suggestions from all junior classes. Junior School Council reports to our full School Council each month through two representatives coming to each of these meetings. Junior School Council is expected to represent student opinion and forward ideas and suggestions for the improvement of the school. Junior School Councilors are also expected, along with all students, to live and demonstrate our school values of caring, learning, relationships, inclusion, and happiness. Ideas from Junior School Council in the past have led to upgrades of our outside equipment, the installation of the school's second sandpit and the development of the soccer pitch and installation of the soccer goals.

Our elected Junior School Councilors for 2003 are:


Bronwyn Blair, Dean Lavars, Emma Nelson, Phillip Kaufman, Jade Atkins, James Menzies, Sarah Newell, Lawrence Millar-Madigan, Marisa Thomas, Harrison Wood, Jane Matthews, Jamie Newell, Georgia Twining, Dean Tobin, Marlee Taylor and Sean Pike.

The school congratulates these students on their election to our Junior School Council. We all look forward to another year where students develop their leadership skills in a wide range of areas.

FREEMASONRY RIDDELLS CREEK LODGE

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

FOR MORE
INFORMATION
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54 29 58 50

News Announcement

We are pleased to announce that we are now offering a complete Dog Clipping and Grooming Service.

A "Do it Yourself" Hydrobath and dog washing area has also been installed and is available for hire if you prefer to wash and groom your own dog.

Phone **Romsey Veterinary Surgery** on
5429 5711



ROMSEY ARTIST STARS AGAIN!

Looking for a rewarding outing on the long weekend in March? Then why not visit Woodend to see the Lions Art Show in Templeton St? It will be in full swing all weekend, with over 400 works to enjoy. Romsey local, John Beasley, is one of those exhibiting his sculpture. However because he is travelling far into NSW on the long weekend for a school reunion featuring over 90 of his paintings of former classmates & teachers, he cannot be at the Woodend event. But you can! As always, a high standard is anticipated in all media, and artists who exhibit and sell locally as well as internationally will have works on show. This year the prize money for sculpture has risen from \$150 to \$500, to attract more work in that category, and already the entries are flowing in.

If you want a really good evening out, consider attending the opening Preview 'Cocktail' Party on Friday 7th March at 7 pm. Cost is only \$15, and includes wine and delicious light refreshments from Maloa House.

Entry: \$2.00 Adults \$1.00 Concession Card Holders.

Children under 12 Free.

[Goes towards local projects and worthy causes.]


For further information / tickets contact

Liz Johnston, 5427 1503 or Garry Dudderidge, 5427 2255.

Milos Starec
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MITCHELL MOBILE LIBRARY

come on down!

Web Site of the Month - Biography.com

www.biography.com

Search this site for over 25,000 of the greatest lives past and present.

Despite the American emphasis this site provides good coverage, especially of people currently in the news eg:

- Ozzy Osborne
- Mike Myers

You can also find out who was "born on this day" or who was born on a particular day. For instance let's see which famous people share their birthdays with the mobile library staff -

9 th January =	Sue & Richard Nixon
28 th January =	Leonie & Jackson Pollock
20 th May =	Pauline & Cher
20 th July =	Kahli & Sir Edmund Hillary
30 th July =	Helen & Emily Bronte
17 th October =	Yvonne & Pope John Paul I
7 th November =	Katherine & Madame Curie

Fabulous isn't it? Another great little Trivia Night find for "Who am I?" type questions apart from the odd school assignment or two.

****Many thanks to Alison Swann for assembling this information.**

Don't forget that you can book ahead for use of the Mobile Library's computers, just ring Kilmore Library on 57821322 up to lunchtime on the day you want to investigate further the Website of the Month. Enjoy!!



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

Dear Sir/Madam

My name is Shelley Crawford from Wafex in West Sunshine, Melbourne. We are a company that exports flowers worldwide.

We are looking to hold a (free of charge) Seminar in the Mt Macedon/Woodend/Trentham region in April, targeting existing Growers and new Growers in these and surrounding areas - to possibly consider growing flower crops for export companies such as ourselves.

These areas have high altitude and cool climates that would suit some later flowering crops that Exporters require in the January - March period etc.

We would like advertise this venture through material such as your community newsletter. Can you possibly assist us with some Editorial/Media/Advertising support of any kind, so as to ensure we reach every member of the Mt Macedon and greater community, or alternatively can you provide some information on how we would place an ad in your newsletter.

I would greatly appreciate it if you could supply me with any information in regard to the above.

Yours sincerely

Shelley Crawford

WAFEX - Australia's Leading Flower Exporter

4 Grace Court

West Sunshine Vic 3020

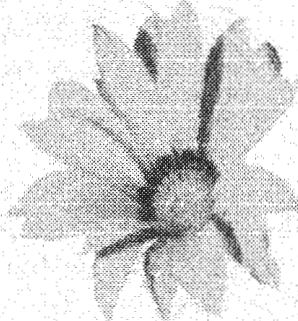
Romsey Beauty Spot

Shop 2

112 Main St

Romsey

PH: 5429 5499



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Macedon Ranges Seniors Citizen Celebrate Victorian Seniors Festival

Seven Senior's Citizen groups and Macedon Ranges Shire Council are Celebrating Seniors week with a range of activities and events across the Municipality from Monday 17th March to Friday 21st March 2003.

There will be

- Film day and a basket lunch at Woodend Seniors,
- Malmsbury Seniors will be invited to the Historical Society to record oral histories,
- Card games and bowls at Riddells Creek and Romsey Seniors
- Over 55 are invited to play a social game of Petanque.
- Kyneton Seniors are hosting a talk on Safety for Seniors.
- Gisborne Seniors have organised a lunch and entertainment in Seniors Week.
- There will be a lunch and games day at Macedon Seniors.
- Malmsbury Seniors will host a BBQ lunch in the Botanical Gardens.
- A nine hole comp for over 55 at Woodend Golf Club
- Come and try day at Woodend Lawn Bowling Club.



All activities will include a lucky door prize.

Friday the 21st a full day of entertainment, stalls and activities will be held at Gisborne in and around the Mechanics Institute. They will include the "Just Us" from Ballarat, Heskett Skippers and the Romsey School Choir and musicians from Gisborne Primary and Secondary Schools, Line dancing and poetry reading. You can be informed by displays from our local health services and businesses. For the more adventurous a Harley ride around the streets of Gisborne. You can purchase lots of fine food or bring a picnic lunch and sit in the lovely shade of the trees and enjoy the music. Tables and chairs will be provided. Transport can be arranged from the Gisborne station.

Programs will be available mid February at all council service centres.

**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

VicHealth

WOODEND LIONS CLUB 29th ANNUAL ART SHOW

Features over 400 works of art in all media by professional and amateur artists and provides an opportunity to view and purchase quality works of art at reasonable prices.

Date: Labour Day Weekend, 7-10 March, 2003

Venue: St Ambrose Hall, Templeton Street, Woodend.

Times: Sat 8th and Sun 9th March 9-5pm Monday 10th 9-4pm.

Entry: \$2.00 for adults, \$1.00 for concession card holders. Children under 12 free.

Preview & Official Opening: 7pm Friday the 7th of March. Tickets \$15.00.

Enquiries / tickets to Official Opening : 5427 1503 or 5427 2255.



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ROMSEY MEDICAL CENTRE

Dr. Noel Cunningham
 Dr. Sally Carter
 Dr. Susan (Suki) Allen
 Dr. Sophie Lu
 Dr. Selim Kurnaz



99 Main Street
 Romsey 3434
 Phone 54295254
 Opening Hours:
 Monday - Friday 9am to 8pm
 Saturdays 9am to 5pm
 Sundays 10am to 1pm

WELCOME TO OUR NEW DOCTOR
 We are delighted to introduce Dr Selim Kurnaz who has commenced practice at Romsey Medical Centre. Dr Kurnaz is in his final stages of specialization training for General Practice and will spend a year working and training in Romsey. He is available for consultations every week day except Thursday.

INFLUENZA VACCINATION
 We will be hosting our annual flu vaccination clinics in March. Influenza can be a serious and sometimes life-threatening condition, especially for the elderly and persons with chronic illness. Free vaccination is available for patients aged 65 and over. Clinic vaccinations are bulk-billed with no out-of-pocket expenses to patients. Please call the medical centre for further information or to book an appointment.

Lancefield & District Farmers Market

The first Lancefield and District Farmers market will be held in the township of Lancefield on Sunday March 8th, starting at 8 am and running till 2 pm. Come along and see the finest produce and farm products the Macedon Ranges and Spa Country has to offer.

Of the 25 + stalls items on sale will include: organic vegetables, free-range eggs, organic olives, olive oil, fine wines, cheeses, lavender products, mead, revegetation plants, herbal teas, hay, soil conditioning products, honey, fruit and nuts, jams and preserves, live chickens and the list goes on....

For more information or to find out about stalls, please call Meggs Hannes-Patterson on 5429 2115 AH or Lancefield Neighbourhood House on 5429 1214.

See you there!

SIGNY'S

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 Beginners welcome

10.00 am THURSDAYS

More information ring: 5429 5525

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Phone: 5429 1714



INFORMATION AND ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE FOR FARMERS, FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES AFFECTED BY THE DROUGHT

This drought is affecting our community financially and emotionally. If you or someone you know needs information, confidential advice or support the following services may be able to help.

STOCK AND FARM MANAGEMENT

Victorian Government Drought Response Centre—136 186
and

Dpt. Primary Industry Website
(formerly DNRE)

www.nre.vic.gov.au/drought

Information about drought feeding of cattle and sheep, links to useful publications such as Drought Preparation and Survival Guide



Landcare Coordinators

Information about local networks and resources

Dean Bridgfoot, Macedon Range/Mt Alexander 5471 1736 Wk) or 0427 003052

Jim Kennedy, Upper Campaspe 5423 4114 (home)

WATER

Communal emergency water supply points for carting water for stock and domestic supplies (standpipes) are currently available at:

Kyneton Saleyards, Brook Street Woodend, Robertson Street Gisborne:

8 am—8 pm Instructions on site.

Contact Roger Toll at Petstock for key 5428 2381

Additional standpipes at Woodend, Romsey and in the Baynton area should be operational by the end of February.

For your nearest water carter look in the yellow pages directory or your local paper. Note: Macedon ranges Shire Council is unable to supply or cart water.



FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Victorian Government Drought Response Centre 136 186
Information about State and federal grants available

Centrelink Drought Assistance Helpline 132 316
Information about benefits and services available

Rural Financial Counsellor, Ken Slatter 5735 4342
Free, confidential rural financial counselling service

St Luke's Financial Counselling 5422 6052
Free, confidential financial counselling service

Salvation Army Drought Relief, Verity Ling 0439 896288
Assistance for family related expense during the Drought, eg. Car repairs, school costs

Country Women's Association. Drought Assistance 9827 8971
\$200 per child for school expenses (for families affected by drought)

Cobaw Community Health Service 5421 1666
Emergency financial assistance



PERSONAL AND FAMILY SUPPORT

The drought will create both financial and emotional difficulties for many families. You may experience relationship difficulties, grief, loss issues, or stress in the family. If you or your family are affected by any of these or other problems don't hesitate to seek help and assistance. Both Cobaw and Macedon Ranges Health Services can help you with a range of services.

Cobaw Community Health Service
47 High Street, Kyneton.
5421 1666
Macedon Ranges Health Service
5 Neal Street, Gisborne
5428 3000



Contact the Cobaw duty worker who will provide you with information and support to access the services you need.

**COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION OF VICTORIA INC
ROMSEY BRANCH**

Our Open craft Days at the Mechanics Institute are again in progress this year. These are held on the 1st Tuesday of each month at 10.00am to approx. 2.30pm in the Supper room. This is open to anyone who would like to share crafts and friendship. You can bring along anything you like to do or share in other things that are offered. It is BYO lunch, tea and coffee provided. A small charge of \$3 is required to go towards the hire of the hall. Please come along and join in the fun and laughter – there is no obligation to join CWA. We are having 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.

Our monthly meetings are also held at the Mechanics Institute in the front meeting room on the first Thursday of each month at 10.00am. (it is BYO lunch, tea and coffee provided). We have our meeting in the morning, then lunch and we propose for this year to do craft in the afternoon, learning some new skills and making items ready for our end of year fete. Please feel free to come along and see what CWA is all about, or if you would like more information please call Jean Strawbridge on 5428 7022, or Wendy Laing on 5429 5231.

By the time this edition is out we will have had the Romsey Art Show. This is a combined effort of the Romsey Artists and the CWA, raising funds for the community and CWA projects. This will have been the third time we have done this together and previously the CFA, the Historical Society, the Mechanics Hall Committee and the Gisborne Chapel Fund have all been helped. CWA projects that have benefited have been the various cancer research programs for both men and women. This year we will decide what will benefit after the final figures are done. You will find out in the next Romsey Rag.
Jean Strawbridge – Secretary.

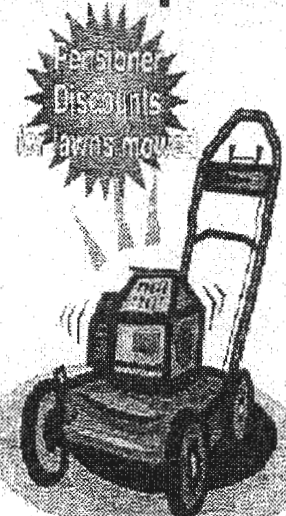
**THE AUSTRALIAN
ORGAN
DONOR REGISTRY**

**Registration forms from the
Romsey Medical Centre or
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TELL your family!"**

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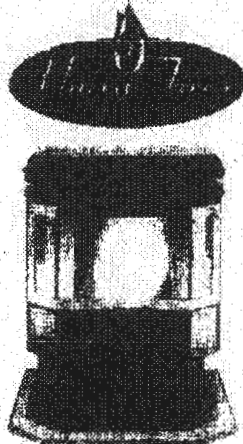


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**TO COLLECTORS IN ROMSEY:
WANTED!**

Does anyone have a complete or near complete set of all editions of the Romsey Rag???? A tall order, we know, but when we went through the archives at the time of printing our 200th edition, we became aware that there is not a complete set of editions put away for posterity. So if you have back copies going back to the very first edition, we would love to see them, photocopy them and return your originals to you.

If you can help out, please contact the Romsey Primary School and ask for Robyn Moore. Thank you!

**Macedon Ranges Shire residents—
don't forget that we have Council
elections on Saturday March 15th.
Voting is compulsory.**



MACEDON RANGES HEALTH SERVICES

Exercise Groups



Monday

Energy Plus with Trish 9.00 am—10.00 am
We all need to "use energy to create energy". This "work at your own pace" circuit class is designed to do just that. It provides a variety of exercises to increase overall fitness with its objectives being heart/lung fitness and weight loss. It accommodates all fitness levels.
Cost: \$5 per session. Please bring a towel for floor exercises and relaxation and a personal water bottle.

Cardiac Rehabilitation 11.00 am—1.00 pm
6 week course. Our team consists of a Community Health Nurse, Dietitian, Exercise Therapist, Physiotherapist, Psychologist and Pharmacist. Designed to assist clients with a heart condition and recommended to all clients following a heart event. Contact Louise at MRHS.

Warm Water Exercise with Trish 1.00 pm—4.00 pm
Warm Water Exercise is an excellent medium for arthritic joints. Water acts as a shock absorber, reducing stress on joints, and allows a full range of movement. The massage effect of water increases circulation and promotes relaxation. It is suitable for:
Rehabilitation after injury Frail aged Older adults
Overweight people Children Arthritic joints

It is a novel and enjoyable way to become and stay fit. A doctor's referral is needed for this class.
Meet at MRHS Gisborne at 1.00 pm to catch the bus to Kyneton—return by 4.00 pm.
\$5 per session
Please bring a towel, bathers, plastic cup for tea/coffee after session. Drinking water will be provided.

Tuesday

Gentle Exercise with Trish 10.30—11.30
It is never too late to start. This gentle exercise session is an excellent way to begin or restart your exercise program. It is designed to increase your flexibility, mobility, aerobic fitness, balance and strength. All ages and abilities will have a lot of fun in this group. All of the exercises can be adapted to chairs or wheelchairs.
\$5 per session. Please bring a personal water bottle and shoes with a good support are recommended.

Keeping Your Balance with Trish 12.00—12.45
"Falls" are a leading cause of increasing disability in older people. The impact on independence levels and quality of life can be immense. This class is designed to increase your flexibility, strength, stamina, coordination and balance. This functional activity program is a lot of fun, including the use of hand weights, obstacle courses, ball games, fitballs, Tai Chi, and specific balance exercises.
\$5 per session. Please bring a personal water bottle and shoes with good support are recommended

Tuesday and Wednesday

Stronger Bones/Longer Living with Trish 1.30—2.30

The benefits of strength training include:

- Halts bone loss and even restores bone
- Improves balance
- Helps prevent bone fractures from Osteoporosis
- Trims and tightens
- Helps weight control
- Improves flexibility
- Revitalizes

This class is a "health tonic".

\$5 per session

Please bring a personal water bottle and shoes with good support are recommended.

Wednesday

Healthy Lifestyle Program 1.00—3.00

February 12th, 19th, 26th, and March 5th 2003

\$5 per session or \$20 per course.

Remaining dates for other courses are:

May 7th, 14th, 21st and 28th

August 6th, 13th, 20th and 27th

The Healthy Lifestyle Program is run by a dietitian and exercise therapist and is held 3 times per year. Each course is over 4 consecutive Wednesdays and is an excellent way to learn about healthy eating, weight loss and the right exercise program for you.

These sessions include:

- Healthy eating
- Shopping and cooking ideas
- Eating awareness
- Exercise—gentle exercise, Tai Chi, weight training, yoga, keeping your balance, aerobic conditioning.
- Stress management and relaxation.

Friday

Warm Water Exercise with Amanda 1.00—4.00

Meet at MRHS Gisborne at 1.00 pm to catch the bus to Kyneton. Return by 4.00 pm.

\$5 per session.

Towel

Bathers

Plastic cup for tea/coffee after session

Drinking water will be provided.

Macedon Ranges Health Services
5 Neal Street, Gisborne.
Phone 5428 3000

Gisborne Vintage Machinery Society Inc
and The GREAT Association present



30th March 2003

10 AM—4 PM

Gisborne Steam Rally & Tractor Pull

incorporating
Macedon Ranges Town Criers Competition

Attractions & Events include:

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Golf Croquet Competitions

Steam Park
Webb Crescent
New Gisborne
Melways 197 F4

Exhibitors must comply
with appropriate safety
standards and be able to
produce evidence of
current insurance.

Rally Contacts

Trevor Dunn (Director & Engines) 9744-1591
Mar Reynolds (Tractors) 9744-8889
Noel Smithwick (Steam) 5429-6316
Mike Willett (Town Criers) 5429-3447

Proudly Supported by the GREAT Association and the Macedon Ranges Shire Council



Social Afternoon

2:00pm, Wed., 19 March at the
Lancefield Uniting Church
High Street, Lancefield

Our guest speaker will be a
Local CFA Volunteer
telling stories from their experience fighting fires in North-East Victoria

Come along, hear the stories, and show your support for all of those who protect our community AND give their time to help others in dire need.

Entry by donation to the
Lancefield Junior Fire Brigade.

Donations of afternoon tea "eats" also gratefully received on the day.

Stress Less

Feeling like you are stressing out more often than you would like? Feeling like the pressures of home, work, and life is taking all the fun out of life. Come along and try out some new ways of dealing with stress, learn some relaxation techniques, and have some fun!!!!

Time: Wednesday 9.30am-11.30am

Date: Wednesday 5th March—
Wednesday 9th of April 2003

Cost: \$30.00

Place: Lancefield Youth Drop in Centre (Back of the Lancefield Hall High Street Lancefield)

To Register ring 54 211 666

Facilitators: Wendy Hocking Occupational Therapist, Leonie Farrugia Social Worker. Cobaw Community Health Service

Need a Massage?

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at

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Friday nights — 1st and 3rd Fridays only (unless advertised) we are holding competitions. Pool, Basketball shooting. Video Nights and Raves. Entry is \$2 — cheap snacks are available. Adult supervision. Prompt parental pick-up appreciated. Volunteers always welcome!!

Committee meetings held 3rd Thursday of the month at 7.30pm at the Youth Centre.

MONTH OF MARCH.....

**Rave Rave Rave Rave
Rave Rave Rave Rave
Rave Rave Rave Rave
FRIDAY, 28TH**

Juniors 5.30pm —

7.00pm Entry \$2

Seniors 8.00pm —

11.00pm Entry \$7

Bus - \$10

Look out for our Posters for more info!

Or call Michelle on 54 291 189

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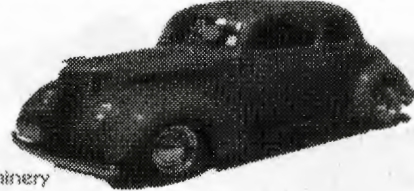
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Member Aust. Vet. Chiropractic Assoc.



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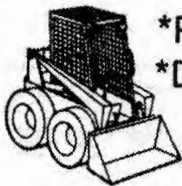
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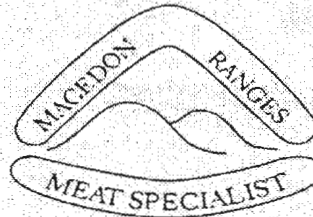
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To all local organisations wishing to hold a stall within the shopping centre complex - please telephone 9846 7225 to make a booking, as only one stall on any one day is allowed.

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.

Lancefield Neighbourhood House

"Serving Our Community"

"What's on in March?"

Once again it is time to keep you all up to date with what is happening at the Neighbourhood House.

Chainsaw Maintenance	9 th March
Bead Jewellery	12 th March
Card Stamping	13 th March
Creative Memories	18 th March
Personal Development	18 March (4 Sessions)
Keeping Household Chickens	22 nd March
CPR Training	25 th March
Internet for Beginners	26 th March (3 Sessions.
Wednesdays 1-3)	

Phone: 5429 1214 for information and bookings

Our next bus trip is to Daylesford in the lovely Macedon Ranges and Spa country.

Date: Friday, 21st March.

A new date has been set for our Victoria Market trip.



The Anglican Parish
of
Lancefield
and
Romsey



33 Chauncey Street, Lancefield, Victoria.
Phone 5429 1380.

Locum: Rev. Tom Morgan 5429 6060
5 Junker Way, Romsey 3434.

Services:

SUNDAY	9.00am	St Paul's Romsey
SUNDAY	10.30am	Christ Church Lancefield
WEDNESDAY	10.00am	Christ Church Lancefield.

EVENING SERVICES:

1st Sunday of the month: 7.00 pm Christ Church
Lancefield

3rd Sunday of the month 7.00 pm St. Paul's Romsey

**EVENING SERVICES CANCELLED DURING MARCH
2003 ONLY**

Lancefield Guild meets 2nd Wednesday morning each
month after church in Christ Church Hall

Romsey Guild meets 2nd Thursday afternoon at 1.30.

March meeting at 143 Barry Road Romsey.

HARVEST FESTIVAL—SUNDAY 16TH MARCH at each
Church.

CEBs / GFS in abeyance for the present.

Men's Society meets 2nd Thursday of each month. Next
meeting is at 8.00 pm at 6 Garden Place Romsey.

"LONELY"

We need never be so! Our God is only a prayer away –
nearer to us than hands and feet, closer to us than
breathing, as someone has said. Those who worship Him
regularly, and talk with Him (prayer) know that He is al-
ways there with them. In times of sickness or sadness or
worry (of whatever kind) it is very comforting to know that

The new date is now Thursday, 24th April. Why not
take the kids for a school holiday treat with no worries
about driving or parking, go to a movie, shop or have a
picnic in the botanical gardens.

Cost \$12.50, families \$18.00. Leaves from front gates of
the house. *Pick up in Romsey and Monegeetta on re-
quest.

The Neighbourhood House would like to welcome aboard
the "Lancefield Together" project officer. Her name is Mi-
chelle Balthazar and she has some great visions for the
project and the community of Lancefield. Come in and
have a friendly chat with her and see what she can do for
your group.

Just to finish I would like to thank everyone for their pa-
tience while our house renovations have been progress-
ing – there has been a lot of "banging and hammering"
but I'm sure when you see the finished result it will be
well worth it!

Come and pay us a visit.

Linda Davies
Publicity Officer

"His ears are open to their prayers" 1Pet.3:12 is what the
Bible tells us. Have YOU thought of the difference it must
make in the lives of young people brought up the way
most older folks were? – to KNOW God. There would be
far less turning to drugs, binge-drinking and suicides for
young people who know whose world this is, what they
are here for, and why. Indeed, for people of any age,
walking through life WITH God gives confidence, and
meaning and purpose to life. WORTH THINKING ABOUT.
Tom Morgan.

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BUNGAWITTA URGENT NOTICE

To the mothers, fathers, and mothers-to-be of Romsey:

Bungawitta Romsey Playgroup is here for the benefit of all our children from 0 – 5 years old.

We are in need of NEW PEOPLE, NEW MEMBERS AND A NEW COMMITTEE.

At this point in time if we do not get the support of the people in our community we will be closing the doors on February 28th, 2003.

For more information call Kitty 5429 6307 or Renee 5429 5592

THIS IS THE ONLY OPEN AGE PLAY-GROUP IN ROMESY.

PLEASE DON'T LET US DOWN.



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Station St. Riddells Creek

We are celebrating our 10th year in business this year.

Thanks to your generous donations and support, and the hours of unpaid work happily carried out by our volunteers (seen and unseen), we hope to continue to be an important part of life in Riddells Creek for some time to come.

Drop by to browse 'cos you never know what you'll find, we have all sorts of treasures and bargains. Everybody usually finds something to buy. After hanging in our shop for four or five weeks, clothes are put out for sale for \$1 and we give you the opportunity to buy before we pass them on to other charities.

Business hours Thu/Fri 10am til 4pm & Sat 9am till 1pm 5428 6412.

Thank you for reading our news. Chris, coordinator.

From the Gisborne Secondary College Chaplaincy Committee

Ever asked yourself - What *do* they do? *How* do they do it and *why* do they do what they do?

Meet us on the 20th March at 8.30pm in the college library at our Annual General Meeting. (GSC Melton Road, Gisborne.) We'd be happy to see you and explain exactly why we do the things we do and why it is so important to continue. Here's a big clue; It's for the benefit of the youth in the school's community.

From the 'pen' of Chris, publicity officer.

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

ROMSEY BOWLING CLUB NEWS

With the changes taking place in bowling over the last 12 months, with men playing in women's events and women playing in men's events, things have been very different. On several occasions this season our women have filled in at men's Saturday competition and vice versa on Tuesday women's competitions. For this both sections have been greatly appreciated.

As this goes to press, men's division 3 are in there with a chance at 5th on the ladder and 2 weeks to go.

The ladies finished 2nd on the ladder at Lancefield and had a comfortable win over them in the semi-final at Woodend on Tuesday 18th February, with 13 shots up. In 2 weeks' time we play the winner of Lancefield and Kyneton in the grand final, which should be another good game.

Club events are still in the process of being played in both men's and women's sections.

On two occasions this season our club was the host to a Medibank Private group from Cope-Williams Winery, most of whom had never seen a bowl before, but everyone joined in and had a good time.

On the Monday of the long weekend (Monday March 10th) we hold a Chris Johnston tournament in memory of a former member. Members are urged to get their names in quickly.

Doss Keating - Secretary.



Friday, March 14

Time: 3.30 - 8.30

Lancefield Primary Monster Twilight Fete

ALL NEW RIDES

"Circus Uni"

Australian Open Busking Champions 2003

MAJOR Auction

*numerous lots
starts 6.30*



*Demonstrations by Lancefield's
"Dance Station" dance school
&
Goju-Kensha - Karate & Tai-Chi*

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Fairy Floss
Toffee Apples
Cakes
Home Produce*

Blacksmith demonstrations

The Balloon Lady

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Amusements

Talented Teddy Awards

Games of skill and chance

Free Entertainment

Ye Olde Fashioned Lolly Shop

"Denim & Lace" Craft Stall

A challenge

Ten years ago this coming Labour Day week-end, through the generosity of a young organ donor and family, I received my long-awaited Heart/Lung Transplant.

Having never sat still since that very day!! - I urge you all to sign on as Organ Donors - but it does not end there, you must talk to your family and tell them of your wish to be an organ donor. Your family can stop the organ donation even though your name appears on the Register - so it is imperative they know of your wishes.

Australia has the worst organ donor rate in the world - so let's try and change that!

Forms can be picked up from a waiting room of the Romsey Medical Centre, any Medicare office, or ring 1800 777 203.

Lets do it!

Margaret Howatson

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CONTACT : ROS

0407 847 141

BOLINDA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Welcome back to another year of information and happenings around Bolinda Primary School. For those readers that don't know us, let briefly introduce Bolinda to you. We are situated on the Romsey-Lancefield Road just south of the Monegetta store in Mulalys Road. We are a small school of 57 children (having grown from 24 just 6 years ago), with a total of 8 staff who work varying times during the course of the week. We run 3 classes, P-1-2, 3-4, and 5-6, and of course teach the 8 Key Learning Areas that all Government Schools are required to provide. We are also able to help those children who may require additional assistance.

Our 7 new Preps have started their school life with enthusiasm and are extremely happy to join in the activities of their new school and join in with all the children in the different playground activities. One of the magical things about a rural school is seeing children of all ages mixing in together and learning to get along with each other. The new preps particularly love collecting the eggs from the school chooks every day along with their teachers Mrs. Julie Cooke and Mrs. Lorraine Lee.

Grades 3, 4, 5 and 6 all went to the wonderful production of *The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe* at the State Theatre. We thank TELSTRA for their assistance of an Arts Grant that helped defray costs to each family. Some of the comments from the children are worth noting, "a great performance", "a fantastic piece of fantasy drama", "a magical story", "the show was spectacular", "it was excellent", "go and see it!", "I loved it!", "5 stars", "one of C.S.Lewis's most marvelous books on Earth!". Do you think children can appreciate live theatre and classic stories ????

The whole school will be joining with Clarkefield and Darraweit Guim in a few weeks for our annual Athletic Sports day, where again the children will mix in with others as part of the process of learning to participate and enjoy activities in a happy environment.

On March 21st we as a school will take part in Harmony Day. This day coincides each year with the United Nations International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination. On Harmony Day we think about the different cultures of the world and the people who have come to Australia from different lands with different languages that contribute to our community. The theme for Harmony Day is YOU + ME = US.

The Children's Fundraising Committee which comprises four Grade 6 students, have decided to have their first activity in support of the East Timor Eye Project. The special day is called "National Sunnies for Sight Day", where children can wear their sunglasses or make extra special decorative sunnies. For every \$5 raised, a child can have an eye examination, get a pair of suitable glasses and gain the enjoyment of learning to read and have a successful education.

All schools have workers behind the scenes, and often during the holidays, that help the school in ways that everyone doesn't see and don't necessarily know about. People who water gardens, clean out chook pens, sweep pathways, check out water pumps, cut grass, lay out new garden beds, check spouting, mend desks, wash tables and a lot of other little jobs that just have to be done. In a small school like ours, people just tend to jump in and help where and when they can. We have also had our major "Back to School" working bee where a lot of work was done around the school which all helps to make the place just a little more pleasant and enjoyable for children to come along each day. Thank you to all the helpers.

For those people who are regular readers of our news, the chooks and cats are all well, having survived the holidays where again we had willing volunteers each day to come to school and feed the "stock"!! Special thanks to all concerned.

Well, that's some of the Bolinda news for this month - drop in and see us sometime - cheerio for now.

Keith Jenkins - Principal - 5428 5317

POSITIVE PARENTING WORKSHOPS

Lancefield Neighbourhood House is offering a series of Positive Parenting Workshops for parents of pre and primary school age children. Funded by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council the workshops will run for 5 weeks from Thursday 27 February, 10 am - 12.30pm. This is a great opportunity to learn some new skills, share advice and hear what the experts have to offer. The workshops cost a total of \$15 and a donation towards childminding if you use it. Bookings are es-

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?

Thank you for your co-operation.
Margaret Howatson,
Advertising / Sponsorship

TO CONTACT ALL EMERGENCY SERVICES IN THIS AREA -

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

PHONE 000

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come to call in and see the changes we have made. We hope that this will make it easier for customers to enjoy the atmosphere of the shop.

Donations of good used items most welcome.

We are unable to accept electrical goods or furniture.

"May the Lord of Peace Himself give you peace at all times in all ways". 2 Thess 3:16

Far from over...

A number of national and world events, including the possibility of war in Iraq, peace marches and the playing future of cricketer Shane Warne, have all swayed the media's focus and attention away from the current North East and Gippsland fires. For more than three weeks, the fires headed TV and radio news bulletins. The size and impact of the fires have rallied community support and appreciation for CFA and the agencies that have played a key role in combating this state emergency.

"I have no doubt that there is now a perception in the wider community that the campaign fires are all but over. As you are well aware, that's not the case. In fact, our current CFA commitment remains very significant. We still have more than 700 people involved. This includes hundreds of fire fighters, regional staff, infrastructure support and members who are part of Incident Management Teams. All up, almost 3000 people remain directly involved in the fires. Let's not also forget that we continue to daily combat significant fires and other incidents across the rest of the state." said Neil Bibby CFA's Acting CEO. "Over the coming weeks, there will remain a major CFA commitment to these fires and therefore a huge demand on people and resources. That means that CFA will continue to rely on the goodwill and flexibility of both self-employed volunteers, and employers, to continue the commitment to the resourcing required for the remainder of this long fire season." he added

Over the past month the Romsey Group has had 15 people rotated through Gippsland, some of these members on their second and third trip. Overall around 60 members have spent time either in the northeast or recently in Gippsland. The tasks undertaken have been many and varied ranging from crewing tankers, leading strike teams, divisional commanders, working in incident management teams as resource officers, logistics officers, planning and incident control.

As you can see there is more to fighting fires than jumping on fire trucks and rushing off.

Brigades are always looking for new members including those who may never want to jump on a fire truck. If you are interested drop into the fire station on any Sunday morning around 10:00 am.

ADVERTISEMENT

MACEDON RANGES SHIRE ELECTIONS CANDIDATE HEATHER GEE



The ability to listen to and consult with the local community and the ability to carry out the job in an intelligent and competent way are attributes that I will bring to council if elected to represent Monegeetta Ward.

More transparent, practical and fair-minded decision making is needed in the council, particularly in planning matters such as the rural land review. Careful planning, wise water catchment management, a greater commitment by the council to improve fire safety in advance of the fire season, better road and road side maintenance and equity of service provision across the shire are pressing issues.

My experience as a mother, teacher, mediator, and as a medical practice manager has given me an insight into family, teenage and community health issues and has required me to have managerial capabilities. I live in Kerrie with my family where we run a small cattle stud.

Authorized by Heather Gee, 98 Gradys Lane, Kerrie

'A fresh approach'

Disclaimer:

The above article is a paid advertisement for the forthcoming council elections and in no reflects political bias or favour or opinion on behalf of the editorial committee of the Romsey Rag.

Barney Healy, Editor



Letter to Mt William Ward

Common Sense!

I'm on about what we have in common. A lot of people talk to me about common sense. I think it's common sense to value community, to value the earth we live on, to value our heritage, to value knowledge and learning, to encourage enterprise, to care about the well-being of everyone, to value diversity, to work together to provide what we all need to live well. I believe that deep down we agree about what really matters. That's what I want to find and work with as a Councillor, the common ground we share, the common ground which is common sense.

Romsey-Lancefield Seniors Club

It was lovely to visit this flourishing club recently and meet the people who enjoy each others company there each week. The group were keen to explain some of their access issues in getting in and out of the club and around the town. The good news is that the third pedestrian refuge opposite the club will be built by the Shire very soon. We have had difficulty getting a contractor to do this small job but that is all sorted out now. Also good news is that a solution has been found for the high gutter outside the bakery and chemist. The road will be built up, temporarily at first, to reduce the height of the step. A proper job will be done when the road is next resealed. Solutions for access into the club rooms will be discussed via the Shire's new Disability Advisory Group. This group is interested to hear from any resident who is having difficulty accessing services in the Macedon Ranges. Contact Angie Lausell, the community development officer at the Shire.

'Conveniences' near Skatepark may collect own electricity and water!

A sustainable approach is being considered in supplying the new toilets near the skatepark with water and electricity. The Lions club will start building the vandal-resistant building soon and costings are being done to work out whether money saved by not connecting to the grid could fund a solar system. New systems exist

now for this type of location and the benefits would be ongoing electricity savings as well as contributing to a cleaner atmosphere. A water tank may also be installed, or if funds are short, at least provision made for one, so that it can be easily added when more funds are available.

The Big Dry goes on.... Every drop of water is precious

A Western Water spokesperson recently described the water situation in Romsey as 'extreme'. The situation is covered for now by the temporary bore which is supplying about half of Romsey's water. The new pipeline is being urgently built from both ends and will make 70 megalitres of water available. Once the pipeline is open, 30 megalitres will be transferred to local storage for greater security of supply. Restrictions will not ease until the weather breaks and may be increased, if usage remains too high. So water your gardens with care and follow all the 'water wise' tips! A drought relief information sheet is available from all Shire service centres. If you need help, don't wait too long.

Retaining the Unique Character of Romsey

The Heritage Overlays of the planning scheme are being reviewed, which should help to protect the environment around heritage buildings. Romsey also needs neighbourhood character studies and township design guidelines soon as possible. I am making it very clear to Council that Romsey needs these studies to protect its character from inappropriate development.

Rural Planning

It is vital that we come to a 'common sense' approach to what kind of development we allow on rural land in the Shire. I don't believe that the draft rural amendment currently on exhibition is the best and fairest solution. We need many submissions from people who would be affected. These will all contribute to coming up with a better way to retain agricultural land in useful parcels and to have enough people living in rural areas to manage land well. Please call me and/or the Shire planning department if you want to talk about the Rural Land Review and the planning scheme amendment C21. The time

for putting in submissions has been extended to March 21st.

Rotary raising funds for Lancefield CFA Juniors to compete in Europe

The Auction will be over when you read this and hopefully on March 1 at Centrevic Motel a huge sum will have been raised! Just mentioning it here to commend Rotary and anyone who is supporting this very worthy cause. Unfortunately, it's been a long slog for Barry Barnett and others to get financial support. Anyone who missed the Auction and would like to contribute, just contact the Lancefield CFA.

Relay for Life

On the fundraising subject, how are the Relay for Life teams coming along? I've only just registered mine, and haven't got a name yet. This will be a GREAT, NOT TO BE MISSED EVENT. Get a team. Join in. Have fun doing something worthwhile with locals in your local area. It's in Lancefield and is for the whole district to support the cause of cancer research and everyone who is touched by cancer. I guess that's all of us.

Please phone or fax on 5427 0156, or write via Macedon Ranges Shire. Till next time,
Alice Aird, Councillor Macedon Ranges Shire



Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society Inc.



P.O. Box 11,
ROMSEY, 3434.

COURT HOUSE, LANCEFIELD – Tuesday March 25th, 7.30pm.

An "introduction to the Archives" will be held at our Local History Resources Centre at the Court House, Lancefield, all welcome. This session will follow a brief business meeting beginning at 7.30 pm on Tuesday march 25th. Everyone is welcome to come and see the resources available at YOUR local history centre, and share a cuppa and a chat afterwards.

SEYMOUR COTTAGE, ROMSEY – OPEN THIRD SUNDAY EACH MONTH

A.B.C. TV recently made a short film using Seymour Cottage as the setting. The film is entitled "Love Letters" and is about a soldier writing home during World War II. The film is due to be released on Anzac day, or close to that date. It was exciting to see all the actors and the props that the A.B.C. brought to our otherwise quiet street in Romsey, so we look forward to viewing the finished product. Remember to look out for it!

SUNDAY, MAY 25TH

A candle-lit evening in Seymour Cottage, with an A.B.C. rep talking about the making of the above "Love Letters" film, followed by light refreshments will be held. More details next time, but put the date in your diary.

Enquiries re Historical Society:
Secretary Jean Clement
5429 6522.

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Thursday, 17 April, 2003

7:30 p.m.

Watch This Space for More Information

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
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Fees are approx. \$30 per child
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Enquiries – please contact
Colette – 5429 1930
Carol – 5429 5160

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Between 10.30 am and 12.30pm
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No article of clothing over \$1.00!

**Beginners Piano and
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For further information
Contact: Claire Frost
Phone: 5429 1985 after 7pm.

Available to HOUSE SIT between now and September, willing to look after animals and maintain the property during owners absence.
Please phone: 0413 278 120

Romsey Uniting Church

25 Pohlman Street

Minister: Rev Alan Williams

25 William Street

Romsey 3434

Ph/Fax: 5429 5351

mobile: 0408 380 962



What's News

The imminent (as I write this) war with Iraq is dominating our news. Either it's the latest find by the UN weapons inspectors, or some new deployment of troops, or a pronouncement by George Bush (or Tony Blair or John Howard or even Saddam Hussein) or some other government official, or a large scale protest somewhere in the world.

No matter where we turn, we find mention of Iraq and war. But what has it got to do with us? Sitting here in Romsey, are we going to be affected by what does, or doesn't, happen half a world away?

Whether we like it or not, the conflict in Iraq does impact on us. At a fundamental level, petrol prices will be affected one way or another. Then there are any locals who are a part of the military, or the families and friends of military personnel. And then there are issues of world stability and possible threats against our country.

Most of the people I speak to seem to have an opinion on this issue. They may not be rabidly passionate, but there are still strong feelings. And even the oft-quoted public opinion poll had only 2% of respondents with no opinion.

My faith is about life and affirming life. The reality of war is life denying for many people, including civilians. However, oppression and threats are also life denying, forcing people to live in fear. For those who remember *Strictly Ballroom*, 'A life lived in fear is a life half lived.'

So what are we to do? Whilst many people want to wait as long as possible, to give the maximum opportunity for a diplomatic solution, I want a peaceful and stable solution as soon as possible. I hate conflict, and would prefer that there is no war, and I think that most people would support that. My current struggle is to consider whether that is realistic or not.

My faith tells me that struggle and violence are a part of the human reality. My faith also tells me that there is a better way. My fervent belief is that the only hope for a true and lasting peace is if each person involved, from the leaders of nations down to the least of their citizens, finds this better way. That is my hope and prayer, for you and for the world.

Rev Alan Williams

What's On

- 2 Mar 9:00am worship and Sunday School, including Holy Communion.
- 9 Mar 9:00am worship and Sunday School.
- 12 Mar 1:30pm UCAF (Ladies' Guild) meets in the Sunday School hall. This month they will be doing some 'Gentle Exercises' under the guidance and instruction of Jan Adams. All welcome to come along and try something a little different.
- 16 Mar 9:00am worship and Sunday School.
- 23 Mar 9:00am worship and Sunday School.
- 30 Mar 9:00am worship and Sunday School.
4:30pm A Very Different worship service at Lancefield UC, following a bring and share meal. This is particularly suitable for families, but everyone is welcome to come along and see what we do.
- 6 Apr 9:00am worship and Sunday School, including Holy Communion.

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

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

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CLEARING SALE**Sunday, March 9 at 10 am****283 Graham's Road, Lancefield**

(Vicroads City, Directory Map 60 Ref E6) Signs will be erected

Old Farm Machinery, Antiques,**Household effects and lots more****Items include**

Old Farm Machinery: 1960 B275 International tractor, 1958 Landrover, super spreader, Lister 2 stand shearing petrol machine, seed spreader, discs, plough, boom spray, post hole digger, lawn mower, qty timber, lawn mower, diesel tank on stand, pitch forks, rec wool table, garden tools kennel, iron, saddle.

Furniture: Jacobean lounge suite, 3 pce lounge suite (cane inserts), bedroom dresser, timber dble bed ends, sewing mach cabinet, bedside cupboard, round pedestal table, 3 pce lounge suite, Aucher Bros piano, Baltic pine desk, bentwood chairs, old school desk, mantelpiece, child's table and chairs, mirrors, 2 x colour TVs.

Household Effects and Sundries: Microwave oven, bench oven, air cooler, stereo, toasters, saucepans, crockery, cutlery, lamps, dual exercise bike, blue storage barrels, paints, cupboards, frames, prints, crafts, Manchester, sewing machine, books, tapes, old bottles, Vacola bottles, bikes, kero lamp, children's toys and games.

Plus many other items too numerous to mention

Terms: Numbering system will operate. Strictly cash/cheque on day of sale. ID required. No dogs allowed. Inspection on day of sale only from 8am.

View at: www.lancefield.info/auction.htm

Inquiries to 5429 2021 AH or 5231 1807 AH

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One small old fashioned cream can.

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**Please contact Adam on 03 54 295 265 or
0417 30 4878**

Romsey Golf Club Ladies

Big thankyous to the men who have been watering our greens by hand to enable us to keep our course open. As I sit here typing to meet the deadline there is rain outside so we are also thankful for that and hope it may continue for a while. The countryside can surely do with a good soaking. While the remainder of the course is very dry and hard the grass cover is still there so play has been continuing.

Our come and try days have been a success with people trying their hand at golf for the first time and others having a hit after a long time lapse since their last game. There has been much laughter and some frustration, but that's golf.

As our 18 hole competitions start in March with the new syllabus we are now at the stage of wanting to know what our new ladies and men want to do in regards to their golf. We would still like to encourage them to continue to play whether it is to carry on playing 9 holes with each other or to join and play 18 holes. The other option is to play 9 holes with the 18-hole competition.

Our ladies have started visiting other clubs playing competitions. Good hitting with the travelling.

The Romsey Golf Club has entered a team in the Relay for Life and members are currently looking for sponsors. All donations over \$2 are tax deductible and official receipts will be issued. The money raised all goes to the Cancer Council Victoria so please help the "Romsey Birdies" (a mixed team) raise money for this cause.

We are a busy club as well as raising money for the Cancer Council we are also trying to raise money for our club. The Progressive Dinner is being held 5th April. Invitations have been sent out but if anyone else is interested in coming please ring Shirley 54295271 or Beryl 54295411 for information.

Open Day Saturday 12th April. 12 o'clock assembly for a 12.30 hit off. More information for members later. Non members wishing to play our course with us on opening day can ring Steve Wilkins (secretary) for more information on 54295173.

Congratulations to Shirley & Blue Shelton who celebrated their 40th Wedding Anniversary on 23rd February. May you have many more happy healthy years together.

Beryl Cole 54295411

ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD AMBULANCE AUXILIARY

We are just so happy to advise that our ambulance station is now fully manned,

24 hours a day, 7 days a week!

The staff consists of Station Officer Olga Cannata who is an Advanced Life Support Paramedic, Dave Newman and Martin Bartasek who are both MICA Paramedics and Natasha Hollis and Mark Phillips are both Advanced Life Support Paramedics.

We are very fortunate to have such a skilled group of dedicated professionals here in Romsey and wish them all well in their new positions.

In an emergency – remember to call 000 for an ambulance.

On Australia Day we had an Open Day at the Ambulance Station. Our day started with a Dedication Ceremony of a Plaque in remembrance of our Foundation Member and dedicated worker for many causes in Romsey, Geoff Skinner. Geoff's family were in attendance to witness this very moving ceremony. Geoff will never be forgotten now – his plaque and a lovely picture of him now adorns the entrance hall of the station.

Fr. George O'Connor opened the Australia Day proceedings for us and we all did a very good rendition of Advance Australia Fair of which we were all proud! Our Auxiliary President, Mayor Geoff Neil, presented the following Foundation Members (who are leaving the district) with a Certificate of Appreciation from Rural Ambulance Victoria

for their services to the Romsey-Lancefield Auxiliary – Vice President – Peter Leake and members Liz Leake; David Long and Dennette Long along with Certificates awarded to local organizations who had contributed funds to the auxiliary – Romsey-Lancefield Lions, Romsey-Lancefield RSL, Friends of Lancefield Hospital and Lancefield Hospital Auxiliary.

All who attended were shown around the new complex and enjoyed a sausage sizzle cooked by our very talented Paramedics!!

If you missed this Open Day, I am sure we will have others in the future so just watch the Romsey Rag for information.

Margaret Howatson, Secretary.



Vice President Peter Leake being presented with his Certificate of Appreciation by Mayor Geoff Neil

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**Cnr 98 Main Street & Palmer Street,
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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



**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 Metcalfe Drive, Romsey

Drop In Centre

The St. Vincent De Paul Conference of Lancefield/Romsey welcomes our Community to the Drop In Centre at St. Mary's Church Hall, Main Street, Romsey on the **1st Thursday** of every month from 10.30a.m.

Coffee/tea morning and afternoons. Card games - 20 cents a game... money distributed among the winners! Free lunch. Come to just look... Come to chat and be part of the fun. For transport phone Rose 5429 5270.

Op Shop (St. Vincent De Paul)

Open every **Thursday** at Romsey 10.30a.m. - 12.30p.m.

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

Sacramental Program 2003

March 12th: Confirmation Information Night: 7.00pm

March 20th: 1st Reconciliation Workshops: 7.00pm

These meetings are held at St. Mary's School.

Please contact Sr. Patricia for more details.

**FOR HIRE
ROMSEY MECHANICS
INSTITUTE**

For all occasions...
For enquires and
bookings
ring Frank Crossman on
5429 5380

**A GREAT START AT ST. MARY'S
SCHOOL**

St. Mary's School opened for another challenging, exciting school year with 178 pupils. Twenty-eight Prep children began their school journey with Grade 1 children showing them the way. Their buddies in Grades 5 & 6 have also been a great help.

During the Parish Mass on Sunday 9th February, St. Mary's School Staff renewed their commitment to Catholic Education and the children in our care during 2003. A special blessing for us was prayed by the congregation.

On Wednesday 19th February, the school community gathered under the school Walkway for Mass to ask God's Blessing on our endeavours during 2003. Members of St. Mary's School Board received a special blessing for guidance and wisdom for all their undertakings this year as did the Grade 6 students as they take up their role as school Leaders.

The community Mass was well attended and families stayed afterwards to meet each other, chat and enjoyed supper together.

Grade 6 students are taking part in training sessions for the Peer Support Program. During the year they will work with Grade 3 children in groups when they will discuss many aspects of school life, explore coping strategies and have lots of fun at the same time. Leaders will be announced after the children submit their applications and the school selection process is completed.

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

Lancefield-Romsey Little Athletics Centre

Park Lane, Romsey.
Phone 5429 6089

Our Centre was well represented at the Northern Country Region Track & Field Championships in Albury on 15th and 16th February. 37 Centre athletes contested a total of 155 events over the two day competition. In total, they broke 99 personal best performances! 7 athletes have qualified for the VLAA State Track & Field Championships which will be held over two days (March 15th and 16th) at Olympic Park in Melbourne. Based on their performances, we would expect a few more Centre athletes to be progressed at a later date, through to the VLAA State Track & Field Championships. Some of the athletes who have already qualified may also be progressed through in other events. All our athletes bettered their PBs and were a credit to the Centre.

Well Done to:

U8 athletes:

Nathan Blair
Neil Johnson
Megan Coy
Gabrielle Derrick
Cortni O'Donnell
Chloe Thomas

U9 athletes:

Blake Meyer
Benjamin Notman
Patrick Pyke
Sean Pyke
Luke Rebbeschi
Larissa Coy

U10 athletes:

Cameron Blair

Matthew Francis

Jack Townsing
**Emily Mallett

Marissa Thomas

U11 Athletes:

Patrick Derrick
Daniel Rebbeschi
Russell Reid
Bill Rowlands
Ashley Scarlett

U12 athletes:

Tim Francis
Bronwyn Blair
Melissa Derrick

U13 athletes:

Glenn Maple
Daniel Martin
Joel Thomas
Molly Johnson
Bronwyn Rowlands

U14 athletes:

Mick Derrick
Michael Graham
Scott Martin
Kaitlyn McEwen
Mickala Thomas

U15 athletes:

Matthew Blair
Colleen Graham

The athletes who won medals are:

- **U10 Girl Marissa Thomas** – 3rd in Shotput
- **U10 Girl Emily Mallett** – 3rd in 80mHurdles
- **U11 Boy Bill Rowlands** – 1st in High Jump and 3rd in 70m and Long Jump
- **U13 Girl Bronwyn Rowlands** – 1st in 1500m and 2nd in 800m
- **U13 Boy Daniel Martin** – 1st in 80mHurdles and 3rd in Triple Jump
- **U13 Boy Glenn Maple** – 3rd in

Javelin

- **U14 Boy Michael Graham** – 2nd in Javelin
- **U14 Boy Scott Martin** – 1st in 100m, 200m and Long Jump and 3rd in High Jump
- **U15 Boy Matthew Blair** – 2nd in 100mHurdles, 300mHurdles and Long Jump
- **U15 Girl Colleen Graham** – 1st in Shotput and Javelin and 2nd in Discus

**U10 girl Emily Mallett was unfortunate that her 80mHurdle final, in which she placed 3rd, had to be re-run later in the same day, due to a technical difficulty. After the re-run, she wound up unplaced in the official results. However, our Centre managed to obtain a bronze medal, which has since been presented to Emily, because we felt she deserved it after her first effort!

The athletes who have qualified for the VLAA State Track & Field Championships are:

- **U11 Boy Bill Rowlands** – 1st in High Jump and 3rd in 70m and Long Jump
- **U13 Girl Bronwyn Rowlands** – 1500m and 800m
- **U13 Boy Daniel Martin** – 80mHurdles
- **U14 Boy Michael Graham** – Javelin
- **U14 Boy Scott Martin** – 100m, 200m and Long Jump
- **U15 Boy Matthew Blair** – 100mHurdles, 300mHurdles and Long Jump
- **U15 Girl Colleen Graham** – Shotput, Javelin and Discus

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