

THE Romsey Rag

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Duckholes Village - Did You Know?

Set at the corner of Duckholes Road and Lancefield Road, this former timber hotel is now clad with corrugated iron but displays the traditional splayed corner entrance, simply pitched hipped roof form and early corbel topped cemented brick chimneys. The stables at the rear have been altered and re-clad.



The Duckholes hotel was first licensed in 1862. It is the last remaining building of the Duckholes village. The small village of Duckholes got its name from the numerous crab 'holes' in the area, which attracted hordes of ducks after they filled with rain, flocks of 2000 ducks were a common sight. Stock sales were held monthly in Romsey and Lancefield, stock on route to Clarkefield and Melbourne stopped at Duckholes reserve. There was also a school built about half a mile away from the hotel on Black Range Road, and it is believed that they were built about the same time.

The school opened in 1861 and closed in 1903, the school building was moved to Monegeeta where it formed part of the general store. The Duckholes post office was run from the Hotel until it was transferred to the school in 1876. There was a race track at Duckholes which held annual race meetings which brought the community together. The last licensee was Fred Stammers who found a gold nugget while burying a dead cat. The hotel was delicensed in 1896 and used as a residence by the Allen family for several decades.

For further information and stories about the Duckholes Hotel contact the Romsey & Lancefield Historical society.

REFERENCES:

- Romsey A Veritable Garden of Eden – Peter Mitchell 2004
- When Memory Turns the Key – The Shire of Romsey History Book Committee 1992
- Macedon Ranges Cultural Heritage and Landscape Study 1993-94
- Articles from the Romsey Examiner, 1882-1965

Mary-Anne Thomas MP

LABOR MEMBER FOR MACEDON

As your local Member of Parliament I am keen to hear from the community and assist with any State Government matter.



Mary-Anne Thomas

Shop 14, Nexus Centre,
9 Goode Street, Gisborne, VIC 3437
P: 5428 2138
E: mary-anne.thomas@parliament.vic.gov.au

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Why I support the Voice

There are many disadvantaged groups in Australia, all of whom would surely like to have a greater say in government matters affecting them.

So why should one group, Indigenous Australians, be given a special and constitutionally enshrined voice to parliament? There is no doubting the extreme level of disadvantage in many Indigenous communities: the statistics on, for example, life-expectancy and imprisonment, are shocking and unacceptable. But while that is an often-stated reason for the Voice, it is not, in my view, a sufficient reason. So why do I support the Voice?

Firstly, the proposed Voice is intimately connected to the proposed recognition of Indigenous Australians in the words of the constitution - a recognition (widely supported) that they were the custodians of this land for thousands of years before colonisation. Such recognition is central to what defines Australia, so it should be more than just words. It needs to be more substantial. In my mind this justifies giving Indigenous Australians their own Voice to Parliament: that would be tangible recognition.

Secondly, the disadvantage that many Indigenous Australians experience has a different genesis from that of other disadvantaged groups. Much is the result of colonisation: their land was taken from them, many of their children were taken away, they were omitted from the national census, they lacked electoral franchise, they have been subjected to paternalistic laws. The impact of colonisation on them and their way of life has been nothing short of catastrophic, and warrants redress in a tangible way.

Thirdly, modern Australia has much to learn from the traditional practices and beliefs of Indigenous culture. Top of mind here is "connection to country", respect for non-human life, living in harmony with nature, being custodians not owners of the land. In contrast, modern Australia, with its worship of wealth, consumerism and exploitation of nature is demonstrably unsustainable both environmentally and ethically. It is perhaps wishful thinking on my part, but a louder indigenous voice could show us a way towards a brighter future.

Ian Penrose - respected former scientist, prominent Victorian and our first Yarra Riverkeeper CEO.

August in the garden

by **Melanie Kinsey**

It's been a huge couple of weeks for us! We finally moved into our new home – out the back door of the old house, across the lawn, down the driveway and into the new house! Yes we divided our block in two and have built out the back. Moving the furniture and contents took one day thanks to lots of help. Moving the pots and everything else outside with just the family took two days! Phew! And of course, it rained and blew and underfoot was slippery with mud. But we got there in the end. All the frost sensitive pots are lined up beneath the eaves of the new house. Everything tough is just out there in the open – on the mud. I hope it survives!

I am already enjoying gazing out the bedroom window at the beautiful gum tree in my neighbour's back yard. I can also see the amazing growth on my green mallee - *Eucalyptus viridis*. I coppiced it back in May 2020 and currently the new growth is shrub-like; but eventually it will attain the typical mallee form with long thin trunks topped with mops of foliage. A bit like a Dr Seuss tree!



My plants in Transit.

Back in my old garden the winter cut-back has been completed and now we are set to mulch the garden beds and spread fresh sand on the paths. We must build a new boundary fence between the properties which involves trimming back some trees and shrubs. I carefully positioned the line between the two properties so no trees would need to be removed. Due to my enthusiasm over thirty years ago, we have a dense planting between the two houses meaning privacy on both sides is assured – I am very pleased about that! Talk about planting for the future! Now to arrange the indoor plants to my satisfaction!

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Change

There is an old saying, "the only certainties in life are death and taxes"

Well, perhaps the most certain thing we all face every day is change. Our gardens change, our children change, laws change, we change. It is a huge part of everyone's life.

In the face of change there tends to be three reactions;

- **The Conservative;** everything is OK, I like it the way it is, leave it alone.
- **The Radical;** we need this now, it must happen immediately.
- **The Considered;** yes change is needed but let's try to manage it so that we achieve what we want and cause as little damage to society and individuals as possible.

A few examples of recent change and some of the more voluble reactions to these changes:

1. Cigarettes and alcohol are banned from advertising and sponsoring sporting clubs and events - "Well without that sponsorship that's the end of The Ashes (Dunhill) and the NRL (Winfield) etc". All sports are still flourishing, they just found new sponsors.
2. Aboriginal Land Rights - "Well they will be claiming the MCG and your backyard and there will be no more mining". No claim on the MCG or people's back yards and the greatest mining boom in our history saw us breeze through the global financial crisis of 2008 - 2010. Not all countries were as lucky as Australia.
3. Smoking banned in hotels and restaurants - "well there goes the pub, without smokers they will not survive". Pubs and restaurants have survived and are generally doing well without smokers inside.

It is easy for the loudest to control a discussion.

Every day we are faced with change, sometimes small things such as:

Now I must sort plastics into the yellow bin and the orange bag or larger issues such as:

A new candidate for the electorate is described as a right-wing/left-wing zealot but I've never heard of him/her.

We all know that things must change; it is our responsibility to **become informed** about these issues so that we understand what is happening and can form an opinion that is based in fact.



MEMBER 2022

COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION of VICTORIA

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The Romsey Rag is proud a member of the CNAV. It is the peak body representing not-for-profit community newspapers across Victoria.

www.theromseyrag.com.au

Send us your thoughts and ideas for what you think could happen in Romsey. For all correspondence: email@theromseyrag.com.au. Please note articles should be restricted to 300-350 words plus/minus a picture. Articles will be edited as required. The editorial committee reserve the right not to print inflammatory or unsuitable materials.

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BUSINESS BREAKFAST

WITH ANNIE SMITHERS



ROMSEY REGION BUSINESS & TOURISM ASSOCIATION

Friday 25 August 2023

Mount Monument

\$38 RRBATA Members
\$55 Non-Members

Bookings:



Event Sponsors:



www.romseylancefieldregion.au

Uluru Statement from the Heart

“We, gathered at the 2017 National Constitutional Convention, coming from all points of the southern sky, make this statement from the heart:

Our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander tribes were the first sovereign Nations of the Australian continent and its adjacent islands, and possessed it under our own laws and customs. This our ancestors did, according to the reckoning of our culture, from the Creation, according to the common law from ‘time immemorial’, and according to science more than 60,000 years ago.

This sovereignty is a spiritual notion: the ancestral tie between the land, or ‘mother nature’, and the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who were born therefrom, remain attached thereto, and must one day return thither to be united with our ancestors. This link is the basis of the ownership of the soil, or better, of sovereignty.

It has never been ceded or extinguished, and co-exists with the sovereignty of the Crown.

How could it be otherwise? That peoples possessed a land for sixty millennia and this sacred link disappears from world history in merely the last two hundred years?

With substantive constitutional change and structural reform, we believe this ancient sovereignty can shine through as a fuller expression of Australia’s nationhood.

Proportionally, we are the most incarcerated people on the planet. We are not an innately criminal people. Our children are alienated from their families at unprecedented rates. This cannot be because we have no love for them. And our youth languish in detention in obscene numbers. They should be our hope for the future.

These dimensions of our crisis tell plainly the structural nature of our problem. This is the torment of our powerlessness. We seek constitutional reforms to empower our people and take a rightful place in our own country. When we have power over our destiny our children will flourish. They will walk in two worlds and their culture will be a gift to their country.

We call for the establishment of a First Nations Voice enshrined in the Constitution.

Makarrata is the culmination of our agenda: the coming together after a struggle. It captures our aspirations for a fair and truthful relationship with the people of Australia and a better future for our children based on justice and self-determination.

We seek a Makarrata Commission to supervise a process of agreement-making between governments and First Nations and truth-telling about our history.

In 1967 we were counted, in 2017 we seek to be heard. We leave base camp and start our trek across this vast country. We invite you to walk with us in a movement of the Australian people for a better future.”



C.W.A. 2022 STATE THEMES:

THEME: Sharing, fun and friendship.

Product/Resource: Australian grown potatoes and Australian potato products.

Country of Study: Malaysia.

Thanksgiving Fun: Free 3D hands – Research and development of 3D hands.

State Project: CWA of Vic. Inc. IT and Systems Upgrade and Maintenance.

Social Issues Focus: Safe Homes for All.

For any further information please call:

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Dianne Purtill
M: 0409 214 520

Secretary:
Wendy Foster
M: 0409175 667

or email:
cwaromsey@gmail.com

SUPERSTITIONS

The Blarney Stone is a stone set in the wall of the Blarney Castle tower in the Irish village of Blarney. Kissing the stone is supposed to bring the kisser the gift of persuasive eloquence (blarney.)

ROMSEY BRANCH OF C.W.A. INC

With the heater on and the supper room nice and warm our members met for our July meeting. It was great to see so many happy faces. Welcome to Dianne who has joined our branch, we hope you enjoy our friendship etc. Also welcome to Alison who came along to see what we are about. Not just Craft and scones.

Some of us visited the Macedon Branch for Christmas in July. We enjoyed a 3 course meal. Tummies were certainly satisfied.

September will be a very busy month for our branch. 9th and 10th September we will help man the stalls and Devonshire teas during the Kyneton Daffodil Festival at the Masonic Hall 7 Yaldwyn St Kyneton.

Thursday 21st September we will be holding our Association Day – Mad Hatter's Tea Party. \$15 entry fee. All welcome.

More details in next month's issue.

Our meetings are in the supper room at the RMI Hall on the 1st Wednesday of the month, starting at 10am. The heater will be on so the room is lovely and warm. Come and join us. Visitors are welcome to come along.

ONE OF OUR FAVORITES – They always sell well at our stalls

SAUSAGE ROLLS

Ingredients

- 1 packet of sausage mince
- 1 medium onion, diced
- 1 carrot, grated chopped parsley
- Seasoning to taste
- 2 sheets of puff pastry
- 1 egg beaten

RECIPE

Method

1. Combine sausage mince, onion, carrot parsley and seasoning in a large bowl. Cut pastry sheet in half horizontally. Spoon mixture onto one side of the pastry, brush opposite edge with egg mixture. Roll up pastry to enclose filling. Cut into required size.
2. Brush top with egg mixture and place onto a baking tray. Bake for 25 -30 minutes until golden.

CWA is not just for older women; it is for women of any age wanting to be involved in their local community and also be connected to a world-wide organisation of friendship and community care. We have a lot of fun and laughs while being creative and raising funds for community projects. CWA is a volunteer organisation.

Macedon Ranges Heritage Strategy 2023

The saying goes that a picture is worth 1000 words and residents are being encouraged to share what they love about our shire's heritage through photos, to help inform a revised Heritage Strategy.

The shire's heritage is rich, special and unique; this strategy aims to identify the heritage we need to know about and how we are to manage, protect and celebrate it.

The first stage of MRSC consultation for this strategy was to take photos of what you love about the heritage of Macedon Ranges. It could be a person, a place, or a thing – tell us all, in 25 words or less, why you love it or what you would change for the better. This stage closed for MRSC on 23 June.

The Romsey Rag invites you to take photos of what you like around Romsey – a place, person or a thing - tell us what you like about it. Send it to The Romsey Rag, and we will include photos in the next issues. Page 1 of this news tells you about Duckholes and its story. What about you? What do you like? Take a photo and tell us!



G'day

Cooking with Peter Russell-Clarke

APPLE TART WITH BURNT HONEY BUTTER

The little tin shed was in the back yard which was home to the chickens and the piglets and their pen with its mud puddle floor. The shed was where Buttercup, the Friesian cow, was milked each morning.

Leaning against the outside wall of the milking shed was an addition, in which the bees' honey was processed. The hand driven centrifuge and all the other paraphernalia needed to extract the bees' honey from the combs in which it was encased was tidily stacked under a rickety table.

Once Buttercup's milk was encouraged from her udder it was separated and churned into butter, which was stored beside the bottled honey before it was put into the fridge.

An apple tree branch loaded with Granny Smiths hung over the ring lock fence and it was from that direction that the bush fire crept into our life.

Fortunately, there was practically no wind to drive the flames, which we put out from around the home block with wet sacks attached to saplings.

And after the drama of the fire was over, I cooked a meal for the helpers. The dessert was an apple tart with burnt honey butter.



Ingredients

- 5 tablespoons honey
- 100g butter, softened
- sheets of puff pastry (unfrozen)
- 4 large Granny Smith apples



Method

1. Line a baking tray with baking paper and then a layer of puff pastry. Slice the apples finely and layer them, slightly overlapping, to cover the pastry leaving free a 1 cm border around the edge. Bake in the oven, preheated to 200 deg.C, until the edges of the tart are golden. (About 20-30 minutes.)
2. Whilst that's happening, put the honey into a small double boiler saucepan and bring slowly to the boil (keeping your eye on it) then take it off the heat immediately. Whisk the softened butter until it's fluffy then add the hot honey.
3. When the apple tart is golden, take it out of the oven and brush gently with the honey-butter. Put the tart back in the oven for 5 minutes until the glaze starts to bubble.

| That's all folks!

Macedon Ranges Freemasons are looking for new members

The Macedon Ranges Masonic Lodge is hoping to inspire new members and involvement in freemasonry. Freemasons participate in all types of charitable works, showing their three great principles – brotherly love, relief and truth.

The mission and vision of this foundation includes investing in program and initiatives that are expected to provide stronger and healthier communities and supporting individuals through access to education.

Freemasons Foundation Victoria (FFV) gave \$5000 in December to the charity – Love in Action, to assist those in need in the district with food packages during the Christmas season.

Members of this organisation encourage families and descendants of existing members and committee groups, supporting clubs to become involved.

Despite being a “men only organisation” they are encouraging women to support their partner for a better understanding of what Freemasonry stands for.

Lodge is attended on the first Thursday of each month at the Romsey Masonic Centre – Main Street Romsey starting at 7.30pm Ladies are encouraged to come along and meet the other women and have supper with the men at the conclusion of their meeting.

You won't know if you don't come along and see. You just might like it. Give it a try!



Community Bank Connections

GRANTS AND SPONSORSHIP APPLICATIONS OPEN, CLOSING SOON!

Applications for our 2023-24 Community Investment Program are open via the Community Enterprise Foundation www.bendigobank.com.au/foundation. Our Community Investment Program comprises grants and sponsorships for projects both large and small.

In last month's edition, we provided information on the dates for applications. We would like to issue a correction regarding the closing date for applications. **APPLICATIONS CLOSE FRIDAY 18 AUGUST 2023.**

To discuss your project, for assistance with your application or to make sure your community group is registered to receive our CIP information and program updates, email Lauren Harrison via cip@lrcfsl.com.au. We look forward to receiving your applications for our Community Investment Program. Remember, the correct closing date for applications is 18 August 2023.

TEAM NEWS!

Welcome to the team Tenae! Tenae Bannan has moved back to the Macedon Ranges from Echuca and is our newest Customer Service Officer in our Lancefield Branch. A keen netball player and coach, Tenae coaches teams with Gisborne Rookies & Leitchville/Gumbower. Make sure you stop by and say hello!

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT AT AN ALL TIME HIGH

As the end of financial year has now been and gone, we can announce our final Community Investment Program contributions for our 2022-23 program. We're thrilled to report that thanks to your better banking, we paid our largest ever amount of \$336,940 via grants, sponsorships, and scholarships for our local community, with plenty more to come this financial year!

LOCAL STUDENTS OFF TO SYDNEY FOR YOUTH LEADERSHIP PROGRAM

In early July two local students Emily Bonnici and Charli Laity, travelled to Sydney to attend the 2023 Magic Moments Youth Leadership and Business Summit as part of our scholarship program. From all accounts, it was an incredibly inspiring and engaging program and one that we hope to continue to support in future years. We'll leave you with the below words from Charli regarding her experience.



“ I have learnt an incredible amount from this experience, and I cannot wait to share this new and exciting knowledge with our local community in whatever way possible.

These past 5 days have impacted my mindset so much that it will change my life. Thank you so much for the opportunity to be a part of such a life-changing experience.”

- Charli Laity

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Community Investment Program

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Applications open Monday 17 July and close Friday 18 August.

For more information email cip@lrcfsl.com.au or follow the link below

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Community Enterprise Foundation™

The Lancefield and Romsey Community Investment Program is a management account of the Community Enterprise Charitable Fund ABN 12 102 649 968 (the Fund), The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo VIC 3550. Sandhurst Trustees Limited ABN 16 004 030 737 AFSL 237906, a subsidiary of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL 237879, is the trustee of the Fund. 1409006-1409008 OUT_30421986



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Opening Hours:
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Help for Families

Support is available locally for families needing parenting advice, practical assistance or guidance to help them get through a difficult time.

Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health's family services team provides help for Macedon Ranges families with children from birth to 17 years of age to empower them to help their children develop to their full potential.

Support may include identifying your parenting goals and connecting you to parenting groups, counselling, family violence support or child development services. They can also advise where you can get financial or legal assistance.

The service is free and referrals are made through The Orange Door.

Contact 1800 512 359 or you can visit Sunbury and Cobaw at 1 Caroline Chisholm Drive Kyneton or go to their website: www.sunburycobaw.org.au/a-z-services/families/family-services.



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Enquiries call 4410 1054

RRAUG23

RRBATA – Committed to Building Capability

RRBATA's VISION is: A vibrant, collaborative and prosperous eastern corridor community which enhances liveability in the region.

Exciting times ahead for representation of Eastern Macedon Ranges businesses: At the time of writing this, RRBATA is on the eve of a Special General Meeting that will see the Association move to amend its Statement of Purpose, update its Constitution (Rules) and change the name of the Association. After much consideration and acknowledgement of RRBATA's increasing membership from across the eastern corridor region, it will be proposed in the 19th July Special General Meeting to re-name the organisation from Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association Inc (RRBATA) to Eastern Macedon Ranges Business and Tourism Association Inc (EMRBATA). This will more accurately represent the broader spread of the organisation's membership and thereby dispel any "Romsey-centric" perception. The proposal for these changes came from the MRSC-funded Capability Building workshops undertaken by RRBATA's committee members earlier this year, out of which a Strategic Plan was also developed for the organisation. This will place RRBATA in a great position to be a relevant and sustainable organisation moving forward.

After Work Business Catch Up: The next After Work Business Catch Up will be held at Verdure in Romsey on Wednesday 16th August from 5.30pm. These informal RRBATA initiatives are open to any businesses in the region and are a great opportunity to catch up, meet new business operators, trade information/ideas and have general conversation. Nibbles provided and drinks are at bar prices. Stay for as little or as long as you like!

Facebook: Romsey and Lancefield Region - Business and Living

Instagram: Romsey_Lancefield_Region

www.rrbata.com.au



Romsey Region Business & Tourism Association (RRBATA)

Jenny Stillman

Phone: 0412 349849

Email: jennystillman@optusnet.com.au

The benefits of the Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association. Be a part of it!

Romsey Online Remember Don't forget, ANYONE CAN BE A REPORTER! Whether it is sporting results, photos, reports on events etc, the website is waiting for your "news".

Please ensure a note of consent from people featured in any photographs accompanies your submissions. Remember, the website is only as good as the information fed to it at info@romsey.org.au.

DEMAK PLUMBING

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- *Sewer Camera & Jet Machine
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Servicing Macedon Ranges



Can you help the Lancefield Macedon Ranges Relay For Life?

First, I want to thank all the supporters of the Relay for the contribution they made to the 2023 Relay For Life held at Lancefield Park in March. The 2023 event raised over \$54,000 which is a great result given the difficulty in re-establishing the event after the COVID induced interruption.

Since the Relay started at Lancefield 21 years ago this event has raised over \$1.7m for Cancer Council Victoria; that is a colossal achievement of which all the teams and those who have supported the event should be immensely proud.

For those of us who believe in what Relay stands for, namely doing what we can to help and support those who have cancer and their families, there is still much to be done.

The 2024 Relay is set for Saturday 2 March 2024 at Lancefield Park. The Lancefield event is the only Relay held in the Macedon Ranges.

Subsequent to the last Relay the committee met to review how the Relay went.

After our review Kathy Lakey, Sandra Clark and Angelique Mott all indicated they were standing down from the Committee. Their many years of service to the Relay are much appreciated.

The Lancefield Relay has a strong team of on the day volunteers who help set up the event, entertain us during the day and assist in the pack up. We are confident that those marvelous people will continue to support the Relay.

To successfully continue the event the Committee which now is effectively 2 people, namely myself and Angela Dickins, needs some further assistance.

We have particular needs in 3 areas. The first is for someone with appropriate skills to handle PR and social media. The second is for someone to handle OHS and like issues. The third is for enthusiastic people with good local connections who can encourage and support new teams to join our Relay. If we had someone from each of the main towns in the Macedon Ranges that would help us greatly.

If you know someone who could fill any of these roles, please encourage them to email me at wilthome_adsl@hotmail.net.au

Assistance to the committee aside you can also show your support by entering a team in the Relay or by becoming a member of a registered team. For further information see relayforlife.org.au

Ken Wiltshire, ChairManager Lancefield Macedon Ranges Relay For Life

Free reusable nappy workshop

Are you curious about modern cloth nappies? Whether you are motivated by cost savings, environmental impact by reducing waste, or the health benefits for your child; join Leesa from Darlings Downunder for a workshop to discover the world of modern cloth nappies.

Leesa is a resident of Macedon Ranges, cloth nappy enthusiast and a mother of two toddlers. Her passion for cloth nappies has led her to running Darlings Downunder store - a local Macedon Ranges business located in Kyneton. She will take you through everything you need to know to get started with cloth nappies.

Join us at Riddells Creek Neighbourhood House on Tuesday 15 August at 10am. All participants receive a \$20 gift voucher to spend on reusable cloth nappies and go into a prize draw to win \$200 worth of nappies! Limited spots available. To register, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/nappies

MODERN CLOTH NAPPY WORKSHOPS

\$20 GIFT VOUCHER for each participant!

RIDDELLS CREEK
TUESDAY
15 AUGUST
10-11 AM

Macedon Ranges Shire Council
Darlings Downunder

Romsey Golf Club Report

2023 Club Championships:	Final results from the Championships
Mitchell Family Shield:	A Grade Nett – Mitch Atlas, 232/211
Peter Scanlon Shield:	B Grade Nett – Simon Donovan, 253/205
John Jeffries Shield:	C Grade Nett - John Freestone, 306/231
Women's Nett:	Jenny Hartley 301/244

2023 W. E. Tom Shield: Our only winter shield is the 4BBB W. E. Tom Shield. Bill Tom was a farmer in the area and a long term member of the club. He is very kindly remembered by a number of our older members. 4BBB Handicap matchplay sees two players on each team, the lowest handicapper drops to zero (scratch) and the other three come down by his/her original handicap. Then is it the best handicap score on a hole that decides which team wins that hole. This is always a strongly contested shield, current champions are Shannon and Daniel Wright.

Care of the course: We are well aware that Romsey Park is a public park and as such is open to all community members at any time. We welcome locals using the park and our volunteers often stop to chat and are given information about vandalism, damaged trees or other issues. With the course so wet we ask that everyone, their dogs, prams, bikes etc please stay off the greens and tees; it is very difficult and time consuming to level out deep wheel marks, shoe/boot treads and dog skidmarks on our tees/greens.

Course Condition: The shorter, colder days, less sunlight and the enormous amount of rain has seen the course very wet and soft. In years gone by we would have closed but our drainage and improved surface works have seen most surface water draining away and good grass cover but the whole of Romsey Park remains quite wet and very soft. It is difficult to move machinery around the course without leaving deep tracks and only vital works are able to be carried out.

Work Shed: The proposed site for the work shed has been approved and it is now up to the contracted builders to finalise the plans for shed before any works can proceed. The club will work with the shire to help keep costs as low as possible.



Winter's sunset over the new green.

Romsey Golf Club



Established 1922

Park Lane, Romsey
(PO Box 200, Romsey 3434)

President: 0417 088 891

Secretary: 0400 768 040

mail@romseygolfclub.net

www.romseygolfclub.net

Romsey Lancefield Senior Citizens

Monthly Bus Trip - August



Last month we had a wonderful Christmas in July at the Sunbury Bowling Club, a great day was had by everyone.

Unfortunately there will be NO bus trip in August but we look forward to an exciting trip in September.

Remember, we meet every Monday at the rear of the Romsey Mechanics Institute for lunch, a chat and a game of cards, for just \$10 – everyone is more than welcome.

For further information please contact Helen on 0409 064 303 or Jan on 0408 371 755.

Hope to see you soon.



I would like to introduce myself

I am a proud member of the local Lions Club at Romsey.

The Lions have a great reputation in helping their community.

When there is a disaster, there are Lions to help in clearing up and assist in many other ways. What the Lions do are too numerous to mention.

Today I am writing about Youth Exchange; This is organized through Lions International, where youths from various parts of the world come here for three weeks and reside and are cared for in a Lions Club Members home. This is not just in Victoria, but all of Australia.

During their stay, they experience how we live, and we members have the wonderful opportunity to show them around our wonderful country.

For the past few weeks, we have had the great pleasure in having a French boy named Blaise stay with us. We have taken him to many places such as Ballarat Wild Life Park so he could pat and feed the Kangaroos, and of course pat a Koala and have his photo taken with them.

We have been to Sovereign Hill and stayed for the lights etc. re Christmas in July, the Melbourne Aquarium, the Eureka Tower where he experienced the glass floor that slides out of the building. Ten Pin Bowling, the Great Ocean Road as far as the Apostles, we left home early to experience a lovely sunrise. He also was brave and had a brief swim at the beach at Apollo Bay. Today he visited the MCG Museum as he is an avid follower of football.

Tomorrow he is going to experience a ride on a Tug Boat in Port Melbourne, and Sunday my partner who is a volunteer fireman will be taking him to the fire station to view all that goes on re training etc. And he will also have the opportunity to join in.

He has one more week with us and we have more experiences planned for this young man of 16 years.

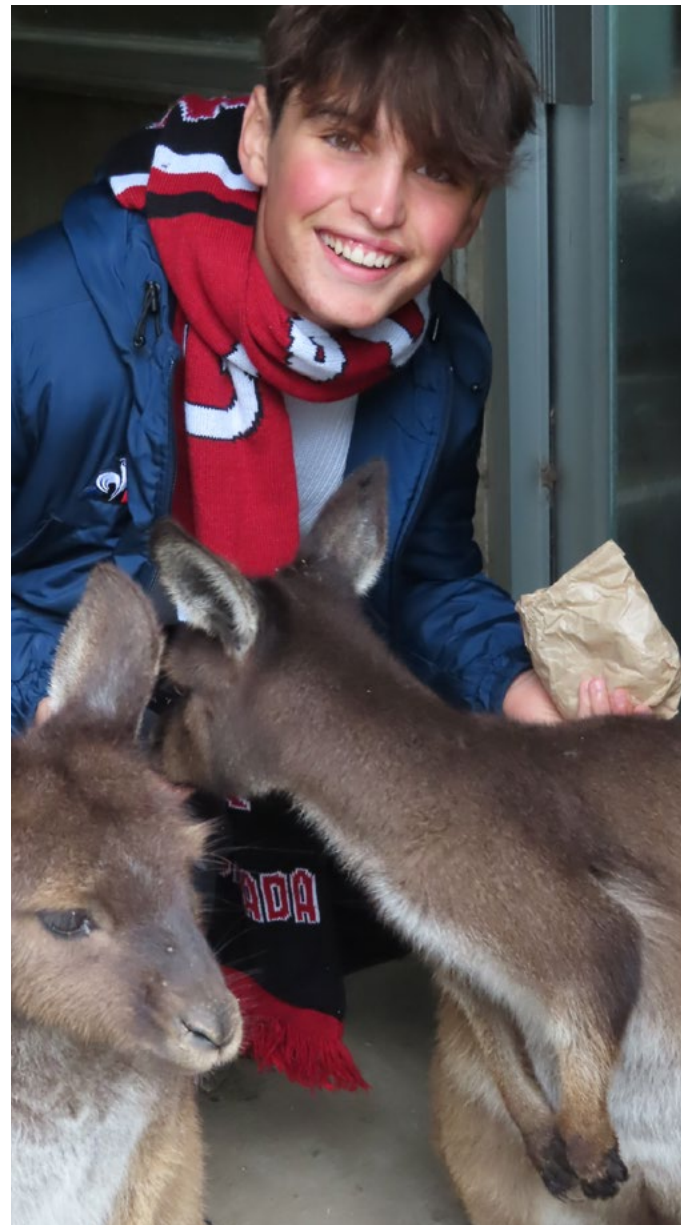
He has been a delight to have in our home and show around, and will be sorely missed when he leaves us.

Prior to going home, he will be in Brisbane to experience our Lions Camp where many of our exchange youths will meet up for the first time and enjoy canoeing, swimming, have fun on a flying fox and much more. This will be for one week and then he flies home.

This I believe is not only a great experience for youths from other parts of the world, but also for us. He has attempted to teach us certain words in French, unfortunately without too much success, but he does get a good laugh with our attempts.

My partner and I have cared for a few exchange youths through the years, from Brazil, Germany, Canada, Denmark and now France. And it has been the most wonderful experience, especially knowing that you have brought a great deal of enjoyment into a young person's life, and they go home with wonderful memories that will last a life time.

Angela Heywood



Blaise, our French Youth Exchange boy.



Romsey Mens Shed - Building on friendships!

Our members come in good numbers for a Tuesday work and talk – often mainly talk – and with the weather a bit inclement, some have partners happy to see them socialising and away from the house. Many outdoor activities that would normally occupy them such as lawns and pruning are off limits in the Romsey climate. And the home shed can be a bit cold and lonely these days.

The Thursday \$5 barbeque/lunch at 12 is very popular for members and the occasional guest. We have some heaters to keep the chill down a bit and it is good to get out of the house for a while and mix with some mates.

Tuesday 9-4 and Thursday 10-2 are our normal open days, but members with active projects can attend on other days, along with a committee member or day duty officer, for WH&S reasons.

Our “hands-on” members have woodwork, wood turning, metal/welding and automotive workshop activities and some team leaders can train new starters to a good practical level, on many tools and machines, even glass cutting, by arrangement. We make a few novelty items for sale at the Co-Op, corner of Murphy and Main and occasionally work with the Neighbourhood House helping on their great community work.

The 1925 T Model Ford restoration project is progressing slowly. The project team has built up some resources and have contacted other T Model restoration groups to locate parts and technical advice. We have received some welcome donations locally. And someone in the community may be able to help with extra advice and maybe even some parts stored away the backyard shed, left over from an unfinished project. On completion it will remain in the community.

We encourage social interaction and building friendships! We organise an occasional excursion: such as a cricket bat manufacturer, wood turners in Bendigo, a motor museum in Kialla, a Buddhist Temple and the latest, a visit to the Lost Watering Hole in Lancefield, for a tour of the beer-making facility. The group photo shows a lot of happy faces.

We will have an Open Day courtesy of the Bendigo Community Bank when our Mezzanine floor is finished. After a long, drawn-out process, we now have all building approvals and are now in the hands of the supplier. We have also asked the MRSC for approval to take up the extra land on our lease, for the future Stage Two expansion.

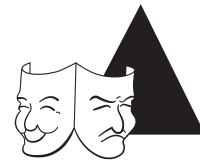
- **Our Facebook page is: Romsey Mens Shed Inc. We have a GO FUND ME for the T model project.**
- **Shed times are Tuesdays 9am -4pm and Thursdays 10 am - 2pm**
- **Membership applications: Secretary: romseym@gmail.com or drop in at Barry Street, Romsey Park.**



Photo Caption. A happy lunch at the Lost Watering Watering Hole in Lancefield.

The Mount Players

'Definitely A Comedy!'



The Mount Players

Our President has quoted " It's amazing that in the past 51 years our company has never performed any of Shakespeare's plays. To rectify this, we are going to attempt to do all of them in one night!"

37 Plays in 97 minutes with 3 actors... What could possibly go wrong?

The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged) is a delightful, fast-paced romp through the Bard's work as three manic men in tights hurtle through all of Shakespeare's plays, leaving you in stitches.

The Mount Players join FizzWack Theatre to bring you a show that takes those long, sometimes tedious and serious subjects, and condenses them down into a couple of hours of frivolity.

WARNING! Those with heart problems, bladder issues, inner-ear disorders, outer-ear disorders, Shakespearean scholarships, gout, and male pattern baldness enter at their own risk!

If you love Shakespeare, you will love this show!

If you hate Shakespeare, you will love this show!

Running from 18 – 26 August ...it's going to be a real hoot so don't miss out!

For full details and to book tickets go to www.themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892.

| Submitted by Karen Hunt

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AUGUST 5th working bee to assemble LIFE-SAVING BIRTHING KITS

"Over 500,000 women die annually from infections like Tetanus caught from giving birth on unclean surfaces or using unclean equipment. Birthing kits provide the basis for a clean birth, with a clean mat, gloves, soap, clean blades, gauze and cord ties" said Dr Annamarie Perlesz, Zonta member and local GP.

Most Australian women can look forward to the safe arrival of a new baby. This is unlike parts of the developing world where maternal mortality is unacceptably high. About 800 women worldwide die from childbirth-related complications every day (World Health Organisation (WHO) report, Feb 23). Sub-Saharan Africa accounted for 70 percent of maternal deaths - and Southern Asia about 16 percent.

The Zonta Club of Kyneton will work to reduce these tragic deaths - assembling 800 birthing kits at a public working bee, from **10am August 5th at St. Mary's Church Hall, Hutton St, Kyneton** (from 10am).

The kits will be distributed to 30+ countries via community outreach programs for pregnant women in rural and under-resourced communities.

Over 11,000 kits have been assembled by the Zonta Club of Kyneton since 2004, with the help of secondary school students and volunteers.

"Our kits have been distributed as far and wide Ethiopia, Fiji, Papua New Guinea, Uganda, Afghanistan, Congo, Indonesia, Kenya and Haiti," Dr Perlesz said.

"We welcome volunteers to assist us at this special and important life-saving event on August 5th," she said.

The Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club

The Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club continues to support its local community through special projects. One of our most recent contributions was the refrigerated trailer displayed below. Our club donated the trailer to the Romsey and Lancefield communities as part of the Neighbourhood House Community Foodsharing initiative. The use of this refrigerated trailer means that donated food transported from Melbourne can retain its freshness on the day of delivery to community members.

The Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club Inc. is proud to invest in such communities. Special thanks for the contributions made by Rotarian (PP) Mark Shepherdley and his business MS Steel Fabrications (Lancefield), Mark Powell and Shane Jones from Custom Air (Somerton), Kilmore Mitre Ten (Simon Meyer), BHS Electrical (Lancefield), and Romsey Lancefield Rotary Rotarians who supported this project.

The Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club Inc. meets every fortnight on Thursdays (7 pm – 9 pm) at Soltan Pepper Restaurant. Community members interested in becoming Rotarians are very welcome to join us.

For further information please contact our Club Secretary - Anne Collins via email anne.collins@outlook.com.au

Dr Greg Powell
(Past President/Secretary)
Community Liaison Officer
The Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club Inc.

Woodend Hanging Rock Petanque Club

It's July 14 Bastille day, and the Woodend Hanging Rock Petanque club have been gearing up for another enjoyable day of Petanque and great food to celebrate.

Forty one members gathered at the home ground at Hanging Rock to brave the elements and play a few games of the game that bring us all together in camaraderie and competitiveness.

Three games were planned for the day and following game one was morning tea with a homemade cake made by Robyn Aitken. Delicious as always!

After game two, there was hot soup, essential for a day in the midst of winter, made by committee members Ruth Giddings and Louise Potter.

After game three there was a delicious lunch including a French casserole, salad and crusty bread, all made and served by committee members.

Of course, there were sweets to be had, being a delicious chocolate mousse made by Cassie Simmons, which was one of the highlights of the day.

If it all sounds interesting and fun and you're looking to make new friends and have a bit of fun then come and join us! We are at the old racecourse in Forest Street Woodend from Monday, 2nd October at 2 o'clock and on Thursday, 5th October when the new season starts at Hanging Rock from 4 PM.

Any inquiries, please call Louise Potter on 0438-302-218



Romsey - Lancefield Probus - Welcome to friendship

Having Fun, making new friends, and catching-up with old ones!

The Romsey/Lancefield Probus Club is for active retirees or semi-retired people to meet, relax and enjoy the welcoming company of those at the same stage of life. There is a regular monthly meeting with guest speakers, morning tea and time to socialise with the other members. Each month there is a regular outing for lunch held at different venues around the region as well as short and longer trips throughout the year. This year the club is visiting Western Australia in October. There is a coffee morning at 10am every Friday at the Lancefield Corner Store where members meet for a chat and a bit of fun.

- In July Senior Constable Simon Bowen from the Romsey Police Station talked to the club about common, current electronic and telecommunication scams, what to look out for and effective preventative measures. The outing for July was to 'The Grove' for lunch at Hidden Valley, Wallan. In August there is a one day bus tour visiting the Overwrought Sculpture Garden and Gallery at Daylesford with lunch at the Bowls Club and then onto the Mill Market. Should be a great day!
- The next meeting of the Romsey/Lancefield Probus Club for 2023 will be on Thursday, 24th August, at 10.00 am in St. Mary's Catholic Church Hall Main Street Romsey.
- Speaker: Michelle Balthazar from the Romsey Neighbourhood House to talk about some of their new initiatives.

Contact:

President: **Noreen 0401 579 180**

Secretary: **Betty 0409 359 048**

Visit our website: www.rlprobus.org.au

Village Connect events for over-55s

Are you 55 years or older, residing in the Macedon Ranges and looking to connect with others in the shire? Council's Village Connect program has a range of activities on offer for over-55s and carers.

August events include:

- Pathways for Carers – Next two dates: Friday 4 August and 1 September. Meet at 9:45am at Barry Doyle Memorial Rotunda, 2 Campaspe Crescent, Kyneton. Free monthly walking event for carers of older people, people with a disability or mental illness. Come together and to learn about news, services and supports available.
- August free coffee cup event – Tuesday 8 August, 12pm, Malmsbury Bakery. Connect with like-minded individuals in the community over a free coffee and cake. Registrations essential. Spaces limited. Bookings essential.
- Board games for over-55s: Chess - Friday 25 August, 1:30pm, Gisborne Community Centre Meeting Room, 8a Hamilton Street. Gather and connected like-minded individuals in your community over a casual game of chess.
- Digital Education session: Demystifying QR codes - 11am–12pm, Monday 21 August, Kyneton Town Hall. Spaces limited. Bookings essential.

To register for Village Connect events or find out more about the program, call 5422 0333 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/village-connect



Romsey soft plastics trial update – Romsey Rag

The Romsey soft plastics trial has shown some positive results since its launch in November 2022. In the last six months:

- more than two tonnes of soft plastic has been collected and processed into oil
- 50 per cent of participants had not used the Redcycle program before, demonstrating growth in our soft plastic recyclers
- 88 per cent of participants would like the trial to continue.

Over the next six months, Council will continue to monitor the trial and continue to work closely with the Australian Food and Grocery Council (AFGC) to look at ways to expand our recycling services across the shire.

For information and updates, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/soft-plastics-trial



WOMEN of the Macedon Ranges hoping to make a difference to the world through their study of Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) could get some valuable support via scholarships offered by international women’s organization ZONTA.

Zonta has empowered women worldwide for over a century through service and advocacy activities.

The scholarships support women pursuing education, career opportunities and leadership roles in STEM related fields. Currently only 35 percent of people working in STEM fields and one in five working in Artificial Intelligence are women, according to research by UNESCO.

In March this year, United Nations Secretary-General Antonio Guterres appealed for concrete action to increase their ranks and noted: “More women and girls in science equals better science.

“Women and girls bring diversity to research, expand the pool of science professionals and provide fresh perspectives to science and technology, benefiting everyone,” he added.

The Zonta Club of Kyneton is now inviting applications for its STEM scholarship award valued at \$1,000 which could lead to an additional Zonta International US \$5000 scholarship.

The award is open to women of any age and nationality who reside in Macedon Ranges and currently pursuing a STEM related program at an accredited university or institute and who

demonstrate outstanding potential in their field. Online students are also eligible. Students must be enrolled in at least the second year of an undergraduate program, up to the final year of a Master’s program.

For more information or to apply for the award contact: secretary@zontakyneton.org.au.

Applications close July 20, 2023. To learn more about Zonta, and their vision for a more equal world, explore the Zonta International website, <https://www.zonta.org>

Karen Vandermerwe and Helen Fraser believe ‘Connect, Apart’ explores the notion we all need to connect with one another for our mental and emotional wellbeing. Their joint exhibition explores this idea post Covid lockdowns.

Karen and Helen found new ways to ‘Connect, Apart’ throughout the lockdowns which helped them to cope with this challenging time. They understood that sharing a meal is an age-old and much valued notion of connection and this is how ‘Connect, Apart’ was conceived.

The ‘Connect, Apart’ Dinner Party grew and evolved into an installation combining handmade ceramic dinner wares, set out at distance on a long dining table with hand stitched napery, and painted art works on the surrounding walls to reflect on the emotions and language we all spoke throughout this time.

The artists, like all of us, experienced a rollercoaster mixture of fear, loss, anger and despair. They believe we all missed our connections with others terribly when we were ordered to stay at home and stay apart. It challenged the very fabric of our being. Karen and Helen invite you to visit their ‘Connect, Apart’ Dining Room to reflect.

For more information contact Helen Fraser on 0418 377 980 or helenfraserartist@bigpond.com

All works will be for sale through the gallery and the Launch will be held on Sunday, August 13, 11am-1pm.

Visit the Gallery to enter our competition to win an original drawing and ceramic valued at \$120 to be drawn on Sunday September 3.



Sue Anson 0413 581 632



Romsey Primary School August 2023

Our final Prep 2024 tour and information session will be held on Thursday 3rd August at 10am. Bookings are required and can be made by calling the office on 5429 5099 or emailing the school at Romsey.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

If you are interested in enrolling at Romsey Primary School in 2024, please visit the office to get an enrolment pack and/or book a one-on-one tour. Alternatively, all relevant enrolment forms & documentation can be found on our website

www.romseyps.vic.edu.au

Term 3 is when we start to make plans for 2024, therefore having accurate student numbers supports us when looking at grade structures and placement.

Please be advised that a copy of your child's birth certificate and immunisation certificate is required to accompany your child's enrolment along with any relevant permission forms which can also be found on our website.

INFORMATION SESSIONS FOR FAMILIES & PREP CLASSROOM TOUR

Date : Thursday 3rd August

Time: 10 am

Venue: Meet at the office then will head to the Prep rooms for an information session with the Prep teachers and school leaders.

REGISTER NOW

Please register your interest for any session by emailing the school on Romsey.ps@education.vic.gov.au or phoning 5429 5099
Bookings are essential for all sessions



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Virtual Tours are available online
Please call the school to organise an enrolment pack to be sent or you can download one from our website www.romseyps.vic.edu.au
Phone: 5429 5099

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WONDERFUL
SCHOOL



St Mary's Primary School

As I write this, Week 1 of Term 3 is now complete and boy did it fly! Term 3 at St Mary's is always extremely busy. This term we celebrate our Feast Day, always a hugely fun day for the whole school. Our Preps celebrate 100 days of school, our Year 4's celebrate their first Eucharist, plus we've got Book Week, National Day of Action Against Bullying, Father's Day Games Afternoon and our whole school Performing Arts 'Spooktacular!' to name just a few. So stay tuned for all the fun to come...



St Mary's Lancefield
and Romsey

| St Mary's Playgroup

St Mary's Playgroup will be held each Thursday morning from 8.30am - 10.00am during school terms. Playgroup will be located in our School Hall at 2 Raglan Street, Lancefield.

It is FREE for all participants.

You do not need to be part of the school community to join us at Playgroup. We invite all members of our local and wider community to come along and have some fun at Playgroup.

The sessions will be a time for you and your child to play together with others. We also have time for reading, singing and eating.

Why play with us?

Playgroup is a fun way to:

- Meet other children and families
- Have a wide range of play experiences
- Have fun spending time together
- Talk, sing, read, play and discover
- Become part of our community

Term 3 dates 2023:

- Thursday 20th July - Thursday 24th August

Term 4 dates 2024:

- Thursday 5th October - Thursday 30th November

Contact details: Email: playgroup@smlancefield.catholic.edu.au - Tel: 5429 1359

| Crazy Hair Day

At the end of Term 2, our students participated in Crazy Hair Day to raise funds for students from Exford Primary affected by the bus crash. Participation rates were huge with some very wild and wacky hair-dos were on display!

Thank you to all members of our community for getting involved, it was a lot of fun and brought many laughs and smiles to all of us! Thank you to the Mini Vinnies for organising this day and for their time selling zooper-doopers on the day. Even though it was cold, sales were high! With gold coin donations on the day and sales of zooper-doopers we raised a total of \$390. A fantastic effort by all involved, thank you once again to our amazing community for your generous support.



| Student Showcase of Learning

On the last day of Term 2, students presented a Showcase of Learning to display their knowledge, innovation and creative skills about their Inquiry Units. This showcase was open for our families to come along and see the fabulous learning that has been taking place here at St Mary's. What a wonderful display it was! The focus for all year levels was 'How it Works'. The P-2's looked at Toys, the 3/4 's looked at Machines and the 5/6 's looked at Electrical Circuits.

An amazing variety of student work was on display with exceptional attention to detail and student knowledge shared. We commend all students on their fantastic efforts and hope that all our families enjoyed the showcase as much as the students enjoyed presenting it!



| Division Netball in Castlemaine

On Monday 19th June our Senior Girls Netball Team traveled to Castlemaine to compete in the Division netball. Once again they went undefeated! What a fabulous effort! The girls will now travel to Swan Hill on the 8th August to compete in the Regionals. We wish them the best of luck!

| **Jo Shannon (Community Liaison Leader)**





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Pastor Tim Emonson

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P: (03) 5429 6327

Email:
office@encouragechurch.com.au

Website:
www.encouragechurch.com.au

- Mainly Music
- Children's Church
- Before & After School Care
- Youth Activities



From the Desk of Pastor Tim

| Giving All

I recently came across the story of Charles Mulli. Born in Kenya and with a traumatic childhood including abandonment by his family at age 6, begging, being abused and contemplating suicide. At age 16 he was invited to a youth meeting where he accepted Jesus as his personal Saviour and Lord.

At age 18 he started a number of odd jobs around Nairobi which helped him fund the purchase of a car four years later. The car he turned into a taxi and started his first business. This business continued to expand until he was operating a large transport company called **"Mullyways"**. Charles also expanded his business interests into insurance, motor vehicle parts, LPG gas and agriculture, ending up very wealthy.

However, God spoke to Charles through an interaction he had with a group of street children, reminding him of his childhood. Three years later, Charles began selling ALL his properties and businesses and dedicating the proceeds to helping street children. He gave all that he had. Charles has operated **"Mully Children's Family"** for over 40+ years, even after initial rejection from close friends, business associates and his church. "Mully Children's Family" has assisted over 26,000 children in that time.

Charles Mulli story reminds me of the rich young man mentioned in Matthew 19:16-22 in the Bible. When he asked what more he could do, Jesus responded by telling him to **"sell your possessions and give to the poor"** (verse 21). The young man went away sad because he couldn't bring himself to do it. Yet Charles Mulli is an example of someone who did sell all, when Jesus asked him the same question. Charles is now storing up treasure in heaven. The question for us, is where are we storing up treasure?

You can read more about Charles Mulli at mullychildrensfamily.org or check out the **'Mully Movie'** on YouTube.

If you would like to know more about Encourage Church, come along to one of our activities! You can also check us out on our website www.encouragechurch.com.au or email us at office@encouragechurch.com.au.



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**Anglican Church of Christ Church Lancefield
with St Paul's Church Romsey**

| Regular weekly

- Romsey Church Service 9:00am each Sunday
- Lancefield Church Service 10:30am each Sunday
- Prayer Meeting: CHANGE OF VENUE AND TIME - Church Lancefield Thursday 10:00am
- Bible Study: Christ Church Lancefield Thursday 10:30am - Enjoy a cuppa while spending time pondering Revelations.
- Monthly Parish Community Lunch's are held each 2nd Saturday of the month at Christ Church Hall, Lancefield. Next Lunch will be on **Saturday, 12 August @ 12:00 noon**. The day is free to all and everyone is very welcome to join us with good homemade food and a great time to meet new people and chat up with old friends.

St Paul's Op Shop

- **Friday 12:30-4:00 & Saturday 10:00-1:00pm.**

The Op Shop is on the Parish Web site for viewing of the week's specials. Your donations of clothing, Bric & Brac, craft items, books & good quality working toys can be left

Friday afternoon & Saturday Mornings, these items are much appreciated, but unfortunately some donations left outside of the Op Shop hrs, which results in weather damage. Unfortunately as a result items need to be sent to the tip.

Please note that owing to regulations we cannot accept electrical goods, prams, baby cots, furniture or mattresses. Your ongoing support and donations is much valued and appreciated.



Our annual hydrangea pruning cuttings which are on sale for just \$2.00 a bunch of 10 cuttings.



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**LANCEFIELD
WITH
ROMSEY**

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OF CHRIST CHURCH
LANCEFIELD WITH
ST. PAUL'S ROMSEY**

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Rev Matthew Browne
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and keep us safe during this
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faith and trust in Him.*



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**THE UNITING CHURCH
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MACEDON RANGES
PARTNERSHIP**

Romsey Congregation

25 Pohlman Street,
Romsey. 3434. (P.O. Box 264)

**Worship Services
Sunday, 9:30am.**

Chairperson

Mr. Noel Shaw
P: 5429 5509

Secretary

Mrs. Jenifer Clampit
P: 5429 5480

*Let the peace of Christ rule
in your hearts and homes.*

*Let the word of Christ
dwell in you richly.*

*God comes to us, each
and every one.*

God bless you every day.

Romsey Uniting Church

Ministers: Pastor Annette Buckley Ph. 5429 5351 / 0457 608 539 - Supply: Mr. Paul Banks. Ph.0450 436 285
Website: www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au/worship-services

| Winter offers us a time to reflect

Bible Reading: Isaiah 55: 10-11

"For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it."

The reading from Isaiah reminds me of how cold it can be in the snow. It reminds me of attempting to ski or stay on a toboggan, and trying to keep dry and warm. The prophet uses this illustration from nature to remind us of how important winter is for the water cycle, plant life and food production – and how God's Word achieves God's purposes.

This passage reminds me of the part we can play in responding to God's Word.

As God's children we have the capacity and responsibility of listening and acting on the words we hear from God, and to take part in the fulfilment of the Word of God.

Winter provides us some opportunities to pause and reflect and discern our response to the moving of God's presence and action in our community.

I pray that this winter, we might discern God's Word, and step out in faith to join in what God is doing.

PRAYER

God, we thank you for your creation and all that we learn from discerning your ways. Help us to hear, and join in your ongoing work of love in the world. Amen

Rev Gregory Fry, Minister of the Word at Cheltenham-Mentone Uniting Church

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St. Mary's Parish - Lancefield & Romsey

CURRENT MASS CONDITIONS – ALL WELCOME

Current Mass Times:

| Sunday Mass

- Sunday Mass will be celebrated at 9am and will alternate between Lancefield & Romsey.
- 1st & 3rd Sunday's of the month in Romsey, 2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday's of the month in Lancefield.

| Saturday Healing Mass

The Healing Mass will be celebrated at 10am in Romsey on the 1st Saturday of each month.

| Baptisms

Baptisms are held at 2:30pm on the 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month. Please contact the office for the next available date.

| Sacraments

Bookings are now open for parish children to register for the Sacrament of Confirmation available to Yr6 and above in 2023. Please contact the office if you would like to register your child.

Should a parishioner want to go to Reconciliation, please contact Fr. Martin directly at Woodend on 5427 2690 to make arrangement.

Please direct enquiries to the parish office on 5429 2130 or by email at lancefield@cam.org.au
For funeral arrangements, please contact Fr. Martin on 5427 2690 or by email at woodend@cam.org.au



ST. MARY'S PARISH - LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

27-29 Chauncey St, Lancefield
& 85 Main Road, Romsey

Presbytery office hours:
Wed & Fri 8-5

E: lancefield@cam.org.au

P: 5429 2130

Parish Priest

Fr. Martin Fleming
C/O Woodend Presbytery
P: 5427 2690

Parish Secretary

Mrs. Tammie Dalgleish
P: 5429 2130

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• **Saturday 19th August 1.00pm-4.00pm.**

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Celebrate Family History Month by creating a special memory frame.

\$10 material cost. Please pay cash on the day.

Snacks provided. Spaces are limited so book in early to secure your place.

Bookings essential. For more information, please email romsey@ncgrl.vic.gov.au or phone us on 5429 3086.

The Romsey Library Team's Top Picks for the first half of 2023

As we move past the halfway point of the year, the staff at Romsey Library have mulled over our favourite books read so far this year. Here are the titles that have left us entertained, educated, and even enthralled!

Cloud Cuckoo Land by Anthony Doerr

How do we weather the end of things? Cloud Cuckoo Land brings together an unforgettable cast of dreamers and outsiders from past, present, and future to offer a vision of survival against all odds.

Apartment 303 by Kelli Hawkins

Rory observes the world from the safety of her third-floor apartment. But she's being watched too and will soon learn that no lock will protect her. This is a compelling, unsettling psychological suspense novel that will keep you on the edge of your seat.

The Bookseller's Apprentice by Amelia Mellor

An action-packed prequel to The Grandest Bookshop in the World. Loaded with tricks, riddles, magic and mayhem, The Bookseller's Apprentice is perfect for Mellor fans and newcomers alike.

Fourth Wing by Rebecca Yarros

Dragons, war, and Hunger Games-esque trials. Fourth Wing is a high-stakes, enemies-to-lovers fantasy romance perfect for fans of Leigh Bardugo, Sarah J Maas, and dark academia.

Tomorrow, Tomorrow and Tomorrow by Gabrielle Zevin

In this exhilarating novel, two friends (often in love, but never lovers) come together as creative partners in the world of video game design, where success brings them fame, joy, tragedy, duplicity, and, ultimately, a kind of immortality.

The House Sitter by Debbie Howells

A scheming traveller, a grieving wife, and a plot to kill. This is a story full of suspense and thrill!

The Mother by T. M. Logan

This is a cracking psychological thriller about a mother, Heather. She puts her children to bed and waits for her husband to come home. He doesn't, and the next day she is accused of his murder. This book kept me hooked late into the night!!

Home Stretch by Graham Norton

This latest book from Graham Norton tells the story of Connor, a closeted gay man who is the sole survivor of a tragedy that kills a bride and groom and their friends the day before their wedding. I couldn't put this book down; it's a rollercoaster of emotions from sad, to triumphant and everything in between. For an extra treat, listen to Graham narrate the story on audiobook, in his lilting Irish accent. Highly recommend!

Love You To Death: a story of sex, betrayal and murder gone wrong by Megan Norris

This true-crime novel set in Melbourne tells the story of rich, power couple Chris and Vicky Soteriou who had the perfect life at face value. Except Vicky was planning her husband's murder on the evening of his 44th birthday celebration. This compelling story gives Chris' near-death account of that night and what was to be revealed in the weeks and months to follow. Could not put this down!!

Deception by Lesley Pearce

After the funeral of her mother, Sally, intercepts a man claiming to be her father. Despite accepting her mother's refusal to speak of her past, she knows she must push forward and learn the truth, whatever the cost. This is a riveting story.

| Dates for Your Diary

- **August: Family History Month**
- **31 July – 6 August: Library and Information Week**
- **7 – 13 August: National Landcare Week**
- **9 August: International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples**
- **12 – 20 August: National Science Week**
- **25 August: Wear it Purple Day**

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