

# Romsey Rag

VOLUME: 41 | EDITION: 11 | DECEMBER 2023

## Christmas has come to Romsey



**COMMUNITY GIFT GIVING**  
 HELP US SPREAD THE SPIRIT OF  
*Christmas*  
 SUPPORTING LOCAL FAMILIES IN NEED

**Gift Giving Days**  
 Sat 9th Dec (9:30m - 4:00pm)  
 Sun 10th Dec (9:30am - 1:00pm)  
 Strictly parents/carers only event

Help those in need by being a helper/donate goods/funds  
 Helpers required on 8th - 10th Dec  
 All unwrapped gifts to be received at Romsey Neighbourhood House by 5th Dec  
 Book-in to be a helper

For information contact  
 Romsey Neighbourhood House  
 5429 0724  
 admin@romseyhb.org.au

PROUDLY SUPPORTED BY  
 Romsey Neighbourhood House  
 NHH  
 Romsey Neighbourhood House

Working together with local businesses, churches and community to spread a little joy this Christmas

### Details Inside

#### Whats On This Month

2nd-7th	Lights & Decorations Judging
8th & 9th	Red Cross Raffle outside IGA
9th	Romsey Primary School Carols
10th	Lions Market Day
10th	CWA Christmas Stall at the Market
14th	N/hood House Community Lunch
12th	ShareRide Trip to Westfield SC
15th	ShareRide Trip to Watergardens SC
20th	ShareRide Trip to Westfield SC
22nd	ShareRide Trip to Bendigo Market Place
from 1st	Xmas trees for sale
5th Dec	Senior Citizens trip to Highlands Hotel
16 -17, 22-23	The Gallery Mt Macedon Arts & Crafts
from 17th	Photographic Soc. at Gisborne Village



# ShareRide Social

## Upcoming trips 2023

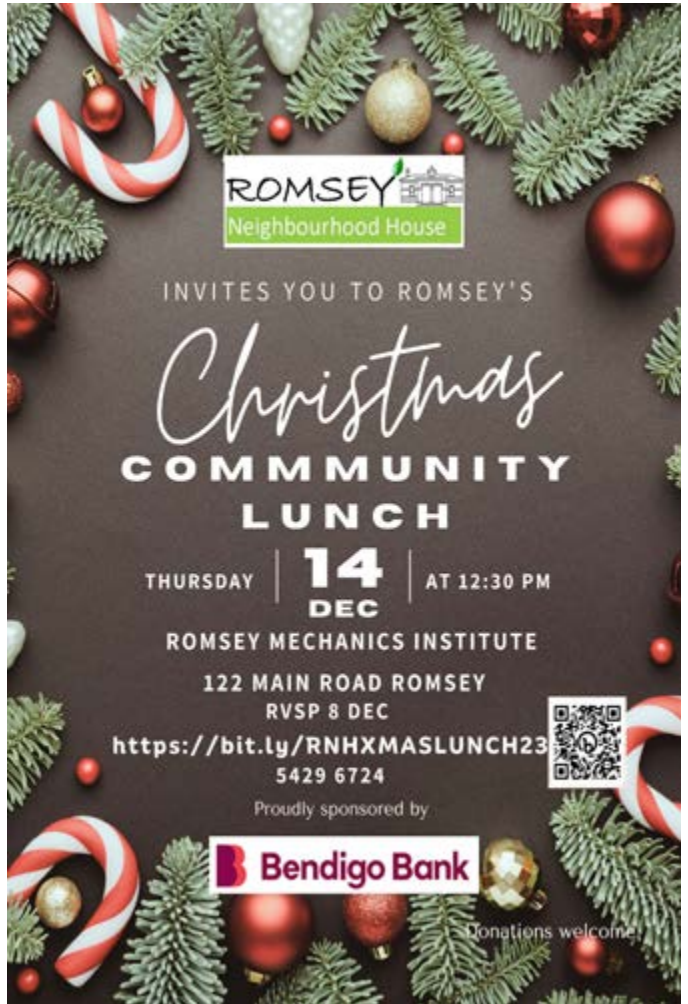
DAY	Date	Location
FRI	24 November	Melbourne Zoo
FRI	1 December	Kyneton Exhibition & luch
FRI	8 December	Blackwood - Garden of St Erth

### Christmas Shopping Trips

TUE	12 December	Westfield Airport West Shopping Centre
FRI	15 December	Watergardens Shopping Centre
WED	20 December	Westfield Plenty Valley
FRI	22 December	Bendigo Market Place

Visit our webpage  
[www.communitydriven.org.au](http://www.communitydriven.org.au)  
 Or phone either:

Romsey Neighbourhood House 5429 6724  
 Lancefield Neighbourhood House 5429 1214

**ROMSEY**  
Neighbourhood House

INVITES YOU TO ROMSEY'S

# Christmas


## COMMUNITY LUNCH

THURSDAY | **14** | AT 12:30 PM  
**DEC**


ROMSEY MECHANICS INSTITUTE  
 122 MAIN ROAD ROMSEY  
 RVSP 8 DEC

<https://bit.ly/RNHXMASLUNCH23>  
 5429 6724

Proudly sponsored by



Donations welcome



**Get local.  
 Support local.**

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- Invoice Books
- Magnets
- Stickers

**Plus much more!**



#### Business Cards

From gloss to velvet, gold and metallic foiling, nearly anything is possible for your business card.



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 J: (03) 5734 3344  
 ✉: [info@nhprinting.com.au](mailto:info@nhprinting.com.au)

[nhprinting.com.au](http://nhprinting.com.au)

*MERRY  
 CHRISTMAS  
 from  
 MORTGAGE CHOICE*



**5427 4262**

**ROMSEY**  
Neighbourhood House

Please join us to celebrate

# FUNDRAISER XMAS TREES FOR SALE

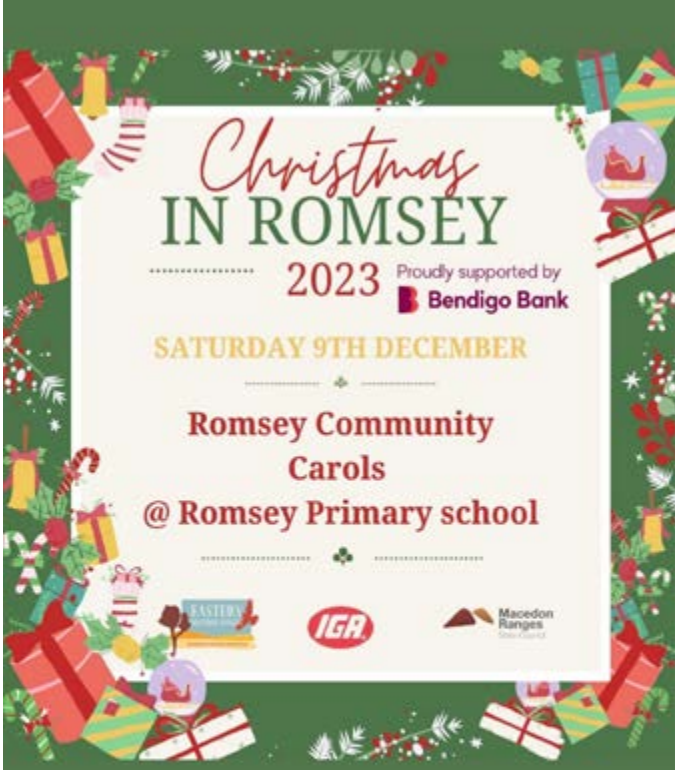


Available from 1st Dec,  
taking pre-order now

Simply Scan the QR Code and Make Your Order



[bit.ly/RNHXMASTREE23](https://bit.ly/RNHXMASTREE23)




# Christmas IN ROMSEY

2023 Proudly supported by  
**Bendigo Bank**

**SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER**

**Romsey Community  
Carols  
@ Romsey Primary school**



**START TIME  
7PM SHARP!**

# Christmas

## AT ROMSEY CHURCHES



**Anglican Parish of Lancefield with Romsey**  
33 Chauncey St Lancefield & 77 Main Street, Romsey

<b>Sunday 24 December</b> Christmas Eve Service Christ Church Lancefield @ 11 pm	<b>Monday 25 December</b> Christmas Day Service St Paul's Romsey @ 9am
--	--

**Encourage Church**  
7 Mitchell Court, Romsey

<b>Sunday 17 December</b> Family Christmas Service @ 10am followed by BYO Picnic Lunch @ 1pm Days Picnic Ground, Mt Macedon	<b>Sunday 24 December</b> Sunday Service @ 10am Carols Service @ 7-8pm
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**Romsey Uniting Church**  
25 Pohlman Street, Romsey

<b>Sunday 24 December</b> Christmas Eve Morning Service @ 9.30am	<b>Monday 25 December</b> Christmas Day Service @ 9.30am
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**St Mary's Parish - Lancefield and Romsey**  
27-29 Chauncey St Lancefield & 85 Main Street, Romsey

<b>Sunday 24 December</b> Outdoor Family Christmas Mass St Mary's Church Lancefield @ 6pm	<b>Monday 25 December</b> Christmas Day Mass St Mary's Church Romsey @ 9am
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# ROMSEY

# CHRISTMAS MARKET



START AT  
**9AM**  
UNTIL  
**1PM**



ON  
SUNDAY  
DECEMBER 10TH...  
SEE YOU  
THERE!



Community Bank  
Lancefield and Romsey

 **Bendigo Bank**

ANGELA HEYWOOD  
PH: 0456 797 153

ROMSEYMARKET.2023@GMAIL.COM



ROMSEY SKATEPARK  
MAIN ST & WHITE AVE, ROMSEY

# Gaming Machines

**Everyone will be aware that the Senior Football/ Netball Club has applied for a license for 50 gaming machines within the Romsey Hotel. There was a community consultation process some months ago.**

Romsey House is currently being renovated and expect to open before the end of the year so the town will have that facility for drinks and meals but without gaming machines.

Currently the Riddells Creek and Lancefield hotels do good business, serving well over 1,000 meals a week, without gaming machines.

There are three gaming venues in Macedon Ranges Shire, two in Kyneton (25 and 28 machines) and one Gisborne (50 machines) with a total of 103 machines. This application, if successful, would see an increase in machines of almost 50%.

The Victorian Gambling and Casino Control Commission (VGCCC) data shows that, during 2022/23, gaming machine players lost over \$9,000,000 across these 103 machines - and that figure is growing.

These losses average out to \$88,000 per machine per annum in the Macedon Ranges Shire. That is before any increase in the number of machines.

This is a major issue for our town and we all need to put our opinions forward.

## Whether you are for or against these gaming machines please take the time to have your say.

The MRSC has opened an Email address where community members can tell the Shire their views on this matter. [romseyhotel@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:romseyhotel@mrsc.vic.gov.au);

The VGCCC also has a page where people can also express their feelings on this application. ([vgccc.vic.gov.au](http://vgccc.vic.gov.au))



COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION of VICTORIA  
*the voice of the community*

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](http://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](mailto: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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## Committee

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Sonia Martin

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Allan Irvine  
Tony Lakey  
Shauna Martin

**Distribution**  
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**Romsey Rag**

ABN: 80 102 393 407  
INC A0102067K

This is a promotional flyer for a golf event. At the top, it says 'Romsey Golf Club Inc. Sun Feb 18th 2024' in red and black. Below that is '16th Charity Golf Day The "Old Course"' in purple and black. To the right is a logo for 'RELAY FOR LIFE Cancer Council' featuring a crescent moon and stars. The main title is 'Four Player Ambrose' in large, bold, black letters. Below this, it says 'Proceeds to "Puddle's Team" for the 2024 Lancefield &amp; Macedon Ranges Relay For Life' and '9.00 am for 9.30 am hit-off'. There are three lines of text in pink: 'Entry Fee: \$100 per team. Includes scrumptious Puddles' Team Lunch. Field limit - 22 teams.', 'Entries close: Noon, Wed, February 14th but book early. (Entry on the day if field permits)', and 'Entries to: RGC Sec - Ph: 0400 768 040 or secretary@romseygolfclub.net'. Below this is a blue box with white text: 'Proudly Sponsored by ROMSEY MITRE 10 OPEN 7 DAYS'. To the right of this box is a white box with black text: 'Join us in a fun day of golf for a very worthy cause. Refreshments will be available throughout the day. Prizes: 1st, 2nd &amp; NTPs'. At the bottom is a green box with white text: 'Romsey Golf Club Golf, the challenge of a lifetime'.



**It has been a tough year for Australians and the world. The hottest 12 months in recorded history, climate change induced floods, droughts and bushfires. Wars in Ukraine and the Middle East have wreaked havoc.**

Australia is not immune eg, the despair of Indigenous people after the "Voice" referendum result and our cost-of-living crisis. Hopefully, higher interest rates curb inflation and governments reduce the impact of the housing crisis on the vulnerable and find solutions to a problem of many years.


Good news, I hope, on energy prices. After higher gas and electricity prices in 2022, the wholesale price of electricity in September Quarter 2023 was half the previous year. Win! A win for renewable power, eg. rooftop solar. Less reliance on fossil fuels - and a lower price. We hope lower wholesale price feeds through to consumers in 2024 retail prices!

As we "Rewire Australia" greenhouse emissions will decline and the cost of energy should decline. Maybe we can get to Net Zero by 2050.

Victoria's container deposit scheme, CDS Vic, began on 1/11/23 - a 10 cent refund for each can, carton and bottle. Look for the 10cent mark. Locals can pop along to 8/8 Mitchell Court Romsey where Andrew is from Monday to Saturday (8:30 am to 3:30 pm) to get cash for containers or donate it to a community organisation.

Locally it was great to see the people streaming through into Lancefield Show. We signed up 13 new members – we can take on more projects and get new ideas for environment and local livability.

Deep Creek Landcare Group has nesting boxes for bats, birds and phascogales for sale from \$25 - and Myna bird traps to lend out. Annual Landcare membership is \$20 per family. Follow us on Facebook, contact our President, Phil Severs (0476 324 000) or come to meetings in the Lancefield Mechanics Hall. We would love to see you!



Energy,  
Environment  
and Climate Action

**Safety on Public Land Act 2004**

## NOTIFICATION OF PUBLIC SAFETY ZONE DECLARATION

I, Mark Mellington, Acting Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Grampians Region, as delegate of the Secretary to the Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, give notice pursuant to section 7(1A) of the *Safety on Public Land Act 2004*, that I have made public safety zone declarations published in the Victoria Government Gazette (Special Gazette S506-23) dated 25/09/2023.

The declaration made on 25/09/2023 takes effect from 02/10/2023 to 02/01/2024 inclusive specifies areas of State Forest which have been declared public safety zones for the purpose of the maintenance of public safety and the safe management of fuel reduction activities.

The declaration specifies the period for which the areas have been declared public safety zones; the times or periods during which access is restricted or prohibited; restrictions or conditions (if any) applying to the public safety zones; and persons or classes of persons exempt from their operation.

A copy of the declaration, and maps showing the location of the public safety zones, may be inspected at:

1. Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action offices at Bendigo, Ballarat and 8 Nicholson Street, East Melbourne, Victoria 3002
2. Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action web site: [www.ffm.vic.gov.au/permits-and-regulations/closures-of-parks-and-forests](http://www.ffm.vic.gov.au/permits-and-regulations/closures-of-parks-and-forests)

**MARK MELLINGTON**  
Acting Deputy Chief Fire Officer, Grampians Region  
as delegate of the Secretary to the Department of  
Energy, Environment and Climate Action

[www.deeca.vic.gov.au](http://www.deeca.vic.gov.au)  
Customer Service Centre 136 186

F40248



## MACEDON RANGES BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS 2024

Macedon Ranges Shire Council

### Nominate your business

**The self-nomination period for the Josh's Rainbow Eggs Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards 2024 is now open!**

We want you to tell us how great your business is and about your wonderful customer service, innovation, products and professionalism. So dust off your business plan and start your nomination by Friday 15 March. You then have until 24 April to complete it.

We are running a face-to-face mentoring session on Wednesday 31 January at the Macedon and Mount Macedon Community House, 47 Victoria Street Macedon from 6pm-7.30pm. This is an opportunity to discover ways to make improvements to your submission and give your business the best chance possible. Please RSVP to [businessawards@mrc.vic.gov.au](mailto:businessawards@mrc.vic.gov.au) by Friday 26 January.

Find out more at [mrc.vic.gov.au/business-awards](http://mrc.vic.gov.au/business-awards)



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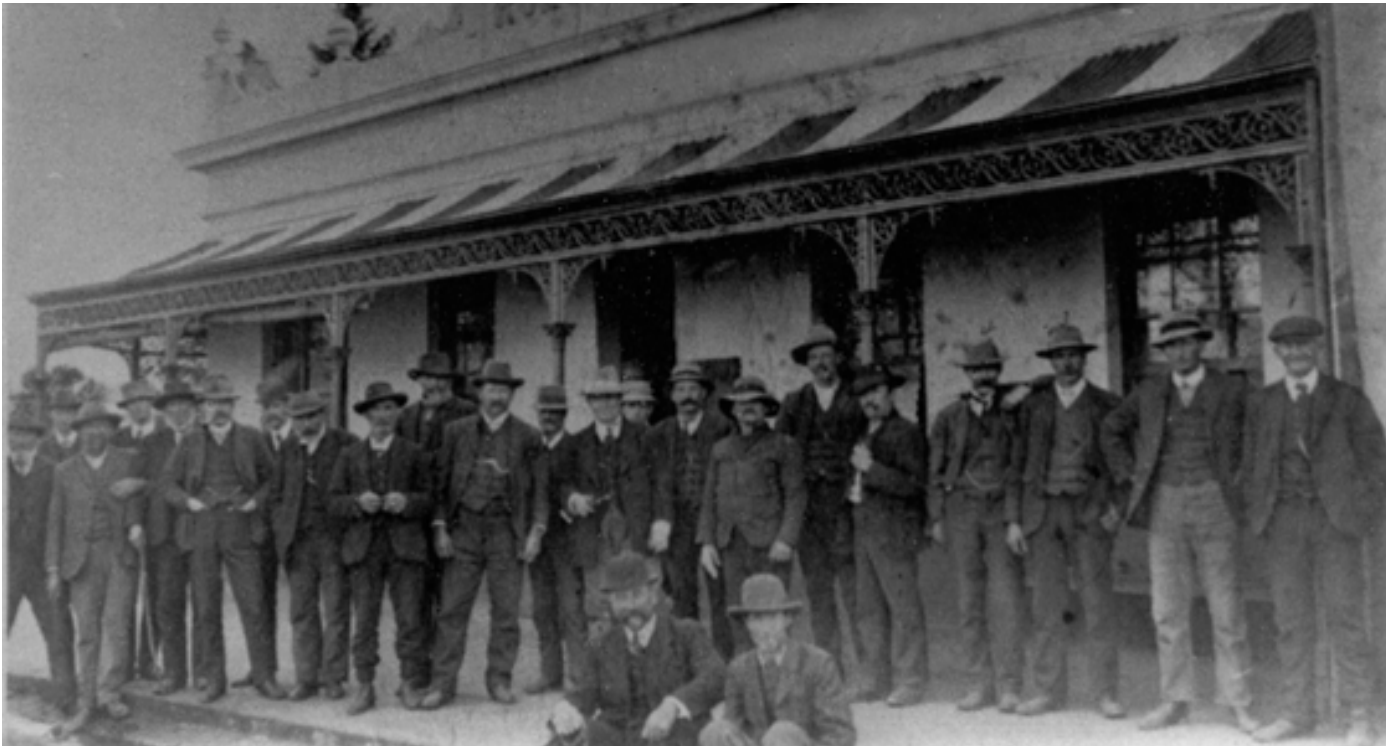
Gold Sponsor



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Media Sponsor



**Our Series of Notable Buildings-from the Historical Society.**

## The (original) Romsey Hotel

**119 Main Street was the first hotel in the Romsey Township – You may know it as Romsey House (Evans Wine Bar etc).**

William Campbell purchased the site for 4 pounds. His son-in-law & daughter Lachlan and Mary Robertson built the hotel and were licensees from 1860 to 1887.

‘The Proprietor begs to intimate to his numerous friends that he has always on hand superior assortments of wines and spirits and fermented drinks of the best quality, and being the oldest established hotel in the township needs no guarantee of the first-class accommodation obtainable. Ample and commodious stabling, loose boxes etc.’ (The Lancefield Examiner, 11/9/1873)

Lachlan Campbell in 1875 purchased the Royal Mail Hotel (cnr Ochiltrees and Main Roads) from Sam Hunt along with 160 acres, renaming it ‘Glenbride’. By 1888 the Campbell brothers owned almost 2000 acres.

A well-known judge was prone to leave his bench for the comfort of the ‘Romsey’ even though the business of the court was held up during his absence. In its heyday the hotel enjoyed a high reputation for the excellent catering and social events. William Campbell sold the Romsey Hotel to his two sons in 1875 for 903 pounds.

Lachlan Robertson purchased the right to sell liquor (Romsey Examiner 27/10/1881). His hotel was well located for the Romsey stock market at the Murphy and Pohlman Street corner, and his refreshment booth was seen at Lancefield races.

From 1887 to 1893, Romsey had 6 hotels to compete with! Returning to run the hotel, Lachlan Robertson became insolvent in 1895 and his wife, Mary and then Sarah Campbell briefly held the license. Kenneth Campbell transferred his holding to Sarah Campbell in 1906. One armed Norm Taylor bought the hotel in 1925. By 9/11/1928, A.C. McLean of Queen Street Melbourne was mortgagee in possession. The license was surrendered on 30 September 1944.

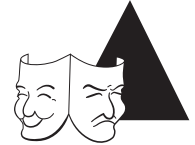
**Romsey’s south facing wall once had concrete letters - chiseled off during WWII in case the enemy recognized where they were!**

The building served as tearoom, restaurant, and cafe, from 1970’s to the present day. There is so much more to this building and its occupants.

**[www.romseylancefieldhistorical.org.au](http://www.romseylancefieldhistorical.org.au)**

For references: Contact lancefieldcourthouse@gmail.com

## The Mount Players



The Mount Players

## Mount Players Winds Up another Year!

Our final production for 2023 “Peter Pan - A Musical Adventure” has been a resounding success, playing sixteen sell out shows. This production was the epitome of community theatre with almost everyone who put up their hand to be involved being catered for. It has been a wonderful opportunity to showcase the young talent we have in this area. Backed, of course, by our unseen heroes working so hard behind the scenes - our scenic artists, set builders, lighting designers, costume designers and makers plus everyone who helped backstage and front of house. Without their efforts none of this would have been possible. And thank you of course to everyone who attended. We truly appreciate your support.

Mount Players Youth Theatre Showcase – Sat. 9th December 4pm. A showcase of the different acting skillsets that have been developed in weekly classes over the semester in a performance evening presented to parents/ carers and friends of the Mount Players Youth Theatre (MPYT) students. This opportunity provides a platform for students to showcase the progress they have made in their acting skills and celebrate their hard work, dedication and growth as performers. If you or someone you know would like to be involved with The Mount Players Youth Theatre, we invite you to go to our website [www.themountplayers.com](http://www.themountplayers.com) for full details on enrolling for Term 1 in 2024.

Our first show for 2024 “Wild” by Mike Bartlett, directed by George Benca is a dark comedy that explores the unexpected, bewildering and life-changing consequences of challenging the status quo at a global level. Last week, Andrew was that guy with his girl lunching at KFC discussing their plans for the future. Today he’s in Moscow, in an undisclosed hotel room, on the run and at risk of assassination.

The Mount Players

### SEASON 2024

**WILD**  
Dark Comedy by Mike Bartlett  
Director George Benca  
23 Feb - 10 Mar

**LOOPEO**  
Comedy by Matthew Lombardo  
Director Peter Newling  
10 May - 26 May

**JASPER JONES**  
Drama adapted by Kate Mulvany  
Director David Runnalls  
16 Aug - 1 Sep

**A BUNCH OF AMATEURS**  
Comedy by Ian Hislop and Nick Newman  
Director Craig Lenaire-Smith  
8 Nov - 24 Nov

For full details and bookings  
go to [www.themountplayers.com](http://www.themountplayers.com)  
or phone 5426 1892

Mountview Theatre  
56 Smith St. Macedon

## Romsey Lancefield Senior Citizens

### Bendigo Bank Monthly Bus Trips

#### Christmas Lunches and Thank You.

Firstly a big thank you to the Lancefield and Romsey Community Branches of the BENDIGO BANK. We received \$5,000 sponsorship to help subsidise our monthly bus trips next year. Thank you very much for your wonderful support.

Our Monthly Bus Trip for December is our Christmas Lunch to the Highlands Hotel in Craigieburn. This will be on Tuesday 5th of December. The cost will be \$50

#### Bus Pickups:

- Lancefield – 10:30
- Romsey – 10:45

We will also be having our Christmas Lunch in our rooms on Monday the 11th of December, cost of \$10. We will be finishing up on this date and will be back in mid-January.

If you are interested in joining us for either of our lovely Christmas lunches please contact Helen or Jan for catering purposes.

We would love to see you at one of these events or both.

## Bendigo Bank



For further information please contact Helen on 0409 064 303 or Jan on 0408 338 759.

*Hope to see you soon.*

*We Wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year.*



# Romsey Mechanics' Institute



Established 1865

**Lancefield and Romsey Community Investment Evening:** Community representatives from all across Romsey, Lancefield and surrounding districts attended the RMI on Thursday Nov 2nd to be part of the 2023 distribution of grant monies. It was a very successful evening with many groups receiving much needed funds to assist them in completing their community based activities. The Romsey Cricket Club did a great job on the bar and Lorraine Krause did her usual superb job with the catering. As mentioned last month, the RMI received \$5,000 for a commercial dishwasher to assist us to develop a cleaner and more environmentally friendly kitchen.

**Baby Rosellas:** Many will remember the story of the nest full of baby rosellas that fell down the chimney into the Seniors' rooms at the back of the RMI. Well, it has happened again. The ukulele group noticed some chirping coming from the fireplace and upon removing the covering board saw about seven baby birds.



In the fireplace.



Safely into the tree.

Once disturbed they made "one hell of a racket". Off to the hardware store to purchase a hanging basket then home for a ladder. Allan Irvine carefully lifted the babies into the hanging basket and it was placed as high up a nearby tree as possible. We will have to get hold of a cherry picker to cover over the top of the chimney so that this does not occur again.

**2023 Film Nights:** Heskett P. S., will be showing a Christmas themed film "Elf" on Friday December 1st. All children will enjoy this film, please try to support one of our local smaller primary schools.

**Tickets available via Trybookings.**

PO Box 130, Mob: 0458 726 106, ABN: 99 340 024 758

[presidentrmi@gmail.com](mailto:presidentrmi@gmail.com), [secretaryrmi@gmail.com](mailto:secretaryrmi@gmail.com), [rmibookings@gmail.com](mailto:rmibookings@gmail.com) - [www.romseymechanicsinstitute.com](http://www.romseymechanicsinstitute.com)

## December in the garden

by **Melanie Kinsey**

Now that my garden is reduced to a sea of pots: I have to look elsewhere for inspiration to write this monthly column until I have a garden once again! So, I went for a stroll along Main Rd to the shops. There was plenty to see being spring, including the section of footpath that the kids scribbled on nearly 20 years ago. Amazingly I still remember most of the names!

I spotted some beautiful roses along the way including one pink one being grown against a telephone pole – that's a great idea! I can't even hazard a guess as to its identity but I'm guessing its an old cultivar of some sort. The bush was smothered in blooms. I also saw a lovely hybrid tea rose which I think might have

been 'Apricot Nectar' but I'm not positive. But the highlight was a magnificent row of grey-leaved flowering tea-tree in a fabulous lolly pink. The grey foliage against the pink was stunning. It might have been *Leptospermum 'Seclusions'*. A bit further on another tea-tree possibly 'Alicia Rose' was a darker pink and also looked amazing. The bees were going wild for the flowers.

Then I came across something really unusual – a clump of black bamboo in flower! It was probably *Phyllostachys nigra*. Bamboo as a rule only flowers rarely (like every few decades) and after flowering the clump usually dies and new plants grow from all the seed that is produced. Supposedly the same species of bamboo flowers all over the world at the same time and then it all (mostly) dies

at once. The northern hemisphere experienced a mass flowering of black bamboo in 2022 and into 2023. The interesting thing about the clump I saw, is that although it was flowering, the clump next to it was not! Is your black bamboo flowering? What a great thing to see on a morning stroll!



A gorgeous pink tea-tree in full bloom.

# Community Bank Connections

## | CELEBRATE THE WONDERFUL

However you celebrate, whoever you're with, may your Christmas be merry, always.

*From the Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey team.*

During the festive season our branches will close at 5pm on Friday 22 December, and reopen Wednesday 27 December.

### COMMUNITY INVESTMENT CELEBRATION

Congratulations to our 27 local groups who were successful in their grant applications in our most recent round of funding. Keep an eye on our Facebook page ([facebook.com/CommunityBankLancefieldRomsey](https://facebook.com/CommunityBankLancefieldRomsey)) for full details on our successful grant projects.

Along with members of our local community, our Community Bank team enjoyed a fabulous evening on the 2nd November at our 2023 Community Investment Event. On the night, we announced an unprecedented investment of \$483,070 into Romsey, Lancefield and surrounds for 2023-24, consisting of;

- \$362,870 in grants to 27 local organisations
- \$18,000 in donations to 9 local emergency services groups
- \$42,000 in sponsorships, including our continued investment in our local ShareRide vehicle
- \$52,200 in scholarships for 2024
- Plus \$8,000 in Small Change Grants, \$500 each and now available via our two branches

An amount our Community Bank is extremely proud of, bringing our total investment in the local community to over \$3 million in our 22 years of Community Banking!

Our next grants program for events will open in March/April 2023 – email [cip@lrcfsl.com.au](mailto:cip@lrcfsl.com.au) to ensure you're on the list to be notified when the program opens.

### | 2024 TERTIARY SCHOLARSHIPS

Our 2024 tertiary scholarship programs are now open for applications!

We're offering 6 scholarships in total to local students, and this year we're opening our Rebecca Harrison Memorial Scholarship to students in their second year (or beyond) at Uni, TAFE or College!

- **Lancefield & Romsey Community Scholarship Program** – 4 Scholarships available

3 year, scholarships for first time tertiary students in 2024, \$3,500 per annum totalling \$10,500 over 3 years.

- **Rebecca Harrison Memorial Scholarship** - 2 Scholarships available

1 year, \$1,500 scholarship for second year (or beyond) tertiary students under 25.

Contact our branch for more information or for full eligibility criteria and to apply online head to: <https://www.bendigobank.com.au/community/scholarships> and select 'Community Bank Scholarships', then search for Lancefield & Romsey under 'Community Bank scholarships currently available'.

### | TEAM NEWS

After 22 years at Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey, Leanne Showler has moved across to a new role at our neighbouring Community Bank Wallan, Kilmore and Broadford. On behalf of us all at Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey, thank you Leanne for all you've done for our customers and branch, helping countless customers, participating in many community investment evenings and representing the branch across the community.

Supporting your local community

Community Bank - Romsey 5429 5526

 Bendigo Bank

Community Bank  
Lancefield and Romsey

# Making good things happen



When you bank with us, profits pour into the community. **Over \$3m** so far.

Here's who we've helped lately:

Romsey Golf Club \$750
Romsey Bowling Club \$1,250
Romsey Men's Shed \$1,350
CWA Romsey \$2,000
Lancefield Agricultural Society \$2,000
Lancefield Cricket Club \$2,000
Romsey & Lancefield Historical Society \$4,095
Lancefield & Districts Pony Club \$4,500
Edgars Mission \$5,000
Romsey Lancefield Senior Citizen Club \$5,000
Romsey Mechanics' Institute \$5,000
1st Romsey Scout Group \$5,000
Lions Club of Lancefield Romsey \$5,625
Cancer Council Victoria \$6,640
EMRBATA \$7,500

Romsey Playgroup \$10,000
Lancefield Bowling Club \$11,500
Lancefield Mechanics Institute \$12,132
Lancefield Neighbourhood House \$15,000
Romsey Football Netball Club \$15,000
Lancefield Men's Shed \$20,000
Romsey Tennis Club \$20,000
Woodend Lifestyle Carers Group \$24,921
Lancefield Equestrian Group \$25,000
Romsey Cricket Club \$25,000
Lancefield Park Recreation Reserve \$47,363
Lancefield Golf Club \$79,244

Find out more. Search Bendigo Bank near me.

📍 Community Bank · Lancefield 5429 1977 ·  
Romsey 5429 5526



Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879 A1363473, OUT\_32911098, 14/11/2023

# Woodend-Hanging Rock Petanque Club News

**Our summer season continues with great gusto from our members, gathering to play petanque at the Old Racecourse in Forest Street Woodend on Monday afternoons, and of course, on Thursdays at beautiful Hanging Rock.**

Last Thursday was no exception, with 31 members gathering to play 3 competitive games of petanque.

All teams are picked out of the hat, so we all play with different members each game, giving us the opportunity to play and chat with many of our club members.

It was a cool evening and jackets were required!

Each week is different, but, one must always be prepared for weather changes at Hanging Rock!

Last weekend was a big one for our club with some members forming teams with other club's members to play in the Victorian Triples Championships at the Weird Entertainers and Petanque Club, Endeavour Hills.

Our Ruth Giddings joined with 2 members from the Mount Martha Club and they won the over 60s division.

## **Well done, ladies!**

Then our Shirley Marshall joined with 2 friends, to form her team, which came 3rd.



## **Well done, ladies!**

And also, our Rod Gell joined with 2 members of the Ballarat Petanque Club and came equal 5th in the Principal.

## **Well done, boys!**

This is the perfect weather for a game of petanque, whether it be at Hanging Rock or in the middle of Woodend at the Old Racecourse!

We also welcome new members Sheena and Barry.

We would love to see new faces to join in our game.

***If you think you would like to share in the fun, call Louise on 0438 302 218***

## Have you discovered our 100% naturally brewed beers?



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RRDEC23



# G'day

## Cooking with Peter Russell-Clarke

G'day,

I got such a good response from last month's article about Thai food that I had the idea to serve you for this month a Malaysian dish - Nasi Kuningit.

Last month's Thai food was for my grandchildren who are half Thai, this month's is for my major art client, a Malaysian on the island of Penang. He buys numerous paintings 6 ft x 4 ft and sends them all round the world. He has a processed fish business called Golden Fresh and, apart from his product being top line, he is a top line bloke. He is starting up a factory in Poland.

the STICKY RICE has STUCK TO the PAN!



## RED CROSS CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

Our Annual Christmas Raffle is now here- 4 prizes

Tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5

Tickets will be on sale outside IGA on Friday 8th December from midday to 6 p.m. and Saturday 9th December 9 a.m. – noon. Don't miss out

Draw will take place on Saturday 9th

All proceeds go to Red Cross



## NASI KUNYIT

### Ingredients:

- 500g pulot (glutinous rice)
- 2 cups water
- 2 teaspoons salt
- 1 clove garlic, crushed
- 1 teaspoon ground turmeric (for colour as well as taste)
- 1/2 teaspoon ground black pepper
- 2 cups hot coconut milk
- 1 daun pandan\*

RECIPE

### Method:

- Wash rice and drain. Put into a saucepan with water, garlic, salt, turmeric, pepper and pandanus leaf for flavouring. Heat till boiling, reduce heat, cover tightly and steam for 10 minutes. Remove the lid,, add coconut milk (which you've made very hot) and now stir gently so that the rice is mixed with the coconut milk. Then cover and cook for another 10 minutes.

Serve garnished with anything you like.

*(The rice is sweet, so don't be afraid of sweet and sour.)*

- **daun pandan:** used as a flavour and colouring in Malaysian sweets. The long, flat, green leaves are crushed or boiled to yield the flavour and colour. The taste is very popular with Malaysians, I hope it will be with you too.

Noel Coward once wrote 'Wit ought to be a glorious treat, like caviar. Never spread it about like marmalade.' He obviously was not talking about this recipe. You can spread Nasi Kuningit around like marmalade. For instance, I serve it with Italian sausages. The sweet flavour of the rice is enhanced by savoury flavour of the sausage - and vice versa.

**NOTE:** If you can't find glutinous rice for this recipe (or 'sticky' or 'sweet' rice - they're the same thing) use a short-grain rice or risotto rice, which have a stickier texture when cooked. Medium grain rice tends to cook up moist and tender while short-grain rice tends to clump together when cooked and forms 'glutinous' rice. Although all rice is naturally gluten free, 'glutinous' refers to its glue-like or 'sticky' rice texture.

**PS.** This recipe doesn't go well with a traditional Christmas cake, but a Lions Christmas cake, wet with a little brandy and fashioned into miniature Christmas cake balls with a little melted white chocolate on top is good-oh. For those brave enough to put a spoonful of glutinous rice beside the Christmas cake - good luck to you.

# Highway Clean Up And Plaque Restorations

Members of the Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club Inc. spent Saturday 4th November 2023 cleaning up the Melbourne-Lancefield road cutting, trimming and mowing around all Avenue of Honour plaques. Two trailer loads of rubbish were collected and all plaque areas on the western side of the highway were successfully mowed and whipper snipped. Restoration was also completed to the damaged plaques.

Special thanks to the members Anne Collins, Peter O'Rourke, Shane Pettingill, (President) Dr Diane Powell, (immediate Past President) Brendan Meyer and Dr Greg Powell as well as one community member (who wishes to remain anonymous) for their services to the community. Brendan was able to bring his tractor to mow certain areas of extremely long grass and remove wattle tree suckers along the walking track.

The Rotary Club also wishes to thank the owners of properties along the walking track who have been able to keep the grass down regularly.

This clean up, restoration of plaques and mowing was in preparation for Remembrance Day (Saturday 11th November) where the RSL and the whole community come together to remember the sacrifices that countless people have made in service of their country.

The Avenue of Honour plaques have been placed along the walking track in remembrance of all Australians who fought in wars or peace keeping missions. The Avenue of Honour was initiated by the Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club and the Romsey Lancefield RSL and continues to develop each year with new plaques being added.

NOTE: 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.

Contact our Club Secretary -  
Anne Collins via email  
[anne.collins@outlook.com.au](mailto:anne.collins@outlook.com.au)



## **Romsey Rainbow Coffee Club**



### **The Country LGBTIQ+ Inclusion Program's monthly Rainbow Coffee Club is coming to Romsey.**

In partnership with Romsey Neighbourhood House, the social group run by Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health in Kyneton for the last two years, will also be held here in Romsey. The aim is to connect local LGBTIQ+ adults in the east of the shire with each other over good coffee and even better conversations.

The Rainbow Coffee Club is one of the initiatives of the Country LGBTIQ+ Inclusion Program known as CLIP, which supports the health and wellbeing of adult lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, intersex and queer people in the Macedon Ranges.

“Being part of a community and feeling socially connected can really have a positive impact on a person’s mental and physical health,” says the organiser of the group, Belinda Brain. “These coffee catch-ups are a great way to meet new people and create meaningful social connections and a sense of belonging to the community.”

Romsey Rainbow Coffee Club will meet at the Romsey Community Co-Op on the second Friday of the month from 11am to 12pm, with the first to take place on Friday 8 December. The Romsey Community Co-Op is at 126 Main St, Romsey.

*For more information about the various programs, groups and training offered by CLIP, call Belinda on 5421 1666 or email [healthpromotion@scchc.org.au](mailto:healthpromotion@scchc.org.au).*

## Romsey Golf Club Report

**John Laing Shield:** The John Laing Shield is a "singles match-play" event run over four weeks. It is named after life member John Laing and is now in its 28th year. At this time of year there are many other events on so the four weeks of the shield may be played over a longer period. After the quarter finals there were four players still "alive". The semi-finals, Dec 2nd, will be Mal Mottram (0) Vs Bob McLennan (6) and Davey Kenney (0) Vs John Freestone (13). The two winners of these matches will play off in the final on Dec 9th.

**Macedon Ranges Spring Cup:** The 2023 Spring Cup was played at Mt Macedon on Sunday Nov 12th. This year Lancefield joined RGC and MMGC to make it a tri-partite event. During spring the Mount is a very picturesque course and, while challenging, is very enjoyable to play. Combined Stableford scores saw Lancefield come out on top with 354 pts to narrowly pip MMGC on 349.

**Twilight Golf:** The 2023/24 Twilight Golf began on Fri Nov 2nd. Some players organise their own groups to play whilst others just roll up and go out with whoever else is in the room at the time.

**Golf Clinics:** Our golf clinics have been a great success with all four fully booked out and PGA professional, Emily Pell, running additional clinics for RGC members and newcomers. The women who attended the clinics are now playing a shortened round of Ambrose on most Sundays. As their skills and confidence grows they may wish to enter the Friday night twilight golf and then move on to other golf events.. Interest is so great that we are planning another round of clinics early in the new year. Please keep an eye out on the RGC website and Facebook page for more information.

**Cancer Charity Golf Day:** The club will again be running the Relay For Life charity golf day on Sun Feb 18th. This is a fun 12 hole 4-player Ambrose event and includes lunch. Money raised goes to cancer research via Puddles team at the 2024 Relay for Life. All players welcome. Keep an eye on the club's website and Facebook page for more info.

*All at Romsey Golf Club would like to wish everyone a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.*

## 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



Leak on the 9th Fairway



Leak repaired.



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  - \*Drainage
  - \*Retaining walls
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# Romsey Mens Shed

*Working on Friendships*



## Romsey Mens Shed

New members. Two new members take us to 60 members – the largest Mens Shed in the Shire. We are viable, but small enough that you get to know a good number of other Men.

**Activities.** We are social and “hands on” - it is members choice. You choose. We want a “safe” and comfortable place for men to work on their own projects – or community-based ones - or just mix and chat. We have about four excursions a year eg. a Motor Vehicle Museum, a Cider Distillery or a cricket bat maker.

For “hands-on”, we have woodwork, metal/welding and an automotive workshop. We can organise training eg. glass cutting or making novelty items for the Romsey Co-Op. We help the Romsey Neighbourhood House and community projects eg. Street Xmas decorations. At quarterly cluster meetings with nearby Mens Sheds, we compare notes.

**Thursday \$5 BBQ/Light lunch day.** The Thursday \$5 barbeque/light lunch at 12 is popular. “Hands on project work” stops at 11 for quiet time. Dedicated foodies do our catering - 10 to about 2pm.

**Tuesday and Wednesday.** Tuesdays open from 9 to 4. Open times on Wednesdays depends on the Woodwork group projects.

**Expansion plans.** From an AGM in the Scout Hall, to a concrete and steel shell, Mens Shed activities grow. We are negotiating to expand our Crown lease east for a bigger woodwork section.

The 1925 T Model project: Front page of The Midland Express on Tuesday August 15 resulted in a private donation of tyres, and Bendigo Bank funded complex wheel refurbishments. It will remain here for display or social purposes.



The skeleton we start with.

**Our Facebook page is:** Romsey Mens Shed Inc. **We have a GO FUND ME for the T model project.**

**Shed times:** Tuesdays 9am - 4pm and Thursdays 10 am - 2pm. Open other days by arrangement.

**Membership applications: Secretary:** romseym@gmail.com or drop in at Barry Street, Romsey

## Social Support Groups

If you live in the Macedon Ranges and are looking to meet people whilst visiting local attractions, the Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health social support bus trip program could be for you. The program offers small group outings to galleries, gardens, shopping centres and other regional and metropolitan destinations. This year trips have included the Garden of St Erth, The Great Stupa in Bendigo, The Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne, Edgar’s Mission in Lancefield and Living Legends in Bulla.

The groups run on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and door-to-door pick-up and drop-off is available from towns including Woodend, Newham, Romsey, Lancefield, Tylden and Kyneton.

“The program is ideal for those wanting to socialise, but may need support accessing the community,” says Roz Walton, team leader of the program. “We vary the destination depending on what group members want to do, the weather or what’s on locally.”



The cost of the program depends on your funding eligibility, and for many the cost is fully funded. Examples include those who are over 65 and have a My Aged Care referral or Home Care Package that specifies social support, adults with a disability under 65 and not eligible for NDIS, and NDIS participants.

**If you want to find out more, call 5421 1666 or email [admin@scchc.org.au](mailto:admin@scchc.org.au).**



## Eastern Macedon Ranges Business and Tourism Association Inc (EMRBATA) - UPDATE

### Thriving Villages Funding Application Success

EMRBATA has been successful in its application to the State Government Flood Relief Grant Program. With the assistance of a professional consultancy ([www.villagewell.org](http://www.villagewell.org)), "Town Activation Plans" will be developed for Romsey and Lancefield. These will identify and address deficiencies in both towns as they relate to visitor economy product, economic leakage and identification of opportunities. It will ultimately aim to build business resilience and thriving communities. The Romsey and Lancefield projects will dovetail into Tourism Macedon Ranges' (TMR's) Thriving Villages project (also funded through this State Government Grant Program) which addresses the broader regional situation. The project will commence in May and be completed by November. Stay tuned for further developments on this exciting opportunity for our eastern region!

### EMRBATA Submission to MRSC Budget

EMRBATA has made a submission to the 2024-2025 MRSC Budget to support a Specialist Horticulture Position to be responsible for the specialised parks and gardens in the Shire. Of particular interest to the eastern corridor is the Romsey Ecotherapy Park which (along with the Shire's Botanical Gardens) needs specialised care in order to retain its visitor and local appeal. The Romsey Five Mile Creek was acknowledged as an important local asset in the Draft Romsey Structure Plan. As such, EMRBATA will be lobbying for the implementation of Stage 2 of the Five Mile Creek Master Plan. The Lions' proposed skate park upgrade in Romsey is an important project for both locals and visitors to the region and is also worthy of Budget consideration. With skateboarding now an Olympic sport, the appeal and need (especially amongst younger people) is not in doubt. Congratulations to the Lions' Club for pursuing this important infrastructure project.

### Exciting Times Ahead for EMRBATA and our Region

By the time you are reading this, the EMRBATA Annual General Meeting will have occurred and a new Committee installed. This has been an incredibly busy year for EMRBATA, with much work going into development of a Strategic Plan and Governance process review as well as the usual activities and ongoing advocacy. As a result, the organisation has clear direction and a renewed commitment and strategy to engage its members and advocate for the region. EMRBATA is looking forward to 2024!



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

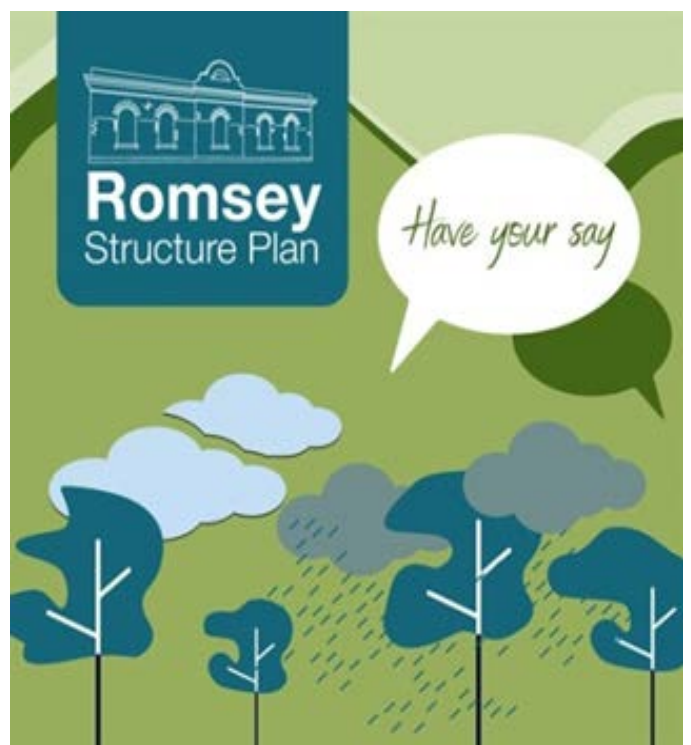
#### Facebook

Eastern Macedon Ranges  
- Business and Living

#### EMRBATA Membership

<https://easternmacedonranges.au/emrbata>

Email: [contact@macedonranges.au](mailto:contact@macedonranges.au)



## Environment events

### Summer calendar

We have several exciting events coming up over summer including:

- Horses and sustainable grazing, field activity (21 January)
- Grazing and farming discussion group, field activity (9 Feb)
- Local farmers on small properties, webinar (13 February)
- Rascally rabbits, workshop (17 and 18 February)
- Reducing the wildlife road toll community forum, workshop (23 February)

To register for events or sign up to the monthly Environment eNews, visit <http://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events>

# Romsey storm waste facility wins sustainability award

## Council's flagship storm waste facility now has a trio of awards to its name, having been recognised at the 2023 Keep Australia Beautiful Victoria Tidy Towns & Cities Sustainability Awards.

Taking out the EPA Waste Prevention and Reduction category, it is the facility's third award following recognition in the Health & Safety Excellence (Small to Medium Enterprise) category at the 2022 Australian Workplace Health & Safety Awards (in partnership with Tree Mason and Action OHS Consulting) and the Special Projects Initiative category at the 2023 LGPro Awards for Excellence. Located near Romsey, the Council-managed facility was developed out of the need to respond quickly to the severe destruction caused by storms in June 2021, with a focus on eliminating green waste by creating repurposed products for impacted councils and communities. CEO Bernie O'Sullivan said Council was thrilled that the storm waste facility had been recognised for another award and that it again highlighted the benefits of regional scale, upcycling products back to affected landowners and a strong partnership between local and state government.

"This invaluable project was made possible through a strong collaboration between Council and a number of hard-working Council staff, Emergency Recovery Victoria and the community," he said.

"We were not only able to act swiftly to solve a major problem in a very practical and cost-effective way, but the most pleasing thing is to have been able to give back to affected communities."

Since its implementation, the facility has processed over 65,000 tonnes of tree and storm debris, while returning recycled or repurposed products back to impacted communities with a total market value of over \$35 million, including:

- timber for community projects
- fencing supplies and retaining wall sleepers
- stakes for Council tree planting programs
- free firewood for nearly 2,000 Macedon Ranges residents
- 90 truckloads of root balls to enhance fish breeding habitat within rivers and water systems
- hundreds of cubic metres of sawdust for local pig farmers
- over 180,000 cubic meters of mulch.

"The facility sets a new standard for post-disaster clean up and is a model that could be easily replicated anywhere, so hopefully our learnings will also help give other councils an idea for a practical solution for emergency recovery, should they ever need it," Mr O'Sullivan said.

## Leisure activities for children:

### Active Kids sports program

Children will learn a variety of ball games to improve motor skills and techniques to play sports, while interacting with other children. Children use a range of equipment from soccer, netball, hockey, basketball and more, and learn skills for catching, rolling and throwing in a relaxed, fun environment.

Sessions are held from 10–10:45am on Wednesday mornings at Buffalo Sports Stadium in Woodend for children aged 3–5 years. Parent/guardian participation is required.

The cost for a casual visit is \$12.10, or a 10-session pass is \$108.90 (six months expiry).

*This program is casual, no need to book. Parent participation is required. For information call 5427 3411 or email [buffalo@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:buffalo@mrsc.vic.gov.au)*

### Kindagym

This program is based on developing gross motor skills, confidence, balance and social skills. Kindagym is a structured class with free play option for children to explore the array of equipment on display.

The program runs Friday mornings at Buffalo Sports Stadium in Woodend for casual sessions and pass card holders.

- 10am-10:45am (1-3 years)
- 11am-11:45am (4-5 years)

The cost for a casual visit is \$12.10, or a 10-session pass is \$108.90 (six months expiry).

*Places are limited for each program. For information or to book in for term-based programs, email [buffalo@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:buffalo@mrsc.vic.gov.au)*

## Leisure activities for adults:

### Staying Strong - strength training sessions for over-50s

Council runs a number of low-to-moderate intensity group circuit classes for men and women 50+ years of age across Kyneton Toyota Sports & Aquatic Centre, Gisborne Fitness Centre, Buffalo Sports Stadium in Woodend and Romsey Recreation Centre.

Staying Strong is a circuit-based class designed to improve muscular strength, aerobic fitness, flexibility, balance and coordination in a safe and social environment. Experienced instructors provide exercises that cater for a range of exercise abilities.

*For information, contact your local centre or visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/leisure](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/leisure)*



## 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. 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.

At our November meeting 2 members shared their experiences travelling through Northern Queensland. We also revisited the trip to W.A. for those who didn't attend with a visual presentation of the trip highlights.

The next meeting of the Romsey/Lancefield Probus Club will be early in 2024 and will be the last meeting before the AGM. If you are interested you can attend as a visitor on the 22nd Feb at 10 am. We already have a guest speaker organised and Luci Quinn will be sharing her recent experiences of touring the Holy Land in 2023. We are beginning to plan and organise trips and events for 2024, taking advantage of local sites and businesses as well as attractions further afield. We make sure members are consulted and their interests are well catered for.

*We are a friendly, welcoming group from diverse backgrounds with a variety of interests and we'd love to meet you! Feel free to attend a meeting as a visitor.*

#### Contact:

President: **Noreen 0401 579 180**

Secretary: **Betty 0409 359 048**

Visit our website: [www.rlprobud.org.au](http://www.rlprobud.org.au)

*We are a friendly, welcoming group from diverse backgrounds with a variety of interests and we'd love to meet you! Feel free to attend a meeting as a visitor.*

**FREE**

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**LANCEFIELD  
WITH  
ROMSEY**

INVITE YOU TO OUR  
**CHRISTMAS  
BANQUET**

Saturday 23rd December  
11am onwards  
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Vintage games and kid's activities

Everyone welcome

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# Another Merry Piggmas for Tottie

**A famous pig is celebrating her second Christmas at Edgar's Mission.**

Tottie, the adorable rescued resident, has spent over a year showcasing her affable personality at the not-for-profit sanctuary for formerly farmed animals in Lancefield, since her national television debut for *Animals Australia*.

"She happily trots beside us, and loves it when you rub her glorious belly," said founder Pam Ahern. "With kindness, Tottie has blossomed into the intelligent, fastidiously clean, fun-loving, and affectionate pig she had the opportunity to become – an opportunity denied to so many other pigs who will face a very different fate this Christmas."

Lancefield animal sanctuary Edgar's Mission is celebrating its 20th Christmas of kindness after another life-changing year. With around 400 formerly farmed animals currently in their care, many special needs and high care, sanctuary founder Pam Ahern reflected that 2023 was a year that saw some of their most challenging rescues – and most incredible transformations – yet.

"Edgar's Mission has rescued over 800 new animals in need over the past 12 months, and has found forever homes for a similar number, whilst assisting with rehoming many more," Pam said.

The sanctuary will be celebrating this festive season with a plant-based Christmas feast, surrounded by animal residents like Tottie whose lives have been spared from the dinner plate.

"We can all make an enormous difference in the life of pigs, turkeys, lambs and others by what – and not who – we choose to eat and buy this festive season," Pam said.

Edgar's Mission has released a free kind Christmas guide which is packed with delicious plant-based recipes the whole family will rave about. "Our personal favourite comes from award-winning cookbook author Zacchary Bird and his famous pavlova - or 'fablova'," Pam shared. "There is also a kind gift guide, an advent calendar featuring a new kindness tip each day, and cute animal gift tags to get the whole family involved."

Living life now at sanctuary with agency and purpose, Tottie is a potent reminder that miracles can happen.

"Each and every one of us can make a world of difference in the lives of animals just the same as her, simply by being kind," Pam said.

Head to [www.kindchristmas.com](http://www.kindchristmas.com) to learn more.



# Did You Know We Have Our Own Lancefield/Romsey Branch Of The Australian Labor Party?

**We are a small branch operating in the Macedon State and McEwen Federal electorates. We would like to get larger and be even more effective. We meet locally and welcome new member applications! The membership fees are reasonable with some concessional arrangements.**

In Australia we have a developing democracy after moving through a colonial era, to a modern federation. With a long history of First Nations peoples, mixed with migrants from all nations, we have a great blend of people and essentially, a peaceful environment, even when we disagree.

Our political structure and voting system is not perfect, but is much better than most countries. However, local participation is essential in a workable democracy! Joining your local branch gives you an opportunity to get feedback on political matters and an opportunity to inject your ideas into policy making.

We sometimes use our voice to raise issues of community concern with the Shire (Macedon Ranges

Shire Council) - for example, path and road conditions, charging stations for EVs and long term vacancies in commercial properties - and other local, state and federal agencies or our local politicians. Currently, we have parliamentary members at state and federal level who do listen and help out wherever possible.

We meet Monthly on the third Wednesday at 7.30pm. If you are interested in joining or just need more information, the Victorian ALP website [viclabor.com.au](http://viclabor.com.au) is useful or contact a local.

Kevin Fothergill (President) [kevinlf42@bigpond.com](mailto:kevinlf42@bigpond.com) or Guy Walter (Assistant Secretary) [guyw4@bigpond.com](mailto:guyw4@bigpond.com)



## Romsey soft plastic recycling trial update

Council is pleased to announce that the Romsey soft plastic recycling trial has been extended until June 2024.

The trial is being continued until a nationwide program is implemented. From January 2024, a 25-pack bags can be purchased from all Council customer service centres for \$4.80 (approx. 19 cents per bag).

For more information, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/soft-plastics-trial](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/soft-plastics-trial)

## December at The Gallery

**The Gallery Mt. Macedon has a wonderful selection of Christmas gifts to suit everyone's pockets. These are made by local artists so come and shop locally.**

The Christmas display by the Gallery is in the Focus Room in December - rich with beautiful craft and art as you have come to expect. We are extending opening hours - 10am to 5pm on both pre-Christmas weekends ie. 16-17 Dec (Sat-Sun) and 22-23 Dec (Fri-Sat).

In 2023 the Gallery has had exhibitions including abstract photography, ceramics and wildlife paintings. We acknowledged the Seasons with Autumn and Spring, and Winter Art to Wear at Jubilee Hall. Winners of Non-photographic and Photographic landscape prizes announced in May.

We look forward to 2024 Portrait competitions: April - Non-photographic, May - Photographic. Look out for entry details.

Members of our Arts Collective thank you for your support through 2023. We wish you the very best seasons greetings.

The Gallery opens 10 - 4 Friday to Tuesday with extended hours on 16, 17, 22, and 23 December, at 684 Mt. Macedon Road, Mt. Macedon (behind the Trading Post Cafe)

We will close 25-26 Dec and New Years Day.

**Sue Anson 0413 581 63**





**Macedon Ranges  
Photographic Society**

# ‘The Ranges in Focus’

**Macedon Ranges Photographic Society Members**

**Print & Digital projection Photography Exhibition**

**Shop 27 - Gisborne Village Shopping**

**Arcade – opening hours**

**Sunday December 17th 2023 to Sunday January 28th 2024**

The Macedon Ranges Photographic Society are excited to announce the Ranges in Focus photography Print and Digital image projection exhibition. This 6-week long Exhibition of Club members Macedon Region photography has been made possible by a grant from Gisborne’s Bendigo Community Bank.

The Exhibition will be staged in Shop 27 (former Jewellery shop) Gisborne Village Shopping Arcade. It will commence Sunday December 17th 2023 and continue to Sunday January 28th 2024 while the arcade is open to the public.

The prints and digital projection will be on the inside of the glass shop front and only viewable from the adjacent food court and corridors. The images will be available for the public to purchase via the Clubs Web Site. See QR code links at the exhibition.

The Macedon Ranges Photographic Society welcomes new members. The club generally meets on the first Tuesday of the month (except December and January), followed by the next Monday at Dromkeen in Riddells Creek. Social chats start at 7pm with the meeting beginning at 7.30pm. Please visit [www.macedon-ranges-photography.org.au](http://www.macedon-ranges-photography.org.au)



**Online Exhibition**

**The Ranges in Focus**  
Photography of the Macedon Ranges  
by the members of the Macedon Ranges Photographic Society

**17 December 2023 - 28 January 2024**  
**Gisborne Village Shopping Centre**

General Enquiries:  
[info@macedon-ranges-photography.org.au](mailto:info@macedon-ranges-photography.org.au)  
[www.macedon-ranges-photography.org.au](http://www.macedon-ranges-photography.org.au)

With thanks to  
**Community Bank**  
Gisborne & District  
**Bendigo Bank**

## Fire Danger Period and heat preparations this summer

Residents are being urged to prepare for an increased likelihood of warmer and drier conditions over summer, with the Country Fire Authority (CFA) declaring the Fire Danger Period for the Macedon Ranges to begin at 1am on 27 November 2023, to end on 1 May 2024 (unless otherwise advised). During the Fire Danger Period, no fire may be lit in the open air without a permit.

Council is focused on working with the community to collectively reduce our shire’s fire risk, including undertaking an annual roadside slashing program across Council-managed roads to reduce the likelihood of fires starting from hot vehicle exhausts, mechanical failures and collisions.

Council’s Municipal Fire Prevention Officers are also conducting property inspections across the shire to check for fire hazards and issue Fire Prevention Notices where appropriate.

Residents are reminded of the importance of being prepared for fires, and to ensure their properties are maintained to ensure there are minimum flammable fuels including stockpiles of green waste and foliage in gutters. Free green waste disposal is available for ratepayers and tenants at Council’s transfer stations in Kyneton, Romsey and Woodend.

### For more information on:

- preparing for fire and heat – visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/fire-heat](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/fire-heat)
- Fire Danger Ratings and the Fire Danger Period – visit [cfa.vic.gov.au](http://cfa.vic.gov.au)
- applying for a permit – visit [firepermits.vic.gov.au](http://firepermits.vic.gov.au)
- the latest information on current incidents and alerts – visit [emergency.vic.gov.au](http://emergency.vic.gov.au)

## ROMSEY BRANCH OF C.W.A. INC

The branch AGM, after our November meeting, was chaired by Group President Mel. Afterward we enjoyed a lovely lunch. Welcome to the new committee and hope this branch continues to support the local community.

It hard to believe the year is almost over. What a busy year our branch enjoyed. We are looking forward to the Christmas break. After our December meeting members are off to the Kilmore Racecourse for our Christmas Lunch and Cheer.

Don't forget we have our Christmas stall at the Lions Club December Market. Come along, visit us for great Christmas goodies.

Lastly we hope you all have a wonderful Christmas and New Year - and look forward to 2024. Our first meeting will be at 10am on 1/2/24 in the supper room at the RMI Hall. Come and join us. Visitors are welcome.

### COCKTAIL HOUR –

#### Spiked Ginger (Serves 8):

#### Ingredients

- 2tbs grated fresh ginger
- 1 cup water
- 360ml bourbon
- 1 cup caster sugar
- Ice Cubes to serve
- 1 cup soda water

#### Method

- Place the ginger, sugar and water in a pan over low heat and stir until the sugar dissolves. Simmer for 15 minutes. Set aside to cool completely. Strain syrup through a fine sieve into a large ice – filled jug, discarding solids. Add the bourbon and top with soda water. Enjoy.

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

For any further information please call:

President: **Dianne Purtil - M: 0409 214 520**

Secretary: **Wendy Foster - M: 0409175 667** or email: [cwaromsey@gmail.com](mailto:cwaromsey@gmail.com)



#### 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.

### Council works updates

#### Kettlewells Road upgrades underway

Upgrades to the unsealed Kettlewells Road in Romsey are now underway, improving safety and amenity for a route commonly used by heavy vehicles.

Home to Council's award-winning storm waste facility, the Kettlewells Gravel Pit Reserve and several rural residences, a large section of the road is set to benefit from road sealing, improved drainage and a new bus shelter at the intersection of Melbourne-Lancefield Road.

These works are funded by Emergency Management Victoria and the Kettlewells Gravel Pit Reserve, and are expected to be finished by the end of the year. Minor delays are expected for road users during the works.

Kettlewells Road is among a number of road upgrades prioritised across the shire as part of Council's 2023/24 Capital Works Program.

Visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/works](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/works) to find out more about some of the other works planned across the shire.

### Village Connect for over-55s

Are you 55 years or older, residing in the Macedon Ranges and looking to connect with others in the shire?

Village Connect supports you to connect by providing:

- information about free or low-cost activities in the Macedon Ranges
- pop-up activities and events to support you to connect with others locally
- opportunities to learn new skills such as navigating digital technology
- a quarterly newsletter containing information about programs, events and health and wellbeing services for over-55s.

#### Mahjong - Come and Try

Learn the strategy and skills required to play Mahjong, a popular tile-based game originating from China at three come and try sessions, all guided by an experienced Mahjong teacher.

- Dates: Monday 4, 11 and 18 December, Romsey Community Hub, 96 Main Road.

This event is free. Registrations essential. Light refreshments provided.

#### Village Coffee Gathering

Sparkle up with a touch of tinsel to gather, meet and keep connected with other like-minded individuals in our community over the age of 55. Join us for some complimentary coffee and cake at our last village coffee gathering for 2023.

The next gathering is on 14 December, 11am-12pm, Dromkeen Gallery, Riddells Creek. Seating is limited, so bookings are essential.

Registration is for Pathways for Carers, Mahjong, and coffee gatherings are essential. Call the Village Connect team on 5422 0333 or visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/village-connect](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/village-connect)

# Romsey Library

## ROMSEY LIBRARY (THE HUB)

98 Main Street, Romsey

P: 5429 3086

E: romsey@ncgrl.vic.gov.au

Facebook: Macedon Ranges Libraries

## OPENING HOURS

Please refer to our website

[www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au](http://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au)

Facebook page or contact us for information regarding up-to-date opening hours in February.

## | Diary Dates

- **A Curious Circle: Christmas Craft, 6.30pm – 8.30pm, Thursday 7th December.**

*Join in with a lively and fun group of adult women as we explore our creativity each month with a different activity. No special skills are needed to attend these sessions, and refreshments are provided.*

For our final session of the year, we will be getting into the festive spirit, making Christmas related craft!

Bookings essential – please phone 5429 3086 for more information.

- **Whimsical Weaving Workshop: 1.00pm – 4.00pm, Tuesday 5th December.**

*Join us for this enjoyable craft workshop. Learn how easy it is to create your own whimsical wall hanging – from things you have lying around the house! Discover weaving techniques and knotting styles. Experiment with colour and texture for a beautiful, unique wall hanging to take home.*

Bookings essential – phone 5429 3086 for information.

Please note a fee of \$10 per person applies to this session.

- **Final Storytime session of 2023, Tuesday 12th December, 11.00am.**
- **Final Baby Rhyme Time session of 2023, Thursday 14th December, 11.00am.**

## | Christmas Hours

The Romsey Library will close at 12.30pm on Saturday 23rd December and then remain closed throughout the Christmas & New Year period until reopening at 9.30am on Tuesday 2nd January.

**Our eLibrary will remain fully accessible during this time – head to [www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/eLibrary](http://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/eLibrary).**

The Kyneton and Gisborne libraries will both be open Wednesday 27th December to Friday 29th December, 10.00am – 5.00pm, as well as Saturday 30th December, 9.30am-12.30pm.

We wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season!

## | Free One-to-One IT Help at the Library

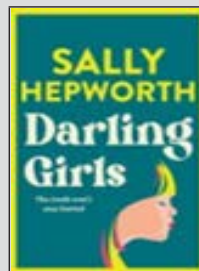
Want to learn how to make a video call with Zoom? Need help attaching a photo to an email? Wonder how to make your Google or Facebook settings more private? How to stop those annoying notifications on your Android phone?

Romsey Library has free one-to-one IT help sessions, with bookings available most weekdays and Saturdays.

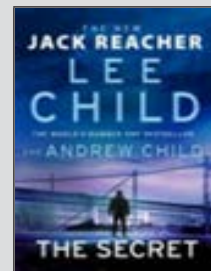
The sessions are for all skill levels, including total beginners. To book, drop by the library at 98 Main Street, or just phone us on 5429 3086.

## New Releases – Order in the Library Now!

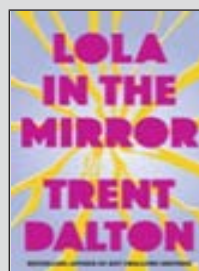
To reserve a loan of these titles, head to [www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au](http://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au) or phone 5429 3086.



Darling Girls  
by Sally Hepworth



The Exchange  
by John Grisham



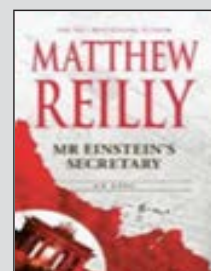
The Secret  
by Lee Child



The Sugar Palace  
by Fiona McIntosh



Lola in the Mirror  
by Trent Dalton



Mr Einstein's Secretary  
by Matthew Reilly



# Romsey Primary School

Romsey Primary School November 2023



## ROMSEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Phone: 5429 5099

COME JOIN OUR  
WONDERFUL  
SCHOOL



# RPS Art Show



On Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> November RPS held their biennial Art Show. Students got to showcase their amazing art pieces for their family and the school community to see.







St Mary's Lancefield  
and Romsey

## St Mary's Primary School

### Year 3 Health & Wellbeing Excursion - Kyneton Botanic Gardens

On Wednesday 25th October the students in Year 3 attended the Kyneton Botanic Gardens for a Health & Wellbeing Excursion. The purpose of the excursion was to explore the physical, mental and emotional benefits of nature and spending time outdoors. Through a playful exploration of the Kyneton Botanic Gardens, our students were encouraged to see themselves as part of the natural world and consider how being in nature could contribute to positive emotional and physical wellbeing. We began by tuning into nature with our senses, exploring with magnifying glasses, getting a close up look at nature. Listening to the sounds around us, birds singing, the wind whistling in the trees. Rubbing parts of plants between our fingers to smell the different scents as well as smelling the array of beautiful flowers on offer. We then collected what we could find in nature, leaves, gumnuts, sticks, flowers etc and explored how we could use these natural objects to make patterns. It was great to see the different patterns that students created. Using the natural objects, students were able to choose one or two to create an artwork piece. Using water colours, students drew their piece of nature and coloured it. These artworks were most impressive and students should be very proud of the works they produced.

It was a fantastic session that showed us how nature can assist us with our mental and physical wellbeing. Students were very happy to finish with a 10 minute play on the playground!

A huge thank you to staff from Melbourne's Royal Botanic Gardens for taking us for this free session.

### Day for Daniel

On Friday 27th October our students came to school wearing something red and they brought in a gold coin donation. Thanks to the generosity of our wonderful families, we made a total of \$262 for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation. As part of Day for Daniel we gathered together on the basketball courts to make a giant D (not sure you can tell that's what it is from the photos, but we tried!) and then the Year 1's - 6's walked up to the park, had a discussion about safety and were able to play on the playground for 10 minutes. The Preps did a walk around the school and discussed safety. Once all students were back in their classrooms, they all watched an age-appropriate video about child safety and participated in activities around the topic. A worthwhile afternoon of learning about a very important topic.

### Remembrance Day Service

On Friday 10th November we held a special Remembrance Day Service at school to honour all those that have served our country in the past and those that continue to serve. We were very privileged to have many members of the Romsey Lancefield RSL attend and be part of our service reading 'In Flanders Fields' and 'The Ode'. Our Year 6 students led the service, reading beautifully. Students also participated in a procession, placing a candle (representing the eternal flame), soldier's hat (in memory of all that have served) and poppies (symbol of remembrance, service and sacrifice). We thank the Yr 3/4 students for also contributing the poppies and wreaths that they had made in class.

At the conclusion of the service, the President of the Romsey Lancefield RSL, Reinhard Goschiniak presented our school with a magnificent trophy which will hold the name of the Yr 5/6 RSL Essay Competition winner each year moving forward. We were thrilled to be presented with this work of art and have displayed it in pride of place at the office reception. Students are already keen to get their name forever engraved on this trophy, so we look forward to reading their essays for this year's topic which is 'Nurses in the Field'.

The members of the Romsey Lancefield RSL stayed with us for morning tea after our service and we discussed them coming in to speak with students in 2024 leading up to both ANZAC Day and Remembrance Day. It is wonderful to have this partnership with the RSL and we look forward to continuing to work together for many years to come.

On Saturday 11th November, our School Leaders Molly, Maggie and Illiana attended the Remembrance Day service at the Lancefield Cenotaph. They had the job of lowering and raising the flags during the ceremony. It was a very windy day and they did a great job. Thank you also to Isla from Yr 5 for placing our school wreath. It was a lovely ceremony and one St Mary's was very proud to be part of.

### Year 6 Mens Shed Visit - Group 3

Our final group of Yr 6 students attended the Mens Shed on Friday 3rd November. We were especially grateful to the volunteer men as Friday was not normally their day to be open. We were very lucky to have so many volunteers on this day with one to one for each student. Once again, the students absolutely enjoyed the experience, the men at the Mens Shed are extremely patient, helpful and full of fun. They guided our students and taught them what they needed to know to carefully create their pencil and bird boxes. It was another great session, with the sweet biscuits (I think they cleaned them out this time!) and cordial being a big hit as well!

We'd like to say a HUGE thank you to Graeme for organising our 3 visits and to all the men (and women) that volunteered their time to work with our students over the past month. It's such a wonderful experience for everyone involved and we look forward to continuing this tradition in 2024.



### Romsey Mens Shed - Thank You

As part of the Parents & Friends Student Grants this year, one was awarded to Josh McCarthy for Cricket and AFL scoreboards. The PnF generously approved the making of these boards for both the Junior and Senior yards along with some black boards for students to draw on and be creative. The Romsey Mens Shed was tasked with making the various boards for us and they were delivered to the school this term. They look fantastic and the students can start using them. Thank you to the Romsey Mens Shed for their hard work in creating these fantastic score boards & black boards for our students to use. Thank you also to our PnF for giving students the opportunity to apply to have these wonderful additions in our yard for everyone to use.

### Mini Vinnies - lunch with Willowmeade Residents

On Tuesday 14th November our Mini Vinnies had their final visit of the year to Willowmeade Aged Care in Kilmore. They've had a wonderful year getting to know the residents and sharing craft and games with them.

This visit was to share a lunch of hot chips and potato cakes together. We were hoping to meet at Hudson Park for a picnic style lunch, but unfortunately the weather didn't agree with this option. So, after we had picked up the food, we met the residents at Willowmeade. They had set the tables up with red and white checked tablecloths, and a lovely rose in a vase on each table. Students and residents shared each table and spent the lunch talking, eating and laughing. It was a lovely way to spend our last visit and one to be cherished. St Mary's will continue to visit Willowmeade next year with a new group of Mini Vinnies. We are taking the school choir over in December to sing some Christmas songs to the residents, so that will also be a lovely way to end the year. I want to say thank you to our Mini Vinnies for their exemplary behaviour throughout our visits, their ability to get to know the residents and share a little about themselves along the way. It has been a wonderful experience for all of us.



### Another year goes by...

As the end of the year quickly approaches, we must sit back and reflect on the year that has gone by. And what a year it has been! A huge number of events, activities, learning experiences, student growth and change. It's been an enjoyable year but certainly a very busy one. I'm very grateful for the wonderful connections we have made within our community and the amount of opportunities this has brought the students at St Mary's. So I'd like to thank everyone we have worked with throughout the year, the community groups, businesses and individuals that have given us their valuable time to provide amazing opportunities for our students. We are so very grateful for every single one of you and all that you do.

Our Year 6's enter that exciting and daunting time as they transition into secondary school. We've watched them grow from little preps to the amazing young men and women that they are today. We wish them all the very best for their future endeavours and hope that they are able to dream big and achieve all that they desire.

A very Merry Christmas to everyone in our community and here's to many new and exciting endeavours in 2024!



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



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Pastor Tim Emonson

**Office:** 7 Mitchell Court, Romsey

**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**

# The Truth of Christmas

Jesus told him, **"I am the Way—yes, and the Truth and the Life. No one can get to the Father except by means of me."** (John 14:6, Living Bible).

Spoiler alert. If Santa is part of your Christmas tradition, don't read any further.

We have never 'done' Santa in our house. You know, the bloke that brings you gifts; sees everything you do; works out whether you are naughty or nice; and on one night of the year is everywhere all at once.

There were two reasons for the absence of Santa. The first was a selfish reason – I worked real hard for that money to buy those gifts and no one else was getting credit for them – particularly if they didn't exist. The second, and more important reason, was that if we 'did' Santa and then my children realised the truth about Santa, I didn't want them to then doubt the truth I had taught them about God. I wanted them to hear the truth from the start about God who does see all we do; who will ultimately judge us for our good and evil (thank God I believe in Jesus and I am saved); who is everywhere all at once, all of the time; and who gave the greatest gift of all to us, his Son Jesus.

That is the truth about Christmas and the one that I wanted my children to learn.

If you want to learn the truth about Christmas, join us for our Family Christmas Service at 10am on Sunday the 17th December followed by a church picnic; or our Christmas Eve services at 10am and 7pm on Sunday 24th December.

And visit us at 10am on a Sunday morning at 7 Mitchell Court in Romsey.

Come along to one of our **Sunday morning services at 10am** and check out our seats - everyone is welcome! 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](http://www.encouragechurch.com.au) or email us at [office@encouragechurch.com.au](mailto:office@encouragechurch.com.au).

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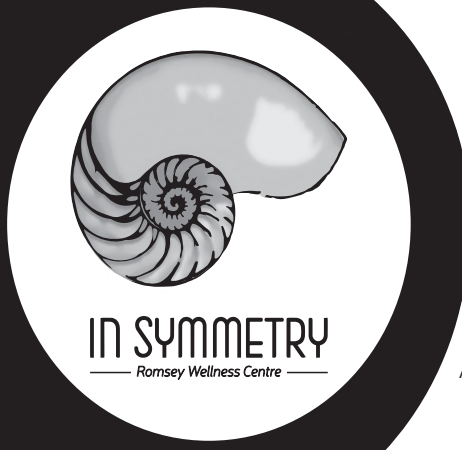
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 **120 Main St Romsey (03) 5429 3610**  
[www.insymmetry.com.au](http://www.insymmetry.com.au)

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

**Christmas Services:**

- **Christmas Eve:** Friday 24th 6:00pm Christ Church Lancefield  
11:00pm Christ Church Lancefield
- **Christmas Day:** Saturday 25th 9:00am St Pauls Romsey

**Glory to the New Born King.**

**Prayer Meeting :**

- Church Hall Lancefield Thursday 10:00am

**Bible Study:**

- Christ Church Lancefield Hall Thursday 10:30am.

**St Paul's Op Shop will close for the Christmas period from Saturday December 16th and re-open on Friday January 19th 2024. OpShop hours:**

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

We pray that everyone in the Lancefield, Romsey and the wider communities enjoy a Blessed Christmas and a safe and a very Happy New Year during the year ahead.



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**LANCEFIELD**  
WITH  
**ROMSEY**

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

**Vicar**  
Rev Matthew Browne  
P: 0401 615 099

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**THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA 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](http://www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au/worship-services)

**A POEM TO EMBRACE THE REAL WORK OF CHRISTMAS**

When the festivities end, the family and friends return home, and all the decorations removed, we may think it is time to put Christmas away too... at least until next year. But that is when the "real work of" Christmas should begin.

The work of taking the hope and joy that Jesus brings and using it to heal the broken, provide for the needy, bring peace to our communities, and share light in the darkness.

After Christmas is over, the real work of the season begins!

***When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone, when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with the flocks, then the work of Christmas begins:***

***To find the lost, to heal those broken in spirit, to feed the hungry, to release the oppressed, to rebuild the nations, to bring peace among all peoples, to make a little music with the heart.***

***And to radiate the Light of Christ, every day, in every way, in all that we do and in all that we say. Then the work of Christmas begins.***

**- Howard Thurman**

During January 2024 there will be combined alternate Worship Services at Romsey and Lancefield Uniting Churches at 10am.

7th January, 2024 at Lancefield; Romsey 14th; Lancefield 21st; Romsey 28th

We wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Safe and Peaceful 2024.

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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.
- 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month in Romsey, 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday 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 Sunday of the month. Please contact the office for the next available date.

#### Sacraments - 2024

Bookings are now open for parish children to register for all Sacraments due in 2024. Reconciliation available to Yr3 & above, Holy Communion available to Yr 4 & above and Confirmation available to Yr6 and above in 2024.

- Please contact the office if you would like to register your child.

#### UPCOMING CHRISTMAS MASSES

Plans are underway to once again host an outdoor Christmas Eve Mass this year.

Fr. Arnold Heredia has kindly agreed to celebrate Christmas Masses at St. Mary's, so Fr. Martin will be able to schedule a further 3 Masses at Woodend.

A total of 5 Christmas Masses will be available to all St. Mary's & St. Ambrose parishioners so there will be a time and place to suit everyone. J

- *Wednesday 13th December – 7pm – Advent Reconciliation - Lancefield*
- *Wednesday 20th December – 7:30pm – Advent Reconciliation - Woodend*
- *Sunday 24 December – 6pm – outdoor family Mass – Lancefield*
- *Sunday 24 December – 6pm – indoor family Mass – Woodend*
- *Sunday 24 December – 10pm Mass (including carols) – Woodend*
- *Monday 25 December – 9am Christmas Day Mass – Romsey*
- *Monday 25 December – 9am Christmas Day Mass – Woodend*

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](mailto:lancefield@cam.org.au)

For funeral arrangements, please contact Fr. Martin on **5427 2690** or by email at [woodend@cam.org.au](mailto: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](mailto:lancefield@cam.org.au)

**P:** 5429 2130

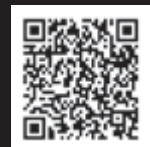
**Parish Priest**  
Fr. Martin Fleming  
C/O Woodend Presbytery  
**P:** 5427 2690

**School Website:**

[www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au)

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W.F (Bill) KRAMMER FPNA

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##### ROMSEY:

106 Main Street,  
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[info@sheridanblinds.com.au](mailto:info@sheridanblinds.com.au)

Lee: 0417 526 844

[sheridanblinds.com.au](http://sheridanblinds.com.au)

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## 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

Authorised by MA Thomas, Shop 14, Nexus Centre, 9 Goode Street, Gisborne. Funded from Parliamentary budget.

## Recruiting Santa's helpers!

Little helpers required to spread a little cheer this Christmas!  
**AT OUR UPCOMING EVENTS!**

- Christmas Gift Giving**  
(8 Dec -set up, 9 Dec stall helper, 10 Dec - pack up)
- Community Christmas Lunch**  
(13 Dec - setup, 14 Dec - floor duty)

If you can help please call 5429 6724 or register with the link below:



Christmas Gift Giving

Links for Gift Giving Helper  
<https://bit.ly/CommGift>

Link for Christmas Lunch Helper  
<https://bit.ly/Rnhlunchhelp>



Christmas Lunch

### As we near the Christmas break and halfway mark of the cricket season, Romsey is again well placed for a very successful season 2023/24.

Following the success of the McIntyre Cup premiership, the first XI have backed up well and sit in the top 2 along with Gisborne. Ben Way continues to lead the team with strong batting performances, well supported by Corey Day, Matt Milne, Taylor Stevenson and the ever improving Aaron Paterson. On the bowling front Jamie Taylor has had a spectacular start to the season with multiple wickets in nearly every game, not to mention the polished glove work of club stalwart Chris Burkett.

The second XI have also had a solid start to the season and are well set to position the team for a run at finals in the New Year. Jack Thorsen, Jed Richardson & Matt Hoyt have all had very positive starts with the bat whilst Jake East continues to take wickets at regular intervals. Jack Rees has celebrated two outstanding performances with 5 for 5 with the ball against Diggers Rest backed up in the following game against Macedon, making his maiden century and finishing with 107.

The third XI have found themselves in a challenging division being pitted against the first XI of a number of clubs including Lancefield, Malmsbury & Hanging Rock. In the face of a challenging draw, under Jason Day's guidance, the team continues to develop the junior players for the future and provide opportunities for older members of the club to enjoy the game. Rob Pitts has been a consistent contributor and rock with the bat yet again, whilst newcomer Bevan Reid has been a revelation with the ball.

The club now fields eight junior teams from under 11s through to under 17s for boys, girls & mixed teams which is a record number of players and teams as well as a flourishing Woolworths Blast program for the younger starters. Back playing at the home ground after last year's surface renovation, there is junior cricket every weeknight and Saturday mornings which is the future of the club on show for all to see. The effort of the coaches and team managers to put teams out there successfully each week is enormous and they are the centrepiece of the ongoing strength of the club.

Once again we are gracious for the support of our local sponsors and community who yet again provide financial support to allow us to continue to invest in club facilities and development programs. In particular we would like to make special mention of the Lancefield & Romsey Community Bank who recently announced a \$25,000 financial contribution for the club to improve the nets and practice facilities to increase the safety and utilisation of the practice facility. Whilst this investment is great for club players and members it also provides a significant community benefit for social cricketers to have access to a quality environment for enjoying the game of cricket within a safe setting.

As summer is upon us, we encourage any locals looking for something to do on a Friday evening or pleasant Saturday to come along and enjoy some local cricket in your local town in a relaxed and friendly social setting. Who knows, you may end up dusting off the whites for a game or two, or your family may become involved in the vibrant and growing junior program!!!



#### PRESIDENT

James Collins  
romseycricket@gmail.com  
0429 378 724

#### SECRETARY

Tim McCarthy  
secretaryromseycricket@gmail.com  
0403 036 654

Support our RNH fundraiser

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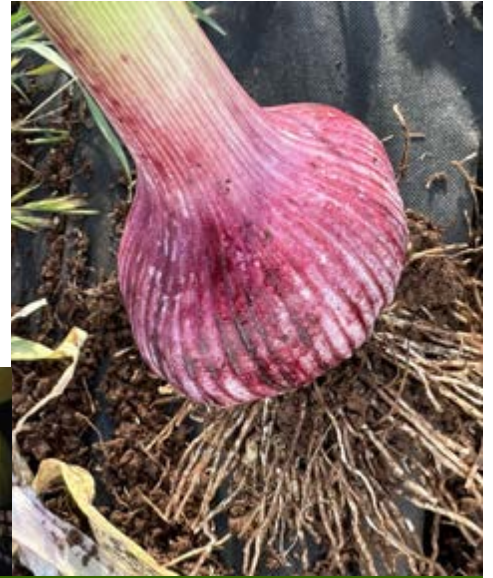
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*Christmas*  
**IN ROMSEY**

..... ❁ *Key dates*

**FRIDAY 24TH NOVEMBER**  
Lights and Decorations  
Competition  
Entries close: 5PM

**SATURDAY 25TH NOVEMBER**  
Main Street Christmas Tree  
Installation day

**SATURDAY 2ND DECEMBER**  
**THURSDAY 7TH DECEMBER**  
Lights and Decorations  
Competition Judging

**SATURDAY 9TH DECEMBER**  
Romsey Community Carols  
@ Romsey Primary school





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