

Romsey Golf Club

Ladies Report

The clinic held 9th of February was well attended and appreciated by all who attended. The next clinic which is open to everyone, ladies, men and children is being held 15th March 9.15 assembly for a 9.30am start. Please come along if you are interested even if you have no clubs, but please ring in advance if you are left handed. Ring Hilda on 54296538.



We welcome Sandra, Jenny and Gerri to the club. These three ladies along with some others came to the come and try day, and enjoyed a game of 9 hole Ambrose. Winners on the day were Jan, Sharon & Darlene. It was a great social day with lunch and much chatting and getting to know people. If you missed our come and try day and are interested in trying the game of golf please just come along any Wednesday. Meet in the clubrooms 9am.

Golf Australia has come up with the brilliant slogan- "Your time. Your choice."

This is to encourage busy people to play golf, as you can

now be handicapped on nine hole cards. 9 hole golf is intended to complement the more traditional 18 hole form of the game, not replace it. The 9 hole concept recognises the increasing demands of our time-poor society and will provide a playing choice for the busy golfer. 9 hole golf also provides an easy entry point for beginners and is more accessible for the physically restricted. Romsey ladies are offering a nine hole competition in conjunction with the 18 hole comp on Wednesday and Sunday mornings, meet 9am for a 9.30 hit off.

The golf ladies have entered a team "Romsey Birdies" in the Relay for Life and by the time this edition is printed we will have completed the relay. We are looking forward to a good weekend and are hoping for fine weather. This year we have a new banner and are titillating our baton. Thank you to all the people who have sponsored us.

Recipe for this month

No Bowl Choc Bit Slice.

90gm melted butter

A 1 cup biscuit crumbs

1 cup chopped mixed nuts

1½ cups choc bits 1 cup shredded coconut 400gm tin condensed milk.

Line a slice tray with glad bake.

Pour butter into tray, sprinkle evenly with biscuits, choc bits, coconut & nuts.

Drizzle the condensed milk over the top

Bake in a moderate oven (180) for approx 30mins.

Cool in tray before cutting, store in frig.

Beryl Cole

54295411

Romsey Art and Craft Market

Supported by Romsey Community House and Macedon Ranges Shire

The next Art and Craft Market will be held On
Sunday March 30th 9am to 3pm

At the Mechanics Hall Romsey

The Market will feature locally hand made Arts and Crafts, Music and Food.

Please come along and support our Local Artists and Crafts people, our Community and the Community House.

This market will be the last odd Market and from then on it will be held on the **Second Sunday of every Month right through 2008**

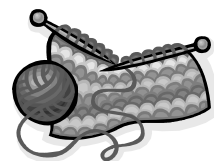
The February Market was a great success; we had 15 stall holders and again have had great feedback. So sorry to those people who couldn't find it, but we did have signs up and we will be perfect next time.

Okay so you have missed the February Market and we want the market to be bigger and better next time and you have time to get Arty and Crafty.

We are still calling for Market stall holders as long as you live in the Macedon Ranges Shire, Sunbury or Kilmore you are eligible to participate in this wonderful event, for more information please

contact Gillian at the Gillmay Arts Gallery, 103 Main Street Romsey

or phone 54293996 and leave your details - we will get back to you as soon as possible. Thank you, Gillian Gorrie.



Market Dates

2008
SUNDAY
March 30th
April 13th
May 11th
June 15th
July 13th
August 10th
September 14th
October 12th
November 16th
December 14th

THE ROMSEY RAG

Issue No. 257

2000 copies produced each month at Romsey Primary School as a service to our community and proudly supported by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council

March 2008

THE MARCH EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY
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Easter orders to be placed by March 17th the latest for Delivery before Easter. Delivery charges apply.

The closing date for copy for the March Romsey Rag is **Friday, March 21st, 2008.**

We cannot guarantee inclusion of copy received after this date.

Please email your copy to the Romsey Rag email address: romseyrag@romseyps.vic.edu.au
When submitting graphics, please use a Jpeg format, as we cannot guarantee that we can open or print other formats. Also, ensure that text is in a format that can be edited.

Editorially Speaking

Romsey Rag Editorial Committee:
David Hinton, Robyn Moore

Layout and Design:
Robyn Moore, Anne Cappler

Printing:
Robyn Moore

Advertising /Sponsorship:
Christie Brown—5429 5099 or Romsey Post Office

Collation Team Co-ordinator:
Joan Sparkes—5429 5848

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

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

Articles can be sent via e-mail to: romseyrag@romseyps.vic.edu.au

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

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

Advertising:
Rates are GST inclusive.
Front page sponsorship:

\$130 per half page

Business card: \$25 per issue

\$200 per year in Business Directory

Quarter page: \$50 per issue

Half page: \$100 per issue

Full page: \$180 per issue

Line ads: eg- For sale, births, deaths, marriages, engagements - \$10

For invoicing please include name & address details

Cheques must be made payable to Romsey Primary School Station Street, ROMSEY 3434

Distribution:
2000 copies delivered to the Romsey community at the commencement of each month.



Macedon Ranges Shire Council - Generous supporters of the Romsey Rag

Romsey Rag Publication Deadlines 2008

Edition	Closing date for copy	Collating date
April 2008	Friday March 21st	Thursday March 27th
May 2008	Friday April 18th	Thursday April 24th
June 2008	Friday May 23rd	Thursday May 29th
July 2008	Friday June 20th	Thursday June 26th
August 2008	Friday July 25th	Thursday July 31st
September 2008	Friday August 22nd	Thursday August 28th
October 2008	Friday September 19th	Thursday September 25th
November 2008	Friday October 24th	Thursday October 30th
December 2008	Friday November 21st	Thursday November 27th

Letter to the Editor:

Dear Editor,
Thank you for the kind words last month about picking up litter. I've tried to imagine what is in the heads of those who drop litter. Are they angry at life? Or just ignorant?

Dozens walk out of IGA and just drop their docket. WHY? Do they think we have street-sweepers every day? (We don't).

It is easier to understand the angry (minority) youth, who drop bottles, cans, food wrappers and other items. I feel sorry for them. Life must be pretty sad I long to say "Get a life". Take care of yourselves and then perhaps you will value our beautiful environment. Here's hoping.....

Sincerely
Jean Clement.

An Expression of Sympathy

The editorial and collating teams of the Romsey Rag would like to express their deepest sympathy to the family of Rag volunteer of many years, Shirley Perkins, and her family on the sudden passing of Christopher early in February.

ROMSEY LIONS CLUB SUNDAY MARKET— 4th SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

The next Romsey Market will be held on
Sunday March 23rd.

New stall holders are always welcome. Enquiries: 0438-414-245

Please note there is no market in January, June or July.

"ATTENTION CITY COMMUTERS"

The Lancefield Romsey Commuter Bus offers a Mon-Fri return service direct to the CBD at the cheapest rate available in the shire. Currently **\$40.00 per week** for permanent travelers.
Departs Lancefield General Store 6.35am, 3 pick up points in Romsey, arrives CBD 7.40am
Departs Cnr William & Latrobe Sts 5.20pm, arrives back in Romsey & Lancefield 6.30pm



Seats currently available. For more details ring Muir on 0354 255505

Romsey Tennis Club

"Monday Night Social Tennis" has returned!!

Inviting all teens and adults to join us for a social hit of tennis from 7.30pm on Mondays, with a cost of \$3 per person with lights. No commitment is needed – just bring along a racquet. Everyone is welcome.

Friday Morning Social Tennis

Daytime social tennis at the Romsey courts has moved to Fridays from 10.30 am. Come along for an informal hit, some exercise and fresh air. Just bring a racquet, suitable footwear and please ring Eileen French to express interest or for more information on 0412 787 213.

Friday Night Junior Social Tennis

We have re-started our Friday night junior social practice hits at the courts from 5pm. This is an informal gathering of kids and families, and everyone is welcome.

Congratulations!!!

- To our section 1 Tuesday morning Ladies tennis team. They have succeeded once again at winning last seasons Grand Final – well done to you all!
- Our Thursday night section 2 team were runners – up last season – a great effort!
- The finals have arrived and 3 out of our 4 junior teams have made it into the finals, and one of our open teams have made finals too – good luck to you all.

Winter Tennis Competition

Teams will have to be lodged by the time this Romsey Rag edition is published, but we still welcome any enquiries from juniors and open players who would like to join a team – even as an emergency player. Please call Bev or Kaye.

Hiring of the Tennis Courts

- Free day use by members
- \$10 per hour per court for day hire by non-members
- \$10 per hour per court for night hire for members
- \$20 per hour per court for night hire for non-members

Tennis racquets are also available for use, when hiring the courts.

Please contact Bev on 5429 6189 or Kaye on 5429 5622, for court hiring or membership enquiries.

Tennis coach

Andrew Peake, our professional club coach, can provide coaching from 5 years of age and for all ability levels, including social hitters and competition players.

Contact Andrew on 0412 225 792, or by email at

peaketennis@hotmail.com



Club Contacts

Club coach – Andrew Peake 0412 225 792

Friday Morning Social Tennis at 10.30am – Eileen French 0412 787 213

Mid-week Tuesday Ladies – Bev Beaumont – 5429 6189
Junior and Open Saturday Comp. /Monday Night Social tennis/ Friday Night Junior Social tennis– Bev Beaumont - 5429 6189 or Kaye McNamara – 5429 5622

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Probus Club

Romsey – Lancefield

Meetings of the Romsey – Lancefield Probus Club are held on the 4th Thursday of each month at St Mary's Church Hall, corner Main and Barry Streets, Romsey, at 10.00am.

Probus is open to all retired and semi-retired people to enjoy a great social and friendly atmosphere.

Contact

Mrs Pat Shannon (President) on 5429 6194 or Mrs Jeni Clampit (Secretary) on 5429 5480



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Romsey Roundup Country Rock Night

The night was a huge success, and everyone who attended had a fantastic time. The hall was decorated in "traditional" country style with straw bales, gum branches, farm memorabilia, wine barrels and a huge stage backdrop of a country shack.

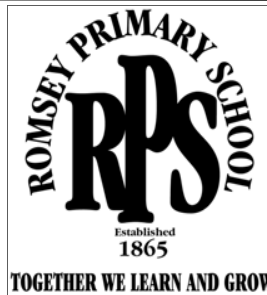


Ruckus provided upbeat high energy music and everyone danced the night away. Supper was scrumptious and lovingly prepared by Parent Club members, school community members, staff and volunteers.

The event brought in a total of \$5,200 for the school, which was a fantastic effort.

A special thank you must be given to the following people for their hard work in preparing for the night and on the night itself:

All members of the school Parent Club, everyone who contributed to the wonderful supper, Amy Green, Rob Cook, Bill Hickey, Robyn Moore, Sam Kiliszewski, Doug Scale, Christie Brown's family, Louise Noel, Chris White, Paul White, Karyn Gottschling, Steve Westbury, Linda Green, Andrew Green, Benny Dyer, Peter Newell, Liz Dormontt and Chess Property, Myriam Shead, Craig



SCHOOL CAPTAINS

Last week Mrs. Gibbs (Assistant Principal) and I interviewed 22 Year 6 students who had submitted a written application the position School Captains for 2008. Both of us were extremely impressed by the maturity and thoughtful responses to our questions. As you can imagine it was a difficult task, but I am pleased to announce that our School Captains for 2008 are: Elke Smith and Rieley Pyne. Congratulations to both these students. We know that both these students will be fine leaders and ambassadors for our school.

SMARTBOARDS

Earlier this year the school installed nine 'Smartboards'. Smartboards are rapidly being integrated into classrooms around the world and are essentially enhanced whiteboards that are used in conjunction with projectors and laptops. This allows access to a wide variety of computer-based multi-media content on the board in front of the class. The teacher or student is able to touch the surface of the board to control applications, write notes and manipulate objects. Research has shown that students find the learning environment is more stimulating and motivating with the use of this technology. It's fantastic that our students have access to and able to utilise the latest technological tools to enrich their learning experiences and enhance achievement.

Of course the technology itself is only part of the equation. The effectiveness with which our teachers integrate the technology into their lessons is just as important and they will continue to undergo training as part of their professional development.

David Hinton
Principal (Acting)

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**St. Paul's Anglican Church:
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On

*Saturday 15th March
2008*

from 10:00am to 1:00pm

Many attractions available.

**Easter Bonnet parade with prizes -
2 sections - Senior and Junior**

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Lucky Dips



Enquiries:

Doreen Morgan 5429-6060
Glenice Mitchell 5429-6418
Rev. Leroy Coote 5429-1380

KERRIE HALL AVAILABLE FOR FUNCTIONS

Tucked away in the picturesque Kerrie Valley on the sparsely populated eastern slopes of Mt Macedon, stands the Kerrie Hall, a community owned and run facility. The hall, which was built in 1934, overlooks the Kerrie Reservoir and stands in glorious isolation from other habitation. It is an ideal venue for special birthdays, anniversaries or group functions. It has a functional kitchen with chairs and trestles sufficient for up to 100 people, so a sit-down dinner is possible if required. There is also a stage for theatrical or musical presentations. You could not wish for a prettier, more rustic setting for that special event in your life. This little known gem of the Macedon Ranges can be rented for a very modest sum, proceeds going to the upkeep of the hall. Contact either Marlene Leckie on 54-270-202 or Bruce Donaldson on 54-270-364 for further details or to make a booking.





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Newham Auction & Garage Sale 29th March 2008

The Newham Mechanics Hall is again holding its renowned Garage Sale to raise funds for Newham Mechanics Institute Hall renovations & conservation.

- **NEW***

An Auction of feature items
TIME: Garage sale commencing at 9.00 until 3.30pm

Auction commencing 9.30 until 11.30am

Donation of good quality goods can be made by contacting Val 54270387 or Fran 54270661

'DETOX YOUR HOME' – A FREE CHEMICAL DISPOSAL SERVICE

Sustainability Victoria (EcoRecycle) is providing a free **DETOX YOUR HOME** house hold chemical collection service for **Macedon Ranges Shire on 19 April 2008.**

In 2008, Sustainability Victoria (EcoRecycle) will again provide the opportunity for Victorians to dispose of unwanted household chemicals or similar products without risking damage to the environment. The most recent collection in Macedon Ranges Shire was in April 2006. There were 92 customers and 6.9 tonnes of chemicals collected. It is important that we use this service so we have an argument for more frequent collections.

What can be disposed of?

Items such as dead batteries, household cleaners, paint, transmission or brake fluid, weed killer, insect sprays, ammonia based cleaners, nail polish, fluorescent tubes, gas cylinders, fertiliser, rat poison, radiator coolant, motor oil, solvents and glues, pool chemicals, and car body filler can be brought to the facility. Please ensure against spillage, and do not remove product labels. Containers must be less than 20 litres.

What cannot be accepted as part of this service?

Commercial quantities and chemicals used for industrial purposes, farm (rural) chemicals, asbestos, ammunition and flares. For help with advice on the suitable and safe disposal of these products, please call or email for contact details.

Permanent Collection Facilities Exist

Visit www.resourcesmart.vic.gov.au

or freecall 1800 353 233

Remember you can dispose domestic quantities of engine oil and car batteries at Council's tips and transfer stations at any time for no cost.

Note: There is also a collection in Broadford in the morning on 19 April and at Castlemaine in the morning on 10 May.

Anyone can use the service - you do not need to be a resident of the municipality where the collection is held.

For more information please phone me on 5421 9630 or visit the Macedon Ranges Shire website:

http://www.macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au/Page/page.asp?Page_Id=1653&h=0

Where:	Racecourse Reserve Pony Club Car Park, Forest Street, Woodend. VicRoads Map 633 O4. (between Buffalo Stadium and the old grandstand)
When:	19 April 2008, 2.00pm to 5.00pm
Contact:	Senarath Pathirana Environmental Engineer Macedon Ranges Shire Council T (03) 5421 9630 M 0439 117 193 F (03) 5422 3623

From Cr. Henry Bleeck

Early mail on the elections

We're now into an election year for local government, and the Macedon Ranges Shire will again be conducting its election by postal voting. This means that all eligible residents and ratepayers will receive their ballot papers in the mail, along with a leaflet detailing information on the candidates and what they are standing for. You will no doubt also receive separate literature from individual candidates who are seeking your vote for the November 29 poll.

It will be a big year for local government generally, as for the first time all 79 Victorian councils will be conducting their elections on the same day. It's sometimes hard to realise that it will be coming up to three years since the residents and ratepayers voted for me to represent them in Council. A lot has happened since then, and we have together achieved a lot of outcomes of benefit to the residents, particularly of East Ward.

The 2005 election was the first to be conducted by postal votes in Macedon Ranges since council amalgamations in 1995, and seemed to be well received throughout the community. Of the 54 council elections in 2005, all but six were conducted by postal voting. An analysis of postal voting shows an increased voter participation in postal voting, generally associated with the non-resident ratepayers. It's also more convenient for the over-70s voters, who also have a higher participation rate. Postal voting is also somewhat cheaper to the public purse, and research shows a lower informal vote.

The word on the ward

While we're discussing things to do with elections, Council is also looking at renaming our wards. Our current naming of East, West and South wards does nothing to reflect the history of our Macedon Ranges region, and I favor further consultation with the community to come up with some names more in keeping with our heritage. As I said in a media release in April 2006, I favor something that acknowledges our history or natural features. But it's up to you, the residents. Council will be preparing a process for considering new names, which will involve the community. Stay posted as we work towards the community consultation phase.

Out-of-town trouble

We hear about trouble and vandalism in our towns from time to time, and many people assume that our young locals are at the thick of it. Not so, according to local police. I'm a Council representative on the Macedon Ranges Local Safety Committee, and the police representatives advise that many of the trouble-makers are from out of town – up from Melbourne and getting up to no good with fights, vandalism and other anti-social behaviour.

So if you see anyone acting suspiciously or aggressively around Romsey or our other towns, particularly if you don't recognise them, give the local police a call or ring Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000. If we can nip trouble in the bud, all the better for all of us.

Henry Bleeck.

Your Local Macedon Ranges Shire Councillor.

5422 7027

ROMSEY WALKING GROUP

It doesn't seem that long ago that Cobaw asked Romsey folk if they wanted to start a Walking Group. A few of us turned up at the St Mary's Hall and walked from there, returning for a cuppa afterwards. 21 years later we are still going strong although we no longer use the hall. Were you amongst the first walkers? If so we are celebrating our 21st at Hanging Rock 8th April from 10 am. Come and join us and catch up. Partners welcome. Bring lunch to share, cold drink, a chair and a dilly bag with cutlery, cup and plate. Tea and coffee will be provided. Some will wish to walk first, either at the Rock or nearby areas, then do lunch, others are more than happy to just be there to socialize.

RSVP 26th March '08, Glenice 54296418, Joan 54295848, Lee 54295837, Leonie/Laurie 54296414.

For more information contact any of the above.

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Bat Evening

Where: Hanging Rock Reserve

When: Saturday March 15th.

Register at 5pm for 5.15 start.

Presenter: Dr Lindy Lumsden

Lindy has been conducting ecological research on bats for over 25 years. Find out all about these fascinating creatures and their importance to us all. See them close up. Meet George, an Eastern Freetail Bat that has been coming to talks with her for 17 years!

Cost: \$5 per adult, children (Under 16) free

Includes: exit from the reserve

BBQ meal and tea/coffee/cake

BYO chair [or rug] and torch

Numbers strictly limited – booking essential. RSVP by March 9th

Evening outline

5pm start

5.15 – 6.15 Presentation by Lindy Lumsden

6.15 Show & tell (George the pet bat, Harp traps, other bats trapped prior)

7.00 BBQ, set up bat detectors, listening for calls

7.45 Release wild bats

8.00 Discussion & tea/coffee/cake

After 9pm Check traps

Booking / payment: Newham & District Landcare Group

PO Box 314, Woodend.

Contact: Penny Roberts 5427 0795

ROMSEY / LANCEFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS —

Meet each Monday

Come and enjoy lunch, a game of cards, indoor bowls or just a chat with a very friendly group of people. Bus trips arranged each month.

For details, please ring Rae Hooke on 5429 1602

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Ripper Reads

Greetings all,

School's back, summer holidays are finished. All the more reason for grabbing a good book and enjoying a great read away from the madding crowd.

Enjoy!

The Tenderness of Wolves – Stef Penney

A beautifully written book that is basically a murder mystery set in the wilds of Canada in 1867. However along the way we discover this harsh landscape's magnificent scenery, the omnipotent nature of the Hudson Bay Company and the many flawed characters who inhabit this inhospitable part of the world. Normally I read for plot and character but this book grabbed me with its lyrical prose and wonderfully descriptive passages of people and place.

Margaret Whitlam: a Biography – Susan Mitchell

The name of Whitlam either inspires or infuriates, there appears to be no middle ground. So a biography of Margaret Whitlam by the esteemed Australian author, Susan Mitchell, is bound to attract devotees and be dismissed by others. Personally I thought that it was an extremely interesting read about the person who has been, not necessarily behind Gough, but rather striding next to him for more than 60 years.

However there is much more to this astonishing lady than those three short years occupancy of The Lodge. Now in her ninth decade, Margaret Dovey was brought up in the elite eastern suburbs of Sydney, a debutante and a distinguished swimmer for Australia, competing in the Empire Games in 1938. All that changed however when she married Edward Gough Whitlam and subsequently became a 'single' mother of four children in the wilds of the new post-war suburbs of Cronulla and Cabramatta, while her husband carved out a life in politics.

The last 30 years have provided her with a wide range of experiences from leading tour groups through the South American jungles to being hailed as a national living treasure. An honour she characteristically downplays by saying, "In other countries they would have shot us by now." Truly a remarkable woman.

The Black Dog Gang – Robert Newton

Set in The Rocks area of Sydney in 1900, this fast paced novel will definitely appeal to teenage readers, notably boys. Mickey Collins and Frankie Maguire's friendship didn't exactly commence with a mutual attraction, but as the weeks go by they develop a bond that becomes unbreakable. Dealing with the hard lot, that was life amongst the slums of Sydney more than a hundred years ago, Newton has created a realistic backdrop of the rat plagues, disease and the turmoil of domestic violence. On a lighter side the Black Dog Gang's members all have their own idiosyncrasies that endear them to the reader and make Mickey's position all the more untenable today.

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Macedon Ranges BaBs Group 2008

Are you pregnant? Are you a parent with a new baby? Does your day consist of ABC Kids, endless feeding and nappy changes? Then we NEED you! Macedon Ranges Babs is back for 2008 and looking for parents to join our sessions. The group will meet the 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of each month during school term to discuss relevant topics and offer peer support to mums and dads on the parenting journey. In the months of April, July and October 2008 BaBs will run informative weekend workshops sessions. The first topic to be held in April will be "The early months – Coping with your new baby". If you are interested in coming along and want more information please take a look at our website www.woodendweb.org/babs or email us babs@woodendweb.org for more session updates for 2008.

Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society Inc.



P.O. Box 11,
Romsey, 3434.

"HOW THINGS WERE" - will be the topic for our Tuesday, 25th March Meeting, at 7.30pm at Seymour Cottage.

There will be no shortage of memorials shared on this topic! Do you remember when the grocer measured out sugar and biscuits by weight—before supermarkets? Was life better in every way, or were there some disadvantages?! Come along and share your views with us. Visitors welcome.

DISPLAY CABINET NEEDED

We are looking for a lockable, glass-fronted cabinet to display small articles at Seymour Cottage. If you know of anything that might be suitable, please contact Jean Clement, on 5429 6522.

HISTORY OF RAILWAYS EXHIBITION

It has been decided to extend this Exhibition at the Lancefield Court House until Easter. Contact Archivist Robyn Miller on 0418 172 659 for opening times.

SPORT AND LEISURE IN ROMSEY – 2008 PROGRAMS

Register now for these great programs at the Romsey Recreation Centre. Contact the centre on (03) 5428 7155 or rrc@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au.

For information on the website visit www.macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au click on A-Z index and look up Romsey Recreation Centre

JUNIOR PROGRAMS

Junior Soccer
Under 12, under14 and under 16 competitions
Monday and Friday nights
\$85 per season
Starts February

Junior Basketball
Under 12, under14 competitions
Tuesday Nights
\$85 per season
Starts February

Aussie Hoops
Basketball junior development
10 years and under
Tuesday nights
\$65 for 10 weeks

Goal kick
Soccer junior development
10 years and under
Friday Nights
\$65 for 10 weeks

Kidz Dance
2-3 years class
3-5 years class
\$80 for 10 weeks
Morning to be con-

firmed.
Fun, relaxed dance classes for children. This program encourages children to express creativity through free dance, develop self confidence and keep fit and active.

SENIOR PROGRAMS

Senior Mixed Netball
Thursday Nights
Starts February

Pilates
Monday Afternoons (2pm)
Intermediate and beginner classes available
Starts February

Daytime Ladies Netball

Starts term 2
Team or individual entries available
Morning to be confirmed
Childcare Available
Aerobics Classes
Monday Night
7.30pm
Thursday Morning
9.30pm
Call Em 0402 442 262

Senior Mixed Volleyball

Friday Nights
Team or individual
Entries
Starts Term 2

Other programs available

Senior Mixed Squash
Senior Badminton
Senior Men's Soccer
Senior Mixed Soccer
Junior Netball
Senior Ladies Netball

To the communities of
Lancefield and Romsey

**You are all invited to the
Lancefield and Romsey**

World Day of Prayer

Date: Friday 7th March.

Time: 10:00am - 11:00am - Bible Study

11:00am - 12:00pm - World Day of
Prayer Service

12:00pm - Bring and share Lunch to

follow.

**Guest Speaker: Dr Visier Sanju from the
Victorian Council of Churches**

You are invited to share in this combined
churches event in Lancefield and Romsey.

We would love to see you there.

For further enquiries, please contact the
Rev. Leroy Coote on 0417-679-682

Potential Threat to Bees

There is world wide concern about 'colony collapse disorder' (CCD) which has caused wide-spread loss of commercial bee hives in North America. There is debate about the exact cause, but it means that there may not be enough bees to pollinate millions of dollars worth of agricultural crops including almonds and fruits.

While many people have heard about CCD, fewer can explain how we get different flavours of honey, have extracted honey from the comb or have seen the inside of a beehive. Most know about the queen, but who else makes up the hive social structure – and is the Bee Movie accurate?

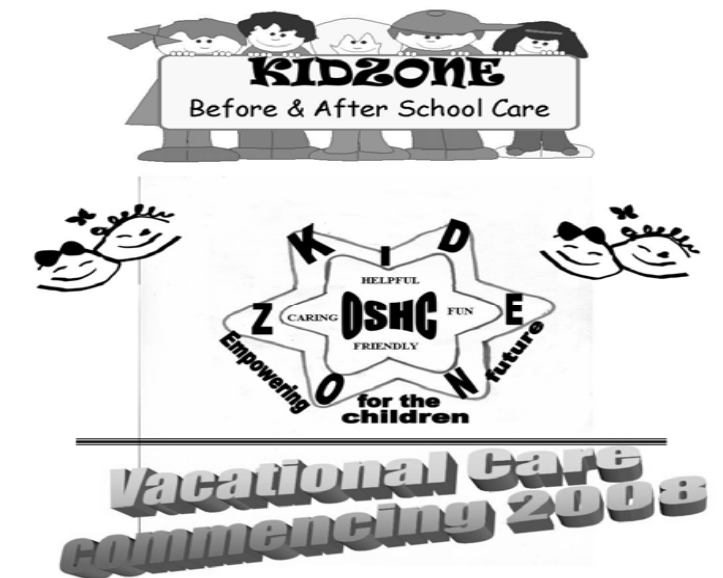
Jim Sansom of Black Hill Apiaries will cover all these aspects of bees and will also show the practical side of beekeeping, with local beekeeper Graham Connell, in a full day Bee Workshop at Newham on Saturday April 5th.

The workshop will raise funds for the Newham Hall restoration.
For information or an enrolment form ring Jim or Jenny 5427 0408

Riddells Creek Farmers Market

The first Riddells Creek Farmers Market was held on Saturday 16th of February at the Primary School. We had fresh produce, honey, eggs, compost, grain, plants, live poultry, woolen products, wine, olive oil, dried fruit, and bread. The day was an incredible success with a lot of the 29 stallholders completely selling out of produce. We want to thank all those that supported the market and would like to invite everyone back on March the 15th between 9am-1pm for the next market. We are passionate about upholding the Farmers market charter which aims to stimulate the profitable trading, viability and business growth of independent primary producers, hobby farmers, community and home gardeners, to provide customers with regular supplies of fresh food and to contribute to the economic, social and health capital of the local community. For further information please contact Louise 5428 7683

Sympathy / commiserations to the owner and occupier of historic Romsey House for a frightening fire on Sunday. It must have been quite a shock, not to mention the loss of business and damages. Thank God it was no worse! Best wishes for a speedy return to normal.



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- When: 5 Days a Week 6:30am — 9:00am
3:30pm — 6:30pm
- Where: 7 Mitchell Court Romsey
(Access through gate at rear of Primary School)
- For further information & Registration Forms

Contact Program Coordinator: Elsie Parkinson Ph. (03) 5429 6327 Mob. 0422 860 486

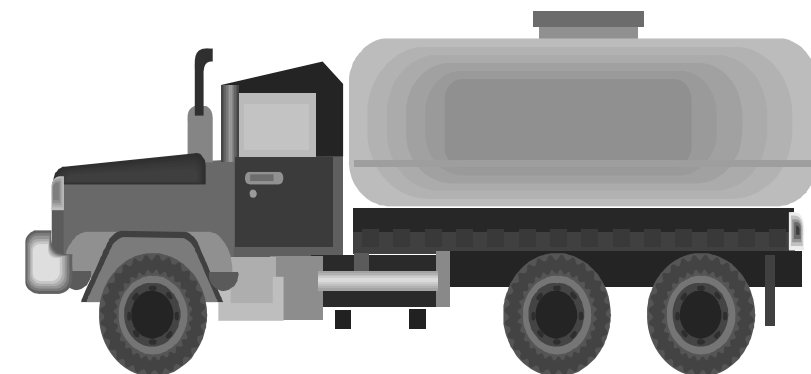


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Romsey Uniting Church

Pohlman Street, Romsey. 3434

Minister Avril Hannah-Jones: 5429 5351 Mobile: 0408 380 962

Church Council Chairperson: Noel Shaw - 5429 5509
Secretary: Jeni Clampit - 5429 5480



You are most welcome to come to the Romsey Uniting Church Services and share in fellowship and worship...

The Romsey Uniting Church has commenced a six week Lenten Study.

The Women's World Day of Prayer will be held on Friday, 7th March, 2008 at the Lancefield Anglican Church.

Easter Services:

Good Friday Service will be a combined service at Lancefield. This will be followed by the Combined Churches of Romsey and Lancefield Walk of Witness in Lancefield.

Easter Sunday Service will also be a combined service with Lancefield in Romsey at 10am. This is to be a special Baptism Service and will be followed by a meal. The 5th Sunday in March – 30th. Our combined service with 4 linked congregations will be at Lancefield, with a lunch to follow.

Matthew 8: 5-10

When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralysed, in terrible distress." And he said to him, "I will come and cure him." The centurion answered, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and he does it." When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those who followed him, "Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith.

I can see the smile on Jesus' face as he hears the centurion's words. The slow change of expression, the warmth in his eyes, the upturn at the corners of his lips. I feel his heart leaping for joy as he recognises the depth of faith in a Gentile outsider. This soldier, tough and un-sentimental, has recognised an authority in Jesus, so much greater than his own. And from a different source. Jesus has faced doubt and criticism from his own people; even anger. They were, supposedly, eagerly awaiting their coming Messiah, yet unable or unwilling to recognise him in Jesus.

*We all need affirmation, Lord,
The encouragement that keeps us going
when we feel low.
And, dare I say it,
even you?
When ice-cold criticism
started to pile up in drifts around you,
you must have felt the need
for something warm.
A word from someone
telling you he understood.
A flash of eyes, quick meeting,*

*an eyebrow raised,
not to oppose
but as a sign he'd grasped the truth –
so beautiful a truth –
of what you'd said and done.
And when it came from
such an unexpected source,
I reckon that your heart just leapt for Joy.
And, as you realised
the coming kingdom's boundaries
were wide enough to welcome him,
you laughed in sheer delight.
First at his faith, then at the Father's love.
And I too share the joy,
amazed that I am welcome too,
not for my strength of faith or love,
but simply that I offer you
a resting place in me.*

(Written by Eddie Askew. (Deceased)
Used by permission - Leprosy Mission International.)

Church Services during March, 2008		
2 nd	9am.	Worship Service and Sunday School.
9 th	9am	Worship and Communion Service conducted by Dr. Avril Hannah-Jones
16 th	9am	Worship service and Sunday School conducted by the Worship Team
23 rd	9am.	Worship Service and Sunday School conducted by Dr. Avril Hannah-Jones
30 th	10am.	Combined Service with 4 link Churches at Lancefield Uniting Church followed by a luncheon

LE RÊVE

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Mobile: 0417 341 761

PERFUME ■ AROMATHERAPY ■ SKINCARE

LANCEFIELD ANGLICAN YOUTH GROUP PROGRAM –Term 1

- 3/2 Crazy games night.
- 10/2 Paddock exploration.
- 17/2 Orienteering followed by a loud musical surprise.
- 24/2 Swimming at Lancefield Pool
- 1/3 and 2/3 Relay for life fundraiser and sleepover (more details on the first night but there is a cost of \$15.00).
- 9/3 Kids' choice.
- 16/3 One big Easter Egg hunt and find out why we have Easter eggs with the help of some loud music and visual aids.

The Cost of each night is \$3.00 to cover the cost of dinner and all leaders actively involved with the children hold valid Working with Children checks.]
All nights go from 5pm to 7pm unless otherwise advised.
For further information, please contact 5429-1380

Hesket Primary School

Our plant sale is back on with our new major plant suppliers, Chris & Maree's (Hello, Hello). So no need to go to Melbourne or Bendigo - come around the corner to our lovely setting at Hesket Primary School, located half way between Woodend and Romsey on the Romsey Rd, Hesket.



Plant Sale

Sunday 4th May 2008, 10 am till 4 pm

Get something for mum!! (Mothers day 11th May 2008)

Autumn is the best time to establish plants in your garden and we'd like to show off our small school and offer quality plants, devonshire teas, cakes, CFA BBQ, face painting, stalls and more.

Stall holders wanted - please contact the school on 5427 0330 or Jacky on 5427 0576 / 0417722575

COMMENCEMENT OF NEW LANCEFIELD/ ROMSEY BUS SERVICE

The long awaited improvements to the Lancefield/Romsey bus service have finally arrived with the extended service commencing Monday 17th December 2007.

New elements of the service include:
A morning commuter service that connects to the early train to Bendigo
A morning commuter service to Sunbury via Riddells Creek arriving Sunbury station at 7.15am
Services to Gisborne 4 days a week
A Friday evening service to Sunbury (departing Lancefield at 6pm and returning at 10.55pm)
More weekday services
A Saturday service
Services on most public holidays
Further changes foreshadowed in 2008 are:
Operation of a bus with a wheelchair hoist on the route
Introduction of a single ticket for bus and train travel
Inclusion of the route as a V/Line service and painting of the bus in V/Line colours

NEW TIMETABLES

are available at
**COUNCIL SERVICE CENTRES
LOCAL SHOPS, SERVICE STATIONS and
NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSES
in the towns on the bus route**

Some services were omitted from the timetable despite strong support from the community. These include a late night return bus service from Sunbury on Saturday night and a Sunday service. Efforts will continue to be made to have these added to the timetable during the 18 months trial period.
Community feedback and comment on the timetable and other aspects of the service is encouraged.

IF THE BUS SERVICE IS NOT USED, OR SUGGESTIONS PROVIDED AS TO HOW IT COULD BE IMPROVED, THE SERVICE COULD BE LOST AT THE END OF THE TRIAL

For any further information, contact

Jenny Sitlington
Getting Around Project Officer
Macedon Ranges and Mount Alexander Shires
PO Box 151
KYNETON VIC 3444
Tel: 03 54 278 286 (Mon, Tues)
03 54 711 744 (Thurs, Fri)
Mob: 0417 130 885

Email: jennys@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au
j.sitlington@mountalexander.vic.gov.au

WOODEND WINTER ARTS FESTIVAL

World-class chamber music in the Macedon Ranges
QUEEN'S BIRTHDAY WEEKEND
 6 - 9 June 2008

The *Woodend Winter Arts Festival* is a unique celebration of the arts presented each year in the picturesque township of Woodend over the Queen's Birthday weekend. The festival showcases music — classical music from the Renaissance to the present day and jazz — and contains strong literary and visual arts components held in intimate historical venues over the long weekend.

To launch the 2008 *Woodend Winter Arts Festival* the **Choir of Ormond College** will hold a special recital on Friday, March 14 beginning at 8.00 pm at St Ambrose Church, Woodend.

The Choir of Ormond College, formed in 1983 and now under the directorship of John O'Donnell, consists of 24 students, most of whom are undergraduates at The University of Melbourne. During term time the choir sings Chapel services every Sunday evening, drawing on a broad repertoire of liturgical music of the past five centuries. The choir also contributes to Melbourne's concert life and records a wide variety of choral music. In July the choir will undertake a European tour, singing services and concerts in Italy and Switzerland.

The occasion will also offer an opportunity to hear Kyneton twins *Daniel and Matthew Thomson*, who have been members of Ormond College and its choir over the past year. Both have also recently been admitted to the rarified ranks of the performance stream in the third year of their Bachelor of Music course at The University of Melbourne.

The launch program on March 14 will include 20th-century English works by Arnold Bax and Benjamin Britten, Renaissance Latin motets by Josquin Desprez, Clemens non Papa and Richard Dering, and German Baroque works by Michael Praetorius and Johann Sebastian Bach. Entry to the concert is \$10, and tickets are available at the door — cash sales only.

Musical highlights of this year's *Woodend Winter Arts Festival* include Marco da Gagliano's 1608 opera *Dafne*, Prokofiev's *Peter and the Wolf*, featuring **Max Gillies** and the Scotch College Orchestra, and jazz great **James Morrison** in concert.

Media enquiries to Shirley Hardy-Rix

hardyrix@onthe.net.au

(03) 9842 9740 or 0412 057288

General public enquiries should be directed to

www.woodendwinterartsfestival.org.au

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VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE.

Dear Friends

Wednesday 13th February 2008 will be remembered as a very historic day in Australia's history. It was the day when the Australian Government via Prime Minister Kevin Rudd said sorry to the stolen generation in terms of their grief, loss and suffering amongst other things. On the television, it was very clear that great multitudes were moved by the events of that day and genuinely realized the significance of the occasion.

This apology is a step forward to reconciliation and reconciliation is good thing. The key word in that last statement is step. During the history of the discussion on reconciliation, unless I am mistaken, there has been very little mentioned about what reconciliation might look like when it is achieved. Saying sorry is a first step but what's next? There maybe more than this because there will be a lot of talking that will go on before we see what reconciliation actually means for 21st Century Australia, but I would like to offer two suggestions: the first one is a unified Australia working together for the one purpose which I believe is possible given our multicultural nation.

The second one comes from the Bible. St. Paul writes, "Be reconciled to God." This provides a point where all can be reconciled to. The beauty of this is that it takes the whole process back to the origins of humanity — God. It also provides for a fresh starting point for our country to move on and be under a God who provides some very clear guidelines of how society should live in a reconciled manner. The end result of being reconciled to God is that we have a much more peaceful, worry-free lifestyle in our community.

That's this month's view from the vicarage.

Rev. Leroy Coote

Vicar

Christ Church Lancefield with St. Paul's Romsey.

A side note: On Sunday 17th February, we had our first Sunday @ Six. 55 people turned to experience something different and new. There is plenty of room for our next Sunday @ Six on Sunday 16th March with dinner at 5:30pm and a short service starting at 6pm. **The topic next month is: Why an egg at Easter, let alone the Bunny?**

Another side note: Do our existing services meet with you and your family's needs? As a growing church, we want to connect with our community. Therefore we need your input.

Please contact one of the following people with your suggestion of either one of the following service times **by the end of April:**

9:00am, 10:00am, 10:30am, 4:00pm, other.

The people are: Leroy Coote 5429-1380, Max Dansey 5429-1597, Robert Green 5429-1392, Glenice Mitchell 5429-6418, David Farlie 5429-6209, John Whiteman 5429-6900, John Weber 5429-1436 or Anne Severson 5429-1757.

Coming events:

1. You are cordially invited to any of our Services: 9:00am at Romsey located at 77 Main Street, Romsey and 10:30am (with children's program) at Lancefield located at 33 Chauncey St., Lancefield. All our Services are "Worshipful, Anglican and Relevant."

2. Our Church Youth Group meets from 5pm — 7pm every Sunday Evening in the Lancefield Church hall. Cost \$3.00 to cover dinner. Anyone in Grades 5 — 9 at school welcome. Come along and see what fun activities we do. All welcome and all our leaders have up to date "Working with Children's Checks".

This recommences on Sunday 3rd February 2008. See our ad further on for the program.

3. Please also mark down Saturday 15th March 2008 for our Romsey Easter Fair at St. Paul's from 10.00am to 1.00pm. See advertisement further on in your paper.

For further details on any of our activities, please contact the office on 5429-1380.

STEVE XERRI

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Romsey Fire Brigade.

A volunteer brigade, proudly serving our Community since 1884.



In Victoria, community volunteer-based fire fighting services began in the early 1850's on the goldfields of Ballarat, Bendigo and Creswick, out of the need to protect homes, buildings and surrounding areas. Fires were fought by means of a human water chain, with buckets of water being passed along from person to person until the person on the end threw the water on the fire. Young children often collected the empty buckets and returned them to the water source. Fires in the bushwere put out using wet bags or green tree branches.

Next came the Hook and Ladder Brigades, where long hooks were used to pull down buildings next to the fire to stop it from spreading. All of the equipment was carried to the fire by hand-pulled carts. As towns became wealthier, hand-operated pumps were bought and later more modern pumps were bought and used. Sometimes these pumps were so big they needed 40 men to pull the cart to the fire. Towns and even individual businesses would organise their own brigades and in 1884 the people of Romsey met to form their own fire brigade and it has continuously existed in various formats through until the present day. During the 1890's the Country Fire Brigades Board was formed - funding was given to the Volunteer Brigades from the government and insurance companies. After the disastrous bushfires in 1939 and 1944, which caused many deaths and huge property damage, the Country Fire Authority was formed so as to co-ordinate the different brigades and to try and prevent the large damaging fires occurring.

Today CFA is a modern organisation with a range of fire appliances capable of dealing with various fires and emergency incidents. There are 1,228 Brigades in outer metropolitan Melbourne and country Victoria, and these Brigades are organised into 143 Groups to provide backup for each other whenneeded. Groups are then coordinated into 20 CFA Regions and CFA is one of the largest firefighting forces in the world with approximately 58,000 volunteers. Our volunteer operations are supported by more than 400 career firefighters and over 700 staff in support and administration roles. CFA works closely with everyone in the community. This means working together with the Metropolitan Fire & Emergency Services Board, Victoria Police, Ambulance, Department of Sustainability and Environment, Local Government, State Emergency Service, Weather Bureau, Red Cross and many other organisations which can assist in emergencies. CFA attends more than 34,000 emergencies each year. The Romsey Fire Brigade provides a 24 hour a day, 7 day a week service, through a core group of around 30 operational firefighters, who are all volunteers.

The CFA provides brigades with equipment, appliances and infrastructure through funds allocated by the State Government, however that money does not service all the needs of the individual communities and brigades must source additional funds from elsewhere. This means applying for grants from other community and philanthropic bodies, but competition is fierce and we can't all be successful. It is especially difficult in smaller communities such as ours, but as we rapidly grow we need to forward plan to meet our future needs. That is why during in April we will distribute a brochure throughout the township to launch an appeal for funding assistance from our community for the purchase of a Command and Control vehicle and other equipment to make our job a little easier and to better serve you.

We ask that you please take the time to read the information and to make the decision to assist us, if you can possibly do so.

FRINGE BENEFITS CHOIR COULD B 4 U!

Have you marvelled at the Choir of Hard Knocks? Do you wish you could be in it? Well now you can! We announce the formation of the **Fringe Benefits Choir**. This choir will be starting in Kyneton and is for anyone in the Macedon Ranges Shire who is feeling isolated, lonely, disadvantaged, or for any reason is cut off from the mainstream razzamatazz, and all the stuff that money can buy. You do not have to be able to sing at all and you certainly will not be asked to audition. The choir is for anyone 15 years or older, whatever their class, colour, creed or religion, who is isolated or disadvantaged and wants to meet up with other kindred souls and have a great time, at the top of their voices.

If you are interested just come along to the first meeting and meet the choir leader Annie Coyne. You do not have to enrol or tell us beforehand, just come along. There will be no cost. Tea, coffee and cordial will be provided.

For transport enquiries phone the Kyneton Community & Learning Centre on 5422 3433.

Thursday 6 March, 4.30pm to 6pm
Anglican Church Hall,
22 Yaldwyn Street West,
Kyneton

The Fringe Benefits Choir is managed by a community committee and auspiced by the Kyneton Community and Learning Centre. If you wish to make a donation to support the choir please contact the KCLC ph 5422 3433



<p>WU LIN RETREAT <i>proudly presents:</i></p> <p>Traditional Karate for self defense, confidence and discipline. Children and adults beginner's classes began January 2008.</p> <p>Tai Chi. Beginners welcome. Saturday 10 am and Tuesday 7.30 pm. New program began January 2008..</p> <p>Non-surgical facelift treatment (money back guarantee) .</p> <p>www.wulinretreat.com Email: james@jamesumarac.com</p>	<p style="font-size: 10px;">Martial and Healing Arts Centre</p>	<p>Martial and Healing Arts Centre</p> <p>Traditional Chinese Medicine Clinic for improved vitality by re establishing balance and harmony, a proven gentle and effective approach.</p> <p>Wholistic treatment of many health related issues and chronic injuries.</p> <p>By appointment only.</p> <p>For appointments call Shou Mei on 5429 2122 www.wulinretreat.com</p>
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St. Mary's Parish - Lancefield & Romsey

27 Chauncey Street, Lancefield
Cnr. Main Street & Barry Road, Romsey

Parish Priest: Fr. George O'Connor
Pastoral Associate: Mrs. Joanne Reuther
School Principal: Mr. Anthony Falls

Presbytery: 5429 2130
Convent: 5429 1582
School: 5429 1359

Parish Website: www.users.bigpond.com/stmlancefield

MASS TIMES

Saturday:

7.00 p.m. (summer time) Lancefield
6.00 p.m. (winter time) Lancefield

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month:

8.00 a.m. Lancefield and 10.00 a.m. Romsey

2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month:

8.00 a.m. Romsey and 10.00 a.m. Lancefield

RECONCILIATION

After weekday Mass or by arrangement.

BAPTISMS

February, April, June, August, October, December.
For more information, please phone 5429 2130.

REGULAR EVENTS

SVDP Drop-In: First Thursday of each month,
10.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., St. Mary's Church Hall, Romsey.
All welcome to come for a game of cards/chat and free lunch.

Spiritual Guidance: Last Wednesday of each month
at the Presbytery, 27 Chauncey Street, Lancefield.
John Stuart, Councillor and Guide. Tel: 5429 2130 for
more information.

MARCH EVENTS

UPCOMING RCIA ENQUIRY NIGHT

Have you ever wanted to be baptised?
Wanted to explore your faith journey?
Wanted to be a Catholic?

Wondered what Catholics really believe?

If so, we invite you to an enquiry evening at St. Mary's on
Wednesday, 12th March at 7.30 p.m. in the Presbytery.
For further information, please contact Fr. George on
5429 2130 or Joanne Reuther on 5429 1582.

LENT & EASTER CEREMONIES

Palm Sunday: Sunday, 16th March 8.00 a.m. Lancefield
10.00 a.m. Romsey

Holy Thursday: Thursday, 20th March 7.30 p.m. Romsey

Good Friday: Friday, 21st March 3.00 p.m. Lancefield

Easter Vigil: Saturday, 22nd March 7.00 p.m. Lancefield

Easter Sunday: Sunday, 23rd March 8.00 a.m. Romsey
10.00 a.m. Lancefield

BINGO

Every Thursday evening at St. Mary's Church Hall at Romsey Romsey
Doors Open 7.00 p.m. EYES DOWN 7.30 p.m.
30 games (2 sessions of 15 games) finishing around 9.45 p.m.
\$3.00 per 15 game book Canteen facilities
No entry fee Free tea and coffee
ROLLING JACKPOT GAME 30 – UP \$10 PER GAME

ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

The new school year has started with great excitement
and enthusiasm.

Congratulations to the following students who have elect-
ed to be members of the Student Representative Council
for 2008:

Prep: Kate O'Sullivan / Lachlan Bendeich
One: Molly Choate / Joshua Alford
Two: William Phillips / Mark Bennetts
Three: Alex Badger / Victoria Credland
Four: Gabrielle Veal / Chelsea Brown
Five: Abbie Bennetts / Fiona Redmond
Six: Kyle Meyer / Maddison DiPietro

The SRC meets once a fortnight with our principal, Mr
Falls, to discuss fundraising events and student issues at
school.

On Wednesday, 13th February we celebrated our Opening
School Year Mass. The SRC were presented with their
badges and the new School Board presented new families
to the school with a candle. Mass was followed by a BBQ
and many members of the school community gathered to
socialise.

Also on Wednesday, the Grade 6 SRC, Kyle Meyer and
Maddison DiPietro thanked local MP Joanne Duncan as
she commissioned the Filtration Plant in Mahoneys Road.
Both students did a great job in representing the school.

St. Mary's School has registered for this year's 'World's
Greatest Shave'. So far we have 2 volunteers and are
looking for more to either shave or colour their hair for a
great cause. Maybe you would like to sponsor someone
in the group???

Be Brave and Shave.

The school's first fundraiser for the year will be a Golden
Circle Fun Run. This will be held at Lancefield Park on
the 7th March. Please try and help out if you are asked to
sponsor one of our students.

The Grade 3 students are about to begin their Sacramen-
tal Program for the Sacrament of Reconciliation. Please
keep the Grade 3 children in your prayers.

We have a number of people in our school community
who have been ill. Please keep these families in your
thoughts and prayers.
Teachers and students are looking forward to a great year
ahead, filled with learning and friendships. Stay tuned for
more exciting news, including a fabulous Angus & Robert-
son launch and Catholic Education Week.

CLEARING SALE

Saturday, 1st March 2008

at the Romsey Church grounds, Main Street, Romsey

commencing at 10.00 a.m.

(cake stall & market stalls inside Church Hall)



Romsey Community House Inc.
A Learning and Activity Centre
P.O.Box 418
Romsey, Vic 3434

HOUSE NEWS

Programs for Term 2:

Art Classes: For Children and Adults:

Contact Gillian on 5429 3996 Wednesdays-Sundays

Art & Craft Market for Romsey

The Romsey art and Craft Market is off to a flying start, with mar-
kets planned now for each month (details are published else-
where in the edition of the Romsey Rag).

For information phone Gillian on 5429 3996 Wed—Sun.

Yoga With Kym Oliver Wednesdays 7.00 pm—8.30pm at
Romsey Primary School.

Cost: \$12 per session or \$120 per 10 week term, \$15 per ses-
sion casual rate.

For further information or bookings contact Kym Oliver on
54292134.

Writer's Group with Dee White—new members wel-
come. Please contact 0412 275 152 if you are interested in join-
ing. Meets once per month on the first Monday night at 7.00pm
at Romsey Primary School.

Crop till you drop: Each third Saturday of the month for all
you Memory Makers and Scrapbookers. Starts at 5.00pm, cost
is \$15 per session and includes pizza or fish'n'chips for dinner.
For further information contact Belinda Williams 54291693/ 0407
203 826

Drop In Craft Morning is back every Thursday from
10.30 at CFA Headquarters, Stawell Street, Romsey. Gold coin
donation. Bring along an unfinished craft item, or a skill to share
and enjoy the relaxed friendly atmosphere with a group of like-
minded people. Or just come for a cuppa and a chat!

Payments for classes booked through the Community House
need to be made at Romsey Primary School or mailed to Rom-
sey Community House, P.O. Box 418, Romsey.

For information, to express interest or suggest new activities
please contact Robyn on 0412 275 152

What's happening at the Hub?

The most recent information we have from the Shire is
that the Hub should be completed in May, so the Commu-
nity house is looking forward to finally having a space of
its own! When we have more definite information, we will
be publishing information about our plans for a "grand
opening" of the Community House.
With our own space we will be in a position to expand the
range of programs we are able to offer.

Program Planning

The next few weeks will be very busy for the committee,
organizing new activities to be offered. We are aiming to
have a greatly expanded program in place in time to com-
mence at the beginning of second semester. We really
need community input into what we do—after all, activities
are meant to reflect the interests of the community, not
just the people organizing them (or guessing what the
community might want!).

A small group of committee members met with a repre-
sentative of Bendigo Regional Institute of TAFE this week
to discuss how they might support some programs in our
area, and we are very excited at the prospect of being
able to organize some hospitality and business skills pro-
grams in second semester. The units we offer may well be
credited towards further study for certificate qualifications.

In order to gauge community interest we will be shortly
holding some Saturday morning information sessions in
the local shopping precinct, so if you are accosted by
someone wanting a few minutes of your time to fill out a
brief questionnaire, we would be grateful for your input.
And don't forget, you can always phone 0412 275 152 if
you have any ideas or suggestions.

ROMSEY GOLF CLUB
WOMEN'S GOLF
OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN GOLF
FREE CLINIC
ON SATURDAY 15th MARCH
EVERYONE WELCOME!
WHERE: ROMSEY GOLF CLUB
TIME: 9.15AM
FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
HILDA CALY – 5429 6538



KINDER CORNER ROMSEY KINDERGARTEN NEWS

The sandpits are busy, the water play trays are out in the yard, there is paint and paper on the easels – the kindergarten is back in full swing. For many children (and their parents!), it is their first experience in the Kindergarten environment which can, for some, be a little overwhelming. It is a special time as these young children begin their journey through the education system. A quality beginning which keeps enjoyment to the maximum and stress to the minimum is of paramount importance. To assist this, the teachers conduct a “staggered start” during the early weeks of term 1 where the children attend in smaller groups to become familiar with the kindergarten and their classmates. It also facilitates the teachers developing an understanding of each child.



Playground Development – Concept Plan

Last year we received funding from the Shire of Macedon Ranges to commission a concept plan for a significant playground redevelopment. The first draft was presented to the Committee of Management by Bruce Grillmeier (Mary Jeavons Landscape Architects) at the end of last year. He is subsequently making some adjustments prior to presenting us with the final draft. This will include features such as secret gardens, digging patches, a variety of textured surfaces, water features, rainwater tanks and shaded seating areas. It will incorporate pre-existing equipment such as the forts, swings and sandpit areas.

This will be a major staged development for Romsey Kindergarten and will provide a focus for grant applications and fundraising.

Laptop and Data Projector Arrive

Last year, the Kindergarten was also successful in its application for a Federal Government Volunteer Small Equipment Grant. In addition to some new crockery purchased for use at special functions (e.g. Mother's Day Morning Tea, Annual General meeting etc), a laptop computer and data projector were also purchased. These will facilitate the conduct of Committee meetings (information can be projected rather than photocopied, minutes can be immediately stored electronically) and be useful when guest presenters visit the kindergarten.

First Aid Training – Opportunity Available

On Saturday 12th April, our teaching staff will be undertaking their compulsory first training at the kindergarten in the form of a full day course in Paediatric Emergency Care provided by the EmergCare group. The cost is \$80 and is open to other interested community members. If anyone has further enquiries, please contact Kath Brundell on 54 293137.

WANTED - Couch for Children to Lounge and Read On
 Unit 1 is in need of a couch for the children to use for quiet reading time. As long as it is clean, comfy and in good repair, it would be gratefully accepted. If you are able to help, please phone Jane and Catherine in Unit 1 on 54 29594/

Jenny Stillman (0412-349849)
 Committee of Management



Families with children invited to have their say

Council's *Family & Children's Strategy 2008-2012* will be a strategic plan for the development and coordination of education, care and health services for children aged from birth to 12 years and their families.

Community Forums

If you have children, or are interested in future services for children and families in the Shire, then you are invited to attend a community forum as part of the development of this new Strategy.

The forums will enable us to find out what the key family and children's services and/or issues are for you, your family and the community. Dates, times and locations are listed below.

Town	Date	Time	Venue
Gisborne	Wednesday 26 March 2008	4:00-5:00pm	Council Chambers Gisborne Service Centre Robertson St
Kyneton	Thursday 27 March 2008	4:00-5:00pm	Council Chambers Kyneton Service Centre Mollison St
Lancefield	Wednesday 2 April 2008	6:00-7:00pm	Lancefield Neighbourhood House 78 High Street
Macedon	Monday 7 April 2008	4:00-5:00pm	Jubilee Hall Smith Street
Malmsbury	Wednesday 9 April 2008	6:00-7:00pm	Malmsbury Mechanics Institute Mollison Street
Riddells Creek	Monday 31 March 2008	6:00-7:00pm	Riddells Creek Living and Learning Centre 57 Main Road
Romsey	Tuesday 8 April 2008	4:00-5:00pm	Romsey Mechanics Institute 122 Main Street
Woodend	Friday 28 March 2008	4:00-5:00pm	Sustainability Room Woodend Neighbourhood Centre 47 Forest Street

Please RSVP to Kerry Haby at Macedon Ranges Shire Council on 5427 8260 or kerryh@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au so we have a sense of numbers for each session.

Community Survey

You are also invited to complete a survey on the current and future service needs of families with children. The survey is available online at www.macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au (Select *For Your Comment*); or you can pick up a hard copy from Council Service Centres.

If you are unable to come to one of these forums you can still have your say by completing a survey.

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**Lions Club
 Rental Accommodation
 Is now available in Romsey
 only to Aged pensioners capable of independent living.
 Lancefield & Romsey Lions Club Village—
 Romsey
 Contact Neil
 Phone 5429 5702
 P.O. Box 71, Romsey 3434**

Combined Romsey/Lancefield Probus.... Our January get together was at a fellow Probians home for a BBQ lunch. Some of us took salads and some of us desserts. The weather was not too hot and everyone enjoyed an informal luncheon, with lots of laughs and good food.

Our February outing was a self drive to the Whistle Stop Hotel in New Gisborne where the meal was delicious and most rated it 8 out of 10 for the meal. Our next meeting is on February 28th at St Marys Church Hall @ 10 am.



RELAY FOR LIFE BIKE RUN

On Behalf of the Lancefield/ Macedon Ranges Relay for Life Team "The Shooting Stars" we would like to thank all of the very generous local business and community-minded people who sponsored and donated and helped to make this unique fund raising event a great success.

It was a very successful and enjoyable day. Although the weather threatened us early in the morning it turned out to be a very pleasant day, a great day for a motorbike ride. 60 motorcycles along with half a dozen cars turned up to support this wonderful event and a fantastic day was had by all.

We headed off at 11 o'clock and stopped at Lake Eppalock and had a sausage sizzle lunch before heading back via Mt Macedon and arriving back in Lancefield at 4 o'clock. If you were lucky enough you would have seen the great spectacular of all the bikes lined up and riding two abreast between Romsey and Lancefield—an impressive sight indeed! Thank you to all who participated and helped make this such a wonderful experience.



There were many great prizes given away for the best poker hands and lucky draws too. After a wonderful spit roast tea a live band was playing at Old Mack's Hotel in Lancefield where many stayed on and topped off a great day bopping away to the fantastic music. All in all it was a great effort from all involved. We raised close to \$4000.00 with all proceeds going to Relay for Life and The Cancer Council of Victoria.

Keep your eye out—we will be doing it again soon. With all the positive feedback received we hope to make the next one bigger and better and we would love you all to come along and have a fantastic day for a great cause. Once again, thank you to everyone who participated and sponsored this day. The Shooting Stars Team.

Gillmay Arts Gallery News

Hello everyone, I hope you all had a great Christmas and New Year and that 2008 will be a prosperous one for everyone. 2008 promises to be a busy year with lots of new and exciting programs and exhibitions at the Gallery. I have extended my Classes and will be introducing a workshops program.

Congratulations!!!

The voucher for Soltan Pepper was won by Mrs Jan Crebbin and the Christmas Colouring Competitions were won by Josh Emonson, Ben Taylor, Abbie Quigley and Alice Quigley.

My 2008 exhibition program starts off in:

***February**, featuring Sheena McKinnon photographic Artist and Marina Villani and Julia Dunn with works in glass.

***March exhibition** will feature works in Acrylic by Irene Webb and works In Oil by Tanya Salter.

In *April we have "ADORNMENTS" (art to wear) and how exciting is this!

Selected pieces from 12 +local Textile Artists and Jewellers

will feature in a Fashion Parade and Charity Dinner

At Soltan & Pepper Restaurant

On Tuesday Night 1st April 7pm

Works include pieces made from Beads, lamp work, Pearls, Silver and Knitted Jewellery, Silk, Textiles, Embroidery, Felting, Hats, Shawls, Shrugs and much, much more. Bookings can be made from Soltan Pepper phone 54293190

At the Gallery on Friday 4th April 7pm

Art to Wear will feature as well as works in oil, pastel and acrylic from

Marriane Van Katwyk and Marg Holgate

Gillmay Arts Art Classes Term 1&2

"Supporting Romsey Community Neighbourhood house."

Art Classes are held on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and Saturday during school terms at the Gallery 103 Main Street, Romsey.

Term 2, 10 Weeks

Lions Club of Lancefield Romsey

Our Lions have been busy recently. In late November we took a bus full of primary students to Bendigo Water World. We also ran a BBQ for several dog clubs that ran a three day trial event at Lancefield oval.

In December we started off with a working bee at the LiOons elderly citizens units in Romsey. The weather turned out quite hot and we were glad that we were able to finish by lunch time. We removed a lot of branches, thinned out, cut back and reshaped a lot of trees and shrubs around the units and walkways. Altogether there were 22 trailer loads of branches shrubbery removed. These were taken to Sarsons Sand and Gravel in Romsey. I would like to thank them for taking all this material as it saved us time and money. We appreciated their help and support.

In December we also helped with the BBQ at the Lancefield Christmas Carnival, which, as usual, was a great event. We also attended the Elderly Citizens BBQ at the Lions Units in Romsey. The weather was fine and the Christmas tree looked magnificent, all decorated. There was cellophane-wrapped Christmas cake hanging off the tree, which the residents took home. The elderly citizens of Lancefield joined in as well, and an enjoyable time was had by all. Trevor Turnham was presented with a bottle of wine by the committee in appreciation of all his work throughout the year.

LIONS MARKET:

Remember that our Lions Market in Romsey at the Lions reserve has started up again this year. It is held on the fourth Sunday of the month. This is one of our main fund raisers, and the money raised goes back into the community. The market is always looking for new stall holders. Anyone interested in booking a stall should contact Lion John on 0438 414 245.

LIONS MEETINGS

Lions meets every 2nd Monday (Business) at the Mechanics Hall in Romsey, and every 4th Monday (Dinner Meeting). Anyone who has recently moved into the area and is interested in finding out more about Lions and our projects is encouraged to ring me and come along to one of our dinner meetings. Please let me know beforehand that you would like to attend. You will be most welcome. Contact Lion Julie Starec on 0411 643 407 or 5429 1990.

EXPO

Lions is planning to co-ordinate another Expo for Romsey a little later in the year. All clubs and organizations in town are invited to participate. If you are interested please contact Lion Julie Starec on one of the numbers above.



Macedon Ranges Walk Together

Feel the results within weeks.

It's easy **It's local**

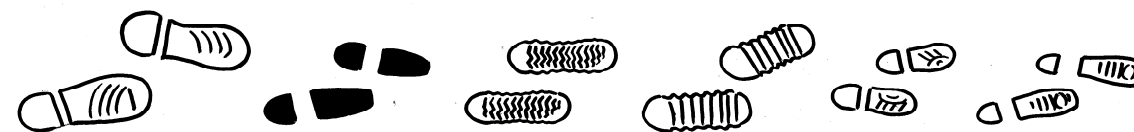
It's free **It's fun**

Macedon Ranges Walk Together - the program that caters for individuals to walk and talk at their pace and in their own time with minimal cost and manageable effort.

For enquiries: Your local Neighbourhood House or

The Coordinator- Jeannie- phone- 5427 1845

- Email- www.wnci@vic.chariot.net.au



Macedon Ranges Walk Together Project is facilitated by the Neighbourhood Houses, Lancefield, Romsey, Woodend and the Riddells Creek Community Living & Learning Centre in collaboration with The Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Cobaw Community Health, and The Central Victoria Health Alliance PCP.

