

Romsey Golf Club Ladies Report

Results for this month

Oct 28th Burke & Wills K. Jekabsons 75
Nov 4th Stableford B. Cole (24) 40pts (course was in top condition thanks to the many volunteers)
Nov 11th Par (9 Holes) L. Beasley -2
Nov 18th Ambrose Jan, Lorraine & Jamie.
Thursday 12th Nov. Lorraine and I played in the Lancefield Tournament which due to the weather they had reduced to 14 holes. I won "A" Grade net (23) 51.

The same day Kath, Jan & Ann played 18 holes in the Kyneton Bowl. Kath had a magnificent 43pts and won "B" Grade and reduced her handicap to 26. Kath declared it was a great course for left handers. Ann also had a good round with 36pts and reduced her handicap by 1 to 38.

For the summer we are going to be playing a few fun games and if the weather is warm will reduce the holes played so if you would like to try golf please come along and join the fun. Just wear a hat and bring some water, we will share clubs with you.

Recipe for this month

Christmas Shortbread Slice

185g Short bread biscuits
1cup milk Chocolate melts
¼ cup red glace cherries chopped
¼ cup green glace cherries chopped
¼ cup yellow glace cherries chopped
60gm copha ¼ cup glace ginger
½ cup roasted brazil nuts chopped
Line base of lined 19x29 shallow tray with shortbread biscuits
Melt copha & chocolate over saucepan of hot water
Mix nuts & fruit in a bowl and add melted copha & chocolate. Stir to combine & spread over biscuits
Refrigerate to set.
Cut into bars and store in airtight container in frig.
Merry Christmas and Greetings for the New Year.
Beryl Cole
54295411

Romsey Recreation Centre SPORT AT THE CENTRE THIS SUMMER

Come On - Get Involved !!

BASKETBALL SOCCER NETBALL SQUASH

Junior Basketball

Ages 6 to 17 years, Tuesdays from 4.00 pm
ENROL NOW Limited Spaces
Under 10's Aussie Hoops Development Program
Under 12's Competition
Under 15's Competition
Under 17's Competition

COMPETITIONS TO START FEBRUARY 2010

Senior Mixed Basketball

All Ages and Abilities Welcome, Wednesdays from 7.20 pm
Both Teams and Individual Entries being Accepted NOW
COMPETITION TO START JANUARY 2010

Junior Indoor Soccer

ENROL NOW Limited Spaces
Under 10's Goal Kick Program, Fridays from 4.00 pm
Under 10's Competition, Mondays from 3.50 pm
PROGRAM & COMPETITION TO START FEBRUARY 2010

Senior Mixed Indoor Soccer

All Ages and Abilities Welcome, Fridays from 8.00 pm
Both Teams and Individual Entries - LIMITED SPACES
COMPETITION TO START JANUARY 2010

Ladies Daytime Netball

All Ages and Abilities Welcome, Mondays from 9.30 am
Both Teams and Individual Entries being Accepted NOW
COMPETITION TO START FEBRUARY 2010

Squash - Court Hire

Our Courts are available for hire 7 days a week at various times during the day and night - equipment can be provided Bookings are Essential via contacting the centre

Romsey Recreation Centre
Park Lane, Romsey

Phone : (03) 54 29 56 37 Email : rrc@mrsc.vic.gov.au



THE ROMSEY RAG

Issue No. 278

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

December 2009

THE DECEMBER EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY
- Romsey Community Market -



A VERY MERRY CHRISTMAS MARKET
Is the **NEW LOOK** ROMSEY COMMUNITY MARKET
NOW AN INDOOR & OUTDOOR MARKET

Saturday -12 December 2009

9am to 2pm

At the Mechanics Hall Main St ROMSEY



Quality Stall holder enquiries welcome (no second hand or car boot sales)
Cris on 0407 333 430

Celebrating Christmas at the Romsey Indoor Community Market

The Romsey Indoor/Family Market (formerly the Art and Craft Market) is a work in progress. The brainchild of a group of local art and crafts people from the immediate area, it was originally headed by Gillian Gorrie of Gillmay Arts where many original and spectacular pieces of local craftsmanship are permanently on display. The purpose of the market was to bring the local artists to the community, and to place our little community onto the tourism map—a type of meet and greet the artist event. Despite being a small community and hence a relatively small market in comparison to many more well-known markets, the talent within our immediate environs is immense, and comparable if not of a higher standard than those in the many larger markets.

The market has expanded since the days of being an art and craft market to include a more general feel offering the community a greater variety of items beyond art and craft. The market currently boasts locally produced food items such as cakes, relishes, mustards and local wines, clothing, fragrances, aromatherapy, hand made candles and much more. With Christmas approaching, there is everything you need when organizing your own personal hampers for gift-giving.

The Committee of the market is working on its third stage for 2010, which is to expand the market outdoors for development to include a produce and farmers market component in addition to the already indoor general market.

The Romsey Indoor Market is a community based, not for profit market which not only supports local home-based and small businesses, but returns any proceeds back into the community. Please support your local market this Christmas. Next market is scheduled for December 12, 2009 at the Mechanics Hall.

The closing date for copy for the February Romsey Rag is **Friday January 22nd, 2010**
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.



Barefoot Bowls:

Following the success of the past two seasons Barefoot Bowls competition, Romsey Bowling Club has decided to extend the season to encompass the full daylight saving period.
Barefoot Bowls each Friday through until Friday 2nd April 2010. Start time is 6.00 p.m. 'til finish. Entry Fee is \$5.00. All welcome. BBQ dinner available at a small cost.

For more detail contact Joanne Bovell on 0410 667 591

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 54291602.

WANTED MATURE FEMALE FOR LIVE IN POSITION

Single working mother looking for mature female to live in and assist with child care (part-time) for school aged children.
Own room, board and pay negotiable.
Phone Jo: 0488382294

Editorially Speaking

Romsey Rag Editorial Committee:
Joan Gibbs, Robyn Moore

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Robyn Moore, Anne Cappler,
Sue Hayes

Printing:
Robyn Moore, Colin Miller

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 cut off day as advised on this page and the front page.

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: e.g.- 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.

Romsey Rag Publication Deadlines 2010

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



2009

CHRISTMAS HOME DECORATION COMPETITION

The Romsey Region Business & Tourism Association invites you to join in their Christmas competition simply by decorating your home in a Christmas theme. Local traders are sponsoring the competition and donating some great prizes.

The three categories of the competition are:

- Best decorated house 1st, 2nd & 3rd prize**
- Best theme 1st prize**
- Best illuminated window 1st prize**

Competition judged from the 1st December till 20th December
Winners announced on www.romsey.org.au 20th December.

"ATTENTION CITY COMMUTERS"

The Lancefield Romsey Commuter Bus offers a Monday to Friday return service direct to the CBD at the cheapest rate available in the shire.

Still only \$40.00 per week for permanent travelers.

We also cater for casual & adhoc travelers.

Departs Lancefield General Store 6.35am, & Romsey Hotel 6.42am, arrives CBD 7.40am.

Departs Cnr William & Latrobe Sts 5.20pm, arrives back in Romsey 6.20pm & Lancefield 6.25pm Seats currently available.

For more details ring Muir on 0354 255505



Macedon Ranges Shire Council - Generous supporters of the Romsey Rag

Seasons Greetings

Dear friends

It is hard to believe it's nearly Christmas time again. Each year seems to pass more quickly than the one before!

Christmas is a very special time and provides us with an opportunity to spend time with family and friends and reflect on our lives and the lives of others.

This year we have seen the worst natural disaster occur in Victoria with the fires last February. Preparations for this fire season have been unprecedented across the state, and locally it is evident we are all trying to be as prepared as we can be for this season.

If you have not already done so, I urge you to attend a

community fire guard meeting, contact your local CFA or visit the CFA website: www.cfa.vic.gov.au for information to help you prepare for fire.

While we enjoy our holidays, it is timely to remember the many volunteer organisations like the CFA, SES and community groups who will continue to serve our community throughout the summer months by responding to fires, attending road accidents and responding to emergencies.

I wish you and your family a very happy and safe Christmas, and I look forward to seeing you in the new year.

Warm regards

Joanne Duncan MP
State Member for Macedon



NATIVITY AND CAROL SERVICE
9 am, Sunday the 13th of December
Romsey Uniting Church
All welcome!



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Romsey Uniting Church

Pohlman Street, Romsey, 3434

Minister Rev. Dr. 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...

Blue Christmas Service

While Christmas is a time of great joy, it can also be bitter-sweet. All the emphasis on celebrating and the gatherings of family and friends can remind us of the people and events that have been a part of our lives in the past, but that are now changed or gone.

A Blue Christmas service is a quiet, meditative worship service that makes time for remembering, sharing our hurting places with God, and preparing our hearts for the coming of Christ. It is a particularly helpful for people who have lost someone this year and are facing their first Christmas without them, but many people find it a helpful moment of quiet in the midst of the busyness of the Christmas Season.

The service will be held this year at 7.30 pm on Sunday the 13th of December at Mount Macedon Uniting Church, Mount Macedon Road, Mount Macedon. Everyone is welcome.

DECEMBER SERVICES 2009

(All services are at Romsey Uniting Church unless otherwise noted.)

9 am, 6 December: Service led by David Noble

9 am, 13 December: Service led by Rev. Dr Avril Hannah-Jones – Eucharist

7.30 pm, 13 December: “Blue Christmas” Service at Mount Macedon Uniting Church

10 am, 20 December: Service led by the Worship Team, Lancefield Uniting Church

7 pm, 20 December: Combined Carol Service, Romsey Mechanics Hall

7.30 pm, 24 December: Service of Lessons and Carols

10 am, 25 December: Service led by Rev. Dr Avril Hannah-Jones

10 am, 27 December: Service led by Rev. Adrian Pegler, Lancefield Uniting Church

Combined Services for January 2010

3 rd	10am	Lancefield	TBC
10 th	10am	Romsey	Rev. Avril Hannah-Jones
17 th	10am	Lancefield	Worship Team
24 th	10am	Romsey	Rev. Avril Hannah-Jones
31 st	9am.	Romsey.	TBC

Romsey Lions Club Market - Special Notice:

Please note that the Romsey Lions Club has decided to discontinue the Romsey Sunday Market after the December market this year. The Lions Club would like to thank all stall holders for their support over the years, as well as the market patrons. The Club is seeking to establish a new community activity in the future in lieu of the market, and will keep the community informed as plans develop.

SPECIAL DAYS:

December 6th – St. Nicholas

Nicholas was a fourth-century bishop of Myra in southern Turkey. Known for loving and caring for children, Nicholas fed the hungry, healed the sick, and cared for the oppressed. However, it is the story of Nicholas saving three young women from a life of prostitution that has spawned numerous legends and traditions. Whether Nicholas threw money in the window (as one story goes) or tossed it down a chimney (as goes another), with the money landing in stockings hanging by the fire is questionable. But tradition says that a gift of money spared and rescued the women from poverty. Whatever the story, there has long been a tradition of bearing gifts to children on the feast day of St. Nicholas, which is still observed with great enthusiasm in the Netherlands as well as some other places. For many others, this practice (complete with stockings hung by the fire) was folded into Christmas Celebrations.

December 6th – National Day of Remembrance and Action to End Violence against Women (*Canada*)

This day commemorates the tragic Montreal Massacre on December 6, 1989 where women were killed at the Université de Montréal because of their gender. The Centre for research on Violence against Women and Children was established in 1993 with funding from the Canadian government to conduct community-centred research to help end the violence. While this is primarily a Canadian observance, it provides an opportunity for any group to focus on violence against women, and hate crimes in general.

December 8th – Bodhi Day (*Buddhism*)

On this day in 596 BCE, Siddhartha Gautama (the Buddha) vowed to meditate under the Bodhi Tree until he attained enlightenment. Some Buddhists decorate their homes with lights on this day.

December 10 – Human Rights Day

Human Rights Day recognizes the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights at the United Nations on December 20, 1948. Following World War II and the Holocaust, there was a strong desire to ensure that such human rights violations would never happen again.

A Christmas treat: Home Made Irish Cream recipe

2 eggs
1 can condensed milk
600ml bottle of cream
200ml whisky
3 tsp vanilla essence
3 tsp coconut essence
3-4 dessertspoons chocolate essence.

Combine all ingredients. Will make approx. 700ml plus a small bottle. If using an empty whisky bottle do not wash it before putting Irish Cream in. Keep refrigerated.

Bushfire Season Preparations: The Local Situation

The following update is provided by Macedon Ranges Shire Council, as at 20 November 2009.



Hot Day Out Centres

This summer, Macedon Ranges Shire Council will be opening Hot Day Out centres again. The centres will be in the major towns of Gisborne, Kyneton, and Romsey. They will provide a place to go, within 20 minutes from home, where residents can have a chat, a coffee, tea or water, and some respite from the anxiety of sitting at home. Meals will not be provided there.

Hot Day Out centres will be open from 9am until 9pm. If bringing children, you will need to bring with them ‘things to do’. If you take regular medications, you will need to bring them too. If you find you really need to bring your small domestic pet, Council will provide minimal facilities for him or her.

Hot Day Out centres may not be air-conditioned or a home-away-from-home for you, your children, or your pet, but they may be a place to go if you can’t visit family, friends, shopping centres, or movie theatres.

For further information, contact Anne-Louise Lindner on 5422 0333.

Relief Centres

If there is a fire emergency this summer, Council may activate and manage an Emergency Relief Centre.

It will be located well away from the fire threat, taking into consideration the location of the fire and its predicted behaviour. Because of this, the exact location will be determined on the day and advertised on emergency radio broadcasts.

A Relief Centre provides basic food, blankets, first aid, and shelter – and clothing if it is needed. Residents should first consider relocating to family or friends well away from fire-prone areas.

For news and information on days of high fire risk, tune-in to ABC Radio:

ABC Melbourne: 774 AM

ABC Bendigo: 91.1 FM

Township Protection Plan

Township Protection Plans have been developed for Woodend, Mt Macedon and Macedon. The CFA advises that these will be distributed to residents in each of these towns and will be available on the CFA website: www.cfa.vic.gov.au

Township Protection Plans provide township-specific information to enable residents, visitors and emergency services to make a quick, informed and planned response to a fire. They contain a map with specific information including locations of access roads, police, fire stations and some other important information.

Fire Refuges

There will be no fire refuges provided in the Macedon Ranges Shire. Some people in the community remember the old “Fire Refuge” sites that were set up many years ago. They were often located at a local building or sports ground. We no longer use Fire Refuges as we cannot assume they will be safe. They could be located in the path of the fire, and there will be no-one there to open up the facility or to provide accurate information.

Neighbourhood Safer Places

A Neighbourhood Safer Place is a place of **last resort**, when all other plans have failed. Safety and survival cannot be guaranteed. There is no support or services provided. There will be no provision for pets. Council will not be managing these places.

The location of any Neighbourhood Safer Places will be identified through the Township Protection Planning process. Any Neighbourhood Safer Places within the Macedon Ranges Shire will be identified on the CFA website: www.cfa.vic.gov.au

ARE YOU PREPARED?

On a Code Red day, when schools in high risk areas are closed, do you have a plan for your children? **Children and teenagers should not be left at home without an adult on these days.**

On a Code Red day, do you have a plan for relocating your pets or horses – could they go to a friend or family member in a safer area?

Log-on to the CFA website: www.cfa.vic.gov.au for resources to assist in developing your Bushfire Survival Plan, or call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on 1800 240 667 for a Fire Ready Kit.

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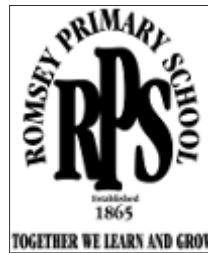
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Romsey Primary School News

Telecommunications Tower Objection

On behalf of the school community our School Council President presented Romsey Primary School's opposition to the proposed Optus tower in Park Lane at VCAT. Vanessa presented our opposition and supported our arguments with a professional set of documents. The Macedon Ranges Shire Council was the main objector and other local businesses supported them. The outcome of the tower permit application will be known sometime in December. The chairperson of VCAT visited the school to see the site and verify our environmental impact objection. Thank you to all the people who returned petitions to support this application.



Healthy Breakfasts

Recently the Year 1 and Year 5 classes have both held healthy breakfasts. All the folding doors between the Year 1 classrooms were open with the tables beautifully laid out for breakfast. A team of parents was helping serve cereal, toast and fruit. All the children had good appetites and enjoyed their friend's company. Thank you to Mrs Petran, Miss Lenon and Miss Hogan for organising this special event. Similarly, thank you to Brian Tannenberg, Vanessa Johnston and Georgia Romaszko who held a breakfast for their students before school. They served it from the canteen and children and their parents shared breakfast. Again another appetising meal was prepared by the teachers with a choice of cereal, fruit salad and yoghurt, toast and juice. Children sat with their parents or friends and enjoyed their healthy start to the day.

Soiree

A celebration of musical achievement was held in November with our instrumental students performing for a large audience. We are fortunate to have talented musicians offering our students a wide choice of instruments to learn. Performances were given on violin, piano, flute, saxophone and guitar. The school choir and ensemble complemented the evening's entertainment.



Romsey Cup

On the day before Melbourne Cup the Prep teachers introduced a fun program with their buddy classes called the Romsey Cup. The older students were the trainers and helped their preps make a horse, think of a name for it and make a jockey's cap. To add to the atmosphere Year 4/5GR provided the 'Fashions on the Fields' parade proudly showing off their hats, ties or fascinators. All the students congregated on the oval for the running of the race. The cup was keenly contested with all students enjoying a gallop around the oval. Lightning Bolt won the event with Liam Muir as the jockey. This was a fun activity for all students, building relationships between buddy classes.



Year 5/6 Camp

'Ace-High' near Cape Schank provided a perfect venue for the Year 5/6 camp. The students were challenged by the range of adventure activities including the giant swing, flying fox and rock climbing. A highlight was the trail ride as many students had not ridden a horse before. This type of camp develops social skills, cooperation and reinforces our school values of learning, relationships, responsibility and resilience.



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Macedon Ranges Masonic Lodge
73 Main St
Romsey VIC 3434
Contact us at:
Ph: 5428 5418 or 5429 6354



Macedon Ranges Masonic Lodge

Meet 1st Thursday except January

Installation - June

ALL BRETHREN WELCOME

BLUE CHRISTMAS SERVICE



A reflective service to remember those we love and mourn at Christmas

7.30 pm, Sunday the 13th of December
Mount Macedon Uniting Church
Mount Macedon Road, Mount Macedon
All welcome!

NUTRIMETICS

Looking for a special gift for that special person? Nutrimetics has a vast range of products to suit males and females. Purchase any Nutrimetics product during December and receive a 10% discount.

If you prefer to go on our mailing list to receive our monthly brochure, and require further information please contact:

Lyn Turner
Nutrimetics Consultant

Phone: 5429 3332
Mobile: 0419 921 042

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- Call 5429 5754 or 0407 722656 for info & bookings!

The Mount Players

Well it's the end of another year and what a fantastic year it has been at The Mount Players!
 We started the year off with the Australian play *The Sum Of Us* followed by the pop musical *The Wedding Singer*, next up was our popular One Act Play Festival and the Australian drama *Minefields and Miniskirts*. In between these productions we had our Youth Theatre Group performing *What Took You So Long?* and *A Little Bit of This, A Little Bit of That*.

The stage isn't silent just yet though, we still have another week of the very successful farce *Caught In The Net*. Proceeds from the charity performance of this production were donated to our brave and hardworking CFA. This production must end December 12th, book your tickets today and have your taste buds enticed for "silly season". Bookings: 0403 834 759 or our Booking Office at Vines, previously Roomba's Bar and Restaurant in Gisborne.

In 2010 we have another exciting season lined up for your

pleasure, starting off with the musical thriller *Sweeney Todd*, followed by a couple of weekends showcasing our One Act Plays which will then lead us into our One Act Play Festival. Next up we will be bringing to the stage *The Breakfast Club*, based on the cult 80s film. To cap the year off we will be performing the Australian Comedy *Waking Eve*. In the mix of course we will be seeing once again, the talents of our Youth Theatre Group.
 To all our patrons who have supported us throughout the year and all of the Romsey Rag family and readers, "Wishing you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and of course, Entertaining New Year. We look forward to seeing you at the Mountview Theatre in 2010.
 Sonja Prater



It's Coming !

The Second Annual Gala Church Fete

When: Saturday 5TH DECEMBER 2009
(Deferred from Saturday 14th November)

Where: St Paul's Anglican Church
77 Main St, Romsey

Time: 9:00am - 2:00pm

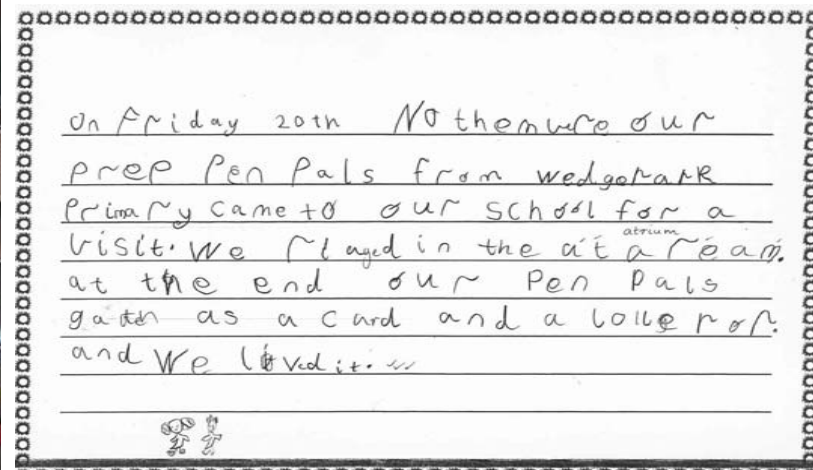
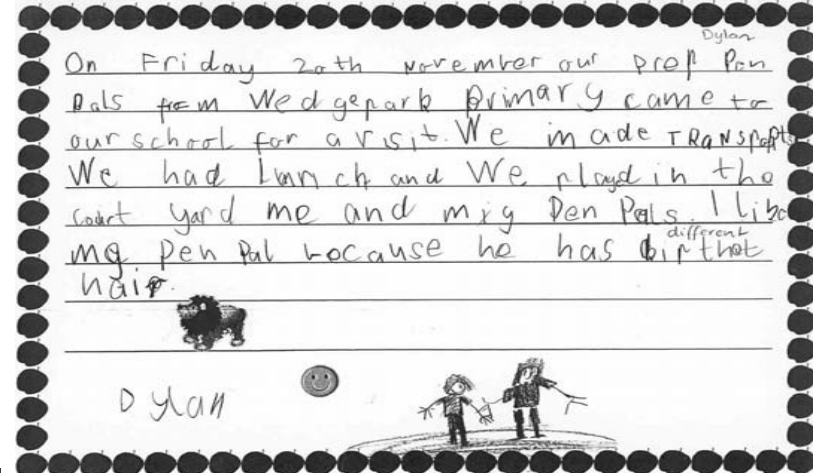
What: Food Cakes BBQ Craft Trash and Treasure Plants Books Jams Plants Clothes Jumping Castle

Who: Fun for All **Enquiries : 5429 1680**

Romsey Primary School News cont'd

Prep Penpals


Our Preps have been communicating with Wedge Park Primary School during the year by email. Their visit to our school was a great opportunity to meet their new friends. They did a number of activities focusing on their transport theme, ate lunch together and had fun playing on the adventure playground. Their writing not only shows how much they enjoyed this link but also how skilled our Preps are at their writing.



Romsey & District Netball Association Inc.
 Monday Night Ladies Competition
 Registration – Summer Season 2010
 If you are interested in putting a team in, or waiting to join a team for next year, please phone Chris on 54295582 **by 31st January 2010**

HOLIDAY LETTINGS

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SERVICE & PROFESSIONALISM IS OUR MOTTO.

Greetings from the Romsey Toy Library!

At the time of writing, the toy library is preparing for its Annual General Meeting.

Full details of the new committee and plans for the new year will be in the next edition; hopefully we will have lots of new and enthusiastic members on board to help our local toy library grow and prosper for years to come.

++

New member Lisa Keighran is busy buying, sorting and cataloguing new board games to refresh and renew that section of the toy library.

As well as old favourites such as Scrabble and Monopoly (senior and junior versions), we will have some new and interesting games which tie into popular TV shows and movies.

Board games are a great way for families to enjoy some time together over summer, when there's often not much of great worth to watch on TV!

Life's easy for toy library members, who can just borrow games whenever they need them and then take them back to the library so they are not cluttering up the cupboards at home!

If you have board games at home you would like to donate, just give me a call on 5429 6583. Even if we already have that game, it's great to have an extra copy to use for spare parts if needed.

++

All residents of the Romsey and also the Lancefield area, whether carers, parents or grandparents, are most welcome to join the library.

Borrowing toys is a great way to have a constant new source of amusement for children.

Membership costs just \$25 for the whole of 2010. If you join now, you will get the remainder of 2009 for free!

Toys can be borrowed for two weeks at a time and four toys can be taken out in any one borrowing trip.

For those who are not familiar with the hub, the toy library is located behind double doors at the back of the children's book section. The library operates on a 'self-serve' basis – if the hub is open, the toy library is accessible (for members only, of course!).

There is no longer any duty roster required of members. We have a great range of toys for children from birth to 12 years, with the greatest range available for toddlers and pre-schoolers.

That's not to say we don't have items for the older kids or for the whole family – we have board games, sports equipment and Nintendo DS games for borrowing, and shortly we will have a DS console available to members.

Anyone who has any queries is welcome to contact me anytime on 5429 6583.

Don't forget, if you have any board games, educational toys or good quality large toys (i.e. Little Tikes cars) which your children have no further use for, please think of your local toy library!

Call Leanne Manton on 5429 6583 anytime and we'll come to you to pick up if you wish.

I look forward to seeing you at the library!

LEANNE MANTON,

President, Romsey Toy Library Inc. 2009

Romsey Kindergarten Inc.

P.O. Box 84
ROMSEY, VIC. 3434
Phone: Unit 1 (03) 5429 5294
Unit 2 (03) 5429 6076



KINDER CORNER - ROMSEY KINDERGARTEN NEWS

www.romseykindergarten.com.au

Association Meeting—Try Youth & Community Services

On 13 October, the Kindergarten Association met and the majority voted in favour of the proposal to renew the cluster management agreement with Try for 3 years.

Annual General Meeting

On 16 November the Kindergarten held its AGM. The committee presented an overview of the year, Christine Murphy, from DEECD did a presentation on literacy and numeracy in early childhood education, Lyn Foster from Try gave an overview of their history and services and then Councillor Joan Donovan facilitated the election of the 2010 committee. Cr Donovan expressed her excitement at being at the event given her close affinity with the kindergarten building and the Maternal and Child Health Centre and also ran the election process so smoothly that all but one position was filled.

Bugs and bulbs

The kinder units have been celebrating all things spring. The children have made daffodils and butterflies from colourful paper and the rooms look great.

They are also discussing and discovering the life cycle of bugs and insects. Who knew that a tadpole grows into a frog or that a caterpillar becomes a butterfly?

Transition to school

The 4 year old kinder children have been participating in

transition sessions to their new school for next year.

Transition Statements

A new initiative introduced by the government this year, is the preparation of Transition Statements. These reports are a comprehensive review of the kinder child, their interests, abilities, special needs and achievements during the year. They are prepared by the teachers and presented to parents for review and input and then presented to the child's primary school for information. Whilst this is a great initiative of the government, they are also very time consuming and the staff are to be congratulated on managing the additional workload.

2010 Classes

Our 2010 families have received confirmation of their class session times and teachers, which is very exciting. For the first time, the kindergarten has introduced 3 year old and 4 year old session times that are not run concurrently, thereby offering families a choice.

Children and their parents will participate in Orientation sessions, meet their teachers and other class mates and order hats and the kinder polo shirts.

Christmas

On top of everything else, the staff and children are busily rehearsing their Christmas Concerts. What a year.

Sue Hayes, President, Committee, 0416 066 347

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Instead of sending Fido to a Kennel, think about leaving him at home and arrange for Lisa to look after his/her needs. This service is available in the Romsey area and surrounding areas by arrangement.

Call today for a free quote, references available.

Please call Lisa on

0409 864 482

also

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Are you too tired to do the following:-
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Mopping of Floors.
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Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club

President: Mrs. Alice Long 5429 6567
Secretary: Mrs. Jeni Clampit 5429 5480

Probus Meetings are held at St. Mary's Hall, Main Street, Romsey at 10am on the fourth Thursday in each month.

Probus is a mixed club for men and women.

There is a guest speaker at each meeting.

We have an outing on the third Wednesday of the month. (Either a trip or luncheon)

Coffee Mornings and Musical Afternoons.

Persons interested in this club and wish to have more information please contact the President or Secretary at the above phone numbers.

Our first meeting in 2010 will be on Thursday, February 18th at 10am

A UNIQUE WORKOUT ALTERNATIVE - BOOT CAMP

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For further info log onto our website or make a call!

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St. Mary's Parish - Lancefield & Romsey

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

Presbytery: 5429 2130
Presbytery: 5429 2130
St. Mary's Primary: 5429 1359

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, Counsellor and Guide. Tel: 5429 2130 for more information.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve Children's Mass: 7pm Romsey

Midnight Mass: Carols 11.30pm – Mass 12midnight Lancefield

Christmas Day: 9am Lancefield

Reconciliation: Thursday 10th Dec. 7.30pm Romsey

Ecumenical Carols

Sunday 20th December at the Romsey Mechanics Hall.

6pm BBQ

7pm Christmas Carols

St. Mary's Primary School Carols

Wednesday 16th December – 16th Lancefield Park at 7pm.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM 2010

Parents of children wishing to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation and Eucharist (Grade 3) or Confirmation (Grade 6) in 2010 are asked to contact the Parish Secretary on 54292130. As the program is commencing very early in Term 1 2010, you are asked to indicate your intentions as soon as possible. There is a Sacramental meeting on **Thursday 18th February at 7.00pm in St. Mary's Church at Lancefield. All children are required to attend this meeting with their parents. This will be the final date to enrol in St. Mary's Sacramental program.**

ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

St. Mary's Primary School are having their Christmas Carols at Lancefield Park on Wednesday 16th December at 7pm.

As the end of the year is fast approaching we have so many wonderful things to celebrate in our school. The building program is very exciting. The new hall is well underway, as are many of the internal structures. We can't wait to celebrate the school next year.

The year 5 and 6 students went to the Phillip Island Adventure Resort at the start of the term. The students' behaviour and the manner in which they lived together for 3 days showed enormous teamwork and cooperation. This meant that everybody had a chance to enjoy themselves. Our senior students participate in the Phillip Island camp every 2 years and in the alternate year they visit the wonders of Melbourne and stay there for 2 nights. Congratulations to the following students who competed at the

Loddon Campaspe Zone, Track and Field Championships on Monday 12th October: Jack Coburn, Casey and Mitchell Adamson, Erin Mitchell, Jack Coon, Jack and Tara O'Sullivan, Jemma Clayton. Jemma, Casey, Mitchell and Jack O'Sullivan also competed at the State Championships at Olympic Park on the 26th of October.

On the 14th October the Prep children and their parents shared a Pyjamas Family Faith night. The focus was on the special role our families play in our lives as it did for Jesus, Mary and Joseph. Congratulations to our students who participated in the annual ICAS (International Competitions and Assessments for Schools) competitions. The results were as follows:

English Participation Isaac Leatherman, Emily Consiglio, Gabrielle Veal. Credit Lucinda White, Nerieda Keenan
Mathematics Participation Isaac Leatherman, Mitchell Adamson, Emily Consiglio, Victoria Credland, Bailey Murphy, Aaron Tame, Tayla Halpin, Nerieda Keenan, Jack O'Sullivan
Credit Lucinda White, Peter Devlin

On the 23rd October we celebrated Mission Day at school. This started with Mass and was followed by the coin line challenge. The children were challenged to create a coin line long enough to join our classrooms together and raise money for Caritas Australia who are currently working with communities in the Asia Pacific recently devastated by natural disasters through the *Communities in Crisis Asia Pacific Appeal*.

The children accepted this challenge with great enthusiasm and created a coin line 93.55 metres long!!! In achieving this massive line a total of \$434.40 was raised!!

Congratulations to Grade 3/4 S in particular who achieved the longest line and the highest fundraising tally.

Grade Prep – 13.25m = \$63.00	Grade 1 – 8m = \$42.40
Grade 2 – 7.10m = \$35.60	Grade 3/4 S – 24.3m = \$120.30
Grade 3/4 C – 18m = \$77.85	Grade 5 – 5.2m = \$27.30
Grade 6 – 17.7m = \$64.90	

Congratulations to everyone who took part!!

Congratulations to Casey Schneeberger, one of our past students, who is a school Captain at Assumption College, Kilmore for 2010.

Our information night for 2010 preps was held on the 4th November. It was great to see lots of new parents as well as some familiar faces. We look forward to seeing all the new preps over the next few weeks.

During the remainder of the year the students in Year 6 will be thinking about transition to secondary school. They are being well prepared for such a big time in their lives.

All students will participate in the Life Education Van this term. As part of their Inquiry they will investigate such issues as peer pressure and healthy decision making. The Life Education Van visits us every two years and the children love to hear the wisdom of Harold the Giraffe.

On the 11th November we spent time in silence as a mark of respect for the soldiers who have passed away protecting Australia. The year 6 students have written essays about the HMAS Sydney for the R.S.L competition.

Congratulations to The Sankey family on the safe arrival of boy number 5; Ryan. Matthew(grade 1) and Callum(grade Prep) are very proud of their new brother.

BINGO!! BINGO!! BINGO!!

Every Thursday evening

St. Mary's Church Hall at Romsey

Doors Open 7.00 p.m. EYES DOWN 7.30 p.m.

\$3.00 per 15 game book No entry fee

Canteen facilities Free tea and coffee

OUTER METRO NORWEST AREA

Residents urged to be fire ready as restrictions to start on Monday 30 November

CFA is urging residents to be fire ready as the November heatwave serves as an early season reminder of what awaits all Victorians this Summer.

The unprecedented November hot spell, along with forecast hot weather, has prompted CFA Outer Metro Norwest Area to advise residents that the Fire Danger Period ('fire restrictions') for the municipalities of Macedon Ranges, Whittlesea, Moorabool, Nillumbik, Wyndham, Melton, Mitchell and Hume will commence at **1am on Monday 30 November 2009** and remain in force until 1 May 2010.

Manager Community Safety, David Allen, said the sudden onset of hot weather was the clearest call yet for residents to be prepared this fire season.

"This heatwave goes to show it doesn't take much for vegetation, in particular grasslands, to dry out in these conditions. Only a fortnight ago people were talking about the excellent Spring rains and the green countryside. Now they're talking about the Spring heat and the rapidly yellowing landscape. That's how quickly things can change; it is therefore important that decisions are made now so that on high fire risk days, residents are well-prepared, well-informed and ready to take action. That includes leaving early, either the evening before a forecast bad day or in the morning. Not leaving early, particularly on a Code Red (Catastrophic) day may result in loss of life," said Mr Allen. If people haven't already done so, now is the time to get busy around their homes and to clean their gutters; clear leaf litter and other fine fuels from around homes; to remove flammable items such as paper, boxes and crates; and to store fuel supplies and chemicals away from houses. If residents need more information on how to prepare and what to do in the event of a fire, the CFA website,

www.cfa.vic.gov.au is a great resource. It includes the *FireReady Kit*, a new resource to help residents prepare their bushfire survival plan and the *Household Bushfire Self assessment tool*, a new tool that takes residents through a number of steps to assess the defendability of their home.

Residents can also call the Victorian Bushfire Information Line on **1800 240 667** for bushfire planning advice or attend one of many CFA bushfire meetings scheduled in their local area."

Fire Restrictions: the details

- Under a fire restrictions regime, a permit is required to burn off grass, undergrowth or weeds. This permit is issued by the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer.
- Barbeques and fires for cooking and warmth, however, do not require a permit, but must be lit in properly constructed fireplaces, within limits of wind speed and clearance perimeter, and are to be supervised at all times.

All burn-offs should be registered with the VicFire Burn-off notification line on **1800 668 511**.

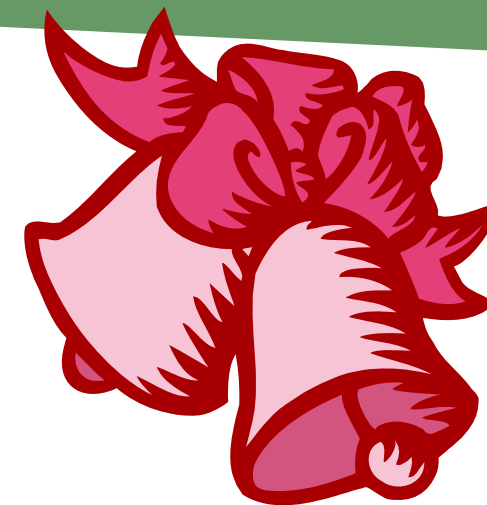
Lighting a fire in the open without a permit is an offence and can bring a penalty of up to \$5,500 or 12 months imprisonment.

The *Can I or Can't I?* brochure, also available from the CFA website, details the fire restrictions regime, including the differences between fire restrictions and Total Fire Ban days.

CFA's *On the Land: Agricultural Fire Management Guidelines* provides practical fire management advice for people living and working on rural properties and is particularly useful to those new to farming. To view and/or download the guidelines, go to www.cfa.vic.gov.au.

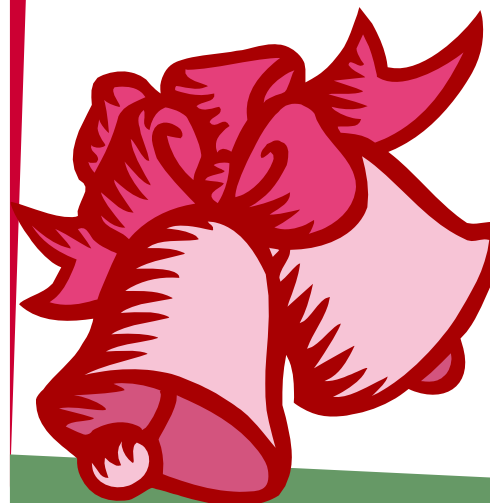


Combined Churches of Romsey & Lancefield



Community Carols

Sunday 20th December
6:00pm - BBQ
Romsey Mechanics Hall
Carols commence at 7pm



*A Great time of the year
for adults & children
of all ages to get together
& Celebrate Christmas*

Everyone Welcome
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Book Review – Fiction

Still Alice by Lisa Genova

Alice Howland is a talented, middle-aged woman who's settling into life without her children at home and is enjoying the chance to focus on her career as a Harvard professor. When she starts becoming forgetful, Alice dismisses it but the episodes quickly escalate. Still Alice reveals the way Alzheimer's slowly erases Alice's self, and her family's struggle to come to terms with the loss. It is a harrowing story that will remain with you long after you've put it down.



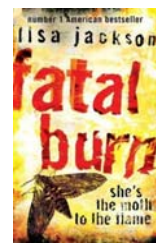
Book Review – Fiction

Fatal Burn by Lisa Jackson

(Also available as a talking book narrated by Regina Reagan)

"He's been waiting for this moment. With every kill, he can feel her getting closer. Very soon – just a few more victims to go. All he needed was the girl, Dani, and now he has her. His plan is in motion. No one can stop him."Secrets have been kept from Shannon.

Dark, dangerous and fatal secrets. This story is gripping, right from the start - you will be enthralled.



Letters to the Editor:

Dear Editor,
Congratulations to everyone involved in two major achievements in Romsey in November: firstly, the publication of "Moving On" - a collection of community writings compiled by the Romsey Writer's group, and secondly, the Romsey festival involving all local community groups. Both events are inspiring and uplifting for the residents of Romsey. They both involved many hours of dedicated work by volunteers and they deserve our heartfelt appreciation and thanks.

Jean Clements.

On the other hand...how pathetic are the low-life vandals who broke into the beautiful old former Romsey primary School, smashing hundred-year-old windows—for what? What will you have to be proud of when you are old? You only get one chance at life. Make the most of it. There are better options all around you. Happy 2010!

P.S. Many thanks to everyone who puts together our Romsey Rag—it is invaluable.

Book Review – Teenage

Jatta by Jenny Hale

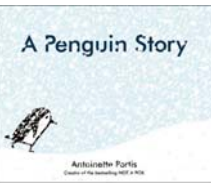
Waking one morning to find her bedroom smeared with gory pawprints, Jatta is horrified to learn that her family has been hiding a shocking secret from her since the day her mother was slain by werewolves when Jatta was three. Jatta is a princess who's been described as timid and without personality, but when she learns the truth about herself, Jatta also learns she can choose just what she'll become. This is a fast-paced novel about dealing with change and finding yourself.



Book Review – Picture

A Penguin Story by Antoinette Portis

Simple, vibrant pictures with bright colours. This is a sweet story about a penguin who knows there's more to the world than black, white and blue. A great book you could use to teach your child about colours but it's so fun they'll want to read it over and over!



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**Scouting in Romsey—
50 Years in the Same Hall and Still Going Strong.**


The 12th of December 1959 saw a relocation of a building that would change Scouting in Romsey for the next 50 years and hopefully well into the future. Scouting started in Romsey in 1957, with a small and enthusiastic group Scouts meeting in a local's garage. After 18 months of fundraising in the form of dances, ladies lunches and bottle collection, they finally had the funds to purchase a £60 building from the army in Monegeetta. It was a massive relocation process with the main road having to be closed to traffic while they transported the building from Monegeetta to the existing site in the Romsey recreation Reserve off Barry Street. The relocation cost was £70, which also had to be fundraised. The original hall was a square building; over the next few years more funds were raised to add four section rooms, and a meeting room with an open fireplace. More fundraising saw a kitchen and toilets added and in recent years a large storeroom has also been added. All these extensions saw the hall in its existing layout. Fifty years of fun, and exciting and new learning experiences for the Scouts has taken a toll on the hall.




In the past 12 months, the current parent committee has done an exceptional job in renovating the hall. They have put in a new ceiling, painted throughout, installed a new kitchen, lined the storeroom, restored the toilets to a working order, sanded and polished the main hall, laid lino, laid tiles and generally given the old hall a face lift. The hall looks fantastic and is in better condition than it has ever been. The 1st Romsey Scout Hall is now a healthy, clean and friendly place for the Scouts to be. Scouting in Romsey is still going strong with 14 Cub Scouts (aged between 7years and 10 months and 11 years) and 2 cub leaders, and 20 Scouts (aged between 11 and 15 years) and 3 scout leaders. Scouting is a wonderful experience, where the children can learn new skills, gain confidence, acquire leadership skills and make friends for life.

If anyone is interested in joining Scouts in Romsey, please contact Cheryl on 5429 3234 for more information.

- Scout meetings are:
- Cub Scouts (7yrs10months-11 years) - Tuesday night 6.30pm-8.00pm
 - Scouts (11-15yrs) - Thursday night 7.15-9.15pm.




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Holiday Inspiration at CUTTINGS

As the Joyous Season approaches, CUTTINGS in Romsey is ready to meet all your Festive needs. The store is simply overflowing with gorgeous, unique Christmas Tree Decorations, Wreaths, Stockings and Home Festive Trimmings. The Christmas table is well provided for, with lovely new indoor and outdoor dining sets available. Garlands, Xmas Candles, and beautiful Dinner and Serving Ware complement the holiday cheer. We can truly help with the planning of any Festive Feast, whether it be indoors or out. Speaking of Festive Feasts, all our incredibly tasty, Festive Food have now arrived. Whether it be for your own cooking needs or to give as a gift, tantalizing sauces, accompaniments, sweets, and Xmas puds are all here now!

Christmas is a time of thanks, appreciation, love and good cheer. We show this to those we care about, by the giving of gifts. CUTTINGS takes all the rush, indecision, and confusion out of Christmas gift giving. The giving of gifts is meant to be enjoyable and meaningful for the giver as well, and we strive to make your experience with us special. We can assist with even the most challenging of gift giving, and offer our fabulous

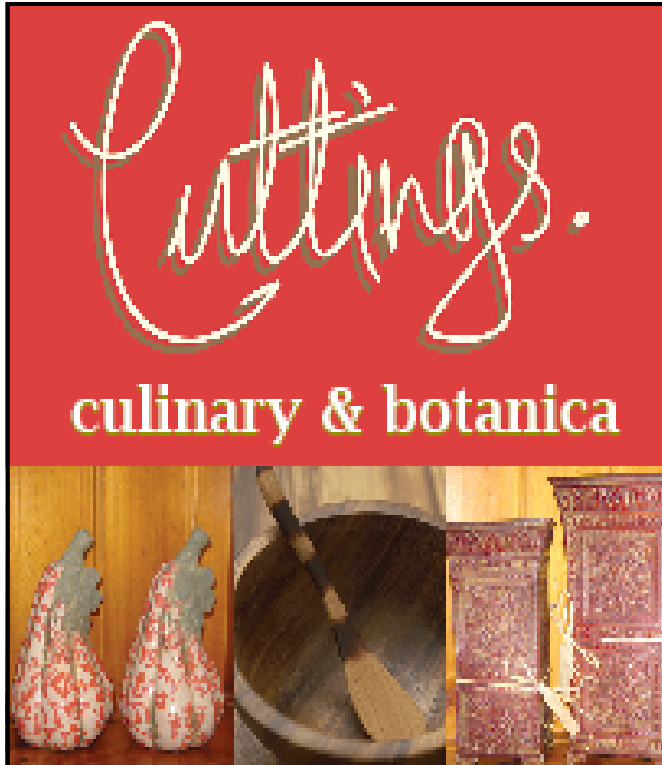
"CUTTINGS Top Ten Gifts"

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3. Devine Aroma Reeds and Home Fragrance Sprays; available in 5 beautiful fragrances
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5. Stylish, practical and durable French Tajine Cookware, and Cast Iron Pots
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9. Latest release of Cooking and Gardening Books
10. **CUTTINGS Gift Vouchers**; for any amount, of course!

Finally, for that extra special present (maybe for YOURSELF), we are now proud to exclusively offer stunning, decorative, Wire Ware by Castlemaine artists "Shades of Gray." Each piece by "Shades of Gray" is special, unique and truly a work of Art.

CUTTINGS is now open 7 days a week, right thru the summer. With lay-by, complementary gift wrap, and local delivery, there is now truly no need to shop anywhere else these holidays. We wish all our customers a peaceful and loving Holiday Season.

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Mon-Fri 10:30am - 5:00pm. Sat 9:30am - 4:30pm. Sun
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Low cost accommodation available exclusively to aged pensioners, capable of independent living !

For more than 20 years the Lions Club of Romsey Lancefield has provided accommodation to aged pensioners. The voluntary efforts of the Committee of Management, have ensured that the units are very well maintained and can provide excellent accommodation from as little as \$77.50 per week.

At the moment there is a very short waiting list for units and enquiries can be made through the Liaison Officer Mr Neil Barrett 54 295702 or the Committee Secretary Trevor Turnham 54 295413.

At a time when rental accommodation is difficult to achieve particularly for the elderly, the Committee may have a solution to suit you.

Romsey Cricket Club News

Romsey Cricket Club has had a fantastic start to the 2009/10 season fielding 4 senior and 5 junior teams each week. Milo cricket has had a very successful start to their 8 week program with 58 enthusiastic youngsters eagerly arriving at the Primary School ground each Sunday. Club President Michael Richardson coordinates this program with some very valuable assistance of several parent helpers. Milo cricket is a skills building program that aims to give primary school aged children the opportunity to learn the various facets of cricket. The children are divided into small groups and rotate through a variety of different skills each week. In years to come these young cricketers will hopefully move through into the junior teams to ensure a strong future for the Romsey Cricket Club.

Each year the Gisborne District Cricket Association fields representative teams in all junior age groups. This year the following Romsey Cricket Club junior members have been selected to represent the district:

- Under 12 – Sean Day & Troy Wilkinson
- Under 13 – Rohan Stott & Jack Hickey
- Under 14 – Toby Clement
- Under 15 – Dylan Dremel

They will join boys from other clubs in the association to form a team to play against representative teams from other associations across Victoria culminating in country week late December/early January. This is an excellent opportunity for these boys to step up to the next level of cricket & we offer them our support & congratulations.

Further information can be obtained by contacting Mick Richardson on 0437240665 or from our website <http://romsey.cricketvictoria.com.au>

Milo Cricket

The Milo program has been running in Romsey now for 6 years. Co-ordinator Michael Richardson believes that this year is the town's best year yet, with 56 6-9 year olds registered, an increase of 25% on last year. With great parent help, it really is a pleasant Sunday morning watching the children of Romsey having fun outdoors. The future of Romsey cricket club looks secure with the skills displayed each Sunday. This photo is of a very exuberant Milo crew.



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INCORPORATED


Trees Victoria launched by Minister Joe Helper

Victorian Minister for Agriculture and Small Business, Mr. Joe Helper, launched Trees Victoria in a meeting in Treasury Gardens on Thursday 12th November. Trees Victoria is a new incorporated organisation, with the broad aim of providing a statewide forum for those interested in growing trees on private land.

In launching Trees Victoria, Minister Helper recognised the role played by private forestry in the economic, environmental and social health of the State of Victoria. In response, the Chairperson of Trees Victoria, Dr. Tony Richardson, noted that direct investment in private forestry can be a useful component of a self-managed superannuation fund portfolio, but that such investment required the usual due diligence applied to all investments. He then released a Trees Victoria report on *Risk Management: Investing in Growing Trees*, a copy of which was presented to the Minister. A copy of the long-time classic, *The Man who Planted Trees* by Jean Giono, was also presented to the Minister.

To conclude the event, the Minister then launched the Trees Victoria website (www.treesvictoria.com.au) which aims to become a portal for all issues dealing with growing trees on private land.

MISSING



JULIA

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Lancefield Romsey Little Athletics Centre

Competition in the 2009/10 season of Little Athletics is well underway, with approximately 100 young athletes converging on the Park Lane track each Saturday morning for competition. The season only began in the first week of October and already we have had hundreds of personal bests set and several centre records broken. Recently the club travelled to Kilmore Little Athletics for the Central Highlands Challenge, an annual event which is hosted between the two little athletics clubs. The Challenge is a multi-event championship, which sees all athletes compete in the same events – long jump, discus, a sprint, a hurdle and a distance run (distances differ according to age group). The children who finished in the top three places in their age group, both boys and girls, received medals.

sprinting, distance running, long jump, high jump and triple jump.

There's still time to register for this season. Cost is \$85 per athlete, with discounts available for families registering three or more children. Contact treasurer Rick Maloney for more details on 5429 6885 or email rick_mal@hotmail.com

It was a hot and sunny day and a great time was had by all – at least half of the Lancefield Romsey members turned out to compete and everyone had a great time. The hot weather has also meant the club has been forced to start early – 8.30am instead of 9am – on occasion this season, and this will continue if the hot spell continues. The safety and comfort of members is paramount and is always the club's first consideration.

There is a lot to look forward to in the near future, with many city clubs hosting open days over summer – it's always great for our kids to have a go on a 'made track' rather than a grass track. We have another inter-club event, this time with Gisborne, and the regional track and field championships is coming up in Albury in February.

RUSSELL MANTON,
President, Lancefield Romsey Little Athletics Centre Inc.
2009/10
Mobile: 0409 136 071



Left: LRLAC's Thomas Knott (under 6 athlete) competes in the discus at the Kilmore Highlands Challenge. Thomas won a gold medal in the multi-event championship on the day.

The club has held two training sessions so far this season, both led by accredited coach Abe Formosa. Both sessions were very well attended and allowed athletes to sharpen their technique in long jump, triple jump, discus, shot put and javelin. The training sessions were such a success, they are likely to continue this season, most likely once the club resumes following the Christmas break.

Below: LRLAC's Lilly Bromley and Liam Muir were among the medal winners.

The final day's competition for 2009 will be on December 12, after which LRLAC will take a break for the festive season. Competition will resume on Saturday, January 30. Little aths runs each Saturday at the Park Lane track where the children, aged from 5 to 15 years, compete in a range of age-specific events which cover a range of throwing, jumping and running skills. Through competition each week, the club teaches skills which are useful in a wide range of other sports. The emphasis is not on winning but on setting and then beating personal best times – an aim reflected in the Little Athletics slogan 'Be Your Best'.



Lancefield Romsey Little Athletics Centre is run by a small but enthusiastic and friendly bunch of volunteers who aim to provide a fun and supportive learning environment for the children while teaching them the correct techniques. Events taught include discus, shot put, javelin, hurdles,

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SQUASH REPORT

The recent squash season in Romsey was a very close affair with 7 of the 8 teams still able to make the finals with one week to go. The final was held in very hot conditions with all matches being very tightly contested.

In the first match Sarah Pascal had a 3-0 win over Andrew Colsell. The match was dominated by the server though there were the occasional long rallies where both players played some good shots.

The second match was a long drawn out affair with Pat Chisholm coming back from 2 games down to win in 5 games against Peter Colsell. This was an intense match with the pressure of a grand final often creating errors on simple put away shots. In the end it was Pat who was able to hold things together and put his team up 2 matches.

Jaxon Durham was able to win the final for his team with a 3-0 win over Grant Hickingbotham. Despite Grant's experience the youthful legs of Jaxon allowed him to chase down many balls, setting up winners to all parts of the court.

The last match was a dead match with the final being already decided and reigning club champion Scott Murphy was able to account for Bill Hutcheson 3-1. The match featured many long rallies and many winners. Although Bill lost, his team won the grand final 3-1.

The two finals teams featured players from Romsey, Riddells Creek, Woodend, Gisborne, Kyneton and Denver showing the drawing powers of the squash competition. A new season will commence immediately and new players are encouraged to register their interest with Bill Hutcheson on 0488 348 898. The club caters for players of all standards and club members will assist people new to the sport regarding the basics.

have life" meaning the best present we can give to Jesus is our lives in service to him. If that was done we can then truly celebrate Christmas in the manner it was intended.

May you have a Christmas filled with God's blessing and a 2010 filled with things from heaven.

That's the Christmas window view from the vicarage.

Yours in Christ
Rev. Leroy Coote
Vicar

Christ Church Lancefield with St. Paul's Romsey
Ph. No 5429-1680

P.S; Please see below your invitation to our Christmas Celebrations in the Anglican Church.

December 24th
6.00pm at Lancefield – Jesus' Birthday Party
preceded by a low cost sausage sizzle at
5:30pm.

11:30pm – Candlelight Service at
Lancefield.

December 25th – 9.00am – Family Christmas
Service at Romsey.

Health, Fitness & Wellbeing

Pilates for Beginners

Monday's 1.00 - 2.00pm. Commencing Term 1 2010. Bookings essential. Ph: 5429 6724

Pilates - Intermediate

Monday's 2.00 - 3.00pm. Commencing Term 1 2010. Bookings essential. Ph: 5429 6724

Yoga

Yoga with Kym Oliver. Wednesday's 7.00 – 8.30pm. Cost \$140 (Per 10 week Term). Casual rate \$18/ session. Bookings and enquiries phone Kym Oliver ph: 5429 2134

Meditation

A weekly 1 hour session at \$10 per week. Commencing Term 1 2010. Bookings essential as minimum number's apply. Ph: Romsey Community House on 5429 6724.

Intuitive Healing and Reiki:

One on one sessions. For more information & bookings. Contact Lindy 0410 692 700

Walk Together Program:

Tuesday's 9.30am. Meet at the Lions park, near the creek.

Person Centred Counselling Course

Are you thinking of a counselling career or perhaps you are a volunteer who works in a community group, then this 6 week course is designed for you. Sam Luxemburg a qualified psychologist, has worked as a counsellor for 25 years and is passionate about training for counselling. Sam believes "everyone can be a better communicator". Limited places available so enrol now for Term 1 2010. Contact Romsey Community House on 5429 6724.

Social & Creative Activities

Over 50's Information and Activity Group

Held on the last Friday of each month, this group is designed to bring people together in an informal and fun environment. Includes an information session with guest speaker, tea/coffee and lunch. Cost generally \$5 per session. Starts Feb 2010 Ph: 5429 6724 for details.

Parent Buddies Program

Participants and volunteers needed to support this fantastic program providing parental support for families with children 0-6years. Managed by Cobaw Community Health Services coordinator, volunteers are match with families wanting some extra personal support and to help them learn what is available within their community. All volunteers require a Working with Children Check. Training for volunteers is provided and confidentiality agreements are essential.

Anyone interested in the program as a participant or volunteer, please contact Sue Wilson on ph: 5421 1666 or mobile: 0448 545 974 email susan.wilson@cobaw.vic.gov.au

Art Classes

Expressions of Interest are now being taken for both adult and children's art classes to commence in Term 1 2010. Ph: Romsey Community House on 5429 6724.

Craft Group:

Meets every Thursday 10.30am. Gold coin donation.

Drop in for a Cuppa: Any week day 9.30am—5.00pm. Gold coin.

Cooking Classes

Office Hours Monday—Friday



VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE.

In the last week, we have had weather conditions that have been consistent with a Northern Hemisphere Christmas than an Australian Christmas. But what is Christmas really about? Yes Christmas is a celebration as displayed by the many decorations we see around the shops we buy our presents at this year. But what sort of celebration is it? Well, I'm here to tell you that it is a birthday party. We decorate our houses and places of work like there is a party about to happen. But this leads me to another question – whose birthday is it? It is Jesus' birthday that we celebrate each Christmas. It is because God gave us the present of his Son to the world that we can celebrate Christmas each year.

Jesus Christ Born in the manger is the reason that Christmas is a birthday party. However, when we go to a birthday party, we usually take a present. The question to be asked this Christmas is what are we going to give Jesus this Christmas for his birthday? The answer to that comes in the Bible when it says, "he came to give life so that we can

Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association (RRBATA) UPDATE



Another Year Over - A Reflection

All too quickly, another year has flown by. As reflected on at the AGM, it has been an enormous year for the Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association – the launch of Romsey Online (www.romsey.org.au), enhanced community presence, improved networking between members and with other stakeholders (e.g. MRSC). Our statement of Purposes includes the following:

To provide an effective conduit for local businesses in the Romsey Region and a forum for the mutual benefit of all business operators in the region.

Achieved.

To provide a means of exchange of ideas between businesses. *Achieved.*

To provide an environment to encourage the local community to use local businesses and to assist in the growth and development of businesses in the region. *Focus for 2010.*

In 2010, RRBATA plans to build upon this year's work and consider some new initiatives including a shop local campaign, newsletter for members and a local business awards event.

Yes – 2010 will be an exciting time to be involved with RRBATA!

TMR Update

RRBATA is a member of Tourism Macedon Ranges (TMR) Inc. and, has been previously reported, been privy to the discussion and progress of the multimillion dollar Tourism Victoria campaign featuring Daylesford (predominantly) and the Macedon Ranges. RRBATA has been notified recently that TMR has decided to focus its involvement on being involved with Tourism Victoria's "Villages" campaign in order to provide a more affordable means for members to become featured. TMR is currently drafting a prospectus for this which could be beneficial to BATAs such as Romsey and our members.

RRBATA and Christmas in Romsey

RRBATA has purchased, with funding from MRSC's Economic Development and Tourism Unit, **Christmas flags** to be provided to businesses at no cost for display from shopfronts over the coming weeks. Funding will also cover a feature Christmas decorative display in a central Romsey location (still to be finalised!). And, do not forget the **RRBATA Christmas Home Decoration Competition**. There will be prizes for Best Decorated House, Best Theme and Best Illuminated Window. Our judging panel will consist of our East Ward councillors with judging occurring between 1st December and 20th December. Winners will be announced on Romsey Online (www.romsey.org.au) on 20th December.

Romsey Street Festival

By the time this Romsey Rag is distributed, the inaugural

Romsey Street Festival followed by the CFA Torchlight Parade will have been conducted. RRBATA has been a strong supporter of both events and will have had its own display stall at the Festival. A full report (with photographs!) will feature in the February Rag!

Romsey Calendars

One of the features of the RRBATA stall at the Romsey Festival will be the launch of the "Romsey Calendar". This has been a project undertaken by Natasha Dziunka from "Once Upon A Memory", featuring photographs of historic Romsey Buildings taken by her father, Carl Dziunka. Postcards featuring these photographs have already been on sale through some local businesses (The Bay Tree, the Post Office, Cuttings) for some time. The calendars are just another positive statement about our town and are ideal for use by locals and visitors alike.

Website Traffic Report

RRBATA receives weekly traffic reports regarding the community website, Romsey Online (www.romsey.org.au). This website is still registering approximately 5000 hits per week (!) which is very pleasing. Interestingly, in the week of the VCAT decision regarding the proposed poker machines at the Romsey Hotel (7th -13th November), the number of hits spiked significantly on Thursday 12th (the day the judgment was handed down) and Friday 13th. A new round of website awareness will be conducted early next year, with plans to expand our photo gallery and continue to keep news and events current.

New Committee Member

This month, the Committee of Management (COM) welcomed **Wendie McLaughlin** as Treasurer of RRBATA Inc. We are grateful to Wendie for her availability for this role and look forward to her involvement on the COM.

Don't Forget - Keep Feeding The Website!

As reported above, Romsey Online (the Romsey website, www.romsey.org.au), keeps ticking along. New listings are being received and the community is gradually being conditioned to feeding information about Events and News. Remember, the website is only as good as the information fed to it at info@romsey.org.au. Don't forget that you can register your business or community group on-line!

Thinking About Membership?

RRBATA is only as good as its membership. The Committee is considering a number of exciting initiatives for the year ahead – consider being a part of these by becoming a RRBATA member so as you can be heard!!
Membership Enquiries: Jenny Stillman (President)
0412 349849

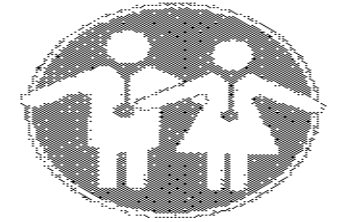
jstillman@hotmail.net.au

Romsey Medical Centre

AFTER-HOURS

The medical centre is open every week-night until 8pm and Saturdays until 1pm.

~~A doctor is available ALL HOURS for urgent care ~~



STOP PRESS!! - LANCEFIELD

After long delays due to council regulations, we aim to open the Lancefield Medical Practice as soon as possible

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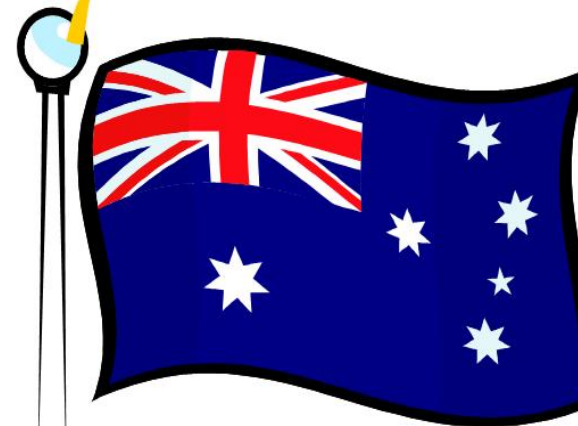
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Australia Day Celebration



**Tuesday
26th Jan
11am -3pm**

Romsey Skate Park

Flag Raising Ceremony, Council Message
Live Music, Sausage Sizzle,
Drinks, Food, Puppeteer,
Games & Stalls, Balloons
& much, much more!

Community Group Recognition Award Presentation

Members of the Community are welcome to nominate a Community Group for their services to the Community. Please post nominations to Australia Day Award P.O. Box 164 Romsey 3434 before Friday 15th January 2010

Ph. (03) 5429 6327



Everyone Welcome



Proudly sponsored by Macedon Ranges Shire Council & Living Word Christian Church



MEMORABILIA FROM OLD LOCAL NEWSPAPERS

February 3rd, 1876

Lancefield is about to lose two of the oldest and most respectable residents. We allude to Mr and Mrs Hunt of the Royal Mail Hotel.

Note: Royal Mail Hotel on corner Main Rd / Ochiltrees Rd, just north of Romsey. Interesting that Mr and Mrs Hunt were considered to be "Lancefield residents"!!

After a residence amongst us of twenty years, they leave the district, we should imagine, without having a single enemy; and, on behalf of the people of Lancefield, we sincerely wish both of them a long life of happiness, to enjoy the fruits of their successful labour.

The property—comprising 164 acres—has passed into the hands of Mr Lachlan Campbell of Romsey, the purchase money being 30 pounds ten shillings per acre.

September 5th, 1895

At the funeral on Wednesday last, which was conducted by Mr John White, one of the newly invented sanitary coffins was used. The casket resembled in appearance that of an oaken one, and in the trimming of the inside Mr White excelled all his former workmanship. This is, we believe, the second time this invention has been used in the colony.