

**MACEDON RANGES BUSINESS CONNECT**

Since its inception in 2010, Macedon Ranges Home Business Network (MRHBN) has been supporting micro and small business operators based from home, providing networking opportunities and business assistance. The volunteer-operated not-for-profit community group officially opened its doors to all business types across the Shire in October. The launch evening succeeded in connecting local business owners and discover hidden treasures through a business showcase. An evening that helped operators understand more about our group's purpose and how we operate.

We also launched the MRBC website [www.mrbusinessconnect.org.au](http://www.mrbusinessconnect.org.au) with a little more editing and tweaking to happen. Here you will find joining information and our event calendar through to the end of 2017. This welcomes the Macedon Ranges Business Conference in May which is a 2-day event filled with workshops presented by Small Business Victoria. MRBC is offering business owners of all kinds, including home based, retail, trade and beyond, an early bird offer for 2017 membership so be sure to check it out on the website. Next up is our end of year business dinner on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> December. If you are interested in joining us, send through an email and we'll be in touch. Enquiries welcome at [info@mrbusinessconnect.org.au](mailto:info@mrbusinessconnect.org.au).



MACEDON RANGES  
BUSINESS CONNECT



We are excited to announce distribution mid December of our **2017 Romsey Neighbourhood House Community Calendar**. Our calendars have proven to be a useful resource to the Romsey community as it provides relevant information, contacts, vouchers and businesses in our region.

Romsey N/House wish to convey our appreciation for your valuable participation in the 2017 calendar through the promotion of your business. We thank you for your support. If you did not receive your copy in mid December, call in to the House to collect one.

From all at Romsey N/House, wishing everyone a new year filled with new hope, new joy and new beginnings.



**Phone: 5429 5800**

117 Main Street, Romsey 3434

### BULK BILLING ALL PATIENTS WITH MEDICARE CARD

All Doctors and Staff at Parkwood Green Medical would like to wishes everyone Merry Christmas



**Visit our Doctors in December For your free Raffle Ticket in our Christmas Hamper.**

**Childhood Immunisations**  
Book your Childhood Immunisations Now

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Book your Skin Checks Now

**Travel Vaccinations**  
Traveling overseas, book vaccinations now

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**OPENING HOURS**  
Monday, Thursday, Friday  
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**Tuesday & Wednesday**  
8.30am – 8pm

**Home Visits Available during Clinic hours for Romsey and Lancefield residents**  
[www.parkwoodgreenmedical.com.au](http://www.parkwoodgreenmedical.com.au)

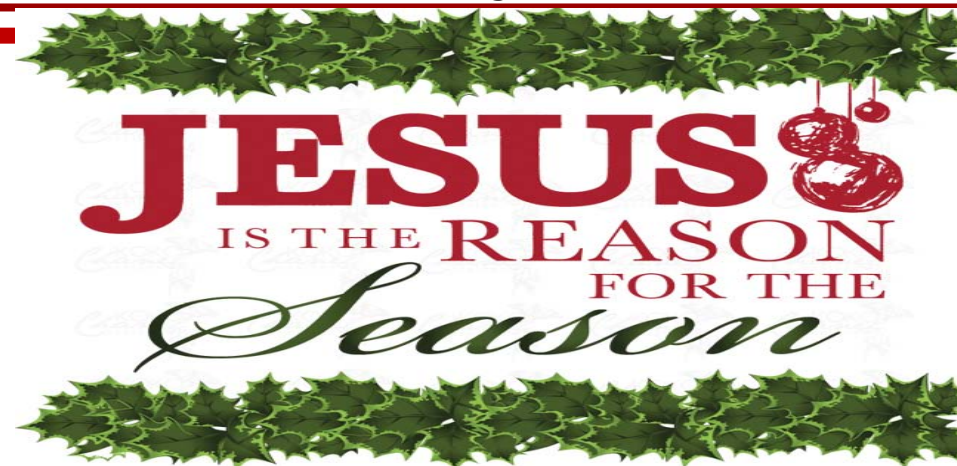
# THE ROMSEY RAG

Issue No. 349

2070 copies produced each month at Romsey Primary School as a service to our community and proudly supported by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council

December 2016

THE DECEMBER EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
- Encourage Church -



**Celebrate A Christmas Day Family Service with us.**

**When: December 25th at 9:30 - 10:30am**

Where: 7 Mitchell Court Romsey.

Or join us at our regular 10:00am Sunday Services or one of our Midweek Groups  
Ph 5429 6327

Kidzone Before and After School Care & Vacation Care  
is also offered throughout the year Ph 0422 860 486



Why is Christmas such a magical time of year? I think it's because everyone is expecting a miracle at Christmas. Consider all the popular movies. Each one has a miracle as its central plot. Whether it's a boy hoping his parents get back together, or a shop-owner hoping he can keep his business running.

You might be reading this and wishing for your own miracle this Christmas. Maybe you're hoping your prodigal comes home. Maybe you're wishing for a job. Some are yearning for a special someone to sit next to them at the Christmas dinner table.

God's answer to you is . . . Yes I can. You see, the biggest miracle has already been done —The underserved gift of Jesus. Everything else is small to God.

God, help us to stay focused on You, this Christmastime and always. Thank You for loving the whole world enough to send the greatest gift, Your Son, so that we might truly have a very merry Christmas and we rejoice for each blessing that comes wrapped up in Jesus.

New life. New love. A home. A job. New opportunities. Second chances. Peace in our homes, and peace in our hearts, when the world all around us spins out-of-control.

**Today, and always, we at Encourage Church pray you experience God's love through the gift of His Son, Jesus. We wish you a very Merry Christmas!**

The closing date for copy for the February 2017 edition of the Rag is January 15th 2017.

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](mailto:romseyrag@romseyps.vic.edu.au) We require submissions to be in Word document format, and for graphics to be in jpeg format. Please ensure that you have permission to use photographs of people depicted in your article.

THE ROMSEY RAG IS PROUDLY PRODUCED AT ROMSEY PRIMARY SCHOOL AS A COMMUNITY SERVICE



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**Contributions:**  
Articles should be left at the Romsey Post Office (fax 5429 5134) or Romsey Primary School by 12 noon on the 15th of the month.

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.

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**For invoicing** please include name & address details.

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

**Distribution:**  
2070 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 2017

Edition	Closing Date for Copy	Collating Date
February 2017	January 15th 2017	Thursday February 2nd
March 2017	February 15th 2017	Thursday February 23rd
April 2017	March 15th 2017	Thursday March 30th
May 2017	April 15th 2017	Thursday April 2th
June 2017	May 15th 2017	Thursday May 25th
July 2017	June 15th 2017	Thursday June 29th
August 2017	July 15th 2017	Thursday July 27th
September 2017	August 15th 2017	Thursday August 31st
October 2017	September 15th 2017	Thursday September 21st
November 15th 2017	October 15th 2017	Thursday October 26th
December 2017	November 2017	Thursday November 30th

## Friday Social Tennis



All Welcome 9 am Start



Park Lane near Rec Centre ample parking

Come along and have some fun meet new friends. All levels catered for. Enjoy a hit and tea or coffee after.



\$5-00 per week or Free with Romsey Tennis Club Membership.

Contact Eileen 0412 787 213

### “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. **Only \$60.00 per week** for permanent travellers. We also cater for casual travellers.

Departs Lancefield General Store 6.35am, & Romsey Hotel 6.40am, arrives CBD 7.50am .....Departs Cnr William & Latrobe Sts 5.20pm, arrives back in Romsey 6.20pm & Lancefield 6.30pm  
Seats currently available.  
Contact Wendy McNally 0419 362 673



### Saturday October 29th - October Medal & 2016 Medal of Medalists

After 26 Yrs as a member of RGC Deano wins his 2nd Monthly Medal and his 1st Medal of Medalist



the fairway players struggled to recover from any wayward shot and some groups were left kicking their way through the clippings to find a ball. So, a beautiful spring day that promised so much turned into a bit of a nightmare for many of the field. In the end the tough conditions meant that only three players came close to their handicaps. The day's results were:  
**October Medalist & 2016 Medal of Medalists;** Dean Jones - 76/2/74 from Bob McLennan - 87/12/75 & Mick Nicholls (Jnr) - 100/23/77  
**Least Putts;** 28 Mick Nicholls (Jnr) c/b from Dean Jones  
NTPs; 15th - Bob McLennan, 16th - Anthony Lakey

### Wednesday October 26th - Multiplier Stableford

Another good day for golf, a spot of sun, little breeze and the course beginning to dry out. The state of the course again led the match committee to limit the round to nine holes. There was plenty of long grass just off the fairway and pools of water in some of the low areas across the park so any wayward shot was heavily punished. The day's results were:  
**Winners;** Elaine Scanlon/Kath Jekabsons - 19 pts  
Over the extended wet that had closed Romsey the women have enjoyed playing at other courses. Thank you to Denise who organised with her home club Bacchus Marsh West reciprocal rights for RGC members while the course was closed. Kath, Wendy and Leila had an enjoyable day at Bacchus Marsh West on grand final day.  
Kath and Wendy played in the Trentham Plate, Kath brought home the C grade net 104 -29-75.  
Kath and Wendy were runners up in the 4BBB Melton Valley Spring Tournament with 39 points.

### Saturday October 22nd - Stableford

It was a hardy bunch who teed up for a round of Stableford at Romsey. The day

A strong field gathered for the October Medal and the 2016 Medal of Medalists. All medalists teed off from the 1st with the remainder of the field using other tees. The day was beautiful, sunny, clear and virtually no breeze so it seemed some good scoring was in the offing. As the round progressed it became clear that posting a good score was not going to be easy; with some very soft fairways and

heavy grass clippings just off

dawned clear and slightly sunny and despite about 30mm falling during the week the course had slowly begun to dry out. As soon as the 1st group hit-off showers wandered across the course and the wind began to blow. At first it looked as if the showers would only be occasional but soon they seemed to arrive every five minutes and a cold wind gusted strongly forcing players to wait on their shots. The bursts of freezing rain and wind continued to get stronger so after eight holes players called a halt, the conditions were just too severe. With a bit of luck the coming week will see more sun and wind and the course will have a chance to dry out.

### Thursday October 20th - 2016 Doris Chambers Cup Final.

Kath Jekabsons & Pam Drummond represented RGC in the state final of the Doris Chambers Cup at Sanctuary Lakes. Kath's report follows:  
"Now I know what you mean about bunkers, Denise. We did find a more than a couple but we managed to get out of them OK. Also found a few different ways to put the ball in the water, took a penalty both times and did not lose a ball. Had trouble with the greens and the wind with balls really motoring passed the hole or moving well off the line after they were hit. Played with a group that had trouble finding the fairway, or any fairway, we ended up quite slow. While we did manage a few amazing hits they did not really help improve our score. I did manage to land my 4th on that island 18th hole which was a par 4 and this pleased me greatly, enough to entice me to want to go back again to do better next time. The scores on the whole were not great, so it seems other people struggled as well."

### Wednesday October 19th - Ambrose

After more than a month's layoff golf recommenced at Romsey Park with a nine-hole Ambrose event. As some fairways were still too wet to be mown a revised layout was played. It was a very relaxed round with a few plugged balls, thick greens with slightly overgrown holes and many a joke and a laugh. As the players moved around the course other members were hard at work on the mowers or cleaning up and burning off the many branches and other detritus brought down by the strong winds and storms of the last six weeks. Let's hope this is the beginning of some better weather and regular competition can recommence. The real winner of the day was golf.

The 2016 Macedon Ranges Spring Cup, an annual competition between Romsey and Mt Macedon Golf Clubs has been abandoned. The heavy rains of September and October and the subsequent drainage problems at Romsey Park mean that neither club can fit the event into their 2016 syllabus. Both clubs will sit down later this year to set a date for the 2017 Macedon Ranges Spring Cup. Hopefully these rains, backed up by the re-cycled water, will set us up for a good summer.

One very strong positive from the heavy rains of spring is the astounding growth clearly evident on the many one to five year old trees across the Park. These younger trees could more than double in size and the recently planted flowering bushes will be able to provide more food and habitat for the smaller birds. A special note of thanks to Bob McLennan, les Gaunt, John and Andrew Laing and Mick Nicholls who have put in so much work to get the grass under control and keep Romsey Park in such good condition.

## ROMSEY & LANCEFIELD SOCIAL CLUB

**Inviting men and women 55 to 105 who are retired, lonely and helpful.**

We meet **Every Monday** in the back rooms of the Romsey Mechanics Hall from 11am to 3pm for lunch and afternoon tea. Hot soup, rolls, nibbles and biscuits and cake. Cost \$5.

Some groups play cards, others sit and chat or play indoor bowls.

For those who don't drive, we have a council bus that will pick you up and drop you off in the afternoon.

**Once a month** we have professional cooks who come in and give us a 2 course lunch. This meal is \$10.

We also have a **Bus Trip** to some very interesting places on the first Wednesday of the month with a 2 course meal and morning tea. Trips are \$40 which includes your lunch.

For more information please contact:

Rae Hooke 54291602

E. Parks 54291314

Come along and give us a try!



## Romsey Golf Club – Men's & Women's Reports

<http://romseygolfclub.net>

Pres; 0417 088 891

Sec; 0400 768 040

### Saturday November 12th - 3rd Rd Club Championships

The final round of the 2016 Championships began under overcast skies with light drizzle falling and a gusting westerly wind. The sun poked through after the first few holes but the wind really blew up and swung violently between the south and the west, a bit tricky when trying to choose clubs for high approach shots. And, while there has been a deal of grass cut, the rapid spring growth saw some areas almost "links like" and laying in wait for any player who ventured off the fairway. There were more than a few "lost balls" during the round! The gusting, swirling wind made it near impossible to hit a par three and made most shots a bit of a gamble. A Grade was really between Les Gaunt (4) and Pat Chisholm (10). Les was able to steady and hold on to take out another club championship. B Grade was between Sherif Abdel-Sayed (19) and Anthony Lakey (21). Both had fairly ordinary rounds and Sherif was able to hold on for a good win to take out his first B Grade win at RGC. On a tough day only two players were able to get anywhere near their handicaps, the day's results were;

Winner; Tony Freeman - 98/24/74 from Rob Rea - 94/18/76

### Round 3 - 2016 Club Championships

A Grade Champion - Les Gaunt - 249

B Grade Champion - Sherif Abdel-Sayed - 305

John Jeffrey Shield (Best overall h/cap performance) - Pat Chisholm - 233

Peter Scanlon Shield (Best h/cap performance by a player 55yrs+) - Les Gaunt - 237

**B Grade Champion Sherif Abdel-Sayed, Club Captain Anthony Lakey & 2016 Club Champion Les Gaunt**



### Wednesday November 9th - Stableford

Another clear day with just a slight south-westerly wind and a course under much more control. Gone was the untamed rough and the many clippings that had dragged at everyone's feet last week had been chopped up and dried out. There was more run on the fairways so players got good value for well struck shots however the ever thickening greens caught a few unawares. On a much more enjoyable day on a rapidly drying course the results were; **Winner;** Wendy Gosden (36) - 29 pts. **Nine-hole Winner;** Jenny Hartley (20) - 16 pts

### Saturday November 5th - 2nd Rd Club Championships.

After a week of sun, wind and virtually no rain the course had dried out quite a deal; members had been able to get machinery out on the course and just about all long grass had been cut. The weather also meant that the grass cuttings had dried out considerably. The round began with a steady breeze from the NW, this soon blew up to a strong gusting wind which moved through to the W then the SW and back again, at least the wind kept the muzzies at bay! After the many weeks of very wet weather all players found the greens and surrounds much harder than last week which saw many approach shots land on or near the green only to bounce through. While a couple of players played close to their handicaps it was a tough day to card a good score.

**Winner;** Pat Chisholm - 84/10/74 from Mick Nicholls Jnr - 98/22/76

NTP; 16th - Les Gaunt

### Rd 2 - 2016 Club Championships.

A Grade - Stroke; Les Gaunt - 161, Pat Chisholm - 172

Handicap; Pat Chisholm - 172/22/150, Les Gaunt - 161/8/153

B Grade Stroke; Sherif Abdel-Sayed -197, Anthony Lakey - 202, Michael McCarten - 202

Handicap; Sherif Abdel-Sayed - 197/38/159, Anthony Lakey - 202/42/160, Michael Nicholls Jnr - 210/46/164

### Wednesday November 2nd - Pinehurst

It was heavy going for the field during the round. Soft fairways and longish grass pulled and wheels and shoes alike and some energy was spent looking for balls in the heavy clippings just off the fairways. It was a social round with much chatter and many laughs. The days results were;

**18 Hole Winners;** Elaine Scanlon/Darlene Baker - 108/21.75/86.25

**9 Hole Winners;** Jan Harver/Jenny Hartley - 60/14.25/45.75

During the club's rain enforced break from golf a number of the Romsey women took advantage of reciprocal right with Bacchus Marsh West golf club, thank you to Denise for organising this. Kath and Wendy competed in the Trentham Plate with Kath bringing home C Grade handicap - 104/29/75. Kath and Wendy were also runners-up in the Melton Valley Spring Tournament with 39 pts. (continues page 23)

## Romsey Primary School News by

### 5/6MM

#### Song writing competition

On the 20th of October three year six students entered the Australia song writing competition. They wrote a song called "Living in the Country". They had a lot of fun recording the song even though they recorded it at the last minute. The song was performed at the Romsey Primary School's assembly. The three students have been shortlisted and are waiting on the outcome of the competition. We wish them luck

Written by Aeddán M.



Our young song writers—Marcus, Aeddán and Bethany

#### Bike education

The year fours and fives participated in the 2016 bike education. Mrs Horton, Mrs Stewart and Mrs Wood all taught the students road rules and how to properly ride a bike. Every one of the children enjoyed themselves even though it was boiling hot! After learning about road rules they all went on a long seven kilometre road ride, after, they were all exhausted so they cooled themselves off by tipping water on themselves! Each student completed the three stages and will receive a certificate at assembly. By Isobella.C. and Emma.M

#### Essay writing competition

Romsey RSL had an essay writing competition for students at the Romsey Primary School. Students write about the foundation of the Royal Australian Army, Navy and Air force. We enjoyed researching and writing our essay. We would like to thank Reinhardt and John for presenting the winners at our assembly.

#### Kyneton Show

Romsey Primary School was lucky enough to have an art stall entered at the Kyneton show on Friday the 18<sup>th</sup> November. Mrs Van and a few parents chose the art works to represent Romsey Primary School at the art show. The art work varied from paintings to sculptures of varying sizes. At assembly on the 21<sup>st</sup> of November students who were awarded a prize at the art show were presented with their awards.

By Jessica D.



Some of the RPS art work on display at Kyneton.

#### Regional Softball

By Nick.J and Anthony.T

On October The 21<sup>st</sup> the Romsey Primary School's softball team went to Swan hill to compete in the regional softball competition. The team travelled to Swan Hill in a double decker bus which was a lot of fun. The only thing that wasn't fun was how long the ride was and how hot it was.

Throughout the day we played 4 games, we lost 3 and won 1. The 3 games we lost were very close games but the game won was won in a landslide. We all had a fantastic day in Swan Hill playing softball and were treated to a drink at McDonald's to cool us down on our way back home.

#### State Athletics

On Monday the 24<sup>th</sup> of October two students represented Romsey Primary School in the State Athletics. One student participated in the hurdles and the other in long jump and the hurdles. They did well and one student made it to the hurdles finals. Congratulations to both to both students on making it to State Athletics.

By Noah E

#### The Basketball team.

On Friday the 28<sup>th</sup> of October the school's basketball team went off to Swan Hill for the regional basketball. They played 3 games and lost all 3 but had a really fun time. They played Echuca, Cannington and Irymple.

#### Orienteering

Students at the Romsey Primary School went to orienteering on the 18/11/2016 at Hanging Rock. Everyone tried their hardest even though it was very hot. We all had a great time at Hanging Rock.

Buddy classes worked together to develop their orienteering skills before the Hanging Rock event.



During a bushfire, your mains water pressure may drop or supply may be cut.

If you plan to stay and defend, it's important to have an independent water supply.



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**DEEP CREEK LANDCARE GROUP**  
**Covering Lancefield - Romsey and Monegeeta Districts**

Our AGM was held on 14<sup>th</sup> November 2016 and we wish to congratulate the new position holders and thank all previous holders of the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer, particularly our treasurer of the last 30 years Stephen Hendy who has decided it is time to move on. New office bearers are:  
 President Hayley Goodman  
 Secretary Patricia Danko  
 Treasurer Ken Allender  
 This is the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Landcare and Deep Creek Landcare is one of the founding member groups.  
 At our annual Christmas breakup we will be honouring 6 members with life membership.

Pat Toomey, Robert Green, Stephen Hendy. John Blamey, George Lobb and David Blicblau.  
 On Monday 21<sup>st</sup> November a planting was held at Lancefield Park with the Guides.  
 On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> December we attended the official opening of the native gardens at Lancefield Primary School.

**Next meeting Monday 13<sup>th</sup> February 2017 at 8.00pm**  
**Contacts :** **President: Hayley 0409 936 814**  
**Secretary: Pat 0417 103 064**  
**email : [p.danko1@bigpond.com](mailto:p.danko1@bigpond.com)**  
**[www.deepcreeklandcare.org.au](http://www.deepcreeklandcare.org.au)**

Indian Myna bird traps are still available  
 Lancefield : Pat Danko : [p.danko1@bigpond.com](mailto:p.danko1@bigpond.com)  
 Romsey : Cathy Phelps : [cathy.phelps@bigpond.com](mailto:cathy.phelps@bigpond.com)  
 Myna birds caught in Lancefield for October 15.

**Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year**

**A rousing chorus to end the year!**

Macedon Ranges Film Society's November screening featured 'Quartet' is a 2012 British comedy-drama and love story set in a retirement home for singers and musicians and based on the play *Quartet* by Ronald Harwood.



Quartet features a stellar cast including Maggie Smith, Billy Connolly, Tom Courtenay, Pauline Collins and Michael Gambon along with numerous singers, musicians and non-actors in supporting roles. The film was actor Dustin Hoffman's directing debut. At age 74, he developed a great rapport with the cast of actors, musicians, singers and non-actors, most in their 60s to 90s.

Pauline Collins said, 'I've learnt more from him than I have in the rest of my working life.' Comedian Billy Connolly, who plays Wilf in the film, said that, 'Every day is a masterclass with Hoffman'.

A genuinely 'feel-good' film to end the year.

The Society's 2017 program of films will be released shortly. If you like good films consider joining.

The Macedon Ranges Film Society meets on the second Wednesday each month at Woodend Community Centre. Film notes and an informal supper are part of the evening.

MRFS is a membership-based club; initial enquiries by email to [mrfilmsociety@gmail.com](mailto:mrfilmsociety@gmail.com) or call Lorraine 5427 0921 or Christine 5429 5452

## Follow the Star

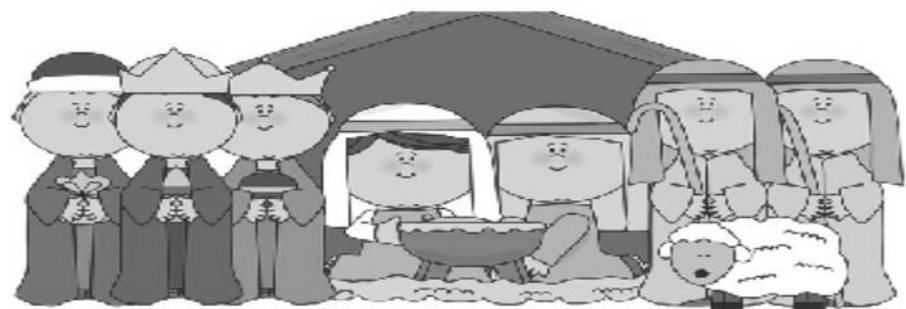
Wednesday 21st December

You are invited to meet outside St Paul's Anglican Church in Main Road, Romsey, to walk with Mary, Joseph and their donkey as they search for a place to stop for the night.

Where will they go? Who will they meet on the way?  
 What will we discover at the end of the road?

We will be looking for a stable with live animals where we can sing Christmas Carols, see a real baby, and share some refreshments together.

Parents and children please join us.



**Time: 6:30pm Sausage Sizzle at Catholic Church - Main St, Romsey**  
**7:15pm Gather in service road outside Anglican Church**

**Dress Up:** Dress up as wise men, or angels, or shepherds or a person from Bethlehem if you wish. There will be some costumes available to borrow (adult as well as child sizes).

A free event in association with the churches of Romsey and Lancefield  
 Music by the Kyneton Municipal Band  
 All Welcome

Questions? Contact: Wendy Elson 0400 042 076, Annette Buckley 0457 608 539 or Jay Brooks 5429 6163

**RSS**  
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LIC 45660 | Lancefield



**MEAT WITH THE BUTCHER**

Meat With the butcher is a Delicious new venture that was launched on November 4th at the Mechanics Hall in Lancefield. It is a fresh and exciting alternative to just 'going out for dinner', instead you learn how to get the best from the meat you cook and eat. It's an experience for all of your senses, as master butcher John walks you through from preparation to partaking. The highlight is the incredible 2 course steak dinner, but it's not just any steak it's a 350g grain fed Scotch Fillet! - paired with local wine from Curly Flat winery. It's a great idea for a group, there's laughter and learning and did we mention that amazing steak? The launch was a rousing success, some of the comments coming back were; 'I've learnt more in this short time than I have in years; Very very informative and enjoyable; I've been barbecuing my steaks all wrong Very enlightening, It was a sensory learning experience in the best kind of way.

If you would like more information, or to book for the next event

**Phone John 0402858657**

ABN: 35952407314



## Macedon Ranges Christmas Toy Shop

For past six years the Combined Churches of the Macedon Ranges have organised a Christmas "Toy Shop" for families living in the shire who might struggle to afford a Christmas gift for their child.

Last year we helped over 140 families.

The Toy Shop relies completely on the generosity of our community, to donate gifts to stock the shop. Families are referred to us by local support and welfare agencies and are given a personal invite to attend the shop and pick out toys for their children. As we rely on donated goods, there is no cost to the families for these gifts. We also offer gift wrapping and a cafe style space to enjoy free tea and coffee and home baked goodies.

For families who are facing challenging times, Christmas can become an incredibly stressful, lonely and sad season. Unable to participate in many of the traditions that our culture has come to know as "normal" these fami-

lies can feel even more isolated and marginalised.

The Toy Shop gives struggling families the opportunity to enjoy what others may take for granted – to choose something special for their child and be able to give it to them on Christmas morning. Many of these families would otherwise be unable to give their child a gift on Christmas morning, and many of these children would miss out on the joy of opening a gift that is just for them.

For our community, the Toy Shop is a fantastic opportunity for local people to embrace the true Christmas spirit, and reach out in generosity and love to those in their own community who are facing a tough time. Whether you are an individual or a business, you can get into the Christmas spirit and give some joy to local people who really need it.

The toy shop relies 100% on the goodwill and generosity of our community. We need your donations to make this important initiative possible. We require donations of toys for boys and girls aged 0-18. Gifts need

to be new and valued around \$20. We also welcome donations of books, plush toys and smaller items that would be suitable as stocking fillers. We particularly fall short in gifts, books and stocking fillers for older children each year.

How to Donate:

- Donations can be dropped into the offices of Cobaw Community Health in Kyneton and Woodend

- Contact Georgina Harvey (0404442891) directly to arrange pick up of donations.

Donations of both gifts and money will be gratefully received. All financial donations will only be used to purchase toys to stock the shop. Gifts need to be received by Wednesday the 14<sup>th</sup> December to allow time for sorting and setting up of the toy shop. All Enquiries: Georgina Harvey (0404442891).



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41 Murphy Street, Romsey

## Macedon Ranges Physiotherapy

Ben will now be at Romsey full time & Lauren will be at Lancefield Wednesday's & Fridays.

Patients can see whichever Physiotherapist they prefer.

Once your care plan is arranged, simply call the medical centre of your choice for an appointment.

Ben Gidley Romsey Medical Centre 99 Main Street Phone: 5429 5254	Lauren Matthews Lancefield Country Practice 17 High Street Phone: 5429 1362
---	--

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[www.macedonrangesphysio.com](http://www.macedonrangesphysio.com)



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**Rod Browning**  
Senior Manager

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[bendigobank.com.au/homeloans](http://bendigobank.com.au/homeloans)

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\*Rated above the four major banks among home loan customers in Roy Morgan's Home Loan Customer Satisfaction Survey, July 2016. Credit provided by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL/Australian Credit Licence 237879. Terms, conditions, fees and charges apply. All information is correct as at March 15 2016 and is subject to change. Full details available on application. Lending criteria apply. S55518-8 (323796\_v3) (13/11/2016)





## EDUCATOR-TO-CHILD RATIOS LIFT EMPLOYMENT



New jobs are being created and kids in Romsey and across the Macedon Ranges Shire are receiving better care thanks to the Andrews Labor Government's improved educator-to-child ratios. The new ratio of one educator for every 11 children – down from one per 15 – means improved levels of attention and care, helping children to get more out of their early years education. Labor Member for Macedon Mary-Anne Thomas said that since the change was announced at beginning of 2016 there have been 890 new jobs state wide. Ms Thomas added, "The new educator-to-child ratios are a win for Romsey as we create new jobs and provide a better early education for our kids."

Council's Director of Community Wellbeing, Karen Stevens, says the

improved educator-to-child ratios have allowed staff to provide a greater level of individual care and attention to children. "Council has planned for the change in ratio by increasing room capacity at kindergartens.

Commencing January this year, an additional four staff have been employed across our kindergartens."

Research shows that higher numbers of staff to children aged three to five years is associated with important social and learning outcomes, including increased literacy skills and general knowledge.

Kindergartens in Macedon also received extra support as they transitioned to the improved educator-to-child ratio, with the Andrews Labor Government providing extra resources to assist with strategic planning.

Ms Thomas said, "We are helping families and staff at small rural kindergartens by providing certainty to shore up their services and plan for the future."



Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association (RRBATA)  
UPDATE

### Romsey Streetscape Project Update

RRBATA has received some VERY promising news regarding the funding application by Macedon Ranges Shire Council (MRSC) to Regional Development Victoria (RDV) to support major elements of the Romsey Streetscape Project Concept Plan. MRSC had previously submitted an "Expression of Interest" to RDV. This has progressed to the next stage with RDV's request that MRSC now proceed with a formal funding application. RRBATA will collate letters of support from local traders and community groups to support this formal application. In addition to enhancing local amenity for our community, the Romsey Streetscape Project aims to stimulate economic development and tourism in Romsey and therefore support local business. Support of local business enables better support of local community and vice versa!

Meanwhile, RRBATA has also been invited to progress to a formal submission stage in MRSC's Places for People funding program to support the Historic Building and Site Plaque program (a Lighting and Roads working group initiative). The results of this application will be known sometime soon after 25<sup>th</sup> November. Success would add to the \$2500 grant per year for 3 years recently awarded by Bendigo Bank.

And, of course, the Arts Culture and Events working group has been VERY busy with the Christmas In Romsey 2016 initiative (see below).



### Christmas In Romsey 2016

It is all getting rather exciting in Romsey, as Christmas approaches.

The giant "Connallys Real Estate and Bendigo Bank Community Christmas Tree" (see left) is under construction at Romsey Engineering and will be installed, at Macedon Ranges Shire Council's suggestion, on the eastern side of the Main Road in the vicinity of On Eagles Wings by December 1<sup>st</sup>.

The smaller "trees" which will form the Main Street Community Group Christmas Tree Installation (see below) have been delivered to community groups for decoration. They will be installed by December 1<sup>st</sup> in clusters of three at 7 points along the Main Road between Barry and Murphy Streets. A big thank you to Romsey Hardware for its support with the solar lighting for both the big tree and smaller trees.



Planning for the "Bendigo Bank Community Carols by Candlelight" event on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December (from 7pm)

is well underway. Come and see the community groups, churches, schools and emergency services have their favourite carols sung! And, rumour has it that Santa will be visiting (perhaps with some help from Romsey CFA!) Many thanks to Encourage Church for providing musical accompaniment for the carols.

Hopefully, you have entered the "Home and Business Christmas Decoration and Lights Competition." An independent judging panel will be assessing the entrants in the week after 1<sup>st</sup> December so as the winners can be announced at the Carols event on 10<sup>th</sup> December.

FURTHER INFORMATION elsewhere in this edition of the Rag, as well as on Facebook and Romsey Online ([www.romsey.org.au](http://www.romsey.org.au)).

### RRBATA AGM 2016

The 2016 RRBATA AGM was held on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October 2016. Election of office bearers was conducted with results as follows:

President	-	Jenny Stillman
Vice President	-	Ged McLaughlin
Secretary	-	unfilled
Treasurer	-	Wendie McLaughlin
Committee	-	Greg Powell
Committee	-	Benny Dyer

Jess Bonano from Macedon Ranges Business Connect was a special guest at the meeting, as was Mr. Peter Newell who conducted the election of office bearers. Jenny Stillman acknowledged the support of Mr. Tim McCarthy with RRBATA's financial report audit.

The President's Report for 2016 can be viewed via Romsey Online or Facebook (RRBATA).

### Romsey Town Pride

DO NOT FORGET - Clean Up Romsey Day will be held next year on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2017.

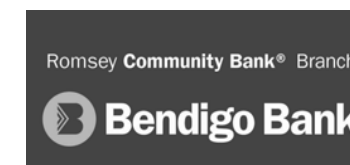
RRBATA's Town Pride working group is also calling for expressions of interest from Romsey residents who would like to be involved in the Tidiest Street category of the Australian Tidy Towns competition for 2017. This would hopefully be a forerunner for a whole town entry in following years. Please contact Jenny Stillman for further information ([jennystillman@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jennystillman@optusnet.com.au) ph. 0412 349849).

### Romsey Online

Don't forget, ANYONE CAN BE A REPORTER! Whether it is sporting results, photos, reports on events etc, the website is waiting for your "news". Please ensure a note of consent from people featured in any photographs accompanies your submissions. Remember, the website is only as good as the information fed to it at [info@romsey.org.au](mailto:info@romsey.org.au).

### Membership Enquiries:

Sharyn Ede (Secretary)  
Phone: 0403 429161  
Email: [sharynede\\_associates@y7mail.com](mailto:sharynede_associates@y7mail.com)



## Romsey Red Cross

Romsey Red Cross would like to acknowledge and thank Mr Leigh Purtill of Purtill's Nursery in Bendigo for his ongoing support and very generous donations of punnets and pots of flowers to sell in support of the Romsey Red Cross fundraiser on 6<sup>th</sup> November at the Romsey Swap Meet which was very successful. With gratitude and sincere thanks.



### Romsey Red Cross Branch.

Christmas Raffle tickets \$2 will be on sale outside IGA during November & December, drawn Monday 12<sup>th</sup> December at the Hub.

- 1<sup>st</sup> Prize – Samsung Galaxy WiFi Tablet
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Prize – Multi Function Air Fryer
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Prize – \$50 Coles Voucher

Meetings – 1.30pm on second Tuesday of month (not January and December) at 'Old Court House/CFA Headquarters.

### New members welcome.

President: Karen Hermann 5429 6658  
Vice President: Amy Mullan 0407 849 165  
Treasurer: Leanne Eames 5429 5658  
Secretary: Robyn Stephens 5789 1457  
Zone Rep: Trish Dunn 5429 6761



Wishes our  
Romsey and  
District  
Community a  
Happy and Safe



Christmas!

Merry Christmas!!

### Playgroup will be open in January!!

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2017

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> January 2017



### Term 1 Dates 2017

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> January – Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March 2017



Romsey Playgroup welcomes current and new members

Contact Natasha on 0421 289 137 for details.



# Romsey Mechanics Institute



presidentrmi@gmail.com  
rmibookings@gmail.com

PO Box 130  
Romsey 3434  
Victoria

[www.romseymechanicsinstitute.com](http://www.romseymechanicsinstitute.com)  
inquiries can be made at; [rmibookings@gmail.com](mailto:rmibookings@gmail.com)

Mob; 0458 702 106  
ABN; 99 340 024 758

Earlier this year we submitted an application for funds to assist with stage one of our chimneys, fireplaces and heater renovation project. In the 2016 round of Bendigo Bank Community Investment grants the RMI received \$7,500.00, this will allow us to complete all of stage one, (chimneys, flues, fireplace repairs/modifications and power and gas supply) should also us to install at least two of the four new heaters. Our thanks to the Bendigo Bank for their ongoing support of both the RMI and many other community groups in Romsey and the surrounding district. It is wonderful to see a business such as this really giving back to, and supporting, its own community.

We now have the completed "Development Plan" for the RMI, our thanks to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council (esp. Jodie Turner) for their assistance throughout this process. This detailed plan shows our strengths and areas where we can improve. It has given us a system to assess hire and other use options and lays down the process to draw up a concept plan for future physical development of the whole building. Everything that we do will be designed to provide the community with a flexible and economically viable facility well into the future.

Our Antiques Fair, Sat March 18<sup>th</sup>, is progressing well as is the Garden Fair on Sunday March 19<sup>th</sup>. There are still a few stalls available on each day. This event also received financial support from the Bendigo Bank Community Investment Program, again, **THANKS** for supporting an event that has the potential to grow and to draw more people into our town

**As 2016 draws to a close I would like to thank;**

- ◆ The hard working members of our Committee of Management: Julie Smith (Treasurer), Kathy Lakey

(Sec/Bookings) and Allan Irvine, **our cleaner Lyndal Corner** and our caretaker Alan Woolcott. Without the hard work of these people our wonderful RMI would not be making the steady progress it has over the last few years.

- ◆ Michelle Read for her work on our Development Plan,
- ◆ Jodie Turner (MRSC) for her ongoing support.
- ◆ Simone Day (DEWLP) for her assistance with all the large and small things that come up each year with a Crown Land facility.
- ◆ Our regular users, The CWA, The Romsey/Lancefield RSL, Cowboys & Angles Dance Academy, C. C. Liners, Karen's Zumba and the Romsey/Lancefield Senior Citizens.

**The RMI will be closed for Thurs Dec 22<sup>nd</sup> until Tues Jan 17<sup>th</sup>.** During this period cleaning and other maintenance works will be carried out. Classes will recommence on Wed Jan 18<sup>th</sup>.

I would also like to wish everyone a safe and happy **Christmas and New Year.**  
(Keep and eye out for the RMI decorated Christmas Tree along Main Street)

If you are planning something, a birthday, an anniversary, an engagement or any other function please consider the RMI our web site gives a good idea as to what we have to offer.

Bookings and all inquiries can be made at; [rmibookings@gmail.com](mailto:rmibookings@gmail.com). We are very happy to discuss your function, show you through the hall or supper room and explain the hire process. Anthony Lakey - Chair - RMI - CoM

**Don't rely on water supply this fire season**

Western Water is warning Romsey residents to have an independent water supply ready if they plan to stay and defend their home this fire season. If electricity is cut or water infrastructure is affected by fire, pumps and other equipment may fail, cutting the mains water supply. If there is extremely high demand for water from customers and the CFA during a fire, water pressure may also drop. Residents should consult their local CFA about their options for an independent water supply and plan ahead. Western Water is also doing all it can to prepare for summer, with backup generators ready and water storage tanks at high capacity to cope in case of fire. Residents can also help the community to be prepared for fire season by 'adopting' a fire hydrant. Keep any fire hydrants near your home free of debris and vegetation, and if you think a hydrant needs maintenance, call Western Water to report it. You can also send Western Water a message on Facebook, or fill in a form on the website at [WesternWater.com.au](http://WesternWater.com.au).

**St Paul's Anglican Church Op Shop**  
77 Main Street, Romsey

Goods suitable for sale may be left under the veranda at the rear of the Op Shop.  
Christmas hour advertised in Church article.

Open:  
Thursdays 12.30—4.30pm  
Fridays 12.30—4.30pm  
Saturdays 10.00am—1.00pm

**We cannot accept** any electrical items including computers, printers etc. Also car seats, prams, cots or any other safety equipment. Owing to lack of space, we cannot accept large furniture.



**COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF ROMSEY and LANCEFIELD Inc.**  
A0042634P  
P.O. Box 280, Romsey. Vic. 3434

**President:** Greg Buist 5429 1116  
**Secretary:** Jenifer Clampit 5429 5480

Probussouthpacific is for people 55 years or over. The Romsey/Lancefield Probussouthpacific has 40 active members aged between 58 - 90 years. We have all made good friendships and enjoy fellowship with each other whenever we are together.

**Monthly meetings**  
**10am, 4<sup>th</sup> Thursday of the month**  
**St. Mary's Church Hall, Main Street, Romsey.**  
**February 2017 meeting : 23rd February, 2017**

November was our final meeting for the year. Our Christmas Breakup lunch will be at the 'Australiana', Wandong on Wednesday 21st December, 2016.

Wednesday 18th January 2017 - Get Together BBQ at the home of Greg & Jean Buist, Red Gap Road, Lancefield.

Now you are retired or close to retiring from work come and join the friendly folk in the Romsey & Lancefield Probussouthpacific Club and learn more about what Probussouthpacific can offer to assist you in staying active. Or phone the numbers above.

**All we want to achieve is a day of enjoyment and friendship. Please come and have a look at what we do and who we are.**

**Why choose Blue Tongue Solar?**

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[www.bluetonguesolar.com](http://www.bluetonguesolar.com)

Check out our website for information about the Romsey & Lancefield Probussouthpacific Club [rprobussouthpacific.org.au](http://rprobussouthpacific.org.au)

**For Active Retirees. Probussouthpacific South Pacific**

The secret to maintaining a fulfilling lifestyle following retirement is to stay involved, become an adventurer, and enjoy new experiences with friends.

When you finish work and lose the responsibility of having a job, it is important to develop interests and friendships. You also need to accept the psychological impact that this may have on you, when you realise that your work skills are no longer required. Probussouthpacific provides fellowship with others in a similar situation, which is vital to the ongoing mental wellbeing of retirees and your work skills could be used to help in another way.

**Reasons to join Probussouthpacific:** Enjoy the fellowship of like-minded people - Probussouthpacific club members meet active retirees in their local areas, across Australia and around the world.

You can check out the Probussouthpacific South Pacific website to find out more about how Probussouthpacific was formed 40 years ago and what it has achieved.

[www.probussouthpacific.org](http://www.probussouthpacific.org)  
**Phone: 1300 630 488**

*We wish everyone a very Happy Christmas and a Safe and Peaceful New Year.*

**ROMSEY Neighbourhood House**

**WHAT'S ON**  
Our "Sustainable Future" community mural arts project is nearing the final stages. We have all experienced incredible enjoyment as this project progresses to fruition. Workshops were well attended by young and old from various groups, local centres and community members all contributing their fabulous artistic talents and capturing ideas of sustainable practices for our sustainable future. Romsey N/House values all your contributions, achieving a sense of ownership with each and everyone's input to a project in such a prominent location in the village of Romsey.

With Christmas fast approaching & as 2016 draws to an end, we are excited to announce the Mural Unveiling Event will take place in mid February 2017. We are proud to show the efforts achieved when our community works together, giving participants opportunities to leave their mark and feel part of it. This mural project is Stage One of our larger plans to improve the use and ownership of Romsey Neighbourhood House's facilities by all community members, to ultimately provide community gardens, recreation and meeting place for all. Thank you for hopping on board and Romsey Neighbourhood House is delighted to have so many community members and various groups involved.

Keep a look out for further details in the new year about our Mural Unveiling Event.

From all at Romsey N/House, wishing everyone a new year filled with new hope, new joy and new beginnings.







### St. Mary's Parish - Lancefield & Romsey

Parish Priest: Fr. Marc Barry  
 Parish Secretary: Mrs. Tammie Dalgleish  
 School Principal: Mr. Anthony Falls  
 School web site: [www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au)

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

#### MASS TIMES

##### Saturday:

6.00 p.m. Lancefield

##### 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of the month:

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

##### 2<sup>nd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month:

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

#### ROSARY

Saturdays 9:45am Romsey

#### RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 9:45am Romsey & 5:45pm Lancefield.

#### BAPTISMS

2016 – By request

For more information, please phone 5429 2130.

#### REGULAR EVENTS

**Christian Meditation Group:** Each Monday evening

6:00 p.m. Romsey Church – all welcome

Enquiries: Barry 5429 3311

**St. Mary's Parish Youth Group** - "Children for Jesus"

Saturday mornings 10:30a.m.-12:00p.m. (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays of the month)

December 3<sup>rd</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup>.

Romsey Church Hall

Activities, Prayers, Bible Stories & Singing

Enquiries: Eileen French – 0412 787 213

#### SACRAMENTS

Parents with children not attending St. Mary's School who are scheduled to receive Sacraments in 2017 are requested to contact the secretary by phone: 5429 2130 or by email at [lancefield@cam.org.a](mailto:lancefield@cam.org.a) to register your child. Reconciliation is generally scheduled quite early in the year so if we have your details we can ensure you receive the in-

formation in time to participate.



Keep up to date with parish activities - St. Mary's Parish Lancefield-Romsey

#### Marc's Message

In the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries, there was a spiritual writer – Meister Eckhart. He had some quite controversial ideas that led to him being excommunicated. He was only 're-instated' a few years back. One of his ideas

was that what 'made' God God was that 'he' was eternally giving birth – bringing 'himself' and everything else out of no-thing-ness into 'some-thing-ness', or 'be-ing.'

He further said that as each one of us is made in the 'image of God', that we too are therefore creatures whose lives consist of bringing something out of nothing; that we are in the business of creating ourselves, but even more that we are also giving birth to God.

This was part of one of his Christmas sermons, and as a guiding idea – whether one is a believer or a non-believer – it is interesting to think about. I do not come into the world complete, and may very well go out the other end incomplete, not really 'real.' And, in the process of 'giving birth to myself' I am actually engaging in the process of 'helping' God to 'be born'; of bringing the whole of reality to a fulfilment.

It does two things for me, it shows that my life has a meaning for myself and for the rest of the world; that when I do pass on, hopefully the world will have been at least a slightly better place for me having been here. Might be a nice thought to reflect on at this time of year.

Marc

#### ADVENT/CHRISTMAS 2016

\**Ecumenical Christmas Carols 10 Dec 8:00pm*

*Hosted by Encourage Church – Venue to be confirmed and advertised by flyers around town.*

\***Advent Reconciliation 14 Dec 7.00pm Romsey Church (Confession)**

\*Parish Mass of Anointing 16 Dec 2.00pm Lancefield Church

\***Follow the Star 21 Dec Romsey** *Hosted by the Anglican Church – time and starting point to be confirmed and advertised by flyers around town.*

\***Christmas Eve 24 Dec 6.00pm Lancefield Church**  
 Carols 11:30 pm Romsey Church  
 Midnight Romsey Church\*

**Christmas Day 25 Dec 9.00am Romsey Church**

\*New Year's Day 1 Jan 8.00am  
 Lancefield Church 10:00am Romsey Church

**Sunday 11th June 2017**  
**Save the Date**

Keep watching the Romsey Rag for information about the Great Global Greyhound Walk coming in June 2017....



*It's time to get excited.....*

## Christmas in Romsey 2016

A Romsey Streetscape Project Initiative  
 (Arts Culture Events-"ACE"- Working Group)

#### **ROMSEY COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE**

A huge 4metre welded Christmas tree to be installed in central Main Street location. This tree is to be decorated with personal Christmas wishes from community members on December 1, 2016 and illuminated throughout December.

#### **ROMSEY MAIN STREET COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS TREE INSTALLATION**

A collaborative installation from Romsey's active Community Groups, Sporting Clubs, Schools, Kindergartens and Emergency Services is the vision for our twenty one decorated steel Christmas Trees. Trees will be featured between Barry and Palmer Streets and illuminated throughout December.

#### **ROMSEY TOWNSHIP CHRISTMAS DECORATION AND LIGHT COMPETITION**

A spirited competition for best decorations and lighting awarding three categories: Best Home, Business and Whole Street. Entrants will be able to have their details listed on a township Christmas Lights Trail Map for whole community viewing. Winners will be announced at the Romsey Christmas Carols evening December 10, 2016.

#### **CHRISTMAS CAROLS COMMUNITY EVENT – Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2016**

This non denominational whole Community Carols by Candlelight evening will be held on Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December 2016 partnership with Encourage, St Mary's Parish, St Paul's and Romsey Uniting Church. Picnic commencing at 7pm, carols at 8pm and held at the Romsey Lions Reserve (Skate Park). Romsey Recreation Centre will be wet weather contingency venue! There will be a special appearance from Santa!



**Further information:** Romsey Online [www.romsey.org.au](http://www.romsey.org.au)

Facebook

Jenny on 0412 349 849, [jennystillman@optusnet.com.au](mailto:jennystillman@optusnet.com.au)





## ROMSEY BOWLING CLUB

INVITES YOU TO TRY

# BAREFOOT BOWLS

COMMENCING SUNDAY 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY 2017

2.00 P.M. – 4.00 P.M.

FOR SIX WEEKS

CONCLUDING SUNDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2017

**BOWLS / COACHING PROVIDED**

**COME ALONG, BRING A FRIEND**

**FLAT SOLED SHOES OR BARE FEET**

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

ANDREW LAING 0417 358 094

GRAEME CUTHBERT 5429 5359

## The Independent Living Specialists

### Services available:

- **Personal Care** - Assistance with daily living
- **Respite Care** - Supporting family and carers
- **Transport** - On time and in comfort
- **Nursing Care** - When expert care is needed

\*Please refer to our website for more information on our services.



1300 783 765  
primacare.com.au



### The Mount Players Happenings

## The Mount Players Wind Up Another Busy Theatrical Year

Our production "Whose Wives Are They Anyway" is in it's final 2 weeks .....so there is still time to book your ticket to a very funny play hosting an experienced, talented cast. The show runs till Saturday 10<sup>th</sup> December.

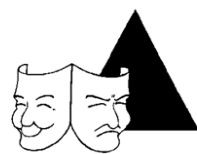
This will be followed by our Youth Theatre's production of "Lords & Ladies" – A fantasy comedy. This is a great opportunity to introduce the younger members of your family to our theatre and see just what our budding young actors can do. There are only 4 shows from Friday 16<sup>th</sup> December to Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> December. Tickets are \$15 full and \$10 concessions.

Tickets available through our website.

As the year comes to a close we send out a warm thankyou to our patrons who have supported our productions throughout the year and our 2 major sponsors Bendigo Bank and Baringo Food & Wine Co. – without you all we would not have such a vibrant and successful theatre company. We look forward to sharing our 2017 season with you all at our wonderful Mountview Theatre. Of course should you wish to become a member of our theatrical family we welcome you with open arms. Hey, a membership would make a great Christmas present to the thespian in the family or indeed for just \$10 extra per family member the whole family could join! If that doesn't rock your boat how about a season pass? With 4 productions a year and a day ticket to our One Act Play Festival in July it is fantastic value and ensures you won't miss anything! There you go....Christmas all sewn up!

Check out our website [www.themountplayers.com](http://www.themountplayers.com) or call our box office; 5426 1892.

From all of us at The Mount Players - Merry Christmas and a safe and happy 2017.  
See you at the theatre!



The Mount Players



## Pastor's Parables

Encourage Church  
Office: 7 Mitchell Court Romsey  
Ph (03) 5429 6327  
Email: [encouragechurch@iprimus.com.au](mailto:encouragechurch@iprimus.com.au)  
Website: [www.encouragechurch.com.au](http://www.encouragechurch.com.au)



## CHOOSE WHILE YOU CAN

In times of impending natural disaster, such as flood or Bush fires, there are those who choose to stay in their homes despite all the warnings to leave. Later, if we hear they have died, we naturally grieve at their unnecessary demise at the same time realising they took a chance as a matter of choice.

Mankind was created with free-will. And our loving God desires none to perish. However, due to the unchangeable law of free-will, God can only save those who freely accept His gift of Eternal Life. He has warned us many times in the Bible – Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ and you shall be saved. It is now a matter of choice. For those who choose to reject God's offer of eternal LIFE, or choose to make no choice at all (after the age of accountability), God must ultimately respect their decision - and leave them to their own devices in a place set aside, where His provision FOR AN Abundant Life (which has long been taken for granted) will be eternally absent.

We don't know our Future – only God knows what is ahead. Heed His warning and seek His Eternal provision for an Abundant Eternal Life.

If you would like to learn more about the Christian faith, please don't hesitate to call our Church Office on (03) 5429 6327 or perhaps come and join us for one of our relevant, modern, 10:00am Sunday Services, or fortnightly Life Groups.

Marilyn Hunter, Senior Pastor Encourage Church.



**BE FIRE READY !!!**

**With the fire season now upon us, we have the space for you to store your possessions that will eliminate the stress of hav-**

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**THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF  
CHRIST CHURCH, LANCEFIELD  
AND ST. PAUL'S ROMSEY**



December 2016

From GLORY > To The STABLE > To the CROSS > To RESURRECTION > To GLORY Then > To RETURN > in Power and Great GLORY with the Hosts of Heaven < The Path, JESUS CHRIST, LORD and SAVIOUR, trod for our Salvation.

It is very hard for us to grasp with our human, finite minds the immensity of the plan God conceived to restore us to be at one with Him - the meaning of 'atonement' - separated from Him by our fallen, sinful natures and so brought back into fellowship with Him. From the beginning, He had declared, "the soul that sins shall surely die". (Genesis 2:17) thus from the beginning, He had planned Mankind's rescue.

When the time was right, He came in the Person of Jesus Christ, to become one of us, as Paul writes, "He made Himself nothing, taking the very nature of a servant, being made in human likeness .....He humbled Himself and became obedient even to death - even death on a cross! Therefore God has highly exalted Him to the Highest place.....and before Him every knee shall bow." (Philippians 2:7-11).

This is the great event we celebrate at Christmas when God broke in on earth to become one of us, to rescue us and restore us to fellowship with Him all because of His great love for us, His children. ADVENT reminds us of the great event still to come - His RETURN - Jesus said, "the nations will see the Son of Man coming on the clouds of heaven, with power and great glory". (Matthew 24:30), then will follow THE JUDGEMENT.

For believers - Forgiveness, Resurrection, Restoration, then GLORY for Eternity. This warning comes to us all - "How shall we escape if we ignore such a great salvation". (Hebrews 2:3).

"O, may we keep and ponder in our mind, God's wondrous love in saving lost mankind; Trace we the Babe who has retrieved our loss, from His poor manger to His bitter Cross: Tread in His steps, assisted by His grace, Till man's first heavenly state again takes place." J. Byrom.

November 2016 was taken up with A.G.M.'s, and the big highlight being our very successful concert "Singing In The Ranges with David Hobson". A big thank you all who organized and helped in so many ways, and especially Dr. Paul Carter who assisted in the staging of it on his property "NARDOO". All proceeds to the Christ Church L/field Appeal.

DECEMBER 2017 DIARY.  
**Sat.3rd. Dec. 9am.** CHRISTMAS STREET STALL - Anglican Parish Lancefield/Romsey Outside Romsey IGA - Christmas gifts. Cakes. Jams. Preserves etc. Enq. Glenice 5429-6418  
**Thurs.8th.8pm.**Lancefield Parish Hall. AMS CAROLS & SUPPER. Open to all. 5429-6060  
**Sat.10th -LAST SHOP at the OP.SHOP** until 27th of Jan.2017.Afternoon Function for Op. Shop helpers.

**Sat. 10th.** CHRISTMAS CAROLS CHURCHES AND COMMUNITY EVENT. Picnic 7pm..Carols..8pm..at SKATE PARK. If wet - ROMSEY RECREATION CENTRE  
**18th.** 5pm..HEALING SERVICE. Christ Church Lancefield.. Rev. Bill Carroll

**CHRISTMAS SERVICES**  
**CHRISTMAS EVE 24th DECEMBER**  
11.30pm - HOLY COMMUNION - ST.PAUL'S ROMSEY Main Street

**CHRISTMAS DAY - 25TH DECEMBER**  
9am.. HOLY COMMUNION - CHRIST CHURCH .. LANCEFIELD .. Chauncey Street

The Vicar, Rev. Bill Carroll and members of Christ Church Lancefield and St.Paul's Romsey pray that all in our Community may enjoy a blest Christmas and New Year.

**SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES**  
Holy Communion - 9am..St.Paul's Romsey 10.30am - Christ Church Lancefield.  
Minister..Rev. W. Carroll..5429-1380.or 0427-918-607.



**Community newsletters**  
December 2016 / January 2017

**Preparing and maintaining your property for the fire season**

As we approach another fire season, Council is reminding residents to make adequate preparations. Here are some simple tips you can follow to make sure you are fire ready:

- Slash grass and keep it under 75mm high
- Rake up and remove dry grass, leaves, twigs and loose bark
- Remove any rubbish or material that is likely to cause, maintain or promote a fire
- Store inflammable liquids well away from the house
- Store woodpiles away from the house
- Place metal flyscreens or window shutters over windows
- Keep gutters clean of leaf litter
- Remove all noxious weeds from your land
- Face LPG cylinder's vent pipe away from the house and store securely in an upright position
- Prepare your bushfire survival plan.

**Property inspections and notices**

Council's Fire Management Officer will continue to inspect properties during the fire danger period, and will issue fire prevention notices to those properties that pose a hazard. There are heavy penalties for owners that fail to comply with conditions outlined on the notice, and properties are expected to be maintained to the required standard throughout the fire danger period. For more information about preparing your property, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/fire-ready](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/fire-ready) or call Council on 5422 0333. You can also like us on [facebook.com/Macedon Ranges Emergency Alerts](https://www.facebook.com/MacedonRangesEmergencyAlerts)

**Spend your summer evenings at the Rock**

Grab some snags, pack a picnic and spend your summer evenings at Hanging Rock. Throughout December, January and February, Hanging Rock Reserve is staying open until 8pm on Thursdays and Fridays, giving you a chance to do more of what you love—spending time in one of our region's most spectacular spots.

Council's Chief Executive Officer Peter Johnston said he hoped the extended summer hours would encourage more visitors to the natural landmark. "Whether you're a local to the region or visiting the Macedon Ranges from elsewhere, make time to stop by and spend some time at Hanging Rock," he said. "There's plenty of walks, wildlife and history to discover, with the reserve really buzzing during the summer months.

"We've got the annual Hanging Rock races on 1 and 26 January, along with the annual Classic Car Display in February, and musician Bruce Springsteen and the E Street Band making his welcome return on Saturday 11 February."

Hanging Rock Reserve is open every day (except Christmas Day) between 9am and 5pm. Entry fees are \$4 per pedestrian, \$10 per car, \$20 per minibus and \$50 per coach. Regular visitors can also purchase an annual pass for \$67 that can be used during normal operating hours, excluding major event days. To find out more about Hanging Rock or a range of other local experiences and entertainment, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/hangingrock](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/hangingrock), drop into a Visitor Information Centre in Kyneton or Woodend or call 1800 244 711.

**Kyneton Connect**  
December 2016

**Environment events: discover the natural world**

Whether you're declaring war on weeds or looking to get up close and personal with local wildlife, Macedon Ranges Shire Council has a range of free environment events on offer designed to get you out in nature. On Saturday 3 December rural land owners are invited to come along to Bald Hill Reserve, 281 Pipers Creek Road in Kyneton to find out more about how to manage invasive weeds. The free workshop, to be held from 10.30am until 1pm, will share tips on how to identify and treat problem weeds, and also provide demonstrations on the best techniques to eradicate weeds from your property.

The workshop includes a free lunch, and is presented in partnership with Upper Campaspe Landcare Network. Discover creatures of the night on Saturday 10 December at a free, family-friendly spotlight event at Bald Hill Reserve. Join Council environment officers and the Friends of Bald Hill Reserve from 9pm to 10.30pm to spotlight for night birds and native animals such as sugar gliders and ringtail possums. Participants should bring warm clothing, a torch and sturdy footwear. For more information on the events, or to book, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events), or call 5421-9660.




**Telephone (03) 5429 5254**

<p><b>ROMSEY MEDICAL</b> 99 MAIN STREET ROMSEY VIC 3434</p>	<p><b>LANCEFIELD MEDICAL</b> 20 CHAUNCEY STREET LANCEFIELD VIC 3435</p>
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*The "Old Course"*

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Proceeds to the 2017  
 Lancefield & Macedon  
 Ranges Relay For Life  
 9.30 am for 10.00 am hit-off

## Entry Fee;

\$80 per team (\$20 pp). Inc  
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 Lunch.

**Field limit - 22 teams**

## Entries to: RGC

Sec – Ph; 0400 768 040 or  
[mail@romseygolfclub.net](mailto:mail@romseygolfclub.net)

## Entries close;

Noon, Wed, February 15<sup>th</sup>  
 (Entries on the day if field permits)

## Refreshments available throughout the day

NTPs, Winners, Runner's-up, Best Team Uniform, Naga.



Macedon Ranges Uniting Church Partnership

# Romsey Uniting Church

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



Chairperson: Mr. Noel Shaw 5429 5509

Secretary: Mrs. Jenifer Clampit 5429 5480

### Follow the Christmas Star celebration

will be held again this year on one night  
 Wednesday 21st December. There will be a  
 Sausage Sizzle at St.Mary's Catholic Church,  
 Romsey, at 6.30pm.

The Follow the Christmas Star procession will  
 commence at St. Paul's Anglican Church,  
 Romsey at 7.30pm and will proceed down  
 Main Street with finishing at the Romsey Unit-  
 ing Church where a short Christmas Service  
 with singing of Carols will be held. The  
 Kyneton Brass Band will be assisting with mu-  
 sic again and the procession will be led by a  
 Donkey. As in other years there will be an  
 assortment of animals at the Romsey Uniting  
 Church and a light supper will be served after  
 the service.

Please see separate poster in this edition of  
 the Romsey Rag.

### Samaritan Purse Christmas Child Shoe Boxes.

During the Sunday Service on 13th November 152  
 Christmas Shoe Boxes were blessed before taking them  
 to the Warehouse at Mitcham.

This is an excellent outcome and our thanks are ex-  
 pressed to all those people involved in helping to put  
 these boxes together.

Thanks to - Romsey Walking Group; Romsey Uniting  
 Church; Men's Shed in Lancefield. We received  
 vouchers from a few businesses which helped with  
 providing items to go in the boxes.

We would like to thank, in particular, the Just in Time  
 Transport Company in Romsey for their generous dona-  
 tion covering the freight for all the boxes.

### Information regarding the Macedon Ranges Partner- ship.

The Macedon Ranges Uniting Church Partnership now  
 has three full time Ministers - Rev. Peter Cannon;  
 Rev. Deacon Wendy Elson; Pastor Annette Buckley.  
 There is an official office at the Riddells Creek Church,  
 3 Sutherlands Road, Riddells Creek.

Phone: 5428 6920

Email: [macedon.ranges.partnership@hotmail.com](mailto:macedon.ranges.partnership@hotmail.com)

Website:- [www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au](http://www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au)

### Church Services & activities during December 2016 and January 2017.

4th	9am	Worship Service conducted by Worship Team
7th	7.30pm	Church Council meeting
11th	9am	Worship Service & Communion
18th	9am	Worship Service
24th	7.30pm	Combined Christmas Eve Service at Lancefield Uniting Church
25th	9.30am	Combined Christmas Day Service at Romsey Uniting Church

Combined services with Lancefield & Romsey will  
 commence on Christmas Day at Romsey.  
 The service on Sunday 1st January 2017 will be at  
 Lancefield at 10am.



*The members of the Romsey Uniting Church  
 wish everyone a very happy Christmas and a  
 safe and peaceful New Year*

### Yes, It's Christmas! Shirley's Home Made Irish Cream 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.  
 Cheers!

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## Coffee shop Conversations

Hi everyone and now we are into 2016 and we realise that the year is nearly at an end, and I don't know about you but the year has moved at an inspiring pace. Our last letter for the year is T. **PARTICIPATION**

**This month it is all about "Transformation"**  
 Wow what a word for the end of the year?  
 How far have you come and what have you achieved in the last twelve months?  
 You know what !!! Where ever you are right now is ok its perfect don't whatever you do beat yourself up.  
 We can only do the best that we can do at any point in time. So **CELEBRATE !!!!**

Now if you feel it could have been better or there is something you feel you would like to change. And you are not sure where to start.

Guess what I am holding three amazing workshops in the next couple of months and I am inviting you to come along.

**STRESS LESS, EMPOWERED THOUGHTS INSPIRED ACTION, and THE SECRET OF CREATING ANYTHING YOU WANT.**

Did you know that stress creates dis-ease in our bodies, and if we know where and what we want in our lives, and we focus on it, life can become a lot more enjoyable. How good would it be if you could start the year off feeling motivated and excited for what the next year will bring? How good would it be if you take control of your life and know that you have a choice to steer that bus to where ever you want it to go.

**1. STRESS LESS Saturday, December the 17th 1to 4.30 pm,** de stress and learn how stress effects your body and what you can do to relieve stress in your life, everyone is unique and deal with stress in a different way.

**2. EMPOWERED THOUGHTS INSPIRED ACTION Saturday ,January the 14th,** is about where you will learn to focus on what you want and setting the right sort of goals. Let go of the old and start off with the new. what a good way to start the year off

**3. THE SECRET OF CREATING ANYTHING YOU WANT in a WEEKEND,** January the 4th and 5th, this workshop is full of inspired action, enabling you to break through the barriers that we create so you can create the life you want. Understand how we create the self sabotage that can keeps us stuck and not achieving what you want.

By changing the way you think you can transform your day your life, your energy, so you can be happier and live the life you deserve.

At my workshops I will teach you the tools that can help you achieve what you want!

Better relationships ,work home and play, even if it is something as minuscule as paying the bills on time. How good would that be!!!

**COME ALONG AND I WILL Teach YOU THE TOOLS TO CREATE THE LIFE YOU WANT.**

All my workshops are based on Education, teaching you something you don't already Know Awareness, how you relate to the issue at hand and Action, If you don't take action nothing will change and finally ongoing support so that you can stay on track.

At this point I will finish up with one of my favourite quotes as you do have a choice.

**"Everything that is happening at this moment is a result of the choices you've made in the past "Depak Chopra"**

**BE EMPOWERED TO LIVE THE LIFE YOU DESERVE !!!**  
 For more information go to my website to register or give me a call.

**If you are have any questions or you need some help about this please give me a call on 0409801082 , check out my face book page or my web site www.lifecirclessolutions.com**

**Wishing you all a very happy and safe festive season!!!**

signing off for now  
 Gillian From Life Circle Solutions .

**Be Empowered to live the life you deserve!!!**

**News from St Mary's Lancefield**  
 Term 4 has started with a bang! Lots of things happening and lots more to go before we finish up the year.

**Lancefield Show Arts & Scarecrow Competition**  
 The year 5/6 students started off their Term 4 History of Farming Inquiry unit by working in groups to create Scarecrows. The students worked collaboratively in teams to design and create their scarecrows. Students also entered in a variety of events at the show including the Alphabet Posters and Show Advertising posters.



Jessica Cernjavic Gabby Lamaison, Sienna Inguanez, Vina Matloob and Samantha Tucker



Sarah Phillips, Tahlia Binney, Elle Choate, Eliza Newnham & Olivia Holland-Cornish

Well done to all the students!

**Sustainability Resource Group**  
 The SRG have been working with parent Abbey Brown and Mrs Miller to plant vegetables in our raised garden beds. They have also been out and about in town to see what shop owners would like in the community garden beds.

**Confirmation**  
 The Year 6 St Mary's students and some from the Parish community celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. The Mass was presided over by

Bishop Terry Curtin who made the Sacrament related to the students in everyday terms. (See photo at bottom right)  
**Day for Daniel**  
 On Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> November we participated in the 'Day for Daniel.' We fund-raised for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation with students bringing along a gold coin donation when they wore red clothing. Senior Constable Jason Azzopardi spoke to the students about how to stay safe including these responses to harm – recognize, react and respond. His main idea is for people to yell **"Stop"** if a person



makes personal contact or makes us feel unsafe.

**Festive Functions**  
 at  
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