



The Romsey Rag

Volume: 37 Edition: 1

FEBRUARY 2019

Celebrate, remember and join in the fun with Relay For Life



Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd of March 2019



The new year has begun, and residents are being asked to put those new year's resolutions to good use and participate in the Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life on Saturday 2nd March and Sunday 3rd March, 2019 at the Lancefield Recreation Reserve.

Now in its 17th year, the Relay For Life events in the Macedon Ranges Shire have raised over \$1,450,000 to help the 269 people diagnosed with cancer in the Macedon Ranges Shire every year.

Relay for Life is a fun and moving overnight experience, where team members take turns walking around a track to signify that cancer never rests. Throughout the Relay, participants are also treated to entertainment and activities, including games and competitions for all ages.

The tug-of-war rope challenges are a favourite for the young ones, as well as those young at heart.



Everyone is welcome at Relay, no matter your age or ability. You can take part however you like by walking, jogging, running, wheeling or even dancing – it's your Relay For Life! Registrations for the 2019 Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life are still open and cost \$25 for youth, \$35 for an adult or \$80 for a family. A celebration of hope, Relay For Life is a unique opportunity to bring the Macedon Ranges community together to celebrate cancer survivors, remember loved ones lost and fight back against cancer. If you're interested in registering a team, joining a team or volunteering please email lancefieldrfl@cancervic.org.au, call 1300 656 585 or visit the Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life Facebook page or http://fundraising.cancer.org.au/site/TR/RelayforLife/CCVIC?pg=entry&fr_id=5699

By getting involved with Relay For Life, you too can help fight back against cancer in the Macedon Ranges.



All submissions for the March Edition of The Romsey Rag due 10th Feb

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All enquiries please email
email@theromseyrag.com.au

Welcome to the February Edition

The new year is well underway, hopefully everyone had a fantastic Christmas and spent time enjoying the season with family and friends.

Summer will draw to a close at the end of the month and before we know it autumn will be upon us. I'm sure we have all seen the Easter Eggs and hot cross buns in the Supermarket, as if we need to start wishing the year away!

Welcome to the Feb edition and the first edition to be produced in new software thanks to the community grant from the Bendigo Bank. Over the next few months the format and layout may change as we become more familiar with the capabilities of the new software. During this time we welcome feedback, good or bad, to help us produce a community magazine that everyone can be proud of.

The Romsey Rag Committee are made up of volunteers, many of whom work full time, therefore it is important to ensure all adverts/articles are received by the deadline. Due to the Editors work commitments the **deadline for the March edition close 10th February**. There will be no leniency due to lack of internet in the remote work area.

Finally, please remember the previous email addressed was decommissioned in September 2018. Please ensure all correspondence is sent to the email address below:

email@theromseyrag.com.au

WHAT'S ON in & around Romsey

6th February - Senior Citizens Bus Trip to Maldon, departing RMI 9:15am and Lancefield Post Office 9:30am.

10th February - Relay For Life Charity Golf Day - Romsey Golf Club.

17th February - Romsey Mechanics Institute Community Market 9:00am - 1:30pm at the rear of the RMI.

18th February - The Mount Players AGM, Mountview Theatre 7:00pm.

1st March - World Day of Prayer Celebration 2019, St. Mary's Catholic Church, 11:00am. Prepared for support of Slovan Women and their needs. Enquiries call Eileen 0412 787 213.

5th March - The Romsey Rag AGM, RMI 122 Main Street 7pm.

12th March - Romsey Mechanics Institute AGM, RMI 122 Main Street 7:30pm.

Romsey Mechanics Institute Monthly Update

The RMI was successful in gaining funds from the Community Funding Scheme to purchase and install solar panels. These panels will help reduce running costs and allow the CoM to longer maintain current low rental fees for users. Our thanks to Colin Bromley for all his work on this project



The New Solar Panels

After a few hiccups with regulations all is now clear for our monthly RMI Community Markets. In general these will be held on the 3rd Sunday of each month. All monies raised will go to the RMI to maintain and improve this much loved community facility. Please come along and see what is on offer, enjoy a "snag" or similar and have a chat with other members of the community

The Bendigo Bank has again come to the support of the RMI, this time agreeing to fund a large part of the much needed upgraded storage plan. We are now moving slowly and steadily through the paperwork required by the Shire and DELWP before any actual work can begin. Once this project is completed we will be able to look more seriously at a complete renovation and expansion of the RMI's toilets.

The Annual Antiques Fair is coming up, Sat Mar 16th. This will again be a joint fundraiser run between the Neighbourhood House and the RMI. Please take a few minutes to come in and see just what is on offer or enjoy a wonderful morning/afternoon tea as prepared by the Romsey CWA. Congratulations to all involved with the Christmas in Romsey program, another successful event.

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, or via the web site. We are more than happy to discuss your function, show you through the hall or supper room and explain the hire process. The CoM at the RMI wishes the community a safe and happy Christmas & New Year.

Monthly Bus Trips

Come and join us on our monthly bus trips on the first Wednesday of the month. Our trips are to a variety of places and include morning tea and lunch and only cost \$45 (entry fees included).

Our first trip is on Wednesday 6th of February. We will be going to Maldon. On our way to Maldon we will be having a short morning tea stop at the Kyneton Botanical Gardens. We will continue onto Maldon Dredge & Dragline located at Porcupine Flat which represents the phase of gold mining in Maldon which had been worked by thousands of individual prospectors in the rush in the 1880's.



If we have some time before lunch, we are going to have a wander around town, before sitting down for a 2-course meal at the Maldon Hotel.

Depart:
Romsey Mechanics Institute - 9.15am - out the front.
Lancefield Post Office - 9.30am

Future trips will be:

- 6th March Castlemaine - to visit the Mill Markets
- 3rd April Geelong - to visit the National Wool Museum
- 1st May Rochester - to visit the Silo Art
- 5th June Harcourt - to visit Harcourt Perry & Cider Makers.

For further information please contact Eileen on 0412 787 213 or Rae on 0408 338 759. Hope to see you soon!



Romsey Mechanics Institute

PO Box 130
Romsey 3434
Victoria

Mob: 0458 726 106
ABN: 99 340 024 758

presidentrmi@gmail.com
secretaryrmi@gmail.com
rmibookings@gmail.com

www.romseymechanicinstitute.com



Romsey Lancefield Senior Citizens

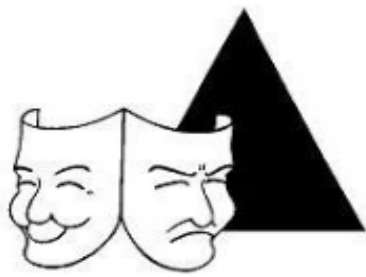
Rr. Romsey Mechanics Hall
Romsey 3434
Victoria

For more information contact:

Rae Hooke 0408 338 759
or
Eileen French 0412 787 213

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The Mount Players Mountview Theatre

56 Smith St,
Macedon VIC 3440

Phone: (03) 5426 1892

www.themountplayers.com

AGM first up for The Mount Players

In December, our Youth theatre put on a fantastic production of *The Pauper Princess* that delighted audiences. Months of work and planning all came together and once again highlighted our depth of talent coming through for the future.

First up for 2019 is our **Annual General Meeting** on Monday 18th February at the Mountview Theatre. 7 – 7.30 drinks & nibbles prior to meeting. All welcome but keep in mind you do have to be a member to vote. Nomination forms can be obtained via our website www.themountplayers.com or for enquiries call 5426 1892.

This year the players will be staging 3 productions as our much loved Mountview Theatre, that is nearly 30 years old, requires some overall maintenance. This break will provide the ideal opportunity to carry out some major works. Painting of the dressing rooms has already commenced—they look fantastic and the planned new flooring will complete the look beautifully. *Twelve Angry Men*, will be our first major production opening on 3rd May. This gripping drama has now been cast and the depth of experience amongst the chosen actors will no doubt deliver an incredible show.

See you at the theatre!

Karen Hunt



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RANGES
PODIATRY

RRBATA Update

Christmas In Romsey (CIR) 2018

Bendigo Bank Christmas In Romsey (CIR) 2018, organized and run by RRBATA's Arts Culture Events (ACE) working group, was a great success. With wonderful support from Romsey region businesses and a significant Macedon Ranges Shire Council grant, the festival was even bigger than the previous year with 75 Main Street trees and the addition of a launch event, "Light Night". The Main Street Christmas trees even drew coverage from ABC radio Bendigo. Whilst a wonderful group of volunteers assisted with implementation of various elements in CIR 2018, CIR 2019 needs pledges of community help to be sustainable. As such, ACE is already looking for volunteers to assist with CIR 2019. For further details, please see the CIR 2018 article in this edition of the Rag.

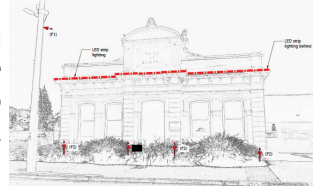
CIR Survey

ACE working group needs your input to ensure CIR 2019 is even bigger and better than 2018. Please take a few minutes to complete the online survey at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/8DDT99G> BEFORE 13th February 2019.

Romsey Streetscape Project Rollout Update

The long awaited Main Street lighting works

are expected to be completed in February. Heritage lamps and feature illuminations (including Mechanics Institute, former Commercial Bank/Shire of Romsey hub building, fountain illumination enhancement) will be completed in February. Development of the garden seating area adjacent to the Hub will also be undertaken.



Clean Up

Romsey Day 2019

Clean Up Romsey Day will be held on Sunday 17th March 2019 between 9am and 11am. If you can spare some time, come along and help fellow community members enhance our town's tidiness. Clean Up Romsey day is an initiative of RRBATA's Town Pride working group. Stay tuned to the next edition of the Romsey Rag and RRBATA Facebook for more information.

RRBATA Membership Package

RRBATA Membership is open to all businesses, organizations and individuals who support Romsey business and tourism. For further details, contact Jenny Stillman (details on the right) or go to Romsey Online and RRBATA Facebook.



Romsey Region Business & Tourism Association (RRBATA)

Jenny Stillman
Phone: 0412 349849
Email: jennystillman@optusnet.com.au

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

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

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



CIR 2018 ROUND UP

Bendigo Bank Christmas In Romsey (CIR) 2018, organized by RRBATA's Arts Culture Events (ACE) working group, was a great success with hundreds of community members enjoying its various elements and activities. In addition to its wonderful sponsors, there was a valuable band of helpers who made it happen including the following:

- The lovely "Tree Fairies" who delivered and picked up Main Street Christmas trees to and from businesses and community groups as well as putting on lights on 30th November and de-installing in January.
- Rue De Fleur's Loren who ran the Christmas Decorations workshops
- Bendigo Bank's Lisa Day and Leanne Showler as well as Crs Natasha Gayfer and Bill West who judged the lights and Decorations Competition.
- Michael and Kay who were photographers at Light Night
- Romsey Lancefield RSL for providing a sound system for Light Night
- Encourage Church band and Elizabeth Ryan (stage manager), Romsey CFA and Santa for a huge Romsey Community Carols night.
- Kyneton Brass Band, Miranda's Picnic and Encourage Choir for street entertainment at Light Night.
- Romsey Primary School for supplying a Light Night firework launch venue.
- Jeff Robinson for collecting staging for the Light night event.
- BRD storage for storing Christmas trees until next time!
- BRD Excavations for transporting the Big Tree.

- Women Welders of Romsey and Romsey Engineering or supporting Main Street tree construction.
- Mick Banon for his Cherry Picker to decorate the big tree.
- THE ROMSEY COMMUNITY for supporting CIR 2018!



COMMUNITY VOLUNTEERS ARE VITAL TO SUCCESSFULLY DELIVER CIR 2019

The ACE Working Group wishes to put in place four (4) Sub Working Groups who will each be responsible for the four major elements of Christmas in Romsey – Official Opening Event, Main Street Christmas Trees, Lights & Decorations Competition and Community Carols. Roles available include:

- Professional & Skilled Roles including Graphic Designer, Marketing Coordinator/Publicist, Creative Artistic Designer & Decorator, Photographer/s and Stage Manager.
- Skilled & Unskilled Volunteers for the Lights & Decoration Competition, Main St Christmas Trees: Welders, Drivers with trailers, Official Opening of Christmas in Romsey and Community Christmas Carols

** If you are interested in assisting make Christmas in Romsey 2019 a great success please contact Sandra Chestnutt (Ph. 0409 724189, Email romseyartscultureandevents@outlook.com).



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Join Probus for Fun & Fellowship

Probus is an Association for active members of the community and for those no longer working full time to join together in clubs for a new lease of life. Its basic purpose is to advance intellectual and cultural interests amongst adult persons, to provide regular opportunities to progress healthy minds and active bodies, through social interaction and activities, expand interests and to enjoy the fellowship of new friends. All our members are active and aged between 60-90+ years.

We enjoy each others company and have made good friendships along the way. Always plenty of chat and laughter whenever we are together.

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

Check out our website for information about the Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club rlprobus.org.au

Monthly meetings are at 10am, on the 4th Thursday of the month in St. Mary's Church Hall Main Street, Romsey.

Our first meeting for 2019 is on Thursday 28th February.

Guest Speaker: Michael Tinley - Pilot.

Our group enjoy fortnightly coffee mornings and the alternate week 10 Pin Bowling at AMF Bowling Watergardens. The dates for February Coffee morning - **8th, 22nd at Cookies Café Romsey, 10am.**

Outing for February will be lunch at the Lancefield Hotel on Wednesday 20th February 12.30pm.

Our March meeting will be the Annual General Meeting where elections will take place. There is no guest speaker and we will go for lunch at Soltan Pepper Restaurant.



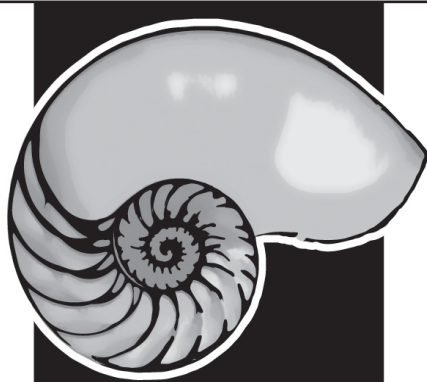
**COMBINED
PROBUS CLUB of
ROMSEY and
LANCEFIELD Inc.
A0042634P**

P.O. Box 280, Romsey
Vic. 3434

President:
Gerard Hanrahan 5429 5630

Secretary:
Jenifer Clampit 5429 5480

rlprobus.org.au



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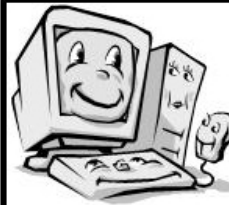
**** NEW LOCATION & A NEW NAME****

Essence of Chinese Medicine

is moving up the street to expand & diversify its services.

The change in location & brand is due to my ultimate dream to build a wellness hub where a range of health practitioners can come together under the one roof for our community. Come in & see us once we open :0)

Opening Monday 8th October



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Cooking with Peter Russell-Clarke

The fat (olive oil) suggested in this offering is GOOD FAT - (that's H.D.L.) As regards to the meat, no doubt you will have a lamb chop, sausage or the like to satisfy the urge of the carnivore. Personally I like to serve this as an entree with cubes of an aged cheddar stirred into the hot vegetables then sprinkled with a little Parmesan cheese.



Grilled Vegetables

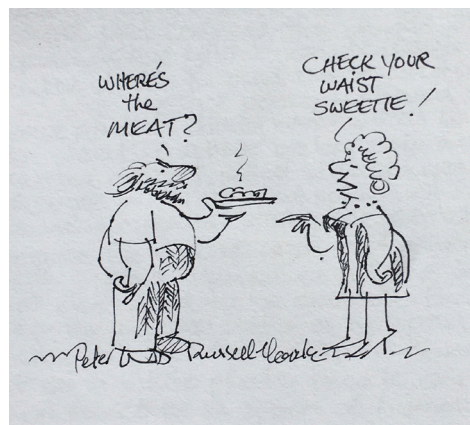
1.5 kg vegetables - zucchini, eggplant, potato, pumpkin, parsnip or the like - thickly sliced;
2 tablespoons olive oil;
4 cloves garlic, chopped finely;
300 g raw baby spinach;
1/2 red capsicum sliced thinly;
2 tablespoons balsamic vinegar;
chives;
nuts.

Slice the vegetables into thick slices and chop the garlic cloves finely. Put them into a baking dish with the olive oil and stir them around until they're well mixed and coated with the oil.

Heat the barbecue plate (or a large flat grill), spray lightly with cooking oil and grill the vegetables, leaving the garlic pieces in the baking dish. Turn the vegetables until they're charred. You're only half cooking them so don't have them on the grill for too long. (And remember, some of the vegetables will take longer than others to heat through). When they're

charred, finish cooking them by putting them onto a lightly oil-sprayed baking tray and bake them in the oven at 180 deg.C for 15 minutes. This will allow the textures to be still defined.

Lay the cooked vegetables on a bed of raw spinach leaves on a serving platter, garnish with finely sliced red capsicum and sprinkle with balsamic vinegar. Stir in the cubed cheese to soften by the warmth of the cooked vegetables. Sprinkle with Parmesan cheese and nuts (I like almonds) and serve to your delighted family.



The New Settlers in Five Mile Creek

By Peter Mitchell

The first settlers to arrive and settle in the district now called Romsey were mainly of British stock. Those from Scotland were mainly crofters (tenant farmers) who fled to Australia to escape ruinous rents, which were being charged at four pounds per acre, to get them off their farms so the owners could change over to sheep, whereas they could buy land in Australia in the 1840s for one pound per acre or less. Many came from Ireland to escape the disastrous Irish potato famine of 1845 - 47, which forced two million people to emigrate.

In 1854 the British government began offering assisted passages to Australia. No doubt these early immigrants were aware of the perils of three months of sailing the high seas. They would have heard the stories of the cramped, uncomfortable conditions on board, the rationing of food and the dangers of shipwrecks. A graphic description of the life on board is provided by R. S. Graham, a prominent Lancefield farmer, who kept a diary of his voyage from Liverpool to Australia as an unassisted passenger on the "Fanny" in 1852. For 3 1/2 months he shared a rat-infested room six feet by four feet, with one bunk six feet long and two feet six

inches wide. Wild and frightening storms whipped up huge waves that broke over the ship, forcing water into the cabins. Death was common in the squalid conditions, particularly young children.

In 1849 labourers arriving by ship were offered the standard salary of fifteen pounds a year with rations of ten pounds of flour, twelve pounds of mutton, two pounds of sugar and half a pound of tea. The journey to their work often took weeks, labouring over rough terrain with a wheelbarrow full of supplies by day and sleeping overnight in Mia Mias made from a framework of branches covered with a blanket.

Those lucky enough to arrive with funds went in search of prime agricultural land which was soon taken up. Many were forced to earn off-farm income by carting supplies, particularly to the goldfields, where a bullock team carting provisions could be paid up to a hundred pounds Stirling for a three to four-week journey. Others made extra money through splitting palings, shingles and fence nails as well as contracting and building.

I Wish

By Grahame Watts

I wish that I was wealthy, I wish that I could fly

Away to far-off places, to mountain tops so high.

I wish, I wish, that I could go where life is ever free,

Where everyone can build a home and raise a family.

I wish that I could travel to places that I know,

No border guards, no curfew, free to come and go.

I wish that I could live in peace forever and a day,

Where I'm allowed to speak my thoughts, stand and have my say.

I wish for richness in my life, the right to kneel in prayer,

I wish that I could always live without a fear or care.

Where is this land in all the world, this dream I hold so dear?

I tell you friend it's not so far, it's where we are - right here.

Romsey Golf Club, Men's & Women's Reports

Park Lane, Romsey
PO Box 200, Romsey 3434

www.romseygolfclub.net
mail@romseygolfclub.net

President 0417 088 891
Secretary 0400 768 040



The final weeks of Dec saw much work on course as members trenched, laid and connected pipes and sprinklers and then covered over the trenches as part of the final stage of our irrigation system. These works saw 63mm pipe laid to increase water flow and pressure, a new loop laid to connect the 15th green back to the ring main and the 63mm pipe connected to the distribution manifold and to the 40mm pipe. Now most of the ground works are complete we hope to have our 2nd pump installed and operating by late Jan/early Feb. These works have been made possible by grants from the Bendigo Bank and MHR for McEwan Rob Mitchell and club funds

brother Graeme's golfing time at RGC. The 2018 Graeme Clement Shied winner was Mark Corradin from Euroa G.C.

Well, as feared, the Long-billed Corellas have returned and begun to wreak havoc on some of the greens. The club is again trying any and all ideas to deter these birds from attacking the greens. They love the onion weed bulbs and anyone who has walked across Romsey Park recently will see areas where they have "ploughed" up the soil searching for the bulbs. We ask the community members do not interfere with the many and varied shiny and other things the club has placed around the greens

The 2018 Romsey Open Tournament was held late in November. The two days were quite successful with a good field contesting the inaugural Graeme Clement Shield on the Sunday. Andrew Clement addressed the players recounting many of the memorable moments of

In 2019 the "11th Relay For Life" Charity Golf Day will be held at RGC on Sunday Feb. 10th. So far, this event has raised almost \$20,000 for cancer research. The flyer can be found in the Feb Romsey Rag or at <http://www.romseygolfclub.net/sunday-february-10th-9-30-for-10-00-am-tee-off/>

RGC Weekly Competition Results:

Dec 1st	Par; Mick Nicholls Snr +1, Chris vanDerVliet, Rob Rea & Mick Nicholls Jnr all Square
2018	John Laing Shield Final – Mick Squire (0) D Les Gaunt (0) – 4/3
Dec 8th	Stableford; J Laing - 41 pts, Mick Nicholls Snr, L Gaunt, A Clement & J Freestone 35 pts
Dec 15th	4BBB Stroke; A Lakey/J Freestone – 62 from J Patton/M Nicholls Jnr – 68
Dec 26th	Stableford; M Mottram (10) – 35pts from C Lingard (3) & M Nicholls Jnr (16) – 33 pts
Dec 29th	Dec Medal; Men - R Rea – 86/18/68. Women – D Baker – 88/16/72
Jan 1st	Stableford; M Squire (8) – 36 pts from S Climas (12) – 33 pts
Jan 5th	4Ball Multiplier Sford; S Wright (12)/M Nicholls Jnr (17) - 79 pts, M Squire (8)/Patton (19) - 64 pts
Jan 9th	Ambrose; Beryl Cole, Wendy Gosden and Lorraine Robb – 49/9.77/39.23
Jan 12th	Stroke; C vanDerVliet – 95/25/70 C/B Les Gaunt - 78/8/70

For more detailed reports please go to; <http://www.romseygolfclub.net/results/2018/>

APPLY NOW.

Event Sponsorship Program 2019

Planning an event in 2019? Apply for funding from the Lancefield and Romsey **Community Bank**® branches, via our Event Sponsorship Program.

We are offering this funding in addition to our annual Community Investment Program. This is a coordinated way for us to help support events that will run pre-November 2019.

The Program opens on Monday 18 February and applications are due in by Friday 29 March 2019. Contact Sally Peeler at marketing@lancefieldromseybank.com.au to request an application form, or to discuss your sponsorship application.

'Supporting our local community.'



Lancefield and Romsey **Community Bank**® branches



Encourage Church

Romsey Office:
7 Mitchell Court Romsey
Ph (03) 5429 6327

office@encouragechurch.com.au
www.encouragechurch.com.au

At Encourage Church, we are all about people.

God commands us to love one another and by this shall all men know that we are His.
We hope to see you at one of our services or events soon.
Service Time - Sunday 10am

Worship service Sunday 10am
Fortnightly life groups
Youth events
Weekly children's program

Pastor's Parables

Believing in God is a chance worth taking



To prove our capabilities in certain endeavours, we often need someone else to take a chance and believe in us. When given such a chance, we then have an opportunity to prove their faith in us was well founded. The world's greatest intellects can neither prove nor disprove God's existence. It all comes down to personal belief. If we adamantly don't believe in something, we sceptically explain away all proof. We live in a world where seeing is believing; however, one of the greatest acts of trust we can show in another, is believing in them before the evidence is seen.

God does not coerce our free-will. That is why belief is the currency that He demands before He vindicates Himself. Only those who step out in faith see the evidence of God working in their lives. This explains why many Christians have a strong faith; by believing they have seen – and once seen it is easy to believe.

In a world of reason, it seems foolish to believe in something before seeing the evidence, but if we always disbelieve in God we inadvertently close the door on Him ever proving Himself. Give God a chance. We must remember, God does not need us – but we certainly need Him. God does reveal Himself through creation and His Word (the Bible), but if we wish for God to reveal Himself further in our life, we must choose to seek Him.

How do we start? The Bible states in John 14:6-7 that Jesus Christ is the Way, the truth and the Life and by believing in Him we will receive everlasting life and an eternal relationship with God. (Hebrews 11:6, 2 Corinthians 5:7)

Pastor Marilyn Hunter



St. Mary's Parish - Lancefield & Romsey

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

lancefield@cam.org.au

MASS TIMES

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month:
8:00am Lancefield and 10:00 am Romsey
2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month:
8:00am Romsey and 10:00am Lancefield
1st Saturday of the month:
10:00am Romsey – Healing Mass
Reconciliation available from 9:30am

COMMUNION SERVICES

Tuesday 9:00am Romsey Church
Saturday 10:00am Romsey Church

ROSARY

Saturdays 9:45am Romsey

RECONCILIATION

By arrangement.

BAPTISMS

2019 – Romsey Church – April 7th, June 2nd, August 4th, October 6th & December 1st.
2019 – Lancefield Church – March 10th, May 12th, July 14th, September 8th & November 10th.

For more information, please phone 5429 2130.

SACRAMENTS

Registrations are now open for all Sacraments to be received in 2019. Please send your details to the secretary at lancefield@cam.org.au to register your child.

PARISH NEWS

Our Christmas Masses were celebrated by Fr. Vinoth and the churches were full. It was wonderful to see the children participate in "The Nativity" at the Family Mass in Romsey on Christmas Eve. A big thank you goes to Margaret Redmond and her amazing musical family who provided the music for the evening and Louise Newnham for organising the children. Midnight Mass once again brought out the lovely local voices who sang along to "Carols" beautifully lead by Maureen and Ken Wiltshire. Christmas Day Mass was also well attended, and Agnes Kennedy provided the music for this Mass. Our Liturgy team of Rosalie McCarthy, Marie Hoban and Anne Alford did a fabulous job of decoration the churches for Advent and the Christmas Masses. Thank you to all involved for making the Christmas

Masses such a wonderful celebration.

FAREWELL FR. VINOTH

After two years of wonderful service to our parish, sadly we had to say goodbye to Fr. Vinoth in January. Thankfully he will not be too far away so we can still keep in touch. Fr. Vinoth has taken on the role of Parish Priest at St. Brigid's in Gisborne after the retirement of Fr. Gerry Spillane. A farewell luncheon was held for Fr. Vinoth and we wish him every happiness and success in his new role.

WELCOME FR. DARYL

Luckily for us, Fr. Daryl Montecillo, who took over Fr. Vinoth's Chaplaincy work in the city hospitals has kindly agreed to also take over Fr. Vinoth's supply to our parish. Fr. Daryl was welcomed to the parish in January and we look forward to getting to know each other over the coming year.

Parish Priest	Fr. Martin Fleming C/O Woodend Presbytery 5427 2690
Supply Priest	Fr. Daryl Montecillo C/O Woodend Presbytery 5427 2690
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Tammie Dalglish 5429 2130
School Secretary	Ms. Julie McDougall 5429 1359
School Website	www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

Macedon Ranges Uniting Church Partnership Contacts

Office Phone: 5428 6920 Email: macedon.ranges.partnershuip@hotmail.com

Website: www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au

Ministers:

Rev. Deacon Wendy Elston Ph. 5427 2761 or 0400 042 076

Rev. Peter Cannon Ph. 9746 3454 or 0418 570 013

Pastor Annette Buckley Ph. 5429 5351 or 0457 608 539

On 20th December 2018 - We enjoyed a very successful 'Follow the Star' event. We had a donkey and the Kyneton Brass Band to lead the procession through the streets and some lovely animals in the church grounds - a couple of baby kangaroos (being bottle fed), goats, rabbits, guinea pigs, a beautiful parrot, chooks etc. Although the weather was quite cold, we all enjoyed a great night of celebration of the Birth of Jesus. During January the Romsey and Lancefield Uniting Churches enjoyed combined services and fellowship with each other. Christmas has been and gone and most of us have been in holiday mode, no doubt everyone has either enjoyed watching the Cricket or Tennis, or perhaps just relaxing with a good book, but perhaps have not enjoyed the very hot weather we have experienced. But now it is February, holidays are over,

children are back at school, young people looking for work. It is a time to think about what will be happening in 2019. Will we be just as busy as we were in 2018 or will we stop and take stock of what is around us. A wise writer in the Bible said that there's a time for everything under the sun - and I reckon that includes a time to release ourselves, let go and recharge our batteries. "Be still and know that I am God," the Psalmist advises. It means 'relax and know...'. The problem with our frenetic activity is that it crowds God out. We think our business is on his behalf, but really it pushes him to the edge of our lives. Take time out today, relax and give God a chance to make himself felt *Lord, when life is fast and I am getting breathless, help me to feel your presence in the pressures.*

Romsey Church Services & Activities during February 2019

Mondays 4th, 11th, 18th, 25th. at 2pm 'Cuppa at Cookies'

Sunday 3rd. 10.45am Partnership Service and Holy Communion at Lancefield. There will not be a service at Romsey on this day.

Wednesday 6th. 6pm Church Council meet at Stracks.

Wednesday 13th. 1.30pm UCAF meeting

Sunday 10th, 17th, 24th. 9am. Worship Service



The Uniting Church in Australia

Macedon Ranges Partnership

Romsey Congregation

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

Chairperson
Mr. Noel Shaw
5429 5509

Secretary
Mrs. Jenifer Clampit
5429 5480

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

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly.
God comes to us, each and every one.*

God bless you every day.

NOTICE FROM ST MARYS CHURCH

PLENARY COUNCIL 2020

During the month of February the Parish of St. Mary's Lancefield/Romsey will be attempting to contact you to inform you about the Plenary Council. The Plenary Council is a meeting of the Church in Australia to be held in 2020. It is being called to discuss the future of the Church.

In a certain sense, the Council has already begun at the local Parish level throughout Australia. The bishops have asked everybody to consider what it is that must be done to make the church more responsive to the age in which we are living.

The opportunity to pray about the future and discuss your own thoughts will be provided in church on Sunday 10th February when Sister José from Sunbury will lead us in group discussions.

You may attend and contribute in a group or alternatively respond anonymously to the Plenary Council by returning your letter to the Parish House, 27 Chauncey St., Lancefield, 3735 or by making a submission online to plenarycouncil.catholic.org.au/have-your-say/

The choice to be a voice for the future is yours. Pope Francis and the Australian bishops are insistent that everybody in Australia is welcome to contribute their thoughts and ideas about the future of the Catholic Church in Australia. "Let anyone who has an ear listen to what the Spirit is saying to the Churches"

(Rev.2:7)

ROMSEY MECHANICS' INSTITUTE

Notice is given of a

PUBLIC MEETING

to be held at 122 Main Street Romsey on Tuesday March 12th, 2019 commencing at 7.30pm.

The purpose of the meeting is to nominate no less than three (3) nor more than nine (9) persons as the Committee of Management for the Romsey Mechanics' Institute for a term of three years. The current committee's term will expire on the 31st of March 2019. All positions will be declared open and nominations will be accepted prior to or on the night.

Nominations from women are encouraged.

Further information, nomination forms and nominee declaration forms may be obtained by contacting your local Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning office or at the meeting.

For further enquiries please contact the Secretary, Kathy Lakey on 0458 726 106.

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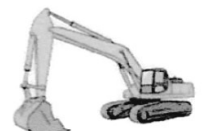
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Public Notices	\$15.00			
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Quarter Page	\$65.00	\$175.00	\$331.50	\$572.00
Half Page	\$120.00	\$324.00	\$612.00	\$1,056.00
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Front Page Sponsorship - colour	\$240.00	One-Off Adverts		
Back Page - colour	\$240.00	½ page \$140.00	¼ page - \$80.00	
Inside front/back cover - colour	\$240.00	½ page \$140.00	¼ page - \$80.00	

This is a great social media outlet for announcements of your forthcoming local event!

There are two types of membership packages available for Not for Profit groups, please contact the committee for more details.

Contributions

We accept legible, typed or hand written articles and articles on USB. These can be dropped off at the **Romsey Post Office** or the **Library** on or before the **15th of the month** prior to publication month.

Alternatively, articles can be sent via e-mail to:
email@theromseyrag.com.au

The preference via email is for Word Documents with no formatting. All logos and photos should be jpegs.

On receipt of material a commitment form will be sent. This form must be completed in full and returned prior to publication.

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editorial Committee. All contributions remain the responsibility of the author. The Editor reserves the right to refuse inflammatory or derogatory material and make minor adjustments where necessary.

Distribution

The Rag is available for **PICK UP ONLY** from:

- The Romsey Post Office
- IGA Supermarket
- Bendigo Bank
- The Burnbrook Fields Butcher
- The HUB/Library
- Caltex Servo



Animal Care

Did you know it only takes 10 minutes for the temperature inside a car to skyrocket by 20 degrees? Just imagine the heat when it reaches 40+ degrees outside during the summer.

Dogs are particularly at risk as they cool themselves by panting. If the air around them is too hot - particularly if they don't have access to water - dogs are physically unable to regulate their body temperature. In the time it takes to pick up a few things for dinner at the supermarket and get through the check-out, a dog left in a hot car could have already died an agonising death.

If you find a dog suffering or in distress, please contact Victorian Police immediately on 000.

DOGS DIE IN HOT CARS
Take the pledge to never leave your dog unattended.
You could lose your best mate in just **6 MINUTES**
justsixminutes.com.au

For many pet lovers, Valentine's Day is a time to show their animal companions how much they love them.



The problem is each year there is a sharp rise in cases around the 14th February many involving chocolate or lilies, a flower that's potentially fatal to cats. Valentine's Day can be as much fun for pets as it is for humans - as long as dangerous items are kept out of paws' reach!

So if you do choose to spoil your pet this Valentine's day make sure you provide treats suitable for your pet, avoid having plants or flowers with thorns or are that are toxic. A sparkling new collar, food bowl or comfy new bed may be more suitable. Why not have a portrait of them for your wall?

However you decide to show your love, remember they may be only in this world for a short time, but you are their World, so make sure you show them!

Fun for Children

Test your skills on these puzzles!

MY SUMMER HOLIDAY

1. First read the following picture story, complete with words:

SEA, WALK, CANOEING, TENT, MUSHROOMS, CAMP, BOAT, TOWNS, CAR, BALL, PARENTS, SUNNY, BUS, WOOD, FRIENDS, FISHING, BLUEBERRIES, CASTLES, PLANE, SWIMMING, SUNBATHING, ISLAND

I always go to a summer , with my
 in July. We stay in a near a river.
 On days we go , or play
 games. We also like picking
 and in the
 Sometimes we go on a trip. We can or go by
 , visit old , or interesting
 In August my have their holidays,
 too. We travel to theWe fly by
 to the seaside in far-away countries or even to an
 When my dad drives a , we always take a
 with us to go along the beach.
 Mum loves but dad prefers

SUMMER holidays

Match the words to the correct pictures and complete the crossword. Then find a secret message.

12 ball
 11 beach bag
 buckete
 Camping
 Crab
 deckchair
 Flippers
 inflatable ring
 kite
 lifeguard
 sandcastle
 shells
 snorkelling
 scarfish
 sunbathing
 sun cream
 sunglasses
 sunshade
 swimming
 surfing
 towel

The secret message is _____

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There will be free face painting, a balloonologist and craft activities for the whole family as well as plenty of food available to purchase.

Strictly an alcohol-free event.

Date	Saturday 23 February 2019
Time	4pm to 8pm
Where	Romsey Mechanics Institute 122 Main Street, Romsey
Info	Free entry, courtesy of the Romsey Community Bank ® Branch. Tickets available from 105 Main Street, Romsey - first come, first served. Entry includes a free popcorn. Only 200 tickets available – collect yours early to avoid disappointment!

We look forward to seeing you there.



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Results of the Christmas Children's Competition

Prep to Grade 2



1st - Dakota Jones



Joint 2nd - Alana Strack



Joint 2nd - Charlotte McAuley

Grade 3- 4



1st - Chaz Cannon

The Committee take this opportunity to congratulate everyone that took part in the first competition run by The Romsey Rag.

There will be a few more competitions throughout the year, so make sure you keep an eye open for them!

Grade 5-6



1st - Darcie Bendelle



2nd - Abby Atkins