

A FREE Monthly Community Newsletter - February 1988.

Proudly Sponsored this month by:

ROMSEY PRIMARY SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PLAN COMMITTEE.

EDITORIAL NOTE: As we resume yet another year of publications, it may be appropriate to look back and thank all the readers and sponsors who have assisted in the production, of this monthly newsletter. Planning by a very small committee commenced in July 1984 as a response to a perceived need to bring the residents of Romsey, some very local news. The Romsey Primary School have been happy to assist in the production through the use of equipment because the now well known Romsey Rag is seen as a vehicle, not only to carry school news to the wider community but as another means of linking school and the residents and this was one of the aims of the School Improvement Plan.

When the first issue was published in August 1984, the committee of four had to actively solicit news items. Since then the team has grown dramatically to involve many voluntary workers who are planning, typing, duplicating, collating, folding, and distributing. Rarely now are we searching out items of news. Contributions are already handed in to the Romsey Post Office by 2pm on the First Friday of each month, typed and printed on the Monday and distributed on the Tuesday. One of the most amazing things about the Rag is that ever since the second issue was released, the Editorial Committee have not had to personally solicit donations to pay for materials. The monthly invitation to assist, that appears on the final page, has been responded to by local businesses, readers and families and for their generosity we are greatly appreciative. Please help us by contributing local news items that can be of real interest to the residents of Romsey.

Congratulations, I believe are due to the Australia Day Committee for the way in which they not only enlisted assistance but also carried off the Program. As one of the many who were enjoying the Bush Dancing in the Streets of Lancefield, until well after 10pm, I can say that the activities were well enjoyed. Thanks again to the local businesses of the Shire which were financially responsible for supporting the program that will be long remembered. It is always great to see residents who live throughout the Shire getting together to celebrate.

After the washout on ~~Australia~~ ^{New Years} Day at the Hanging Rock Races it was impressive to note the enjoyment, and costumes of those who attended the successful Program at the Rock on Australia Day. Congratulations to all those concerned.

SCHOOL NEWS: A very smooth start to the year was experienced at Romsey Primary School last week as 280 children and 18 staff commenced a very short first term. With the advent of the 4 term year, and the decision to tie the first term to Easter, the staff are challenged to make the most out of the 38 days that remain in this term.

The new Prep - Year 10 school planned for Romsey moves yet one tiny step closer with the permission to acquire land for this process. The project has a very high priority in the Region's eyes and no doubt readers will be interested in future developments.

NURSING MOTHERS' ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALIA - ROMSEY-LANCEFIELD GROUP: The first meeting of the year will be held on Thursday 25th Feb. at 8 p.m. It will be at the home of Mary Campbell, Lot 1 Williams Street Romsey, ph. 295-629. The topic for discussion is "And so to family foods - introduction to solids". All mothers and mothers-to-be are most welcome to attend.

LANCEFIELD AND DISTRICT BUSH NURSING HOSPITAL INC.: The Publicity Committee of the Lancefield and District Bush Nursing Hospital Inc. would like to commend all helpers who contributed to the Hospital Float on Australia Day, our first effort since the 1960's, to our patients, Damien and John, our Bush Nurses Ancient and Modern, our intrepid driver and his vehicle and all the background construction workers - grateful thanks.

Mrs. Kathy Clark.

8TH ANNUAL ART SHOW: The Romsey Artists, in conjunction with the Romsey Fire Brigade Auxiliary, will hold its 8th Annual Art Exhibition at the Romsey Mechanics Hall on Saturday 7th Feb. at 8 p.m. (admission by tickets \$10 per double - includes supper) and Sunday 8th Feb. from 9.30 a.m. (admission 50 cents). For further information contact Secretary Cheryl Bryant ph. 295-734 or President Robyn Moore ph. 295-698. All proceeds go to Romsey Rural Fire Brigade.

ROMSEY FOOTBALL CLUB NEWS: At the Annual Meeting held last October, the following committee was elected.

President: Rob McIntyre, Vice-Presidents: David Knight and David Schneeberger,
Secretary: Graeme Cuffe, Treasurer: Peter Gay, Committee: John McIntyre, Tim Cruise, Alan Matheson and Steve Skinner.

Senior Coach: Bruce Davis. Reserves Coach: Brett Harrison.

We are currently searching for people who can assist us at the games each Saturday. For each home game we require:

Goal and boundary umpire for the reserves
Timekeepers and team managers
Scoreboard attendants
Interchange steward
Line marker
Gatekeeper
Kiosk attendant.

If you are willing to help in any of these positions, please contact a member of the committee. Training has already commenced and will be held on Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights until the cricket season finishes. New players will be made welcome. First game of the season is against old rivals, Lancefield, on Saturday 9th April at Romsey.

Rob McIntyre.

WANTED TO BUY: Wardrobe, chest of drawers, single bed and desk. Tel. 295-522.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY: P.O. Box 11 ROMSEY, 3434: I was going to say: "The first activity for this year is the Annual General Meeting on Tuesday 23rd Feb." but of course our members have already been active in several directions during January. The Museum will be open every Sunday, in the ex-Court House at Lancefield. New displays of local history are now on show, and the Museum will be open every Sunday, 1.30 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. A successful Float was entered in the Australia Day Parade, which had involved members in a couple of workshop afternoons to plan and construct it. We also sold billy tea and damper at a street stall in Lancefield on Australia Day. And the usual work of watering, weeding and mowing has continued at the Sidney Seymour Cottage garden in Romsey. (See special request for help elsewhere in this Romsey Rag.) But the A.G.M. is the first opportunity this year for new people to come along and hear our plans for 1988, and for all members to renew involvement again. (Annual subscription is only \$4.) We hope to run a varied and interesting programme of meetings this year, and there is much work to be done on our two special projects - the Museum and the Cottage. So, please regard this as YOUR PERSONAL INVITATION to come along (and bring a friend) to our first Meeting of the year -

A.G.M. - Tuesday 23rd Feb. at 8 p.m. at Lancefield Mechanics Institute.

Thereafter, meetings held alternately at Romsey Mech. Inst. and Lancefield Mech. Inst. on 4th Tuesdays at 8 p.m. ALL WELCOME.

Jean Newell
Secretary - Tel: 295-522.

HEISZ SCHOOL OF IRISH DANCING: Mrs. Rosemary Deutscher (T.C.R.C. Dublin) will commence classes in Irish Dancing on Thursday 18th Feb. 8.30 p.m. - 9.30 p.m. at the Romsey Mechanics Hall. Lessons are \$2.00 each but on opening night the lesson is free and there will also be a display by dancers from Melbourne where Rosemary has taught for many years. Come along and see what it's like!

Rosemary Deutscher Tel: 295-912.

ROMSEY COMMUNITY HEALTH SERVICE: JUST HAD A BABY? Come to our Aerobic and Discussion Classes.

EXERCISE: Stretching and toning **RELAXATION:** Learn relaxation techniques.
DISCUSSION: Variety of discussion and occasional guest speakers eg baby massage
DAY: Monday **TIME:** 10.00 a.m. at KYNETON - Community Health Service

commencing 1st Feb. 1988. **COST:** \$1.50 per session. **CHILD DANCING** (available - no cost) For more information telephone Diana Knichala on 223-011 Monday to Thursday.

COMMENTS FROM AN INTERESTED READER: This is a copy of a letter I have sent to Messrs. Cain, Drabb, Mathews, MacDonald - Member for Burke, Kennett and Shooters Association. I think if we all feel strongly enough about an issue for or against we should let our Parliamentarians know.
Helen Watts.

"Dear Sir,

I ask you to reconsider your stand on the new gun laws that are being proposed in Parliament. I am a wife and mother. My husband has on occasions, been rabbit shooting. It's been a pleasant pastime for him and with all the precautions taken with his guns at home, I have never felt under threat by their presence. What I strongly advise each individual, who has any conscience to do, is to look at the problem of violence in our society objectively and carefully, examining the violence that is readily available to anyone, in the form of FILMS, VIDEOS, and TV PROGRAMS, yes, even CARTOONS, and GRAPHIC MEDIA COVERAGE. This is the root of our violence in society and I really believe that if you look at the problem you will have to agree. It is not enough for our government to do something just for the sake of a popular image, or to have a "seen to be doing something" attitude. I, like a great many other people, feel banning guns is not the answer. If a criminal wants a gun he will get it, law or no law, but who and where do these disturbed people in the world get their ideas on what to do? I think we all know that answer.

Yours faithfully,
Mrs. Helen Watts.

AEROBICS: Come along and join Carol's Aerobic Sessions held every Monday and Thursday mornings from 9.15 a.m. to 10.00 a.m. in the Romsey Mechanics Hall. Get fit while exercising to music. Only \$2.00 per session (creche available at 50 cents). Please bring a mat. Enquire to Carol on 295-590.

JAZZ BALLET: Bookings can now be made with Carol on 295-590 for the following classes:

- Monday 4.00 to 5.00 p.m. Kinder and Preps
- 5.00 to 6.00 p.m. Year 7 and up
- Tuesday 4.00 to 5.00 p.m. Grades 1, 2 and 3.
- 5.00 to 6.00 p.m. Grades 4, 5 and 6.

STARTS FEB. 8th and 9th. \$3.00 per lesson. Bookings only.

CORNER CRAFTS: FREE CHOCOLATE-MAKING DEMONSTRATION AND TASTING AT CORNER CRAFTS on Wednesday 5th March 1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. Thursday 17th March 4.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m. Tuesday 22nd March 1.00 p.m. to 2.00 p.m. Come along and learn how to make your own chocolates for Easter.

ROMSEY MEDICAL CENTRE - LANCEFIELD SURGERY APPOINTMENTS? As from MONDAY 1ST FEB. 1988 the surgery at Lancefield will OPERATE ON AN APPOINTMENT BASIS. Surgery hours remain unchanged Mon - Fri 11 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. Sat - 11 a.m. - 12 noon.

Please ring 295-254 at any time to make appointments at Lancefield. To contact the Doctor during surgery hours at Lancefield the number remains unchanged 291-443.

ROMSEY WALKING GROUP: Recommences Tuesday Feb. 9th at St. Mary's Hall, 9.30 a.m. Variety of walks, cuppa to follow. Cost 50 cents. ALL WELCOME.

ART CLASSES: Will be held here in Romsey commencing the 8th February. Classes will be for beginners covering basic construction techniques (pinch slab and coil pots). Pottery firing as well as learning a little about clay at the same time. Come and join in for fun. Two night classes will be available depending on numbers. Tuesday and Thursday 7.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. and one afternoon class from 1.00 to 3.00 p.m.. The cost will be £5.00 which includes tuition for 7 classes, clay glaze and firing of pots. For further information contact Gillian ph. 295-448.

ROMSEY FIRE BRIGADE AUXILIARY. Members are reminded that the next meeting of the Auxiliary will be at 8.00 p.m. on Monday Feb. 15th at Group Headquarters, Stawell Street. Your attendance is important to help finalise catering plans for the forthcoming Art Show. All members (male or female) are always welcome. For further information contact Secretary Bryn Bryant (295-734) or President Robyn Moore (295-698).

YOUR ROMSEY GARDEN NO. 26: Why some plants are not grown from seed. As most breeders of livestock will know, the careful selection of both parents is essential to maintain and improve the standard of the progeny. That the same principle applies to other forms of life unfortunately, often overlooked when it comes to the propagation or planting of some cultivated plants. Most fruit trees, roses, camellias, rhododendrons and many other trees, shrubs and perennials which are in cultivation today are the result of cross breeding and/or careful selection of outstanding individuals from among many thousands of less desirable seedlings over decades or even centuries, but, unlike animals, can be propagated by cuttings, offsets, grafts or other vegetative means usually from one selected individual, thus maintaining the characteristics of the original without the possibility of variations induced by deliberate or chance cross pollination by other known or unknown individuals, usually inherent in the production of seed. As such asexually produced plants (clones) are often easily propagated, quicker to produce flowers or fruit, and can usually be guaranteed to produce the identical crop under suitable conditions, there is no point in gambling with seed from such plants. While it is known that some fruit trees such asectarines, often produce fruit of acceptable quality for home use from seeds, there is no guarantee any such seedlings would not be sold by a reputable dealer. It is also worth noting that the use of selected varieties or species as rootstocks is usually practised in the trade in order to give the grafted tree certain advantages over plants on their own roots, such as resistance to certain pests or diseases, adaptability to less favourable growing conditions, quicker growth or even a smaller or more compact habit as with the new dwarf citrus trees growing to less than 2M high being produced in California. The growing of the foregoing kinds of plants from seed is therefore a lottery with few prizes and ignores the benefits available to us from the many years of world-wide research, experiment and selection behind the quality of the named cultivars we enjoy today.

Syd Wheller.

WANTED TO BUY: Ladies s/h bicycle in reasonable condition. Phone 295-297 evenings.

ROMSEY GREEN THUMBS: Are you aware that you have a public garden in Romsey? It is the Friday Seymour Cottage Garden in Palmer Street. Brenda Tarpey, in charge of restoration and maintenance is forming a "Friends of the Cottage Garden" Group of keen helpers who will meet once or twice a month. It will cost you nothing but a little time, a little energy, and a lot of love for things that grow. There is a great deal of satisfaction in helping to create and maintain a garden which is based in the pre-1900 era/ so if you are a mad gardener and would like a change from pulling your own weeds come and join this group. You will be helping to create something beautiful in your community - today and for the future. Do come and stick your hands in Romsey's lovely red soil and turn your green thumb greener.

Ring Brenda - 295-756.

ROMSEY POLICE NEWS: By the time that you read this, children of all ages will have started school, so watch out for the school crossings, and also for the young ones on their bikes. Whilst on the subjects of bicycles we still have some bike safety flags on sale at the Police Station, \$5.00 each as I said before they are not a gimmick but a great way of making sure that the kids are safe and seen, the flags are a joint Lions and Police venture. Last year for the 12 months we had 10 reported accidents, two of them serious, this year to date we have already had two accidents, one serious,; is that a good start to the year? So it looks as if a bit more care is needed on our roads. For the month of December and January there were 14 reported burglaries within the Romsey Police Sub-District, that is 7 a month, the only consolation is that not many of them were committed within the town itself, mainly on the outskirts of the town and in vacant or weekend houses.

ROMSEY POLICE NEWS (cont'd) One of the best preventions is that when you are going on holidays, to let your neighbours know and at the same time to come up to the Police Station and fill out a form to let us know that you are going away, and most importantly if you see a strange car wandering around jot down the number, all these things can help. The fire problem is still with us and I guess we can look forward to another month or so of the hot weather so be careful with the long grass around your property, remember if you want to burn off, you have to get a permit. Ash Wednesday was on the 16th February and we don't want another one of those, so be careful. There is a general blitz on at the moment for roadworthy cars and motorbikes so with a bit of care it won't cost you money, now that you are back from holidays, check the car or motorbike and make sure that it is roadworthy.

Warren B. OPIE,
 Snr/Constable, 16679,

OFFICER IN CHARGE
 ROMSEY AND LANCEFIELD ROMSEY Church School St. Paul's Romsey. This is our parish equivalent of Sunday School and re-commences on Tuesday, 23rd Feb. at St. Paul's Romsey at 3.45 p.m. For further details please contact the Superintendent, Mrs. M. White, h. 295-512.

ROMSEY AND LANCEFIELD CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP is a community church providing fellowship, bible teaching, youth work, and care and assistance for those in need. Jesus said: "He who come to me, I will in no way cast out". The gospel of Salvation is a vital message for today's generation, and can be heard at any of our regular meetings. Regular Sunday services for the next month are at the following locations:

Feb. 14th	Romsey Mechanics Hall	10.30 a.m.
21st	Lancefield Mechanics Hall	10.30 am.
28th	Lancefield " "	10.30 a.m.
March 6th	Lancefield " "	10.30 a.m.

Inquiries invited to Geoff Holland 295-673 or Phillip Hemphill 291-672.

COUNCIL NEWS: Welcome back. An application for a strate sub-division (13 allotments) in Barry Street West was required to be advertised. A permit for a plastic recycling factory in Johnson Court has been approved. Council has also consented to allowing use of Romsey Engineering factory buildings by the Recyclers for 6 months whilst their building is being constructed. As usual, the Immunization Sessions for 1988 will be held at the I.W.C. at 3.15 p.m. on the last Tuesday of every month. A "disabled" toilet will be constructed at the rear of the Mechanics Institute and, with luck, should be completed prior to winter. Due to pressure from the State Gov't, Romsey Shire will be restructured into four ridings instead of the present six. The Romsey Riding will be marginally smaller, the eastern boundary will be Tickawarea Road instead of Deep Creek. Naturally it will cost to make the necessary changes, one being reprogramming of our computer. At the next Municipal Elections (August) you will be required to select 3 Councillors for the "new" Riding. The After School Hours Programme is operating now. One dollar per hour, Mon. to Fri., 3.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. has to be the cheapest childminding facility available. For the trivia minded, the Census figure for the Municipality on 30.6.87 showed an estimated resident population of 6,290. This has yet to be confirmed but is believed to be reasonably accurate. The growth rate, therefore, was between 33-34% on the previous Census.

Till next time,
 Ken Francis
 Geoff Neil.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY: * Indicates details contained within this edition.

- FEB. Mon * 8th Pottery Classes recommence
- Tues * 9th Walking Group recommences
- Thurs 11th Romsey Primary School Parents' Club meeting
- Sat 13th Golf Progressive Dinner
- Mon * 15th CFA Auxillary meeting
- Thurs * 18th Irish Dancing Classes
- Tues * 23rd AGM Historical Society
- Thurs * 25th Nursing Mothers Association First meeting 1988
- Sat/Sun * 27th/28th 8th Annual Art Show

APRIL Sat 9th * First Football Game of the season at Romsey.

ITEMS FOR THE MARCH ISSUE OF THE ROMSEY RAG TO BE AT THE POST OFFICE BY 2 p.m. ON FRIDAY 4th MARCH, 1988 - THANK YOU. Compilers reserve the right to reject or include any item presented for print. I would like to sponsor an editon of the Romsey Rag YES..... I would like to help with the delivery of the Romsey Rag YES.....

EDITORIAL COMMITTEE: Trevor Turnham, Bev Large, Beryl Cole, Laurel Miles, Shirley Shelton.