

VOLUME: 42 | EDITION: 01 | FEBRUARY 2024

Relay For Life

2024 will see the 21st Lancefield & Macedon Ranges Relay For Life (RFL). In its first 20 years this community event has raised \$1,738,000 for cancer research, prevention and support services. There are many other Relays all around the state every year.

Figures now indicate that every 2nd person will have some form of cancer, this may be a small, benign growth that is easily removed or a far more serious cancer requiring invasive surgery followed by one or both of radiation-therapy or chemotherapy. Both may make you very sick as they attack the tumour.

During 2022 just under 100 people were diagnosed each day with some form of cancer. Melanoma, skin cancer, diagnoses in rural Victoria are 47% higher than in the larger cities.

For each of these 2002 - 2023 Relays community members have clubbed together to form teams to raise funds through activities such as trivia nights, raffles and regular stalls at markets or IGA. Some sporting clubs have held special cancer events and many local businesses have donated items or funds to teams.

As with all these type of events the whole thing relies on the hard-work of a small band volunteers. The organising committee must work with both the Cancer Council and the various teams to make the day run smoothly and assist all to raise as many funds as possible.

The research that comes from the funds raised has seen better treatments for many cancers and break throughs that have resulted in higher survival rates.

Relay for Life 2024

Who will you <mark>Relay</mark> for?

LANCEFIELD MACEDON RANGES | 2 MARCH Lancefield Park - 17 Park Lane, Lancefield 3435

Create a team of family and friends and join us in our fight against cance Live Entertainment - Food & Drink vans, BBQ
 Candlelight Ceremony - Walk the track or relax
 Children's Activities - Enjoy the atmosphere



relayforlife.org.au | 1300 65 65 85 Celebrate survivorship, Remember loved ones lost. Fight back against cancer.



So, the next time you pass a small stall at the Lancefield market or outside the supermarket or are asked to buy a ticket to a Trivia Night or for a raffle please consider a donation. You never know when you might be needing the help of the Cancer Council.

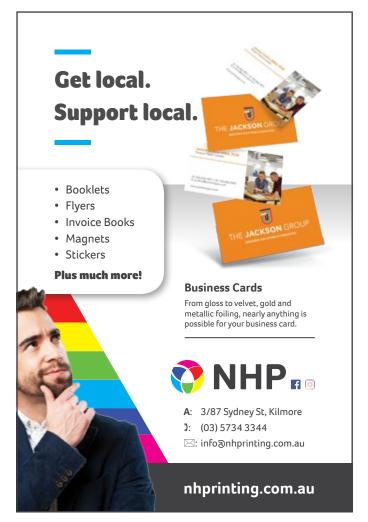
The 2024 Relay will be held at Lancefield Park on Sat March 2nd from 11.00am until 10.00pm. For more information on your local RFL please go to; www. relayforlife.org.au/events/lancefield-2024



Don't rely on your mains water supply in a bushfire.

You could experience low pressure or no supply. Make sure you've got enough drinking water in your emergency kit for everyone in your household. Please visit our website for more information.

gww.com.au/bushfires





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Sunday 24 March @ 10am

Hear the good news that the biblical account of origins is not only historically accurate, but makes better sense of the evidence.

Guest Speaker DR TAS WALKER

Creation Ministries International Speaker, Writer, Geologist

Rocks, Fossils and the Age of the Earth

@ Encourage Church7 Mitchell Court, Romsey





2

3

Romsey Mechanics' Institute

| Commercial Dishwasher for the kitchen

We hope to have this machine in place and working in the next month or so. The project is behind schedule as the machine we wanted proved a little more dificult than expected to find and then Christmas and New Year arrived. Once in place this machine will see a massive decrease in the use of single use items; plates, bowls, knives, forks etc. Our thanks to the Bendigo Bank whose Grant has made this kitchen improvement possible.

| Live & Local In Community Halls

The Shire has offered to assist community halls to run live music performances. The RMI will be hosting two bands as part of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Autumn Festival. The bands, Cupid's Irony and Whiskey Road, will be playing on Saturday April 27th. **Tickets will be available via TryBookings**. More information will be in the March edition of the Romsey Rag.

| Rosella Chicks

For the 2nd time we have had a Rosella nest collapse and fall down the chimney into the Billiards Room (Senior Citizens' Rooms). To stop this happening again we will need to seal off the top of the chimney but still allow a fire to burn. To do this we will need a Cherry Picker so that the relevant trades can get access to the 7m high chimney and bring it into line with the other RMI chimneys.

Regular User Groups

We would like to welcome back our regular user groups, RSL, CWA, Cowboys & Angels Dance Academy, Martial Arts, Storyboard Drama and a new group Tiny Jammers (Music Tues 10.00 – 11.30 and Sensory classes 12.00-2.00 Thurs. All groups will have started back by the 1st week of the school term.

PO Box 130, Mob: 0458 726 106, ABN: 99 340 024 758 presidentrmi@gmail.com, secretaryrmi@gmail.com, rmibookings@gmail.com - www.romseymechanicsinstitute.com

The Mount Players

A 'Wild' start to 2024 for The Mount Players

Another year kicks off at the Mountview theatre with, WILD by Mike Bartlett.

A darkly comic play that explores the unexpected, bewildering, and life-changing consequences of challenging the status quo at a global level. Last week, Andrew was that guy with his girl lunching in KFC, making plans for the future. Today...he's in Moscow in an undisclosed hotel room, on the run and at risk of assassination. One day an ordinary guy, the next one of America's most wanted! The play is loosely based on the story of Edward Snowden who leaked highly classified information when he was an employee of the National Security Agency. It's a riveting story with an ending you won't see coming. The season runs from Fri 23 Feb – Sun 10 March. Tickets via themountplayers. com or call 5426 1892.

• AUDITIONS – for our 2nd production in May will be held on Sunday 18 Feb at 2:00pm. 'Looped' is a comedy by Matthew Lombardo. During the Summer of 1965, celebrated actress Tallulah Bankhead entered a LA recording studio to re-record (or "loop") just one line of dialogue from her final film Die, Die My Darling. What should have taken about 8 minutes is a guesstimation as to what may have happened in that room on that day.

1 female and 2 males required. For full details go www. themountplayers.com Bookings by appointment only with director, Peter Newling at *peter.newling@gmail.com*

Looking forward to a great year in 2024! See you at the theatre.

WILD Rehearsal. L to R Warick Smith, James Banger and Ruby Jones.





Established 1865

The Mount Players

The

By Karen Hunt

Committee

President Tony Lakey

Treasurer Dianne Irvine

Secretary Allan Irvine

General Committee Shauna Martin Sonia Martin

Production Assistants & Proofreading

Trish Dunn Sue Kirkegard Allan Irvine Tony Lakey Shauna Martin

Distribution Allan & Dianne John Evans

Romsey Rag

ABN: 80 102 393 407 INC A0102067K

2023 has gone and we move into 2024. What does that mean for our community?

A half-finished cricket and bowls season, golf just keeps on turning up every Wed and Sat and the footballers and netballers are already or soon to be pounding the park/court getting ready for the 2024 season.

The Neighbourhood House is again busy providing transport for those who are unable to get themselves to various appointments and also keeping food in "The Food Bank" so that those who are doing it tough have somewhere to get a bit of assistance. The churches and schools are also there, ready to support and assist any who need it.

So many people support all of these community-based groups to help everyone within Romsey and the surrounding districts to have a happier, safer and more supportive community.

The CWA, The RSL the CFA, the SES and so many other groups work so hard to make our community better. What can each of us do to assist these people who ask so little and who give so much to our community.





COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER ASSOCIATION of VICTORIA the voice of the community

The Romsey Rag is proud a member of the CNAV. It is the peak body representing not-for-profit community newspapers across Victoria.

www.theromseyrag.com.au

Send us your thoughts and ideas for what you think could happen in Romsey. For all correspondence: *email@theromseyrag.com.au*. Please note articles should be restricted to 300-350 words plus/minus a picture. Articles will be edited as required. The editorial committee reserve the right not to print inflammatory or unsuitable materials.

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4

The 1860 Opens

For Alexander Gorman, a good pub can be the glue of a community, a lesson he learnt in December from opening what is currently the only pub in Romsey, in the Macedon Ranges. The 1860 Romsey served 770 meals in its first 24 hours.

The town had been without a pub for seven years after its only other pub, the Romsey Hotel, had its application to install slot machines rejected and closed its doors. It has since lodged another application.

"It's divided the town," says Gorman.

"We want to show that we can run a hotel successfully without the need for pokie machines, based on really good food and good drinks."





February in the garden

by Melanie Kinsey

New year, new garden! After moving in last July, it's been terrific to finally receive a design for my garden! I've been living in a sea of mud and all my pots are sitting on a blue tarp waiting to be placed in the ground and of course needing to be watered every day. I can't wait to get started! "Why are you getting your garden designed?" I hear you ask. "Aren't you a horticulturist?" Well yes I am: but I'm not a designer – they're two different things.

I've given away my lawn mower as there will be no lawn in this garden. There is a time and place for lawn but not at this house. Partly because I'm over mowing lawns (or more correctly paying someone to mow the lawns) and partly because I'm now hyper-aware of our large triple glazed windows and the thought of a stray rock going through one gives me nightmares!

It goes without saying this garden will be low maintenance – it must be – I'm not getting any younger! It will feature interesting plants, feature trees, lots of succulents and most importantly be a refuge from our busy lives. Already the Virginia creepers planted in late September have reached the top of the deck posts and will soon be branching horizontally to eventually shade



the deck in summer. They will then lose their leaves in winter to allow the sun to stream into the house.

Our sizable deck is adjacent to the largest part of the garden, so it must look fabulous from there and from inside the house. I want large areas of plantings and small nooks that harbour surprises. I want screens covered in climbers and pots of every size. I want vegetables and herbs and somewhere shady to rest. Oh and I also want a greenhouse! Did I mention that?!



C.W.A. 2022 STATE THEMES:

THEME: Sharing, fun and friendship. Product/Resource: Australian grown potatoes and Australian potato products. Country of Study: Malaysia. Thanksgiving Fun: Free 3D hands – Research and development of 3D hands. State Project: CWA of Vic. Inc. IT and Systems Upgrade and Maintenance. Social Issues Focus: Safe Homes for All.

For any further information please call:

President: Dianne Purtill M: 0409 214 520

Secretary: Wendy Foster -M: 0409175 667 or email: cwaromsey@gmail.com

ROMSEY BRANCH OF C.W.A. INC

CWA is a Volunteer Organisation

CWA is not just for older women; it is for women of any age wanting to be involved in their local community and be connected to a world-wide organisation of friendship and community care. We have a lot of fun and laughs while being creative and raising funds for community projects.

Wow, what a start to 2024 - fire, floods, & cyclones

Let's hope mother nature settles down then we can stop worrying about family and friends that may be affected by the weather.

CWA had a stall at the Lions Market in December. What a day - cold and wet, not many people out and about. We had a raffle and presented 4 lucky winners with their prizes.

Last year we were lucky enough to get 4 new members. Three members were given certificate/s and badges.

- Joan 30 years service
- Anne 20 years service
- Melva 10 years service

Thank you ladies for your commitment to the community and to all of us at our CWA branch.

We are looking forward to a great year ahead. Keep a look out for us, help us to help the community.

CWA is not just for older women; it is for women of any age wanting to be involved in their local community and connected to world-wide friendship and community care. We have a lot of fun and laughs while being creative and raising funds for community projects.

YAC	Date	Location
RI	9 Febuary	Heide Art Gallery - Bulleen
HU	22 Febuary	Daylesford
FRI	8 March	Werribee Park Mansion
ни	21 March	Op Shop Tour
VED	10 April	The Lume - Melbourne
RI	26 April	Werribee open plan Zoo
	Expression	of interest
Edgar Mission		Living Legends
ww.c	ecommendations, re	en.org.au Magnoounood Ho se 5429 6724





Cooking with Peter Russell-Clarke

Recipe

We, who live by western dictates, understand that soup starts a meal, followed by an entree. Then we consume the main course, then the cheese, and finish with the dessert (though many Australians have the cheese after the dessert, or forgo one for the other).

Whereas many Asians have two soups during their meal - one being near the end of their meal.

We all know that many Asian meals are made up of a selection of small dishes containing diverse flavours and textures, unlike our main course of a slab of flesh beside



overcooked vegetables covered in a salt-laden, fatty, grey, glutenous gravy. (Mind you, the Asian cooks use too much cornflour to thicken their sauces, which is a flavour frightener.)

Anyway, I'm suggesting you combine the entreé in the soup. And maybe, depending on the size of the 'starters', you reduce the main course to its main ingredient - and don't have that too big either - remember you may have a cheese platter followed by dessert. If so, don't make the cheese platter a Botanic Gardens look alike! Keep it simple!

Or one can totally confuse the issue by starting the whole meal with a grilled pork chop with a walnut and garlic sauce then the soup and entreé.

Anyway, folks, make your favourite soup - any soup - and, while it heats, so will a small piece of salmon you've put in the soup (with its skin on to stop it falling apart during the heating). Make sure you cook it through. Take it out of the soup, remove the skin and put a crumbled portion in the bottom of a soup bowl, sprinkle a little Chinese Five Spice Over it. Pour in the soup. Pop in a half slice of toast which you've 'buttered' with Hummus and serve the bowl decorated with ONE baby spinach leaf.

*PS. The flavour of the soup is immaterial. It can be anything from pumpkin soup to tomato soup - whatever is your favourite!*clump together when cooked and forms 'glutinous' rice. Although all rice is naturally gluten free, 'glutinous' refers to its glue-like or 'sticky' rice texture.

PS. This recipe doesn't go well with a traditional Christmas cake, but a Lions Christmas cake, wet with a little brandy and fashioned into miniature Christmas cake balls with a little melted white chocolate on top is good-oh. For those brave enough to put a spoonful of glutinous rice beside the Christmas cake - good luck to you.

Four years for Council's four-bin system

February marks a significant milestone for the Macedon Ranges community in celebrating the fourth anniversary of its highly successful four-bin system.

As one of the first councils in Victoria to introduce four bins, the shire has made great strides in waste management, with more than 54,000 tonnes of waste diverted from landfill since its implementation thanks to the tireless efforts of residents in properly sorting their waste.

Fortunately, waste and recycling technologies are always expanding, which means that each year more things are accepted in your recycling bin. Brush up on your recycling skills by heading to *mrsc.vic.gov/recycling*

Live4Life Crew promotion

A vital part of the Live4Life program is the crew of young people who support it, and we want you to join the Crew!

The Crew is a group of young people making a change in the community by promoting positive mental health. If this sounds like you and you're in Year 9 or above and have participated in Live4Life at school, we'd love for you to join the crew. Crew members will help plan Live4Life events and a mental health promotion activity.

For more information on the Live4Life Program, youth mental health initiatives, or to join the crew, visit **mrsc.vic.gov.au Live4Life** or contact the Youth Team on 5422 0333.

7

Woodend Hanging Rock Petanque Club

Christmas has gone, and the New Year has begun, and now we move into a busy January.

Each month we are having a Picnic n' Petanque day where we travel away from our normal petanque pistes.

So, on December 27th we celebrated in the sunshine, after all that torrential rain, out at Newham at Louise and Clive's home with members bringing their own picnic and played 3 games on a very challenging piste!

Jenny Large, one of our long-standing members took out the winners' prize, with only dropping 1 point over the day. Well done, Jenny.

The 4th of this month brought us our first Hanging Rock Challenge team night, with 9 teams competing.

All the players got into the spirit of the night by forming and naming their own team, all with different names, only they could explain!

The 'Shambles' team of Jill and David Shaw and Rohan Dickson took out the winner's prize and congratulations to them.

We all look forward to next month's team night on February 1st.

• This Wednesday, 17th January our Picnic n' Petanque event will be meeting at Malmsbury Botanic Gardens at 11am.

As we moved into January, we continued to play our beloved game of petanque on Mondays at the Old Racecourse in Forest Street in Woodend at 2pm and, at 4pm on Thursdays at our beautiful Hanging Rock, on South Rock Road, Woodend.

New members always welcome Any enquiries ring Louise 0438 302 218



LOST WATERING HOLE

THE LANCEFIELD BREWERY & GASTROPUB 8-10 The Crescent, Lancefield VIC 3435 • lostwateringhole.com

8



L to R: Rohan Dickson, Jill and David Shaw.

Tea 4 You?

In colonial times tea-trees were unloved; cleared to make way for crops and grazing. Except when tea supplies didn't arrive from England - then an infusion of native teatree leaves in hot water had to suffice –hence, their common name.

Tea -trees are a favourite of our Landcare group. We've planted plenty of Prickly Tea-trees (leptospermum continentale) and Woolly Tea-trees (leptospermum lanigerum); often in damp areas and along creeks. Prickly Tea-trees grow quickly to around 2 to 3 m and flower profusely in late spring and summer. Woolly Tea-trees flower then also and grow quickly to about 4 m. Both can be cut back and hedged or used in flower arrangements. Tea-tree flowers attract a myriad of insects and birds. Manuka honey comes from the nectar of leptospermum scoparium, indigenous to New Zealand and coastal Australia. Tea-tree oil, however, does not come from tea-trees but from Melaleuca alternifolia.

Similar shrubs we love are Sweet Bursaria (bursaria spinosa) and Bushy Needlewood (hakea decurrens). Like tea-trees, the flowers are small and sweetly scented. Sweet Bursaria grows quickly to 8 m and flowers in early summer. Bushy Needlewood grows to 5 m and has white, sometimes pink winter flowers. Both are great habitat plants – prickly and offer protection for small birds such as blue wrens and flowers attract bees and insects which in turn attracts micro bats and birds that feed on insects.

Varroa mite is a problem for the European honey bee. Insecticides and climate change impact on insect populations around the world; consequently, we must improve habitat and diversity of pollinators.

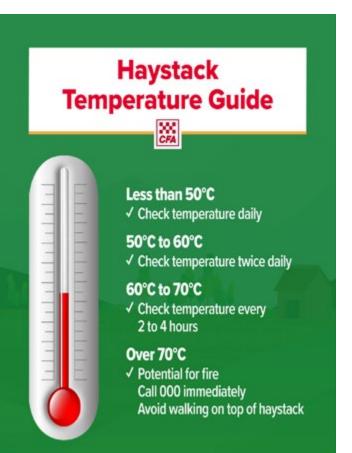
Australia is home to 400 butterfly, 11000 moth and 2000 bee species. There are 1300 known species of ants, 3000 species of beetles, 5650 species of bugs and up to 30000 species of flies1! Add in caddisflies, dragon flies, earwigs, cockroaches, wasps, lacewings, grasshoppers, phasmids, mantids, mayflies, scorpion-flies, spiders and others. No wonder, when I pop outside to look at indigenous plants, I see a vast array of insects. Many are beautiful and unknown to me. But I know they are important – sustaining ecosystems, millions of years in the making. These insects need shrubs, trees and grasses - and the plants, in turn, need insects. Planting Tea-trees, Sweet Bursaria and Bushy

Needlewood is a great step in the right direction. Their size allows many insects to be at eye level - easy to find and observe, but be patient! Insects are skittish but get used to our presence and resume activity. Add this to beautiful, scented flowers and we are on a winner!

Deep Creek Landcare Group has nesting boxes for bats, birds and phascogales for sale from \$25; and Myna bird traps to Ioan. Annual Landcare membership is \$20 per family. Follow us on Facebook, contact President Phil Severs (0476 324 000) or come to the monthly meeting in Lancefield Mechanics Hall. We'd love to see you!

• Insects Of Central Victoria (MRSC)





Check cfa.vic.gov.au for more information

Community Bank Connections

| COULD YOU BE OUR NEXT HOME LENDING SPECIALIST?

Are you motivated, passionate about providing an exceptional customer experience and giving back to your local community? We're currently advertising for a Home Lending Specialist at our Romsey branch. Head to https://careers-ext.bendigoadelaide.com.au/jobs/938657 for details and to apply.

| BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS

The biennial Josh's Rainbow Eggs Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards are returning in 2024. The awards aim to recognise and acknowledge deserving local businesses for their outstanding service, innovation, products and professionalism. Along with our neighbours at Community Bank Gisborne & District and Bendigo Bank Kyneton, we're proud to be Gold Sponsors of these fantastic local business awards.

We would love to see our local businesses from Romsey and Lancefield enter these awards. They are currently open for self-nomination until Friday 15 March 2024 via the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Website.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING & DIRECTOR COMINGS AND GOINGS

In accordance with corporate regulations, Lancefield and Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd held it's AGM at Lancefield Lodge on Thursday 30 November 2023. Amanda Mullins was elected as a Director of the Company. Directors Suzie Ewart and Graeme Kelly were re-elected to the Board. Rob Bryant retired from the Board after many years of service, and we thank him for his valued contribution over the years. Gina Morgan was appointed to the board in early December, re-joining the board after spending 3 years working in PNG. The board welcomed her back as Treasurer and Chair of the Finance & Audit Committee.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM FOR EVENTS – COMING SOON

Applications for sponsorship of local events will open Friday 1 March 2024.

All applications need to be submitted via our new online platform once the program opens. To get a head start on your application planning, email cip@lrcfsl.com.au to be one of the first to hear all the details as they're released.

Alternatively, follow our Facebook page *facebook.com/communitybanklancefieldromsey* or call into our branches for more information once the program opens. Applications will close midnight Sunday 31 March 2024.

| RELAY FOR LIFE

Our Community Bank Carnival team is registered and ready to go for the 2024 Lancefield / Macedon Ranges Relay for Life on Saturday 2 March at Lancefield Park. We welcome our community to get behind this fantastic cause and join us on the day, and if you can, donate to help raise vital funds for Cancer Council's research, prevention, information and support services. *https://www.relayforlife.org.au/fundraisers/CommunityBankCarnival4081*

Supporting your local community Community Bank - Romsey 5429 5526 Bendigo Bank

Clean Up Australia Day

As we continue to tackle our national waste challenges and protect our environment, Clean Up Australia is calling on all Australians to join with their local communities and take more immediate action by registering now for Clean Up Australia Day 2024 on Sunday 3 March.

In 2023, over 760,000 Australians pulled on their gloves and gathered for the iconic Clean Up Australia Day. This year, Clean Up Australia is hoping to see a similar, if not better response, as generations come together to help tidy our local communities while seeing first-hand why need to work together to prevent litter from entering our environment in the first place.

Registrations for Clean Up Australia Day 2024 are now open. All volunteers receive a free clean-up kit containing gloves, bags and other resources, with packs for individuals, families and community groups available (businesses are asked to pay a small fee to cover costs).

For information and to register, visit cleanup.org.au



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*Terms, conditions, fees and charges apply. Your base or bonus interest will be credited to your account by the end of the 2nd day of the month. An active email address will be required at application. The Reward Saver is not available to business customers. We have not considered your financial objectives or needs. You should consider whether this product is appropriate for you. Before deciding, read the disclosure documents, including the Terms and Conditions and Target Market Determination for this product available on our website. This product is issued by Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178 AFSL No 237879. All information is correct as of 16 June 2023, information including rate is subject to change. Full details available on application. A1876581-1877130 OUT_34299110, 12/01/2024

ONE WOMAN — MANY ROADS

Tatiana Korinfsky is exhibiting photographs from her time in the US, Japan and Australia at The Gallery Mount Macedon from February 6 until March 3.

Tatiana often pairs her photographs with her original haiku, inspired by her two decades of residence in Japan.

Her main inspirational impulses come from Buddhism, which she has studied for many years, and "the greatest of all teachers, Nature and the Cosmos".

"As a child, I remember often lying on my back in the back yard and gazing at the heavens — and that fascination has continued ever since — the effect of the day and night skies on the natural and built landscape continues to be a dominant theme in my work.

And a key part of that is the effect of light — the same view can be re-experienced in myriad ways — and though my life has taken me on many roads, one of my favourite things to do is to sit quietly on my verandah and experience endlessly unfolding Nature."

Tatiana grew up in Melbourne, residing in the Mt Macedon and Kyneton areas for many years. She has also studied, lived, and worked in London, Tokyo, and New York.



Tatiana Korinfsky.

She has exhibited her art and photography in London and New York.

She is also an awardwinning playwright, and has directed her original material in Melbourne and New York.

Join Tatiana for a meet the artist session and official opening of her exhibition at The Gallery Mount Macedon on Saturday February 10 at 2pm.

The Gallery Mount Macedon, 684 Mount Macedon Rd, Mount Macedon. Open Friday – Tuesday, 10-4.



One of Tatiana's many landscapes.

Council works updates

Kettlewells Road upgrades underway

Upgrades to the unsealed Kettlewells Road in Romsey are now underway, improving safety and amenity for a route commonly used by heavy vehicles.

Home to Council's award-winning storm waste facility, the Kettlewells Gravel Pit Reserve and several rural residences, a large section of the road is set to benefit from road sealing, improved drainage and a new bus shelter at the intersection of Melbourne-Lancefield Road.

These works are funded by Emergency Management Victoria and the Kettlewells Gravel Pit Reserve, and are expected to be finished by the end of the year. Minor delays are expected for road users during the works.

Kettlewells Road is among a number of road upgrades prioritised across the shire as part of Council's 2023/24 Capital Works Program.

Visit mrsc.vic.gov.aulworks to find out more about some of the other works planned across the shire.

Romsey Golf Club Report

Bruce Robb Medal: The Robb Medal has points awarded to the top six at each month's Stableford and the monthly medal round. On Sat December 23rd, after the round players and families enjoyed a pie, hamburger or snag and onions, Kev Dunn and Lorraine Robb did a top job with the food. Once the day's presentations were concluded everyone watched the big screen as the Nov and Dec count of the 2023 **Bruce Robb Medal** points up to October had already been circulated. Even with the December Medal still to come the winner and runner-up were well ahead and could not be overtaken. The 2023 Bruce Robb Medallist was Mal Mottram; 61 pts from Luke Lyons; 37.5 pts.

2023 RGCGraeme Clement Open & Women's Open (Par 90): This 24-hole stroke, event was held on the 3rd Sunday of November. A field of over 50 players took to the course for the club's first combined open's competition. The 1st 12 holes were closely contested across all grades. After lunch the day heated up and the drinks cart was kept very busy. After a play-off in the women's event the day's results were; Graeme Clement Open; Mick Squire (93-RGC), **Women's Open;** Mary Campbell (112-Broadford) **A Grade Hcap;** Darcey Doyle (Mt



Park Lane, Romsey (PO Box 200, Romsey 3434) President: 0417 088 891 Secretary: 0400 768 040 mail@romseygolfclub.net www.romseygolfclub.net

Macedon) & Glenda Woods (Seymour), **B Grade;** Michael Nicholls (105-RGC) & Wickey McDowell (117-Kilmore). **B Grade Hcap;** Davey Kenney (RGC) & Sandra Stevens (Lancefield). **C Grade;** Peter Davies (113-Goonawarra) **C Grade Hcap;** Shaun Scales (RGC). *The day was sponsored by The Bendigo Bank, Mount Monument Winery and Mogas*.

Twilight Golf The 23/24 Twilight Golf season will continue until early March. All welcome. Hit-off after 4.00pm.

2024 Golf Clinics: PGA teaching profesional, Emily Pell, will again be running the clinics on Sundays in Februaruy and March. If you are interested please c=heck the club's website; romseygolfclub.net

2024 Relay For Life Cancer Charity Golf Day: RGC will be running our 16th RFL charity golf day on Sun Feb 18th. This is a fun 12 hole, 4-player Ambrose event and includes lunch. Money raised goes to cancer research via "Puddles Team" at the 2024 Lancefield/ Macedon Rangees Relay for Life (RFL). The Relay is held over the 1st weekend of March at Lancefield Park. The day is sponsored by Romsey Mitre-10. All players welcome.



2023 RGC Open Winners, Mick Squire with Andrew Clement & Mary Campbell with Amanda Mullins (BB).

Romsey Lancefield Senior Citizens

Bendigo Bank Monthly Bus Trips

Welcome back. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year and were able to catch up with family and friends. Our weekly sessions have started back in our club rooms at the rear of the Romsey Mechanics Institute.

We will be holding our monthly bus trips again this year. They will be held on the first Tuesday of each month starting on March 5th. We are hopefully off to the Kerrisdale Mountain Railway, a narrow-gauge tourist railway with views over the Upper Goulburn Valley. Cost will be \$50 and includes a 2-course lunch.

We will be travelling to a variety of interesting places this year, including the Great Stupa in Bendigo, the Spannerman, Christmas in July,





Tesselaar Flower Farm, the Zoo and of course our Christmas breakup in December. Lots of exciting trips for the year.

Remember, we meet every Monday at the rear of the Romsey Mechanics Institute for lunch, for just \$10 – everyone is more than welcome.

For further information please contact Helen on 0409 064 303 or Jan on 0408 338 759.

Hope to see you soon.

Eastern Macedon Ranges Business and Tourism Association Inc (EMRBATA) - UPDATE

Christmas in Romsey Roundup

Despite challenging weather conditions for the Romsey Community Carols, Bendigo Bank Christmas in Romsey again infused the local community with festive spirit. The Lights and Decorations Competition (gratefully supported by Romsey IGA) was complimented by the always amazing Main Street Trees Installation and the (rather wet!) Community Carols. The success of Christmas in Romsey is dependent on generous funding support (2023 – Bendigo Bank, Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Romsey IGA) and community member involvement. Stay tuned for notice of the upcoming planning meeting for Christmas in Romsey 2024!

Thriving Villages – Lancefield and Romsey Town Activation Plans

As previously reported, EMRBATA was successful in its application to the Victoria-State-Government-logo-blue-PMS-2945.pngState Government Flood Relief Grant Program. This will facilitate development of "Town Activation plans" for Romsey and Lancefield this year. The project will engage community members from each town. Project planning is currently underway with Village Well (www.villagewell.org). Follow EMRBATA on Facebook and Instagram for ongoing updates on this exciting eastern Macedon Ranges project.

Meet EMRBATA's New Leadership Team

A new leadership team was elected at the Eastern Macedon Ranges Business and Tourism Association's (EMRBATA's) Annual General Meeting held in November. Committee of Management for 2024 is as follows:

- President, Michael McCarthy
- Vice President, Jenny Stillman
- Secretary, Hannah Sutton
- Treasurer, Adriana Petrongolo
- Committee, Raf Fabris

In addition, EMRBATA is fortunate to have Shelley Knott, Camille Scott and Glenn Menner providing assistance in supportive portfolio roles.

Busy and exiting times lie ahead for our region in 2024 and EMRBATA looks forward to making its positive contribution.

Environment events

Summer calendar

We have several exciting events coming up over summer including:

- Horses and sustainable grazing, field activity (21 January)
- Grazing and farming discussion group, field activity (9 Feb)
- Local farmers on small properties, webinar (13 February)
- Rascally rabbits, workshop (17 and 18 February)
- Reducing the wildlife road toll community forum, workshop (23 February)

To register for events or sign up to the monthly Environment eNews, visit http://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events

LOOKING TO ADVERTISE IN THE ROMSEY RAG?

Contact us today to find out how you can secure a space!

Send any advertising enquiries to; email@theromseyrag.com.au



EMRBATA'S VISION is: A vibrant, collaborative and prosperous eastern corridor community which enhances liveability in the region.

Facebook Eastern Macedon Ranges - Business and Living EMRBATA Membership https://easternmacedonranges. au/emrbata Email: contact@macedonranges.au



The Gallery Mount Macedon invites local artists to enter the 2024 Portrait Prize

Calling portrait artists and photographers living in the Macedon Ranges Shire

The Gallery Mount Macedon would like to invite you to enter the 2024 Portrait prize. There are two exhibitions and competitions, the first in April for non photographic works, and the second in May for photographic works. This is the first time we have had a photographic portrait prize.

Bendigo Bank is generously sponsoring this exhibition, with first prizes of \$1000, and \$250 for the people's choice award, in each section.

Work is to be 2D, and must be smaller than 45 x65 cm (landscape or portrait orientation), as we are limited by the space available in our small gallery. The subject of the portrait must be known to the artist and have given permission for the portrait and its exhibition at the Gallery. Shortlisted entries will be exhibited at The Gallery Mount Macedon.

Entry forms and full terms and conditions are available on our website www.thegallerymountmacedon.com. au. Applications for both exhibitions, which include an online entry form,

and an image of the entry, open on Monday March 4, and close on Wednesday March 27.

The portraits shown here by Leslie Rosochodski, Bindi-Lee Byrne and Eric Foster are examples of some of the great entries we received in 2022. We can't wait to see the entries this year!

For further information, contact Jo Hoyne 0418 488 582, or email thegalleryexhibition@gmail.com



Bindi-Lee Byrne.



Eric Foster.



Leslie Rosochodski.

Social Support Groups

If you live in the Macedon Ranges and are looking to meet people whilst visiting local attractions, the Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health social support bus trip program could be for you. The program offers small group outings to galleries, gardens, shopping centres and other regional and metropolitan destinations. This year trips have included the Garden of St Erth, The Great Stupa in Bendigo, The Royal Botanic Gardens in Melbourne, Edgar's Mission in Lancefield and Living Legends in Bulla.

The groups run on Mondays, Wednesdays and Thursdays and door-to-door pick-up and drop-off is available from towns including Woodend, Newham, Romsey, Lancefield, Tylden and Kyneton.

"The program is ideal for those wanting to socialise, but may need support accessing the community," says Roz Walton, team leader of the program. "We vary the destination depending on what group members want to do, the weather or what's on locally."



The cost of the program depends on your funding eligibility, and for many the cost is fully funded. Examples include those who are over 65 and have a My Aged Care referral or Home Care Package that specifies social support, adults with a disability under 65 and not eligible for NDIS, and NDIS participants.

If you want to find out more, call 5421 1666 or email admin@scchc.org.au.

News from the Shire



Environment events

Financial rewards for conservation

Council already offers a partial rate rebate for landholders who have placed a Trust for Nature Conservation Covenant on their land. And now, since 1 January 2024, land protected with a covenant through Trust for Nature is exempt from land tax in Victoria.

These changes may benefit landholders who are currently paying land tax on a covenanted property, or for those who are exploring the possibility of covenanting land that is not their primary residence. Save money while protecting our precious biodiversity. For information, visit trustfornature.org.au

Nature Stewards Program

• 16 March to 25 May 2024 (excluding Easter long weekend).

Daylesford, Beveridge and Woodend. Venues rotate during the program.

Residents of participating shires: \$175 / \$45 concession. Non-residents: \$350 / \$90.

Learn more about your local environment and hear from experts spanning Traditional Owners, Council, CSIRO, volunteering and industry. Known as the 'NW Hub', Macedon Ranges are partnering with neighbouring shires Hepburn and Mitchell.

To find out more and apply, visit **vnpa.org.aulnature**stewards

Staying Strong for over 50s

Council runs a number of low-to-moderate intensity group circuit classes for men and women 50+ years of age across Kyneton Toyota Sports & Aquatic Centre, Gisborne Fitness Centre, Buffalo Sports Stadium in Woodend and Romsey Recreation Centre.

Staying Strong is a circuit-based class designed to improve muscular strength, aerobic fitness, flexibility, balance and coordination in a safe and social environment. Experienced instructors provide exercises that cater for a range of exercise abilities.

For further details or to discuss your suitability for the program, contact your local centre:

- Kyneton Toyota Sports & Aquatic Centre 5421 1477, *ksac@mrsc.vic.gov.au* or Facebook
- Gisborne Fitness Centre 5428 3318, gfc@mrsc. vic.gov.au or Facebook
- Romsey Recreation Centre 5429 5637 or *rrc@ mrsc.vic.gov.au*
- Woodend Buffalo Sports Stadium 5427 3411 or email buffalo@mrsc.vic.gov.au or visit mrsc.vic.gov.aulleisure

Sustainable homes webinar series

Make this year the year to take steps toward making your home and lifestyle more sustainable. We know it can be tricky to find trusted independent advice. To help, Council is holding three online events from the sustainability and energy experts at Renew, which has been providing independent advice for over 40 years.

- All-Electric Homes 6 February, 7-8:30pm, webinar
- Electric Vehicles 20 February, 7-8:30pm, webinar
- Designing for Resilience 5 March, 7-8:30pm, webinar

February events

We have several exciting events coming up including:

- Grazing and farming discussion group Newham, 9 February
- Local farmers on small properties webinar, 13 February
- It's rabbit season Kerrie ,17 February; and Romsey, 18 February
- Reducing the wildlife road toll community forum -Newham, 23 February
- Small Property Grazing Course: 23, 25 February and 19 March

To register for events or sign up to the monthly Environment eNews, visit http://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/environmentevents

Village Connect for over-55s

Age Friendly Community Directory

Village Connect has recently launched its Community Directory: an age-friendly resource, providing contact information for groups, clubs and organisations within the Macedon Ranges, and direction to a large number of local services and useful resources in the shire.

Featuring community connections galore including local health and community services, clubs and groups, activities and lots of other useful resources

Hard copies of the directory are also available on request, or to download a copy, visit *mrsc.vic.gov.aul community-directory*

Monthly Coffee Gatherings

There's nothing quite like the warmth of a cup of coffee and the joy of meaningful conversation.

If you're eager to forge new connections, share stories, and build lasting friendships in your village, join us for our monthly coffee gatherings for those over 55 in Gisborne, Lancefield, Kyneton and Riddells Creek.

Call the Village Connect team on 5422 0333 or visit mrsc.vic. gov.aulvillage-connect

Protect yourself from mosquito-borne disease

Mosquitoes can carry diseases that may be passed on to people through mosquito bites. In Australia, some of these include Murray Valley encephalitis virus, Ross River virus, Barmah Forest virus, Dengue virus, Japanese encephalitis and West Nile virus.

Periods of heavy rainfall or floods can lead to ideal breeding conditions for mosquitoes, even in non-tropical areas. Diseases that are spread by insects are known as 'vector-borne' diseases. Mosquito-borne diseases can make people ill and, in severe cases, can cause death.

How to avoid mosquito bites:

There are many simple things you can do to avoid getting bitten by mosquitoes, including:

- wearing long, loose-fitting clothes if mosquitoes are around
- covering up as much as possible
- using an effective mosquito repellent, containing either picaridin or diethyltoluamide (DEET) on all exposed skin
- using plug-in mosquito vaporisers or diffusers with repellent-treatment pads in enclosed external areas like verandahs and decks these should be switched off as soon as the area is no longer in use
- · preventing mosquito breeding around your own home
- maintaining fly screens on windows, doors, vents and chimneys (screens should be no coarser than 12 x 12 meshes per 25mm, or 1.2mm - use an even coarser mesh if you wish to keep out other smaller biting insects, like sandflies)
- using mosquito coils in outdoor areas these should be supervised at all times.

Council has a dedicated Environmental Health unit which assists in monitoring and responding to any localised health-related matters. For more tips, visit: *https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/protect-yourselfmosquito-borne-disease*

Resource Recovery Facilities (formerly 'transfer stations')

Textiles, clean white polystyrene, soft plastics, scrap metal, white goods and e-waste are all free to be disposed of at your local resource recovery facilities (RRFs).

If items are in good quality condition, we encourage residents to take them to their nearest op-shop in the first instance. Any items that are no longer in good condition can be taken to any of Council's three RRFs.

To see a full list of accepted items *mrsc.vic.gov.au*/*RRF*

Elevate provides the overall direction for Council's Youth Services unit and guides the programs, initiatives, advocacy and support work we facilitate for young people and their families. For information and to register to attend, call the Youth Team on 5422 0333.

Have your say on Romsey Skatepark designs

Feedback is now invited on designs showcasing what the new Romsey Skatepark would like, with \$550,000 already committed by the Victorian Government towards construction.

An upgrade driven by the Lancefield Romsey Lions Club for a number of years, including periods of community consultation throughout 2022 and 2023, the new skatepark would feature a large bowl, a quarter pipe, pump track and a series of hips and corners.

Council endorsed a period of community consultation at its November 2023 Council Meeting, having allocated \$20,000 towards initial planning works in the Budget 2023/24. Work is continuing behind the scenes to secure the full funding amount required to build the new skatepark.

Council is inviting feedback through a new online hub, launched this month to enable a clearer, more engaging way of informing and obtaining valuable feedback from the community on key Council policies or initiatives. People will be able to view current public consultations and have their say in new ways through the new Your Say hub, which has the capacity to host surveys, interactive maps, Q&As, forums and more.

A number of other draft policies or initiatives endorsed by Council for public consultation late last year are also set to invite feedback throughout February 2024, including:

- Draft Complaint and Unreasonable Behaviour Policy
- Draft Special Charge Scheme Policy
- Draft Fair Access Policy.

The launch of Your Say supports a strategic priority in the Council Plan 2021-2031 to 'Enhance customer experience through the transformation of our services, to ensure they are easy to access and provide user-friendly experiences'.

Visit *yoursay.mrsc.vic.gov.au* to have your say on the Romsey Skatepark designs, view other current consultations and sign up to receive tailored alerts about future consultations as they are listed.





Having Fun, making new friends, and catching-up with old ones!

The Romsey/Lancefield Probus Club is for active retirees or semi-retired people to meet, relax and enjoy the welcoming company of those at the same stage of life. There is a regular monthly meeting with guest speakers, morning tea and time to socialise with the other members. Each month there is a regular outing for lunch held at different venues around the region as well as short and longer trips throughout the year. There is a coffee morning at 10 am every Friday at the Lancefield Corner Store where members meet for a chat and a bit of fun.

As the New Year begins plans are already underway for a range of trips, tours and events. After our February meeting on the 22nd at 10.00 am we are supporting out local venue the 1860 for lunch at 12.30 am. Numbers are already looking very good. Visitors to the meetings are always welcome. In March the club will hold its Annual General Meeting to elect new office bearers for the year.

Luci Quinn will be sharing her recent experiences of touring the Holy Land in 2023 at the February meeting followed by morning tea. The club is planning a number of trips this year and details will be announced once the itineraries are confirmed. We will continue to support local venues in and around the Macedon Ranges with some events travelling a little further. The club often car pools to ensure people unable to drive can join in.

We are a friendly, welcoming group from diverse backgrounds with a variety of interests and we'd love to meet you! Feel free to attend a meeting as a visitor.

Contact:

President: Noreen 0401 579 180 Secretary: Betty 0409 359 048 Visit our website: www.rlprobus.org.au We are a friendly, welcoming group from diverse backgrounds with a variety of interests and we'd love to meet you! Feel free to attend a meeting as a visitor.





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Romsey Primary School January 2024

On Thursday 7th December our year 6 students attended their Year 6 Graduation. The day started off with the inaugural Solten Pepper lunch followed by a formal ceremony to celebrate our amazing students and their achievements over the last 7 years. We wish all our Year 6 students all the best for their secondary school journey.



Romsey Primary School's Year 6 Graduating Class Of 2023

Graduation came with an intense overload of emotions. From exciting rushes to nervous stutters, we all had those moments. All dedication was poured into making the night run smoothly, (as well as a little bit of encouragement from our teachers).

The evening was eventful with everybody's dances and speeches flowing after the other, and everyone in full glamour. Thank you to all the people who made this possible, it was truly an experience to cherish.

Catherine T

Graduation was such an immense roller coaster of emotions that I'm glad I've experienced this year. As stressful as it was, all our work paid off on the night and fortunately it all went well.

Everyone put so much effort into their dances and speeches and it turned out so well. I was so happy for all of my friends who got the awards, they truly deserved it.

I've had such a great time at RPS and it felt like it would never end, but here I am in December 2023, about to leave for high school.

Alannah G





Graduation was an amazing experience I will probably experience once or twice. I remember preparing about 3 weeks before the event.

Trying on a graduation outfit will be something I will remember for a long time and I won't forget. At that point I was just counting down the days until graduation.

Then the day was here, I thought about my entire primary school life and all the memories I have made. I still had to go through an entire day of school but then we all walked down to Soltan Pepper. I ordered the pizza which was really good. Then there was under 4 hours until graduation. I went home and got dressed and ready immediately. Before I could process, I was at graduation, I was there.

Before we would go on stage, we had a pep talk in the staff room and then lined up in the tunnel. I was feeling nervous and excited to deliver my school captain speech. I had to do my graduation dance which was the song Staying Alive by The Bee Gees then we all sang Hall of Fame by the Script. I will miss primary school but I won't forget it!

Jamie H

Graduation was so good but scary we got our jackets signed then left to get ready for Soltan Pepper. We got to choose from 4 different dishes, naan pizza, bolognese, calamari and chicken nuggets. Then it was night of graduation. It was really fun and scary; they handed all the awards out then it came to the dances.

The 1st dance was 'Count On Me' - Bruno Mars, the second dance was 'Rock n Roll' - Kiss and the last one was 'Stayin Alive' - Bee Gees. I think everyone had a lot of fun.

The night was unforgettable. Logan M



Graduation was fun because I could dance with my friends and make new friends as well.

All the parents took photos of their children and the kids performed dances and sang a song. The first song was called "You Can Count On Me", this was my group. The second dance was called "Rock All Night" and the 3rd song was "Staying Alive".

Last of all, all the children sang "Hall of Fame".

Noah M



Community Open Day Romsey's Heritage Listed Seymour Cottage c1856



10am to 4pm Sunday March 3rd 2024 20 Palmer Street Romsey 3434 Gold Coin Entry

https://www.romseylancefieldhistorical.org.au/upcoming-events/open-day-at-seymour-cottage

Our forthcoming 'Seymour Cottage' Community Open Day Sunday March 3rd is for all residents and visitors to the Macedon Ranges. A range of heritage education, entertainment activities and refreshments will be available and on show at this historic Romsey property at 20 Palmer Street.

Our keynote speaker for the day is local Mount Macedon nurseryman and former ABC Gardening Australia presenter Stephen Ryan. He will present two talks, one late morning and another in the afternoon. Stephen's presentations are being sponsored by local business Frost's Timber and Building Supplies at Monegeetta.

Another feature of the day will be two captioned photographic print displays. One illustrating the long and significant heritage of Romsey's Sidney Seymour Cottage.

A second large photographic print exhibition will show historic photographs of local buildings and street views compared with their current day appearance.

Come along and learn about our Society, its membership and activities. We are very appreciative of major event sponsorship from the local Romsey and Lancefield Bendigo Community Bank.

Entry will be by gold coin donation.

For more information please contact Secretary Shirley Kishere (0402 248 540 or email lancefieldcourthouse@gmail.com) or Coordinator John Spring (0409 861 876) or visit our web site at https://www.romseylancefieldhistorical.org.au/upcoming-events/open-day-at-seymour-cottage



ENCOURAGE CHURCH ROMSEY

Worship Service: Sundays @ 10am Senior Pastor: Pastor Tim Emonson Office: 7 Mitchell Court, Romsey P: (03) 5429 6327 Email: office@encouragechurch.com.au Website: www.encouragechurch.com.au

- Mainly Music
- Children's Church
- Before & After School Care
- Youth Activities



Your Soul

If you try to hang on to your life, you will lose it. But if you give up your life for my sake [that is, for Jesus], you will save it. And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul? Is anything worth more than your soul? (Matthew 16:25-26, NLT)

Your soul is where the physical (your body) meets the spiritual. Your soul is all of you, your 'life'. When you refer to "my soul", you are literally saying "I, myself". The original word in Greek in the verses above is psychē ($\psi \upsilon \chi \dot{\eta}$), which sums it up pretty well. Even the translation of 'life' in the verses uses the Greek word psychē.

I have always found "And what do you benefit if you gain the whole world but lose your own soul?" an evocative question. A number of bible translations actually say "forfeit your soul", making it sound like you have cancelled yourself. An attribute of your soul is its existence beyond physical survival and success. The verses above are saying that the things of this world will not do you any good if you "forfeit" your eternal existence.

We often think about "gaining the whole world" in terms of material possessions, but for me it also means instances of lowering my standards or compromising my morals. Romans 12:2 says "Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."

Are you chasing after the things of this world, or are you compromising the things that you shouldn't? Is anything worth more than your soul?

Come along to one of our **Sunday morning services at 10am** and check out our seats - everyone is welcome! If you would like to know more about Encourage Church, come along to one of our activities! You can also check us out on our website **www.encouragechurch.com.au** or email us at **office@encouragechurch.com.au**.





Anglican Church of Christ Church Lancefield with St Paul's Church Romsey

Wishing everyone a Happy and Safe 2024

Regular Weekly Services:

- Romsey Church Service 9:00am each
 Sunday
- Lancefield Church Service 10:30am each Sunday

Easter Services

- Good Friday Feb 29th Christ Church Lancefield 10:00
- **Easter Sunday** Normal Service at St Paul's 9:00 & Christ Church 10:30
- Easter Saturday March 30th, St Paul's is holding its second annual Easter Fun Day. Fun activities for the children. Lunch will be served. FREE to everyone - you're most welcome to come and join in the days activities. St Paul's Romsey. 77 Main Road Romsey. 12:00

Prayer Meeting:

- Church Hall Lancefield Thursday 10:00am
- **Bible Study:** Christ Church Lancefield Hall Thursday 10:30am Enjoy a cuppa while spending time pondering the Bible.
- Monthly Parish Community Lunch
 Each 2nd Saturday of the month at Christ Church Hall, Lancefield.
- Next Lunch will be on Saturday, 9th March 12:00 noon
 FREE to all. Everyone is welcome to join in with homemade food & a great time to meet new people, chat with old friends and meet new.

St Paul's Op Shop is NOW open with new interesting items.

• Friday 12:30-4:30 & Saturday 10:00-1:00pm.

View weekly specials at The Op Shop on the Parish Web site. The Op shop will be closed for the weekend of the Australia Day. Holiday - January Friday 26th and Saturday 27th... and for Easter: Good Friday 29th March and Saturday 1st April.

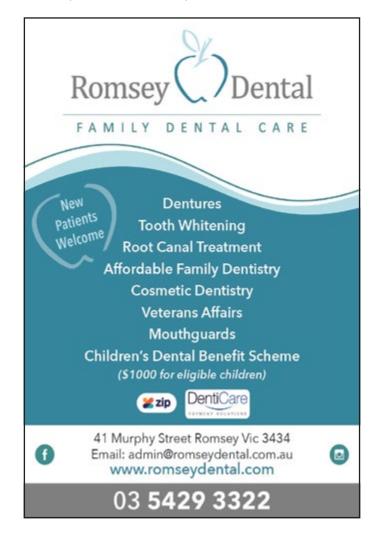


THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH LANCEFIELD WITH ST. PAUL'S ROMSEY

Vicar Rev Matthew Browne P: 0401 615 099



May God watch over us all and keep us safe during this testing time as we put our faith and trust in Him.



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THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA MACEDON RANGES PARTNERSHIP

Romsey Congregation 25 Pohlman Street, Romsey. 3434. (P.O. Box 264) Worship Services Sunday, 9:30am. Chairperson Mr. Noel Shaw P: 5429 5509 Secretary Mrs. Jenifer Clampit P: 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.

Romsey Uniting Church

Ministers: Pastor Annette Buckley Ph. 5429 5351 / 0457 608 539 - Supply: Mr. Paul Banks. Ph.0450 436 285 Website: www.macedonrangesunitingchurch.org.au/worship-services

The year 2024 is with us

Our children are starting school, getting used to a new environment without Mum there to turn to. Young students commencing Year 7 at Secondary School or beginning their University education. Then there are those facing the hurdle of finding a job after finishing their schooling. There are a few anxious moments as we face and commence new adventures in our life. We all hope for a happy and peaceful year!! We also know that in reality there are always problems and worries along with the joyfulness and peace, this comes with life. - but perhaps if we can face life with a smile for those around us it will help all of us find the joy in life.

"Peace begins with a smile" - Mother Teresa. Keep Smiling. Smiling as Therapy is the latest thing. You can't fake a smile, but you can use your smile to lift your mood.

Children smile more often, and more easily, than adults. Let their wonder and humour inspire your view of the world

How you feel depends on what you think, so if your thoughts are getting you down, turn your attention to something that tickles your funny bone.

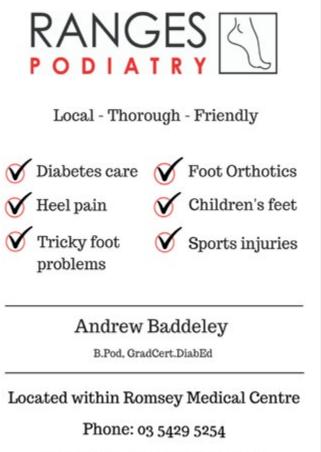
A genuine smile can be as good as a present for someone in need of love, hope or attention.

Busy lives can turn us inwards, making those around us seem anonymous. Next time you rush down the street, break your stride and find the time to smile at those you pass by.

A Smile is Universal.

• During February, 2024 Worship Services will be conducted at Romsey Uniting Church each Sunday at 9.30am.





www.rangespodiatry.com.au

St. Mary's Parish - Lancefield & Romsey

CURRENT MASS CONDITIONS - ALL WELCOME

Current Mass Times:

Sunday Mass

- Sunday Mass will be celebrated at 9am and will alternate between Lancefield & Romsey.
- 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month in Romsey, 2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month in Lancefield.

Saturday Healing Mass

The Healing Mass will be celebrated at 10am in Romsey on the 1st Saturday of each month.

Baptisms

Baptisms are held at 2:30pm on the 2nd & 4th Sunday of the month. Please contact the office for the next available date.

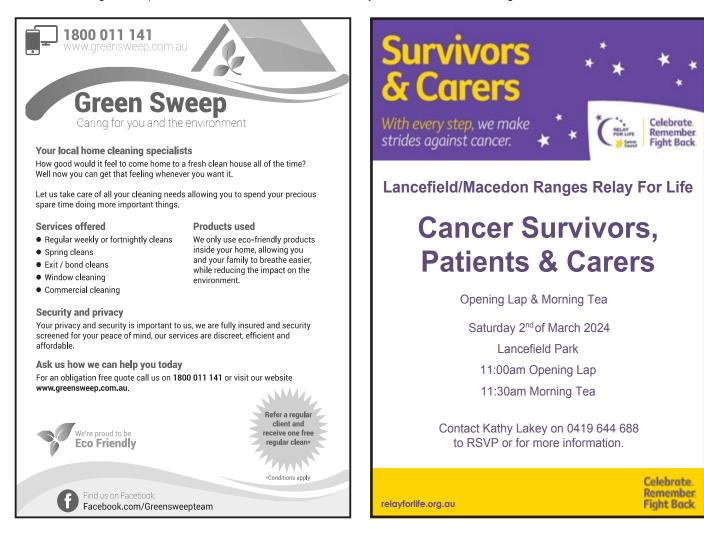
Sacraments - 2024

Bookings are now open for parish children to register for all Sacraments due in 2024. Reconciliation available to Yr3 & above, Holy Communion available to Yr 4 & above and Confirmation available to Yr6 and above in 2024.

Please contact the office if you would like to register your child

Should a parishioner want to go to Reconciliation, please contact Fr. Martin directly at Woodend on 5427 2690 to make arrangement.

Please direct enquiries to the parish office on **5429 2130** or by email at **lancefield@cam.org.au** For funeral arrangements, please contact Fr. Martin on **5427 2690** or by email at **woodend@cam.org.au**





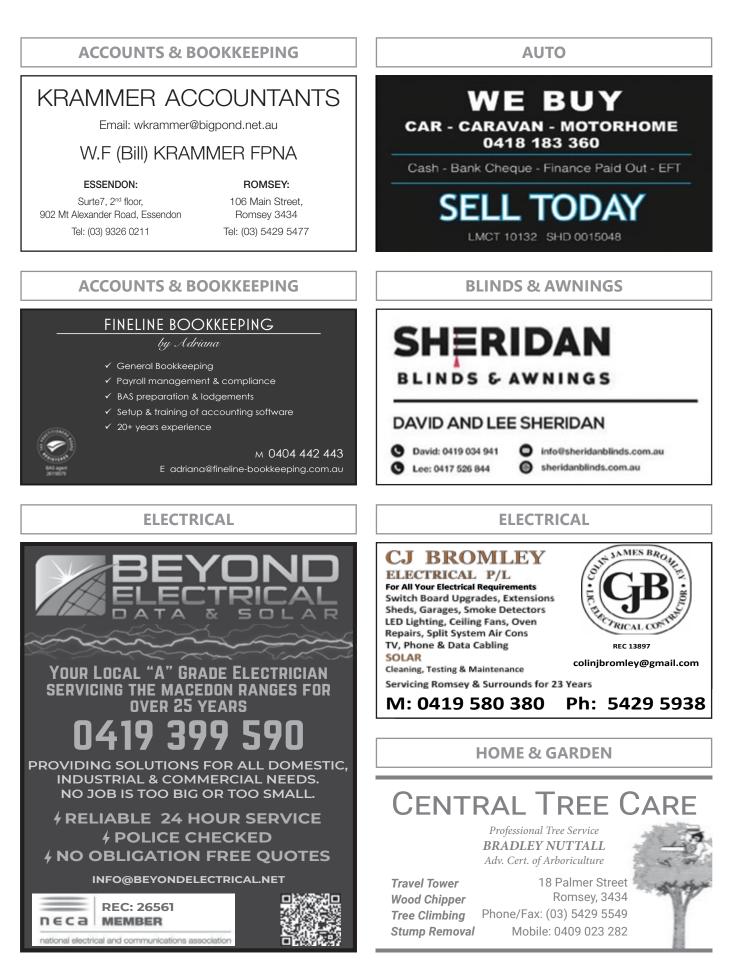
ST. MARY'S PARISH -LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

27-29 Chauncey St, Lancefield & 85 Main Road, Romsey **Presbytery office hours:** Wed & Fri 8-5 **E:** lancefield@cam.org.au **P:** 5429 2130 **Parish Priest** Fr. Martin Fleming C/O Woodend Presbytery **P:** 5427 2690

School Website: www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

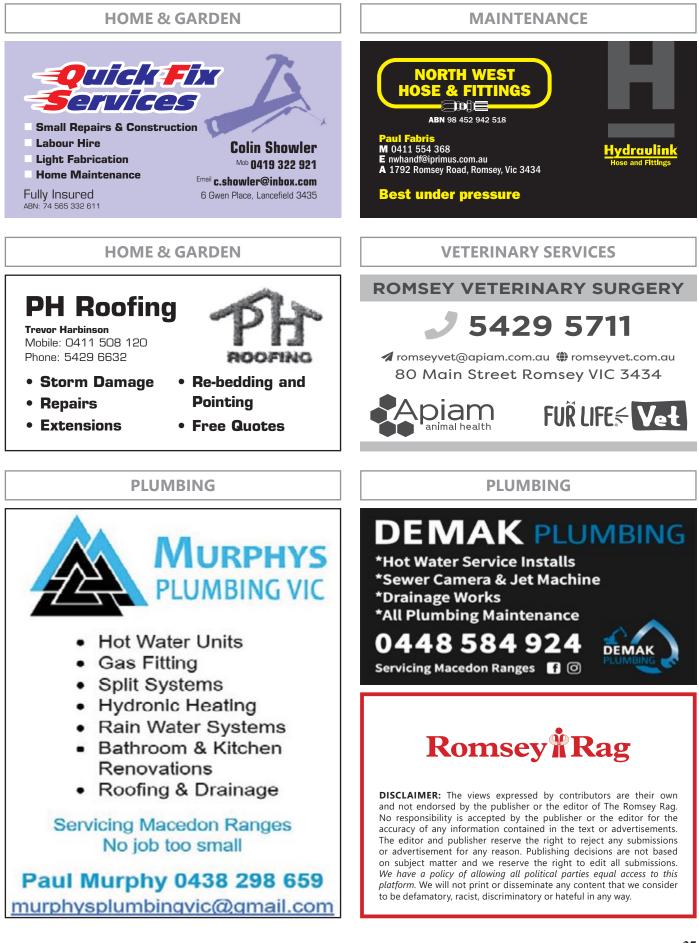
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YOU KNOW YOU'RE AN AUSTRALIAN IF ...

You know the meaning of the word "girt".

You believe that stubbles can be either drunk or worn.

You think it's normal to have a leader called Albo.

You understand that the

phrase "a group of women wearing black thongs" refers to footwear and may be less alluring than it sounds.

You can translate: "Dazza and Shazza played Acca Dacca on the way to Maccas."

You think "Woolloomooloo" is a perfectly reasonable name for a place.

You believe it makes sense for a country to have a \$1 coin that's twice as big as its \$2 coin.

You understand that "Wagga Wagga" can be abbreviated to "Wagga" but "Woy Woy" can't be called "Woy". Mary-Anne Thomas MP LABOR MEMBER FOR MACEDON

As your local Member of Parliament I am keen to hear from the community

and assist with any State Government matter.

Mary-Anne Thomas

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Kindergarten Vacancies 2024

Still thinking about kindergarten for 2024?

Council has the following places available at Romsey Kindergarten:

 15 hours per week of three-year-old kindergarten in 2024 (8:30am – 4pm, two days a week)

Register online at mrsc.vic.gov.aulkinder-rego or speak to our Enrolment Officer by calling 5422 0333.

Works updates

New intersection and footpath for Hutchinsons Lane

Road and footpath upgrades have now been completed along the west side of Hutchinsons Lane in Romsey.

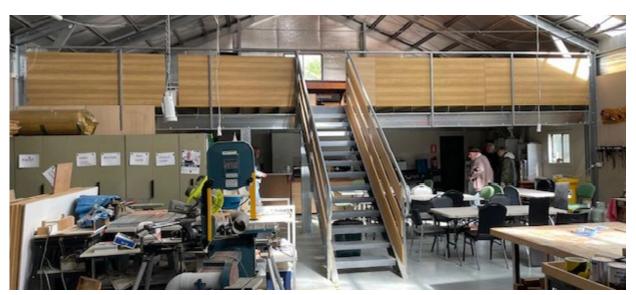
Part of contractor works for the development of an approved residential aged care facility, these works were completed late last year and included sealing a section of Hutchinsons Lane between the Melbourne-Lancefield Road intersection and Robb Drive, including the footpath.





Romsey Mens Shed

Working on Friendships



The newly built mezzanine floor will move storage from the activity floor

Romsey Mens Shed Report!

New members and a good year! We encourage men from the District to come along and join the Romsey Mens Shed. As we reflect on the past 12 months, we kept our membership at around 60. Probably the largest in Macedon Ranges Shire. A nice size for interaction and friendships; our main objectives. Some members engaged in woodwork, metal work, welding and automotive - where a key project is restoration of the 1925 T model Ford. 2023 activities ended when three members performed at the Carols function at the Romsey Primary School.

T Model significance. The T model is stripped to the chassis, as it is being restored from the ground up. It still attracted attention when displayed on a trailer at the Romsey- wide Market Day, Caribbean Gardens AOMC motor show and outside the IGA, at a sausage sizzle.

Thanks to Bendigo Community Bank funding we are refurbishing wheels on Stage I of the project. Get the "T" chassis mobile. The T model series has historical relevance as the first from the Henry Ford mass production process.

Shed activities. This is members choice. We provide a "safe" comfortable place for men to gather and if they want to, work on projects - sometimes community-based ones - or just mix, have a coffee and chat. About four times a year we have bus excursions and now have a federal government grant for subsidised excursions. We meet quarterly with other Macedon Ranges Shire Mens Sheds to exchange ideas.

Wanting "hands-on" for a new or enhanced skill? Our section leaders can organise practical workshop training; even glass cutting, by arrangement. We also make novelty items for the Romsey Co-Op.

Thursday \$5 BBQ/Light lunch day. The Thursday \$5 barbeque/light lunch at 12 is well attended by members and an occasional guest and the donations from Joshs' Eggs enhance the snags. 9.30 to about 2pm is the usual Thursday open time. Occasionally we have guest speakers on topical subjects.

Tuesday and Wednesday. On Tuesdays we are open from 9 to 4 and the Woodwork group gather on Wednesdays, with open times depending on projects. Other times can be arranged.

Future expansion plans. From an AGM in an empty concrete and steel shell in November 2020, demand for Mens Shed activities has increased and we need more space and our new Mezzannine floor has helped. And after negotiations with the MRSC (Macedon Ranges Shire Council) we hope to get our Crown Land lease expanded East a few metres and when we get the funding, build an extension.

Our Facebook page is: Romsey Mens Shed Inc. We have a GO FUND ME for the T model project. Shed times: Tuesdays 9am - 4pm and Thursdays 10 am - 2pm. Open other days by arrangement. Membership applications: Secretary: romseyms@gmail.com or drop in at Barry Street, Romsey

Romsey Library

ROMSEY LIBRARY (THE HUB)

98 Main Street, Romsey P: 5429 3086 E: romsey@ncgrl.vic.gov.au Facebook: Macedon Ranges Libraries

OPENING HOURS

Please refer to our website www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au Facebook page or contact us for information regarding up-to-date opening hours in February.

| Storytimes and Baby Rhyme Times

These fun, friendly sessions include stories, songs, and craft. As well as helping your youngster develop language skills, they are also a great way to meet other young families.

In 2024 our weekly Storytime and Baby Rhyme Time sessions will resume on from Monday 5 February.

For more information, please phone us on 5429 3086, or keep an eye on the Macedon Ranges Libraries Facebook page.

Curiosity, Connection, and Creativity with A Curious Circle

This very successful monthly activity is back, and we have some great things in store for a very creative 2024! If you enjoy making, chatting, having a laugh, making new friends or all the above, we'd love to have you join in. Try out some new arts and crafts just for fun – no special skills required! Refreshments are provided, and first timers are always welcome.

• Our first session this year will be making vision boards on Saturday 17 February, 1.00 – 4.00pm.

Bookings essential – please phone 5429 3086 for more info.

| Documentary Screening: Birth Time

• Thursday 29 February, 11.30am – 1.00pm

Join us for a screening of Birth Time, a documentary following three women on a mission to discover why an increasing number of women are emerging from their births physically and emotionally traumatised. Their insights inspired them to create the Birth Time education platform with the hope of changing the face of maternity care across the world.

Bookings required – head to goldfieldslibraries.com or phone us on 5429 3086. View-at-home links also available for a limited time.

Make & Take

• Monday 12 February & Wednesday 14 February, 1.00 – 4.00pm

Join us for this enjoyable craft workshop and learn how easy it is to create your own whimsical wall hanging from things you have lying around the house. Discover various weaving techniques and knotting styles, and experiment with colour and texture for a beautiful, unique wall hanging to take home.

Bookings essential – please phone 5429 3086 for more information. Please note a fee of \$10 per person applies to this session.

Upcycle old books to celebrate your love of reading and words, and the libraries they live in! Drop by and visit our Making Station to create something quirky and wonderful - a paper rose, dictionary magnet, vintage bookmark, or book house, you will love them.

For adults and teens. No bookings required.

Free One-to-One IT Help at the Library

Want to learn how to make a video call with Zoom? Need help attaching a photo to an email? Wondering how to make your Google or Facebook settings more private? How to stop those annoying notifications on your Android phone?

The Romsey Library offers free one-to-one IT help sessions, with bookings available most weekdays and Saturday mornings by special arrangement.

These sessions are aimed at all skill levels, including total beginners.

To book, drop by the library/HUB at 98 Main Street, or just phone us on 5429 3086.

New Releases – Order in the Library Now!

To reserve a loan of these titles, head to www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au or phone 5429 3086.











Drug driving? The consequences will blow your mind.

Police are conducting drug tests across Victoria, which helps to keep our roads safe. Being caught with illicit drugs in your system could result in a minimum fine of \$577 and possible licence suspension. Drug driving? Chances are you will be caught. Anywhere. Anytime. Anyone.







Happy New Year

Bound welcomes three experienced professional agents to help with your property needs.





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We are looking forward to meeting you.