

## Romsey Football & Netball Club

Training for seasons 2007 for all teams has now commenced and the numbers of players is slowly increasing. With the late start of the season (22nd April), some players have not yet started - don't leave it too late to get fit. Whilst we have lost some players and recruited some, we still need more—so if you know of any potential players, let the respective coach know.

An Intra Club game is planned for Friday 16th March, starting with a Junior match first and then a combined U18 and Senior match next. We will probably start the Junior match around 5PM. The Hogan Cup match against the Wallan F.C. will be held on Sunday the 1st April at Romsey Park. The ground is in good condition mainly through the watering by Rob McIntyre—thank you Rob.

Congratulations to Tim McCarthy on his marriage and also to Mathew Blair on his recent success at the Australian Sprint titles in Hobart.

A club pre season get together night at the Clubrooms will be held at the completion of the Cricket Season—date to be advised around town.

John Lynch  
President

## Romsey Golf Club Ladies Report

The weather has continued to be good for golf, with the dry fairways adding to the fun. The ladies are enjoying the fun games and are having many laughs. **The shot of the month** A drive from the 12<sup>th</sup> tee cleared the safety fence and the old tree stump and landed at the back of the 5<sup>th</sup> green. Luckily we were playing Canadian so the ball was picked up and play continued.

Recipe for this month

### No Bowl Choc Bit Slice

90gn melted butter  
1 1/2 cups choc bits  
1 cup chopped mixed nuts  
1 cup biscuit crumbs  
1 cup shredded coconut  
1 x 400gm tin condensed milk

### Method

Line a slice tin with glad bake, pour butter into tin sprinkle evenly with biscuits, choc bits, coconut and nuts. Drizzle with condensed milk. Bake in a moderate oven (180 ) for 30 mins or until brown. Cool in pan before cutting. Store in refrigerator.  
Beryl Cole  
54295411

## ***“Experience a Serene moment in an Historic church”.***

The Romsey Uniting Church, at 25 Pohlman Street, Romsey will be opening its doors each Thursday during the month of March, between 1 & 3pm.

Anyone is invited to come and sit and relax – have a quiet moment in this historic picturesque church.

Get away from the hustle and bustle of everyday life.

Come and sit quietly, listen to some soft music, light a candle.

You may like to have a cuppa and perhaps learn more about the history of the church.

The dates the church will be open in March are as follows:

**1-3pm Thursday 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>.**

Please come and take advantage of the quietness and serenity in this lovely bluestone church.

# Celebration

## of the Life of Jesus Christ

### —In Memory of...



Thursday 5th of April

**10pm**

At

Living Word Christian Church

7 Mitchell Court Romsey

**CONTACT**

Church Office 5429 6327

Supper Provided

Living Word C.C.

Sunday Service Times

10am - Mitchell Court Romsey

6pm - Woodend Community Centre

(Every Sunday evening)

Men's, Women's, Youth & Children's Groups

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME**

# THE ROMSEY RAG

Issue No. 246

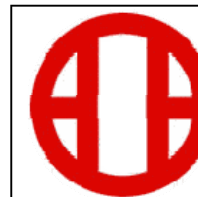
2000 copies produced each month at Romsey Primary School as a service to our community and supported by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council

March 2006

THE MARCH EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY  
- Australian Shito-Ryu Karate-Do-



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### TRAIN LINE FOR LANCEFIELD AND ROMSEY?

PUBLIC OPINION IS BEING SOUGHT FROM RESIDENTS OF LANCEFIELD AND ROMSEY.  
**WOULD YOU TRAVEL BY TRAIN TO WORK? TO SCHOOL? TO SHOP?  
TO VISIT FAMILY OR FRIENDS? FOR DAY TRIPS VICTORIA WIDE? ETC?**  
**YOUR OPINION IS VALUABLE!!!**  
PLEASE EMAIL [eldermere@iprimus.com.au](mailto:eldermere@iprimus.com.au) or phone Angela 54291548

The closing date for copy for the March Romsey Rag is Friday, March 23rd

We cannot guarantee inclusion of copy received after this date.

Please email your copy to the Romsey Rag email address:  
[romseyrag@romseyps.vic.edu.au](mailto:romseyrag@romseyps.vic.edu.au)

When submitting graphics, please use a Jpeg format, as we cannot guarantee that we can open or print other formats. Also, ensure that text is in a format that can be edited.

## Editorially Speaking

Romsey Rag Editorial Committee:  
Barney Healy, Robyn Moore

Layout and Design:  
Robyn Moore, Anne Cappler

Printing:  
Trish Gray, Robyn Moore

Advertising /Sponsorship:  
Christie Brown—5429 5099 or Romsey Post Office

Collation Team Co-ordinator:  
Joan Sparkes—5429 5848

Contributions:  
Articles should be left at the Romsey Post Office (fax 5429 5134) or Romsey Primary School (fax 5429 5765) by 12 noon of the 21<sup>st</sup> of each month (or last business day prior to the 21<sup>st</sup>).

We prefer articles to be submitted electronically or on disc. Legible typed or handwritten items may be accepted. All material submitted for publication must be named and have contact details.

Articles can be sent via e-mail to:  
romseyrag@romseyps.vic.edu.au

Please ensure that any text is sent as word documents and logos / photos are sent as .jpg files.

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editorial Committee. All contributions remain the responsibility of the author.

Advertising:  
Rates are GST inclusive.  
Front page sponsorship:  
\$130 per half page  
Business card: \$25per issue  
\$200 per year in Business Directory  
Quarter page: \$50 per issue  
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Full page: \$180 per issue  
Line ads: eg- For sale, births, deaths, marriages, engagements - \$10  
**For invoicing** please include name & address details

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

Distribution:  
2000 copies delivered to the Romsey community at the commencement of each month.



Macedon Ranges Shire Council - Generous supporters of the Romsey Rag

## Romsey Rag Publication Deadlines 2007

Edition	Closing date for copy	Collating date
April 2007	Friday March 23rd	Thursday March 29th
May 2007	Friday April 20th	Thursday April 25th
June 2007	Friday May 18th	Thursday May 24th
July 2007	Friday June 22nd	Thursday June 28th
August 2007	Friday July 20th	Thursday July 26th
September 2007	Friday August 17th	Thursday August 23rd
October 2007	Friday September 21st	Thursday September 27th
November 2007	Friday October 19th	Thursday October 25th
December 2007	Friday November 23rd	Thursday November 29th

### FROM LOCAL MP JOANNE DUNCAN

Dear Friends

As the rollout of gas continues in your town, its important that all households wishing to connect to natural gas put in an 'Expression of Interest' to a gas retailer

You have the opportunity to apply to three retailers for connection to natural gas, they are;

- AGL -1800 680 430
- TRUenergy – 8635 3074
- Origin – 8635 3074

Natural gas is also a much more convenient energy source than fire wood and is a cleaner energy alternative.

You might also like to ask your chosen retailer about deals for combining your gas and electricity bills that could further reduce your energy costs.

We have already seen significant extensions to the network thanks to the co-operative efforts of neighbours.

For those not in the initial reticulation area I would urge you to put in a joint application to a retailer with your neighbours for an extension of the network.

The Natural Gas Extension Program is one of the biggest investments in infrastructure in our community and I am very proud to be part of the Government that, in cooperation with SP AusNet, has enabled gas to be brought to our towns.

Connection to natural gas will significantly reduce your energy bills, with the average household saving between \$600 and \$1200 a year.

If you have any questions regarding the natural gas roll out please don't hesitate to contact my office on (03) 5428 2138, or SP AusNet on 1300 360 795.

Kind Regards  
**Joanne Duncan MP**  
**State Member for Macedon**

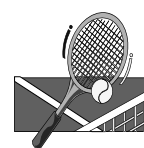
### Romsey/Lancefield Senior Citizens Club

Would you like a social day, playing bowls, cards or having a chat? Then come along and join. Joining fee \$4. Light lunch and afternoon tea available.  
Times: 11am—3 pm each Monday.

Phone: 5429 6688

## ROMSEY TENNIS CLUB INC.

PO BOX 288 ROMSEY 3434  
**President:** Bev Beaumont 5429 6189



**Secretary:** Kaye McNamara 5429 5622  
**Treasurer:** Louise Conlan 5429 6595

### Now that we have lights.....

#### Monday Night Social Tennis

We are meeting at the courts from 7.30pm on Mondays, with a cost of \$2.50 per person if we turn on the lights. If you are looking for a casual and social hit of tennis, after a hard day's work, then come along for a hit. No commitment is needed – just bring along a racquet. Everyone is welcome.

#### Thursday Night "Macedon Ranges Tennis Association" Competition.

We are very excited to be able to have a tennis venue with lights over the eastern side of the district. We have one section 2 team entered in the competition on Thursday nights – who were very pleased to have won their first match. We are hoping to increase this to 2 teams next season.

#### The Hiring of the Courts – both day and night - is now available to both members of the club and the community.

- Free day use by members
  - \$10 per hour per court for day hire by non-members
  - \$10 per hour per court for night hire for members
  - \$20 per hour per court for night hire for non-members
- Tennis racquets are also available for use, when hiring the courts.

Please contact Bev on 5429 6189 or Kaye on 5429 5622, for court hiring or membership enquiries.

#### Other tennis activities at our club.....

#### Social Tennis – "Hit and Giggle"

Social tennis is growing in numbers at the Romsey courts on Thursday mornings from 10.30 am. Come along for an informal hit, some exercise and fresh air. Just bring a racquet, suitable footwear and a sense of humour!!! Please ring Eileen French to express interest or for more information on 5429 3391.

#### Friday night junior practice hit.

We have re-started our Friday night junior practice hits at the courts from 5pm. This is an informal gathering of kids and families, for a practice hit and social get together. We are also firing up the BBQ for hungry tums. All welcome.

#### Winter Season registrations.

Teams for both Juniors and Open need to be finalised soon.  
**Juniors** – Play from 9am to about 11.30am on Saturday mornings, with the new season starting second term. 4 children in each team play each week at Romsey and Tennis Clubs in the Macedon Ranges District. Children need to be 17 or under by the 30<sup>th</sup> April. We can cater for all abilities.  
**Enquiries to Mandy Green on 5429 5191 by 9<sup>th</sup> March.**

**Open** – Play from 1.30 to about 5 pm on Saturday afternoons, with the new season starting second term. Teams are made up of 2 women and 2 men.  
**Enquiries to Darlene Baker on 5429 5186 by 9<sup>th</sup> March.**

## Mums Tennis Program

Have you ever thought you would like to give tennis a go? Are you ready to return to playing tennis after a few years break?

Then come along to our **NEW Mums Tennis Program**, promoted and supported by Tennis Victoria, and conducted by our qualified club coach, Andrew Peake.

- 1 The program runs from 26<sup>th</sup> February to 30<sup>th</sup> March.
- 2 The program runs for 5 weeks, for one hour sessions, maximum of 6 in the group.
- 3 Choose from either Wednesday from 2 to 3pm, or Friday from 10 to 11am.
- 4 Cost is only \$15 for the 5 weeks!!
- 5 All tennis racquets and balls supplied.

Please ring Andrew for more details, and for bookings.  
0412 225 792



#### Tennis coach

**Andrew Peake**, our professional club coach, can provide coaching from 5 years of age and for all ability levels, including social hitters and competition players. With the addition of lights, coaching times will be extended. Contact Andrew on 0412 225 792, or by email at [peaketennis@hotmail.com](mailto:peaketennis@hotmail.com)

#### Fundraising .....

We now have to focus on beautification of the surrounds of the courts, providing sun shade and seating areas, and eventually fence replacement. So our fund-raising continues and we look forward to your support.  
The winner of our December raffle of **"A dinner for Two" at Soltan Pepper** was Cathy Calder – congratulations!

#### Club Contacts

Club coach – Andrew Peake 0412 225 792  
Social Tennis – Thursday Morning at 10.30am – Eileen French 5429 3391  
Mid-week Ladies – Bev Beaumont – 5429 6189  
Senior Saturday Tennis (Open) - Darlene - 5429 5186  
Junior Saturday Tennis - Mandy Green – 5429 5191

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## MACEDON RANGES BRIDGE CLUB

From a humble beginning of twelve players meeting once weekly to play Bridge, the Macedon Ranges Bridge Club has grown to a membership of 56 with sessions held Monday and Thursday afternoons and Tuesday evenings in Woodend. New players are always welcome and there are classes for beginners.

More information can be obtained by ringing 5429 1569 or 9744 7816

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**BORN AGAIN TRAILERS**

KEEP BREATHING PRODUCTIONS presents  
A play by BOB ELLIS & ROBIN McLACHLAN.

## A LOCAL MAN

With TONY BARRY as BEN CHIFLEY



"I try to think of the Labor movement not as putting an extra suspense into somebody's pocket... but as a movement bringing something better to the people, better standards of living, greater happiness to the mass of the people."

**KEEP BREATHING**

## What's On At Kyneton Town Hall

One show only!

### **A Local Man - Entertainment**

Saturday 31st of March 2007 8.00pm

Full \$35 Con \$28 Stud \$25

the Town Hall (Kyneton Box Office) 1300 88 88 02

Ben Chifley has been called Australia's best - loved Prime Minister. His life story, from humble Buthurst engine driver to national leader, has become one of Australia's iconic legends. But what of the man behind the politician. A Local Man is a poignant and powerful portrayal of a great Australian. Offering striking resonance for our current times, this heartfelt production will

move those who remember and captivate those who never knew the enigmatic story of Ben Chifley.

Written by Bob Ellis and Robin McLachlan, and starring award winning actor Tony Barry, A Local Man is all - Australian drama at it's best.

## Sparkles Casual Clothes

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	Tues -	9.30 AM – 5.30 PM
	Wed -	9.30 AM – 5.30 PM
	Thurs-	9.30 AM – 6.30 PM
	Fri -	9.30 AM – 6.30 PM
	Sat	9..30AM – 3.30 PM



**INTERESTED IN RIDING IN A GROUP ?**

WOULD YOU LIKE TO PARTICIPATE IN ROAD CYCLING IN AN INFORMAL GROUP OVER VARIOUS DISTANCES IN THE LANCEFIELD,TOOBORAC, ROMSEY AREA ?

FOR INFORMATION  
PHONE STEVE :0403664721

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OR  
ANDREW CLEMENT 0409 021 722

## FROM CR HENRY BLEECK

### Limb trim push for overhanging trees

The Council needs to ramp up its program of trimming dangerous branches overhanging our roads for improved safety, and I'll be pushing for this to be done. A number of residents have raised this issue as one of concern, and I agree that we need to devote more staff and resources to it. However, there are a number of authorities who have responsibility for different parts of our roads, including VicRoads, and Council will also be calling on them to do their bit.

Our Road Management Plan needs to be reviewed to provide for more inspections of the town and rural roads and streets which are our responsibility, and for works crews to be available to promptly carry out the trimming and pruning required. These extra resources need to be covered in the upcoming budget, and I will be seeking adequate funding to enable the program to be expanded.

In most cases, trees on roadside reserves will not need to be removed. Careful pruning and removal of limbs should ensure that the aesthetic qualities of our roadside vegetation are not unduly impacted on, while at the same time improving safety. We have all seen instances where high vehicles have hit and brought down branches as they travel along the road, and other instances where some quite large limbs have fallen across the road in a storm or high winds. Pruning of limbs on the overhanging side of the trees will reduce this impact. Low-hanging limbs and foliage, especially on bends and embankments can also obscure signs, which can be a safety issue.

Roadside vegetation plays an important role in wildlife habitat, particularly as corridors for animals to travel between more extensive habitat areas. Thoughtful pruning of trees will enable this role to continue. In many cases, some of our best hollows and shelters suitable for birds, possums and other wildlife are in the older gums on roadside verges. A regime of pruning will enable the retention of most of these hollows, and I will be seeking to ensure our environmental services continue to be involved in the program along with our works crews.

I believe the ramping up of our program and review of our Road Management Plan will enable Macedon Ranges Shire to again be to the fore in balancing the needs and amenity of our residents with the wildlife and habitat retention which makes our Shire such a desirable and attractive place.

Anyone with concerns over particular overhanging trees on roads should bring them to our attention by phoning the Council on 1300 656 577 or contacting VicRoads, or calling in at one of the Council service centres.

**Henry Bleeck.**

**Your Local Macedon Ranges Shire Councillor.  
5422 7027**

## ROMSEY LIONS CLUB SUNDAY MARKET—3RD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

"The next Romsey Market will be held on Sunday March 25th. New stall holders are always welcome. Enquiries: 0438-414-245



John Smith  
0408 704 082

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Romsey, Lancefield  
and surrounding  
districts.

## THINKING OF SELLING?

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**ROMSEY 5429 6842**



Mel Leece-Roberts  
0409 537 235

**SERVICE &  
PROFESSIONALISM  
IS OUR MOTTO.**

## Romsey Primary School News

Over the first days of the school year all classes participated in the "Quality Beginning" program. This explores and strengthens understanding of our school values of *Happiness, Learning, Inclusion, Caring* and *Relationships*. Additionally students identified the elements of a good classroom, student and teacher; covering our *Positive Behaviour Management Program*, resiliency *Bounceback* program and working on setting learning and social goals for the year. The commencement of the year is the time to set high expectations for behaviour and learning.

## ICT Upgrade

Information & Communication Technologies at school is the use of computers, digital cameras, scanners and other electronic equipment as tools to enhance student learning. At Romsey Primary School we provide the opportunity for all children to interact and develop skills in Information & Communication Technologies which can be used in a broad range of applications. Our goals are:

- To regularly update and expand the range of Information & Communication Technologies hardware, software and access to improve student learning.
- To achieve the Departmental suggested guideline of one computer for each five students, and,
- For students to be competent and confident with a range of Information & Communication Technologies hardware and software.

In order to keep our Information and Communication Technology current the school has undertaken a number of key strategies in recent years. These have included the leasing of equipment so our computer stock is up to date, the expansion of the range of communication and information technology to include scanners, digital cameras and additional printers, and the greater integration of this technology into a wider range of curriculum areas. Parents of senior students were treated to the work our students had completed in LOTE, Visual Arts and Performing Arts last year with very impressive digital presentations.

An on-going challenge continues to be in expanding and upgrading our school computer network infrastructure and incorporating an expanding range of

Communication and Information Technologies available to schools. Recently we were informed that a submission forwarded to the Federal Department of Education in the "Investing in Schools Program" has been successful. Under this program we will receive \$85,000 for a network upgrade and the provision of a number of interactive whiteboards. Interactive whiteboards are a powerful learning tool with applications across a range of curriculum areas. They operate as an active touch screen visible to the whole class. Our long term plan would be to have this facility in all classrooms. This funding will enable our students to continue to enjoy up to date and powerful tools to support their learning.

## Student Leadership

There are many opportunities for students to develop advanced leadership skills at Romsey Primary School. In addition to the formal positions of School Captains and positions on Student Council, students have opportunities to develop leadership through sports teams, Peer Mediation, class meetings and in the daily living and demonstrating our school values. At assembly recently our 2007 School Captains Lucy Fowler and Mark Wilkinson addressed the students, staff and parents and were presented with their badges. In addition to having a number of formal duties throughout the year, our School Captains are also members of Student Council.

All classes in years 3 to 6 elect two representatives to Student Council. This group meets weekly to plan activities and discuss ideas from class meetings. Classes have class meetings weekly and ideas from all students are able to be taken forward to Student Council directly through their representatives, or for Junior and Prep classes through their "Buddy" class reps. Two Student Council members come to our School Council meetings each month.

Elected Student Councillors for 2007 are:

Shae Shewan (President), Jackson Walter (Vice President), Jake Lever (Treasurer), Josh Lanyon (Secretary), Shaye Griffith, Brittnee Patton, Julia Derossi, Cody Brae, Paige Nuttall, Philip Durston, Lacey Greig, Andrew Swann, Lauren Connell, Jake O'Brien, Kirsten Lanyon, Hugh Webb-Ware, Lauren O'Dwyer and Jayden Menzies. Congratulations to these students.

## Walking School Bus

The Walking School Bus program was launched at Romsey Primary School last year and continues to go from strength to strength. This program provides an ideal opportunity to let the kids find their feet. The Walking School Bus involves a group of children walking to and from school under the supervision of adult volunteers. The 'bus' operates with an adult volunteer 'driver' leading from the front and an adult volunteer 'conductor' supervising from the rear. The group walks along a set route which is safety audited by council and picks up 'passengers' along the way at designated bus stops. Each registered passenger on the bus is given a passport. Every-time the child boards a 'bus', their passport gets stamped by the conductor. Every 10<sup>th</sup> walk is rewarded with a certificate. We call it the Frequent Walker Program. The Walking School Bus program provides considerable individual and community health benefits including:

**Health:** walking to and from school provides children with the opportunity to engage in regular physical activity.

**Environmental:** by providing an alternative to car travel, it is environmentally friendly and helps to alleviate traffic congestion and decrease pollution.

**Safety:** walking helps people to become more familiar with their neighbourhood. It also provides children with the opportunity to develop and improve road safety and pedestrian skills. Currently we have two routes and are still looking for volunteers for an additional two routes. Volunteers only need to walk with a bus one morning or afternoon a week, so if you have an hour free once a week, why don't you put your name down as a volunteer on a bus. It's a great way to meet other families in your neighbourhood. All volunteers undergo a police-check and have to attend a short training session. Information kits for volunteers are available from the school office.

**Barney Healy  
Principal**



## RIPPER READS

Greetings all,  
Hope that everything is tootling along nicely for you in your respective necks of the woods. Herewith are some reviews for your March publications.

Please note that we now have a monthly flier letting customers know what is happening at which branches. You may like to include 2 new activities for the under 15s.

1. Baby rhyme time for babies 1-18 months old. Held every Tuesday 1.30-2 at Broadford Library and again on Thursdays at Kilmore Library 10-1.30.

2. Junior Bookclub happens at Wallan Library on the 4th Monday of the month

- 26th March 4-5pm and is for anyone interested in books aged between 8-14.

Come along and have fun!

Cheers, Pauline R.

*The Book Thief* – Markus Zusak

If you're like me and want to enjoy a book from the very first page, then persevere past the first 16 pages of *The Book Thief* and you will be well rewarded. The narrator of this story, set in Nazi Germany, is Death and the first few pages appear to leap disjointedly from one vignette to another. This coupled with the \*Little Announcements\* throughout the text do take a bit of getting used to but it is worth it. Zusak's story paints a vivid description of life on a single street in an outlying suburb of Munich and the daily struggle for survival of its inhabitants. One of whom is the Book Thief. The story really commences with Liesel's arrival on Himmell St and the author's skill is such that by the end of the story the reader has become so immersed in the character's lives that they too feel the overwhelming loss that is inevitable in war.

A Plethora of Patchwork Books!!

Recently a number of new patchwork books has joined the collection and if you have any interest in quilting or patchworking, from beginners to experts, then ALL of them are worth perusing.

\* A-Z of Quilting: A Complete manual for the beginner through to the advanced Quilter.

\* Quilted bags & purses – Mary Jo Hiney

\* Everyone can quilt – Kaye Wood

\* Wonderfully whimsical quilts – Carol Burniston

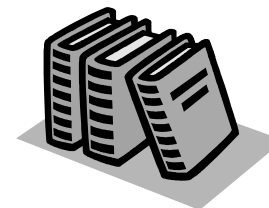
\* Hunter star quilts & beyond – Jan Krentz

\* Make your own contemporary quilts (a totally different way of looking at quilts!)

*A Coyote's in the house* – Elmore Leonard

With a catchy little title like this you know that you're in for an entertaining read. This is Elmore Leonard's first book for children, and it is a great little spoof about three main characters – Antwan the independent coyote, Buddy, the retired German shepherd film star and Betty, the spoilt, snooty poodle showgirl. Although wary of each other to begin with, by the end of the book they have managed to accommodate each other's curious ways.

Plenty of humour keeps the story bowling along. Good fun.



## Bungawitta Playgroup

*Join us!*

For children newborn to 5 years

Monday 2.00-4.00

Tuesday 9.30-12.00

Tuesday 2.00-4.00

Wednesday 10.00-12.00

Thursday 9.30-12.00

Friday 10.00-12.00

Corner Main Street and Palmer Street Romsey  
Children have fun playing with our fantastic equipment, doing craft, singing, dancing and a whole lot more!

For more details contact

Joanne 54295368

Adrienne 5429 3351

Anna 5429 6171

98 Main Street  
Corner Palmer Street  
Romsey 3434.



# FLASHDANCE PERFORMING ARTS

## ROMSEY CAMPUS

Come along and try new dance classes with Stacey and Kate. Classes include Linedancing, Jazz/Funk, Cheerleading and Competition Classes.

Classes available for all ages held on Tuesday and Wednesday nights at the Romsey Mechanics hall Main St Romsey.

For more information please contact Stacey on 0418 863 258 or Kate on 0417 576 484



## Macedon Ranges Residents Urged to Apply for Natural Gas

SP AusNet, local natural gas provider, is progressing well with its \$40 million project to deliver natural gas to over 5,000 properties in the Macedon Ranges. Crews are working hard to bring natural gas to Gisborne, New Gisborne, Riddells Creek, Romsey and Lancefield - and extend existing supplies in Macedon and Woodend. SP AusNet spokeswoman, Alice Thorpe, said supply main and reticulation had been completed in Gisborne and the first customer will be connected to natural gas in early March. "We're pleased that the local community has shown such strong interest, with well over 550 applications for natural gas connections received so far," Ms Thorpe said. "The next step is to put in services, and customers are encouraged to get applications in early so they can start to enjoy the benefits of natural gas."

Natural gas is convenient, cheaper than LPG, and is the environmentally friendly energy choice. As an added incentive, SP AusNet is offering a \$400 rebate to customers following installation of their gas meter. Woodend and Macedon communities are already using natural gas, and over 880 customers have signed up for connection. There are still about 760 properties that can access natural gas and are yet to connect. SP AusNet urges people to contact their retailer now and apply for connection, so there's time to arrange for a licensed gas fitter or plumber to carry out appliance conversions and installations before the cold winter months set in. Romsey, Lancefield and Riddell's Creek works are on track after a minor setback when crews hit rock in Rom-

sey and Lancefield. Special machinery was brought in to keep on schedule in bringing natural gas to these communities, with first connections expected by winter 2007.

SP AusNet will hold a natural gas expo in Romsey during April to provide information to these three local communities on connecting to natural gas. Natural gas retailers and manufacturers of natural gas appliances will also be on hand to provide advice. SP AusNet urges residents to contact a retailer now to express interest in connection to ensure you're one of the first to connect. Further information about connecting to natural gas is available on the SP AusNet website: [www.sp-ausnet.com.au](http://www.sp-ausnet.com.au)

For Media Enquiries please contact Alice Thorpe 03 9625 0199 or 0437 007052

Email: [alice.thorpe@sp-ausnet.com.au](mailto:alice.thorpe@sp-ausnet.com.au)

### Background Information - Natural Gas

Benefits of Natural Gas

- Natural gas is cheap, with possible cost savings of up to \$800 per year compared to LPG,
- Natural gas is a more environmentally friendly and reliable energy choice,
- Natural gas is an efficient and convenient energy source without the need to fill up LPG bottles,
- There is a limited \$400 rebate offer following connection of a meter.

### Connecting to Natural Gas

#### Step one

Ensure natural gas is available to your residence by accessing the maps online at: [www.sp-ausnet.com.au](http://www.sp-ausnet.com.au) or visit your local council. Port Fairy, Macedon, Creswick and Woodend are already connected, with

all remaining towns to have first connections in 2007. If your street is included:

#### Step two

Choose a natural gas retailer to make an application and arrange your gas connection: •AGL 1800 680 430 •Origin Energy 03 8635 3074 •TRUenergy 1800818 378.

The retailer will need to know your address and what appliances you expect to connect (this will help determine load requirements).

#### Step three

Once your application is approved you need to contact a licensed plumber or gas fitter to arrange any necessary appliance conversion or installation works. There may be charges applicable depending on the works required.

#### Step four

You now need to contact your natural gas retailer to arrange the installation of a gas meter. To do this your natural gas retailer will require your plumber's licence number and your certificate of compliance.

Even if your street is not on the initial reticulation route there is still an opportunity to connect to natural gas. Residents need to contact a retailer to express their interest, and we recommend getting together with neighbours and others in your street to submit a group application. This shows the demand for natural gas in your area and helps SP AusNet evaluate your request. Already there have been many extensions to initial reticulation routes so we strongly encourage everyone not on the initial route to register their interest in connecting to natural gas.

### Anglican Youth Group

When: **Sundays during school terms:**

Time: 5.00pm – 7.00pm.

Where: Christ Church Lancefield Church Hall  
Chauncey St.  
Lancefield

Cost: \$3.00 per night to cover meal costs.

What to bring: Yourself and some friends.

For further information, please contact the Rev. Leroy Coote on 5429-1680.

(This venture is jointly sponsored by the Anglican Parish of Lancefield and Romsey and the Macedon Ranges Shires Council)



### 4 yr old Kindergarten 2007 – Vacancies!

**Riddells Creek Kindergarten**  
Currently has positions available  
in their Wombat group.

**Mon 12.30 – 4pm**  
**Thurs 8.45 – 12.15pm**  
**Friday 1.00 – 4pm**

**If you would be interested in joining this group, please make All enquiries to Meagan McAliee On 54 287346.**

## Hesket Primary School

Last year we had the new covered entrance built and it looked great but the ground was a bit uneven and very dusty. We had lots of bricks left over from an old path so we decided to have the covered entrance paved. Renato said that he would do the work over the Christmas holidays. At the end of the year all the Gr 5/6 children carried all the bricks around to the front of the school and stacked them ready for Renato. When everyone came back to school they were in for a big surprise. Our handy dandy worker Renato had done a wonderful job with the covered entrance. The bricks were in place and they looked like they had been



there for years. He had even re-used the old seats so that we had places to sit. Now everyone who comes to our school says, "Wow, look at the entrance, its great."

Renato also paved the area between the sports shed and the Gr P/1 room. He made a special pattern using the old, grey pavers and the new, light yellow ones. Now we have another quiet area where we can sit and eat or read or play board games. It will be really warm in winter too because it is out of the wind but it gets plenty of sun.

Daniel W.

## WOODEND LIONS CLUB ART SHOW

Templeton St, Woodend

**Labour Day Weekend: March 10-12<sup>th</sup>**

**Sat & Sun: 9am – 5pm**

**Mon: 9am – 4pm**

**Entry: \$2.00 Adults**

**\$1.00 Concession Card Holders.**

**Children under 12 Free.**

**Official Opening & Preview Evening**

**Friday March 9 at 7pm.**

**Entry \$15.00**

[Includes light supper & beverages; bookings essential-numbers are limited]

**Bookings for Preview & further information ph: Liz. Johnston 5427 1503**



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### Thank You

My dad is one of several of Romsey's older citizens who uses a motorised scooter for mobility and independence. On his behalf I would like to say thank you to the Shire Council for the improvements to the three crossing points along the main street in the shopping precinct. This work has made it so much easier for him to manoeuvre his scooter and cross the road safely. Thank you too to motorists for not parking across the access points to these crossings in the side roads.

Name and address supplied.



The Anglican Parish  
of  
Lancefield  
and  
Romsey



Connecting with God and our Community

### VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE – MARCH 2007.

By the time you get this, we will not be far off Easter. A time for lots of celebration that usually contains a lot of Chocolate. In churches around the world prior to Easter it is a time called Lent. Lent is a preparation period for Easter. Often people celebrate this in various ways, whether it be fasting or giving up a particular thing that they like. One congregation I was a part of had many people give up meat for Lent.

The question in giving up something is this: What is the result of giving up that particular thing? Whether it is a food or an activity. The result could be an improved lifestyle, which is a good thing. But the people who started this practice many centuries ago did it so that they could clearly understand who God is. The sacrifice that they made ended up resulting in them trusting in God at a deeper level and as a result, the society they lived was not only healthier physically but also mentally.

As we prepare for Easter in our various ways, let us look at our preparation so that our Easter Celebration can help to improve both our physical and mental health.

That was the View from the vicarage.

Yours faithfully,

Rev. Leroy Coote

Vicar

Christ Church Lancefield with St. Paul's Romsey.

Ph. No. 5429-1680.

### COMING EVENTS.

**SUNDAY 11<sup>TH</sup> MARCH— IN BOTH LANCEFIELD AND ROMSEY.**

**COME AND CELEBRATE WHAT GOD HAS GIVEN US AT OUR HARVEST FESTIVAL.**

**SUNDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> MARCH - IN BOTH LANCEFIELD AND ROMSEY.**

**FAMILY SERVICES WITH INTERACTIVE SERMON AND OTHER SURPRISES.**

## LANCEFIELD FRUIT SHED

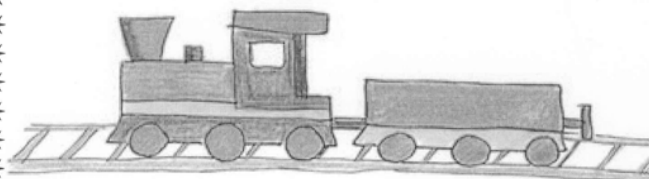
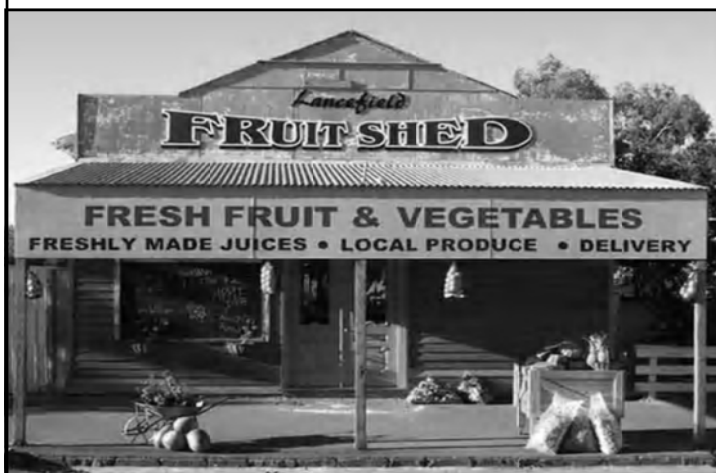
Opening hours: Monday & Wednesday 9.00am—6.00pm  
Tuesday, Thursday & Friday 9.00am—5.30pm  
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Phone 5429 1969 Fax 5429 1167



## Romsey Toy Library Inc.

Open Saturday mornings, 10am-11.30am  
St Mary's Hall, Main Street, Romsey  
(behind St Mary's Catholic Church)



Come & see us for:

LEAP PADS CD-ROM PC GAMES  
BIKES PUZZLES  
TRAIN SETS KIDS' VIDEOS  
CRICKET SETS TONKA TRUCKS  
RIDE-ONS SCOOTERS  
DOLLS HOUSE & MUCH MORE



Wide range of toys available for borrowing  
Suitable from birth to 12 years  
Family memberships from \$15 (6 months)

Save money - don't buy toys, borrow them!

New members always welcome

Drop in and see us!

or phone Leanne Manton on 5429 6583



## FRAN SECURES FUNDING FOR MACEDON RANGES LOCAL SCHOOL PROJECTS

Our Macedon Ranges region received a great start to the new school year with almost \$1million in new Federal funding for local schools, Local Federal Member Fran Bailey said today.

"I am delighted to have been able to secure more than \$680,000 from the Federal Government's Investing in Our Schools program for our local schools to carry out projects which they have identified as being important," Fran said. "On top of this great news, we have a further \$300,000 investment for Stage Two of Gisborne Secondary College's new building works; this adds to the \$1million already invested in 2006. Investing in Our Schools is designed to help our schools achieve projects which are often high on the list of needs, but it is difficult for parents and teachers to fundraise for these amounts. We are very lucky that all of our region's schools have great support from parents and friends of the school community, but there are only so many fundraising cake stalls, raffles and fun-runs that you can hold in a town where there are many other groups desperately in need of funding. Primary schools in Bolinda, Clarkefield, Heskett, Lancefield, Mount Macedon, Riddells Creek, Romsey and Woodend Primary Schools and Gisborne Secondary College, will be able to carry out important projects such as building extensions, playground development, airconditioning installation and information technology system upgrades."

Gisborne Secondary College Principal, John Flanagan, said the school was delighted to receive both the capital funding and Investing in Our Schools funding, to start off the school year.

"We are delighted that the Investing in our Schools Program will provide Gisborne Secondary College with funds to purchase a mini-bus," Mr Flanagan said. "This has been a dream of ours for many years but it has always proven too difficult to raise the necessary funds. The bus will enable us to further enhance the range and quality of the programs we can offer our students. We are very appreciative of the support of our Federal Member, Fran Bailey, in seeking this funding. The news of an extra \$300,000 from the Commonwealth Government for our Capital Works program, on top of the \$1.1m allocated last year, is a wonderful surprise. I am hopeful that we will be able to significantly expand the scope of the proposed project and make further, much-needed improvements to our buildings."

### NEW LIONS MEMBERS WANTED

The Lancefield-Romsey Lions Club would like to encourage people interested in community service to consider joining our organization. The Club has been in service in this area for over 30 years and has a long history of providing support and assistance to the community.

If you feel you would like to make a contribution, meet a group of friendly people, and feel more involved with your town, please give us a call.  
For further information, please call John at 5429-5990.

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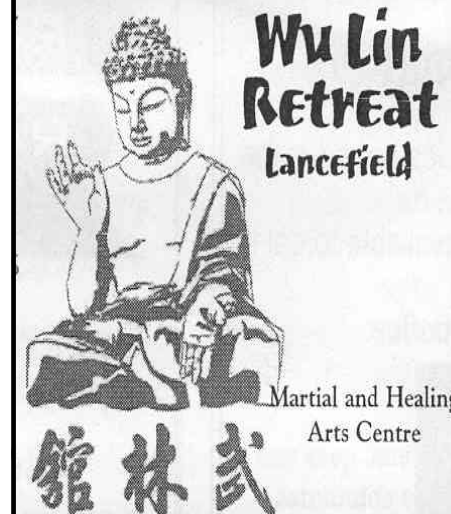
Traditional Karate for self defence, confidence and discipline. Children and Adults beginners classes begin February 1st 2007

Tai Chi Beginners welcome. Thursday 10am and Tuesday 7.30pm. New program starting February 1<sup>st</sup> 2007

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





## KINDER CORNER ROMSEY KINDERGARTEN NEWS

The Kindergarten is buzzing as a new kinder year has started. The teachers and assistants are well rested and rearing to go as their new charges for the year get settled into their classes. Whilst spontaneity is wonderful and is encouraged, some sort of routine in daily life is also cultivated at Kindergarten. Digging sand in the sandpit can look like casual children's activity to the unwitting observer. However, it is a learning experience on many levels to a 3 or 4 year old. Romsey Kindergarten advocates the "Learning Through Play" philosophy as the cornerstone of the kindergarten experience for our children.

Already, the Kindergarten has plans for the year ahead, with new directions, community involvement, infrastructure improvement and building on previous relationships all part of the agenda!!

### Romsey Round-Up Rodeo

By the time this goes to press, the Rodeo will have been and gone. However, it is worth stating the Kindergarten's support of this initiative to get a big (hopefully annual) event to Romsey. It encourages whole community involvement, as well as the opportunity for individual groups to kick-start their fundraising initiatives for the year. Apart from anything else, it is an "Event" coming to town! As I write this, I am aware of a genuine buzz of anticipation amongst many of those involved. I look forward to reporting on the Kindergarten's experience at the Rodeo in the next Romsey Rag!!

### Kindergarten is Business

The Kindergarten Committee of Management voted at it's first meeting for 2007 to join the local Business Association. As an incorporated association, Romsey Kindergarten is, in addition to functioning as a pre-school educational facility, a business keen to be involved in the Romsey business community. Historically, we have often asked for support from local businesses for our fundraising initiatives. However, as members of the Association, we hope to demonstrate that we are also able to make a contribution.

### Annual General Meeting

I would like to remind the community that the Annual General Meeting of the Romsey Kindergarten Committee of Management will be held on **Monday 19<sup>th</sup> March 2007** at the Kindergarten. As well as election of a new committee of management, there will be a guest speaker and lovely supper to celebrate our year just past and welcome our year ahead! All are welcome to attend. For more information, please phone Jenny Stillman on 0412-349849 or Loretta Credland on 0413-301945.

### Web Site

Following on from last month's Romsey Rag, we are still in need of someone who is interested in assisting in the design of a website for the Kindergarten. In addition to assisting in our exposure to the public, it will also allow us to be more environmentally friendly by reducing our paper and photocopying volumes!! Please contact Jenny Stillman on 0412-349849 if you can help us.

### Mirror, Mirror On The Wall!

The Kindergarten teachers would like a freestanding mirror for the children to have in home corner, so they can see themselves dressed up!! If anyone has one to donate, please phone the Kindergarten on 54 295294 and speak to Liz or Jane.

Jenny Stillman  
Committee of Management



A new year begins for the children of Romsey at the Romsey Kindergarten.

**Sat 24 March**

Living Word Christian Church  
in Conjunction with  
the Macedon Ranges Shire Council  
and YMCA

**Romsey Skate Park**

12-1pm registration  
1-5pm competitions  
Cost \$5

CONTACT  
JESS JOHN - 0409645779  
OR  
LIVING WORD CHRISTIAN CHURCH  
54296327

Lots of Family Fun,  
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**Living Word C C**

Regular Sunday Service Times:

10:00am — 7 Mitchell Court Romsey  
6:00pm — Woodend Community Centre,  
Every Sunday evening

**Men's, Women's, Youth & Children's Groups**

**Ph. 5429 6327 for further information**

### Line Dancing

Beginners and Intermediates  
Classes held every Monday 9.30 til 10.30 am in  
the Romsey Mechanics Hall.  
Come along and have some fun while keeping fit.  
Enquire to Carol on 54295590



### Guitar lessons

For beginners, ages 7 & up-  
Mondays and Tuesdays from 5 o'clock  
Guitar available for use during lessons

Call Kieran on 5429 5622 or 0402 809 077



**Ashbourne Landcare:****Introduction to Biodynamics Workshop**

Would you like to farm or garden without the use of harmful, expensive chemicals, pesticides or herbicides? Are you interested in sustainable agriculture? If so, Biodynamics may be the answer for you.

Hamish McKay, CEO of Biodynamic Agriculture Australia, and John Priestly, who has 50 years experience of farming and ecological stewardship, will present the workshop from 10 am til 2 pm.

There will be plenty of time for questions afterwards. Bring your own lunch and a chair. Morning and afternoon tea provided.

**Cost \$110 per person. Bookings essential!!!!**

**The Workshop will be on a property where Biodynamics is practiced.**

**Biodynamics is an elevated form of organics where BD practitioners seek to enhance the soil structure and nutrient cycles. Healthy soil is a prime basis for healthy plants, crops, animals and people.**

**Decades of experience with the Biodynamic method on Australian farms and gardens have shown that a healthy, well-structured soil, rich in humus and high in biological activity can be promoted and degradation reversed by the correct application of BD techniques.**

**BD farmers seek to understand and work with the life processes as well as enhance their understanding of the mineral processes used in conventional agriculture. They use specific Preparations which are made from farm-sourced materials in conjunction with established practices such as composting and manuring, crop and pasture rotations, tree planting, and the integrated use of livestock. Pest and disease control is generally managed by developing the farm as a total organism. However, BD practitioners may make use of specific products for weed and pest control from the weeds and pests themselves.**

**Where:** 27 Falloons Road, Cnr Walshs Road, Woodend. VicRoads Map 59J7 (note the map says Singes Road – it should read Walshes Road)

**When:** Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2007, 10am to 2 pm

**RSVP Critical:** 23<sup>rd</sup> February

**Contact:** Kerry Marsh – ph 5427 1826 or Jane Holth – ph 5427 1741



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## Greetings from the Romsey Toy Library!

The library has reopened for 2007 in St Mary's Hall on Saturday mornings and the times are unchanged - 10am until 11.30am.

The Toy Library held its AGM in December and a new committee was formed, with the executive comprising Leanne Manton (President), Lisa Walton (Treasurer) & Anna Quigley (Secretary). The general committee comprises Lee Gardner, Marg Redmond and Amanda Burley. However, since the AGM, Lisa Walton has decided to resign from her position.

We wish Lisa well and thank her for all her tireless work for the Toy Library over many years.

Margaret Redmond has graciously offered to take over the Treasurer position for 2007. Thank you, Marg! We are very lucky to have such a great team of dedicated volunteers at the local toy library.

Also in December, the committee ran a successful sausage sizzle at Bunnings Sunbury, which raised \$430! Thanks to the Walton, John, Burley and Manton families for doing the 'sizzling' on the day.

It was a terrific success and it is hoped to do another this year just before Father's Day, when Bunnings is full of last-minute shoppers looking for that special something for Dad.

Last year the Macedon Ranges Shire Council gave the toy library an \$800 grant to buy new toys and games. Leanne and Amanda have been shopping and have improved the toy library's range of 'pretend play' i.e. dressups toys as well as purchasing another of the popular Leapster elec-

tronic handheld games and associated titles.

The new dressups will be great for parents whose children go to lots of parties. If your child has a costume birthday or has to go to one, you don't have to make or buy a costume, simply borrow one from the toy library!

As always, we need new members! Memberships are still \$15 for 6 months or \$25 for one year, regardless of the number of children in your family.

Come along one Saturday morning and check out our range! We have hundreds of puzzles, games, large and small toys, ride-ons, LeapPads, Leapsters and educational CD-ROMs for you to borrow for children aged from birth to 12 years.

Or just give Leanne Manton a call on 5429 6583 and we'll sign you up.

This is a year of consolidation for the toy library, as we prepare to move into the new Romsey Community Hub in early 2008.

Last year the committee were shown the plans for the hub, which have been redrawn. The Toy Library is now conveniently situated at the back of the book library, right by the children's book section, so that should lift the toy library's profile considerably and be a better location for parents and children.

Thanks for your time and look forward to seeing you at the library!

Yours sincerely

LEANNE MANTON,

President, Romsey Toy Library Inc. 2007

### CWA Central Highlands Group

Our Group Creative Arts Exhibition is to be held this year at the Gisborne Mechanics Institute and is open to the public on Saturday 31st March 10.00am – 4.00pm and Sunday 1st April from 9.00am – 3.00pm. All the work of our members will be on display with crafts, cooking, preserves, floral art and photography. There will be refreshments available and a handicrafts stall. Entry is \$4 which goes to helping run the exhibition and to local and CWA projects.

Any further information is available from the Group President, Joan Strawbridge on 54 287022.

As we are always looking for new members over our 11 branches throughout the Macedon Ranges, this is a good way for you to see what CWA is all about. There will be plenty of members available for you to talk to about CWA and where the branches are and what they all do.

## STEVE XERRI

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## Cold comfort at Macedon Ranges World's Longest Lunch

The 2007 Macedon Ranges World's Longest Lunch on Friday March 16 will have a distinct cool climate theme as local award winning pinot and chardonnay wine producers feature as part of the internationally recognised Melbourne and Wine Festival event.

David Richardson, Tourism and Events Officer announced several local wineries will sponsor the lunch, each complimenting a delicious menu designed by Campaspe Country House head chef, Brad Lobb.

"It is a credit to our wine makers who take the time in harvest season to generously sponsor events that promote our food and wine strengths such as the World's Longest Lunch."

"The Macedon Ranges wine product is growing in stature among wine lovers of Australia and the world. We compete on an international stage and succeed in opening more markets with a product that is defined by a passion for high quality wines with flavours that flourish in our cool climate," Mr Richardson said.

The 2007 World's Longest Lunch sponsors are:

Lancemore Hill (Kilmore)	Pinot Noir
Gisborne Peak Wines	2004 Pinot
Mount Charlie (Riddells Creek)	2004 Chardonnay
Hanging Rock Winery (Woodend)	Sparkling NV Brut
Lanes End Vineyard (Lancefield)	2005 Chardonnay
Wili Wilia (Lancefield)	2005 Chardonnay
Curly Flat (Lancefield)	2004 Pinot Noir
Mount Towrong (Mount Macedon)	2004 Chardonnay

*Holgate's Brewhouse Old Pale Ale will also feature for beer drinkers!*

Date: Friday, 16 March 2007

Time: 12-4pm

Venue: Hanging Rock Reserve  
South Rock Road, Woodend

Renowned industry publication Gourmet Traveller Wine recently placed two lunch wine sponsors, Curly Flat and Hanging Rock Winery in their top 10 Australian producers of Chardonnay and Sparkling wine respectively.

Tickets to the World's Longest Lunch are on sale now. Admission is \$90 which includes 3 sumptuous courses, award winning wines and beverages.

Melbourneticket holders can take advantage of a free bus return bus service from the Royal Exhibition Building, Carlton direct to the venue. Accommodation packages available for St.Patrick's weekend.

For information, please contact Tourism and Events Officer David Richardson on 03 5422 0326.



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## Romsey Uniting Church Pohlman Street, Romsey. 3434

Supply Minister Marion Latham Mobile: 0408 380 962

Marion is available for Pastoral Care on Tuesdays and Wednesdays.

Church Council Chairperson: Noel Shaw - 5429 5509

Secretary: Jeni Clampit - 5429 5480



*You are most welcome to come to the Romsey Uniting Church Services and share in fellowship and worship...*

The following article is taken from a booklet called "Love is a wild bird". Written by Eddie Askew and published by the Leprosy Mission International in the United Kingdom.

**Jeremiah 18: 3-4** (New International Bible)

*So I went down to the potter's house, and I saw him working at the wheel. But the pot he was shaping from the clay was marred in his hands; so the potter formed it into another pot, shaping it as seemed best to him.*

Sitting on the table in front of me is a present – a beautifully engraved silver bowl. A lovely gift. Some time ago I was in India, visiting a hospital where I'd been invited to share in the opening of a new ward.

The ceremony's similar all over the world – a white ribbon stretched across the main entrance, the medical staff and all the patients who can walk standing on either side with local dignitaries. A few speeches later I was handed the scissors to cut the ribbon. I tried, but unfortunately the scissors wouldn't cut. I tried again. The ribbon just got caught between the blades. I say blades. That was the trouble. The scissors were real silver, made especially by the local silversmith in the bazaar but they were too blunt to cut.

Then smiles of embarrassment gave way to relief as a resourceful nurse passed over a pair of surgical scissors, stainless steel and sharp. They worked. We all laughed and forgot about it. Weeks later, when I was back home, a parcel arrived. Inside was the silver bowl with a letter. They'd taken the original scissors back to the silversmith and he'd reused the silver to make the bowl.

The scissors, blunt and not very useful, were given a second chance, and something beautiful had come out of it. It's always good to give people a second chance when things don't work out quite right. After all, we all need one.

*Lord, help me to see the best in everyone I meet today. And thank you that you do the same for me.*

(© Used by permission - Leprosy Mission International.)

### Church Services conducted during March 2007

4 <sup>th</sup>	9am. Worship service and Sunday School Conducted by Dorothy Gordon.	18 <sup>th</sup>	9am Worship Service and Sunday School Service conducted by the Worship Team.
11 <sup>th</sup>	9am Communion Service and Sunday School Service conducted by Marion Latham.	25 <sup>th</sup>	9am Worship Service and Sunday School Service conducted by Marion Latham.

## COMING SOON TO YOUR TOWN HALL

YOUR PASSPORT FOR ENTERTAINMENT	DANNY BHOY THEATRESPORTS— IMPRO CHALLENGE	FRIDAY 9TH OF FEBRUARY 07 8.00PM
	A LOCAL MAN	SATURDAY 3RD OF MARCH 07 8.00PM
	THE CRATE SHOW	SATURDAY 31ST OF MARCH 07 8.00PM
	GINGER MICK AT GALLIPOLI	SATURDAY 21ST OF APRIL 07 7.00PM
	THE SHOE HORN SONATA	FRIDAY 27TH OF APRIL 07 10.30AM & 1.30PM
	ROSS NOBLE—FUZZY LOGIC	SATURDAY 5TH OF MAY 07 8.00PM
	ARTS BALL - MIKELANGELO AND THE BLACKSEA GENTLEMAN	WEDNESDAY 9TH OF MAY 07 8.00PM
	MORNING MUSICAL OKLAHOMA WIL ANDERSON	SATURDAY 19TH OF MAY 07 7.30PM
		FRIDAY 25TH OF MAY 07 11.30AM
		SATURDAY 30TH OF JUNE 07 8.00PM

Bookings : 1300 88 88 802



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

27 Chauncey Street, Lancefield  
Cnr. Main Street & Barry Road, Romsey

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

Presbytery: 5429 2130  
Convent: 5429 1582  
School: 5429 1359

Parish Website: [www.users.bigpond.com/stmlancefield](http://www.users.bigpond.com/stmlancefield)

### MASS TIMES

**Saturday:** 7.00 p.m. Lancefield

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

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

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

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

### RECONCILIATION

After weekday Mass or by arrangement.

### BAPTISMS

February, April, June, August, October, December.

For more information, please phone 5429 2130.

### RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)

Anyone wishing to know about the Catholic faith is invited to contact Mrs. Reuther on 5429 1582 or 5429 2130.

### REGULAR EVENTS

**SVDP Drop-In:** First Thursday of each month, 10.30 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., St. Mary's Church Hall, Romsey. All welcome to come for a game of cards/chat and free lunch.

**Spiritual Guidance:** Last Wednesday of each month at the Presbytery, 27 Chauncey Street, Lancefield. John Stuart, Councillor and Guide. Tel: 5429 2130 for more information.

### EASTER CEREMONIES

**Lenten Reconciliation:** Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March 7.30 p.m., Lancefield

**Lenten Reflection Day:** Saturday, 24<sup>th</sup> March 10.30 a.m. – 4.00 p.m., Lancefield

**Holy Thursday:** Thursday, 5<sup>th</sup> April 7.30 p.m., Lancefield

**Good Friday:** Friday, 6<sup>th</sup> April

\* morning, Way of the Cross, Romsey Uniting Church

\* 3.00 p.m., Ceremonies, Romsey

**Easter Vigil:** Saturday, 7<sup>th</sup> April 7.00 p.m., Romsey

**Easter Sunday:** Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> April

\* 8.00 a.m., Romsey

\* 10.00 a.m., Lancefield

### ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

#### Beginning Of School Year Mass

On Wednesday, 14<sup>th</sup> of February the school community gathered under our beautiful Oak tree in the playground. Fr. George was the celebrant for Mass and he talked of the need for the students to do their best at school. We had around 170 people attend. This was followed by a BBQ where new families were welcomed into the community. During the Mass these families received a candle with the Parish symbol. We look forward to a great school year and pray that Mary is with us in all we do.

#### Student Representative Council (SRC)

During our Mass the S.R.C members were commissioned. Their role is to display leadership in the school and to attend meetings with the Principal/Deputy Principal to discuss:

- \* Fundraising activities.
- \* Playground issues.
- \* Items raised in their class meeting.

#### New Staff Members

We welcome:

- \* Mrs. Julie Freeman (Deputy Principal/Year 5),
- \* Mrs Natalie Bradbury (Year 3), and
- \* Mr Matthew Taylor (Year 6).

## BINGO!!

Every Thursday evening  
St. Mary's Church Hall at Romsey

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

30 games ... finishing 9.30 p.m.  
\$3.00 per book Canteen facilities  
No entry fee Free tea and coffee

### Probus Club Romsey – Lancefield

Meetings of the Romsey – Lancefield Probus Club are held on the 4th Thursday of each month at St Mary's Church Hall, corner Main and Barry Streets, Romsey, at 10.00am.

Probus is open to all retired and semi-retired people to enjoy a great social and friendly atmosphere.

#### Contact

Geoff Long (President) on 5429 6567 or  
Jeni Clampit (Secretary) on 5429 5480



## EXCELLENCE IS AS SIMPLE AS A SMILE

Have you been on the end of outstanding service from a local business in the last 12 months in the Macedon Ranges? Whether it be a great smile and courteous manner from the person on the other side of the counter, the professional skills of someone excelling in their trade or craft, or an amazing meal you may have sampled with family or friends, the Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards is your chance to say, "Thanks, and keep up the good work"

By nominating a business or individual in the Business Excellence Awards, you are giving them the chance to be celebrated and encouraged in their pursuit amongst the wider community and amongst their peers. For businesses and individuals, the awards are a great way to increase exposure in the local marketplace, and offer valuable marketing opportunities for the business into the future.

Excellence comes in many guises, but we all know the basic building blocks of success. Strong planning and forward thinking, knowing your business and your customer, excellent communication and client relationships, continual improvements and innovation, staff support, and local involvement are just some of the ways in which businesses can find their place and grow.

The 11 categories in the Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards span the whole scope of business in the Macedon Ranges, from the sole trader to the multi-national corporation. There is literally a category for every business, and everyone.

Nomination forms will appear weekly in the Midland Express until March 20th, and can also be found in the Customer Service Centres of the Macedon Ranges Shire Offices. Nominations are to be dropped in boxes at the Shire services centres, or sent to the Midland Express office, PO BOX 153, Kyneton.

There are many reasons to become involved in the Macedon Ranges Business Awards, 2007.

The next step is to get nominating!

### KEY DATES FOR 2007 Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards

Feb 13th - nominations open for all categories  
Feb 13 - March 23rd - submission forms sent to all nominees

March 1st - official launch and first information session

March 19th - second information session

March 23rd - nominations close

April 3rd - submissions for all categories close

April 3 - May 1st - judging period

May 3rd - shortlisted businesses and individuals announced

May 3rd - May 14th - tickets on sale for Gala Evening

May 17th - Gala Dinner @ The Town Hall, Kyneton

Please leave message on 54 220 354 to RSVP for either of the information sessions.

Please call Jock Allan on 0419 308 501 for further information on the 2007 MRBEA.

### 2007 AWARD CATEGORIES AND SPON-

## SORS

Powercor Business of the Year - SPONSORED BY POWERCOR

Excellence in Customer Service - SPONSORED BY TEL-STRA COUNTRY WIDE Open to any employee, self employed person, or business owner excelling in customer service.

Excellence in Professional Services - SPONSORED BY LANCEMORE HILL CONFERENCE CENTRE Open to any business providing specialist services to the community such as accountants, lawyers, engineers, consultants, brokers, and physicians.

Excellence in Management - SPONSORED BY CVACC Open to managers of business in the region.

Excellence in Retail - SPONSORED BY ELLIOTT MIDLAND NEWSPAPERS Open to any business in the region which supplies goods to the public.

Excellence in Trainee/Apprentice - SPONSORED BY MACEDON RANGES SHIRE COUNCIL Open to any employee undergoing a formal apprenticeship or trainee course.

Excellence in Trade - SPONSORED BY CVGT Open to any business providing trade service to the community such as electricians, plumbers, builders etc.

Excellence in Industry & Manufacturing - SPONSORED BY AUSINDUSTRY Open to any business manufacturing goods in the Macedon Ranges (including primary industry, and component makers.)

Excellence in New Business - SPONSORED BY COLIBAN WATER Open to any new business under two years established.

Excellence in Food & Beverage - SPONSORED BY HARDWICKS, KYNETON Open to businesses in the region delivering services in food and beverage hospitality.

Excellence in Accommodation - SPONSORED BY MELBOURNE LINEN SERVICES Open to businesses providing services in accommodation in the Macedon Ranges.

Excellence in Events and Attractions - SPONSORED BY TOURISM MACEDON RANGES Open to businesses and groups providing outstanding attraction to and/or events in the Macedon Ranges.

Outstanding Achievement in Tourism Promotion and Development - SPONSORED BY TOURISM MACEDON RANGES New peak award recognising outstanding services to local and regional tourism promotion and development in the Macedon Ranges.

### Soccer and Basketball

The Romsey Recreation Centre is now taking enrolments for the following children's activities.

- Goal Kick (Soccer Skill Development)
- Aussie Hoops (Basketball Skill Development)
  - Under 12 Soccer Competition
  - Under 14 Soccer Competition
  - Under 14 Basketball Competition

If your child would like to play please call the Romsey Recreation Centre soon as places are filling up quickly. All sports are played on week nights after school.

Ph: 5429 5637





## HOUSE NEWS

Romsey Community House Inc.  
A Learning and Activity Centre  
P.O.Box 418  
Romsey, Vic 3434

**For term 1 we are offering the following programs:**

### Drop In Craft Morning with Karyn:

Every Thursday 10.30 am—12.30 pm  
CFA Headquarters, Stawell Street, Romsey. Bring along those unfinished craft projects., enjoy some company and a cuppa, and meet new people. (Venue may change at short notice with the fire season on).Gold coin donation.

### Yoga With Kym Oliver

Wednesdays 7.45—9.00pm at Romsey Primary School.  
Cost: \$12 per session or \$100 per 10 week term.  
For further information or bookings contact Kym Oliver on 54292134.

### Learn To Knit with Heather—weekly

All levels of knitters meet on Monday nights Mondays 7—8 pm at Romsey Primary School. \$10 for 5 lessons.  
Contact Robyn on 0412 275 152

**Writer's Group with Dee White**—new members needed for a project we are planning. Please contact 0412 275 152 if you are interested in joining. Meets once per month on a Monday night at 7.00pm at Romsey Primary School.

**Relaxation / Meditation with Karen Ruggieri**—gold coin donation. Each Thursday night in term 1. Please contact 0412 275 152 if you are interested in joining this group.

**Crop till you drop:** Each third Saturday of the month beginning Feb. 18th for all you Memory Makers and Scrapbookers. Starts at 5.00pm, cost is \$15 per session and includes pizza or fish'n'chips for dinner. For further information contact Belinda Williams 54291693/ 0407 203 826 or Lesley Ashley 54295259 / 0409 419 119.  
Venue - Romsey Primary School.

### Learn Smocking with Karyn Gottschling

5 weeks commencing Wednesday 28th February 10.00am—12 noon. Cost \$50 per person. Venue—CFA Headquarters.

Watch the Romsey Rag for details of these and other program ideas including:

**Drought and Your Garden**—1 session

**Hair Magic**—professional tricks to make your hair look great (1 session)

For details of these or to express interest contact Robyn on 0412 275 152

Payments for classes booked through the Community House need to be made at Romsey Primary School or mailed to Romsey Community House, P.O. Box 418, Romsey.

For information please contact Robyn Moore on 5429 5099 (BH) or 0412 275 152 (AH).  
If you have any suggestions for activities or programmes please contact the above numbers or write to us at P.O. Box 418, Romsey.

**STOP PRESS:** See page 16 for details of more exciting new activities proposed for term 2!

## TRADITIONAL THAI MASSAGE & HATHA YOGA RETREAT

Experience the beauty of combining Hatha yoga and traditional Thai massage under the direction of two highly experienced teachers. Learn about the ancient philosophy instilling both disciplines, and re-connect with stillness through guided meditation. Enjoy the company of others while you relax and dine amidst the Macedon Ranges.



## ABOUT THE RETREAT

### The Teachers

**James Sumarac** studied Traditional Thai massage in Thailand, is a Doctor of Oriental medicine and taught extensively world wide in addition to operating a clinic for 25 years. He is a highly experienced and consummate teacher.

**Kym Oliver** studied Vedanta Philosophy and Hatha Yoga at the Vedanta Institute India for three years. She returned to Australia in 2005 and established Callanya Yoga School, she conducts classes throughout Macedon Ranges, and has had great success with yoga retreats.

### Traditional Thai Massage

Traditional Thai massage has been traced back 2,500 years from the Vajrayana or Diamond Healing Lineage of Tibet and is an integral component of Ayurvedic Medicine. Traditional Thai massage facilitates and promotes a harmonious state of being.

### Hatha Yoga

The word yoga is derived from the Sanskrit verb 'yuj' which means to join, to unite. Hatha Yoga is one type of yoga that helps an individual realize his/her union with the Spirit within by focusing primarily on the body and mind.



## RETREAT DETAILS

**When**  
10.00am 24 March to  
3.00pm 25 March 2007

**Where**  
Wu Lin Retreat  
47 Sherwood Court, Lancefield  
(4.5 kilometers north past Lancefield  
on the Tooborac Road)

**Cost**  
Full package: \$350 per person  
Saturday and Sunday  
Package without accommodation: \$300

**Bookings/Enquiries**  
Kym Oliver  
Phone: 5429-2134 mo: 0413 744 860  
E-mail: callanya@aapt.net.au

Limited places  
available to  
book EARLY



## Macedon Ranges Shire Council Launches Its Volunteer Kit

Have you thought about volunteering but not sure what positions are available and need some more information?

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has put together a kit highlighting volunteering opportunities available within council services.

**There are "Mountains of Opportunities"**

**Valued Contributions**

**Opportunities to suit your interest**

**Locally make a difference**

**Utilize your skills or learn new ones**

**New friendships to make**

**Times to suit you**

**Enjoy helping others**

**Essential to our community**

**Rewarding**

Call into Council Service centre and pick up a kit, Phone 5422 0333 to have a kit sent to you visit [www.macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au](http://www.macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au) and follow the volunteer links.

## Macedon Ranges Shire Council Coming Events

**16 March 2007**

### Macedon Ranges Longest Lunch

The Macedon Ranges World's Longest Lunch has been applauded as the best of the state wide lunches. In 2007 we boast another delicious, regionally inspired menu, complimented with several options of local award winning wines.

Ph: + 61 3 5422 0326

Email: [tourism@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:tourism@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au)

Web: [www.visitmacedonranges.com](http://www.visitmacedonranges.com)

**17 March 2007**

### Camp out at Hanging Rock

Experience an exciting overnight campout at the base of Hanging Rock. Great for families, school groups and couples. Bookings Essential.

Ph: + 61 3 5429 9631

Email: [annew@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au](mailto:annew@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au)

Website: [www.hangingrock.info](http://www.hangingrock.info)

**25 March 2007**

### Jazz Down By the Riverside

See a great line up of our best jazz performers on the banks of the Campaspe River. Featuring Judy Jacques and the Sweet Rosetta Band playing Hot gospel, country swing, cajun,

blues and jazz.

Ph: + 61 3 5422 6622

Email: [doyleys@nex.net.au](mailto:doyleys@nex.net.au)

Website: [www.jazzkyneton.org](http://www.jazzkyneton.org)

**7 April 2007**

### Country Hits and Cracking Whips Race Day at Kyneton Racecourse

A country and western themed day with the excitement of a race meet. Fun for the whole family!

Ph: + 61 3 5422 1866

Email: [kdrc@countryracing.com.au](mailto:kdrc@countryracing.com.au)

Website:

[www.kynetondistricttracingclub.com.au](http://www.kynetondistricttracingclub.com.au)

**21 & 22 April 2007**

### 'Artanica' Autumn Open Gardens and Garden Art Festival, Mount Macedon

An exciting annual exhibition of diverse garden sculpture within the grounds of a magnificent Mount Macedon garden

Ph: + 61 3 5422 3621

### Monthly Markets:

1st Sunday of the month

**Gisborne All Seasons Market**  
Gisborne Village Shopping Centre  
9 am – 3 pm

Ph: + 61 3 5426 2448

Gisborne Olde Time Market (October to May)  
Hamilton & Aitken Street  
9 am – 3 pm

Ph: + 61 3 5428 3043

2nd Saturday of the month

Kyneton Farmers Market  
St Paul's Park, Piper Street  
8 am – 1 pm  
Ph: + 61 3 5422 1025

3rd Sunday of the month

Woodend Market (September to May)  
High Street  
9 am – 3 pm

Ph: + 61 3 5427 2255

4th Saturday of the month

Lancefield Farmers Market  
High Street  
9 am – 1 pm

Ph: + 61 3 (0)407 860 320

Macedon Ranges Art and Craft Co-Operative  
Lancefield Museum/Courthouse  
9am – 2.30pm

Ph: + 61 3 (0)418 172 659

4th Sunday of the month

Romsey Market  
Main Street  
9 am – 2 pm

Ph: + 61 3 (0)438 414 245

Trentham Market  
Victoria Street  
9 am – 2 pm

Ph: + 61 3 5424 1037

## NEW GISBORNE PRIMARY SCHOOL COUNTRY FAIR

**SATURDAY 17th MARCH 2007**

We call for all quilters, cake decorators, cooks and vegie growers in our community to enter our Country Fair competitions. So start planning, creating, designing, decorating, sewing, find your favourite jam or pickle recipe and plant those seedlings, *and maybe*, you could take home the coveted rosette and prize certificate.

Competitions will be:

- The Biggest Pumpkin
- The Funniest Vegetable Person (make a person out of vegies –children only)
- The Best Jam
- The Best Pickle
- Cake Decorating – "Countryside Theme" - ADULTS/OPEN
- Cake Decorating – "Novelty" - CHILDREN ONLY
- Best Quilt – OPEN

Entry forms available from school office : New Gisborne PS, Station Rd, New Gisborne  
GOLD COIN=ENTRY FEE PER EXHIBIT

## OPEN DAY—KIDS DESIGNER CLOTHING

Boys and Girls Clothing  
50% off retail prices.

Thursday 15th March, 2007  
1—3 pm

4 Bowkett Close, Romsey  
First in best dressed—limited stock!



## Landcare-related Events, Training & Grants Calendar March-April 2007

### 1. Practical Farming & Land Management Expo

**When: Saturday 21 April 2007**

**Time: 10am-2:30pm**

**Where: Whittlesea Agricultural Show Grounds**

**Cost: FREE**

**Details:** the Practical Farming & Land Management Expo will be a great opportunity for rural property owners to learn more about farming and how to make the most productive and sustainable use of their land. Participants will learn, through a series of presentations, about pasture and drought management, working with neighbours, animal health, weed control, farm planning and where and how to get assistance to manage your land. Exhibitors include farm machinery, farm safety, fencing, weed control, pest animals, farm trees, fire safety and whole farm planning.

**More information:** please contact Tim O'Donnell (WACMAC Landcare Coordinator) tel: 5962 5778, email: tim@mooramoor.org.au

### Training/Courses

#### 2. Farm Chemical Users Course

**When: Saturday 17 & Sunday 18 March 2007**

**Time: 9am-4pm**

**Where: Craigieburn (location to be confirmed)**

**Details:** This course is for anyone involved in the storage, transport, handling and use of agricultural chemicals. On completion of this course, participants can apply for the Agricultural Chemical User Permit (ACUP) from DPI.

**Cost: FREE.** Preference given to landholders within Hume Council's area. Residents from other local government areas please contact Andrew Dawson (Hume Council) on tel: 9205 2465 or email: AndrewDa@hume.vic.gov.au

**Bookings essential:** please phone 9205 2473.

## International Women's Day Dinner

Women Telling Stories about "Friends and Friendship". Come and enjoy a fun and uplifting evening celebrating women everywhere, as you listen to women tell stories about friendship. Come with friends or come on your own and meet other great women in your community. Thursday 8 March, at 7 pm  
Macedon Family Hotel  
Smith Street  
Macedon  
A la carte menu

Stories are between 2 and 9 minutes long, they don't have to be original or personal and any stories are welcome, but time is limited so please advise beforehand if you want to tell a story.  
Bookings Kate Lawrence.  
Phone: 5426 1952

### 3. Healthy Pastures & Healthy Horses Course

**When: Saturday 28 April 2007**

**Time: 9am-3pm (lunch provided)**

**Where: location: Bulla** (location to be confirmed)

**Details:** Do you own a horse? Want better productive pastures? This course will address how to better manage pastures, including weed control and identification. A local veterinarian will address all your horse and other stock health concerns.

**Cost: FREE.** Preference given to landholders within Hume Council's area. Residents from other local government areas please contact Andrew Dawson (Hume Council) on tel: 9205 2465 or email: AndrewDa@hume.vic.gov.au

**Bookings Essential:** please phone 9205 2473

### Project of Interest

#### 4. Koala Habitat Atlas to be Developed for Hanging Rock

Macedon Ranges Shire Council and the Australian Koala Foundation have joined forces in an exciting project to assist with the long term preservation of the koala population in and around Hanging Rock, near Woodend/Newham. The project aims to develop a Koala Habitat Atlas to identify, map and rank all remaining koala habitat at Hanging Rock and the surrounding area. Koalas rely on certain types of Eucalyptus leaves for their survival. It is vital to identify where the different koala habitats are and develop plans for protecting, enhancing and re-connecting them. Rolf Scholagloth from the Australian Koala Foundation will be working with the Council and knows how important it is to preserve and re-create koala habitat corridors.

**For more information:** please contact Anne Walsh (Recreation Liaison Officer - Macedon Ranges Shire) tel: 5429 9631.

## FIREWOOD Murray River Redgum

### Autumn Special

20 metres unsplit	\$70 per cubic metre
20 metres split	\$82.50 per cubic metre
12 metres split	\$85.00 per cubic metre
6 metres split	\$90.00 per cubic metre
3 metres split	\$95.00 per cubic metre

Phone Peter  
5423 7103



## Romsey Lancefield Girl Guides.

The Girl Guides are already back into the swing of things with badge work on the way and a camp being planned.

We have recently celebrated, with all the Black Forest Region Guides, World Thinking Day. This is the day that Girl Guides around the world think about each other, (there are more than 10 million of us around the world), and we think of all the symbols that we all share as part of this huge international organisation. The day is celebrated on the 22nd of February each year because this was the birthday of both Lord Baden Powell, who began the Scouting movement, and also his wife, Lady Baden Powell, who was the World Chief Guide for many years.

Guides Australia has declared this year to be the Year of the Outdoors. They have a special cloth badge available for Guides and their Leaders to earn, and a big list of challenges and activities for the girls to choose from. The girls must complete a water activity, an environment activity, take part in a camp, complete another Outdoor badge, and tackle an Adventurous activity that is suitable for their age. They will earn a brightly coloured badge with a footprint on it.

The girls have begun to plan a Unit camp, to be held in May. They have chosen the theme of Happy Feet!. Activities will be organised around this theme, including a camp fire and lots of singing, and probably some dancing!

Want to join us? We meet at the Lancefield Park on Monday evenings. If you would like further information please ring Rita on 5429 1996.



## Orana Family Services strengthening families in Gisborne

Orana Family Services, a community service agency of the Uniting Church, is starting the year offering a number of services that focus on supporting and assisting families with young children. Volunteer co-ordinator, Karen Visagie, said there are times where every family needs support and Orana's programs are set up to help families connect with the community and local services available. Orana provides a range of services and programs for families with young children across the north-west region of Melbourne. Orana's Gisborne program begins the year with the Mothers and Grandmothers Self-care group.

"This group meets weekly to take some time out to socialise with fellow mothers and grandmothers, and to explore a range of topics relating to parenting, relaxation, nutrition and skill-sharing," Ms Visagie said. "The aim is to provide an opportunity for mothers and grandmothers who look after young children to increase their social support networks, to provide relevant information on self-care and other topics of interest and to link people into their wider community," Ms Visagie explained.

Ms Visagie said Orana is also offering the dynamic *Kidz Unplugged* music program which involves singing, dancing, instrument playing and puppetry for children 0-6 years. "It gives parents and children the opportunity to bond in a fun-filled, stimulating environment," Ms Visagie added. Kidz Unplugged is set to begin in Riddells Creek this month.

Orana Family Services also runs the volunteer home-visitors program, *Neighbourhood Connections*. This program aims at linking families with young children into the community. Trained volunteers provide social support and information to families who may be new to the area, who may have multiple births or several preschoolers, or who may have few family supports and would like to be more connected to their community.

And for parents who want a chance to develop their skills as parents, later in the year Orana also offers *Confident Parenting*, a six week course which covers issues like being a positive responsive parent, encouraging language development and learning, helping children appreciate rules, and managing tantrums and misbehaviour.

Ms Visagie said Orana is keen to extend the programs and services on offer to families in the community and as the year develops Orana will be offering accredited training for volunteers and community leaders. If you are someone who wants to make a contribution to the community and are wondering where to start this may be for you!

Orana Family Services brochures and application forms are available at our office or contact Orana directly at our Gisborne office on 5428 3138 or our head office on 93022700.

## Rag Volunteers Recognised at Australia Day Awards

The volunteers who bring you the Romsey Rag each month were recognised at the recent Australia Day celebrations with the presentation of a citizenship award in recognition of outstanding community support. The award was sponsored by the Living Word Christian Church and Macedon Ranges Shire Council. It recognises not only the hard work and many hours that go into producing the Rag by current volunteers, but also the many, many people who have been involved since its inception over 23 years ago. What a great effort, and well-deserved!





## Club Liquor Licensing Seminar

*Does your club hold a liquor licence? Is your club planning on applying for a liquor licence? Is your club looking at amending details on your current liquor licence? Do you know what your club's liquor license actually covers?*

Sports Focus in conjunction with Liquor Licensing Victoria, Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Victorian Police would like to invite your club to attend a Club Liquor Licensing Seminar in Woodend on Wednesday 21st March.

Licensed clubs in Victoria, including sporting and community clubs make a significant contribution to the social and economic lives of Victorians. However, many licence holders simply don't fully understand their legal requirements when selling and serving alcohol. The Club Seminar ensures club committee members and bar staff have a clearer understanding of their responsibilities, the conditions of their club's licence, and the rules of the club.

### Club Liquor Licensing Seminar

**Date:** Wednesday 21st March 2007

**Time:** 7-9pm

**Venue:** Woodend Community Centre, Cnr Forest & High Streets, Woodend

**Cost:** \$10.00 per person  
(cheques made payable to Sports Focus)

*All sporting Clubs selling, serving or consuming alcohol should attend this seminar for up to date information*

- The Club Liquor Licensing Seminar will cover:
- Understanding your liquor licence
- Club rules
- Legal responsibilities
- Underage issues
- Intoxication
- Signing in requirements
- Non-member functions/ limited licences
- Duty of care and server liability

The Club Liquor Licensing Seminar is now being presented in lieu of the new entrant training "Licensees' First Step" which is a legal requirement for any person named as Licensee on a new or changing Liquor Licence. The cost of attending this course at a TAFE is normally up to \$180 per person

A representative from Liquor Licensing Victoria will provide valuable information to deal with the key issues facing club committee and members in respect to liquor licensing issues and requirements. The Seminar will also discuss the Good Sports Program, a program that aims to help clubs implement alcohol management activities and policies.

This Seminar is for your club—for you to feel free to openly discuss your current situation, as well as an opportunity for networking with other clubs in your area. All clubs will receive an official certificate of attendance.

**For Further information contact Lauren Riley, Project Co-ordinator on 5442 3101**

## NEW ACTIVITIES PROPOSED FOR ROMSEY COMMUNITYHOUSE

At the Community House committee meeting last week a number of new activities for term 2 were proposed for inclusion in the Community House program. These included:

- Art classes to learn / develop drawing and painting skills. Bring out the artist in you!
- Success Seminars—learn more about the way you think and act, understand your inner self and apply this knowledge in a positive way to enhance your life.
- Quarterly Art & Craft Market for Romsey—a chance for the many talented local art and crafts people to show off their ability and their wares, and share their creations with others.
- Girls Indulgence Night—a chance for some pampering, some glitz and some glamour. A range of fashion, jewellery, accessories and other indulgences to gladden a girl's heart!

If you are interested in participating in any way in any of these events, please leave your details with Robyn on 0412 275 152 or 5429 5099 (during business hours). They will be passed on to the organisers.

As with all Community House programs, these are subject to sufficient interest before they will be run.

## Radiofest in Kyneton

Up to 1,000 amateur radio enthusiasts are expected to flock to a new major event 'RadioFest' at Kyneton next month. Centre Victoria RadioFest Chairman, Jim Linton said strong interest is being shown from within Victoria and interstate by those already engaged in the hobby or wanting to know more about it. Mr Linton said the event at the Kyneton Racecourse on Sunday, 22 April will include traders with the latest radio products, a huge second-hand market, come n' try activities, displays and interesting talks. He said, "Recent licence changes have resulted in amateur radio becoming one of Australia's fastest growing hobbies and a fascinating new way to communicate for everyone. It's an interesting activity that enables ordinary people to communicate all over the world and even to talk to crew members on the International Space Station. For anyone thinking about a career in technology there's no better skill to have than that of being a radio amateur."

Mr Linton said since the Black Friday bushfires of 1939 they have provided emergency communications during times of natural disasters with the latest being the summer bushfires in north-east Victoria and Gippsland.

A revival in amateur radio is mainly due to a new Foundation Licence that has seen more than a 1,000 people in 12 months join the hobby "This new entry level licence requires about 20 hours of study that usually includes a weekend training course, before qualifying for a licence and getting on the airwaves," Mr Linton said. "It's now attractive to people from their pre-teenage years through to senior citizens and is an ideal common interest for several members of any family."

He said Kyneton is an ideal location for the RadioFest, intended to become an annual event, being less than an hour from Melbourne, Ballarat and Bendigo.

RadioFest, organised by the statewide body Amateur Radio Victoria, Central Goldfields Amateur Radio Club (Maryborough) and Midland Amateur Radio Club (Bendigo), will be at the Kyneton Racecourse on Sunday, 22 April starting at 10am.

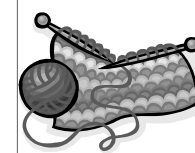
More information can be found on the website [radiofest.amateurradio.com.au](http://radiofest.amateurradio.com.au)

## Rodeo A HUGE Success

The inaugural Romsey Roundup Rodeo held on February 25th exceeded the wildest expectations of the organisers. With perfect weather, a great venue and lots of other activities, the rodeo attracted a larger than capacity crowd from near and far. The organising committee with representatives from the local business and tourism association and the primary school did a great job in pulling together such a huge event in a comparatively short time. A lot of goodwill and co-operation from the school (where the event was staged), and a huge amount of sponsorship from local businesses made it a great success.

A number of local clubs and groups were able to turn this into a very lucrative fundraising venture, as well as a fun day out for families. Romsey Primary School organised and ran a carnival in conjunction with the rodeo, thanks to an enormous amount of work by Parent Club president Louise Noel and a band of very willing parents from the school community. Other groups that benefited from the day were the Romsey Kindergarten, the tennis, football and cricket clubs, and the scouts. Proceeds from car parking were donated to the Breast Cancer Network Australia.

The rodeo was probably one of the biggest things to happen in Romsey for quite some time. It is hoped that this will become an annual event, and will be bigger and better next year, with lots of improvements already on the drawing board after this year's rodeo.



## Donations Sought

If you have any unwanted knitting wool and /or knitting needles, the Romsey Knitting Group (running through the Community House) would be very grateful to receive your donations. Please contact Robyn on 0412 275 152 if you can help, or simply drop your donation off at the office of the Romsey Primary School.

## "ATTENTION CITY COMMUTERS"

The Lancefield Romsey Commuter Bus offers a Mon-Fri return service direct to the CBD at the cheapest rate available in the shire. Currently **\$40.00 per week** for permanent travelers. Departs Lancefield General Store 6.35am, 3 pick up points in Romsey, arrives CBD 7.40am ..... Departs Cnr William & Latrobe Sts 5.20pm, arrives back in Romsey & Lancefield 6.30pm  
Seats currently available. For more details ring Muir on 0354 255505



Department for Victorian Communities



## In the Community

Let's meet and share  
our good ideas...

### An invitation to join us...

*In the Community* is a series of gatherings being run across the State by the Department for Victorian Communities. Each event offers the chance to promote and share ideas about how local groups, business and organisations can work together to build and strengthen their communities, in partnership with us.

### The opportunity...

This is your chance to hear special case studies of groups – maybe like yours – that have had a plan and then worked with others to put it into action to make a difference in their area or community.

As well as getting a first-hand insight to these success stories, participants take part in discussion groups led by senior representatives of the Department. These discussions canvas how we can work together to make our communities a safer, healthier and more attractive place to live and work.

Also of value to you is the chance to receive advice and the latest news on various resources and services the Department can provide to your group and area.

### Who we are...

A key objective of the Department is to strengthen Victorian communities and to make Government easier to work with. We are doing this by better coordination on a range of portfolios that touch on many aspects of Victorian life.

We also administer grant programs that focus on support and better planning of initiatives, making communities stronger and building community infrastructure.

All the evidence points to strong communities being better places in which to live, learn and work. They are places where people feel:

- Active and involved
- Confident and safe
- Supported and more able to get help if they need it.

### When and where...

Each *In the Community* event is free to attend and includes light refreshments.

Sessions begin at 6.00pm and end by 9.00pm

Monday 26 March 2007  
Woodend Community Centre,  
Cnr Forest and High Streets, Woodend

### How to register...

To register interest in attending please visit [www.dvc.vic.gov.au](http://www.dvc.vic.gov.au)

You also can register or get more information by calling 1300 366 356 for the cost of a local call.

Please note, places are limited and pre-registration is essential for planning purposes.

### Accessible events...

This event is wheelchair accessible. Please advise when booking if you have particular dietary requirements or need a personal carer or sign interpreter.



Department for  
Victorian Communities

Department for Victorian Communities



## In the Community

### Registration Form

Community groups, businesses and interested residents of the **City of Hobsons Bay** are invited to meet representatives of the Department for Victorian Communities to share ideas and discuss issues.

*In the Community* events are held to bring together community organisations, businesses, individuals and government to talk about:

- strengthening communities
- planning for the future
- the issues and opportunities in your community and
- how we can work together.

### In the Community Macedon Ranges

Monday 26 March 2007, 6.00pm to 9.00pm

Woodend Community Centre, Cnr Forest and High St RSVP by Monday 19 March 2007

Share ideas, raise issues, hear about other community projects and Government programs.

### Please send this completed form:

By fax to: 03 9208 3679

By post to:

In the Community  
Department for Victorian Communities  
GPO Box 2392V  
MELBOURNE VIC 3001

Register online at: [www.dvc.vic.gov.au](http://www.dvc.vic.gov.au)

Attendance is free and includes lunch, but places are limited. You will be contacted the Friday prior to confirm your booking.

Preferred first name \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Position (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone (day / mobile) \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

I'd like to attend this event because \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Topics I would like covered on the day include \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Any special needs eg wheelchair access, dietary? \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

For more information, including the Department's Privacy Policy, visit [www.dvc.vic.gov.au](http://www.dvc.vic.gov.au)

For additional registration forms call 1300 366 356 (local call cost).

☐ By ticking this box, I understand the Department for Victorian Communities may record the event, and that photographs or video footage collected at the event may be used in publications, brochures or on the internet. (Please tick box)

Department for  
Victorian Communities

