

Romsey Tennis Club Inc.**Thursday Night Competition**

As this season draws to a close, we need to put teams together **now**, to start February 2009.

This year we have fielded one section 2 team in the Macedon Ranges Tennis Association Thursday night comp. We are looking for any interested players, to add to this team, or to perhaps enter a second team. The team has 4 players playing every Thursday night starting at 7.30pm. Home matches are played at Romsey under lights, and away matches are at other clubs including Lancefield, South Gisborne, Gisborne and Macedon. **Please call Kaye on 5429 5622 if you are interested in playing.**

"Christmas Social Night"

Friday 19th December from 6pm at the Tennis Courts.

Come along for a free BBQ and a social hit of tennis to celebrate the year that has past.

BYO drinks.

Prizes for the "Best decorated racquet"

Friday Morning Social Tennis

Daytime social tennis at the Romsey courts is currently happening on Fridays from 9.30 am. Come along for an informal hit, some exercise and fresh air. Just bring a racquet, suitable footwear and please ring Eileen French to express interest or for more information on 0412 787 213.

Monday Night Social Tennis.

Inviting **all teens and adults** to join us for a social hit of tennis from 7.30pm on Mondays, with a cost of \$3 per person with lights. No commitment is needed – just bring along a racquet. Everyone is welcome.

Our last Monday night will be on 15th December, and we will resume after the school holidays on Monday 2nd February.

Hiring of the Tennis Courts

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.

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.

Contact Andrew on 0412 225 792, or by email at peaketennis@hotmail.com

**Club Contacts**

Club coach – Andrew Peake 0412 225 792

Friday Morning Social Tennis at 9.30am – Eileen French 0412 787 213

Mid-week Tuesday Ladies – Bev Beaumont –

5429 6189

Junior and Open Saturday Comp. /Monday Night Social tennis /Thursday night comp– Bev Beaumont - 5429 6189 or Kaye McNamara – 5429 5622

ROMSEY**FOR 2009 DIARIES**

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ROMSEY GOLF CLUB WOMEN'S GOLF OPPORTUNITY

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**ON SATURDAY 6th December
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**WHERE: ROMSEY GOLF CLUB
TIME: 10am**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
Beryl Cole 54295411**

ROMSEY / LANCEFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS

Meet each Monday.

Come and enjoy lunch, a game of cards, indoor bowls or just a chat with a very friendly group of people.

Bus trips arranged each month.
For details, please ring Rae Hooke on 54291602.

THE ROMSEY RAG

Issue No. 267

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

December 2008

THE DECEMBER EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY
- The Lancefield— Romsey Lions Club -

**Lancefield Romsey Lions Club****ROMSEY EXPO 2008**

The Lancefield Romsey Lions Club Expo 08, with support from the Macedon Ranges Shire Council, was held on November 15th, at the new Romsey Hub, which was officially opened earlier this year. This was a great opportunity to learn more about the Romsey Hub, which houses many groups including the Romsey Toy Library, Romsey Playgroup, the Library, the Romsey Community House Cobaw Community Health Services and the Shire service desk. For many people the Expo was their first visit to the Hub, and they could see first hand what facilities are available to them.

Approximately 20 organisations, clubs and sporting groups took part in the day. This included the Romsey Ambulance Auxiliary, RSL, CWA, Historical Society, CFA, Lions, Rotary, Tennis Club, Scouts, Community House, Cobaw Community Health, Toy Library, Playgroup, Romsey Rag, and the Walk Together Group. The aim was for these groups to promote their activities in the community, offer people information, and hopefully attract new memberships. Apart from the groups with their displays, some of the

other attractions on the day were the jumping castle, face painting, the CFA fire truck on display, tea and coffee with cake supplied by the CWA, the Lion's bar-b-cue and the CWA working with children to make Christmas decorations. Hopefully a new, updated directory of organisations will be put together next year.

Grant From Bendigo Community Bank.

On November the 14th the Lancefield Romsey Lions Club was presented with a cheque for \$1,000 from the Bendigo Community Bank. We thank them for their support of our work in the Romsey and Lancefield communities.

Lions Meetings

Lions Club meets every 2nd Monday (Business) at the Mechanics hall in Romsey, and every 4th Monday (Dinner meeting). Anyone who has recently moved to the area (and established residents too!) and is interested in finding out more about Lions should contact President Julie Starec on 0411 643 407 or at home on 5429 1990.

With Christmas coming along so quickly, we would like to take this opportunity to wish all the residents of our community a safe and Merry Christmas, and a very Happy New Year.



The Romsey Rag team wishes all of its readers a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

**Notice to Advertisers**

If you are a regular advertiser in our Trade directory you will be receiving a letter requesting confirmation of your advertising for next year within the next few days. Along with this will be an invoice for advertising for 2009. If we do not receive your payment and confirmation of your advertising by the cut-off date for copy for the first edition of 2009 (February) your advertisement will be removed from the Rag. We are forced to take this step because the Romsey Rag cannot carry the cost of unpaid invoices, some of which are many months overdue.

If you are renewing your advertising, please advise us of any changes to your copy, or provide us with an updated business card.

The closing date for copy for the February Romsey Rag (there is no edition in January) is Friday, January 23rd 2009. We cannot guarantee inclusion of copy received after this date.

Please email your copy to the Romsey Rag email address: romseyrag@romseyys.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:
Joan Gibbs, Robyn Moore

Layout and Design:
Robyn Moore, Anne Cappler, Sue Hayes

Printing:
Robyn Moore, Colin Miller

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 cut off day as advised on this page and the front page.

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: \$25 per issue
\$200 per year in Business Directory
Quarter page: \$50 per issue
Half page: \$100 per issue
Full page: \$180 per issue
Line ads: e.g.- 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 2009

Edition	Closing date for copy	Collating date
February 2009	Friday January 23rd	Thursday January 29th
March 2009	Friday February 20th	Thursday February 26th
April 2009	Friday March 20th	Thursday March 26th
May 2009	Friday April 24th	Thursday April 30th
June 2009	Friday May 22nd	Thursday May 28th
July 2009	Friday June 19th	Thursday June 25th
August 2009	Friday July 24th	Thursday July 30th
September 2009	Friday August 21st	Thursday August 27th
October 2009	Friday September 18th	Thursday September 24th
November 2009	Friday October 23rd	Thursday October 29th
December 2009	Friday November 20th	Thursday November 26th

Seasons Greetings

Dear friends

As another year draws to a close, we turn our attention to Christmas and spending precious time with friends and family. Christmas is a time to reflect and give thanks for how lucky we are and to think of those in our community who are less fortunate than us.

There are many volunteer local emergency service organisations and community groups who give up their time all year round, and especially at Christmas to serve our community.

As many of us go away for our holidays, it is timely to remember the many volunteer organisations like the CFA and SES who will continue to support our communities by fighting fires, attending road crashes and generally responding to emergencies.

There are also many church and community groups who provide food and shelter and a listening ear to those in need of assistance especially over the Christmas period.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank the many volunteers in our community who make the Macedon Ranges and Victoria a very special place to live.

I wish you and your family a very happy and safe Christmas, and I look forward to seeing in the new year.

Warm regards

Joanne Duncan MP
State Member for Macedon

“ATTENTION CITY COMMUTERS”

The Lancefield Romsey Commuter Bus offers a Monday to Friday return service direct to the CBD at the cheapest rate available in the shire.

Still only \$40.00 per week for permanent travelers.

We also cater for casual & adhoc travelers.

Departs Lancefield General Store 6.35am, & Romsey Hotel 6.42am, arrives CBD 7.40am.

Departs Cnr William & Latrobe Sts 5.20pm, arrives back in Romsey 6.20pm & Lancefield 6.25pm Seats currently available.

For more details ring Muir on 0354 255505



ROMSEY CRICKET CLUB NEWS

Life Membership Award

Club stalwarts Tim McCarthy and Paul Pinder were honoured at a special function at the Romsey cricket club on Saturday 15th November.

Tim was awarded Life Membership with his family, friends, present and past players in attendance. Starting his cricket career as a 9 year old, Tim's involvement at the club has seen him serve on the executive committee of the Romsey cricket club for the past fifteen years while also being involved with the GDCA executive. While still playing senior cricket, Tim currently holds the position of club treasurer and is a vital part of the club success as it continues to grow. Paul Pinder has recently retired from First grade cricket and it is fitting that the club recognises his contribution over many years to the success of the Romsey cricket club both on and off the field.

President Michael Richardson, past player Tim McCarten and life member Peter Johnston all spoke at length about the important contribution both men have made to the club, not only with their cricket ability but also their sportsmanship and their leadership on and off the ground. The Romsey Cricket Club wishes Tim and Paul and their families the very best and looks forward to many more successful



years together. **November**
Things are looking very “hairy” around the cricket club at the moment. At the halfway point of their Movember campaign, 28 dedicated men are pursuing their pledge

to support the Prostate Cancer Foundation and *beyondblue*: the national depressive initiative. There is still time to support the guys by the way of donations in various locations around the town or by contacting Michael or Helen Richardson on 54296369. All supporters are invited to attend the “MO “ party at the clubrooms on Saturday 29th November for a spit roast meal and celebration.

diabetics????
we now have sugar free and gluten free yum-my lollies
ROMSEY

NEWSPAPER

Romsey and Lancefield Combined Churches



Christmas Carols

Sunday, December 14
Romsey Mechanics Institute
6 pm Community Barbeque
7 pm Carol Singing

with the Romsey Primary School Choir
Everyone welcome!

GENTREVIC COMPUTERS

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Fax: 54292282
Mobile: 0419390007

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Romsey Community House Inc.

A Learning and Activity Centre
P.O.Box 418, Romsey, Vic 3434
Phone 5429 6724
Email: romseycommunityhouse@yahoo.com.au

Programmes and Activities for Term 4 December 08

All activities will be conducted at Romsey Community House unless stated otherwise.

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Yoga with Kym Oliver

Wednesday 7.00 - 8.30pm, Romsey Community House. After hours access through side door. Cost: \$12/SESSION, \$120 for 10 week term. Casual Rate \$15/session. All enquiries and bookings direct to Kym Oliver on 5429 2134.

Walking Together Program

All groups meet Lion's Park near the creek, Tuesday 9.30am - 10.30am, Enquiries and bookings to Heather ph: 5429 5895

SOCIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Drop in for a Cuppa weekdays 9.30 - 5.30 - All Welcome

Romsey Community House Drop-in room is waiting for you! Drop in for a Cuppa, by yourself or bring a friend. Open weekdays 9.30am - 5.30pm Tea / Coffee - Gold Coin donation

SPECIAL INTERST GROUP

Writers Group

First Monday of the month, Romsey Community House at the Hub, 7pm - 8.30pm Convener: Dee White

Drop In Craft Mornings

Bring along your own craft every Thursday 10.30am - 12.30pm during the school term. Watch the Romsey Rag for special interest days. Convener - Karyn Gottschling

Craft Evening with Natasha

Every Second Thursday 7pm - 9.30pm, Romsey Community House

Enquiries to Natasha Dziunka ph: 0438 357 599

Crop Till You Drop Scrap Booking 3rd Saturday of the month at the Hub from 5pm. Cost: \$15 per session. Contact Belinda Williams 0458 200 173

Adult & Children's Art Classes with Gillian ph: 5429 3996

Romsey Art & Craft Market

Term Dates: December 16th.

Counselling Services coming soon

DECEMBER- HEALTH & WELLBEING

Weight Management and Healthy Eating Over the Festive Period

Thursday 4th December 2008, 7pm - 8.30pm

Phone 5429 6724

If no answer—leave a message, we will get back to you.

'MOVING ON'

TELL YOUR STORY &
GET IT PUBLISHED!

Romsey Writer's Group has received funding from the Macedon Ranges Shire Council to produce a book written by community members on the theme 'Moving On'. Poems and short stories will be included.

Some topics you might consider writing on are:

- ✦ bereavement
- ✦ physical or mental illness
- ✦ divorce
- ✦ losing a child or sibling
- ✦ accidents
- ✦ natural disasters
- ✦ drug/alcohol abuse
- ✦ losing a job
- ✦ losing a home
- ✦ retirement
- ✦ caring for a child or loved one with special needs
- ✦ pets and their ability to change lives
- ✦ domestic violence
- ✦ financial difficulties
- ✦ winning the lottery
- ✦ having children
- ✦ changing careers
- ✦ cross-cultural relationships
- ✦ bureaucratic bangles

- ✦ wills
- ✦ sea change
- ✦ tree change
- ✦ near death experience
- ✦ getting lost
- ✦ moving house
- ✦ changing countries
- ✦ being in a car accident
- ✦ witnessing something terrible confronting your fears

These are only some suggestions to give people an idea of the sorts of stories and poems we are seeking. Feel free to choose a different issue/topic that relates to the theme.

We are happy to work with people who have a story to tell but are unable to write it down.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

The following criteria will apply for any works accepted for publication:

- ✦ Poems must be no more than 2 pages in length.
- ✦ Short Stories must be 500 to 3000 words.
- ✦ Works must not contain swearing or inappropriate language.
- ✦ Works must fit into the theme of 'Moving On'.
- ✦ No inappropriate or offensive content will be accepted.
- ✦ Romsey Writer's Group reserves the right to refuse publication of works considered inappropriate or unacceptable.

ceptable.

✦ All submissions should include address and phone number for contact.
✦ Materials should be typed and printed, and submitted with a disc containing the piece/pieces. Materials can be dropped at the Romsey Neighbourhood House (Shire Offices, Main street Romsey) or emailed to romseycommunityhouse@yahoo.com.au. Alternatively, they can be posted to Romsey Neighbourhood House PO Box 418 Romsey VIC 3434.

✦ All materials MUST BE SUBMITTED BY 28th February 2009.

✦ More than one piece of work may be submitted.

✦ This project is subject to funding however, in the event this is unsuccessful, we will publish a selection of stories in the Romsey Rag. This is a not-for-profit project and NO PAYMENT is provided for works submitted.

If you are unable to write your story down, one of our writers will be happy to work with you to get it down on paper. For assistance, phone Dee White on 54 285 365 or Robyn Moore on 54 29 6445 or 0412 275 152.

So get writing, and send your story or poem in to us. We'd love to see it - and check your Romsey Rag next month for more information.

Matthew Way Bobcat & Tipper Hire

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LANCEFIELD CHRISTMAS CARNIVAL

supported by Lancefield Business and Tourism Association, Lancefield Neighbourhood House, Lancefield Primary School, St. Mary's Primary School and the Macedon Ranges Shire.

Date: Friday night 12th December 2008

Time: 5.00pm till 9.00pm

Where: Centre Plantation
High Street Lancefield

Featuring

Santa School choirs Lancefield singers
Children's rides BBQ stall Face painting
Light painting Lots of free activities

Macedon Ranges Shire Council & Living Word Christian Church presents:

'Carols in the Park' ~ Romsey Lions Park

Friday 12th December 2008 ~ 6:30 pm

Venue: Romsey Lions Park

*** Glo-Candles @ \$1:50ea**
(Available for purchase on the night)

Sausage Sizzle, Lollies & Song Books
Pre-Carol Entertainment & Games for the Children
*** Free Christmas Hampers**
Ph. (03) 5429 6327

Five Mile Road

Creek

Lancefield Rd

N

Murphy Service

Melbourne Street

Romsey

Jesus is the reason for the season

Romsey Primary School

Preparations for 2009

Our class structure for next year has been determined and has moved away from the traditional focus on composite classes. This profile is based on feedback from parent and teacher forums which were held earlier in the year and is a significant change for our school. The emphasis is on single year levels with some composites to cater for the different number of students at each year level. This structure also keeps class sizes to a manageable level, especially in the junior years where the foundations of literacy and numeracy are formed, and where students have yet to develop more independent working habits.

Soiree

Parents, grandparents and friends of our students enjoyed an excellent evening's entertainment when students showcased their musical talent last week. The Senior and Middle School Choir opened the evening with two items "Sing" and "We're All in this Together". The acoustics of the Performing Arts Centre complemented their clear voices. The program consisted of piano recitals, violin performances, flute and saxophone playing. The ensemble performed "Restful Dreams" and "The Ocean". Not only did the students perform musically they had to introduced themselves as well. A highlight was the two duets Peter Hagen played with Jessica Hctor-Turner and Lauren Connell both playing "Beauty and the Beast". Overall it was an excellent opportunity for students to perform to an appreciative audience and to develop their confidence. Ira Furfaro our Performing Arts Teacher, Peter Hagen our keyboard teacher, Sue Logan-Morris flute and saxophone teacher and Rita Vandervalk violin teacher all contributed by preparing their students so well for the evening.



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Parent Club News

A large number of parents and local people attended the Trivia Night providing not only a fun night, but another excellent fundraiser. The silent auction proved very popular with a number of people very happy with their purchases. Thank you to the sub committee of Sam Kaliszewski, Kerry Hammond, Kylie Hughes, Chris White and Helen Barrows who organised the event. Also thank to Robyn Moore for the questions and Don Gray, who donated his services as MC. The evening raised approximately \$3,000. Romsey Primary School would like to extend a special thank you to all the sponsors for this event. The recent Christmas Market was the final fund raiser for the year and offered a wide selection of gifts suitable for Christmas. The stalls were well attended and the cakes and BBQ were also very popular. Parent Club is an excellent way for parents to support the school and to make new friendships.

New Preps for 2009

This week our new preps are starting their transition visits. They will have three sessions with their new teacher and class. Many have their uniforms on and are starting to know and feel confident in their new environment.



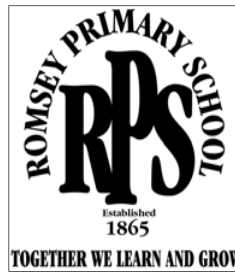
ROMSEY COLLISION CENTRE

Frank 0438 678 072
Tel: (03) 5429 5922
Fax: (03) 5429 5858

Lot 6, Mitchell Court, Romsey Vic 3434
Email: romseycollisioncentre@yahoo.com.au

Thank You to Romsey Collision Centre

Romsey Primary School would like to thank Romsey Collision Centre for the way they generously donated the repair of the slide from the new adventure playground. The support of local businesses is very much appreciated.



Media News

Outer Metro Northwest Area



Fire Danger Period to be introduced

CFA Outer Metro Northwest Area is advising residents that the Fire Danger Period (FDP) for the municipalities of Wyndham, Melton, Macedon Ranges, Hume, Mitchell, Moorabool and Whittlesea is to commence on **Monday 17 November 2008** and remain in force until 1 May 2009. Two consecutive months of below average rainfall and warmer than average Spring temperatures informed CFAs decision on a mid-November start to the Fire Danger Period.

During the FDP, fires cannot be lit in the open air without a permit. CFA Manager Community Safety, James Fox, said people should become familiar with what restrictions apply.

"Some fires need a permit, and others are only allowed in specific conditions," he said. "Fires to burn off grass, undergrowth or weeds must be accompanied by a permit—issued by the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer. "Barbeques and fires for cooking and warmth, however, do not require a permit, but must be lit in properly constructed fireplaces, within limits of wind speed and clearance perimeter, and are to be supervised at all times. Illegal fires are often lit without consideration of weather conditions and do not have the required controls in place to manage the fire," Mr Fox added.

Lighting a fire in the open without a permit is an offence and can bring a penalty of up to \$5,500 or 12 months imprisonment. The FDPs introduction will be publicised in local media, on the CFA website (www.cfa.vic.gov.au) and via roadside signage. The FDP and Total Fire Ban is explained in more detail with the *Can I or Can't I?* brochure, downloadable from CFA's web site (www.cfa.vic.gov.au) or from your local CFA fire station.

For information on bushfire planning, call the Victorian Bushfire Information line on **1800 240 667** or visit www.cfa.vic.gov.au

In relation to permits, the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer for the Macedon Ranges Shire may be contacted by phoning 5422 0333 and details relating to permits can be found on Macedon Ranges Shire Council's web-site www.macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au

Enquiries:

Kris Perkovic, Media & Marketing Coordinator
CFA Outer Metro Northwest Area
Phone: 8746 1417 | Mobile: 0400 986 954

Draft Romsey Outline Development Plan

Macedon Ranges Shire Council's draft Romsey Outline Development Plan (ODP) is available for public comment. The ODP will lead to changes in the Planning Scheme and set the direction for the future residential, commercial and industrial growth of Romsey, for the next 15-25 years. It also considers impacts on landscape character and agricultural land capability.

The document is on public exhibition until 19 January 2009 and is available to view at any of Council's Service Centres or online at www.macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au.

Council encourages the community to review the draft Romsey ODP and forward written comments to the Manager Planning and Development, Macedon Ranges Shire Council, PO Box 151, Kyneton 3444 or email: romseyodp@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au.

A survey form is available to be completed online to assist with providing feedback on the draft ODP.

Outcomes from the community consultation sessions held on the 29th of October 2008 have also been published on Council's website.

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ROMSEY LIONS CLUB SUNDAY MARKET— 4th SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

The next Romsey Market will be held on
Sunday, 21st December

New stall holders are always welcome.

Enquiries: 0438-414-245

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Romsey Community House Inc

AGM:

The Annual General Meeting of the Romsey Community House was held on November 19, with a number of new members elected to the committee. We would like to thank Don Clarke from Riddells Creek Neighbourhood House for overseeing the election of the new committee, and congratulate Wendie McLaughlan (President), Heather Russell (Treasurer), Robyn Moore (Secretary), Karyn Gottschling (Public Officer), John Evans, Lee Evans, Jan Perez, Louise Noel, Eileen French and Ged McLaughlan on their election. Outgoing committee members were thanked for their contribution to the House.

In presenting her annual report, President Wendie McLaughlan outlined some of the highlights and challenges faced by the Community House in its transition from "homelessness" to taking up permanent residence at the Hub. While there have been a few issues of differing viewpoints between the House and Council, these are largely being resolved. Our main objective for the coming year is to secure on-going funding for a paid co-ordinator, as everything connected with the day to day running of the House is currently done by volunteers. Wendie expressed the committee's ongoing gratitude to these volunteers; without their support there would be nothing happening at the House. In the Programs Report Robyn Moore mentioned the varying range of activities that were planned and of-

fered at the House for the year, with mixed success. She also thanked Vanessa Meredith and Amanda Summers for their work on program development, and recognized with appreciation the support we have had from the CFA and the Romsey Primary school in allowing us to use their premises as venues for our groups before the Hub opened. With regret we received the resignation of John Van Arkel, one of our original committee members, who has had to resign for health reasons. John has made a huge contribution to the establishment of the Community House in Romsey since its inception, in developing a most comprehensive policy and procedure manual, and through his very wise and considered observations on how we can best meet the needs of our community. John is also well known in other community groups, and is a shining example to all of us that age shouldn't prevent anyone from being a valuable contributor to community life. Thank you John.

Funding Success:

Our Writer's group has been successful in securing an arts grant from the Macedon Ranges Shire Council to put together and publish a collection of short stories on the theme "Moving On." Writers from all over the shire are invited to submit their poems and short stories, and details of this project can be found on page 3 of this edition of the Rag.

We have also received a grant from the State government for volunteer training in 2009.

Australia Day Celebration



Monday
26th Jan
11am -1pm

Romsey Skate Park

Flag Raising Ceremony, Council Message
Live Music, Sausage Sizzle,
Drinks, Food, Games & Stalls
Balloons, Face Painting
& much, much more!

Community Group Recognition Award Presentation

Members of the Community are welcome to nominate a Community Group for their services to the Community. Please post nominations to Australia Day Award P.O. Box 164 Romsey 3434 before Friday 16th January 2009

Ph. (03) 5429 6327

Everyone Welcome

Proudly sponsored by Macedon Ranges Shire Council & Living World Christian Church

Romsey Self Storage



To celebrate the launch of the 3rd stage of our Storage Complex we are offering all new customers 1 month of free storage with every 3 month lease purchased. Rent 3 months storage and you will receive your 4th month absolutely FREE.

At Romsey Self Storage we take pride in being a locally owned and run business and place a heavy emphasis on meeting the needs of our customers each and every time.

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- safe storage of business records or personal taxations records

It has been an absolute pleasure to have been able to provide our local community with its first ever self storage complex and we would like to take this opportunity to thank our existing customers for their continued support and to wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Safe and Happy New Year. We look forward to finding more ways to improve our business so that we are able to better service your needs.

Your Team at Romsey Self Storage, Brent and Rachael Dyer.

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KINDER CORNER - ROMSEY KINDERGARTEN NEWS

As December rolls in, and spring swings into summer, there is much activity afoot at the Kindergarten. In addition to the preparations for Christmas (always an exciting time for the children), the winds of change are blowing through in several ways – a new playground, a new Committee and a new management system as 2009 rapidly approaches.

The year has been a big one at the Romsey Kindergarten, with the last month in particular being frenetic in an exciting way.

At Last It Is Ready - Playground Opening



Children try out the new seating.



Mrs Day opens the new playground.

On Friday 21st November, a very big day for Romsey Kindergarten finally arrived – the official opening of the redeveloped playground. A sunny day was a perfect backdrop to the event, with presentations from the Mayor of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Cr. Noel Harvey, and the Regional Director of the Loddon Mallee Department of Education and Early Childhood Development, Mr. Ron Lake. Our other very special guest was Mrs. Day, a 94 year old long term Romsey resident who took much pleasure in cutting the ribbon to the playground which will benefit so many of Romsey's very young residents! This was the culmination of a very large infrastructure project to provide an optimal setting to facilitate learning through play. Many thanks must go the Kindergarten's playground redevelopment subcommittee (Raelene Mottram, Kerry Hammond, and Craig Cullinger), the contractors (Stewart and Son) and the architect (Bruce Grillmeier from Mary Jeavons Landscape Architects) for many hours of hard work and commitment.



Bruce Grillmeier (Architect, Mary Jeavons) and Craig Stewart

On the Bus to Dromkeen



Story telling at Dromkeen.

The 4 year old children from Unit 1 recently went on an excursion by bus to Dromkeen for an interactive session on children's literature and aboriginal dreamtime drawing. Our teacher, Kim Bates, and assistant, Catherine Tighe, had parents to help accompany the very excited children on this unprecedented (at our Kindergarten) outing. Many children had never been on a bus before so getting there was half the fun! All who attended found the program most worthwhile and enjoyable.



On the bus

Bendigo Bank Makes the Pumps Possible – Community Funding Scheme Cheque
Recently, Mr. Rod Browning, Romsey Branch Manager at the Bendigo Bank presented the Kindergarten with a cheque for \$1000 as part of the Bank's Community Funding grant scheme. The Kindergarten was most grateful for this funding as it contributed to the cost of pumps to be used in the playground redevelopment. The children enjoyed handling the BIG cheque.

Bendigo Bank cheque presentation of Community Funding Grant



Romsey Lancefield Platypus Guides.

Have you ever had the chance to paddle a canoe, a paddle board, and sail a Corsair yacht? Quite recently the Platypus Guides went on a Region Guide event (girls from Gisborne and Sunbury Guides too) to the Scout and Guide Water Activity Centre at Sandringham. The girls were all fitted with life jackets and given guide lines for a fun and safe time in the sea, then they all had a chance to try sailing, canoeing, paddle boarding and riding in a rescue dingy.

After lunch many of the girls had another go in the yachts, and were shown how to stand on the edges and trapeze through the waves. It was a great experience for everyone who went, including some parent helpers as well.

The Guides have tried another new activity lately, learning some tennis skills. We arranged to have an introduction to tennis using the tennis courts at Lancefield Park. Three members of the Lancefield Tennis Club came along with tennis racquets and lots of balls and ran a series of activities for the girls to get an insight into what is involved in playing tennis. Some girls showed great promise in their skill development in the one session. Many thanks to Loraine Krause and Roger and Rohan Barr for giving up their time to help the girls. They had such fun.

December is here and we are getting close to finishing our activities for the year. But it is not over yet. We are going to make lots of Christmas cards to give away, then spend a Monday evening singing Christmas Carols to the residents at Karinya. And on our last Monday for the year we will finish with a family BBQ at Lancefield Park. The girls have earned a number of badges in the last 4 months and these will be presented at this evening.

It has been a great year that has included a sleepover, an indoor camp, three Region events, and lots of different activities at our own Unit meetings.

Next year will be the start of some big celebrations for Guides throughout Australia and the World, the centenary of the Girl Guide movement. There will be a variety of activities that include a Region camp in April, a State camp in the September holidays, then an International camp to be held at Yarra Junction in January 2010 to celebrate the 100 years of Guiding.

We start Guides again at Lancefield Park on Monday 2nd February 2009.

If you would like to part of our activities come along and visit on Monday nights from 5.00pm to 6.30pm in the Cricket Club social rooms, Lancefield Park. For more information ring Rita on 5429 1996.

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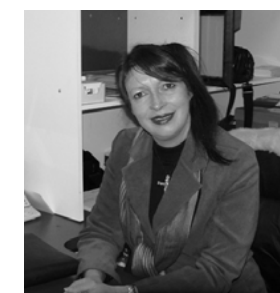
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A UNIQUE FINANCIAL OPPORTUNITY

The Federal government's one off payment to people on Centrelink pensions and benefits will be paid in December this year. This payment offers a great opportunity for families to put aside funds for future bills that can cause financial stress such as insurance, motor registration or back to school costs.

Christmas is a time when we want to provide those we love with gifts, especially when we have not had much money to spare during the year for special things. Julie Smith, No Interest Loans worker for St Luke's Anglicare, suggests that families use this opportunity to put funds in their savings accounts for future large purchases such as white goods, car repairs or a well earned family holiday. Julie encourages people to think long term and plan for their needs over the year as this is not a payment that is likely to be repeated next year.

Financial counsellor for St Luke's Anglicare, Jane Bennett, says people on lower or fixed incomes rarely get an opportunity to save. Some families will receive a few thousand dollars giving them opportunities to not only catch up on bills and credit card payments but to provide funds for future expenses.

St Luke's would like to offer information on financial management, payment plans and savings strategies on Wednesday 3rd December from 1.30 - 3.30. Please attend our office at 1 Victoria St Kyneton or phone on 54212000 during this time. A financial counsellor will be able to speak to you, give general information or answer any questions regarding your finances. Afternoon tea will be provided.

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Suzanne's Totally Natural Beauty Therapy and Body Tunes Remedial Massage wish all their clients a safe and happy Christmas and New Year.

Suite 2
110 Main St Romsey
(Behind chicken shop)
Phone 54295176

KINDER KORNER continued.

Go For Your Life – Fresh Fruit a Kinder

The Kindergarten has undertaken a commitment to the Go for Your Life initiative which actively encourages healthy eating and making good food choices. As part of the implementation of this, an apple slinky (which cores, peels and cuts apples into a spiral) is used on a daily basis at the kindergarten. The children themselves have learnt how to utilize this gadget which makes eating apples fun! Recently, a fruit salad making day was held which was very popular. Learning to enjoy healthy food at an early age sets up great habits for life!

Special Person's Day

Recently, all 3 year old and 4 year old groups hosted Special Person's Day at the Kindergarten. Grandparents, friends and special family members were served a sumptuous morning/afternoon tea (provided by Committee) before being treated to a performance from the children. These special events are an important part of the kindergarten experience.

Changing Of the Guard - Annual General Meeting

On Monday 17th November, Romsey Kindergarten Inc. conducted its Annual General Meeting in front of a very large audience which included Cr. Geoff Neill and Cr. Sandra McGregor. In addition to the presentation of the annual financial audit and other reports, a progress account of the management transition process was given to the Association. The election of a new Committee of Management was conducted by Mr. Chris Durston (Rochford Lawyers). New Committee members elected include the following – Sue Hayes (President), Peta Gale (Vice President), Regina Marr (Secretary), Andrea Alford (Treasurer), Heather Daw (Enrolments), Skye Mayall (Assistant Enrolments), Craig Cullinger (Maintenance), Jo Steele (Purchasing Officer), Raelene Mottram (General Committee), Kylie Newnham (General Committee) and Simone Plunkett (General Committee). Congratulations are extended to the new Committee as well as much gratitude to the outgoing Committee.

In Progress - Management Transition

A Transition Subcommittee was established by the Committee of Management to facilitate discussion and arrangements between Romsey Kindergarten Inc and Try Youth and Community Services. Consultation with Association members has resulted in a delegation of roles to be retained by the Committee as opposed to those to be taken over by Try. An agreement between Try Youth and Community Services and Romsey Kindergarten Inc is hoped to be signed off by early December with the kindergarten license transfer to be finalized before the commencement of Term 1, 2009. The initial agreement will be for 12 months and will be subject to reassessment and renegotiation after that period.

Jenny Stillman (0412-349849)

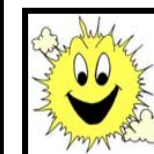
Footnote: As the *outgoing* President of the Committee of Management, this is my last Romsey Rag contribution in this role. It has been a great privilege to report on the activities at this most special place in the Romsey Community over the last three years. I look forward to reading the future Kinder Corner articles from the "outside" – Jenny.

Water

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Pohlman Street, Romsey. 3434

Minister: Rev. Dr Avril Hannah-Jones: 5429 5351 Mobile: 0408 380 962

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...**

Christmas Services:

Friday 5th December: Advent Workshop for primary school children, Romsey Uniting Church, 3.45pm, BBQ starting at 5.30pm.

Sunday 14th December: Romsey/Lancefield Churches Joint Carol Service (this year organised by the Uniting Church) 6pm BBQ, 7pm service.

Sunday, 21st December: Blue Christmas Service, Romsey Uniting Church, 7.30pm.

Wednesday, 24th December: 7.30pm Riddells Creek Carol Service; 9 for 9.30pm Mt.Macedon Carol Service
Thursday, 25th December: 9am Mt.Macedon Service; 10.30am, Lancefield Service.

Romsey and Lancefield Uniting Churches will have combined services from 21st December, 2008, to the end of January, 2009.

The Night before Christmas

(a slightly different version of the famous Christmas poem)

'Twas the night before Christmas, and all through the town,
St.Joseph was searching, walking up roads and down;

Our Lady was waiting, so meek and so mild, while
Joseph was seeking a place for the Child;

The census had brought them to Bethlehem town;
but there was no lodging, no room to be found.

When even the innkeeper sent them away,
Joseph was wondering, where they would stay;

He thought of the stables in the side of the hills,
Let's go there, said Mary, it's silent and still;

The moon on the breast of the new fallen snow,
made pathways of light for their tired feet to go;

And there in a manger, on a cradle of hay,
Our Saviour was born on that first Christmas Day!

The Father was watching in heaven above,
He sent for his angels, his couriers of love;

More rapid than eagles God's bright angels came;
Re-joining and eager as each heard their name;

"Come Angels, Come Cherubs, Come Seraphs, Come
Raphael, Come all Hosts of heaven, come Michael & Gabriel;

Now fly to the earth, where my poor people live,
announce the glad tiding my Son comes to give;

The Shepherds were watching their flocks on this
night, and saw in the heavens an unearthly light;

The Angels assured them, they'd nothing to fear,
It's Christmas they said, the Saviour is here!

They hastened to find him, and stood at the door,
till Mary invited them in to adore;

He was swaddled in cloths from his head to his feet,
never had the Shepherds seen a baby so sweet!

He spoke not a word, but the shepherds all knew,
He was telling them secrets and blessing them too;

Then softly they left him, The Babe in the hay,
and rejoiced with great joy on that first Christmas day;

Mary heard them exclaim as they walked down the
hill.....

Glory to God in the Highest,
Peace to all of good will!

**"Happy Christmas and a safe and peaceful New Year
from all at the Romsey Uniting Church."**

Church Services during December, 2008 and January 2009

7 th	9am.	Worship Service and Sunday school. Conducted by Rev. Adrian Pegler.
14 th	9am	Sunday School Presentation Service Conducted by Rev. Avril Hannah-Jones.
21 st	10am.	Combined Worship service at Lancefield Conducted by the Worship Team
28 th	10am.	Combined Worship service at Lancefield
<u>January 2009</u>		
4 th	10am.	Combined Worship service at Romsey
11 th	10am.	Combined Worship service at Lancefield
18 th	10am.	Combined Worship service at Romsey
25 th	10am.	Combined Worship service at Lancefield

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The Cultural Development Unit and Eagle's Nest Theatre Production presents

Charles Dickens performs A Christmas Carol



FRIDAY DECEMBER 5, 7.00pm
PLEASE NOTE NEW VENUE

The Gisborne Mechanics Institute

8A Hamilton Street, Gisborne

Tickets: full \$20.00, con \$15.00, pen \$13.50, child u15 \$10.00, family (2a & 2c) \$50.00

Bookings: 1300 88 88 02 or at any shire customer service centres

Doors open 1hour prior to show

Flat seating

The ghost of Dickens past returns...

Audiences will be enchanted this festive season, as Melbourne performer Phil Zachariah brings Charles Dickens back to life.

Zachariah will perform A Christmas Carol as Dickens himself first did over 150 years ago.

On the 27th December 1853, Charles Dickens read A Christmas Carol in public for the first time. Dickens acted the part of each character with – as The Cambridge Press said in 1859 – “a different voice, a different style, a different face”. Women and men wept openly during his performances, 3000-strong audiences roared with laughter and worthy out-comes were greeted with thunderous cheering and the boisterous waving of hats and handkerchiefs.

Zachariah's stunning solo performance recreates those readings for a modern audience as he becomes Charles Dickens. The production was first performed in December 2003 on the 150th Anniversary of Dickens' first reading, and each year since. The creative team worked from a facsimile of Dickens' own prompt copy, with edits and stage directions in the author's own handwriting, and were assisted by the many detailed eyewitness accounts of his performances. These historical sources were then blended into an exciting physical performance and literary journey.

The result is a dynamic, contemporary adaptation of Dickens' original reading, which will delight literary buffs, students, families and of course fans of Dickens' work.

RODEO

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* Saddle Brone**



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(2 ADULTS & CHILDREN)
ENTRY TO GRAND STAND ENTRY \$10
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Pets Haven Animal Shelter would like to sincerely thank IGA – Romsey for their support. They have kindly allowed our Shelter to place a food donation bin in their store, we heavily rely on donations and their generosity has made a difference to our orphan animals which benefit from their kindness. Thank You - IGA- Romsey and to all that support our shelter.
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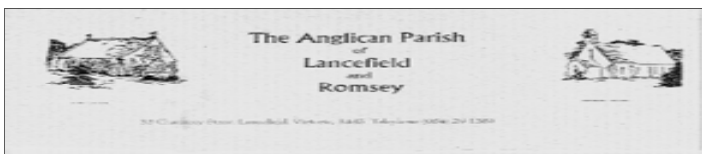
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VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE.

A Christmas anecdote to start with: Three six year olds were playing the wise men in the school nativity play. As they came to Mary and Joseph in the stable, the first one handed over his gift and said, "Gold!". The second one presented his gift and said, "Myrrh!" The third one threw his gift into the manger and said, "Frankie sent this." That was a six year old view on the subject but what is Christmas really about? Yes Christmas is a celebration as displayed by the many decorations we see around the shops we buy our presents at this year. But what sort of celebration is it? Well, I'm here to tell you that it is a birthday party. We decorate our houses and places of work like there is a party about to happen. But this leads me to another question – whose birthday is it? It is Jesus' birthday that we celebrate each Christmas. It is because God gave us the present of his Son to the world that we can celebrate Christmas each year.

Jesus Christ Born in the manger is the reason that Christmas is a birthday party. However, when we go to a birthday party, we usually take a present. The question to be asked this Christmas is what are we going to give Jesus this Christmas for his birthday? The answer to that comes in the Bible when it says, "he came to give life so that we can have life" meaning the best present we can give to Jesus is our lives in service to him. If that was done we can then truly celebrate Christmas in the manner it was intended.

May you have a Christmas filled with God's blessing and a 2009 filled with things from the Divine.

That's the Christmas window view from the vicarage.

Yours in Christ

Rev. Leroy Coote

Vicar

Christ Church Lancefield with St. Paul's Romsey

Ph. No 5429-1680

P.S; Please see below your invitation to our Christmas Celebration in the Anglican Church.

December 21st – A Service of Lessons and Carols

- 9.00am at Romsey
- 10:30am at Lancefield

December 24th –

6.00pm at Lancefield –

Jesus' Birthday Party preceded by a no-cost sausage sizzle at 5pm.

11:30pm – Candlelight Service at Romsey.

December 25th – 9.00am –

Family Christmas Service at Lancefield.

Get your kids school uniforms **DRYCLEANED** before they go back in 2009 **ROMSEY**



Romsey and Lancefield Historical Society Inc.

Happy Christmas Everybody! See You In The New Year!

Lion's Expo

Thank you to the Lions Club who put on the Expo on November 15th. This was an opportunity for local societies and clubs to the district what activities are available to them.

We heard that 26 organisations had booked, but only 16 turned up, which was pretty poor. It was a lot of hard work for the Lions and therefore a bit disappointing. However, for those of us who DID show up, it was rewarding and fun, giving us publicity, sales of goods, and much socializing with friends old and new.

Thanks again, Lions, for a very worthwhile event.

Seymour Cottage (1855)

Group visits during the holidays are most welcome. Contact Jean on 5429 6522.

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Fees:

A one hour session costs \$25. Appointments can be made after hours and there are no waiting lists.

To make these positive changes in your life, please call me, Amanda Summers on

0411627204 or email summerscounselling@bigpond.com

Something to try for Christmas:

Home Made Irish Cream recipe

2 eggs

1 can condensed milk

600ml bottle of cream

200ml whisky

3 tsp vanilla essence

3 tsp coconut essence

3-4 dessertspoons chocolate essence.

Combine all ingredients. Will make approx. 700ml plus a small bottle. If using an empty whisky bottle do not wash it before putting Irish Cream in. Keep refrigerated.

- Shirley Perkins

Notice to Contributors:

When submitting photos for inclusion in the Romsey Rag, please ensure that anyone appearing in the photograph has given consent for it to be published. A written statement to this effect is required at the time of submitting your copy (if copy is sent by email, include this statement in your email).

There are many legal issues surrounding the unauthorised publication of photographs and we will not publish photographs from next year unless such authority is given.

The Editors

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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

MASS TIMES

CHRISTMAS MASS

Christmas Eve Children's Mass 7.30p.m. Lancefield

Midnight Mass 12 midnight Romsey

Christmas Day 9.00a.m. Romsey

Saturday:

7.00 p.m. (summer time) Lancefield

6.00 p.m. (winter time) Lancefield

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month:

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

2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month:

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

RECONCILIATION

Advent Reconciliation

7.30 p.m. Tuesday 9th December 2008 Lancefield

After weekday Mass or by arrangement.

BAPTISMS

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

For more information, please phone 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, Counsellor and Guide. Tel: 5429 2130 for
more information.

NOTICES

Combined Churches Carols

Sunday 14th December

6.00 p.m. BBQ

7.00 p.m. Carols

Thank You Bendigo Bank

Both our Churches and the Priests House have been
steam cleaned thanks to the Bendigo Bank "Building Our
Community Grants". Our carpets are sparkling clean!!!!

ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

We have had so much happening at St Mary's Primary
School this term!

The Parents and Friends committee produced another
successful Drive-in Movie and Fireworks night at Lance-
field Park.

Thank you to the P & F committee who put in hours of
work in preparation for the night:

Michelle Coon, Theresa Veal, Martina Choate, Tammie
Dalgleish, Michelle Rix, Jenny Parks, Christine Brown and
Melinda Giles.

Thank you to the many other helpers, as without you it
would not have been a success.

ADVENT RETREAT DAY

"What Really Matters?"

In the turmoil of the financial crisis and in the glow of Barack Obama's
win What Really Matters?

And how does Advent call us to become more aware of how the Jesus of
Nazareth story awakens us to the possibilities of new life?

Join us in a quiet day of reflect on the importance of LIFE.

Date: Wednesday 3rd December

Time: 10.00am Mass

10.30am-3.00pm

Venue: St. Joseph's House

Facilitator: John Stuart

Cost: \$5.00 BYO lunch to share. Tea/coffee provided

RSVP: Joanne Reuther on 54291 582 by Monday 1st December

The students and teachers were joined by many parents up at
Lancefield Park on the 31st of October for our sports day activi-
ties. Thank you to Mr Taylor for organising a great day and to the
staff and parents. Special thanks to the students who showed
they are good sports and enjoyed themselves. It was a great day
and the rain held off so that everyone was able to join in the fun.
Congratulations to, Justin Wilson-Higgins, Hugh Parks and Mon-
tana Fitzgerald who received vouchers from Red Door books for
their essays regarding World War I. This is sponsored by the RSL
club and a huge thank you to John Lynch for his support of the
local schools. This is a great honour for Montana, Justin and
Hugh. All grade 6 students participated in the competition and
developed their knowledge of Australian history, especially in war-
time. This is particularly pertinent as we celebrated Remembrance
Day on the 11th November. Thankyou to Red Door books for their
generous donations.

The grade 6 children were also invited to the Mechanics Hall to
hear Tony Charlton speak about what it means to be an Australian
and the different involvement Australians have had during war
time. What a great experience for the students too.

Congratulations to all the former St Mary's students who received
awards at the recent Assumption College awards night.

Thank you to the Bendigo Bank Lancefield (Natalie Cullinger) for
donating a \$1000 grant to the school.

Many of our students have been learning about the changes in
Lancefield over time and it great to see the many connections
between the school and the local community. We appreciate the
support we receive in so many forms from local businesses.
Congratulations to the Schink family on the safe arrival of Kade
7lbs 13oz.

We still have the swimming program, grade 5/6 camp and grade 6
graduation to look forward to. Our Christmas concert will be held
at school on the 8th December.

BINGO BINGO BINGO

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

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

30 games (2 sessions of 15 games) finishing around 9.45 p.m.

\$3.00 per 15 game book Canteen facilities

No entry fee Free tea and coffee

ROLLING JACKPOT GAME 30 – UP \$10 PER GAME

Squash is a great way to get fit and to meet people. The Kyneton Squash Club is the
last of 4 original squash clubs in the Macedon Ranges. Gone are the clubs of Romsey,
Woodend and also Gisborne. Gone are also the courts at Woodend and Gisborne.



The Kyneton Squash Club is a small, but highly social club which operates out of the
Kyneton Sporting Complex, located in Victoria St, Kyneton. The club has been active at
the sporting complex since the complex was built in the 1970's and over the years has
had many champion players such as Janet Barnard, Julie Harris, Neil Watts, Gary Morri-
son and Michael Archer just to name a few.

Ours is a club however which is not just about the great players. So called ordinary players make up our
rank and file membership and while the game is perhaps played at a less skilful level, you will still find the
club spirit which has kept the Kyneton Squash Club going when other squash clubs have fallen by the way-
side.

The Kyneton Squash Club is always on the lookout for new players and encourages experienced players
and those new to the game to come and have a hit in Kyneton. Currently the club operates one competition
and also has a club practice night which is an ideal way for new players to have a hit, receive some instruc-
tion from more experienced players and to get a feel for the club.

The competition is held on a Thursday evening and those playing in the competition are provided with sup-
per as part of their fees, which by the way are under \$10 per night. This fee also includes your insurance.
The club practice night is held on a Tuesday night and for the cost of \$5 seniors and \$4 juniors, you get to
have a hit with people of various standards between 7-9pm. The practice night is an ideal way to "give it a
go" and see if you like it.

The player base in Kyneton comes from far and wide including players from Romsey, Woodend, Macedon,
Gisborne, Malmsbury, Tylden etc. It also includes experienced players, new players and juniors with a mix
of both male and female players. Players are allocated into teams based on ability and the matches are
arranged against players of a similar standard. Some players car pool on competition night which helps
keep their costs down and also gives them someone to chat to on the drive to Kyneton.

Anyone who is interested in a hit should feel free to call Club President Bill Hutcheson on 0488 348 898 and
he will arrange to meet you at the courts and provide someone to give you a hit up. Who knows, you could
be our next squash Club Champion.



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MAIN STREET ROMSEY 54295361

Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club



President: Mrs. Pat Shannon 5429 6194
Secretary: Mrs. Jeni Clampit 5429 5480

Probus Meetings are held at St.Mary's Hall, Main Street, Romsey at 10am on the fourth Thursday in each month.

There is a guest speaker at each meeting.

We have an outing on the third Wednesday of the month. (Either a trip or luncheon)

Coffee Mornings and Musical Afternoons.

Persons interested in this club and wish to have more information please contact the President or Secretary at the above phone numbers.

Advent Workshop

Sing Christmas carols;
 Listen to the Christmas story;
 Make Christmas decorations.

Where: Romsey Uniting Church,
 25 Pohlman Street, Romsey
When: Friday, 5 December 2008
Time: 3.45 pm to 6 pm (BBQ from 5.30)
Cost per family: \$3 for one child; \$4 for two;
 \$5 for three.

For further information or to register contact:
Avril on **5429 5351** or avrilhj@bigpond.com

Please RSVP by Friday, November 28, to be sure of getting a show bag.

Parents and other family members are welcome to join us for the BBQ.



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Uniqueness for Christmas Ideas

Something very unique and different has been happening lately in the form of a very special and exciting Shoppe called CUTTINGS. Culinary and Botanica. Located at 120 Main Street in Romsey, CUTTINGS. is in a lovely old historic building, next to the town's beautiful stone fountain, under a lush canopy of stately old Elms. CUTTINGS. specialises in all that is unique and simple for the Home, Kitchen and Garden. Especially during the Christmas season, a visit to this beautiful store and its surrounds, is very special indeed.

From the moment you enter, one is entranced by the simple, rustic Christmas displays that grace the large wooden picture windows. This year's Christmas decorations, as with all the items on offer, have been sourced world-wide for their uniqueness and simplicity of style. From rustic scrap wire ornaments handmade in South Africa, to beautiful hand painted tin and mercury glass tree ornaments, Christmas has truly arrived at CUTTINGS.

Christmas gift ideas abound, with gourmet food hampering proving very popular. These made to order hampers can be assorted to please even the most difficult to buy for, and are especially popular for gentlemen and corporate gift-giving. Businesspeople will find these stunning Christmas gift wrapped hampers especially useful for gift-giving to special clients and customers, with a special emphasis on food sourced from Regional Victoria. Hampers can be made up to suit any Christmas budget.

Additionally, hand painted decorative stoneware from North America and unique wire and tin art handcrafted exclusively for CUTTINGS. by an artist in Daylesford, truly makes Christmas gift giving unique to this store. What is perhaps most exciting is the impression that "value for money" is also a priority with the merchandise mix. "I try and keep the prices reasonable," says owner Mollie Gedy. "I love uniqueness and style, but it must be combined with value."

"We can also supply all your home Christmas needs here locally," says Mollie. "The home can be enhanced with handmade Christmas candles, cushions and throws, and the Christmas table can also be dressed with a range of stunning hand blocked, French inspired tablecloths, that wash like a dream. We have four new prints in at the moment," says Mollie.

Recently, a new Cuttings. OUTDOOR area has been added to the original store. Here, washed stone birdbaths enhance the mix of handcut Moroccan mosaic tables and patina iron swings. Additionally, an Interior Decor Advisory Service is now operating as well. Mollie comments that "the Interiors service is something that customers have asked for and it is a pleasure to enhance homes with a certain style and grace that reflects the owner."

Word is definitely spreading about this very unique Shoppe, with customers regularly making the trip up from the city, and many customers visiting from all over Regional Victoria. With complimentary gift wrap and lay-by on offer, it is easy to see why a visit to Cuttings. is a must this Christmas season. Cuttings. Culinary and Botanica is open Tuesday thru Sunday; 03 5429 3636.

Cuttings.

culinary & botanica

- regional gourmet produce and hampering
- eclectic furniture and homewares
- unique cookware and servery
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 Open Tuesday - Sunday

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Fri.	9.00—5.00pm

Saturday
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