

# Romsey Rag

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## Long awaited improvements for Murphy Street

### Murphy Street road reconstruction to start in March

Preparations are finally underway for works to reconstruct a busy section of Murphy Street in Romsey, providing a safer, smoother journey for road users and better accessibility for pedestrians.

This area has seen increased activity since The 1860 opened.

Murphy Street will be upgraded between Main Street and Pohlman Street, with works to include:

- 130m of road pavement reconstruction
- roadside drainage improvements
- a new footpath on the northern side of Murphy Street.

Works will get underway in mid-March and be completed by the end of May 2024, weather permitting.

Traffic management, signage and detours will be in place during the works, with the relevant section of Murphy Street to be closed to vehicles. The service road along Main Street and the southern footpath on Murphy Street will remain open.

The contractor will work closely with directly impacted businesses and residents, to ensure access is maintained for deliveries/bin collections/property access as necessary.



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# The Deep Creek Cup

**It was great weather on Australia Day for the annual race event at Hanging Rock with a near capacity crowd. Something new this year was the 2.4km Deep Creek Cup race sponsored by Friends of Deep Creek. This race was won by Dubai Moon. Congratulations to jockey Arron Lynch and the owners.**

Ern Green, representing Friends of Deep Creek explained that there are many racehorse owners and breeders along the Deep Creek Valley. They were pleased with the decision to sponsor a race in this iconic race day at Hanging Rock.

The Deep Creek actually begins just North of Hanging Rock, passing Lancefield, Romsey, Monegetta, Bolinda, Chintin, Darraweit Guim, Wildwood, Bulla, and eventually helps form Maribyrnong River with Jackson Creek.

Friends of Deep Creek celebrate and seek to protect this pristine creek and riparian habitat. They also manage Victorian Creeks & Rivers Facebook Page to help support others in this cause within Victoria. Friends of Deep Creek particularly thank farmers along the Deep Creek, Jan Ravnholt, Randall Gerkins, Martin West and Ern Green for their support of this inaugural Deep Creek Cup.



**Macedon Ranges Shire Council**

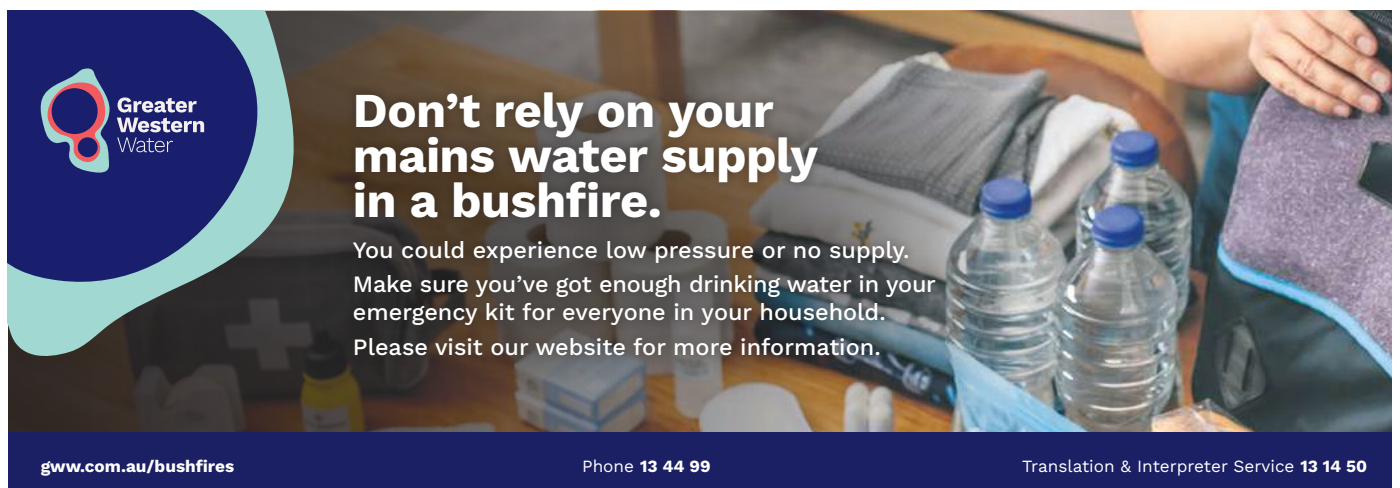
## 3 and 4 year old kindergarten registrations for 2025 now open

Give your child the best start to their learning journey at one of Council's 8 kindergartens in the Macedon Ranges.

Our kindergartens have highly qualified and experienced early childhood Teachers and Educators and, with their beautiful natural features and outdoor play areas, are rich in nature-based and creative learning experiences.

For more information on when your child is eligible to start kindergarten, and guidance on making an informed decision about when is best to start, go to [mrsc.vic.gov.au/kindergarten](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/kindergarten)


Register online by 31 May 2024  
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# March

**Over the years we have all seen the efforts by cigarette and tobacco manufacturers to dodge the issue that their products directly cause cancer.**

- Fighting any individuals or groups through often years long, very expensive, legal battles.
- Institutes purporting to decrease smoking - Philip Morris International-funded Foundation for a Smoke-Free World. **The Foundation follows the same strategy Philip Morris and other tobacco companies have used for over 60 years to fight efforts to reduce smoking.** Tobacco companies have a long history of funding supposedly “independent” research. Instead of advancing public health, this research has been used by the tobacco companies to impede progress.
- Getting “Experts” to come out in favour of smoking.
- Gradually moving their products to the 3rd world where there are less restrictive laws and regulations.

Like the tobacco companies, many plastics manufacturing companies drew up campaigns to increase the sales of their products and to convince the public that all was well with single use plastics. It has been a hard-fought battle to get some minor changes in the plastics world. There was great “wailing and gnashing of teeth” from some sectors of the media and public when single-use shopping bags were withdrawn. Now very few are concerned, things are not as dire as predicted by the alarmists.

Just shows how easy it is to beat up a story and attack those looking for gradual change.

Big business often appears to not seem to care about the damage their products may cause and they do not seem to care about cleaning up the mess their products leave.

Victoria has now introduced a “Container Deposit Scheme” (SA did this in the early 1970s!) and the effects of this program are readily seen. Far fewer bottles, cans and plastic containers around the sports grounds, in the streets and across Romsey Park. This is a good thing. Let’s hope that this scheme can be expanded to include all glass containers.

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MEMBER 2022

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

**[www.theromseyrag.com.au](http://www.theromseyrag.com.au)**

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

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# Did You Know We Have Our Own Lancefield/Romsey Branch of the Australian Labor Party?

**We are a small branch operating in the Macedon State and McEwen Federal electorates. We would like to get larger and be even more effective. We meet locally and welcome new member applications! The membership fees are reasonable with some concessional arrangements.**

In Australia we have a developing democracy after moving through a colonial era, to a modern federation. With a long history of First Nations peoples, mixed with migrants from all nations, we have a great blend of people and essentially, a peaceful environment, even when we disagree.

Our political structure and voting system is not perfect, but is much better than most countries. However, local participation is essential in a workable democracy! Joining your local branch gives you an opportunity to get feedback on political matters and an opportunity to inject your ideas into policy making.

We sometimes use our voice to raise issues of community concern with the Shire (Macedon Ranges Shire Council) - for example, path and road conditions, charging stations for EVs and long term vacancies in commercial properties - and other local, state and federal agencies or our local politicians. Currently, we have parliamentary members at state and federal level who do listen and help out wherever possible.

We meet Monthly on the third Wednesday at 7.30pm. If you are interested in joining or just need more information, the Victorian ALP website viclabor.com.au is useful or contact a local.

**Kevin Fothergill (President)**

*kevinlf42@bigpond.com* or

**Guy Walter (Assistant Secretary)**

*guyw4@bigpond.com*



## March in the garden

**by Melanie Kinsey**

The first signs indicating the turning of the seasons have begun. A few dead leaves fluttering around, lawns browning off (finally!) and tomatoes in full production. We have really only had a few very hot days, so part of me is still waiting for summer to begin! However autumn is a great time to plant and I am hoping that our landscaper will be here this week to move soil around, build retaining walls and spread gravel on the driveway. Then I can really get into the planting!

I took the chance to visit Stone Hill a beautiful hilltop garden in Woodend North last weekend. Apart from the gorgeous gravel garden and quarry garden designed and planted by Michael McCoy; I was surprised to see the water tanks completely covered with Boston Ivy (*Parthenocissus tricuspidata*). I'm often asked how to go about hiding a tank and this plant was doing a great job. Boston Ivy climbs/clings by using little sucker pads and the poly tanks were obviously providing a great surface for these. The tanks for completely covered and looked great! I have a smaller tank that needs covering and I think I might use the Sikkim creeper (*Parthenocissus sikkimensis*) which is similar but with smaller leaves which will better suit the scale of the area.



Lastly, I hope you can all get along to the Enviro Energy Expo in Riddells Creek on Saturday the 16th of March at the primary school in the afternoon. I will be there with a display on the gardens at the Riddells Creek Railway Station. These informal gardens have turned out to not only brighten the day for commuters; but are proving to be a great place for increased biodiversity with opportunities for planting indigenous plants being one of the future proposed projects.

## Romsey Mechanics' Institute

**Live & Local In Community Halls:** The RMI will be hosting two bands as part of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Autumn Festival. The bands, *Cupid's Irony* and *Whiskey Road*, will be playing on Saturday April 27th. The event will see people sitting at tables spread throughout the main hall. **\$15.00 Tickets will be available via Trybookings**, just use the QR code on the promotional flyer to get to TryBookings There will be a wide range of refreshments on the night, wine will be supplied by Heskett Estate and beer and other drinks by another Romsey group. Food will also be available

**Commercial Dishwasher for the kitchen:** We have this machine in place and working now, we will run training sessions with the various groups who will use it. The project was behind schedule as the machine we wanted proved a little more difficult than expected to find and then Christmas and New Year arrived. Now that it is in place this machine will see a massive decrease in the use of single use items; plates, bowls, knives, forks etc. Our thanks to the *Bendigo Bank* whose grant has assisted the CoM to make this kitchen improvement possible. Our thanks also to *Harry Young* (cabinetry) *Mitch Atlas* (Plumbing) an *Colin & Phaedra Bromley* (Electricals)

**Our Newest Regular User Group – Tiny Jammers:** The Tiny Jammers meet in the "Billiards Room" (Senior Citizens' Rooms) twice a week.

- **Session 1** - Tiny Jammers **"TINY JAM BEATS"** is a space for you and your little ones to let out your inner dancer in our fun music sessions. At the RMI on Thursdays from 12.15 pm.
- **Session 2** - Tiny Jammers **"TINY JAM SENSORY"** is a space for your little ones to get messy and creative while exploring our range of sensory stations. At the RMI in Tuesdays from 10.15 am.



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## The Mount Players

### The Mount Players Happenings

Our first production for the year opened on 23 February and is being directed by Lancefield local, George Benca. This is George's debut role with The Mount Players and he is very excited to bring to life this dark comedy, *Wild* by Mike Bartlett.

George is an accomplished actor and director with over 30 years' experience in the Victorian Community Theatre scene. First appearing with Powderkeg Players in the 1980s, he has since appeared on stage with several theatre companies including Williamstown, Adelphi, Encore, Malvern, STAG, Peridot and Eltham.

In recent years he has directed plays at Eltham, Essendon and STAG (Strathmore) theatre companies. Interestingly, it is also the first time all 3 actors are treading the boards at the Mountview Theatre!

*WILD* runs until 10 March so still time to check out our website for full details and tickets at [www.themountplayers.com](http://www.themountplayers.com) or call 5426 1892.

Our 2nd production for 2024, *Looped* a comedy by Matthew Lombardo is now in rehearsal and will open on 10 May – lots more about that one next month (or read about it on our website!).

All in all, the theatre is buzzing so we look forward to welcoming you into The Mountview Theatre to enjoy a great show, complimentary sherry on arrival, tea/coffee and biscuits at interval and a well-stocked bar!

See you at the theatre!

| **Karen Hunt**



The Mount Players





## ROMSEY BRANCH OF C.W.A. INC

### CWA is a Volunteer Organisation

Hi Everyone, just like that we are now in March and where have the last 2 months gone?

I was talking to a friend the other day who I hadn't seen in awhile she asked what I was doing now , I happily said that I had joined the CWA and she "oh you make scones". Yes we do but ,we do a lot more than that in the community.

**We have a Motto that part of it is:  
Through Country Women  
For Country Women  
By Country Women.**

We raise money all year with different events to help Romsey Community and surrounds. We also help the Women's Hospital with Blankets for new born and stillborn children.

We are catering for the Relay for Life in Lancefield money raised goes back into the community. So next time you see us, yes buy our scones, cakes, craft items as your money helps us help our community.

Feel free to pop in the first Wednesday of the month in the supper room down the back of RMI[10am-2pm] to see what we are about

You just might find that we are for you.

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

**C.W.A. 2022 STATE THEMES:**

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

For any further information please call:

President:  
**Dianne Purtil**  
**M: 0409 214 520**

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

## ShareRide Social

### Upcoming trips 2024

DAY	Date	Location
FRI	9 Febuary	Heide Art Gallery - Bulleen
THU	22 Febuary	Daylesford
FRI	8 March	Werribee Park Mansion
THU	21 March	Op Shop Tour
WED	10 April	The Lume - Melbourne
FRI	26 April	Werribee open plan Zoo
Expression of interest		
Edgar Mission		Living Legends

ShareRide is asking for suggestions on places or events to visit. To share your recommendations, register on the website or speak to their volunteers at the Neighbourhood houses.

Visit our webpage  
[www.communitydriven.org.au](http://www.communitydriven.org.au)

Or phone either:  
Romsey Neighbourhood House 5429 6724  
Lancefield Neighbourhood House 5429 1214

## A GENEROSITY FOOD MOVEMENT

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one meal at a time

### Community Lunch Dates 2024

28 Feb	Romsey
27 Mar	Lancefield
24 Apr	Romsey
22 May	Lancefield
26 Jun	Romsey
24 Jul	Lancefield
28 Aug	Romsey
25 Sep	Lancefield
23 Oct	Romsey
27 Nov	Lancefield

4th Wednesday of the month  
**ALL WELCOME**  
**BOOKING ESSENTIAL**  
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Please advise us of any dietary requirments





# G'day

Cooking with  
Peter Russell-Clarke

## Make Your Own Cottage Cheese

**Cottage Cheese was obviously originally made in cottages.**

King Alfred burnt his cakes, but it is said it was a travelling shepherd who first 'discovered' cheese in his camel's saddle bags which were made from sheeps' stomachs. He stored milk in his saddle bags which contained the digestive enzyme 'rennin'. He'd galloped his camel up and down the dunes before he stopped for drink of milk. The milk had become a crude cheese, which he gobbled down.

And so Cottage Cheese entered the world.

Europe fell in love with the easy-to-make (and eat) cheese. But it was the Americans who made the cheese in their cottages - so the 'Cottage' name stuck.

It's easy to make and cries out to have herbs and spices added to make the recipe your own. So here's a few ideas:-

First make your Cottage Cheese - it's quick and over-simple (only minutes to make, but it does need a resting time of about 15 to 20 hours - overnight, eh!). Also, I sometimes add, just before serving, a good sprinkle of dried oregano and dried garlic granules and/or finely chopped cooked chorizo sausage, which is stirred into the Cottage Cheese and then spooned onto a halved and peeled cooked (boiled) potato.

The following recipe will yield one cup or about 210 ml cheese.

Place a whole, unopened carton of buttermilk in a large, deep saucepan, fill the saucepan with water and boil gently for half an hour. Take the saucepan off the heat, pop on a lid and let it stand overnight (or about 15 to 20 hours).

Carefully lift the carton from the water, open it and pour the contents into a colander, discarding the clear whey which drains off the solids left in the colander. And there you have your home-made Cottage Cheese. Let it drain for a few minutes, add your own flavours then pop it into the fridge. It will keep for a few days.



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We also meet on Saturday Mornings to play a few songs

An Activity of **ROMSEY** Neighbourhood House

**Well, the Petanque world continues on over the summer season, if that is, what we can call a summer!**

With a mixture of weather varying day to day, on a Thursday at the end of January, we had a huge downpour. That didn't stop an enthusiastic group playing Petanque out at Hanging Rock in the rain! A revised game was played from our shelter and then a friendly BBQ was prepared by a few members and enjoyed by the hardy group.

The next week was a beautiful evening and once again, out at Hanging Rock, it was a perfect evening for playing Petanque. Surrounded by rosellas and kangaroos 24 members gathered for our 'Teams Night' as a part of The Hanging Rock Challenge. Good competitive play was pursued with Shane Wellington, Shirley Marshall and Ed Lowe taking top spot!

On the 8th of the month our Mayor Jennifer Anderson and councillors Annette Death and Bill West joined us at The Rock to join in our games and for us to demonstrate the low impact we have on the surrounding environment.

Last Sunday was the Community Day at Cleveland Winery in Lancefield. Another perfect sunny day, where we joined in the family day picnickers, had a few games of Petanque and enjoyed all that local traders and the wineries had to offer.

Another month of fun and socialising, playing our favourite game of Petanque.

Join us Mondays 2pm at the Old Racecourse Woodend.

Thursdays, Hanging Rock at 4pm, with dinner included!

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# Bats - Managing the Quiet Achievers

**Painting 20 bat nest boxes got me thinking about bats and nest boxes.**

The over 1400 species of bats in the world - more than 80 in Australia - are fascinating yet poorly understood native mammal fauna. The small insect-eating bats, often called microbats, are rarely seen. Of the 23 insectivorous bat species in Victoria, 15 use tree hollows - only three use caves - as roosting and breeding sites.

Habitat destruction has affected forest dependent bats, restricting some to areas of native vegetation. Bats are vulnerable to cats when they fly low to the ground. No extinction of bats has been recorded in Victoria. Retaining living or dead trees with hollows is important - where these are insufficient, nest boxes for bats can work. Bats return to the same place each night and will return to the same roost after being gone for months or even years. Planting up areas with roosts helps long term, and planting under-storey and ground cover plants help bats foraging below the tree canopy.

Bats are flying mammals - they give birth to young that suckle milk from their mothers. Our microbats enter torpor from May to September, breed October to December. They have one or two pups. To us, microbats seem silent, but they are actually noisy - their calls are pitched too high for us to hear. Their echo-location system allows them to navigate and capture prey in complete darkness. Study of bat echo-location resulted in technological advances like navigational radar and medical scanners.

Microbats are hard to see, as small as 3 grams and active at night. Dusk is a good time to spot them silhouetted against the sky. They can be spotted in trees, rock crevices, barns and rooftops. Insectivorous bats maintain the health of the rural environment, consuming half their body weight in insects each night - a natural pest controller.

Disturbance during torpor affects the bat's survival. Untrained people must never handle bats. If a dead one is found on your property, do not handle it directly. Using a spade, put it in a secure, leakproof container. Bats can carry a disease called Australian Bat Lyssavirus (ABLV) - related to the rabies virus and transmissible to humans. ABLV transmits by the saliva of infected bats, usually in bites or scratches. Flu-like symptoms appear within days, or up to several years afterward - headache, fever, weakness and fatigue. The illness progresses rapidly to paralysis, delirium, convulsions and death, usually within two weeks of symptom onset. There is no current cure.

If a bat enters your house; open doors and windows, switch off lights and fans and wait for it to find its way out! If bats are in your roof and you want them to leave, during the day tape a strip of plastic (like table cloth plastic over the top so it hangs down like a flap above the exit hole. Exiting bats drop down out of the exit. After they have gone, seal all entry points.

Deep Creek Landcare Group has nesting boxes for bats, birds and phascogales for sale from \$30. We also have Myna bird traps to lend out. Annual Landcare membership is \$20 per family. You can follow us on Facebook, contact our President, Phil Severs (0476 324 000), catch us at the Lancefield Farmers' Market or attend our monthly meetings in the Lancefield Mechanics Hall. We would love to see you!



# Community Bank Connections

## COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM FOR EVENTS – OPEN NOW

When you partner with us, good things happen. Your organisation gets sponsorship, and your banking helps support the community.

We love supporting local events that bring our community together and encourage visitation to our local area. Over the years, we've provided grants for big and small events for sporting clubs, our Neighbourhood Houses, Historical Society, and plenty more.

We've sponsored our local Swap Meets, the Annual EMBARTA Business Breakfasts, the Lancefield Agricultural Show, the Christmas in Romsey Festival, the Lancefield Relay for Life, the Romsey Market and let's not forget the recent Lancefield Cricket Club Pink Stumps event.

### Applications for sponsorship of local events opened 1st March and will close at midnight Sunday 31st March 2024.

All applications need to be submitted via our new online platform;  
[communitybanklancefieldromsey.smartygrants.com.au](http://communitybanklancefieldromsey.smartygrants.com.au)

To discuss your application, please email [cip@lrcfsl.com.au](mailto:cip@lrcfsl.com.au) or contact Lauren Harrison on 0418 456 112 during business hours.

Don't forget to follow us on Facebook to be kept up to date on our Community Investment Program.

## RDFNL SPONSORSHIP

Once again, Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey are major sponsors of the Riddell District Football Netball League (RDFNL) in conjunction with Community Bank Gisborne & District.

2024 is set to be another exciting season for both Lancefield and Romsey with the Romsey Football Netball Club's 150 Year anniversary and Lancefield Football Netball Club fielding a team in the Senior Women's Football Competition. Plus let's not forget the electronic scoreboards installed last year at both Romsey and Lancefield, as part of our Community Investment Program.

In other exciting news, our very own Customer Service Officer, Tanae Bannan, coach of the LFNC Under 19 Netballers has been selected as one of the RDFNL's Interleague Netball Coaches!

Bring on Season 2024!



### Supporting your local community

Community Bank - Romsey 5429 5526



## Clean Up Australia Day

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

In 2023, over 760,000 Australians pulled on their gloves and gathered for the iconic Clean Up Australia Day. This year, Clean Up Australia is hoping to see a similar, if not better response, as generations come together to help

tidy our local communities while seeing first-hand why need to work together to prevent litter from entering our environment in the first place.

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

For information and to register, visit [cleanup.org.au](http://cleanup.org.au)



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## St Mary's Lancefield and Romsey

Another new year as our students from Years 1-6 returned from break a little bit older, some a lot taller, with stories to tell about their adventures over the break.

We welcomed our new preps, so little in their new uniforms but bravely waving goodbye to mum and dad as they began their new education journey. We also welcomed new staff and new families to our school. We wish everybody a wonderful year, filled with fun, friendships, happiness and many amazing learning opportunities.



### School Leaders & Sports Captains

We would like to introduce our 2024 School Leaders and Sports Captains. We hope that they have a wonderful year and flourish in their roles as leaders.

#### School Leaders:

- Emmett Mahony, Ruby Caton & Sophie McCarthy



#### Sports Captains:

- Goannas: Cohen Bobic & Pippa Awty
- Kookas: Millie Kilpatrick & Harper Greathead
- Joeys: Meg O'Meara & Edie Portelli
- Wombats: Charlotte McCarthy & Mason Kilduff

**Environment Group:** We congratulate the following students from Years 4-6 who will be part of our Environment Group in 2024. Kacey Warren, Amelia Silva, Isla Shannon, Arianne Schachner, Taylah Lingard, Milla Willmott, Zaviar McWha, Riley James, Bailey Cooke, Charlie Rapson, Ben Bedggood, Stella Smith, Archer Tully, Jazrelle Salazar, Marlie Wilson and Scarlett Coleman. It will be a busy year working with the Deep Creek Landcare Group, our Junior Landcare Facilitator Emma Stevens and getting involved in community environmental issues. Our first outing will be the Melbourne International Flower & Garden Show on Thursday 21st March as we get the opportunity to experience the Grow Together Garden. The garden will bring together beautiful edible garden displays, celebrating the multiculturalism of Melbourne. This year, they feature a Cambodian garden and an Indian garden thanks to the Cambodian Association of Victoria and the Federation of Indian Associations Victoria. There will be lots of free garden based educational kids' activities throughout the space including potting up a seedling to take home, interactive demonstrations, a sustainable scarecrow display and much more! Foodcube, When Bee, Arboriculture Australia and Urban Plant Health Network will be part of the space, all with plenty of activities encouraging kids to explore, learn and grow their passion for gardening, nature and plants. We look forward to sharing our experiences with you!

**Mini Vinnies:** Congratulations to our 2024 Mini Vinnies, Georgia Helmore, Ben Goodwin, Anna Newnham, Lara Farrugia, Ellie Smith, Olivia Keenan, Harper Tootell, Charlotte Collins and Celina Iaria. These Year 5 students have a busy year ahead with Lancefield's Feed it Forward, Aged Care visits to both Willowmeade in Kilmore and Bupa Village Woodend as well as a variety of fundraisers throughout the year. We look forward to sharing their social justice journey with you.

**Library Assistants:** It is our great pleasure to announce that our Library Assistants for 2024 are Blake Wilson, Mollie Hunt and Scarlett Caspersz. These amazing students will be busy with daily duties to assist Mrs. Kilpatrick in the smooth running of the library as well as getting involved in Book Week later in the year. We hope they enjoy their new roles and look forward to them sharing regular library related information with us!

**Playgroup @ St Mary's:** Playgroup @ St Mary's is beginning again! Starting on a new day, Playgroup @ St Mary's will run on Mondays in the hall during term time from 8.30am - 10am. All are welcome. This is a FREE session for all within our school and wider community. Run by parents for parents, it's a chance to meet new families, make new friends and enjoy play activities with your child/ren. Why not come along and give it a try? Do you know someone else with preschoolers who'd like to come along? Please let them know and have them come along too! We look forward to welcoming you and your preschool children on Mondays for Playgroup @ St Mary's!

# The Summer Cup, February 2024



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

## (In memory of those who have gone before us)

The Summer Cup is a four round, eight-event competition for all golfers. Players compete on Saturday and Wednesday in rounds of Par, Stroke, Stableford and Monthly Medal. One score from each round will count, with points (10 to 1) allocated to the best ten players for each round. The player with the three best performances overall is the winner.

**4BBB Championships:** RGC had several teams at this event at Seymour G. C. on Australia Day. The Squire boys took the chocolates - a top score of 47points. Mick and Josh will represent DDGA at the state 4BBB final later in 2024.

**2024 Relay For Life Cancer Charity Golf Day:** RGC ran our 16th RFL charity golf day on Sun Feb 18th. – a fun, 12-hole, 4-player Ambrose event. Over 60 golfers took to the course. Teams came from everywhere - police, a car club, bowlers, tradies – from town and district as well as Geelong, Wangaratta, McRae and Bendigo.

The results will be in the April Romsey Rag. Romsey **Mitre-10** was the sponsor. The event in its life has raised nearly \$40,000 so far – funds go to cancer research via “Puddles Team” at the **2024 Lancefield/ Macedon Ranges Relay for Life (RFL)**. The Relay is held over the 1st weekend of March at Lancefield Park.

**Pennant Golf:** RGC will enter three teams in the 2024 DDGA Pennant Golf season. **Sunday Pennant** is a scratch and a handicap team. **Midweek Pennant** is a handicap team. Pennant golf in DDGA is open to male and female golfers who hold a GolfAus handicap and are members of a DDGA club.

**Twilight Golf 23/24** Twilight Golf continues for a few more weeks. All welcome. Hit-off after 4.00pm. Please phone (0400 768 040) or just turn up at the rooms. We are quite happy to organise groups.

**2024 Golf Clinics:** PGA teaching profesional, Emily Pell, will run clinics on Sundays in February and March for beginning golfers and those who would like to improve their golf. For more info, go to <https://www.romseygolfclub.net>



2024 DDGA 4BBB Champions,  
Mick & Josh Squire.

## Romsey Lancefield Senior Citizens

### Bendigo Bank Monthly Bus Trips

**Our first bus trip will be on Tuesday March 5th.**

We are off to the Kerrisdale Mountain Railway, a narrow-gauge tourist railway with views over the Upper Goulburn Valley. Cost will be \$50 and includes a 2-course lunch. Pick-ups in Romsey (out the front of the Mechanics’ Institute) and Lancefield (out the front of the Post Office).

**Next trip:**

- **May 7th – The Great Stupa in Bendigo.**

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

For further information please contact Helen on 0409 064 303.

**| Hope to see you soon.**



**Bendigo Bank**



# Open Studios Macedon 2024

**Experience Macedon area with its late Summer, early Autumn gardens. In 2024 Macedon area artists will again open their studios to the public on March 23 – 24 – one of two events, earlier than in 2023.**

Eleven artists welcome visitors to their studios in late Summer/early Autumn gardens – see their artistic expressions and processes in pottery, painting, drawing, jewellery, textiles and printmaking. Top of the Range Tearooms also have a display (on summit of Mount Macedon).

The studios are nearby each other. A map and brochure online and on Instagram show all of these locations. You may also combine art with food at nearby cafes.

For brochures see The Gallery, Mt Macedon and Mt Macedon Trading Post, and local cafes and businesses.

**We are on Instagram: @openstudiosmacedon**

**Sue Anson 0413 581 632**



## Romsey - Lancefield Probud - Welcome to friendship

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

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

The February Meeting was a success followed by a great lunch at the 1860 in Romsey. 40 Club members attended the lunch which was a bit of a record for us. Nice to see so many members supporting the new local venue. The AGM in March will elect the new committee members and to add a bit of interest one of our members will be running a trivia competition. After the AGM we are booked into Holgate's Brewery in Woodend for lunch.

For this year we are looking at a number of trips including East Gippsland/Lakes Entrance in May, a 1 day bus trip in August, the South Island of NZ in October and a Canberra and Snowy Mountains Trip. These all depend on numbers and hopefully it will be another very successful year. Locally we are looking into day trips to the Morning Melodies in Kyneton and the Gallery at Bendigo with lunch at a nearby venue. We will continue to invite a range of guest speakers to each monthly meeting to inform and entertain the members.

#### Contact:

President: **Noreen 0401 579 180**

Secretary: **Betty 0409 359 048**

Visit our website: [www.rlprobud.org.au](http://www.rlprobud.org.au)

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



# A Busy Year Ahead for EMRBATA

**EMRBATA will be busy this year as it continues to advocate for the eastern corridor of the Macedon Ranges on behalf of its members and engage with the broader community. As such, a number of initiatives will be taking place:**



- Promotion of the **Autumn Festival**, particularly the activities in the Eastern Macedon Ranges engaging our member businesses such as the Pie and Tart Trail, the Tipple Trail, the Live and Local Music Series (Saturday 21st April, Romsey Mechanics' Institute).
- **Development of Town Centre Activation Plans for Romsey and Lancefield** (with business and community involvement) in April (as part. These plans (made possible by State Government funding obtained by EMRBATA) will be highly achievable (predominantly in the short and medium term), action-focused and will identify each town's unique selling points and town vision. Each plan will provide quick wins and big moves to reinvigorate, revitalise and support these eastern corridor towns and their and communities.
- **EMRBATA Business Breakfast** – Date TBC soon (July/August)
- **EMRBATA Dinner** – Date TBC
- **Ongoing advocacy for funding to complete the implementation of the Five Mile Creek Masterplan** (<https://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/About-Council/Our-Council/Strategies-Plans/Romsey-Five-Mile-Creek-Master-Plan>). This wonderful masterplan for a potentially great community and visitor nature space asset was adopted by Council and has only been partially realised.
- **Stakeholder Engagement** with Tourism Macedon Ranges Inc (as a board member), Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Daylesford Macedon Tourism and Government representatives as required to advocate for Eastern Macedon Ranges businesses and related issues.

## Funding Opportunities to Highlight our Region's Assets

Despite challenging economic times, there are still funding opportunities to enhance and highlight our eastern corridor assets. At the time of writing, two State Government funding opportunities – Tiny Towns Fund and Enabling Tourism Fund - are open to support asset/project development. EMRBATA is hopeful that groups which manage some of our great visitor and community assets are able to successfully apply for this funding. In addition, the Bendigo Bank Community Investment Program and Council's Community Funding Scheme will soon be open. Collectively, these opportunities – if taken advantage of – can make a great difference.



## Christmas in Romsey 2024 – Volunteers Needed

Although it feels like we have not long ago packed up Christmas trees, planning for CIR 2024 will soon commence. Volunteers are need to assist with planning and rollout. In particular, assistance is needed with coordinating the Lights and Decorations Competition, recruitment of Sponsorship, overseeing of permit applications, marketing, equipment hire (especially for Community Carols) etc. If you feel you may be able to assist, please contact Jenny ([contact@easternmacedonranges.au](mailto:contact@easternmacedonranges.au)) or phone 0411 700464.



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

### Facebook

Eastern Macedon Ranges  
- Business and Living

### EMRBATA Membership

<https://easternmacedonranges.au/emrbata>

**Email:** [contact@macedonranges.au](mailto:contact@macedonranges.au)

# Veg on the Verge encourages residents to grow their own veggies on their doorstep



## Are you interested in establishing a small vegetable patch on your nature strip?

Macedon Ranges residents are being invited to take part in a pilot project to transform their verges into a productive and colourful space that is sure to be a feature of the neighbourhood.

The five lucky households will receive support to start their garden bed with access to information and resources as well as free locally sourced seedlings, equipment and one-on-one guidance and advice.

Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health is partnering with Healthy Loddon Campaspe and Macedon Ranges Shire Council on this exciting health and horticulture initiative which will help to inform Council's future review of their policy around verge gardening.

"Edible verge gardens are good for the environment, encourage people to be active and enjoy the outdoors plus they can help families incorporate more fresh produce into their diets," says Kylie Stafford from Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health who is coordinating the project in conjunction with Healthy Loddon Campaspe. "They can also help reduce the family food budget and promote a sense of community providing an opportunity for people to engage with their neighbours."

Macedon Ranges Shire Council Mayor Annette Death said it was important that people understood their responsibilities – but also opportunities like this – that come with maintaining nature strips.

"Not everyone is aware that it is generally the responsibility of property owners to maintain their nature strips, but with that responsibility comes potential planting or landscaping opportunities through our Nature Strip Landscaping Policy," she said. "There are so many benefits of verge gardening, so we are keen to use the Veg on the Verge pilot project to help guide future decision-making around this topic."

If you are interested in being part of Veg on the Verge, contact Kylie Stafford on 5421 1666, email [healthpromotion@scchc.org.au](mailto:healthpromotion@scchc.org.au) or go to [www.sunburycobaw.org.au/veg-on-the-verge](http://www.sunburycobaw.org.au/veg-on-the-verge).



## Join us for Run the Rock at Hanging Rock on 20 April 2024!

### Run either 22K, 13.5K, 5K or a Kids 2K.

Experience the unique and natural scenery at one of Victoria's most iconic landmarks. You will be running alongside the native wildlife while you push yourself towards an outstanding achievement. Live music, a BBQ, games, food trucks and drinks wait at the finish to celebrate your run!

- Date: 20 April 2024
- Location: Hanging Rock, Macedon VIC
- Distances: 22K, 13.5K, 5K, Kids 2K
- Start Time: 7am



# Harmony...

**As the sunset turned a fiery red just days ago, we were hauntingly reminded of the fragility of life. We were safe, but others were not.**

Thankfully for us, the extreme fire rating for that day did not fulfil its fury. Alert but not alarmed, we went about the day, ensuring everyone was hydrated. Those made vulnerable by their health conditions were brought into air-conditioned comfort, as a keen eye was trained on the apps on our phones and a vigilant ear held to the radio.

Having in the past drawn the short straw on bushfire impact, we know the devastation this can unleash, as our thoughts sat with those impacted – be the impact direct or potentially so. The waiting is always the hardest part, as one sits in that most anxious of zones, on tenterhooks, waiting and asking of the universe, “Are we next?” as one prays the answer to be delivered is “No. Not this time.”

But no one walks away untouched.

For each in their own way are touched by a reassessment of life: what it means to be alive; a gratitude for such simple things as fresh air, untinged by smoke, sadness and despair; and a newfound appreciation for what is important in this world.

## Harmony.

In instances such as these we find the greatest of our humanity coming to the fore to achieve this. Such as the emergency services responders (God bless your kind hearts and thank you for your efforts to keep us all safe), friends and even complete strangers reaching out to see if one is okay. And un-caped heroes acting in an instant wherever they may to help their fellow travellers on this planet: BlazeAid comes to mind – these kind crusaders sprang out of the Black Saturday tragedy here in Victoria to help those in need re-fence properties and more. But there are the lesser known heroes as well, such as those removing fallen trees blocking roads, enabling everyone to get home safely – this is a nod to the kind folk who did this on the Woodend–Romsey Road last Tuesday, an eclectic group of folk, who (previously unknown to the other) worked in perfect harmony, grabbing chainsaws and tow ropes from their vehicles and clearing the path for us all. And then we have the generous souls who selflessly work preparing meals, getting clothing together and ensuring comfort for those who have lost much (but never hope). The list is as endless as those touched by it all.

And as we peered into the redness of that fiery sunset, set ablaze by tragedy, we saw a spark of beauty in all as a gentle sheep wandered into view. How poignant, her name was Harmony. A sheep who, some may say, has been struck down by adversity, yet she’s having none of that, daily choosing, over and over, to be herself and not defined by her circumstance.

Anyone who has met this sassy lass cannot help but be taken by her. “Inspirational” is a word that often comes to mind, along with “cheeky” and “cheery”. And she, like that fiery sunset, shows us that life can gift us good things and bad things; it is what we do with them that counts.

And few things count more than having the courage and compassion to make peace with ourselves and strive to live in harmony.



# Working With Council to Prevent Family Violence

## The Macedon Ranges Shire Council will share in almost \$3 million to prevent family violence and all forms of violence against women.

The Allan Labor Government today announced councils around the state will deliver a range of initiatives as part of the Free from Violence Local Government Program 2024-27.

The councils will deliver programs and activities that will help people in the community understand the role they can play to make their community safer.

As large employers with unique connections to their local communities, councils are well placed to support communities to both prevent family violence and stop violence against women.

This is the second round of the program, which is already supporting 15 councils to carry out primary prevention initiatives in their local area.

These grants are an important part of the Labor Government's nation-leading work to end family violence.

Quotes attributable to Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas

**“ The Allan Labor Government remains focused on ending family violence, that's why we are investing in our local communities to support important family violence intervention programs. All women and children have the right to be safe at home.”**

## News from the Shire



### Activities for young children

#### Active Kids Sports Program

Learn correct sporting techniques and skills to develop confidence and knowledge of sport.

Children use a range of equipment from soccer, netball, hockey, basketball and more. Children learn skills for catching, rolling and throwing in a relaxed, fun environment.

Sessions are held from 10–10:45am on Wednesday mornings at Buffalo Sports Stadium in Woodend for children aged 3–5 years. Parent/guardian participation is required.

#### Kindagym

Held in the stadium, this program is based on developing motor skills, confidence, balance and social skills. Kindagym is a structured class with free play options for children to explore the array of equipment on display. Parent/guardian participation is required.

#### Sessions are held on Fridays at Buffalo Sports Stadium in Woodend:

- 10–10:45am for 1–3-year-olds
- 11am–11:45am for 4–5-year-olds

Both programs are casual, no need to book. For more class cost and information call 5427 3411 or email [buffalo@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:buffalo@mrsc.vic.gov.au)

### Dance classes for children

Dance classes are held at Buffalo Sports Stadium in Woodend and the Gisborne Community Centre.

Tiny Tackers dance classes are for pre-schoolers aged 2-5 years and include ballet, tap and jazz (2 year olds–only ballet and jazz).

- Studio2 MIX dance classes are for school aged students from 6-12 years with a mix of ballet, tap and jazz in the one-hour class.
- Studio2 Hip Hop classes and Tap dance classes are held on Thursday afternoons for children aged 8-12 years and 13-18 years.

For class times and information visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/dance](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/dance)

## Join us for International Women’s Day 2024

Council is proud to celebrate International Women’s Day 2024, exploring this year’s theme ‘Count Her In. Invest in Women. Accelerate Progress’ with a special evening at Kyneton Town Hall on Friday 8 March.

An incredible panel featuring Taungurung elder Auntie Joanne Honeysett, Shamila Gopalan (Chief Commercial Officer) from Sisterworks, Miranda Johnson-Jones and Laura Crozier (hosts of the Growing Up Clueless Podcast) and Mary Attard (Deputy Director of Her Place Museum), will explore the achievements, challenges and strengths of women’s economic empowerment through their unique experiences.

The event also features the opening of the Unmasked exhibition by Mary Attard, celebrating nursing and midwifery in Victoria, and pop-up stalls featuring ethically made products created by women from migrant, refugee and asylum seeker backgrounds. This will be a night not to miss.

*Bookings are essential for this free event. People of all genders are welcome. To register visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/IWD](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/IWD)*

*A table will also be available to showcase local women-owned businesses in the Macedon Ranges. To be included contact Melissa Telford via [MTelford@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:MTelford@mrsc.vic.gov.au).*

## Council community grants opening soon

Council’s Community Funding Scheme and Events and Festivals Grant Program will open again in May. To support community groups interested in applying, Council is holding a Q&A drop-in session at the Woodend Community Centre on Thursday 4 March from 10:30am-12pm.

If you are a community group with an idea for a project or event, this will be an opportunity to chat with Council officers and get ideas and advice to support your application. Bookings are essential.

*For information and to find out about other opportunities for grants and support, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/grants](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/grants) or email [grants@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:grants@mrsc.vic.gov.au).*

# Staying Strong for over 50s

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

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

*For further details or to discuss your suitability for the program, contact your local centre or visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/leisure](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/leisure)*



Saturday Mornings from 10am till 11am



### About Us

We are a small Ukulele group taking members from across the Macedon Ranges and meeting at the Mechanics Institute in Romsey

**Contact for more info:**  
Allan on 0418 581 885

### New members

No experience necessary. We are self taught but will gladly give you a few tips. You will get our songbook for just \$5 and this includes free updates as our list of songs grows.

We are very keen to hear from singers who wish to exercise their vocal chords.

**Only \$2 a visit**



**New Players are very Welcome**

## Romsey Primary School February 2024

Romsey Primary School are back in to the swing of things already with their Year 3-6 aquatics carnival which was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> February. There was some friendly competition out of the pool with some fun activities and in the pool with Shaw House winning back to back carnivals!



# Romsey Mens Shed

Working on Friendships



## Looking forward!

In 2024 we will improve Shed facilities and seek funds and support for an extension to the East. We are a bit crowded with workshop machinery and benches - on Thursday the social area is extended - moving equipment and benches to make room for our barbecue/light lunch. Our Australia Day Eve theme was Akubra hats, flags, and other Australian iconic items. The quiz was on Australiana.

We appreciate the support of **Josh's Eggs** for sausages, onion and bread days. Thursdays are important social gatherings for members and occasional guests. Local enterprises have helped & their support is essential for shed operations. Our southside shed board shows firms assisting construction.

**Audio visual and presentations.** We have a large TV for audiovisual presentations but limited viewing area. Occasionally, a guest speaks on topical subjects on Thursdays.

**Shed improvements.** MRSC funded a concrete pathway around the shed - good for members with mobility devices or unsteady on their feet. Our mezzanine floor is signed off and gives us more floor space for woodwork and metal projects.

**T Model restoration project.** A long-term "lead-house" project. The 1925 Ford T model will be restored and displayed on a trailer locally. Stage I is to get it mobile - part funded by the *Lancefield/Romsey Bendigo Community Bank*. The T model series was the first from the Henry Ford mass production process.

**Thursday \$5 BBQ/Light lunch day.** The Thursday \$5 barbecue/light lunch at 12 is well attended. 9.30 to about 2pm is the usual time, with a guest speaker sometimes at 11.

**Tuesday and Wednesday.** We are open from 9 to 4 Tuesday. Wednesday the Woodwork group gather, opening time depending on their projects. Other times can be arranged.



The newly built mezzanine floor hosted the Flag on Australia Day Eve.

**Our Facebook page is:** Romsey Mens Shed Inc. **We have a GO FUND ME for the T model project.**

**Shed times:** Tuesdays 9am - 4pm and Thursdays 10 am - 2pm. Open other days by arrangement.

**Membership applications: Secretary:** romseym@gmail.com or drop in at Barry Street, Romsey

## Recognising and rewarding volunteer leadership

The Zonta Club of Kyneton is pleased to announce that applications are now open for the 2024 Zonta Young Women in Public Affairs awards program. This prestigious Zonta International program encourages the young women of today to become the leaders of tomorrow.

The successful applicant will receive an award of \$400 from the Zonta Club of Kyneton and will then be nominated for a District 23 Award, valued at US\$5,000.

Applicants should be aged between 16 and 19 years on 1 April 2024, and studying at a secondary school, college or university. Applicants are asked to reflect on their

own voluntary commitment to their school and to their community, and on the issues that limit the empowerment of women in Australia and around the world.

Applications are due by March 8th 2024. Please contact [secretary@zontakyneton.org.au](mailto:secretary@zontakyneton.org.au) for an application form or telephone 0417 541 371 for further information.

Zonta International is a leading global organisation of individuals working together to build a better world for women and girls. The YWPA award is one of the many programs for women and girls that are sponsored by Zonta International.



**encourage**  
CHURCH

**ENCOURAGE CHURCH ROMSEY**

**Worship Service: Sundays @ 10am**

**Senior Pastor:**

Pastor Tim Emonson

**Office:** 7 Mitchell Court, Romsey

**P:** (03) 5429 6327

**Email:**

office@encouragechurch.com.au

**Website:**

www.encouragechurch.com.au

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



**From the Desk of Pastor Tim**

# The Truth



What is THE TRUTH? According to the Oxford Dictionary, truth is that which is true, real, or actual.

One of the dangers we have as a society is that we let society define what truth is. It then becomes a majority rule, or the most powerful deciding the truth (remind anyone of the 'Ministry of Truth' in George Orwell's novel '1984?').

When society's values and truth change over time, it means that the 'truth' of today, will not be the 'truth' of tomorrow, therefore the 'truth' of today is not 'truth'. Hmmm, so what can we rely on to be the truth?

To be truth, it must be unchanging. If you want the best example of unchanging, that is God. "For I am the Lord, I do not change" (Malachi 3:6). That includes Jesus: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). It was Jesus who said about himself: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6).

With Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday this month, the truth is that Jesus did die on the cross, He did rise from the dead (Google "resurrection Lee Strobel") and He did it all for you!

If you want to discuss THE TRUTH, join us for one of our services at 10am each Sunday at 7 Mitchell Court in Romsey. Particularly if you want to visit on Resurrection Sunday (31st March) or talk about the truth of origins when Creation Ministries visit on 24 March.

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

## Your Local Camera Club in the Macedon Ranges Region



**Macedon Ranges**  
Photographic Society

If you love photography,  
and would like to join in on the fun,  
whether you are a complete novice or  
a fully fledged professional,  
we would love to hear from you.

Interested in Membership?

Go to the membership page for all the details

<https://macedon-ranges-photography.org.au/about/>



**CLUB NIGHTS**

Generally the first Tuesday of the month  
(General meeting and competition nights)

The following Monday night

(Technical nights: tutorials and practicals).

7.00pm for a 7.30pm start

at Dromkeen, 1012 Kilmore Rd, Riddells Creek VIC 3431

eMail: [info@macedon-ranges-photography.org.au](mailto:info@macedon-ranges-photography.org.au)

Web Site: [macedon-ranges-photography.org.au](http://macedon-ranges-photography.org.au)



**\*Earthworks**

**\*Site cuts**

**\*Leveling**

**\*Driveways**

**\*Drainage**

**\*Retaining walls**

**\*Landscaping**

**Call 0437 242 966**



## Anglican Church of Christ Church Lancefield

### with St Paul's Church Romsey

#### Regular Sunday weekly Service

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

#### Easter Services

- Good Friday March 29th - Christ Church Lancefield 10:00
- Easter Sunday - Service @ St Paul's 9:00 & Christ Church 10:30

#### On Easter Saturday March 30th, St Paul's is holding its second Annual Easter Family Fun Day. Fun activities for the children.

Lunch will be served. FREE - everyone is invited and most welcome to the day's activities.

- St Paul's Romsey - 77 Main Rd Romsey. 12:00.

#### Prayer Meeting:

- Church Hall Lancefield Thursday 9:30am Christ Church
- **Bible Study:** Christ Church Lancefield Hall Thursday 10:30am Enjoy a cuppa while spending time pondering the Bible.

#### Monthly Parish Community Lunches: 2nd Saturday each month

- Christ Church Hall, Lancefield. Next Lunch is on Saturday, 9th March 12noon (Free to all - everyone is welcome. Good homemade food & a great time to meet new people, chat with old friends and time for new acquaintances.)

ST PAUL'S OPSHOP is filled with new interesting items. Open on Friday 12:30-4:30 & Saturday 10:00-1:00pm. It is on the Parish Web site and each week will display our specials for your perusal. **The Op shop will be closed: Good Friday 29th March & Saturday 1st April.**



ANGLICAN PARISH OF  
**LANCEFIELD**  
WITH  
**ROMSEY**

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

#### Vicar

Rev Matthew Browne  
P: 0401 615 099



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



#### Advance Technology Quality Doctors

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**Chairperson**  
Mr. Noel Shaw  
**P:** 5429 5509  
**Secretary**  
Mrs. Jenifer Clampit  
**P:** 5429 5480

Let the peace of Christ rule  
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Let the word of Christ  
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God comes to us,  
each and every one.  
God bless you every day.

**Romsey Uniting Church**

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

**During March we are in the period of Lent which leads into Easter and the Crucifixion of Jesus Christ and his Resurrection.**

It is a time to renew and deepen our faith. It calls for generosity of spirit, compassion and graciousness towards each other.

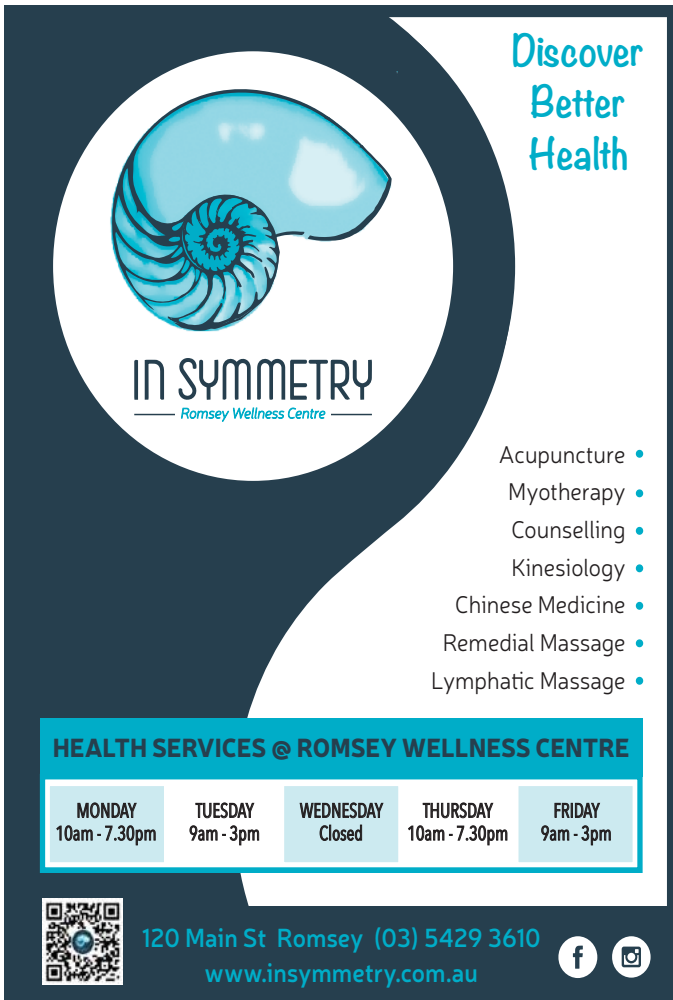
**New Life:** Ever wondered why eggs are such a central part of celebrating Easter? Eggs have been a part of Spring rituals since before recorded history. After the winter, chickens and other birds started to lay eggs again, each egg bursting with new life. While eggs are the symbol most synonymous with Easter, other symbols have been connected as well. Bunnies, baby chicks and lily flowers, sprouting seeds, butterflies and even growth on trees after fire, are also symbolic of rebirth.

**The Hope of the World:** An empty tomb, a stone rolled away speak of the Saviour who rose Easter Day. But that was centuries and centuries ago, and we ask today, was it really so?

Did he walk on earth and live and die and return to His Father to dwell on High? We were not there to hear or see, but our hopes and dreams of eternity are all centred on the Easter story when CHRIST ascended and rose in glory... And life on earth has not been the same, regardless of what the sceptics claim for, after the LORD was crucified, even the ones who had scoffed and denied knew that something had taken place that nothing could ever remove or erase... For hope was born in the soul of man, and faith to believe in God's master plan stirred in the hearts to dispel doubt and fear, and that faith has grown with each passing year... For the hope of man is the Easter story, for life is robbed of all meaning and glory unless man knows that he has a goal and a Resting Place for his searching soul.

**"Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."** John 20: 29. Used by Permission UCAF Network Magazine June 2014

**ADVANCE NOTICE - Sunday, May 5th, 1.30pm The Singularity Choir will again visit the Romsey Uniting Church to perform Gilbert & Sullivan's 'The Gondoliers' see notice in this edition of the Romsey Rag.**



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## I Welcome Fr. Brian Muling

We are delighted to announce that Fr. Brian Muling has been appointed as an Assistant Priest to the parishes of St. Mary's Lancefield & Romsey and St. Ambrose Woodend. Fr. Brian will reside in the Lancefield Presbytery and is very excited to get to know his new parish and community members.

### Current Mass Times:

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

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

**Baptisms:** Baptism's are held on the 2nd & 4th Sunday's of the month. Please contact the office for the next available date.

**Sacraments - 2024:** Bookings are now open for parish children to register for all Sacraments due in 2024. Reconciliation available to Yr 3 & above, Holy Communion available to Yr 4 & above and Confirmation available to Yr 6 and above in 2024.

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

Should a parishioner want to go to Reconciliation, please contact Fr. Martin directly at Woodend on 5427 2690 or Fr. Brian directly at Lancefield on 5429 2130 to make arrangement.

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



### ST. MARY'S PARISH - LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

27-29 Chauncey Street Lancefield & 85 Main Road Romsey

#### Presbytery office hours:

Wed & Fri 8am - 5pm

**E:** [lancefield@cam.org.au](mailto:lancefield@cam.org.au)

**P:** 5429 2130

#### Parish Priest

Fr. Martin Fleming

C/- Woodend Presbytery

**P:** 5427 2690

#### Assistant Priest

Fr. Brian Muling

C/- Lancefield Presbytery

**P:** 5429 2130

#### School Website:

[www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au](http://www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au)

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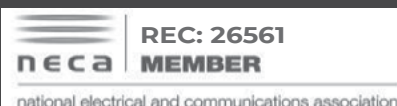
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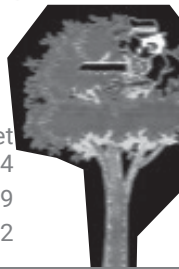
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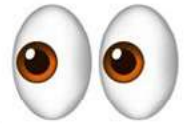
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## Romsey Rag

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# Romsey Library

## ROMSEY LIBRARY (THE HUB)

98 Main Street, Romsey

P: 5429 3086

E: romsey@ncgrl.vic.gov.au

Facebook: Macedon Ranges Libraries

## OPENING HOURS

Please refer to our website

[www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au](http://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au)

Facebook page or contact us for information regarding up-to-date opening hours in February.

## Storytimes and Baby Rhyme Times

Our regular schedule of Storytimes and Baby Rhyme Times is back for 2024:

- Monday 11am - Inclusive Storytime, ages 2-5 years. See below for more information.
- Tuesday 11am - Storytime, ages 2-5 years.
- Thursday 11am - Baby Rhyme Time, ages 0-2 years

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

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

## What's different at an Inclusive Story Time?

- Cushions to sit on, including wobble cushions for those who need them
- Fidget toys to help focus
- Picture cards for songs and stories that enable children to see what we have finished and what is coming up next
- A timer that shows how much time is left in the session
- A "What to Expect at Storytime" story (upon request)
- A chill out tent and earphones (upon request)

If you think your child would benefit from attending an Inclusive Storytime, please ask our librarians the next time you visit, or phone us on 5429 3086.

## Neurodiversity-Friendly Tuesdays for Children

- Tuesdays from 2.30 – 4.30pm

Drop into the Romsey Library on Tuesday afternoons for a quiet place to rest and read, with natural lighting and minimal noise. Wobble cushions, fidget toys and headphones are available to loan upon request.

## School Holidays Fun!

Drop by the Romsey Library for oodles of school holidays fun - craft, puzzles, Easter activities, a kids' movie day and more! Please note the Library will be closed from Friday March 29 to Monday April 1 for the Easter public holidays.

## Who's Driving Your Bus? Author Talk with Gillian Gorrie

- Tuesday 5 March, 2.30 – 4.00pm

Join us for an informative afternoon with stress management specialist and life coach Gillian Gorrie, discussing her new book *Who's Driving Your Bus?* All about living your best life, *Who's Driving Your Bus* presents a step by step approach to overcoming barriers, maximising your potential and realising your dreams.

*Bookings required. For more information, please phone 5429 3086 or head to [www.goldfieldslibraries.com](http://www.goldfieldslibraries.com)*

## Curiosity, Connection, and Creativity with A Curious Circle

- Tuesday 19 March, 5.00 – 7.00pm

We are so happy to have A Curious Circle back for 2024, and we have some great things in store! If you enjoy making, chatting, having a laugh, making new friends or all the above, we'd love to have you join in. Try out some new arts and crafts just for fun – no special skills required! Refreshments are provided, and first timers are always welcome.

Our first autumn session will be making book spine bookmarks on Tuesday 19 March, 5.00 – 7.00pm.

*Bookings essential – please phone 5429 3086 for more information.*

## Free Film Screening: Oppenheimer (MA 15+)

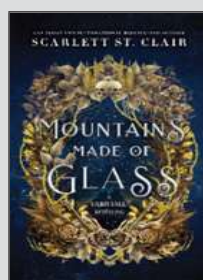
- Wednesday 27 March, 10.30am – 2.00pm with interval

Join us for this free screening of the acclaimed and confronting film *Oppenheimer* by Christopher Nolan. Retelling development of the first nuclear bomb during the depths of the Second World War, *Oppenheimer* was one of the most popular films of 2023.

*Bookings required – head to [goldfieldslibraries.com](http://goldfieldslibraries.com) or phone us on 5429 3086. Tea and coffee provided. Please note this film is rated MA 15+. Children under 15 may not attend.*

## New Releases – Order in the Library Now!

To reserve a loan of these titles, head to [www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au](http://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au) or phone 5429 3086.



## What's On @ RNH

### FIF Lunch



28 Feb @ Romsey Hub  
27 March @ Lancefield Mechanics  
24 April @ Romsey Hub

### ShareRide

8 March Werribee Park  
21 March Op Shop Tour  
10 April The Lume - Melb  
26 April Werribee Open Range Zoo



### Coffee n' More



Coffee n' Craft 10:00am Wed  
Taking Expression of Interest  
Coffee n' Card and Coffee n' Chat

### Rainbow Coffee Club



Every 2nd Friday of the Month



## ROMSEY COMMUNITY FOODSHARE

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- Community Lunches
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- Youth Programs
- Social Enterprise-Romsey Co-Op
- Coffee n' More
- Barista Training Initiative
- Mental Health Support
- Health and Wellbeing Programs
- Social Connections and Outings
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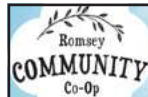
[www.romseynh.org.au](http://www.romseynh.org.au)

[admin@romseynh.org.au](mailto:admin@romseynh.org.au)

96 - 100 Main Street Romsey

Mon to Thurs  
9:30 am - 3:30pm

5429 6724



## New and Pre-Loved Clothing Boutique

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Romsey Community Co-Op's Pre-Loved Boutique  
is an initiative, where the community can sell new,  
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@ 10am

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