

Romsey Golf Club Inc

ABN 36 026 295 669

Three course Dinner

Guest Speaker

Les Twentyman OAM

Corporate and Community Outreach

Romsey Mechanics Hall

Saturday 2nd September at 7pm

RSVP by 23/8/06

Price \$40 per person

PO Box 200 Romsey 3434

Drinks at bar prices

Margaret Fraser 54296229

Beryl Cole 54295411

Romsey Golf Club

Ladies Report

My apologies to regular readers of the golf report but due to my lack of computer knowledge I missed the deadline last month so the below is out of date.

This month has continued to be busy. April 26th on our social day we had 16 ladies come and join us, some who were trying golf for the first time. We hope they had an enjoyable game and we will keep in touch with them and try to organise some clinics later when the weather improves.

Wed 3rd May Linda won the par event with +4 and again broke her handi-cap.

Wed 10th May Lorraine won the Young Australian stableford event with 33pts and will go on to play in the district final later in the year.

Wed 17th May Hilda won the flag event, finishing just short of the 18th green.

After golf on the 3rd the ladies went to the Romsey Hotel and had a very enjoyable lunch

We have continued to travel. We have been to Eildon where we enjoyed the autumn showings on the course and the views from the hillside. Another long trip saw us go to Strathbogie for their bowl, where Hilda won C grade with 37pts. The views from Strathbogie were worth the trip. Then at the Yea bowl Lorraine with 36pts was beaten on a

count back for the C grade trophy.

Recipe for this month

250 gm crushed biscuits

250 gm melted butter

½ tin condensed milk

½ cup walnuts

½ cup sultanas

½ cup coconut

Combine above ingredients and press into a slice tray. Ice with lemon icing

Now for this months results

30th May we were runners up in the Trentham Silver Salver and Lorraine won the C Grade.

24th May Monthly medal Linda net 70

31st May Stroke Lorraine net 69

7th June Stroke Beryl net 67

14th June Stroke/ Monthly Medal Beryl net 75

21st June Stroke Beryl net 68

Thankyou to all the men who have been doing all the maintenance on the course, it is in excellent condition as you can tell by the good scores that we have been carding. Linda Lorraine and Beryl have all broken their handicaps.

A note to all the ladies who are interested in clinics we have decided to put them off til the weather improves (warms up).

Recipe for the month

Cheesy Bacon Egg Slice

½ loaf unsliced white bread

125 gm grated cheddar cheese

5 rashers bacon

3 shallots

1 small green & 1 small red pepper

6 eggs

2 cups milk

1 teaspoon dry mustard

1 teaspoon Worcestershire sauce

1 tablespoon mayonnaise

½ teaspoon dried basil leaves

Trim crusts from bread, & cut into 2.5 cm cubes, place in single layer in ovenproof dish.

Sprinkle with cheese

Cut bacon into small pieces and fry til crispy, drain and place over cheese. Top with chopped shallots and peppers

Whisk eggs with a fork add milk, mustard, mayonnaise, Worcestershire sauce and basil.

Pour over bread mixture, cover with plastic food wrap, and refrigerate overnight.

Bake in moderate oven uncovered for 50 to 60 mins

Serves 6.

The Golf Club has a fund raising dinner Sat 3rd September see poster in this rag and book your tickets soon. Get a group of friends together and book a table of 10, or we can seat you on a table with others.

Beryl Cole

54295411

THE ROMSEY RAG

Issue No. 239

1850 copies produced each month at Romsey Primary School as a service to our community and supported by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council

July 2006

THE JULY EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY
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ROMSEY RAG HAS ITS OWN EMAIL ADDRESS

Just a reminder that the Romsey Rag now has its own email address:

romseyrag@romsey.vic.edu.au

Please use this address when emailing the Romsey Rag. When submitting graphics, please use a Jpeg format, as we cannot guarantee that we can open or print other formats. Also, ensure that text is in a format that can be edited.

Editorially Speaking

Romsey Rag Editorial Committee:
Barney Healy, Robyn Moore

Layout and Design:
Robyn Moore, Anne Cappler

Printing:
Trish Gray

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 21st of each month (or last business day prior to the 21st).

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@romseyyps.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: \$115 per half page

Business card: \$20 per issue
\$190 per year in Business Directory

Quarter page: \$45 per issue

Half page: \$90 per issue

Full page: \$180 per issue

Line ads: eg- For sale, births, deaths, marriages, engagements - \$7.50.

Cheques must be made payable to Romsey Primary School

Distribution:

1850 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 2006

Edition	Closing date for copy	Collating date
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September 2006	Friday, August 18th	Thursday, August 24th
October 2006	Friday, September 22nd	Thursday, September 28th
November 2006	Friday, October 20th	Thursday, October 26th
December 2006	Friday, November 17th	Thursday, November 23rd

WHAT'S ON @ THE TOWN HALL

Centre for Performing Arts in the Macedon Ranges

July sees just the one professional show being presented in the Hall (it's midwinter – who wants to go out?). *Hitler's Daughter* is a play adapted from the novel of the same name by Jackie French. On an isolated road in rural Australia, 4 kids start up a game of storytelling... did Hitler's daughter really exist? The story sends Mark off on a moral and ethical journey of discovery. This book was the winner of the Children's Book of the Year in 2000 and we have pitched this production to school groups. Such was the uptake from local schools that we needed to put on an extra show – if any community member, or school group, is interested in seeing this highly praised production at 2pm on Wednesday 12th July, please call the Bookings Line.

The daytime entertainment for August is the terrific adaptation of two of Henry Lawson's great short stories – *The Bush Undertaker* and *The Drovers Wife*, presented by the Petty Traffickers Theatre Company. With a sparse set, live music, and a stellar cast, this two act production brings to life the hot and dusty outback of the bush, and the great turn of phrase of an Australian master.

Wolfe Bowart comes to us from a tour through outback Queensland and WA with his new show *LaLaLuna*. Wolfe is one of the world's top clowns, and has performed on every continent on

earth. *LaLaLuna* is one part theatre, two parts circus, a splash of interactive film, and a generous dose of physical comedy. He is spending a week in the Macedon Ranges, and I will be taking him around to schools for a series of hilarious clowning 'lectures', and a masterclass for older performers will be happening on Tuesday 3rd August. I was lucky to see this show at the Melbourne Comedy Festival this year, and I can tell you that I was rolling in the aisles as was the 8 year old sitting next to me (and the 18 year old next to him!).

Saturday August 19th in the Town Hall sees a very special musical presentation - The Victorian Concert Orchestra in all of its 48 piece splendour. Conducted by Erich Fackert and featuring soprano, tenor, and baritone vocalists, I cannot wait to hear the powerful sounds of a full orchestra fill the old Hall. We are offering a meal and show deal for this special event. Be wine and dined by some of the best produce from the Macedon Ranges region, specially catered for by Cottage on Piper of Kyneton while having prime seats to view the orchestra at work.

Please call the bookings line on **1300 88 88 02** for more information on this or other shows in the 2006 season brochure.

Hope to see you here soon – Jock – The Town Hall, Kyneton.

ROMSEY GOLF CLUB INC.

Golf/Bowls Clubhouse
(Competition Times only) Ph: 54295385
Secretary, Kevin Dunn Ph. 54296761
President, Robert Preece Ph. 97444585
Membership Fees: Adults \$230
Juniors \$35

Competitions held on Saturdays at 12.30pm.
The course is available for social groups with clubhouse facilities and bar by bookings only.

Results

Singles K'out Final R Rea (14) def S Wilkins (14) 1 up
25 April

Anzac Day S'ford

D Wright (22) 43 pts

29 April

Monthly Medal

S Wright (32) nett 66

6 May

4 Ball Knockout S'ford Rd 1

G Wilkins (30) M Nicholls (19)

13 May

4 Ball Knockout S'ford Rd 2

J Boyce (22) K Dunn (22) 43 pts

20 May

Par

L Wright (16) +5

27 May

Monthly Medal

C Newnham (30) nett 65

3 & 4 June Romsey Tournament

Thank you to all the sponsors who supported this event. As per usual, it was a great weekend with good weather and a very full field. Some scores were very average, fortunately the ladies & co. provided a great meal and the events were enjoyed by all.

3 June

Relative Pairs 4BBB S'ford

S Wilkins (14) 42 pts

M Thornton (5)

Mixed 4BBB S'ford

R Cole (20) 41 pts

B Cole (22)

Mens 4BBB S'ford

C Newnham (29) 42 pts

B Lockens (6)

4 June

Mens Scratch 24 Holes

Grade A B Gillard (Hidden Valley)

B M Doolan (Woodend)

CP Drummond (Heathcote)

Mens Handicap

Grade A M Hall (Gisborne)

B J Bowen (Melb Airport)

CR Frame (Yarra Valley)

AM Handicap L Gaunt

PM Handicap M Hall

10 June

Ambrose 4 Man

M Hoyt (32) M Clement (32)

A Clement (9) C Gaunt (+1)

H'Cap 9 Net 52

12 June

S'ford Queens Birthday

D Wright 18 42 pts

17 June

C Newnham (29) 44 pts

Start practicing, Club Championships coming up 2nd – 16th September

New members always welcome, bring a mate if you like.

PS Romsey is in need of a Landmark (or more lighting)! All ideas should be forwarded to Clemmy!

ROMSEY FOOTBALL AND NETBALL CLUBS— PRESIDENT'S MID-SEASON REPORT

At this time of the season, it's worth looking back and viewing the overall club's performance.

The three major improvements have been: the new playing surface, hardwiring the netball court and the changes made to the canteen. The surface is very good and will improve with age. The new cricket pitch covering has worked very well and is not the normal mess. Obviously the lack of rain has helped. Visiting clubs have all praised the new surface and with the proposed fence along Park Lane we are in a good position to succeed in our quest for a finals match at Romsey. Our thanks to Bulk for tending the watering needs.

The canteen was in need of some modification and for the back room to be emptied. A team of volunteers led by Bulk and Ray did a great job. Some detail is still being completed.

The netball court was wired within a day, again by volunteers and with Kevin's ditch digger. What would we do without volunteers?

The teams' on-field performances are pleasing to all, regardless of our losses. The five teams are always competitive. Our recruiting has been successful after a very slow start and we all look forward to climbing the ladders even further.

Sponsorship is improving year by year. It's hard work but the gains are worth the effort. The input of sponsors no doubt has contributed to our financial viability. Finances are tight but under control.

Finally, thanks to the committee for their efforts; to the players and team officials for their very hard work on the field, and last, thanks to all our loyal supporters who attend matches in all types of weather. Let's keep the momentum going.

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BOLINDA PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

By the time you read our news it will be the middle of the term holidays. How time flies when you are busy working with children !!

The **2005 Bolinda Annual Report** was recently tabled and accepted by School Council and has been sent to Bendigo Regional Office. I believe it is very interesting to note some of the following facts from the Report –

In Reading and Writing for Prep, 2, 4, and 6 combined, **93 % of children were at or above expected levels.**

In Speaking and Listening for Prep, 2, 4, and 6 combined, **96% were at or above expected levels.**

In Number and Measurement for Prep, 2, 4, and 6 combined, **93% were at or above expected levels.**

The Year 5 AIM tests indicated our children at the **90th percentile** when compared to all children in the State.

The Year 5 Number results showed that on a ranking of 1 -5, our 3.3 score was above the State average of 3.2

Three of our Year 6 children were accepted into Gisborne Secondary College's Enrichment Program. This program represents the **top 10% of year 7 students** and these children had been at Bolinda for their 7 years of primary schooling.

In the annual Parent Opinion Survey, **ALL parent indicators were higher than the previous year and well above State Primary Benchmarks.**

The Years 5 and 6 Students Attitude to School Survey is a formal DE&T survey for all children across the State relating to their connectedness to school, teachers, peers, motivation to learn, student safety and self esteem. This indicated that **all students were very happy with an overall satisfaction of 86.5%.**

The children, parents and staff are all very proud of these results and of our school, and consequently we are proud to share them with you, our community.

The **Chess Team** has been to Bendigo for the Regional tournament conducted by Chess Victoria where we played seven teams from Bendigo schools. Our team finished third in our section, even although we beat the second team during competition, we unfortunately just missed out on qualifying for the next round. Nevertheless it was a great learning experience for the children who all played to the best of their abilities and represented their school with distinction. Congratulations to the team from Darraweit who played very well to finish second in their section and progress to the next round.

This term we have continued with our morning physical activities walking around the Bolinda Walking Track bouncing a ball as we go or using our skipping ropes as a means to prepare for the annual **Jump Rope for Heart** fundraiser. We had an afternoon Skip-a-thon to music including pairs and group skipping activities which was a lot of fun. At the end of term the children had raised the **remarkable total of \$575** to send to the Heart Foundation.

We certainly have been and continue to be very busy at Bolinda. We had a terrific visit from an extremely colourful

Melbourne dance troupe performing Dances of Asia that kept every child from Bolinda, Clarkefield and Darraweit captivated throughout the performance.

We have had a Grade 6 Orientation visit to Gisborne Secondary College, Grade P12 children have been to Sunbury as part of their Community theme to visit the library, the fire station and to go behind the scenes at Coles. The Grade 234 class went to Ballarat to the Wildlife Park as a culmination to their Wildlife of Australia theme and also visited the new POW memorial in the gardens.

Our Grade 6's took part in the annual Alliance Francaise Competition at Braemar College where they have to recite a poem in French in front of an examiner from Melbourne. This can be a very daunting experience but it helps show our children that they are more than able to compete educationally and successfully with students from other schools who are doing the same things as them.

Our **Bolinda Blooming Lunch project** culminated on the second last day of term with a wonderful lunch prepared by the children for their parents who had been invited along.

All children took part in either the harvesting, preparation, presentation or serving of the lunch. Peta Heine, who is the wonderful driving force behind this project and who worked with Stephanie Alexander at the Collingwood Children's Kitchen, told us that the Government is about to fund another 20 schools to start the same type of project, **that Bolinda has been doing with our children for twelve months!!!!!!!**

Do you get the idea of how busy we have been at Bolinda and some of the fantastic experiences that our children have gained from??

We are indeed well into preparations for our annual **Spring Fair – September 10th**, mark it in your diaries now for a great day out and all the fun of a country school fair, the children just love it!! The Army camels are coming back and the **Telstra Country Wide Mobile Phone Toss** is to be held again with wonderful prizes to be won. Some market stalls are still available for booking, look for more information next month.

Many parents are presently considering their educational options for 2007. Perhaps a **Bolinda Educational Experience** is what you are seeking for your children? An information Morning Tea will be held at school during August for those people considering their options. Look for the brochure in your Kinder. We would welcome anyone, at any time, who wants a 'cuppa' and a chat about what we at can offer you and your children.

Well, that's some of the Bolinda news for this month – as always, an open invitation to drop in and talk to us at any time about what a Bolinda experience can do for your children, or better still, talk to any of our parents. Cheerio for now.

Keith Jenkins - Principal - 5428 5317

A look into our future

Romsey's population is set to increase by 139% in the next 25 years – so we all need to ensure that we're planning for the future now to ensure that it is a prosperous and happy one. The town's population is predicted to increase from 2938 people in 2001 to 7024 in 2031, which will provide the community with a whole range of new challenges. The increase – particularly in the 65-plus age group – will need a range of new services and supports, and I will be pushing Council, and other levels of government, to ensure that we plan for them and don't get left behind. The facts and figures have been compiled in an excellent report prepared by the Council's Dr Lorraine Beyer, from the Social Planning Unit.



There is no point in sitting back and allowing this growth to just happen – we need to be planning for it, and ensuring that the Federal and State Governments are doing the same. There will be increases in numbers across all age groups – with an increase of 126 children aged up to four; 105 aged 5-9; 129 aged 10-14 and 123 aged 15-19. But the biggest growth area is in the older population, with all age groups from 65 onwards increasing in numbers five-fold – an extra 297 people aged 65-69; 226 aged 70-74; 145 aged 75-79, 108 aged 80-84 and 109 aged 85 and over.

So what will we need to cater for our extra people? I believe we will need to maintain pressure on other levels of government to boost doctor training and recruitment strategies, as we will definitely need to recruit more GPs to live and work in our area. Older people are big users of allied health, so our community health services will need to be boosted. The increase in young people will lead to pressures on our education services, so we will need to think about new or expanded primary and secondary facilities.

There has been evidence in cost-shifting from other levels of Government to the Shire in terms of aged care services, and we will need to be vigilant to ensure that it doesn't continue and that services such as Home & Community Care, home-help, home maintenance and Meals on Wheels don't get shoved increasingly on to us. There also need to be more planning for services such as water supply, power and public transport.

We also need to ensure the East Ward gets its fair share of services – with Romsey's population to grow by 139%, Riddells Creek 128% and Lancefield 102% - compared with an increase of 57% across Macedon Ranges as a whole, we're the growth area of the Shire, and need further attention. It is estimated that 1600 new homes will be built in Romsey in the 30 years up to 2031. Couples with children will continue to be the most common household, but lone-person households will almost treble over that time, and couples without children will more than double. This reflects our changing demographics – 43% of Romsey households in 2031 are predicted to be families with children, down from 56% in 2001.

Romsey will continue to be an attractive place to live for adults, with the number of people aged 25-64 to increase by 2540 – from the present 1499 up to 4039. The increase alone in this age group is almost comparable to Romsey's present total population!

These figures provide us with plenty of food for thought, and the knowledge that our future won't just happen – we have to plan for it to ensure that it's what we want, and that our town in 2031 is the attractive place it is now, with the services we need.

Henry Bleeck.
Your Local Macedon Ranges Shire Councillor.
5422 7027

Probus Club Romsey – Lancefield

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

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

Contact

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



Romsey Primary School News

Fashion Day



On our school Fashion Day we were amazed by a huge variety of dress-ups worn by students and staff. This was part of the students' fund-raising for the sponsorship of Frederick, a student in Kenya. A lot of effort and imagination went into the many costumes on parade. For this day the carpet was laid down the centre of the gym for the "catwalk" and all classes strutted their stuff with great style. Some classes chose to opt for a group theme while others chose to go with individual choice. While our student councilors had a hard time choosing winners from each class, the main point was to have fun and raise money for the on-going sponsorship of Frederick. As well as the ingenuity and creativity of our students, an additional highlight was the contribution of our staff dress-ups. In this section Mr Scale performed for all of us as Elvis and Mrs Ellis' new found punk look caught many by surprise. This was one of our best dress-up days ever with the students raising \$373 through gold coin donations.



Preps Concert

Following a very successful first performance for our Romsey Kindergarten friends, the preps had their big moment the following day when they performed for an enthralled audience of parents, family members and friends. Many hours of preparation went into the preparation of this wonderful event with the dances and songs being a credit to the students and their helpers.



Giant Pumpkin

With the onset of the really cold weather there is not a great deal of action in our school vegetable garden at the moment. One of the last events from our gardening last season has been centred on the school giant pumpkin. Our gardening group students recently held a "Guess the Weight of the Pumpkin" competition. The winner, Tess Clough expertly estimated best with the pumpkin tipping the scales just over 8kg.

The school vegetable garden has been a wonderful success with congratulations to the staff, students and parents who have worked to produce so much from this small area of the grounds. Next season with the size expanded it is hoped to devote one area to giant vegetables.

Investing in Schools Grant

Romsey Primary School has been successful in our application to the Federal Government's "Investing in Schools" program. We submitted a plan to upgrade the re-locatable atrium area. Following the development of the space we hope to achieve a warm learning area that brings these classrooms to a similar level of amenity to the rest of the school. This project should be able to be completed over the next twelve months, once the funds have been deposited to our school account.

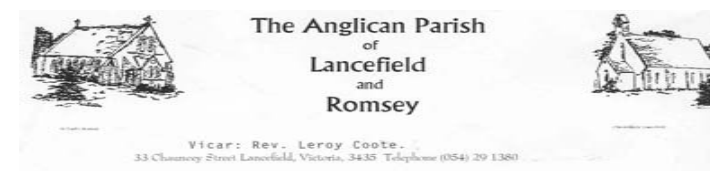
Water Saving Grant

This year the school was successful in applying for funds under the *Community Water Grants* scheme. As a result of this grant we have now installed a 22,700 litre water tank on the north side of the main school building. This will assist the school in maintaining our recent plantings of indigenous plants unit they are fully established as well as maintaining areas such as our frog ponds in a healthy state. All we need now is some good winter rain to complete the project to be fully operational.

Student Enrolments for 2007

The next round of information sessions for parents of prospective students for 2007 will be held at school on Wednesday 19th July at 2.30 and again at 7.00PM. At this program parents will find out about both the wonderful school programs and facilities available in Romsey and also receive information on our transition to school program for students starting school next year. Prior to this date school information and enrolment packages will be distributed to all local kindergartens and child care centres. Enrolments for 2007 will be accepted now. Enrolment forms will be included with the information packages and are also available at the school office.

Barney Healy
Principal



VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE.

Kindness is a word used to describe extreme generosity. The dictionary defines Kindness as being of a gentle nature and being friendly in one's conduct. One thing to note about that definition is that there is no restriction on whom kindness applies to. A great model of displaying kindness God's way appears in the story of the Good Samaritan in the Bible. A story where a Jewish man gets beaten up, two people walk past him and then a third helps him. That is the basic story line but in the story, we are shown what it means to be kind to another.

I'm going to look at it in three sections: The act, the motive, and the challenge for us.

The first Section being the act.

The act started with the Jewish man that was beaten up. Not only was he beaten up but he was left lying on the road half dead. Then a Jewish priest was walking on the same road some time later. A Jewish priest was a man of high standing. The priest's role was to help people, read them the Old Testament and make sure the Jewish laws were administered correctly. Another of his roles was to care for the people who were of the same racial group. The priest walked by. Not just walked by but made the decision to cross over to the other side of the road to avoid the Jewish man completely. This would amaze any reader of this story. That one of such high community and moral standing would act in such a manner. I don't believe this is how Jesus would want us to model being kind to one another.

However, there was another character in this story. That character was a Levite. Jews and Levites were the same race and only different in name. At this point, you would think that one of the same race would bend down and help his fellow man in both nationality and humanity from his predicament. Nuh! He walked by straight passed him. He didn't thumb his nose at him but he may as well have. Not what you call patriotic let alone kind.

But wait! There's one more. The Samaritan. Jews and Samaritans were enemies of the highest order. Their relationship was like that of George Bush and Saddam Hussein at this point. Or Pauline Hanson and Asian people a few years ago. Given this information it wouldn't surprise anyone if the Samaritan walked passed on the other side of the road. It wouldn't surprise anyone if the Samaritan bypassed him on the same side of the road. And given their history, it wouldn't surprise anyone if he laid a couple of kicks into the half-dead man whilst he was on the ground. None of those happen. Instead, we are told in the Bible that, "He went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine. Then he put the man on his own donkey, took him to an inn and took care of him." But that's not all he did. The story continues, "The next day he took out two silver coins and gave them to the innkeeper. 'Look after him,' he said, 'and when I return, I will reimburse you for any extra expense you may

have." In this, we see kindness in action.

But what was the **motive** behind the Samaritan's actions? The Samaritan possessed an attitude of mercy to his neighbour. Mercy is showing kindness to one who has no claim to it. In the eyes of the Samaritan, the Jew did not deserve kindness from Him. But because he had God's mercy upon him, he was able to be kind to his fellow man. Through his act of kindness to us on the cross, Jesus transcended all racial barriers. His act of kindness was for all people. The result of this act of kindness was it gave us an avenue to God. And throughout his ministry he displayed his acts of kindness in times when it was illegal in the eyes of the religious leaders at the time to do anything. But Jesus did not discriminate in any of his acts of kindness at all. So in essence, Jesus modelled what kindness truly is for the whole world to see. Kindness is aimed at building up a person whether it is physically, emotionally or spiritually. It involves a spirit of gentleness to the other person. It involves caring for the other person to the point that they are built up to the point that they can cope on their own as Christians and stand firm. In the case of the Jew that was beaten up, the Samaritan showed extreme kindness by paying for his hotel bills while he was recovering. The Samaritan only stopped paying once the man was able to get home to wherever he lived. That was kindness expressed in the form of generosity.

What's the challenge for us? The challenge is to go and do likewise. We are called to be kind to each other. That's how God wants us to behave towards each other. We are to care for those who are having a rough trot. We are to ensure those who are having a good trot are still having a good trot and if we know of someone in need encourage them to shower the needy with acts of kindness. Being kind to one another means being gentle and caring with all we meet. A kindness we can only have through God's Holy Spirit and expressed without fear or favour in a manner equivalent to that of the good Samaritan.

During these winter months let us express kindness to those who need it.

See you next month

Yours in Christ
Rev. Leroy Coote

Please feel free to check out our services anytime.

They are as follows:

9.00am – Celebration of our Lord at St. Paul's Romsey every Sunday

10:30am – Celebration of our Lord (with Sunday School) at Christ Church Lancefield every Sunday.

10.00am – Wednesday Celebration Service.

If ever in Romsey, please check out the best Op Shop in the Ranges open on Fridays 12:30pm – 4:30pm and Saturdays from 10:00am to 1:00pm.

Also, on Sunday 30th July we are having one service only at Christ Church Lancefield starting at 10:30am. All are welcome and a Sunday School will be run that day followed by lunch.

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LANCEFIELD GOLF CLUB

34 Heddle Road, Lancefield
Correspondence to PO Box 89 Lancefield Vic 3435
Clubhouse Phone: 5429 1922
Secretary Phone: 5429 2079
Email: info@lancefieldgolfclub.com.au;
Website: www.lancefieldgolfclub.com.au

Saturday and Sunday Mixed Competition Results
 20 May C.Davenport (27) 68; B.McDorman (27) 68
 3 June **Monthly Medal** S.Climas (13) 69;
 G.Hecker (9) 70
 10 June S.Hawkins (11) 43; J.Hecker (13) 42
 17 June R.Sparke (25) 36; S.Dickie (27) 36

Tuesday Mixed Competition Results (Legends)
 23 May R.Mau (9) 38
 30 May P.McGill (10) 71; C.Daniel (14) 74
 13 June T.Allen (12) 35

The Club has been busy over recent weeks hosting the
 Dalhousie Bowl on 13th May. 17 teams comprising 68
 players participated. The winners from Lancefield were T.
 Hyland, G.McDorman, R.McHenry, and B.McDorman
 with 110 points and the Runners Up also from Lancefield
 T.Lambert, B.Lockens, G.McDonald and M. Monaghan
 with 104 points.

The Dalhousie President's Trophy (Veterans) was held
 on 25th May with the Lancefield team of R.Mau, T.Allen
 and C.Daniel taking home the trophy.
 The Lancefield Open took place on the weekend of 27th,
 28th May. The mixed 4BBB was won by Lisa Atley and
 Craig Davenport (44 points), with V.Newell and C.Daniel
 43 points) as Runners Up. The mens 4BBB was claimed
 by the team of G.Hecker and P.Howden (46 points) from
 T.Lambert and B.Lockens with 44 points.

The 27 Hole Mens Open was won by
 A grade Trevor Lambert (109)
 Handicap: M.Velicki (101.5)
 B grade C.Hanson (122)
 Handicap: G.Winwood (109.5)
 C Grade S.Abdel Sayed (138)
 Handicap: C.Davenport (108.5)



Coming up is the Winter 1,000 which is a new event, with
 Clubs from the surrounding district invited to enter teams.
 The winning team will earn themselves \$1,000.

**Enquiries or memberships and social group book-
 ings to Secretary, Steve Draper**
(5429 2079) or access our website
www.lancefieldgolfclub.com.au

Romsey Kindergarten Enrolment Day

*** * * PLEASE NOTE:**

Enrolment Day for 2007 3 year old and 4 year old classes will be on
Monday 3rd July 2006 between 11.00 am and 12.00 noon
 at the Romsey Kindergarten.
 Please bring Birth Certificate and Enrolment Fee of \$10.00.

Business and Tourism Update from LABATA

Another cold and wintry day did not
 keep LABATA and its members
 away from attending our monthly
 Tuesday meeting held on 13th of
 June. This time we rotated our ven-
 ue to MAD Gallery, thanks to John
 and Gemma Nightingale for their
 hospitality and WARMTH!

It was so encouraging to see our
 Macedon Ranges Council staff
 members attend our meeting to
 show their support for LABATA and
 to provide us with the latest updates
 regarding the Council's Transport
 Strategy, Broadband Project and
 New Economic Development Strate-
 gy for the region.

Present from Council (MRSC) was
 Brett Luxford, Manager of Economic
 Development and Tourism and Tim
 Liston, Acting Manager Community
 Development.

Tim Liston informed us that the state
 government recognised the need for
 new infrastructure to support the
 growth of our towns. The Lancefield/
 Romsey travel survey identified the
 need for transport to Melbourne and
 for access to employment on the
 eastern corridor of the Shire. The
 survey further suggested a need for
 frequency of bus services for shop-
 ping, social and/or medical reasons.
 The Transport Reference Group are
 a council initiative who are happy to
 consult with the community on this
 matter and would be more than hap-
 py to have representation from Rom-
 sey/Lancefield to add value to their
 project and ultimately to our commu-
 nity.

Brett Luxford was happy to an-
 nounce that 'Mega Link' will soon be
 able to provide wireless Broadband
 to a radius of 30km from a tower on
 Mt William. It was identified that of

those surveyed, 75% wanted broad-
 band for home office or small busi-
 ness needs. Please visit: <http://www.megalink.com.au/hibisbroadband.html> for further infor-
 mation.

Tourism Macedon Ranges (TMR)
 are about to launch "Your Passport
 to Stay" which will encourage local
 Ranges residents to invite their fami-
 lies and guests to visit our unique
 region and in return for their patron-
 age be rewarded by local business-
 es. Stay tuned for more exciting
 news!!

Next meeting is to be held Tuesday
 11th July 2006 at Bliss Cottage, 1
 Dunsford Street, Lancefield.
 All are welcomed. Enjoy a glass of
 wine, coffee and nibbles.

Any enquiries can be made to the
 Secretary Frances Poliniak on 5429
 1772 or the President Gina Morgan
 on 5429 1157.

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SIP—Spirituality in the Pub

Tuesday 25 July
Taking it to the streets!

Fr Wahid Riad, Parish Priest of St Augustine's Church,
 Melbourne, speaks on working with disadvantaged
 people on the streets of Melbourne.
 Leadlight Room at Holgate's Brewhouse (Keatings Hotel)
 High St, Woodend 6.00pm meal (optional) 8.00pm
 speaker 8.30-9.30pm conversation & questions No charge
 but collection taken to cover expenses.
 All welcome

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Romsey Uniting Church

Pohlman Street, Romsey. 3434

Supply Minister Marion Latham Mobile: 0408 380 962

Marion is available for Pastoral Care on Wednesdays and Thursdays.

Church Council : Noel Shaw - 5429 5509 Jeni Clampit - 5429 5480



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

On the 14th June The Romsey UCAF held a Winter Luncheon. This was a very successful event. There were approximately 60 people present representing the church congregations and community groups around the Macedon Ranges area. The meal consisted of a variety of Soups, Casseroles and Cream Cakes and Slices and Tea and Coffee. Then an afternoon of community singing, with Robyn Smithwick playing the piano and musical entertainment from Vera & Colin Richmond from Castlemaine. Our appreciation is extended to Robyn Smithwick who is an expert pianist and also to Vera and Colin for the great entertainment. It was a very good day of sharing with friends.

What a friend:

I've found a friend O such a friend, so kind and true and tender.

My dictionary has among others, an appealing, ageless definition of 'friend'. It defines a friend as an 'intimate associate'.

There are varying degrees of friendship, but this definition supports the concept that a true friend is one in particular with whom we can share all our experiences - our times of elation and our seasons of doubt and uncertainty. One writer expressed this closeness in friendship as - "When your friend weeps you taste salt".

How many of us have a human friendship that could meet this searching definition. But even if there are none in our own personal experience, it is certain that, if we are willing, Jesus himself can and does enter into that kind of close intimate relationship, a relationship that functions in the intangible and innermost recesses of our personality, that senses our need before we can express it, that establishes with us a mystical communion, that tastes salt when we weep.

But he cannot be such a friend if he is seen merely as a figure in history who walked the byways of Palestine and

went about doing good two thousand years ago. No, to experience the intimacy of a true friendships with Jesus he has to be real to us here and now in every condition and circumstance of our life.

When Jesus is fully accepted as an 'intimate associate' kind of friend, the words of the old familiar and favourite hymn take on a very special meaning.

"What a friend we have in Jesus all our sins and grief's to bear; What a privilege to carry everything to God in prayer."

There is no friend so faithful who will share all our sorrows, who knows our every weakness; the Lord to whom we can take everything in prayer.

"What a friend"!

Jack Mitchell (deceased)

Revised by Jeni Clampit

Services at Romsey Uniting Church during July

2nd 9am. Worship and Sunday School.
Service conducted by Bruce Palamountain

9th 9am. Holy Communion and Sunday School
Service conducted by Marion Latham

16th 9am Worship and Sunday School.
Service conducted by the Worship Team

23rd 9am. Worship and Sunday School
Service conducted by Marion Latham.

30th 9am Worship and Sunday School
Service conducted by Marion Latham.

Martial and Healing Arts Centre

WU LIN RETREAT proudly presents:

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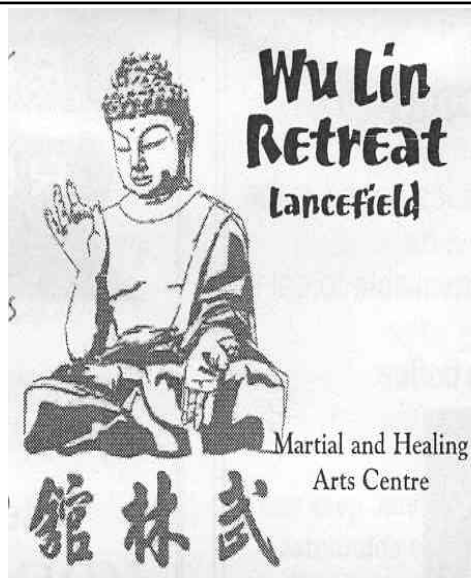
Program 1: Non Surgical Facelift Treatment (Money back guarantee). First treatment is free. All Products are money back guarantee.

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Program 4: Ancient Tibetan singing bowl therapy (heal your soul by experiencing deep relaxation and stress relief). Special introductory offer only \$60.



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www.wulinretreat.com

Youth Fest is a one day music festival for young people and those that are young at heart. We are currently accepting expressions of interest from market/ stall holders to participate at this event.

Youth Fest will be held at the Kyneton Show Grounds, 12pm - 8pm, Saturday 21st October 2006.

For further information or to apply to hold a stall please contact Melissa Prescott, Youth Development Team Leader on 5427 8221.



Beth

Student Teachers At Heskett

Hi, our names are Beth and Nick, ever since we have been at Heskett Primary school we have had some student teachers or work experience students here. The student teachers usually come from La Trobe or Deakin Universities. The work experience students come from the secondary colleges around the area. So far this year we have had three work experience students.

The first student was Rosie. Rosie came in the last week of term 1. She had been a student at Heskett and she loved coming back to see just how much Heskett has changed since she was here and she also loved being able to see some of her old teachers and to catch up with the little brothers and sisters of kids she went to school with. Rosie had a great smile.

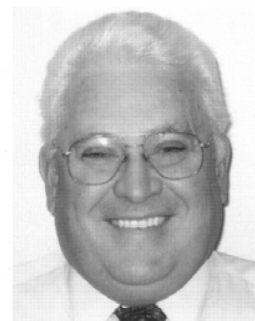
The second was Molly, she was here just after the holidays. Molly had also attended Heskett as her primary school. She knew lots of the kids because her baby sisters are still at school. Molly was a state champion skipper so she was great to have in the yard, she showed us some of her tricks. Molly too was surprised by all the changes to the school in the four years since she had left for secondary college

The last person was Amanda. Amanda is a netball umpire so we got her to show us some new moves for netball. The little kids really loved having her take them for some special netball training sessions.

Each person spent a week in our school, on Monday they were in the Grade 5/6 room, on Tuesday they were in the 3/4 room, on Wednesday they were in Art and the Gr 3/4 rooms on Thursday they were in the Grade 2 room and on Friday they were in the P/1 room. It is great having student teachers at Heskett all of them were really nice and have been great to work with. We hope to have some more student teachers come to Heskett later in the year.



Nick



John Smith
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\$12,000 IN PRIZES FOR PM'S ESSAY COMPETITION

Local Federal Member Fran Bailey encouraged local school and tertiary students to enter the 2006 Prime Minister's Community Business Partnership Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Essay Competition.

The competition is now open for students, with prizes totalling \$12,000 and gives students the chance to showcase their views on CSR.

"The winner of each category will receive \$2,000 in prize money for themselves and \$3,000 for their school or University, with the second and third prize winners receiving \$600 and \$400 respectively," Fran said.

"The CSR Essay Competition is an integral component of the Prime Minister's Community Business Partnership, and provides an excellent opportunity for young people in our region to have their views heard on this important issue," Fran said.

School students choose from three questions and have a 750-1000 word limit to write a formal essay, letter or speech, while entrants in the tertiary section have the choice of two questions and a 2000 word limit.

"This is a prestigious event, with the finalists and one guest invited to an expenses-paid awards ceremony to be held later in the year. The winning essays will also be published in a commemorative booklet and on the Partnerships website," Fran said.

Young people have until 4 August 2006 to get their entries in, and can get entry packs from Fran's office by calling 1300 131 186 or by downloading them from www.partnerships.gov.au.

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Yoga is a detailed system of exercises that stretch the entire body including internal organs and mind. Various poses tone and strengthen the muscles, others increase lung capacity, and with regular meditative practices you can calm the mind.

The philosophy underpinning yoga is called Vedanta. Vedanta contains the knowledge of life and living. It deals with questions like: is peace and prosperity both attainable? What is the purpose of life? Why do we suffer?

If you are interested in yoga and its foundation, treat yourself to a half day yoga program at Wu Lin Retreat; a tranquil setting in the Cobaw Ranges. The facilitator Kym Oliver spent three years in India, learning and living the art of yoga. Come and learn this most valuable knowledge.

HALF DAY PACKAGE - 6 AUGUST 2006 AT \$45 per person

10.00am – 11.30am Hatha Yoga class
11.30am – 12.00pm Guided Meditation class
12.00pm – 1.00pm Vegetarian Indian lunch provided
1.00pm – 2.00pm Vedantic philosophy discourse

**YOGA CLASSES at WU LIN RETREAT EVERY SATURDAY,
commencing 12 August 10am – 11.15am \$120 per 10 week term**

BOOKINGS / ENQUIRIES FOR RETREAT AND YOGA CLASSES

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E-mail: caitanya@aapt.net.au



A TEST FOR DEMENTIA ?

Not really—just a bit of fun!

Below are four questions and a bonus question. You have to answer instantly. You can't take your time, you have to answer them immediately. OK? Let's see how clever you really are...

First Question:

You are participating in a race. You overtake the second person. What position are you in?

Answer:

If you answered that you are first then you are absolutely wrong. If you overtake the second person, you have taken his place and you are in second place. Now try the second question, but don't take as long as you did with the first.

Second Question:

If you overtake the last person, then you are....?

Answer:

If you answered that you are second to last, then you are wrong again. Tell me, how can you overtake the LAST person?

You're not very good at this, are you?

Third Question:

Very tricky arithmetic. This must be done in your head only. DO NOT use pencil and paper or a calculator. Try it. Take 1000 and add 40 to it. Now add another 1000. Now

add 30. Now add another 1000. Now add 20. Now add another 1000. Now add 10. What is the total?

Answer:

The correct answer is actually 4100. If you don't believe it check it with a calculator. Today is definitely not your day, is it? Maybe you'll get the next question right... maybe...

Fourth Question:

Mary's father has four daughters: 1. Nara, 2. Nere, 3. Niri, 4. Noro. What is the name of the fifth daughter?

Answer:

Did you answer Nuru? No, of course it isn't. Her name is Mary. Read the question again!

Okay, now for the bonus question.

A mute person goes into a shop and wants to buy a toothbrush. By imitating the action of brushing his teeth he successfully expresses himself to the shopkeeper and the purchase is made.

Next, a blind man comes into the shop and wants to buy a pair of sunglasses. How does he indicate what he wants?

Answer:

He just opens his mouth and asks!

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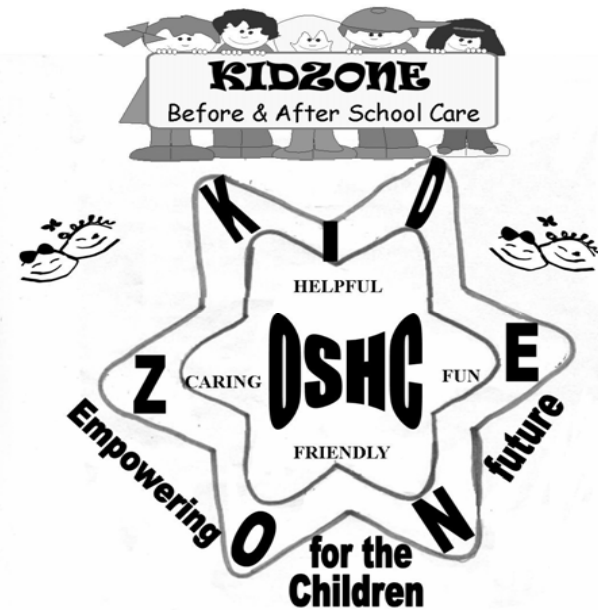
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- Where: 7 Mitchell Court Romsey
(Access through gate at rear of Primary School)
- For further information & Registration Forms

Contact Program Coordinator: Elsie Parkinson Ph. (03) 5429 6327 Mob. 0422 860 486



HOUSE NEWS

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

Drop-In Craft Mornings

Have you got a cupboard full of unfinished craft activities? Would you enjoy some company and a cuppa? Would you like to share your craft with someone else, or maybe learn a new skill from someone else? If you have answered yes to any of these questions, why not come along to our Drop-In Craft Morning held each Thursday morning at the CFA Headquarters in the Old Courthouse, Stawell Street, Romsey. Karyn would love to see you there, and our regular members would certainly welcome a new face. No fee—just a gold coin donation, and what better way to finish off some of those projects!

AEROBICS UP-DATE:

Unfortunately we have lost Emily, our aerobics instructor, who has gone overseas to work. Em's departure was at short notice, and so we have had to suspend our planned aerobics sessions for the time being, while we investigate whether we can get a new instructor, and whether child care can continue to be offered. We are sorry for any inconvenience this has caused, and we will let you know what is happening as soon as possible.

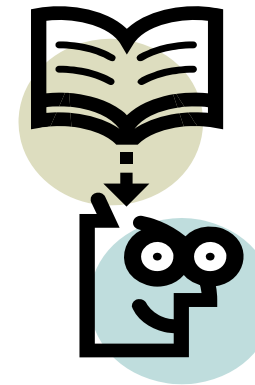
For third term we are offering the following programmes:

- * **Yoga on Wednesday nights at 7.30pm at Romsey Primary School**—contact Kim Oliver on 5429 2134
- * **Drop-In Craft Mornings every Thursday at 10.30am at CFA Headquarters**
- * **Two Writer's Workshops with Dee White planned for third term**—see our feature ads in this Rag

Returning in fourth term will be Relaxation and Meditation with Karen Ruggieri For information about any of these programmes please contact Robyn Moore on 5429 5099 (BH) or 0412 275 152 (AH).

If you have any suggestions for activities or programmes please contact the above numbers or write to us at P.O. Box 418, Romsey.

Writing the Story from Start to Finish



Got a great idea for a story, but don't know where to start?

Get help at a writing workshop to be run by Romsey Neighbourhood House in conjunction with Romsey Writers' Group.

The Workshop will be run by local writer, Dee White.

No writing experience is necessary! Just come along (with pen and paper), have fun – explore the writer in you!

Where: Romsey Primary School

When: Saturday 14th October –
2.00pm to 4.30pm

Cost: \$20

For more information or bookings, call

Robyn on 5429 5099 (BH) or 0412 275 152 (AH)

**Living Word Christian Church
Presents:**

Special Guest Speaker

Sunday 23rd July

10am - 7 Mitchell Court Romsey

Ken Van Eeden



Ph. 5429 6327

Sunday Service Times:

10:00am @ 7 Mitchell Court Romsey
&

10:00am Woodend Community Centre
(1st Sunday of each month)

6:00pm @ Woodend Community Centre,
High Street Woodend (Every other Sunday evening)

Weekly Life Groups, plus Men's,
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KIDZONE Before & After School Care Program
- Elsie Parkinson Program Co-ordinator — Ph 5429 6327
Church bus available for hire for Community Groups.

"TAKING STEPS" Trivia Night ST MARY'S HALL 5th August 2006

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*Door Prizes and More

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For Information and tickets contact

Sarah O'Neill 5429 3262

Nicky Ryan 0427 540 367

Carolyn Young 5429 5949

Or contact us at rflteam2007@yahoo.com.au

ALL PROCEEDS TO REALYFOR LIFE

Please come and join the fun

Ripper Reads

Greetings all,
Here are some more great reads to while away the winter hours. And if the inclement weather means that you can't venture outside for some R&R then pop on down to your local library to discover even more Ripper Reads.

A Year in the Merde – Stephen Clarke

For those of us who attempt to speak French from time to time the title is self-explanatory, for those who don't, loosely translate merde to...poo and you've got the general idea. Basically Stephen Clarke, British journalist morphs into Paul West, a young Englishman who heads off to Paris for a year to work and enjoy the life and delights of gay Paree. He discovers that the French have a very different attitude to life and work and attempts to fit in with the local customs with varying degrees of success. At times he has taken literary licence to the nth degree in order to make his story entertaining, but the reader should be fully aware of this from the very beginning as he quotes Jerome K. Jerome in the foreword, "...Its pages form the record of events that really happened. All that as been done is to colour them a bit."

The Lazy Girl's Guide to Losing Weight & Getting Fit – A.J. Rochester

Hands up all those who would like to weigh a little (or a lot) less than you do now? Well, if you're like me, the title of this book will certainly appeal and the practical advice and realistic suggestions won't disappoint either. A.J. Rochester has 'been there, done that' – losing 45kgs in a year, so she makes no excuses for her attitude and ideas. As it was not uncommon for her to, "down a large BBQ meat-lover's pizza, 6 deep-fried chicken wings, a whole garlic bread and cheesecake for dinner, followed by 2 bottles of wine," A.J. certainly has the authority to be able to write a sensible weight-loss and exercise book. Devour it!

With Lots of Love from Georgia – Brigid Lowry

A diary style of book that allows the reader to follow Georgia through a year of her life negotiating part-time jobs, tricky mother stuff and a boy with a delicious smile. Her father has been dead for several years and her single mum is trying to make ends meet while Georgia is trying to make sense of her world. Girlfriends, grandpa and a gorgeous guy make this year a bit special, especially when Georgia discovers 'secrets' about her family's past that shatter her rose-coloured glasses. A great read.

Lost property notice from Romsey Police:

On Sunday the 28th of May 2006 at about 7.30 am an article of motor sport clothing was located in Main Street Romsey. If you lost or are missing an item of motor sport clothing please contact Romsey Police on 54 295 461.

Reference MPB 26/06.



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Romsey and Lancefield Community Banks

BANK BIRTHDAY – OURS IS COMING UP

While Lancefield celebrated the fifth birthday of its Community Bank at the start of June, an equally important milestone is coming up for Romsey next month. August 13 will mark the day the doors opened on the Romsey Community Bank branch. Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services chair Maureen Wiltshire said Romsey's first birthday may not attract quite the fanfare, but was equally significant in ensuring banking facilities were available in our towns for the long haul.

"Lancefield Community Bank has well and truly established itself over the five years, and the Romsey Community Bank has made significant gains over its first 11 months," Mrs Wiltshire said. "The community has been wonderful in its support for the Romsey Community Bank, but I am sure that our managers Rod Browning and Natalie Cullinger would welcome the opportunity to talk to anyone else who is interested in doing business with our Bank. Anyone who has not yet done so should drop into the branch and see Natalie, Rod or our other staff to discuss their banking needs. By banking with our community-owned Bank, we keep profits in the town. Under the Bendigo Bank's innovative Community Bank concept, a proportion of profits is directed to projects of community benefit in our towns. The more that local people and businesses bank with us, the quicker we can get to the stage where we are providing these funds," Mrs Wiltshire said.

Mrs Wiltshire said Lancefield's five-year milestone was a testament to the community spirit which saw banking services return to the town – the same commitment which saw the opening of the Romsey branch last year.

"Our Banks are owned by our community and are set up to serve the banking needs and the futures of our community and residents," Mrs Wiltshire said.

UP TO \$3000 AVAILABLE FOR LOCAL VOLUNTEER GROUPS

Local Federal Member Fran Bailey today urged local not-for-profit organisations to apply for up to \$3000 to purchase equipment which will assist their volunteers in their work, following the opening of applications under the Australian Government's Volunteer Small Equipment Grants (VSEG) 2006.



"These grants recognise the valuable work Australia's volunteers do in their local communities and are an ongoing part of the Government's *Stronger Families and Communities Strategy - Local Answers Initiative*," Fran said.

"Local community organisations can apply for the grant, helping them to buy small equipment items to make the work of their volunteers easier, safer and more enjoyable.

"In previous years, organisations have used the VSEG grants to purchase items such as trailers, fridges, garden tools and computers.

"The Australian Government is determined to support the hard work and commitment of volunteer organisations to their local communities and these grants are just one example of the Government's support," Fran said.

Information on the Volunteer Small Equipment Grants 2006 and an application form can be found at www.vseg.gov.au or by calling the VSEG hotline on 1800 197 760. A paper-based application kit can be obtained by phoning 1800 152 259.

T.O.W.N.

Taking Off Weight Naturally

Meets every Tuesday evening at

St. Mary's Church Hall,
Main Street, Romsey from
6.30—7.30 pm.

Lose those extra kilos in a friendly, supportive atmosphere.

New members are always welcome.

For further information contact Debbie 5429 5456

**SHANE'S FIREWOOD
REDGUM
\$100 PER METRE
DELIVERED TO ROMSEY &
SURROUNDING AREAS
PHONE: 5429 5554
MOBILE:0412 108 525**

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OFFERS THE FOLLOWING SERVICES:

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OPTUS PRE-PAID PHONE CARDS
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TELSTRA PRE-PAID PHONE
CARDS
PASSPORT APPLICATIONS
OFFICE STATIONERY
CITILINK DAY PASSESS
COMPUTER DISKS
COMMONWEALTH
NATIONAL &
GIROPOST BANKING**





St. Mary's Parish - Lancefield & Romsey

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

Parish Priest: Fr. George O'Connor
Pastoral Associate: Sr. Frances Guinane
School Principal: Mr. Anthony Falls

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

Parish Website: www.users.bigpond.com/stmlancefield

MASS TIMES

Saturday: 7.00 p.m. 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

After weekday Mass or by arrangement.

BAPTISMS

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

For more information, please phone 5429 2130.

RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults):

Anyone wishing to know about the Catholic faith is invited to contact Sr. Frances, 5429 1582 or 5429 2130.

REGULAR EVENTS

SVDP Drop-In:

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

Spiritual Guidance:

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

HIRE OF CHURCH HALL

The Romsey Church Hall is now available for regular hire on weekdays. The hall is also available for special events eg: parties (conditions apply). Please contact the Presbytery for further information.

POSITIVE PARENTING

A workshop on this topic to assist parents of adolescents will be held at St. Patrick's Primary School, Kilmore on Tuesday, 11th July from 9.30 a.m to 2.30 p.m. For more information, please contact Mrs. Shirley O'Sullivan at the Catholic Education Office on 9465 8535 or email shirley@sclattnw.melb.catholic.edu.au.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Ecumenical Songfest

Date: Sunday, 6th August

Time: 4.30 p.m. to 6.00 p.m.

Venue: Lancefield Mechanics Hall

Each year the Churches join together in song. Each of the Churches will sing three hymns from their worship and all are welcome to join in with the singing. Come and share soup and bread afterwards.

ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

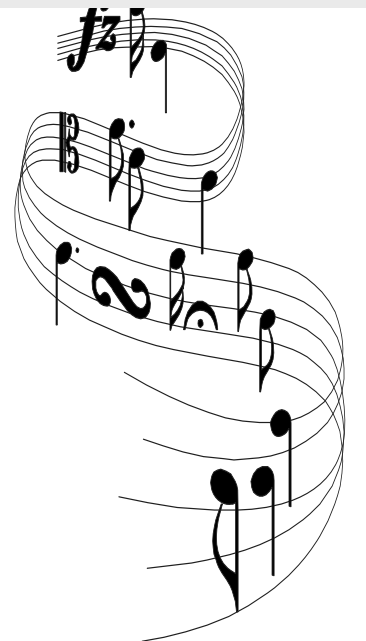
St Mary's Year 6 students celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation recently. I would like to thank **Bishop Joe O'Connell** along with **Father George O'Connor** who were the Celebrants at the Mass. The students did a great job with the Readings and their involvement was respectful. Thanks also to Brendon Lawlor, Shelly Thrum, Cheryl Walker and most importantly the parents and families of the students. In the years to come they will need their families encouragement to further develop the Gifts of the Holy Spirit they received on Sunday. Tony Falls, Principal.



COMBINED CHURCHES OF
ROMSEY & LANCEFIELD
INVITE YOU
TO ATTEND AN
AFTERNOON OF MUSICAL
ENJOYMENT
AT THE
LANCEFIELD HALL,
AUGUST 6th
4:30 PM
-----FREE ENTRY-----
Offering will be taken

JOIN US AFTERWARDS FOR
DELICIOUS HOME MADE SOUP, WITH BREAD
AND FRIENDLY CONVERSATION.

CONTACT :	Fr. George O'Connor	5429 1530
	Rev Leroy Coote	5429 1380
	Rev Marion Latham	5429 5351
	Ps. Marilyn Hunter	5429 5381



"ATTENTION CITY COMMUTERS"

The Lancefield Romsey Commuter Bus offers a Mon-Fri return service direct to the CBD at the cheapest rate available in the shire. Currently **\$40.00 per week** for permanent travelers.

Departs Lancefield General Store 6.35am,
3 pick up points in Romsey, arrives CBD 7.40am

Departs Cnr William & Latrobe Sts 5.20pm,
arrives back in Romsey & Lancefield 6.30pm

Seats currently available.

For more details ring Muir on 0354 255505

Macedon Ranges - Calendar of Landcare Events (April 2006)

Coming Events

2006 International Landcare Conference - Melbourne

When: 8-11 October 2006

Where: Melbourne Exhibition and Convention Centre

Conference details: The 2006 International Landcare Conference is entitled 'Landscapes, Lifestyles & Livelihoods'.

Further information on the conference and the conference program can be accessed via the conference website, or by contacting the conference organisers: Waldron Smith Management, 61 Danks Street West, Port Melbourne, VIC 3207, Tel: 9645 6311,

Email: info@wsm.com.au

Conference website: Visit the International Landcare Conference website via the following link: www.internationallandcareconference2006.com.au

BINGO!!

Beginning August 10th, every Thursday evening
St. Mary's Church Hall at Romsey

Doors Open

7.00 p.m.

30 games ... finishing 9.30 p.m.

\$3.0 per book

No entry fee

EYES DOWN

7.30 p.m.

Canteen facilities

Free tea and coffee

Parenting for Success After Separation




This six week program is designed to suit people who have separated. The program looks at the affects of separation on children and how to respond to their needs including feelings, ages, stages and access visits.

Time: 9.30am – 11.30am
 Date: 7th August – 11th September 06 (Monday's)
 Place: Kyneton Shire Offices (Newman Room)
 129 Mollison St, Kyneton
 Child Care: Kyneton Neighborhood House (34 Mollison St)
 Cost: No cost for child care or for the program.

For further information contact either Leonie on 54 211 607 at Cobaw Community Health or Yeni on 54278252 at Macedon Shire Offices, bookings are essential.






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Telephone Andy Scanlon
 0427 125 917 or 54 296 999
 Email: scanlon.barrett@bigpond.com



BUSINESS PROFILE – LANCEFIELD FRUITSHED

Lancefield Fruitshed opened its beautiful blue doors approximately 4 months ago at 42 High St, Lancefield. Owners Joe and Kitty Schembri have been living in Lancefield for two years having previously lived in Chintin (just outside of Romsey) for six years.

The fruit shed is a family concern with Joe and Kitty's four young children helping out at the shop from time to time, with the youngest often carried on Kitty's back in a rucksack as she goes about setting up the shop with the new day's fresh produce. The three older children attend St. Mary's school in Lancefield.

The family decided to open a 'fruit and veg' shop in Lancefield as it was so hard to buy fresh produce locally and there was always the need to drive out of town to a Sunbury, Woodend, or Kilmore and beyond to buy good quality fresh produce. Most of the Fruitshed's produce comes from the Footscray wholesale market where Joe goes 3 to 5 times a week - depending on demand to keep the produce always fresh.

The business predominantly consists of quality fresh fruit and vegetables and freshly squeezed fruit juice made from any selection of produce before the customers' eyes - no preservatives or additives **just juice!** – as nature intended. Other stock includes fresh eggs (both free-range and caged), honey, fresh herbs and nuts. Joe and Kitty are looking at expanding their range further with produce and products not readily available locally such as dried fruits, cous cous, olives and extra virgin olive oil to mention just a few.

The Lancefield Fruitshed is now embarking on a home delivery service to aid the sick and older members of the community as well as the 'time poor' people who may not be able to get into the shop during trading hours. Our operating hours are Mon to Fri 9am - 5.30pm and Sat 9am - 1pm.

The Lancefield Fruit Shed and all Romsey and Lancefield businesses need the support of the wider community to be able to continue to provide and expand their services, now and into the future, so next time you are out of your local area doing your shopping have a think "Can I buy it in Romsey or Lancefield?" If the answer is 'yes', STOP and consider; Shop Local and help your local towns.



Romsey Kindergarten Inc.

ABN 19 577 045 720

P.O. Box 84
 ROMSEY, VIC., 3434
 Phone: Unit 1 (03) 5429 5294
 Unit 2 (03) 5429 6076



“KINDER CORNER” - ROMSEY KINDERGARTEN NEWS

Like all successful institutions, Romsey Kindergarten operates as a team. The lynch pins of this successful team are the “front-women” who are the public face of the kinder and are entrusted with the pre-school education of the children who attend. They are, of course, the teachers – Ms. Jane Whelan (Unit 1) and Ms. Liz Keily (Unit 2)- and their assistants, Ms. Chris Farrell (Unit 1), Ms. Catherine Tighe (Unit 1) and Ms. Kay Fucher (Unit 2). Kindergarten is more than play dough and toys- it is about learning through play and preparation for the school years ahead. These people work very hard to ensure the first educational experience of Romsey children is a rewarding one. The Kindergarten Committee of Management is proud of this team.

Kinder on Display

You will notice that Romsey Kinder is “out and about” with the first of our art displays having gone on show at the Romsey Post Office recently. We are very grateful to the Post Office for accommodating us. The kinder children's creative flair will be on display at various venues around town over the next few months so the community at large can enjoy sample our younger member's work.

Exciting Performance

On Wednesday 26th April, the Bong Bong Hat Band visited the kindergarten and performed to the 4 year old classes. The children were entranced by the amazing skills of this one-man-band, and equally enjoyed the “audience participation”. The Bong Bong Hat Band has been an annual fixture on the Romsey Kindergarten performance fixture for some years, making a significant contribution to the children's musical awareness.

School Readiness Talk

On the evening of Wednesday 10th May, Romsey Kindergarten hosted a “Readiness for School” presentation from the Romsey Primary School. Mr. Barney Healy, the School Principal, began the evening with an opening address. This was followed by Ms. Jo Emond and Ms. Karen Baker from the prep transition team. They spoke at length on the often difficult issue of deciding when a child is ready for transition from pre-school to school. A question and answer session followed. The evening was very well attended. The Romsey Kindergarten is grateful to the keynote speakers for giving their time to provide such important information to the kinder parents.

Mothers' Day

An annual ritual at most kindergartens is the extensive preparation for Mother's Day. This year has been no exception, with the teachers going to enormous effort to assist children to produce delightful (and functional!) gifts. The 4-year-old children presented their gifts and cards to mums, grandmas and special friends who attended the Mother's Day morning tea on Wednesday 10th May. In addition to Devonshire tea, the Special Visitors were treated to impressive performances from Units 1 and 2, making the morning memorable for all involved.

Mobile Farm

On Thursday 11th May, Jamieson's Run Mobile Farm visited the Kindergarten. Both 3-year-old and 4-year-old children participated in this activity. A child learning to relate to animals is an important part of his or her development and this activity gave enormous pleasure to all involved. The pig, goat, sheep, chooks, duck and others took the experience in “good humour”.

School Visit

The 4 year old kindergarten classes recently visited the Romsey Primary School to attend a concert performed by the Prep classes. It was a most exciting excursion for the kinder children who are becoming aware that school life is just around the corner. This visit is the fore-runner to further visits later in the year which are part of the transition-to-school program.

Bingo Night

The first Bingo Night for the year was held at the Kindergarten on Friday 2nd June. Despite cold weather conditions, there was a very good attendance. The Kindergarten plans to have another Bingo Extravaganza later in the year.

Jenny Stillman
 President, Romsey Kindergarten Committee of Management.



LandCare
Calendar of Events, Courses & Training (July—August 2006)

Waterwatch - Advanced Training Sessions
When/Where: Saturday 8 July (Merri/Moonee Ponds Creeks) - northern suburbs; Sunday 10 September (Maribyrnong catchment) - north/western suburbs.
Details: these free advanced training sessions are for teachers and community group members to help improve their river health monitoring skills. Improved monitoring skills will further increase the amount of community health data that is scientifically recognised, accepted, and used. The advanced training sessions include four modules:
1. developing a strategic monitoring plan
2. macro-invertebrate sampling methodology and identification
3. water quality sampling techniques
4. quality assurance/quality control measures, including OH&S issues
Cost: Free
More information: please contact Keir Jarvis tel: 9235 2821, email: melbournewaterwatch@melbournewater.com.au

Whole Farm Planning (two-day) Course
When: two-day course - Sunday 9 July & Sunday 6 August 2006
Time: 9:30am-4:30pm each day
Where: Arthurs Creek Hall, 906 Arthurs Creek Road, Arthurs Creek, ie 1km east of Deep Creek Road
Details: WACMAC Landcare and South West Institute of TAFE have organised this course. WACMAC - is a community-based project involving the Whittlesea Agriculture Society, Arthurs Creek District, Merriang District, Cottles Bridge, and Strathewan Landcare Groups. This course will guide you to create a whole farm plan for your property that will maximise the value, productivity and sustainable management of your land. Each day of the course will include a field trip to interesting properties in the region. The course also provides participants with an opportunity to obtain a formal certificate of academic accreditation from the South West Institute of TAFE. This two-day accredited course will introduce the following topics: How to create your farm plan; Trees on farms; Weed control; Farm water supply; How to improve your land & soil; Soil assessment; Enhancing biodiversity; Land classing; Pasture management and Farm diversification.
Cost: \$81.50 (GST inclusive), which includes colour satellite image of your property, course notes, two days tuition, field tours and access to free on-site land management advice on your property. More than one person per property can do the course at no additional cost. However, \$81.50 only covers the student registration for academic accreditation for one person.
Registration and more details: Bookings are essential as places are limited. For further info and bookings contact WACMAC Coordinator: Tim O'Donnell tel: 9217 2087, mob: 0439 794 275, or email: tim.odonnell@whittlesea.vic.gov.au

How to Design & Grow a Native Garden
When: Wednesday 26 July 2006 Time: 7-9:30pm
Where: Laurimar Community Activity Centre, 25 Hazel Drive, Doreen (Melway 391 G6)
Details: Recreate the beauty of the Australian landscape by planting indigenous plants in your backyard. Get all the answers on how to do it and much more. You will be guided on a step by step process on how to design and grow your own native garden.
Cost: FREE, and free native plant for all participants.
Bookings are essential as places are limited.
Bookings & more information: contact Sustainability Planning Unit (Whittlesea Shire) tel: 9217 2195, email: SustainabilityPlanning@whittlesea.vic.gov.au

Restoring Your Bushland
When: Tuesday 15 August 2006
Time: 7-9pm
Where: Edendale Farm Community Environment Centre, Gastons Road, Eltham (Melway 21 A1)
Details: Do you have remnant vegetation on your property in need of some

TLC. Then attend this informative evening to learn about ways to protect and restore your bushland.
Cost: Free
Bookings: Megan Andrews tel: 9433 3210
More information: please contact Rebecca Petit (Environment Officer - Nillumbik Shire Council) tel: 9433 3216, email: rebecca.petit@nillumbik.vic.gov.au

UnMuddying the Waters - the Aquatic Environment (Victorian Friends Network Seminar 2006)
When: Saturday 19 August 2006 Time: 8:30am-4pm
Where: Melbourne Water Discovery Centre, Western Treatment Plant, New Farm Road, Werribee (Melway 205 E12). The Melbourne Water Discovery Centre is off the Old Geelong Road, 2 1/2 km from Werribee Railway Station. Free vehicle transport will meet the train arriving Werribee at 8.36am, leaving Flinders Street Station at 7.45am.
Details: A Victorian Friends Network 'CAN DO' seminar on positive practical involvement in our aqua areas, which is being hosted by Melbourne Water. Confronting confusion and contamination - who is responsible? Constructive partnerships - what Friends can do. Water quality and habitat, frogs, platypus and native water rat.
Program:
8:30am - Registration
9:00am - Welcome
9:10am - The changing culture of Melbourne Water and its relationship to volunteers
9:40 am - Case study of agencies & Friends working together
10:15am - Morning tea
10:45am - Panel - Melbourne Water, Parks Victoria, PPWCMA, EPA, and municipalities: Who is responsible for what along our waterways?
11:30am - 2006 Best Friend Awards
12.00noon - Lunch and time to explore the centre
1:00pm - Realistic Riparian Rehabilitation
1:30pm - Water quality & content, Waterwatch
2:00pm - Frogs and Friends
2:30pm - Platypus and Rakali
3:00pm - Final thanks and afternoon tea, leading into The Melee when you circulate and meet informally with the speakers for demonstrations and lively discussions.
4:00 pm Final Siren
Speakers: Cheryl Batagol, Geoff Williams, Robert Bender, Damien Cook, Keir Jarvis, Paul Dartnell (Manager Maritime Strategy, Parks Victoria), Doug Evans (Regional Landcare Coordinator, Port Phillip and Westernport CMA), Judy Hindle (Friends of Westona Wetlands), Gary Laidlaw (Community Relations, West Metro Region EPA), Phil Neville (Manager of River Health, Melbourne Water), Andrew Shan-non (Coordinator Environment Planning, City of Hobsons Bay).
Cost: \$10.00 payable in cash on the day includes lunch & refreshments, receipts will be available at the Seminar.
Bookings are essential as places are limited.
Bookings & more information: Thelma Christensen tel: 9770 0996, email: friendsvic@hotmail.com
When booking please notify of any special dietary requirements.

Alternative Rural Land Uses Options Expo
When: Sunday 20 August 2006 Time: 10am-5pm
Where: Whittlesea Shire Council Offices, Ferres Boulevard, South Morang (Melway 183 A10)
Presenters: keynote speakers from the Department of Primary Industries and other relevant organisations
Details: Ever thought about diversifying your farm, but need a little advice and inspiration on how to go about it? Come along and discuss alternative land management options suitable for the region. Expert speakers will provide an insight to farming options on topics including Alpaca and no-shear sheep grazing, organic farming, herb growing, agroforestry and much more. Don't miss the opportunity to learn more about the potential of your land.
Cost: FREE
More information: contact Sustainability Planning Unit (Whittlesea Shire) tel: 9217 2195, email: SustainabilityPlanning@whittlesea.vic.gov.au

Continued on page 13

Romsey Youth Group

Term 3 events.

July 7th

July 21st

August 4th

August 18th

September 2nd

September 15th

Intencity	\$15.00
Games night	\$ 2.00
Fun City	\$20.00
Movie night	\$ 5.00
Youth Alive	\$20.00
Bon fire & BBQ	\$ 2.00

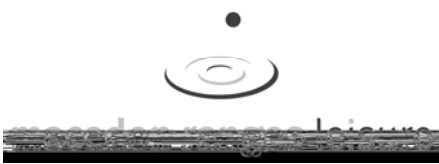
- Every other Friday night ‘Hang Time’ at the RYG Room 7 Mitchell Crt. Romsey. Cost \$2.00

Who are we?

We are a group of young people who just love having a great time. RYG exists to impact the lives of guys and girls from Yr 7 to 12. We are a place to hang-out on a Friday night. As well as having awesome fun we look at the issues confronting our young people today. We ran events such as the Skate Comps, Commonwealth Games Day and 3 on 3 Basketball Comp. Don't miss out!!! Come along to our action packed RYG!!!
Call Jess John for details and permission slips, or pick up permission slips from...

...Finger Lick'n Charcoal Chicken.

Jess John Ph. 5429 3349 Mob. 0409 645 779



Romsey Recreation Centre

Contact the Romsey Recreation on
PH: 5429 5637 to register your team or individual entry today!

Term Three Programs

All our competitions are starting in term three so get your enrolments in early so you don't miss out.

Junior Sport
Junior Basketball

Tuesday nights.
U13 mixed
U15 mixed
U17 mixed

Aussie Hoops

Tuesday nights
Under 10 coaching program
Parents, do you have Basketball experience? We are also looking for volunteers to help with the program!

Junior Soccer

Monday nights
U14 mixed
Parent coaches are also wanted

Goal Kick

Fridays nights
Junior coaching program
We are looking for volunteers to help with our soccer program too.

Senior Sport

Senior Mixed Netball

Thursday nights
Enter a team, 3 men on court maximum

Mixed Senior Badminton

Looking for interests in a senior badminton competition
Register your name now!

Senior Men's Soccer

Wednesday nights
Enter your team now

Mixed Senior Squash

Monday night
Wednesday nights
Individual entries

The Romsey Recreation Centre is also the venue for many association run and privately run sports and activities. These include Junior & Senior Ladies Netball, Volleyball, Pilates & Aerobics. We can also provide information on these programs.

A service provided by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council



Macedon Ranges Jazz and Heritage Festival Oct 6-8

From October 6-8 the Macedon Ranges Jazz and Heritage Festival will raise the roof as 13 of Australia's finest jazz, blues, hot swing, and Cajun jazz bands gather in Kyneton.

With the full line up yet to be announced, Macedon Ranges number one jazz aficionado, Barry Doyle boasted the festival had secured its best ever line up since it began in 2001.

"The Jazz and Heritage Festival is the only event of its kind in the Macedon Ranges and this year we have booked the cream of Australia's jazz scene. We're proud to present one of the very best traditional bands in the world, the Society Syncopators. Live on stage and making their debut we have Bendigo's own swingsters Geoff Harrip's Hot House and returning from a popular set in 2006, the Creole Bells." Mr Doyle said.

Mr Doyle added the festival was of great benefit to the local community and this year's event aimed to provide the visitor with a complete entertainment package. Mr. Doyle urged jazz fans and residents to book well in advance to avoid disappointment.

"We have taken steps to link our event with local business and tourism to provide a unique experience of country hospitality combined with world class entertainment. The festival is most beneficial to the Macedon Ranges and brings people from Adelaide, Perth, Sydney and many other places."

If your friends and family are coming up for the festival, why not ask them to visit www.jazzkynetonlions.org. All event and accommodation information can be found here.

Ticket Pricing:

\$110 Weekend pass includes Friday night Cabaret

\$50 Friday night Cabaret only

\$20 Friday night music only upstairs

Saturday

\$50 all day pass

Afternoon 1pm and evening passes available at Town Hall booking office

Sunday

\$40 all day pass

Afternoon pass 1pm onwards available at Town Hall booking office

Event information:

Barry Doyle 03 5422 6622 or 03 5422 6189 (AH) doyleys@nex.net.au

Media Enquiries:

David Richardson, Tourism and Events Officer, Macedon Ranges Shire Council Telephone 5422 0326 or davidr@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au



Macedon Ranges Adventure Playground Inc
Registration No A0046975B
PO BOX 198 New Gisborne VIC 3438
Phone 5428 4866 or 5428 1821

COMMUNITY UPDATE A PLAYGROUND FOR ALL CHILDREN OF ALL ABILITIES

Macedon Ranges Adventure Playground Jackson Creek Park, Gisborne

PLAYGROUND TO GO AHEAD WITH 100% COUNCIL SUPPORT

Government Grants	\$180,000
Community Support	Over \$20,000
Sponsorship	Over \$52,000

We Still Need Your Help!

Have Your Name Displayed To Show The Community
That You Support The Playground



Manufacturing & Engraving of Pickets
Commences October
So don't Miss Out

Can You Spare A Few Hours to Assist With Picket
Sales or Letterbox Drops?

If so, please contact Nola or Helen on the numbers
above.

Sponsor A Piece Of Equipment

Sponsorship
Package Available from
Nola 5428 1821 Helen
5428 4614

Purchase A Picket Before 30 Sept

From page 12

Agricultural Chemical Users Permit (Two Day) Course

When: Thursday 31 August & Friday 1 September 2006

Where: Merri Creek Management Committee, 2 Lee Street, East Brunswick

Presenter: Karl Liffman

Details: Merri Creek Management Committee is hosting this two day Agricultural Chemical Users Permit Course. More information will be available in July.

Bookings: please book before 3 August 2006

More information: contact Ray Radford (MCMC) tel: 9380 8199, email: Ray@mcmc.org.au

Training

Environmental Management Systems (EMS) Training

When/where: to be arranged at a mutually convenient time and location
Who can access EMS training: landholders and groups from across the Port Phillip and Western Port region can access the training provided.

Details: Environmental Management Systems (EMS) is a process to assess and improve environmental performance within your farming business. The Department of Primary Industries, in partnership with the Victorian Farmers Federation and the Department of Sustainability and Environment, is delivering training to landholders to enable them to plan, implement and review their management practices to improve sustainable farming.

Why should landholders become involved:

1. To gain some recognition for environmental works they are already undertaking
2. Benchmark their current practices
3. Document future projects
4. Gain ideas from other landholders
5. Be better positioned for a "marketing edge"

What's on offer:

1. An introductory talk on EMS to your Group
2. FREE Workshops (including an aerial photo of your property) to implement a self-assessment questionnaire (benchmarking) and Action Planning

More information: please contact Carmen Zerafa (EMS Pathways Officer - Port Phillip and Western Port, Department of Primary Industries), tel: 5366 0057, email: carmen.zerafa@dpi.vic.gov.au

Kits for Schools



Bungawitta Playgroup

Join us!

For children newborn to 5 years

Tuesday 9.30 am—12.30 pm

OR

Thursday 9.30 am—12.30 pm

Corner Main Street and Palmer Street Romsey

Children have fun playing with our fantastic equipment,
doing craft, singing, dancing and a whole lot more!

For more details contact
Anna on 54296171

98 Main Street
Corner Palmer Street
Romsey 3434.

Special offer for Schools - Drains to our Waterways A stormwater education kit by Melbourne Water

Melbourne Water's Drains to our Waterways education kit provides teachers with a comprehensive learning program about the impact of litter and pollution on our waterways. The kit comprises a 10-minute video and 64-page booklet full of easy to use exercises and stimulating interactive sessions.

It is particularly suited to teachers of students in the middle years (Years 5 to 9). The video is also designed to inspire students to think about how they might be able to work in partnership with others to achieve great outcomes for the environment. The kit is being offered to schools for the discounted rate of \$19.95 (normally \$49.95), but be quick! To purchase online visit Melbourne Water at www.melbournewater.com.au (under education resources>For teachers> stormwater) or call Melbourne Water on 13 17 22.

Landcare Resources

CD Supplement (2006) to Leon Costermans "Native Trees and Shrubs of South-eastern Australia"

Many of you will be familiar with Leon Costermans' book entitled "Native Trees and Shrubs of South-eastern Australia". Leon has now produced a CD-ROM supplement which updates this book and also describes and illustrates (with detailed photos) hundreds of other species, including many smaller shrubs. The CD is available through the VNPA with a discount for VNPA members.

Cost: \$20, \$16.50 (VNPA members)

Tel: VNPA on 9347 5188, or go to the VNPA website www.vnpa.org.au (select 'Resources>View our catalogue'). Or go to the following website link for more details on the supplement <http://www.vnpa.org.au/resources/publications/costermans.htm>

Landcare Marquee

The National Landcare Program has supplied two Landcare badged marquees to the Victorian Landcare and primary industry sectors. The Victorian Landcare Network has determined a system for distribution of the marquees in conjunction with Ian Linley (State Industry Landcare Coordinator). For more information on accessing a Landcare marquee for an up-coming event, please contact: Ian Linley, Mobile: 0428 330 122, Email: ianlinley@bigpond.com

Lo Lo's Mobile HYDRO DOG WASH

Heated hydrobath
Shampoo and fresh water rinse
Environmentally friendly products



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A Preposterous Predicament!

- a rotating story written by members of The Romsey Writer's Group: Julie Smith, Carol Webster & Robyn Moore

It was definitely the most embarrassing moment of my life.

Even now, when I think about it I cringe in shame and horror.

It outranked by far the time I waltzed onto the dance floor at my best friend's wedding with the back of my dress tucked into my knickers after a visit to *The Ladies*. Everyone does that at least once in their life, right?

It was worse than the time a rumbling fart escaped without warning at my uncle's funeral service, just at the moment when the minister invited us all to take a moment to quietly reflect on the life we were there to celebrate. If I'd been a kid it would have been forgivable, but it was only a year or so ago.

It was even worse than the time, a few weeks back, when I was driving home late one night, feeling decidedly unwell after a night out with the girls. A policeman flagged me over to the side of the road to presumably book me for driving without fastening my seat belt. As I wound down the window to speak to him, I projectile vomited all down the front of his uniform. With a look of utter distaste, he ignored my claims that I hadn't been drinking, but was suffering from food poisoning, and insisted on breathalysing me. The negative reading and the increasingly green tinge of my skin finally convinced him. He was even decent enough to drive me to the nearest emergency department, where I spent the next twelve hours under observation. So much for the curried prawns at the local Chinese!

But this time I had exceeded even my own best (or worst) efforts at disgracing myself. I knew I should have stayed at home. The day had started badly from the moment I got out of bed, having slept through the alarm. I had to skip breakfast, and dash to the bus stop two streets away, only to see the back of my regular bus disappearing around the corner a hundred metres away. The next bus got me to the city twenty minutes late for work, a fact that my supervisor pointedly reminded me about as I tried to sneak to my desk unnoticed.

A bundle of files had already been dumped in my *in tray*, with a terse note from the boss that he wanted them all processed by lunch time. A constant stream of phone calls bogged me down, so I had to skip my coffee break and reduce my lunch break by half just to get the work done. The afternoon was no easier, with another load of files materializing just as I dispatched the completed ones. I missed the usual afternoon gossip session at the photocopy machine, when everyone seemed to gather for an unofficial coffee break. And just as I was grabbing my bag to leave for the day, my supervisor called me into her office for a 'quick chat', as she called it when she was about to berate someone.

By the time I eventually left in a less than cheerful mood, the bus had gone without me, it was pouring with rain, I had no umbrella and it was ten minutes before the next bus was due. I had to stand up all the way home, and when I was safely inside my front door all I wanted was a bath, my pyjamas, some chocolate, a good book and bed.

Feeling a bit more human after my bath, I picked up the phone to let my friend, Julie, know I wouldn't be attending the party with her after all, having rehearsed an excuse involving headaches and viruses and aches and pains. But Julie would not accept a cancellation from me. She remind-

ed me how much and how long I had been looking forward to this evening, and eventually, she talked me around. If only she hadn't!

The party was for our friend Kevin's birthday. He had a career theme, *what did you always want to be*. I had no idea, so Janet from work said she had a nurse's uniform I could wear. Now that I was standing out the front of my apartment block, waiting for a taxi, I felt quite ridiculous. A familiar tightening in my stomach started. It had happened before and I knew better than to ignore it. My grandmother, who was a direct descendant of Irish gypsies, called it the knowing but I simply called it my little voice. Stay home Maria I heard it say, Julie will understand, but I knew she really wouldn't. And as I saw the taxi turning the corner, I realized I was stuck.

The driver was short and slightly scruffy with a long dark beard.

"Where to?" he asked.

His accent was heavy, Russian perhaps or something equally exotic.

I explained my destination. He nodded and I hoped he could get me there without me having to navigate like last week, when my taxi ride ended up in Springvale. That driver had turned left onto the freeway instead of right, and because I was daydreaming, it was 20 minutes later that I saw the direction sign to Cranbourne. I turned him back. It had cost me \$48, and I was having none of that tonight.

Loud music suddenly blared from the front and I realized it was his mobile phone with some bizarre Middle Eastern music. I groaned. The man spoke rapidly into the phone, agitated, his voice getting louder and angrier.

Just at that moment I glanced at the driver identification on the visor. The man in the photo staring back at me with a slight smile was blonde, blue eyed and definitely someone I would be happy to go to Dandenong with. His name was Barry Rhode, and this driver was by no stretch of my imagination, a Barry!

"Excuse me," I shouted from the back. "Please stop."

The driver turned around, glaring at me as though he was surprised to see me. His eyes were black, and he looked incredibly menacing. I started to sweat. He slammed on the brakes and for a brief moment I thought he would stop, but he manoeuvred an incredible u-turn without seeming to look at the oncoming traffic and, amazingly, achieved it without smashing into the large truck bearing down on us.

Now I was really scared.

"Please, please stop," I begged.

He turned around again, one hand on the wheel, and gave me a tirade of very fast words that definitely weren't English, with elaborate hand movements to accompany it. I felt convinced I was about to be murdered and had to think quickly.

I rummaged in my bag for my mobile. I would send Julie a message and she could get the police to intercept us.

We appeared to be heading for Preston at great speed. He again turned to me, continuing his dialogue as if he was asking my opinion. I sat mutely.

Finally I located my mobile; it had been stuck in the lining of my bag. I started to frantically type a desperate message to Julie for help. I was slow at texting and the shaking of my hands did not make me fleet of messaging. I pressed send, sighing, and imagined Julie getting the message and promptly calling 000.

My phone rang almost immediately and when I answered, it was Julie. I yelled to her to help me. But I could hear loud music and laughing in the background so I knew that she was already at the party, and I could tell by her tone she thought I was playing a part. Then the phone suddenly went dead.

"Oh God," I cried. "Somebody help me."

The car lurched to a halt and the driver jumped out. He ran round to my door, opened it, and pulled at me to get out.

"Let go of me," I screamed. "Help, someone help me," I cried, my hysteria growing.

He pulled me towards a door that was opened by a small child who also was crying. I ceased my struggle and looked inside the house.

There was a heavily pregnant woman, on the floor, in obvious distress. The driver pointed at her and again started his foreign dialogue. Unfortunately this time it was only too clear what he wanted me to do.

I summed up the situation in an instant. Here was his wife, obviously about to give birth, and there was I in the back of his taxi, obviously a nurse by the uniform I was wearing, and the quickest help he could think of.

I sprang into action. The phone was right beside me. I dialled 000 to summons an ambulance, asking the child the address as I waited for the phone to answer.

I helped the protesting woman from the floor, the look on her face telling me that her distress was not lessening, and tried to make her as comfortable as I could on the nearby sofa. Then I grabbed whatever I could find in the way of cloth from around the room - the washing folded on the table, the throw rug from the back of the sofa, and even the tablecloth from the dining table. After all, I was about to be a midwife, and midwives needed lots of rags, as well as boiling water, right?

The taxi driver stood by, a look of confusion and disbelief on his face, and again started his tirade in his native tongue.

The ambulance arrived within minutes, the paramedics rushing to the woman's side and busying themselves, checking her condition, and evaluating the situation.

One of the ambulance officers had a similar appearance to the taxi driver, and began to speak to him in a foreign language which the taxi driver obviously understood. He was looking from the taxi driver to me and back again, puzzled, as the taxi driver went on and on.

His look changed almost to one of anger as he stood up and came towards me. I really had had enough of angry men for one day!

"Just why did you call us, and what hospital are you with anyway?" he asked.

I explained that I really wasn't a nurse, I was just going to a fancy dress party!

His hostile look grew deeper.

I went on to explain that it was easy to see the woman was in labour, and needed to go to the hospital.

He put his hand up to stop me.

"Wait, don't go any further," he said.

"If you had taken the time to ask this child, you would have found out that Mrs Habib is actually having twins and is only six months pregnant, and is not in labour! She was on the floor looking for her older daughter's diamond engagement ring which had been on the coffee table. When the dog had rushed by he knocked it off with its tail, and then bounded round and round, and Mrs Habib doesn't know if the ring is somewhere in the room or whether the

dog has swallowed it! And her daughter's fiance, Barry Rhode, will be here any minute. And that's why Mrs Habib was on the floor, and that's why she's so distressed!" he went on.

"And we don't appreciate being called out to find lost rings on floors!" he concluded.

So, how embarrassed did I feel? Standing there in a nurse's uniform when I wasn't a nurse; thinking I was going to be murdered by a distressed taxi driver; and calling an ambulance to find a diamond ring!

So embarrassed that I wasn't staying there one minute longer.

I ran from the house and hailed another taxi which was driving by just at the right time, and rushed off to the party, still wishing that I had stayed at home with my pyjamas, some chocolate, a good book, and my bed!



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