The Romsey Rag



Romsey Community House Inc.

A Learning and Activity Centre P.O.Box 418, Romsey, Vic 3434 Phone / Fax 5429 6724 Email: romseyhouse@bigpond.com

Phone 5429 6724

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

Romsey Community House is located at the Romsey Hub, 96 Main Street, Romsey.

Programmes and Activities for Term 2 2009 April to June

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

Yoga with Kym Oliver. Wednesday 7.00 -8.30pm, access through exercise regime for both genders and all levels of fitness. side door. Cost: \$140 for 10 week term. Casual Rate \$18/session. All enquiries and bookings direct to Kym Oliver on 5429 2134.

Walking Together Program All groups meet Romsey Lion's Park (Near the creek), Tuesday and Friday 9.30am – 10.30am, Enquiries and bookings to Heather ph: 5429 5895

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

Tea / Coffee - Gold Coin donation

Writers Group

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

Drop In Craft Mornings

Bring along your own craft every Thursday 10.30am – 12.30pm during the school term. Convener – Karyn Gottschling

Adult & Children's Art Classes with Gillian ph: 5429 3996 <u>Crop till you drop</u> – 3rd Saturday of the month. Details from

Counselling – Counselling, information and referral service by 1hour and cost \$25.

<u>Knitting Group</u> – Every Wed 2 -3pm. Cost \$5 session.

Computer Basics from term 1 continues.

A new series of computer basics commences on Thursday April 23rd 10 weeks, 10am to 12 noon. Cost is \$180. This is an ACFE funded course.

What's New:

Children and Anxiety

A practical course on managing anxiety in children presented by counsellor Amanda Summers. Saturday May 2nd from 10-11.30am. Cost \$25 per person. Handouts and a cd are included in the cost. Limited to 8 participants. Bookings essential.

Children and Anger

A practical course on managing anger in children presented by counsellor Amanda Summers. Saturday June 6th from 10-11.30am. Cost \$25 per person. Handouts and a cd are included in the cost. Limited to 8 participants. Bookings essential.

Internet Basics for one hour each Friday in May 10-11 am is a free course—this will introduce you to the basics of using the internet and internet searches.

Email Basics—for one hour each Friday in June 10-11am is a free course—this will introduce you to the basics of sending and receiving emails.

Please register immediately if you are interested in any of the following. Courses can be arranged to accommodate you if there is sufficient interest:

Egyptian Cabaret Style Belly Dance designed to improve flexibility, strength and tone in all muscle groups. Movements facilitate improved posture, flexibility, muscle tone, strength, balance, coordination, body awareness, communication, expressive skills and relaxation. This program is intended to be used as a regular

Pilates for Beginners Pilates improves flexibility, strength, balance and body awareness. This non-aerobic form of exercise calls for concentration and focus because the body is moved through precise ranges of motion.

Microsoft Publisher evening course

Discover The Writer In You—A Six Week Writing Course for **Beginners** daytime classes

Line Dancing—Evening Class

Learn to Make Cloth Dolls

CPR - A Self-Training Course in CPR

Winemaking

Spinning (Fitness Classes)

First Aid—In partnership with the Red Cross Romsey Branch

This will be a free course for eligible participants under the ausappointment. Phone Amanda Summers 0411627204. Sessions are pice of a community grant from the Bendigo Bank, Romsey. This course is specifically for stay-at-home parents who might otherwise not be able to afford to undertake a First Aid training. It will be conducted by Peter Gay over 3 days: Monday April 27th and Wednesday April 29th from 9.15 am to 3.15 pm, and Friday May 1st between 9.15 am and 12.30pm at the Hub. Participants would need to be able to commit to all three days attendance. The course will cover Level 1 including CPR, Primary Survey, Calling an Ambulance, as well as snakebite, burns, wound care, sprains and strains, basic fracture management.

> We are also looking into organising a day trip next term to one of the towns whose tourism has dropped off after the recent bushfires, such as Yea or Mansefield or similar. Not only an enjoyable day out, but supporting others who are struggling to get back on their feet.

Our office is open every weekday morning between 9.30 am and 12.30pm.

Committee Update:

At its last meeting the House's Committee of Management welcomed three new members—Chris Durston, Anne Cappler and Simon Pinnock. Chris Durston was elected to fill the vacant position of Committee President.

An extraordinary meeting has been called for late March to begin the preparation of a strategic plan.

We are looking for more volunteers to help with manning our office. Please get in touch if you are interested. Phone 5429 6724 or email romseyhouse@bigpond.com

Don't forget—it's your house—we want your ideas!

THE ROMSEY RAG

Issue No. 270

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

April 2009

THE APRIL EDITION OF THE ROMSEY RAG IS PROUDLY BROUGHT TO YOU BY

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Just call in and talk to Anna or ring Sherrie 0438 389 590 for enquiries.

The closing date for copy for the March Romsey Rag is Friday April 24th, 2009 We cannot guarantee inclusion of copy received after this date.

Please email your copy to the Romsey Rag email address: romseyrag@romseyps.vic.edu.au 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 The Romsey Rag April 2009

Editorially Speaking

Romsey Rag Editorial Committee: Joan Gibbs, Robyn Moore

Layout and Design:

Robyn Moore, Anne Cappler, Sue Hayes

Printing:

Robyn Moore, Colin Miller

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

<u>Collation Team Co-ordinator:</u> Joan Sparkes—5429 5848

Contributions:

Articles should be left at the Romsey Post Office (fax 5429 5134) or Romsey Primary School (fax 5429 5765) by 12 noon of the cut off day as advised on this page and the front page.

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

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

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

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

Advertising:

Rates are GST inclusive. Front page sponsorship:

\$130 per half page

Business card: \$25 per issue \$200 per year in Business Directory Quarter page: \$50 per issue Half page: \$100 per issue Full page: \$180 per issue

Line ads: e.g.- For sale, births, deaths, marriages, engagements - \$10

For invoicing please include name & address details

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

Distribution:

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



Macedon Ranges Shire Council -Generous supporters of the Romsey Raq

Romsey Rag Publication Deadlines 2009

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

Building to protect against fire

In responding to the recent devastating bushfires, the State Government is putting in place new building standards to ensure new homes are better protected against bushfires in the future.

electronically or on disc. Legible typed or handwritten items may be accept-vear before it is due to be introduced nationally.

The recent fires have rewritten the rules about bushfires, registering a heat of more than 1200 degrees Celsius and wind speeds of more than 120km/h.

This new standard is being introduced now to ensure new and replacement homes, additions and alterations are designed, constructed and located with greater fire protection.

The new standards do not dictate the design of a new house or the type of construction materials. Home builders will still get to choose, it's just that fire protection must be included in the design.

We all know that there is no guarantee that any building will survive a fire on every occasion, due to the unpredictable nature and behaviour of fires. However, houses built to the new standard will be better protected against fire events in the future.

The new standard does not require homeowners to retrofit houses. However, if you are thinking about making changes to your house to protect it against fire, it is recommended that you consult a fire safety engineer in the first instance.

The Victorian Building Commission has produced *A Guide to building in Victoria after the bushfires* to explain the new standards which is available from my office, or by telephoning the Bushfire Building Advice Line on 1300 360 320 or visiting: www.buildingcommission.com.au

Joanne Duncan MP, State Member for Macedon

ANZAC DAY SERVICE 2009

The Romsey / Lancefield RSL Sub-Branch would like to advise that the annual commemoration service for ANZAC Day 2009 will be held in Main Street, Romsey, on Saturday April 25th, commencing at 8.30am and concluding at approximately 9.30am.

Lions Club Sunday Market in Romsey

Lions Club conducts a Sunday Market in Romsey every 4th Sunday of the month (excluding June, July and January).

The next Sunday Market will be on Sunday April 26th.

The Romsey Rag April 2009



St. Mary's Parish - Lancefield & Romsey

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

Parish Priest:Fr. George O'ConnorPresbytery:5429 2130Pastoral Associate:Mrs. Joanne ReutherConvent:5429 1582School Principal:Mr. Anthony FallsSchool:5429 1359

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

MASS TIMES

Saturday:

7.00 p.m. (summer time) Lancefield 6.00 p.m. (winter time) Lancefield 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month: 8.00 a.m. Lancefield and 10.00 a.m. Romsey 2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month: 8.00 a.m. Romsey and 10.00 a.m. Lancefield

RECONCILIATION

After weekday Mass or by arrangement.

BAPTISMS

February, April, June, August, October, December. For more information, please phone 5429 2130.

REGULAR EVENTS

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

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

YOUTH MASS

The youth celebrated well at their Youth Mass on 29th March last. Thanks to the musicians and singers who made it possible.

DAYLIGHT SAVING

As from the first weekend after change to daylight saving (4th April 2009), Saturday evening Mass will change to 6.00 p.m. as from 11th April 2009. Usual Mass times for Sunday are:

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

HOLY WEEK/EASTER 2009

Palm Sunday of the Lord's Passion	5 th April	8.00 a.m.L/field 10.00 a.m. Romse
Holy Thursday Evening Mass of the Lord	9 th April 's Supper	7.00 p.m. Romsey
Way of the Cross (Good Friday)	10 th April Starts at Anglican	10.30 a.m. n Church Romsey
Good Friday of the Lord's Passion	10 th April	3.00 p.m. Romsey
Easter Vigil	11 th April	7.00 p.m. L/field
Easter Sunday The Resurrection of the Lo	12 th April ord	8.00 a.m. Romsey 10.00 a.m. L/field

BINGO BINGO BINGO

Every Thursday evening at St. Mary's Church Hall at Romsey
Doors Open 7.00 p.m.
EYES DOWN 7.30 p.m.
\$3.00 per 15 game book
No entry fee
Canteen facilities

ST. MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

This term has progressed with lots of fun and enthusiasm. We have been on bush fire alert and closed the school on two separate occasions in the extreme weather conditions.

Free tea and coffee

The World's Greatest Shave was held on the 12th March.

Mrs. Walker (Yr 5 Teacher) and Mrs. Redmond (parent) had their head shaved to raise money for research into cancer. Students had a Crazy Hair Day and contributed to the fund raiser. Ms Joanne Sharpe, one of our 3/4teachers, was married on the 14th March in Woodend. The school community wishes Jo and Danny all the best for their future life together.

Congratulations to Steve and Shelly Thrum on the safe arrival of Tighe Patrick Thrum, a healthy baby boy and a brother for Jesse and Brodie.

The COBAW interschool sports were scheduled for the 12th March but have been postponed due to inclement weather. Further information will follow after the children participate in the cricket and volleyball.

The Student Representative Council for 2009 are:

Prep: Ella Marr Zachary Ryan Tamzyn Meader Lachlan Giles One: Tessa Burley Griffin Johnston-Bailey Two: Gus Johnson Jemma Clayton 3/4 S: 3/4 C: Jack Coburn Lane Schinck Jack Coon **Ruby Sinclair** 5 : Abbey Chafer Eden Alford 6 :

They are very keen to represent their classes and work together to improve our school.

Along with the Supplementary Capital Grant which we have already received, we will be lodging an application for a grant from The Australian Government's "Building the Education Revolution Capital Works Program". This initiative is a part of the \$42 billion stimulus package passed in Federal Parliament. We look forward to building a bright new future for our students.



The Romsey Rag April 2009 The Romsey Rag April 2009

Romsey & Lancefield District Historical Society Inc.

NOTE: All mail should now be addressed ONLY to P.O. Box 101, Lancefield, 3435, as we have closed our previous Romsey post office box 11.

CEMETERY WALK

Members and visitors are invited to attend a guided walk around Lancefield Cemetery from 2.00pm on Sunday April 5th. Afternoon tea will be served afterwards, at the former Lancefield Courthouse.

30th BIRTHDAY PARTY

To celebrate 30 years since the inception of the Historical Society, we are holding an Afternoon tea on Sunday April 26th from 2.00pm. At Seymour Cottage, Palmer Street, Romsey. All past and present members are invited. R.S.V.P. The Secretary on 0402 248 540.

WHO NAMED ROMSEY?

It seems highly likely that somebody either came from Romsey, Hampshire, England, or else had fond connections with that place, but we have not been able to ascertain how the name came about. If anybody knows of the early connections, please let us know.

Meanwhile, we have had numerous contacts with the same-name town in England, including visits in both directions and newsletters.

> Jean Clement President.

** *TOWN* GARAGE SALE **

Always wanted to have a garage sale but haven't got organised?

Romsey/Lancefield Ambulance Auxiliary is coordinating a "Town Garage Sale"

SATURDAY 30TH MAY

hat we will do for you:

- Advertise the event
- Provide buyers with a map of garage addresses.
- Ensure no nuisance early birders, as all buyers will have to start at the Romsey Ambulance Sta-

What you need to do to participate:

- Gather your goods & prepare them for sale at your
- Pay \$10 Registration fee to cover advertising & administration cost.

For details contact: Kate ph 0408510475

A fundraising event for the Romsey/ Lancefield and District Ambulance Auxiliary.



An inspirational weekend of opens gardens and sculpture set within the stunning gardens of Sefton, Mt Macedon.

Sat 18 - Sun 19 April 2009

10am - 4pm daily

864 Mt Macedon Road, Mt Macedon ENTRY: \$8 per person

Artanica is an exciting annual exhibition of diverse garden sculpture, showcasing pieces from some of Victoria's best sculptors.

This is a fantastic opportunity to view and purchase spectacular sculptures in a variety of media including; hot glass, iron, stone, metal, wire and more.

Visitors will have a rare opportunity to view the spectacular private gardens of, Sefton.

Refreshments will be available throughout the weekend.

2009 WORKSHOPS

Dawn Robinson

Working with Limestone SAT 12.30 - 3.30 Working with Limestone SUN 10.30 - 1.30

Kathrvn Portelli

Mixed Media SAT 10.30 - 1.30 Precious Inlay SUN 12.30 - 3.30 \$85 per person Limited spaces, bookings essential

To book phone 0427 317 388

OPEN GARDEN - 'Durrol'

800 Mt Macedon Road, Mt Macedon

Large garden dating from late 19th century contains many excellent specimens of deciduous and evergreen trees. A sunken garden exhibits Edna Walling's great design skills

\$5.00 per person

Further information available at:

www.matmacedonhort.org.au/events

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Exciting developments for Romsey sports fields

Dear Editor,

To clarify the situation, Council remains committed to planning for improvements for sports fields in Romsey. Planning is well advanced for two additional ovals at the Romsev Primary School, improved facilities at Romsey Park and the provision of recycled water to this precinct.

Council's 2006 Leisure Strategy Plan recommended the development of an oval additional to Romsey Park to cater for future needs. Following discussions with the Romsey Primary School in-principle approval has been obtained to develop an initial sports field with allowance for another on school land adjacent to Romsey Park.

Funding was sought from the State Government last year and an announcement is expected shortly. Should this announcement be successful, a grant of \$500,000 will be available along with \$466,662 that has been allowed by Council and \$15,000 from the community. The works in this first stage relate to the development of a sports field that can cater for football, cricket, soccer and athletics along with a small user facility and car parking.

Council recently sought further funding of \$2,005,519 from the Federal Government to undertake stage 1 at the Rom-

sey Primary School site which included the development of the additional sports field and construction of a full pavilion. Works to install an automatic irrigation system on the Romsey Park oval were also included.

Two other related projects are also in the initial planning stages, although these were not included in the submission to the Federal Government because the planning had not been completed. These are the installation of a recycled water pipeline to Romsey from Western Water's treatment plant and the construction of a new pavilion at Romsey Park.

It is important for the future of Romsey that the planning for the two projects at Romsey Park is completed and that an analysis is undertaken in consultation with users as to the priorities of these and stage 1 at Romsey Primary School.

As a result, in February 2009 Council allocated \$40,000 in 2008/09 to complete the initial planning and to commence the detailed planning of all of the above projects, whilst at the same time replacing the funding application to the Federal Government with that for the ready to construct Kyneton Sports and Aquatic Centre.

Once this planning and prioritization is complete, Council will be in a position to resubmit a comprehensive application either to the next round of the Federal Government funding program in May or other funding programs.

Cr Joe Morabito.



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Ding Dong!!

Happy Easter from Avon.

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WINDOWS WASHED

by Trev M: 0418 807 571 The Romsey Rag

Romsey Primary School



One to One Learning for all Year Six Students

Recently all year 6 students were distributed with their own laptops. This new technology is funded by joint contributions from the government, school and families. With 1-to1 learning all students and teachers, not just the privileged few, get better at research, analysis, problem solving and communication through on-demand access to software, electronic documents, TOGETHER WE LEARN AND GROW the internet and resources.

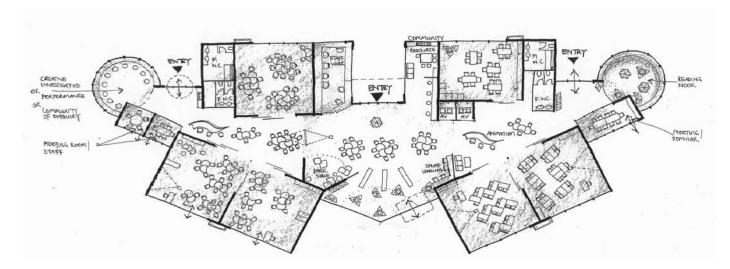


Year 6 co-coordinator Diana Ellis reported that in in her many years of teaching, this is was one of the most exciting times in education. She was delightful to see so many students excited about and engaged in their learning. The students worked individually, in pairs and in groups to become familiar with a range of programs that

are installed on their computers such as Scratch, Encarta, Gamemaker, Google Sketchup and Kahootz. The discussion, collaboration and reflection were the most positive signs of learning. There were many "wow" moments as new discoveries are being made.

New Building Plans for Romsey PS

The Federal Government's Building the Education Revolution will be funding a new permanent learning precinct here. This includes 6 classrooms, a large open planned space with a floor space is 950 square metres and will cost up to \$3,000,000. The proposed location is on the north side of the Performing Arts Centre and junior sand pit. These modern classroom facilities incorporating an open plan design with two modules of 3 classrooms off a digital rich resource space would facilitate individualised 21st century learning based on the enquiry approach. The flexible learning space allows easy access to information, research opportunities, on-line discussions and the integration of a range of technologies. The open planned space could be used for performance, videoing or movie maker. The inter-active whiteboards we already have in use at our school would be ideal learning tools in this space. This facility would mean things like interactive assessments, wikis, presentations, movies and online collaboration would all be available making the curriculum imaginative and engaging for all students. This is an exciting time for Romsey Primary School with a significant investment in new infrastructure. We anticipate this project will begin in the middle of this year. A number of these facilities will also be available for community use.



Junior Landcarers Assist Furry Bushfire Victims

Romsey Primary School's focus on integrating education about the local environment and wildlife within the classroom and school grounds has been reinforced since the Black Saturday Bushfires. Vegetation from the school grounds is being used to feed 14 bush fire affected koalas in the Bendigo Region.

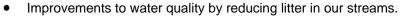
Following the bush fires, the Macedon Ranges is one of few local areas with access to gums that meet the dietary requirements of koalas. Kerri Mewett, a parent and coordinator of the garden land care program, identified the school's ability to help the fire affected koalas. A Direct Seeding program planted by students 2.5 years ago was targeted at encouraging koalas and wildlife to the School.

The Manna, Swamp and Candlebark Gum trees are the main food source for koalas, and branches have been pruned from the school's direct seeding beds by the students. Students hope that one day koalas may live and feed at the school, but in the meantime they are extremely happy to be helping to feed those affected by the bushfires. Students and volunteers assist to prune and load branches once a week. They are then transported by volunteers to the wildlife park in Bendigo. The food is provided to the injured koalas that may suffering burns to their paws, starvation and dehy-

Anyone wishing to help by providing food for the injured koalas from their own property, or by making a delivery, please contact Kerri Mewett on ph: 0408 988 455.

Natural Environment Strategy Now on Public Exhibition

The draft Natural Environment Strategy 2009 is now available for public comment. Significant actions included in the strategy include the following:



- Developing and enhancing reserves in public ownership.
- Working with private land owners to protect and enhance the environmental value of the land.
- Development of an environmental brand to assist with promotion and marketing actions under the strategy.
- Use of geographical areas called Landscape Units to identify the unique attributes of different topographical areas in the Shire and to develop management guidelines to protect and enhance those assets.
- Further development of the Sustainability Framework to ensure environmental considerations are embedded in Council's service delivery and policy development.
- A targeted grants program in partnership with State Government agencies to protect biodiversity values on private

A proposal to investigate options for the Barrm Birrm land (Riddell Ranges Estate. Shone and Shultz subdivision). The strategy is on public exhibition until Tuesday, 7 April 2009. It is available to download at www.macedonranges.vic.gov.au - click on the 'For Your Comment' link on the Noticeboard or it can be viewed in person at Council offices in Gisborne, Kyneton, Romsey and Woodend.

Comments on the draft strategy can be sent to Macedon Ranges Shire Council, Natural Environment Strategy Submissions, PO Box 151, Kyneton 3444 or email mrsc@macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au

For further information please contact Barry Whelan, Manager Environmental Services on 5421 9657 or Lachlan Milne, Environmental Resource Officer, telephone 5421 9659.



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ROMSEY / LANCEFIELD

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Optus Telecommunications Facility in Park Lane

East Ward Councillor Joe Morabito is concerned about the proposed telecommunications facility to be installed near the Romsey Primary School and sporting precinct.

In May 2008, Macedon Ranges Shire Council received a planning application from Optus to install a 35m-high monopole, associated antennas and equipment shelter at 11 Park Lane, Romsey.

The application was advertised and approximately 20 objections were received. As a result Optus has been investigating an alternative site located across the road at the Romsey Recreation Reserve.

At a meeting held on Tuesday 3 March between Council and the applicant, Optus advised that they would still prefer the original site at 11 Park Lane.

Cr Morabito believes the consultation process should have included a public information session for concerned local residents and a Planning Application Conference between the applicant and objectors.

"The current site is too close to the school and under the Industry Code Deployment of Mobile Phone Network Infrastructure, carriers are required to consider 'community sensitive' locations such as schools and hospitals when deciding on placement for a site," he said.

"I'm not opposed to the mobile phone tower being built, I just believe the location should be changed," he said.

Residents can view the application online at www.macedon-ranges.vic.gov.au - follow the links to Planning and Building Services, click on 'Greenlight' and search for Planning Permit No. 2080247.

Media Enquiries:

Cr Joe Morabito, East Ward Councillor, telephone 5429

Elon McCormick, Public Relations Assistant, telephone 5422 0302

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Christ Church Hall Chauncev Street, Lancefield Tuesday, 5th May 1.30pm. "Brighten up your winter wardrobe" Donation: \$5 Afternoon Tea Door Prize RSVP 30th April 2009. Doreen 5429 6060 Flo 5428 5266 Glenice 5429 6418





Nathan,

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- Intermediate Tap 9-12 yrs
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- Intermediate Hip-Hop 13 yrs+
- Competitions
- **SFD Examinations**



2009 Enrolment Enquiries: (03) 54293769 or 0400010122



PRINCIPAL—Natalie

The Romsey Rag

Romsey Red Cross Unit

The International Red Cross is best known for international work in disaster areas, povertystricken nations and war zones.

The Australian Red Cross works within the Australian disaster areas like bushfire and many other unfortunate happenings of a serious nature.

The Romsey Red Cross Unit helps out in local disasters. For example, in case of a housefire where the occupants are left with next to nothing, we provide food, blankets, clothing and the needs to survive. In the case of bushfires, where people have been moved to safe assembly areas., Red Cross will be there to help. Volunteers do all the work.

People have been warned in newspapers, on radio and on television, and warned again and again by the C.F.A. that the country is tinder dry, with grasses and forests ready to burn. Members of the C.F.A. and the S.E.S. train every week to be ready. Both need more active members. The police are also ready to deal with fires in evacuating people in danger zones. The police would be extremely busy in getting people out of danger and into the safe assembly areas.

It is there, in the safe assembly areas, that the Red Cross plays a major role. We collect the details of all people brought into these safe zones. Why, you may ask? The police have no time to make lists of who goes where. It can happen, and often does, that members of a family finish up in different collection zones. The Red Cross volunteers collect all information from everyone who has arrived at a safe zone. The information is speedily dispatched to Red Cross Headquarters, where it is collated. If someone rings up trying to trace a family members, headquarters can then promptly advise where to find the missing family member(s). Red Cross also

provides catering for personnel who are involved in dealing with disasters such as bushfires.

Is OUR unit ready? NO—We have to call on other units to help out.

The bushfires this season were too close: Wandong, Kilmore and Burke and Wills Track fires were as close as the crow flies. A sudden wind shift towards Romsey could have hit the town and surrounding districts.

Right now the Romsey Red Cross Unit does not have enough trained members to handle the registration and catering functions for such emergencies. Other units, in a dire emergency, might be flat out looking after their own

To be able to do this important work we need members. What is involved in being a member?

Attendance at local unit meetings. (No meetings are held during school holidays).

Receiving training in regsitration, training and safety. This only takes a few days and an annual revision. All for free and never during school hours or school holidays.

We do not have a First Aid section yet.

Enquiries:

Come to our meetings on the 2nd Tuesday of the month, 1.30—3.00pm in the Romsey Hub (except during school holidays and the December-January period). Leave a message with the Romsey Community House.

ROMSEY RED CROSS UNIT NEEDS YOU

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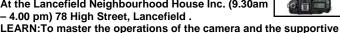
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NEW ONE DAY DIGITAL SLR PHOTOGRAPHY COURSE ON SATURDAY 2ND MAY

At the Lancefield Neighbourhood House Inc. (9.30am



technology; What makes a good photograph? Creating great compositions, holding the camera correctly, looking at other photographer's work; Lighting, composition, storage, purchasing equipment, feedback on work and more!

FOR GEN. ENQUIRIES OR FOR A COMPLETE COURSE OUTLINE PLEASE CONTACT

CATHY VAN MERKESTEIN ON: 0416 242 512

(Course costs: \$100, pensioners/students/concessions \$80) Email mailto:lancefieldhouse@hotkey.net.au or phone 5429 1214 fax 5429 2337



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Romsey Red Cross Unit



is having a <u>Blume's Winter Fashion Sale</u>
on Friday Morning— May 22nd at 10.30am
at the Uniting Church
Pohlman Street, Romsey.
Entry is \$6, and includes a delicious morning tea.
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ROMSEY 5429 6842



Patrick Franklin 0407 534 757

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> HOT BBQ CHICKEN \$5.99 ea

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Celebration

Special Easter Service

Sunday 12th April

10am

Living Word Christian Church

7 Mitchell Court Romsey

NB: NO EASTER SUNDAY

EVENING SERVICE



CONTACT

Church Office 5429 6327

Morning Tea Provided



Living Word Christian Church

Church

Regular Sunday Service Times

10am - Mitchell Court Romsey

6pm - Woodend Community Centre

(Every Sunday evening)

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

EVERYONE IS WELCOME





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Email mel_kye71@bigpond.com

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The Romsey Rag April 2009

Romsey Uniting Church Pohlman Street, Romsey. 3434

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

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



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

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

Easter comes in April. Good Friday is April 10th and the Romsey Uniting Church will have a service at 9.30am on that day.

The Easter Day service will be at 9am on Sunday 12th April.

Mark 12: 28-31

One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well, he asked him, "Which commandment is the first of all?" Jesus answerd, "The first is, 'Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind, and with all your strength.' The second is this, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' There is no other commandment greater than these."

There was a skilled musician who played the flute. Recently he had a shock. He was to play in a concert and was getting down to serious practice. When he sat down to play nothing happened. No sound. He tried again. He checked the flute. No music. Imagine the shock! Then he began to analyse what he was doing and realised that the flute was all right, but he'd been getting careless. Instead of sitting or standing straight, his arms just so, he'd begun to slump. His hands weren't right, and had gradually twisted the angle at which he held the flute. When he blew over the hole in the mouthpiece, the angle was wrong. The music had gone. As soon as he corrected the stance he was back in business, playing beautiful music.

It's an interesting metaphor on Christian living. It's not that we give up, or reject it. We just get careless. We still go to church, pray, read the Bible, but without the attention we used to have. We live without really thinking, and suddenly we are shocked into the realisation that nothing is happening. We blame the flute, the prayer, the faith, but so often the answer is in our own hands. We need to get back to the discipline of thoughtful, not thoughtless, discipleship. It takes effort, as well as time. It needs singleness of purpose, kept clean and polished against the patina of use.

Jesus answered, "The Lord our God, the Lord is one. Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength" (Mark 12: 29-30)

And remember he goes on to tell us to love our neighbours as ourselves.

"Don't shoot the pianist, he's doing his best."

Not always true, Lord.

It's not always the piano that's wrong.

Nor the flute. Sometimes it's the player. Me.

When there's no music between you and me, when the melody's gone, the harmony shattered, it's not the instrument, it's me.

Not that I've given up totally, Lord.

Not that I've rejected you and your love.

It's just that I'm half asleep, careless, not standing upright in your presence, my dedication dusty and dormant in a dark corner.

Wake me up, Lord, from self-satisfaction.

Rescue me from the trap of complacency.

Don't weaken your demands on me, just help me strengthen my response.

Wash off the grime of long usage and make me sparkle again in newness of purpose.

Open my eyes, Lord.

It's happened before – thank you for your patience – open my eyes to the wonder of life with you, to the joy of life in the community of your church.

Make me a blessing to them, to those I love.

Make me into someone it's good to be around.

Like you

Start the music again Lord. And put in a few grace notes.

(Written by Eddie Askew. (Deceased) Used by permission - Leprosy Mission International.)

Church Services during April, 2009			
5th	9am.	Worship Service – Palm Sunday	
10 th	9.30am	Good Friday Service – conducted by Rev. Dr. Avril Hannah-Jones	
12th	9am	Easter Sunday Service – conducted by David Noble	
		Worship service conducted by the Worship Team	
26 th	9am.	Worship Service conducted by Rev. Dr. Avril Hannah-Jones	

EASTER SATURDAY CRAFT MARKET

There will be a special Easter Market in the Romsey Mechanics Hall from 9.00am until 2.00pm on Saturday April 11th.

An Easter Egg hunt will be held at 11.00am.

There will also be an Easter colouring competition for primary school aged children. Entry forms can be picked up from Romsey IGA, the school and the newsagency.

Prizes will be awarded.

There will be stalls to suit everyone, from fruit and vegies to hand made crafts.

Come along and support your local crafts community

The Romsey Rag April 2009

Mental Health First Aid

Cobaw Community Health is running a course on Mental Health First Aid aimed at: reducing the stigmatization of mental illness, preserving life where a person is a danger to themselves or others, providing help to prevent a mental health problem from developing into a more serious state, promoting recovery of good mental health, and providing comfort to people suffering a mental health illness.

Session details are:

Dates: Monday 6th and Tuesday 7th April

Times: 9.30am—4.00pm.

Registration is at 9.15 on the first day.

Cost: \$50 per participant.

Facilitators are Pam Damm and Sandra Rogers

LUNCH PROVIDED

For more information or to book please call 5421 1666 or email: admin@cobaw.vic.gov.au or

sandra.rogers@mrhs.com.au

Little Athletics State Titles Success

Lancefield-Romsey Little Athletics Centre athletes performed well at the Little Athletics State Track & Field Championships at Olympic Park at the weekend (21/22 March).

Eight centre athletes from Lancefield-Romsey competed, three coming home with medals. Casey Adamson won silver in the U/11 girls high jump, missing the gold only on a countback. She also won a bronze medal in the U/11 girls triple jump. Jemma Clayton, who only began Little Athletics this season, won silver in the U/9 girls triple jump and bronze in the U/9 girls 70m final. Sarah Connell won bronze in the U/15 girls 1500m.



LRLAC's state athletics titles team
Back row, left to right:
Nathan Blair, Jemma Clayton, Kieran Maloney,
Madeleine Manton, Sarah Connell
Front row left to right:
Casey Adamson, Cortni O'Donnell, Lauren
Connell.

Many of the other team members - Nathan Blair, Lauren Connell, Cortni O'Donnell, Keiran Maloney and Madeleine Manton – made the finals of their events and set new personal bests. Romsey-Lancefield sent eight athletes to the state titles. Lancefield Romsey Little Athletics Centre president Russell Manton said this was a great effort considering the small size of the centre, which has 110 children registered this season. "We are very proud of all our athletes who've tried their best and inspired others to do the same," he said. All eight team members qualified for the state titles after excelling at the regional championships in Bendigo in February. Athletes were able to compete in a maximum of four events in the huge region, which includes Albury, Bendigo, Swan Hill and Seymour. The best performed athletes from within the eight Victorian regions were then selected for the state titles.

The 2009 Little Athletics season winds up this Saturday, with the final day of competition for the season. Presentation day will be on Saturday, April 4, at noon at St Mary's Hall in Romsey, where annual award and trophy winners will be announced.

Registration for the 2009/2010 Little Athletics season will begin in September, with the new season commencing on the first Saturday in October.

Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club

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

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

There is a guest speaker at each meeting. We have an outing on the third Wednesday of the month. (Either a trip or luncheon)

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

Red Cross Offers First Aid Training

The Romsey Red Ross Unit, in conjunction with the Bendigo Bank (under its community grants program) and the Romsey Community House is offering First Aid Training (equivalent to Level 1 with extra modules) free to Romsey residents. In particular, they are targeting stay-at-home parents who would be available to attend during school hours. The training days are Monday April 27th and Wednesday April 29th between 9.15am and 3.15pm, and Friday May 1st, 9.15am to 12.30pm. To participate you must be able to commit to all 3 days. The scheme can accommodate up to 14 people. Enrolments are now being taken and places allocated on a first come first serve basis.

For further information contact the Romsey community House on 5429 6724. or look for the details on the back page of this issue of the Romsey Rag under the Community House program.

54,000 reasons to thank \cup .

So far this financial year, Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank* branches have contributed \$54,000 to our local clubs, schools, CFAs and community organisations. We're keen to increase this amount and that's where you come in.

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- 20a High Street, Lancefield or phone 5429 1977
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The Romsey Rag April 2009



VIEW FROM THE VICARAGE.

Dear Friends

Commandment number 1 says, "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of Egypt, out of the land of slavery. You shall have no other gods before me."

We all know to a degree what the Ten Commandments are. We've learnt them while young and they stay with us for life generally. Many say that is the way they live which is not a bad thing. But, living this way needs to reflect the importance of God in our lives. In a pluralistic society, we need to define God as the God of the bible. The God that Christians around the world believed that created the world Cost: Gold Coin donation. in six days – days that were bracketed with morning and evening.

For the Christian, Commandment Number 1 means putting Jesus first in their lives. This is because the Bible is both Old and New Testament combined and Jesus is central to the life of the Christian. In essence, the first commandment implies that the things of God should be in first place in all of our lives.

That's what God wanted of his people when the commandments came down from the mountain and now for the Christian – Jesus is to be first in the lives of all. If Jesus is not first, then I wonder if we are living in a way that is consistent with the way that God created us - which was in his image and was perfect.

What better way to celebrate Easter than by having God first in our lives.

That's this month's view from the Vicarage in a year where I hope and pray we "Seek the Divine in 2009."

Rev. Leroy Coote

The Anglican Parish of Lancefield and Romsey.

Our next Sunday @ Six on Sunday 26th April 2009 with dinner at 5:30pm and a short service starting at 6pm with loud, lively music. The topic next month is: the peace that the CFA brought us in Summer. This service will be a service of thanks to the CFA for their protection of us and others during the summer just gone.

"Does anybody have those unfinished craft projects sitting around?

Don't have a time or place to finish them?

Then have we got both for you.

The "Unfinished Symphony Group" is starting soon.

Details are as follows:

Date: Saturday 18th April 2009.

Time: 1pm - 3pm

Cost: Gold Coin Donation.

Bring along your unfinished "symphony" and friends. For further details, please contact Mrs Jenelle Coote on

5429-1680."

Four week course commencing Tuesday 5th May 2009 <u>from 7:30pm – 9:30pm</u>

"How to drugproof your kids or making good parents

better."

Where: Lancefield Anglican Church Hall Cost: \$20.00 (to cover cost of material).

This course will make parenting your child a lot easier. You will need to enrol by Monday 27th April and if you wish to enrol, please contact the course convenor -Rev. Leroy Coote on 0417-679-682.

Do you want your garden bushfire safe and beautiful at the same time?

Then have we got something for you.

Details are as follows:

Date - Sunday 3rd May 2009.

Time - 2:00pm

Where - Lancefield Anglican Church Hall.

Speaker: Cherie from the Lancefield Garden Centre whose articles appear regularly in the Free Press.

Afternoon tea to follow.

If interested, then please ring Rev. Leroy Coote on 0417679682.

Easter Services

Thursday 9th April - 7:30pm - Maundy Thursday Service at Lancefield.

Good Friday 10th April – 9:30am – A reflective Good Friday Service followed by combined churches Good Friday walk commencing at 10:30am from Romsey Anglican Church.

Easter Sunday 12th April - 9:00am - Easter Day Communion Celebration at Romsey.

Easter Sunday 12th April – 10:30am – Easter Day Communion Celebration at Lancefield

You are cordially invited to any of our Services:

9:00am at Romsey located at 77 Main Street, Romsey and 10:30am (with children's program) at Lancefield located at 33 Chauncey St., Lancefield.

All our Services are "Worshipful, Anglican and Relevant."

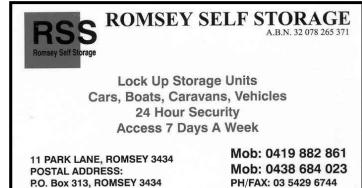
Our Church Youth Group meets from 5pm – 7pm every Sunday Evening – now in two locations. (Resuming Sunday 26th April)

Grades 5 and 6 meets in the Lancefield Anglican Church

Years 7 and up meets in the Lancefield Uniting Church

Cost \$4.00 to cover dinner and future activities. Anyone in Grades 5 and up at school is welcome to come along and see what fun activities we do. All our leaders have up to date "Working with Children's Checks".

For further details on any of our activities, please contact Rev. Leroy Coote on 0417-679-682.



The Romsey Rag April 2009



Romsey Region Business & Tourism Association Inc PO Box 50 Romsey VIC 3434

Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association (RRBATA) **UPDATE**

RRBATA Is Working Hard

RRBATA has had a busy month with much activity in both the planning and fruition stage. A membership drive is currently underway, with encouragement to all businesses (shopfront, home-based, light industrial, trade and professional) to

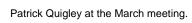
get on board. Expect to see RRBATA members "walking the streets" to talk to local business people and get an understanding of the important issues which bind the business community.

March Meeting Success

The March meeting of RRBATA (Monday, 16th March at the Community Hub) featured a special presentation from Patrick Quigley, financial planner, who discussed the often vexed issue of planning for retirement. There were many great guestions for Patrick on this matter which showed that, in these concerning economic times, there is much interest in such matters. Many thanks are extended to David Rodden from IGA who provided a wonderful supper and refreshments for the event.

A New Website for Romsey

RRBATA is currently working on this very exciting project which will result in a dynamic and comprehensive website offering opportunities for the entire Romsey community. Design is currently underway on what will be an exciting presentation of our town. Watch out for notification of the



launch which will be a big local event. If anyone has any enquiries about this project, please contact Tracey Newnham (0409 511439, newlec@bigpond.com) or Melanie Traynor (0430 370360, tpfitness@tpg.com.au) .

The Romsey Bag - A "Must Have" Accessory!

RRBATA is organising a "Romsey Enviro Bag" which will be a distinctive coloured and designed bag for this town. It will be available through local businesses who will decide individually how they dispense the bags to customers. The logo/ artwork design of the bag will be determined through a local competition. Watch out for further details on this exciting initiative!

Coming Soon - the RRBATA Newsletter

To be distributed to all local businesses, this will be more than a dull, dry document.....!

The RRBATA Rodeo Sponsors' Dinner

A full report of this event will feature in next month's Romsey Rag.

Thinking About Membership?

RRBATA is only as good as its membership. The Committee is considering a number of exciting initiatives for the year ahead – consider being a part of these by becoming a RRBATA member so as you can be heard!!

Membership Enquiries:

Tracey Newnham (Secretary)

0409 511439

newlec@bigpond.com

Next RRBATA Meeting: Monday 20th April 2009 at 7.30pm

Romsey Community Hub

Members and non members welcome.

Enquiries/RSVP (for catering): Tracey Newnham

0409 511439

newlec@bigpond.com

"ATTENTION CITY COMMUTERS"

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

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We also cater for casual & adhoc travelers.

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

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

For more details ring Muir on 0354 255505



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THE WOOD BLOKE SPLIT RED GUM FIREWOOD April 2009 Prices

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Notice of Romsey Kindergarten Association Meeting.

Purpose: To approve the revised Romsey Kindergarten Inc Constitution

When:Tuesday 21 April, 7.30pm

Where: Romsey Kindergarten

Background: Due to the change in management structure, the Constitution has been revised to reflect a remodelled Committee of Management.

A copy of the constitution can be obtained by contacting: suzhayes@bigpond.com

For RSVPs and any queries, please contact :

Sue Hayes, President,

Romsey Kindergarten

Committee of Management, on 0416 066 347

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Macedon Ranges Friends of East Timor





Postal address PO Box 985 Kyneton, Vic. 3444 Phone 0411 208 448 Email mrfoet@bigpond.com

NEW COMMITTEE FOR EAST TIMOR FRIENDSHIP GROUP.

After a very successful launch in October 2008, the new Committee for Macedon Ranges Friends of East Timor have met twice so far this year. This Interim Committee has been elected to further establish a 'Friendship Relationship' with the community of Turiscai in East Timor and to promote community projects during our first year. A Friendship Relationship with the community of Turiscai in East Timor, is a major challenge for the group, and a delegation hopes to visit there during this year. There are many of these relationships established already that offer people in our communities the opportunity to get involved at the grass roots level with a specific community in Timor-Leste. Turiscai is a very picturesque district 80 kms, and a 5 hour drive, into the mountainsouth of the capital Dili, where the major cash crop grown is coffee. A comparison can be made that the Macedon Ranges region is 80 kms from Melbourne, and only an hour's drive - and not quite as mountainous. We have been overwhelmed by the support we have received from the community thus far and are always looking for more new and exciting ways to continue raising the profile of MRFoET. Please let us know if you have any fundraising suggestions or opportunities for us to create a greater awareness of our work, as many people do not realize how effective even a small contribution can be. We are also available to speak to your community or community organization about MRFoET or can arrange a viewing of some beautiful products made by the women of East Timor, or handmade quilts donated to MRFoET - all sale proceeds going to MRFoET.

To keep you informed of our progress, and the many ways in which you can get involved, MRFoET will soon be publishing a regular newsletter. If you would like to receive a copy of the newsletter, please confirm your details with us via email at mrfoet@bigpond.com. If you do not have an email address, please call us as we can post the newsletter to you.

Interim Committee members are -

Chair: John Connor (Woodend), Secretary: Fran Wigley (Kyneton), Treasurer: Vicki Cronin (Woodend), Committee: Noel Harvey (Kyneton): Vice Chair & Public Officer, Rob Rindzevicius (Sunbury), Minutes Secretary, Aileen Webster (Lancefield), Barbara Fletcher (Gisborne) and Gaynor Atkin (MRSC Community Projects Team Leader)

STOP PRESS – Treasurer, and Community Coordinator for the team Vicki Cronin will be travelling to East Timor in April with a Bendigo- Maubisse Friendship Committee working party to assist with a project in Maubisse, which is in the vicinity of Turiscai. We look forward to her reporting on this visit on her return.

If you would like to know more about how to be involved please contact Vicki on 0409 434 101

email - vickicronin@westnet.com.au

Fran on 0411 208 448 email - mrfoet@bigpond.com