



Romsey Historic Site Plaques Project Underway

Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association (RRBATA) is pleased to announce that an important element of the Romsey Streetscape Project is underway. The Romsey Historic Site Plaques Project has received generous support from both the *Bendigo Bank* and *Macedon Ranges Shire Council* ("Places for People") which will result in upwards of 48 sites being identified with enamel plaques containing a brief description of the site's historic significance. Each plaque will have the potential for a digital interface with Romsey Online where more extensive historic information will be accessible. The digital capacity of this project will illuminate Romsey's rich history to visitors and local community members alike in a 21st century format. The potential for this as an educational tool is also exciting to the Project Team members.

Team members have already photographed sites around Romsey for inclusion and were encouraged by the enthusiastic support received from property owners. A formal letter requesting permission from property owners for their properties to be researched and included will be circulated soon.

RRBATA anticipates this project will be a significant resource for Romsey in an economic development, tourism, education and local town pride capacity. It is anticipated that much of this project will be completed within 12 months of commencement.

If you would like to discuss including your property in this project *or* if you have further enquiries:

Jenny Stillman

President

RRBATA

P.O. Box, 50, Romsey, Vic., 3434.

Ph. 0412 349849

www.romsey.org.au

Follow RRBATA



Junior volleyball a hit at Romsey Recreation Centre

Romsey Recreation Centre's junior volleyball competition is proving to be a success, with a number of participants in the 2016 season taking part in regional and state competitions.

Two young players were also offered the opportunity to attend Volleyball Australia's Junior Men's Development camp in December.

Romsey Recreation Centre proudly provide the only junior volleyball competition in the Macedon Ranges, having delivered a 10 week program for children between 8–14 years of age in Term 4, which included skill development and games.

The popular sports program, demonstrated by a large number of dedicated and passionate players, is extending itself to 2017, with Romsey Recreation Centres' next competition kicking off on 1 February and running until 29 March.

Games will be held Wednesdays from 4.30pm and cost \$87.30 per child.

No experience is necessary.

Enrol your child online at mrsc.vic.gov.au/rrc or call Romsey Recreation Centre 5429 5637.

THE ROMSEY RAG

Issue No. 350 2070 copies produced each month at Romsey Primary School as a service to our community and proudly supported by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council

February 2017

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

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The closing date for copy for the March 2017 edition of the Rag is February 15th 2017.

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 We require submissions to be in Word document format, and for graphics to be in Jpeg format. Please ensure that you have permission to use photographs of people depicted in your article.

THE ROMSEY RAG IS PROUDLY PRODUCED AT ROMSEY PRIMARY SCHOOL AS A COMMUNITY SERVICE

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Contributions:
Articles should be left at the Romsey Post Office (fax 5429 5134) or Romsey Primary School by 12 noon on the 15th of the month.

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.

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

Distribution:
2070 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 2017

Edition	Closing Date for Copy	Collating Date
February 2017	January 15th 2017	Thursday February 2nd
March 2017	February 15th 2017	Thursday February 23rd
April 2017	March 15th 2017	Thursday March 30th
May 2017	April 15th 2017	Thursday April 2th
June 2017	May 15th 2017	Thursday May 25th
July 2017	June 15th 2017	Thursday June 29th
August 2017	July 15th 2017	Thursday July 27th
September 2017	August 15th 2017	Thursday August 31st
October 2017	September 15th 2017	Thursday September 21st
November 15th 2017	October 15th 2017	Thursday October 26th
December 2017	November 2017	Thursday November 30th

ROMSEY & LANCEFIELD SOCIAL CLUB

Inviting men and women 55 to 105 who are retired, lonely and helpful.

We meet **Every Monday** in the back rooms of the Romsey Mechanics Hall from 11am to 3pm for lunch and afternoon tea. Hot soup, rolls, nibbles and biscuits and cake. Cost \$5.

Some groups play cards, others sit and chat or play indoor bowls. For those who don't drive, we have a council bus that will pick you up and drop you off in the afternoon.

Once a month we have professional cooks who come in and give us a 2 course lunch. This meal is \$10.

We also have a **Bus Trip** to some very interesting places on the first Wednesday of the month with a 2 course meal and morning tea. Trips are \$40 which includes your lunch.

For more information please contact:

Rae Hooke 54291602

E. Parks 54291314

Come along and give us a try!

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The Lancefield Romsey Commuter Bus offers a Mon-Fri return service direct to the CBD at the cheapest rate available in the shire. **Only \$60.00 per week** for permanent travellers. We also cater for casual travellers.

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Seats currently available.
Contact Wendy McNally 0419 362 673



**Great Global Greyhound Walk Sunday
the 17th June
Lancefield Park, 10:30am – 2:30pm**



What can I say except that 2016 was yet another record breaker with a huge 5, 021 sighthounds walking across the globe on June 19th.

The theme was carnival which for me means colour, fun and party.

We had a whippet wedding in Brazil, a fashion show, complete with red carpet, in Slovenia and York had the highest attendance, across the whole world, with 144 sighthounds and 5 companion dogs walking.

Christchurch, New Zealand did the honours by starting off the day with their walk at 10.30am (23.30 18/6/16 GMT). Shortly afterwards 21 other walks in Australia and New Zealand began along with 1 walk in the Philippines. We had our first ever walk in the Middle East where 4 sighthounds walked in Abu Dhabi.

Heading east, and into Europe, there were walks held in Italy, Spain, France, Netherlands, Belgium and Italy.

Two walks were registered in Slovenia (another 1st) and at one of the walks they were joined by sighthound owners from Croatia.

Here in the UK, the day began at 8am with 3 intrepid walkers beginning an ascent of Pen y Fan, the highest peak in south Wales, complete with 3 sighthounds and 1 companion dog. Shortly after another small group climbed Snowdon, the highest peak in north Wales. On their climb they were accompanied by 5 sighthounds. The group climbing Snowdon were sponsored and raised over £1,000 for Wolverhampton RGT.

The rest of the UK started their walks from 10am onwards and many walks embraced the carnival atmosphere by dressing up, having picnics or just a lovely walk followed by a bit of a social. The total number of sighthounds walking in the UK was 3,538.

The final countries to walk were North America, Canada and Brazil, yes another GGGW first. In North America there were new locations including Chicago, Richmond (Virginia) and Seattle. There were more walks registered in Canada, than in previous years, with new locations including Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal. Finally Brazil joined in the carnival spirit and have big plans already for GGGW 2017.

For more information please contact:

Kate Christie – 0408 510 475

Vicki Chandler – 0402 334 282

Email: LancefieldGGGW@gmail.com



Upper Deep Creek
Landcare Network

**Media Release
11th January 2017**

The Upper Deep Creek Landcare Network in partnership with Macedon Ranges Shire, are seeking interested landholders from the Kerrie, Cherokee and Heskett areas to start a new Landcare group to cover these areas.

All local landholders interested in the natural environment and sustainable farming are invited to attend a public meeting on the formation of a new landcare group in the Kerrie area. The meeting will be held on Thursday 16th March from 6:30pm – 7:30pm at the Kerrie Hall, Kerrie Valley Road, Kerrie. All Welcome.

For catering purposes please RSVP by Tuesday 14th March your interest in attending the meeting to John Robinson by email upper.deep.creek.landcare@gmail.com or call 5782 0184. Please send an email or call if you cannot attend the meeting, but are interested in being a member of the proposed new landcare group or if you want more information.

With rolling hills, bushland, beautiful creeks and productive farming land the Kerrie Valley area is a great place to live and farm. However, land management issues such as weeds and pest animals like rabbits and foxes, as well as erosion, threaten the beauty and productivity of the area.

Attending the public meeting will enable interested landholders to find out more information about Landcare, what starting a new Landcare group will involve and what it could do “At the meeting participants will hear from members of adjoining groups on how they formed, what they do and the benefits of Landcare.

More details on Media Release - Please contact Grant Godden, Landcare Facilitator, 0448 137 761 or udc.landcare.facilitator@gmail.com



Music in the Sticks is looking for new members

Are you aged between 14–25 years and passionate about music? Why not join Council's Music in the Sticks (MITS) program.

MITS is a program for young people in the Macedon Ranges Shire with an interest in the music industry, and gives participants the chance to pick up a range of new skills in areas such as event management, sound and lighting, publicity, media, photography, film, hospitality, and live and studio recording.

To find out more or register your interest, call Natalie on 5422 0333 or email mits@mrsc.vic.gov.au

Discover a world of arts at your door

Be the first to find out what music, comedy, dance and culture is headed to the Macedon Ranges this year as Council launches its Arts & Culture events program for 2017 on Friday 10 February at Kyneton Town Hall.

Come along to the launch at 5.30pm and enjoy cheap tickets, entertainment, door prizes and complimentary drinks and nibbles. There may even be a few surprises!

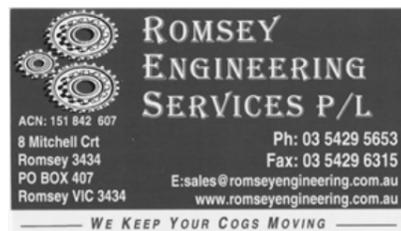
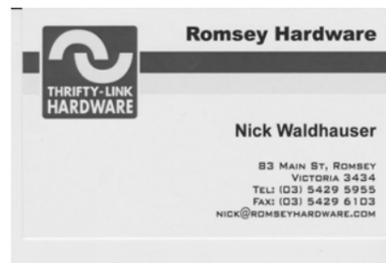
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Romsey Primary School News

Romsey Primary School is excited about the start of the 2017 school year.

School Captains announced:

At the end of 2016 the new school captains and vice captains were selected and presented to the school community. The students wrote applications for the roles and were interviewed for the positions. The new captains are Jakira Bowen -Duarte and Harrison Banon and vice-captains Callum Murer and Elizabeth Farrell (pictured below). It was a pleasure to interview all 15 students who applied for the roles. I was very impressed with the confidence shown by all of the applicants. The new leaders met with the outgoing captains Cooper O'Brien, Tahlia Hartney, Bethany Wilmann and Darcy Lockens and have passed on some very handy tips for 2017.



Refurbished building:

Over the holiday period builders were busy refurbishing and remodelling rooms 1-5. The building project has given the Prep – 2 atrium a wonderful facelift and has created a more flexible learning space for the children and staff. The project was made possible through a \$120, 000 grant from the State Government for facilities maintenance. The school council also contributed \$50, 000 to the project.

New staff:

In 2017 we welcome back Mr Liam Devlin into the Art room , Mr Andrew Zollia into the Performing Arts position, Ms Tara Clancy into Prep and Mrs Andrea Evans as an intervention

teacher. Mrs Marilyn Killender has also returned. We look forward to welcoming these people into or back to our Romsey Primary School team.

Tree Safety and garden volunteers:

Over the holiday break works also took place in the playground on a number of trees which had been inspected and deemed unsafe. 13 trees were removed and a number of other trees were trimmed to remove unsafe foliage. Over Term 1 the school community will be spreading the mulch from these trees over our many garden beds. We are looking for volunteers in the community who would enjoy working in the gardens with our students as the children learn to care for their environment. If you are interested could you please contact the school on 54 295 099. All volunteers require a

current working with children check, the school is happy to assist you in obtaining this. It is a free and simple process, but an essential one to ensure the safety of our children.



TOGETHER WE LEARN AND GROW

Student reporters:

In 2017 our student reporters will continue writing articles for the Romsey Rag, I look forward to their first reports in next month's Romsey Rag.

All the best for 2017

Loren Peavey

Principal

Join Juliarna Clark and her swinging Heartjazz Band for a wonderful afternoon of sizzling jazz in the beautiful setting of Nardoo Farm, Monegeetta.



Saturday, March 4,
Tickets \$30

Cabaret seating

Book at

heartjazzbookings@gmail.com

Details at www.juliarna.com

Profits are for a seed fund to commission an original opera set in Lancefield.

For more information, please visit www.juliarna.com




Term 1 Junior sports

Junior volleyball 9 week competition (8-14 years)

1 Feb-29 Mar
\$87.30 per child
Games played on Wednesday from 4.30pm
Enrol online: mrsc.vic.gov.au/rrc

Shooting Hoops basketball development program (5-10 years)

31 Jan-28 Mar
\$87.30 per child
Tuesdays 4pm-4.45pm
Enrol online: mrsc.vic.gov.au/rrc

Goal Kick soccer development program (5-10 years)

3 Feb – 31 Mar
\$87.30 per child
Fridays 4pm-4.45pm
Enrol online: mrsc.vic.gov.au/rrc

Where: Romsey Recreation Centre,
12 Park Lane, Romsey. For further information
contact 5429 5637 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/rrc



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MEAT WITH THE BUTCHER

Meat With the butcher is a Delicious new venture that was launched on November 4th at the Mechanics Hall in Lancefield. It is a fresh and exciting alternative to just 'going out for dinner', instead you learn how to get the best from the meat you cook and eat. It's an experience for all of your senses, as master butcher John walks you through from preparation to partaking. The highlight is the incredible 2 course steak dinner, but it's not just any steak it's a 350g grain fed Scotch Fillet! - paired with local wine from Curly Flat winery. It's a great idea for a group, there's laughter and learning and did we mention that amazing steak? The launch was a rousing success, some of the comments coming back were; I've learnt more in this short time than I have in years; Very very informative and enjoyable; I've been barbecuing my steaks all wrong Very enlightening, It was a sensory learning experience in the best kind of way.

If you would like more information, or to book for the next event
Phone John 0402858657
ABN: 35952407314



Council grants—get ready for the year ahead

Council's grants and funding programs are a great opportunity for community groups to receive assistance to develop skills, programs, performances, artworks, events, festivals and much more.

Now is the perfect time to plan any projects and goals your group would like to achieve in the year ahead and to see if they will be eligible for a Council grant.

To assist with applying for grants, keep an eye out for upcoming workshops.

Annual grants calendar

January:	Landcare and Environmental Friends Group funding
April:	Community Funding Scheme Events and Festivals Grant Program
August:	Places for People Community Weed Partnership Program
All year:	Small Community Grants

For more information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/grants or contact our customer service officer on 5422 0333.

Have you shared your vision for the Macedon Ranges?

There is still time to have your say and help shape the development of the Council Plan 2017–2021, which includes the Health and Wellbeing Plan.

The plan will set out how we, as a community, would like to invest in our services and facilities.

You can share your opinion on possible aims and aspirations for the shire via an online survey or written submissions until **Sunday 12 February**.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council Mayor, Cr Jennifer Anderson encourages everyone to make the most of this initial consultation phase aimed at seeking feedback on a range of community views Councillors heard during last year's election period.

"We are very keen to work with our residents and businesses about the development of our Council plan, covering the next four years and beyond, for all Macedon Ranges communities.

"You can share your ideas via our short survey—or prepare a written submission of your own.

"We need the community's help and ideas as the plan guides how Council sets its priorities, and plans for future," she said.

Feedback from this first stage of consultation will inform the development of a draft Council Plan, which will be subject to further community consultation in February and March 2017.

To complete the online survey, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay by Sunday 12 February 2017. You can also send a written submission to mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au or PO Box 151, Kyneton VIC 3444.



Lancefield Macedon Ranges Relay For Life - Paint the Town Purple -

Businesses have again been asked to decorate their windows and shop displays purple this month in a competition to promote the Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life.

Lancefield, Romsey and Riddells Creek traders are expected to highlight the 15th birthday event that will be held at Lancefield Park on March 4 and 5.

This year's winners will be determined by their popularity among the Relay's Facebook page followers. Photos of all participating businesses will be posted and the judges will be monitoring how many Likes they receive.

Meanwhile, six hotels have thrown their support behind the Relay For Life by collecting donations. They include Lancefield, Riddells Creek, Clarkefield, Macedon Railway Hotel, Victoria Hotel Woodend and the Telegraph Hotel Gisborne.

More than 18 teams have registered for this year's event which is expected to bring the overall amount of money raised locally for the Cancer Council Victoria since 2003 to \$1.3 million. All of the money raised supports cancer research, education, advocacy and support services.

Organisers are looking forward to a memorable weekend with a party theme, while many participants plan to continue fundraising until the Relay closes on the Sunday morning.

An Early Bird \$20 per person registration fee offer closes on February 5 at midnight. Individual and team registrations for \$25 per person will be accepted up until the event weekend.

Cancer survivors and carers are warmly invited to walk the opening lap and attend afternoon tea. Anyone interested in participating can contact **Kathy** on **0419 644 688** or email lancefield@relayforlife.org.au. **More details at www.relayforlife.org.au.**

Nadine Hartnett
Volunteer Committee

Lancefield Macedon Ranges Relay For Life hartnett@bigpond.net.au 0439 399 838

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Macedon Ranges Physiotherapy

Ben will now be at Romsey full time & Lauren will be at Lancefield Wednesday's & Fridays.

Patients can see whichever Physiotherapist they prefer.

Once your care plan is arranged, simply call the medical centre of your choice for an appointment.

Ben Gidley Romsey Medical Centre 99 Main Street Phone: 5429 5254	Lauren Matthews Lancefield Country Practice 17 High Street Phone: 5429 1362
---------------------------------------------------------------------------	--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------

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Romsey Mechanics Institute

presidentrmi@gmail.com
rmibookings@gmail.com

PO Box 130
Romsey 3434

www.romseymechanicsinstitute.com
inquiries can be made at; rmibookings@gmail.com

Mob; 0458 702 106

The RMI closed down in late December to allow time for works to repair damage to the floors and to refurbish their polished finish. Our thanks to Lyndal for all her hard work to get the floors back to their best condition.

During December we were able to pull down and remove much of the fence on the south side of the hall. This included removing three trees that had grown along the fence-line as well as concrete and brick rubble from the removal of the old woodshed. Our thanks to Andrew, Ian and Robbie Corner for the use of their truck and excavator and for their skill and hard work that got the job done. These works have also made the area more open allowing better vehicular access and much improved wind flow, which will assist with the drying out of the building.

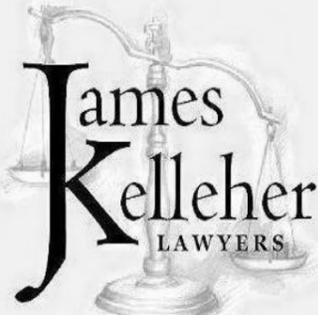
Works to repair the building's chimneys have also begun. These works will see the chimneys capped to stop ingress by birds and insects, the caps will all include small vents to allow exhaust from any heaters. All bricks were checked and if slightly loose were removed and reset.

The Mechanics Institute of Victoria has been running an historical plaques program for a number of years. The plaques all have an introductory paragraph about Mechanics Institutes however each CoM is then able to prepare a short history of their building. We hope to have this plaque early in 2017.

We are still awaiting news of the success or otherwise of our application for funds to repair and refurbish the two WW1 Honour Rolls that currently hang in the foyer of the RMI. We hope this will be

Our **2017 Antiques Fair, Sat March 18th**, is progressing well as is the Garden Fair, which we hope to run on Sunday March 19th. There are still a few stalls available on each day. This event received a grant from the Bendigo Bank Community Investment Program, again, thanks for supporting an event that has the potential to grow and to draw more people into our town. This activity is run in partnership with the Romsey Neighbourhood House.

If you are planning something, a birthday, an anniversary, an engagement or any other function please consider the RMI our web site gives a good idea as to what we have to offer. Bookings and all inquiries can be made at; rmibookings@gmail.com. We are very happy to discuss your function, show you through the hall or supper room and explain the hire process. Anthony Lakey - Chair - RMI - CoM



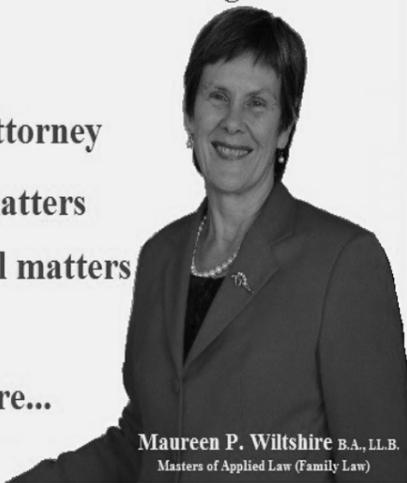
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Masters of Applied Law (Family Law)



COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF ROMSEY and LANCEFIELD Inc.
A0042634P
P.O. Box 280, Romsey. Vic. 3434

President: Greg Buist 5429 1116
Secretary: Jenifer Clampit 5429 5480

Probus is for people 55 years or over. The Romsey/Lancefield Probus club is a small one. At the beginning of 2016 we had 34 members and then during the year 8 people joined our group which brought our numbers up to 42. All our members are active and aged between 58 - 90 years. We enjoy each others company and have made good friendships along the way. Always plenty of chat and laughter whenever we are together. A very enjoyable Christmas lunch was enjoyed at the 'Australiana'. Wandong on 21st December, 2016. Our first get together for 2017 was a BBQ at the home of Greg & Jean Buist, Lancefield on 18th January, 2017. Always an enjoyable day.

Monthly meetings
10am, 4th Thursday of the month
St. Mary's Church Hall, Main Street, Romsey.
February 2017 meeting : 23rd February, 2017

Now you are retired or close to retiring from work come and join the friendly folk in the

Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club and learn more about what Probus can offer to assist you in staying active. Or phone the numbers above.

Check out our website for information about the Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club rprobus.org.au

For Active Retirees. Probus South Pacific

The secret to maintaining a fulfilling lifestyle following retirement is to stay involved, become an adventurer, and enjoy new experiences with friends.

When you finish work and lose the responsibility of having a job, it is important to develop interests and friendships. You also need to accept the psychological impact that this may have on you, when you realise that your work skills are no longer required. Probus provides fellowship with others in a similar situation, which is vital to the ongoing mental wellbeing of retirees and your work skills could be used to help in another way.

Reasons to join Probus: Enjoy the fellowship of like-minded people - Probus club members meet active

retirees in their local areas, across Australia and around the world.

You can check out the Probus South Pacific website to find out more about how Probus was formed 40 years ago and what it has achieved.

www.probusouthpacific.org
Phone: 1300 630 488



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Romsey Streetscape Project

CLEAN UP ROMSEY DAY

Sunday 19th March 2017

9.00am to 11.00am

Assemble at Lions Reserve (Skate Park)
Followed by a Sausage Sizzle!

Contact: Jenny Stillman
www.romsey.org.au



0412 349849
Follow RRBATA

BULK BILLING SPECIALIST GP COMPLETES TRAINING AT ROMSEY MEDICAL

Romsey Medical



Lancefield Medical



Romsey and Lancefield Medical welcomes: **Dr David BEAINI**

Dr David Beaini has commenced at Romsey Medical Centre and is currently in his second year in the Australian General Practice Training Program. Last year he worked in a busy regional General Practice in Ballarat and comes to us to complete his General Practice Specialist Training. He is a qualified Doctor and has committed to spending the next 12 months working in Romsey and Lancefield. Having spent the past 3 years working in Ballarat, David is excited about joining our team in February 2017. He is passionate about general family practice and in particular travel medicine. Outside of work David is an avid sports fan, particularly when it comes to AFL. Romsey and Lancefield Medical Centre's are fully accredited training practices' and take pride in providing Doctors who are new to General Practice with the opportunity to live and work in a rural community. Dr Beaini will be working Monday to Friday (9 day fortnight) and 1 Saturday per month

Children Under 16 are **BULK BILLED** by ALL DOCTORS

Phone: 5429 5254

Specialist GPs

Romsey Medical



Lancefield Medical

Telephone (03) 5429 5254

ROMSEY MEDICAL
99 MAIN STREET
ROMSEY VIC 3434

LANCEFIELD MEDICAL
20 CHAUNCEY STREET
LANCEFIELD VIC 3435

www.romseymedical.com.au

We are committed to providing the highest quality medical care to our community by delivering ethical, consistent, timely and comprehensive medical care including family medicine, emergency care and preventative health.

During a bushfire, your mains water pressure may drop or supply may be cut.

If you plan to stay and defend, it's important to have an independent water supply.

@WesternWater

WesternWaterAU

WesternWater.com.au

WESTERN WATER



St Paul's Anglican Church Op Shop 77 Main Street, Romsey

Open:
Thursdays 12.30pm—4.30pm
Fridays 2.30pm—4.30pm
Saturdays 10.00am—1.00pm

Goods suitable for sale may be left under the veranda at the rear of the Op Shop.
Christmas hour advertised in Church article.

We cannot accept any electrical items including computers, printers etc. Also car seats, prams, cots or any other safety equipment.

Owing to lack of space, we cannot accept large furniture



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St. Mary's Parish - Lancefield & Romsey

Parish Priest: Fr. Marc Barry
 Parish Secretary: Mrs. Tammie Dalgleish
 School Principal: Mr. Anthony Falls
 School web site: www.smlancefield.catholic.edu.au

Presbytery: 5429 2130
 Presbytery: 5429 2130
 St. Mary's Primary: 5429 1359

MASS TIMES

Saturday:

6.00 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

ROSARY

Saturdays 9:45am Romsey

RECONCILIATION

By arrangement.

BAPTISMS

2016 – By request

For more information, please phone 5429 2130.

REGULAR EVENTS

Christian Meditation Group: Each Monday evening

6:00 p.m. Romsey Church – all welcome

Enquiries: Barry 5429 3311

SACRAMENTS

Parents with children not attending St. Mary's School who are scheduled to receive Sacraments in 2017 are requested to contact the secretary by phone: 5429 2130 or by email at lancefield@cam.org.a to register your child.

Reconciliation program begins Wednesday 1st of March – Registration cut-off is Friday 10th of February.

Eucharist program begins Saturday 29th of April – Registration cut-off is Friday 14th of April.
 Confirmation program begins Wednesday 21st of June –

Registration cut-off is Friday 2nd of June.

Keep up to date with parish activities - St. Mary's Parish Lancefield-Romsey



Parish News

Many of you will have heard that Fr. Marc has left St. Mary's Parish. Sadly, he has had a recurrence of some life-long health issues which require him to now take some time to heal. We wish him well.

We have been fortunate to gain the temporary services of Fr. Vinoth Santiago who is a hospital chaplain at The Royal Melbourne Hospital and Peter McCallum Cancer Hospital. Fr. Vinoth celebrated Christmas with us and will continue supply throughout February. Parishioners may opt to receive our weekly bulletin via email to keep up to date with Mass times – lancefield@cam.org.a or like our Facebook page for regular updates.

Media release

Fire restrictions announced for 2016/17 season



The Fire Danger Period will begin at 1am on Monday, 12 December 2016 for the following municipalities in CFA's North West Region:

Central Goldfields Shire Council
 Mount Alexander Shire Council

CFA District 2 Acting Operations Manager Trent McKinnon said forecasts show potential for an above average fire season, despite the recent heavy rain and flooding in many parts of the state.

"The rainfall experienced in spring has produced a lot of growth, which could very easily become a high fuel load throughout the summer season if not properly managed," he said.

"Reducing fuel loads will ensure that if a fire does break out, it has less chance of taking hold or spreading. While CFA does everything it can, we look to the community to use common sense and take responsibility for preventing fires."

Mr McKinnon said there was still a short window of opportunity to clean up your property if you haven't already done so.

"Out of control burn-offs and unregistered burn-offs have been a major headache for brigades," he said.

"You should avoid burning off when high winds are forecast – not only on the day of your burn but for the days afterwards.

"For information about burn-off restrictions specific to your area consult your local council."

Mr McKinnon said this fire season CFA would be taking a zero tolerance approach to any fires resulting from negligent behaviour.

"Expect any fire you start to be fully investigated by police," he said.

"Even if you have a permit to use fire over the Fire Danger Period, make sure you read the conditions carefully. Failing to follow just one of those conditions may leave you open to prosecution."

During the Fire Danger Period (FDP) fires cannot be lit in the open air without a written permit from CFA or a Municipal Fire Prevention Officer. FDPs are based on local conditions and take into account fuel moisture, fuel loads, grassland curing, weather and rainfall.

Victorians can find out "Can I or Can't I?" information at cfa.vic.gov.au/can or by calling Vic Emergency

Hotline on 1800 226 226. All burn-offs should be registered with the VicFire Burn-off notification line on 1800 668 511.

Fire Danger Period information:

A written permit is required to burn off grass, undergrowth, weeds or other vegetation during the FDP. This permit may be issued by the Municipal Fire Prevention Officer or the CFA District Office. Please check with your municipality in the first instance.

Lighting a fire in the open without a permit is an offence and can bring a penalty of over \$21,600 and/or 12 months imprisonment. Barbeques and fires for cooking and warmth do not require a permit, but **must** be lit in properly constructed fireplaces (to view complete conditions visit cfa.vic.gov.au/can)

The use of an incinerator, chainsaw/lawn mower, welding/grinding equipment and vehicles that come in contact with vegetation and machinery with an internal combustion/heat engine are permitted provided [conditions are followed](#). Farmers can find legal guidelines and practical advice at cfa.vic.gov.au/farming – this information is important especially for new farmers, bush block owners or hobby farmers.

A [Total Fire Ban declaration](#) means no fires can be lit for the declared district for that day unless there is a specific exemption or special permit issued. This applies irrespective of the Fire Restriction status for a given municipality. Further details at cfa.vic.gov.au/can

For more information contact CFA Media on: 1300 CFA MEDIA (24 hours) or cfamedia@cfa.vic.gov.au
cfa.vic.gov.au



Macedon Ranges
Shire Council

Aquatic & Leisure Centres

What's on

2017 programs include:

- **Goal Kick soccer**

Fridays from 4pm

- **Shooting Hoops basketball**

Tuesdays from 4pm

- **Junior volleyball**

Wednesdays from 4.30pm

Enrol now!

Romsey Recreation Centre, Park Lane
 Phone 5429 5637 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/rrc

ROMSEY LICENSED POST OFFICE

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The Independent Living Specialists

Services available:

- **Personal Care** - Assistance with daily living
- **Respite Care** - Supporting family and carers
- **Transport** - On time and in comfort
- **Nursing Care** - When expert care is needed



*Please refer to our website for more information on our services.

1300 783 765
 primacare.com.au



Event Management Workshop

Whether it's a fun run, community festival, music event, art show or cycling competition, a key part of a successful event is having an Event Management Plan.

This interactive and practical workshop is taking place on Monday 13 February 2017 and will provide event organisers with the tools, skills and knowledge to develop a comprehensive Event Management Plan. Topics which will be covered include risk, safety and emergency planning along with other key operational matters.

Presented by Tracey Hull from THA Consulting, she has over 25 years' experience in the events industry, including event management roles with community events. Tracey's experience means realistic event training will be provided using practical examples.

Held from 6pm–9pm at the Kyneton Town Hall in the Richardson Room, all attendees will receive a comprehensive event plan template to take away with them. Whether your event plan is in need of an update or you need to develop one—come along to find out how!

The cost is \$25 for two representatives to attend from each community event and places are limited. To book, visit www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/business-events. For more information call Bridgette on 5421 9521 or email bobrien@mrsc.vic.gov.au



THANK YOU ROMSEY
 for your fantastic support of **Christmas in Romsey 2016**.
 Look forward to an even bigger and better **Christmas in Romsey 2017**.

All feedback gratefully received to info@romsey.org.au and RRBATA facebook.



Pastor's Parables

Encourage Church
 Office: 7 Mitchell Court Romsey
 Ph (03) 5429 6327
 Email: encouragechurch@iprimus.com.au
 Website: www.encouragechurch.com.au

A gift is usually something 'paid for' by another and given free of charge – no strings attached. We do not earn or deserve a gift, otherwise it would be a payment or a reward. However, when a gift is given, it only becomes ours when we freely accept it.

God gave us the greatest of all gifts. He humbled Himself and became a man (Jesus Christ) and willingly went to the cross to pay the penalty for the sins of the world so anyone who chooses may have everlasting life instead of judgement. All that is left to receive everlasting-life is for us to simply accept it as a gift - by faith. We must understand that salvation is not a reward or a payment, (... it is the gift of God, not of works, lest anyone should boast. Eph. 2:8-9). If we think we earned or deserved it, then we have not received it - everlasting life is a gift paid for by another (Christ). All we have to do is simply 'believe' the gift is ours and it becomes ours – forever. Furthermore, God does not take back His gifts. Once in our possession, it always remains in our possession - for eternity. We did nothing to gain the gift - we can do nothing to lose it. No one can steal it from us and we can't return it to God. John 3:16 states, 'God so loved the world that He gave His uniquely born Son (Jesus Christ) that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life.'

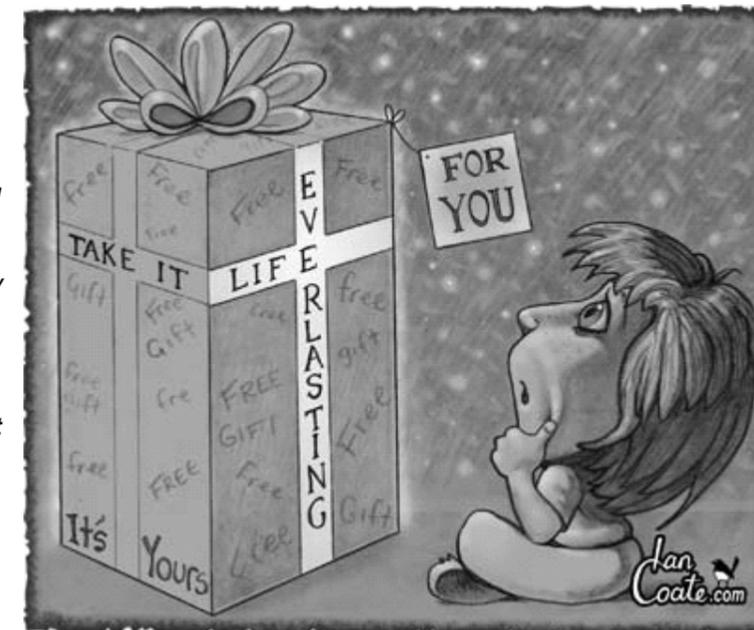
Don't be one who eternally regrets declining the greatest gift ever given, when by accepting it is as easy as 'believing' that it belongs to us. As it is freely given - it must be freely received. (John 6:40)

If you would like to know more about faith in Jesus please contact Pastor Marilyn or our Church office Ph 5429 6327

We would be happy to help you find true peace and joy in life.
 Encourage Church: "Encouraging one another to be ALL we can be in life and in God".

You are invited to join us at our regular Sunday Service: **10am at 7 Mitchell Court Romsey** or one of our fortnightly Life Groups. Fortnightly Youth events and weekly Children's Programs.

We also offer **Kidzone Before & After School Care | Vacation Care | 'mainly music' Program**
 Pastor Marilyn Hunter - "**ENCOURAGE CHURCH**"



Don't rely on water supply this fire season

Western Water is warning Romsey residents to have an independent water supply ready if they plan to stay and defend their home this fire season. If electricity is cut or water infrastructure is affected by fire, pumps and other equipment may fail, cutting the mains water supply. If there is extremely high demand for water from customers and the CFA during a fire, water pressure may also drop.

Residents should consult their local CFA about their options for an independent water supply and plan ahead. Western Water is also doing all it can to prepare for summer, with backup generators ready and water storage tanks at high capacity to cope in case of fire.

Residents can also help the community to be prepared for fire season by 'adopting' a fire hydrant. Keep any fire hydrants near your home free of debris and vegetation, and if you think a hydrant needs maintenance, call Western Water to report it.

You can also send Western Water a message on Facebook, or fill in a form on the website at WesternWater.com.au.



THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF CHRIST CHURCH, LANCEFIELD



THE TRUE GUIDE

As the year begins we know that in the days ahead there will be joys and disappointments, hopes and dreams fulfilled and unfulfilled, the happiness that comes when a baby is born and the sadness when a loved one leaves us for the life that is to come.

What a comfort it is to know that we have One who will guide us through the ups and downs of these days, God himself our loving father. when we look to him The Psalmist writes. "For this god is our god for ever and ever, He will be our guide even to the end" Psalm 48:14. King George V1 in his Christmas message of 1939, following the outbreak of WW2, quoted a poem given to him by his thirteen year old daughter ,Princess Elizabeth -"I said to the man that stood at the gate of the year, 'Give me a light that I may tread safely out into the Unknown, and he replied, 'Go out into the darkness, and put your hand into the hand of God, that shall be better than a light and safer than a known way'"(Minnie Haskins 1908). He finished by saying " May that Almighty Hand ,guide us all."

"Not mine ,not mine the choice , In things great and small; Be though my guide . my Strength, my Wisdom and my All." Horatio Bonar

February Dairy 2017

Thursday 27th January OP SHOP Reopens
Thursday Feb.9th 8pm AMS (Anglican Mens Society)
Christ Church Hall Lancefield
Enq Tom Morgan 5429-6060
Sunday Feb 19th 5pm Healing Service Christ Church Hall
Lancefield Rev Bill Carroll

March 2017

Wed 1st March Ash Wednesday
9am Holy Communion St Pauls Romsey.
Also St Davids Day
Feb 3rd March Church and Community World Day Of Prayer

Sunday Worship times -

Holy Communion 9am St Pauls Romsey
10 .30 am Christ Church Lancefield

Minister Rev .W Carroll
Office 5429-13
80 Mob 0427-918-607
Doreen Morgan Correspondent.



Coffee Shop Conversations

Well a New Year is upon us and by the time you receive this Rag one month has already gone , and what a month its been from people I know to the tragedy in the Bourke street Mall. I had the idea this year was going to be a fresh start smooth sailing in to my dreams and goals for 2017 ,so the ups and downs already experienced for the year bought me back to reality and the realisation that Life My Life and yours still goes on. A hick up a diversion and from everything that happens we gain a new learning about ourselves.

Once we become aware of our learning's we deal with them in the right way and we can then RE FOCUS .
So we can begin the year of moving forward, to be where we want to be,
My word for the year 2017 is :

FOCUS

Meaning: the centre of interest or activity .
And my mantra is "Stop Think and Flick the switch."

To know what to focus on we have to realise what we want .
So you can ask your self ,What do I want to achieve this year ?
Even if the answer is I just want to be happy , well what do you need to do to be happy?
Think about it for a while ,Make a list .

And then if you are having a bad day you have the answer ,go to your list and do something that is going to make you happy, you are able to re focus.

Doing one thing a day towards what you want to achieve is a good idea.

It sounds so simple but if you are wanting to achieve more, then you need a goal.

If you would like to know more about setting goals that are congruent with who you are then I am running a workshop
"Empowered Thoughts Inspired Action "
on the SATURDAY the 11th of February 1pm to 4pm
For more information contact Gillian 0409801082

Saturday December 17th - Ambrose

A strong field assembled for the club's Ambrose and Christmas Drinks round. The course was in excellent condition however the wind did pose a few problems. It began with a gentle zephyr from the west before moving to the north-west then, later in the round, gusting from the south-west Players were caught between lining up their shot and carefully watching the flag or the top of the trees to gauge the strength and direction of the wind. The course echoed with cheers and groans as approached shots hit their mark and putts dropped, or just missed the cup. It was a wonderful to welcome immediate past president Bob Preece back for a round. On a very enjoyable, if windy, day the results were; **Winners;** Bob Dwyer, Wendy Gosden, Anthony Lakey, Bob Preece - 75/15/60 from Anthony Freeman, Scott Williams, Neil Munro, Chris vanDerVliet - 71/10.5/60.5 and Mal Mottram, Bob McLennan, Mick Nicholls (Snr) - 69/8/61 **NTPs** - 1st - Bob McLennan, 15 & 16 - Sherif Abdel-Sayed



Wednesday December 14th - Mulligans.

It was a warm, sunny morning as the Women took to the field for the final event of their 2016 syllabus. Mulligans allows players to play a "bad" shot and then replay it, (within the limits of each player's handicap) It was a very relaxed round with many a "courageous" shot almost immediately followed by a more conservative offering. The day's results were; **Winner;** Jan Harver - 104/34/70 C/B fr0m Darlene Baker - 96/26/70

Saturday December 10th - John Laing Final & Par.

Despite the heavy rains of Sept/Oct the whole of Romsey

Park was beginning to dry out, players had looked forward to some run on the fairways, that was until Thursday morning when over 20 mm of rain fell. Mowers had again been busy getting the rough down so there were some heavy clipping here and there to catch and hide the odd ball however, in general, the course was in excellent condition so some good scoring was expected. The day began with a gentle westerly wind, this soon swung around to the south but never really effected play. The John Laing saw dual 2016 shield winner, Scott Williams (0) pitted against ex-captain and 2015 John Laing winner, Tony Freeman (4). The match was tough but played in good spirits. At the turn it was all square however Williams won the 10th to go 1up. The next three holes were halved then Freeman won the 14th and 15th to go 1up. The 16th was all-square however Freeman played the 17th beautifully and then putted Williams out of the match. The Par competition saw a number of players in contention after the front nine but a lost ball here and a fluffed chip there saw the field fall away and only one player was able to better his handicap. On a warm, sunny day the results were; **Winner;** Mick Nicholls Jnr (23); +3, from John Freestone (22); -1 with Pat Chisholm (9), Les Gaunt (4) both; -3 **NTPs;** 15th - Pat Chisholm

Final of the John Laing Shield

Anthony Freeman (4) **D** Scott Williams (0) - 2/1

Well, it certainly has been a varied beginning to the year. Extreme heat followed by rain then cooler, milder weather. This augers very well for the remainder of

summer. The rain and the re-cycled water has the course l top nick so any one looking for an interesting few hours should head down, pay the \$10 Green Fees and enjoy the course and just walking around Romsey Park. The weather has also seen stunning growth on the almost 1,000 trees that have been planted over the past four – five years.

RGC will be holding our 9th Relay For Life Charity Golf Day on Sunday Feb 19th. This is a great fun day and funds raised will go to the Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life. This event is now in its 15th year and has raised over \$1,200,000.00 for cancer research. Teams of four will take on he "Old Course" layout followed by a traditional RGC lunch and presentations. There are many donation boxes around the town for anyone who would like to support one of the RFL teams.

MACEDON RANGES LEGACY GROUP

The Romsey/Lancefield Legacy Team wish to acknowledge and thank the citizens of Romsey and district for their support of the Legacy Badge sales at Romsey on Friday and Saturday the 2nd, 3rd September 2016. Your support of this charity is most welcome and hopes it will continue.

With grateful thanks,

David Reuther
Chairman of Macedon Rangers Legacy Group

Romsey Golf Club – Men's & Women's Reports

<http://romseygolfclub.net>

Pres; 0417 088 891 Sec; 0400 768 040

Saturday January 14th - Ambrose -Guest Day (G4aC)

After around 5 mm of rain late on Friday the course was again in top nick. Fairways just hard enough to give good value for well struck drives and the greens very receptive to wedge and high iron approach shots. The greens again putted very true, unless you were above the hole on the 5th or the 7th, so players who aimed at the hole got well rewarded. The "Golf for a Cause" (Double comp fee with 1/2 going to cancer research) drew an excellent field however the Ambrose format was perfect for the larger numbers. A couple of teams had "skiting rights" however, as usual, actions spoke louder than words. The day was one of great hilarity with teams cheering each other on or attempting to "get inside each others' heads" to get the advantage. The stakes, a glass and a few balls were certainly high enough! The mild afternoon saw some excellent golf, on a beautiful, almost spring day, the results were;

Winners; Rob Rea/Andrew Clement/Jin Patton - 67/8.2/58.8 from Sherif Abdel-Sayed/Ron Walker/John Freestone - 73/11.3/61.7

NTPs; 1st - John Freestone, 15th - John Freestone & 16th - Rob Rea.

Wednesday January 11th - 12 Hole Ambrose

The 2017 Wednesday syllabus got off to an excellent start. The weather was very pleasant, rarely getting above the mid 20's and the course was in top nick. Teams of two or three took to the field and enjoyed their round over "The Old Course". At par 45 this is a very tricky layout with many players coming unstuck at our "Amen Corner", three successive par 3's. On a very relaxed morning the results were;

Winners: Darlene Baker /Wendy Gosden/Jenny Hartley - 52/11.8/40.2 from Sherif

Abdel-Sayed/Elaine Scanlon - 50/9.7/40.3

NTP; 8th - Darlene Baker.

Saturday January 7th - 4 Ball Aggregate Stableford

With the day's temperature predicted to be 34C the club's heat safety policy did not need to be activated.

Conditions meant that those in carts were hoping for a more relaxed afternoon but as the round wore on some found there was little truth in that. The field teed off with a steady NE breeze to cool things down a little and to add just a bit of spice when shots got above the tree line. *The warm, dry air saw balls travel surprising distances providing some players with quite short approach shots. However, in the end the hot, dry conditions took their toll on many golfers out and it was a battle between two of the cart pairs to win the day. The day's results were;*

Winning pair - Jim Patton (21)/Mick Nicholls Sr who celebrated his 80th birthday at the beginning of Jan, (24) - 71 points from Andrew Laing (19)/John Laing ((30) - 67 points

NTPs; 1st - Jim Patton, 15th - Daniel Wright (very close to jackpot) & 16th - Andrew Laing

Monday January 2nd - New Year's Day Stableford

After Saturday's excellent golf players were looking forward to getting back on the course, having a relaxed round and posting a good score. The 1st round of the year began with a slight southerly breeze and some light but steady drizzle. During the round the breeze grew stronger while the drizzle dried up after the first four or five holes. It was another excellent morning for golf and the scoring was again good. The morning's results were;

Winners; Andrew Laing (19) - 40 pts & Elaine Scanlon (33) - 38 pts

Saturday December 31st - December Medal - Stroke & Putts

With over 60mm of rain falling on Thursday the fairways had softened and the greens were very receptive to well played approach shots. There was some casual water and balls did pick up occasional mud. The damp surface and the day's top temperature, around 30C, made for heavy, humid air and with little run correct club selection was vital. The good conditions lead to some excellent scoring and there were quite a few players "in the hunt" right up to the last few holes however, it was up to two to fight it out down the 18th for the December Medal. After the wet, cold and muddy weeks of Sept to early Nov the good conditions saw a number of players return to top form. On an excellent afternoon for golf the results were;

Winner and December Medalist; Anthony Freeman - 90/23/67, C/B Neil Munro - 83/16/67 from Shannon Wright - 85/15/70, Jim Patton - 92/21/71, John Freestone - 94/23/71 and Bob McLennan 84/12/72

NTPs; 15th - John Freestone & 16th - Anthony Freeman.

Least Putts; 26 - Ron Walker.

Monday December 26th - Boxing Day Stableford.

After two days in the mid to high 30s it was a pleasure to tee off on a cooler morning. The heat of the previous days had dried the course and there was more run on all fairways. The greens had survived very well however the Little Corellas had returned and done damage to the 7th, 15th, & 4th. Their work in the rough was very noticeable with large areas virtually cultivated as they dug for grubs and onion grass bulbs. The wind blew up from the SE and caused a few problems by-ur no-one complained as it kept the temperature down. On a very different day the results were;

Winner; Anthony Lakey (21) - 36 pts C/B from Mick Nicholls Snr (24) - 36 pts

NTPs; 15th - Jim Patton

Saturday December 24th - Stableford

The field teed off on a hot windy afternoon, the temperature quickly moved up to 34C. The gusting wind began from the SW before moving to the SE and then oscillating between those two directions. The first nine saw a number of players building good scores until a lost ball here or a nasty rebound off a tree there resulted in much reduced scoring. The 2nd nine was a very different affair. Everyone struggled with the wind and scoring was much more difficult. Only one player was able to play reasonably consistent golf throughout the day to come in with an excellent score. On a hot, blustery afternoon the results were;

Winner; Jim Patton (22) - 41 pts from John Freestone (23) - 32 pts

NTPs; 1st - Mick Nicholls Snr, 15th - Andrew Clement & 16th - Les Gaunt.

Macedon Ranges Uniting Church Partnership

Romsey Uniting Church

25 Pohlman Street, Romsey. 3434 (P.O Box 264)



Chairperson: Mr. Noel Shaw 5429 5509

Secretary: Mrs. Jenifer Clampit 5429 5480

The year 2017 is with us - Our children are starting school, getting used to a new environment without Mum there to turn to.

Young students commencing Year 7 at Secondary School or beginning their University education.

Then there are those facing the hurdle of finding a job after finishing their schooling, and there are a few anxious moments as we commence new aspects of our life.

We all hope for a happy and peaceful year!! We also know that in reality there are always problems and worries along with the joyfulness and peace, this comes with life. - but perhaps if we can face life with a smile for those around us it will help all of us find the joy in life.

A Smile.

Smiling as Therapy is the latest thing. You can't fake a smile, but you can use your smile to lift your mood.

How you feel depends on what you think, so if your thoughts are getting you down, turn your attention to something that tickles your funny bone.

A smile costs nothing, but gives so much.

It enriches those who receive, without making poorer those who give.

It takes but a moment, but the memory of it sometimes lasts forever.

None is so rich or mighty that she or he can get along without it and none is so poor but that he or she can be made rich by it.

A smile creates happiness in the home, fosters goodwill in business, and is the countersign of friendship.

It brings rest to the weary, cheer to the discouraged, sunshine to the sad and it is nature's best antidote for troubles. Yet it cannot be bought, begged, borrowed or stolen, for it is something of no value to anyone unless it is given away.

Some people are too tired to give you a smile.

Give them one of yours, as none needs a smile so much as he or she who has no more to give.

Children smile more often, and more easily, than adults. Let their wonder and humour inspire your view of the world.

A genuine smile can be as good as a present for someone in need of love, hope or attention.

Busy lives can turn us inwards, making those around us seem anonymous.

Next time you rush down the street, break your stride and find the time to smile at those you pass by.

A Smile is Universal. Peace begins with a smile.

Church Services & Activities February 2017

5th	9am	Worship Service
8th	7.30pm	Church Council meeting
12th	9am.	Worship Service & Communion
19th	9am	Worship Service
	6pm	Sunday@Six
26th	9am	Worship Service



Romsey Rag Review

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our recent meetings regarding the Romsey Rag. Many useful ideas, suggestions and comments were forthcoming, with the consensus being that it is time for some change. Just what that change will be is yet to be determined. A small committee was formed as a result of those meetings and with the new year in full swing now we hope to meet in the near future.

Please watch the Rag for further developments . If you would like to be involved in the future planning of the Rag please contact Robyn at 5429 5099.



Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association (RRBATA) UPDATE

Christmas In Romsey 2016

This big new initiative seemed to generate much excitement in the town. Whether it was the Christmas trees in the Main Street, the amazing lights and decorations erected by households and businesses or the Community Carols event – there was excitement and a Christmas “buzz” in Romsey. Although Christmas is only just behind us, RRBATA’s Arts Culture and Events (ACE) working group is already planning for Christmas in Romsey 2017.

The *Main Street Christmas Trees* looked lovely, with the promise of many more next year. RRBATA wants to acknowledge the efforts of Matt and Abbey Brown in constructing the community group trees.

The *Christmas Lights and Decorations Competition* was huge! The Christmas Lights and Decorations Competition Entrant trail map was popular. However, it did not include all of the amazing other homes which were decorated but not in the competition. This will be something for the organizers to consider for next time. Many thanks are extended to the judging panel – Cr. Natasha Gayfer, Cr. Bill West and Bendigo Bank staff members - who had the unenviable task of deciding the winners as follows:

“Home” Category	1st Prize	The Wilson Family, 141 Main Street
	2 nd Prize	Luke Davis, 172 Main Street
	3 rd Prize	Deb Alford Kerr, 86 Barry Street
“Street” Category	1 st Prize	Main Street North
“Business” Category	1 st Prize	The Emporium of Everything Trophy, 101 Main Street



The *Romsey Community Christmas Carols* event on Saturday 10th December saw Romsey’s Lions Reserve (“Skate Park”) saw several hundred community members attend, despite rather cold conditions. Master of Ceremonies, Tony Ede, presided over carol performances by Romsey Primary School, the Mainly Music toddlers, 1st Romsey Scouts, the Pas de Deuz School of Dance students and the combined local church choir. The combined local churches delivered their Christmas message and, of course, Santa arrived courtesy of the Romsey CFA’s fire truck! Many thanks to Meyers Transport (stage), Romsey CFA (“sleigh”), Encourage Church (Band and sound system), Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club (last minute providers of the sausage sizzle!!) and all who participated to make the night a memorable one. Some problems with the sound quality have been noted and will certainly be addressed next time.



Romsey Streetscape Project Update

As previously reported, RRBATA received some VERY promising news regarding the progressing of the funding application by Macedon Ranges Shire Council (MRSC) to Regional Development Victoria (RDV) from Expression of Interest to Full Funding Application. RRBATA subsequently collated letters of support from local traders and community groups to support this formal application.

As we await news of the funding application, other elements of the Romsey Streetscape Project continue their development. The **Historic Plaques Project Team** is meeting regularly to develop this important project which has been funded by Bendigo Bank and Macedon Ranges Shire Council. *See the comprehensive report elsewhere in the Rag.*

In exciting news, the **Five Mile Creek Working Group** of the Romsey Streetscape Project has been awarded a \$5500 grant from Melbourne Water for 'development of the strategic plan to identify the steps to improve and restore the ecological, cultural and visual impact of the Creek'.

So, the Romsey Streetscape Project is at a very interesting stage, with working groups continuing to work hard and, hopefully, some more exciting funding news not far away.

Romsey Town Pride

DO NOT FORGET - **Clean Up Romsey Day** will be held on *Sunday 19th March 2017 between 9.00am and 11.00am* followed by a free sausage sizzle. Please consider donating an hour of your time to help tidy up our town!

RRBATA’s Town Pride working group is also investigating the entry of Romsey in the **Australian Tidy Towns** competition for 2017. This would hopefully be a forerunner for a whole town entry in following years. Please contact Jenny Stillman for further information (jennystillman@optusnet.com.au ph. 0412 349849).

Romsey Online

Don't forget, **ANYONE CAN BE A REPORTER!** Whether it is sporting results, photos, reports on events etc, the website is waiting for your “news”. Please ensure a note of consent from people featured in any photographs accompanies your submissions. Remember, the website is only as good as the information fed to it at info@romsey.org.au.

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