

Editorially Speaking

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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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Romsey Rag Publication Deadlines 2017

Edition	Closing Date for Copy	Collating Date
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 all interested persons who would enjoy social interaction with like minded people.

We meet **Every Monday** in the room at the back of the Romsey Mechanics Hall Main St Romsey at 11am to approx 3pm for lunch and afternoon tea. Cost \$5.00. Some groups play cards, whilst other catch up with a chat and play bingo. We also have a courtesy bus that will pick up isolated persons.

Once a month we have professional cooks who come in and give us a two course meal for \$10.00 a head. We also provide social outings to some great places. So come along and create new friends.

For more information please contact:
Rae Hooke 54291602
Eileen. Parks 54291314
Come along and give us a try!

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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 accent 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



The Idea of North, comes South!

Duneira and the Woodend Winter Arts Festival have teamed up to bring you a fantastic event to launch the 2017 Festival Program.

From Australia's undisputed masters of a *cappella* wizardry comes "Homegrown": a show chock-full of larrikanism and songs by Aussie artists as fair-dinkum as the dog on the tuckerbox eating Vegemite while listening to Banjo Patterson sing "You're the Voice". Revel in the glorious sounds of Australia's musical history from the 1930s right up to today, all without a single instrument in sight.

The Idea of North are Australia's only multi-ARIA Award-winning a *cappella* ensemble and they'll move you to laughter, tears and wonderment as you soak up their incredible arrangements, voices and performance.

By the end of the concert, you'll feel like you've known them all for years! Enjoy this concert on the South Lawn at Duneira. View the wonderful Autumnal colours while you relax with your picnic supper, drinks, blankets and chairs. Sunday 26th March at 4.15pm. Tickets \$35 / \$30 from www.duneira.com.au

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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



Romsey

Antiques, Vintage & Collectibles Fair

18th March 2017

Saturday 9.30am till 4.30pm

Only \$2 entry

Mechanics Institute

122 Main Street, Romsey

This is a partnership event run by Romsey Mechanics Institute and Romsey Neighbourhood House



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 provides 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.

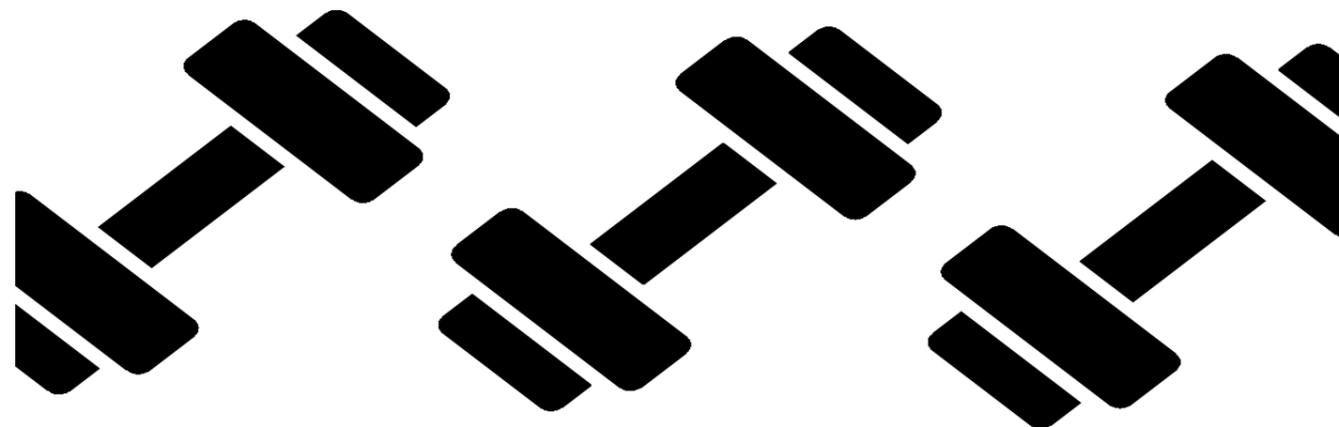
Enrol your child online at mrsc.vic.gov.au/rrc or call Romsey Recreation Centre 5429 5637.

THE ROMSEY RAG

Issue No. 351 2070 copies produced each month at Romsey Primary School as a service to our community and proudly supported by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council

March 2017

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The closing date for copy for the APRIL 2017 edition of the Rag is MARCH 15th 2017.

We cannot guarantee inclusion of copy received after this date.

Please email your copy to the Romsey Rag email address: romseyrag@romseyyps.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

CAN WE HELP LILY?

Below is the message on the gofundme page on Facebook set up to help a little girl and her family in Riddells Creek facing a major medical challenge.

If you can help follow the link.
www.gofundme.com/vjxpe-hope-for-lily

“With permission from the family I am setting up this gofundme campaign. Those who know the De Haas family know they are the first to put their hand up to help anybody. They are strongly involved in the local sporting community and the wider community as a whole. They are now in the for the battle of their lives and need our help. Their beautiful 7 year old daughter Lily has been diagnosed with a tumour on her brain stem. They have a long journey ahead that will involve radiation and chemotherapy. The last thing they need to worry about is money while they put every effort in to saving Lily’s life. Please dig deep and help ease the burden for this wonderful family while they fight this battle. Please also leave any messages of love and hope to pass to the family xx “

BUILDING A SAFER MELBOURNE-LANCEFIELD ROAD

Minister for Roads Luke Donnellan and Member for Macedon Mary-Anne Thomas visited Melbourne-Lancefield Road in early February to see what works will need to be undertaken to improve road safety. Last year, local residents were invited to share their ideas on how to improve the road’s safety. More than 800 comments were received, with a number of residents stating they’d like to see flexible safety barriers installed to help shield motorists from roadside hazards during run-off road crashes and permanent improvements to the road’s surface.

“Locals know best. We want the local community to help us reach our goal of zero deaths and serious injuries.” Ms Thomas said.

Melbourne-Lancefield Road from Sunbury to Lancefield has been identified as one of Victoria’s top 20 highest risk rural roads in the Government’s Towards Zero 2016-2020 Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan. Between June 2010 and June 2015 there were 159 crashes along Melbourne-Lancefield Road, resulting in 153 people injured and six lives lost. Future improvements will reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries occurring, by preventing loss of control and run-off road crashes.

“This is one of Melbourne’s busiest regional routes, connecting freight, tourism, industry and the growing urban centres of Lancefield, Romsey and Sunbury to Melbourne. It’s important that we get this safety upgrade right.” Ms Thomas said, she added “Six people have already lost their lives along this road – and we’re going to fix it.”



PHOTO: Mary-Anne Thomas MP with Minister for Roads Luke Donnellan and John Bullen from VicRoads

Books can take us anywhere.

LIT FEST
March 18, 2017

Where: **Dromkeen Homestead**
1012 Gisborne-Kilmore Road
Riddells Creek, Vic. 3431

When: **Saturday March 18th 2017**

Dromkeen is hosting this exciting event for families, teachers and children’s book enthusiasts. Meet some of Australia’s most talented authors, illustrators, storytellers, guest speakers and cartoonists including:

- Claire Saxby
- Mark Wilson
- Gabrielle Wang
- Mark McBride
- Bret Cardwell
- Glenda Millard
- Mark McBride
- Sue Flockhart

Enjoy a fabulous day of talks, discussions and readings from children’s authors and illustrators; hands on workshops; viewing of original illustrations; author/illustrator book signing and sales, and a range of fantastic book related activities in Dromkeen’s beautiful gardens.

Go to <http://www.dromkeen.com.au/litfest/> For more information and tickets

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



Romsey primary School work to new Buildings.

While we were on holidays a lot of work took place at the school. During the break the Prep—2 atrium refurbishment was completed. The classrooms are looking refreshed with new carpet, vinyl and paint. The doors between rooms are now able to be opened and closed. Teacher offices and one store room have been relocated and a library nook and sensory room have been created. Visibility in the building has also been increased with the removal of the static bag areas and the addition of new internal windows. The new learning space looks fantastic and will allow students to effectively use the area.



New teachers at Romsey primary School

Miss Tara Clancy is new Romsey primary School this year. She is one of our Prep teachers. She has spent the last 5 years university studying teaching in Victoria. This is Miss Clancy’s first job since she finished her studies last year. She is very excited to be in the Prep area. Miss Clancy wanted to become a teacher because she loved school so much and she wanted her students to love it as much as her.

By Bella and Grace

Mrs Andrea Evans is at Romsey Primary School this year and is teaching Literacy intervention with our Prep to year 4 students. She is helping students to “dare to be excellent” with their reading and writing skills. Mrs Evans likes teach-

ing at Romsey Primary School because everyone is nice and kind. She also likes the design of the school. Last year she was a teacher at Parkwood Green Primary School. She also said that this school is extremely well resourced.

By Nick, Leroy and Charlie.

We would like to welcome Mr Adrew Zollia to Romsey primary school. He is our new music teacher. Last year he taught at Trentham Primary as a 4/5 teacher, music teacher, reading recovery teacher and he also managed the school band. Goodness, he was a busy person last year.



Mr Zollia enjoys teaching music at Romsey Primary and he says there is a lot of talent at our school. He has joined our school during a performance year so he will be very busy helping the Year5/6 students getting ready for that. We hope he enjoys the year.

By Katie and Isabella.

Mr Liam Devlin ahs returned to our school after spending last year teaching and gaining valuable experience at Melton west Primary School. We are happy to have him back as our art teacher. Prior to teaching at Melton west Mr Devlin taught Year 3 and 4 students at our school in 2013, 2014 and 2015. We would like to welcome Mr Devlin back to Romsey Primary School.



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

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Set the Program to Run!

Macedon Ranges Running Club (MRRC) is preparing for its popular Autumn Start Running Program starting across Macedon Ranges Shire in March. The 13 week two part structured program helps people learn to run in a non-competitive safe, social and fun environment. The first part builds fitness using a well-developed successful method for runners to complete a 5km celebratory run, then extends into the second and final part for members to complete a 10km run. This program is ideal for those new to running wanting to successfully achieve 5km the first time or for those to ease back into running after a long break. Trained by the club's sponsor Cobaw Health, each Start Running Group has a qualified leader, safety and first officers to assist you in making your future fitness an achievable goal.

The Romsey/Lancefield branch Start Running Group (SRG) begins on March 6 and meets three times a week, Monday & Wednesday at 7pm and Saturday at 8am at Romsey Skate Park. The SRG also starts conveniently across five other Macedon Ranges Shire towns of Gisborne, Kyneton, Macedon, Riddells Creek, and Woodend. This gives members the flexibility to fit the program into their busy lifestyle. For further information on these venues and times please visit the club's website.

Member benefits - for an annual subscription of only \$10 for individuals or \$15 for families, members have access to training plans/programs to reach their goals, a monthly newsletter, event discounts and access to the club's Facebook page to discuss topics of interest.

Other Club News

Trentham Social Run – over 50 MRRC club members enjoyed a 12km social run/walk along the old rail trail at Trentham on the February 12. The run was followed by a wonderful meal at the Cosmopolitan Hotel, organised by the Olivia Greenwood and others on the social committee. Well done to all those involved, to make the club social event successful.

Run the Rock – the club's next main event meet is at Hanging Rock, Woodend on April 1. The event is hosted by the club's partner Sole Motive and, as last year, there will be a centrally placed marquee available for members to meet. The event has a number of distances from a 2km kids or 5km run/walk run up to the more challenging 20km for experienced members. The event also has a 12km run ideal for those who progressed through the club's Spring SRG 10km. Club training plans for the 12km and 20km runs are available to members.

Macedon Ranges Running Club is a local community based running club, offering a friendly welcoming social environment for all ages and abilities. Want to get involved? Then contact the club's Romsey/Lancefield Co-ordinator, Scott on 0407 048 407 for further information. Alternatively, email the club macedonrangesrc@gmail.com or visit the club's website www.macedonrangesrunningclub.com to register online and for session times/dates/contacts. All ages and walking/running abilities are welcomed, so come along to one of our sessions to discuss your needs.



Three days to play!

Open sessions

Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday

9.30am - 11.30am

kids from birth to kindergarden

welcome

Junior sessions

Thursday afternoons

contact us for details

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Becoming an animal-friendly shire

When it comes to pets, do you know the difference between registration and micro chipping?

Do you have issues with wandering dogs or cats in your neighbourhood?

Council is currently working towards the development of a new Macedon Ranges Domestic Animal Management Plan, which supports animal management and pet ownership in our community, and sets out how we can become an animal-friendly shire.

The plan will consider a range of issues, including:

- dog on and off lead areas
- cat curfews
- minimising the number of dogs and cats being euthanised
- reducing the harmful effect of domestic pets on our native birds, mammals and reptiles
- dealing with nuisances caused by domestic pets such as trespassing, attacks and barking.

How can you help shape this new plan?

We want to hear your comments and ideas about how we can develop and improve responsible pet ownership in the shire.

Share your thoughts and complete our survey, available online at mrsc.vic.gov.au/youresay from Wednesday 1 March or pick up a copy from a Council customer service centre.

Submissions close Monday 10 April.

For more information, contact our Local Laws unit on 5422 0333 or mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au

Be a responsible pet owner

Don't forget to renew your pet's registration by Monday 10 April 2017.

There are a number of benefits of renewing the registration of your pet with Council, such as improving the chances of a missing pet being returned quickly if they become lost. Registration fees also help provide important pet-related services within the shire such as animal control, dog attack prevention programs and other community education that encourages responsible pet ownership.

There are a number of ways you can renew your pet registration. These include:

- Online, via Council's website, mrsc.vic.gov.au/ payments
- BPAY
- Mail
- In person at one of Council's service centres.

For more information, contact our Local Laws unit on 5422 0333.

My street, my neighbourhood, my town: Gisborne Neighbourhood Character Study

What makes your neighbourhood special?

What gives your local area its identity?

Residents are being asked to provide feedback on their neighbourhoods as Council prepares the Gisborne Neighbourhood

Character Study of residential zoned land within Gisborne.

The study will provide a framework to guide future development in the areas, ensuring further growth is balanced by the community's desire to maintain the town's look and feel.

Mayor, Cr Jennifer Anderson said Gisborne had experienced increasing development, and preserving the unique character of the town was essential.

"With strong links to Melbourne, and a range of facilities, infrastructure and services, Gisborne has been forecast to grow", she said.

"Neighbourhood planning is one way to help protect the things we love about the area, and work to improve it for everyone".

From building heights and landscaping, to front fences and street design, we're asking residents about what they most value about the character of their street, neighbourhood and town.

Residents will be able to provide input from Tuesday 14 February, with a community workshop on the Neighbourhood Character Study being held on Thursday 2 March from 5.30pm-7pm at the Gisborne Community Centre at 12 Hamilton Street in Gisborne.

"The community workshop provides you with an opportunity to speak to Council officers about the study, and share your views about your neighbourhood", said Cr Anderson.

"The purpose of the study is to identify valued character elements which define Gisborne's residential areas."

"From there we can determine the future look and feel of the areas, through making recommendations on the most appropriate planning controls to protect and enhance character via the planning scheme."

Residents can provide feedback via a door knock survey, scheduled to be undertaken in late February, the aforementioned community workshop or via our online survey. The closing date for feedback is Thursday 16 March 2017. To find out more or have your say, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/youresay, call 5421 9502 or visit one of Council's customer service centres.

Grant writing workshop: help your group access funding

A free Macedon Ranges Shire Council workshop in March will help not-for-profit community groups and organisations improve their grant writing skills.

The workshop will provide participants with tips and techniques on writing applications which may improve their chances of receiving grants. It will also cover how to find grants and how to develop a grants plan.

Mayor, Cr Jennifer Anderson said the workshop was a must-do for community groups and organisations hoping to realise a great idea.

"Each year Council receives a high level of funding applications through our grants program", she said.

"Our workshop presenters will walk through the grant application process step-by-step and explain what we're looking for, giving participants a much better chance of being able to interpret grant criteria and fine tune their applications".

The free workshop will be held on Monday 20 March at 2pm and 6.30pm at the Woodend Community Centre, on the corner of Forest and High streets in Woodend.

Places are limited. To register or for more information, contact Trudy on 5422 0320 or email grants@mrsc.vic.gov.au

For more information on Council grants and funding opportunities, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/grants

Revenge French Style in Woodend.



Macedon Ranges Film Society's first screening for the 2017 season featured the quirky, highly regarded French comedy 'Mic Macs'. It's a 'David and Goliath' story of the little guys outwitting the evil big guys.

Our heroes are an eccentric group of down and outers with some special skills. Skills deftly applied to seeking revenge on the international arms manufacturers responsible for the death of Basil's father (Basil is the main character played by prominent French comedian Dany Boon).

With problems of his own, Basil joins the group of down and outs and recruits them to help him get revenge. Directed by Jean-Pierre Jeunet ('Amelie' and 'Delicatessen') Mic Macs has a serious morality message, quietly delivered with loads of humour, hilarity and slapstick.

Next month MRFS members will enjoy the recent critically acclaimed Australian contemporary outback drama 'Mystery Road' directed by Ivan Sen and starring Aaron Pedersen and Hugo Weaving.

The Macedon Ranges Film Society meets on the second Wednesday each month at Woodend Community Centre. Film notes and an informal supper are part of the evening. MRFS is a membership-based club; initial enquiries by email to mrfilmsociety@gmail.com or call Lorraine 5427 0921 or Christine 5429 545. Further details: Henry Screen 0411 418 468

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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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LOST TRADES FAIR MARCH 11 & 12 - KYNETON RACECOURSE



The 2017 Lost Trades Fair will showcase over 100 traditional makers - demonstrating their trades and sharing their skills. Come and see these trades being practised - just as they always have been; but usually behind closed workshop doors.

With over 1000 combined years of training - all in the one place - at the Lost Trades Fair you will find inspiration, find skill, find craftsmanship, find passion....find incredible stories and people. The fair is about openly demonstrating and sharing skills, talent and passion for traditional trades.

Attracting over 16,000 visitors, the Lost Trades Fair is unique, captivating and arguably the most inspiring and authentic show on earth.

From a sixth generation cooper alongside stonemasons, weavers, ropemakers and luthiers, makers of rocking horses, penny farthings, hedgelayers, spoonsmiths and master craftsmen who have been practising their trades for their whole life. Their dedication and enthusiasm to share what they do is infectious. Their passion and willingness to pass on their skills is unwavering. They want their trades to survive.

Workshops and knowledge sharing: Toolmaking wunderkind Claire Minihan (Travisher and Spokeshave maker) will be flying over from the US next week to join the fair and run two masterclasses in fine Toolmaking. Bill Webb, leather plaiter trained by RM Williams himself will travel down from Queensland and also run classes in plaiting and whipmaking. Workshops are an integral part to what we believe will provide the platform for change - teaching the art of handmade with fourteen different traditional workshops being offered throughout the year with multiple classes in each medium. Lost Trades aims to inspire, to educate and to open the eyes and minds of the next generation to demand something made by a real person rather than a machine; to think about sustainability and the longevity of what they buy and use, to excite people to have the confidence to design, make and create something real, something crafted by their own hands - and to show them what people can do with practice, passion and knowledge.

As a maker and advocate of traditional trades, I work with traditional artisans and bespoke makers that have chosen to pursue their careers in rare trades and traditional crafts over something more conventional. Thanks for supporting all of them. They are all incredibly excited to share their stories with you.

With kindest handcrafted regards,
Lisa Rundell
FOUNDER - LOST TRADES FAIR

Contact details:

w: losttrades.info

f: [facebook.com/losttrades](https://www.facebook.com/losttrades)

tickets: trybooking.com

Adults: \$15 / Juniors: \$5 (5 - 15 years - under 5's are free)

Pensioners \$10 / Family: \$35 (2 adults and up to 4 kids 5 - 15 years)

[Trybooking](http://trybooking.com) links

<https://www.trybooking.com/MEVL> OR <https://www.trybooking.com/214173>



If it wriggles, hops or has wings, we're talking about it!

From workshops on worms, rabbits and wildlife, to volunteer opportunities that support conservation,

Council is delivering a diverse program of free environment events in March, designed to educate, engage and entertain.

On Saturday 4 March, the spotlight is on rabbits as expert Tim Bloomfield presents a free workshop from 10am to 12pm at the Romsey Community Hub for property owners on how to successfully undertake rabbit control.

If you've ever wondered what to do when you are swooped by a magpie or when a blue-tongued lizard suddenly appears in your backyard, join our free evening conversation on living with wildlife.

Presented by Wildlife Victoria on Wednesday 8 March from 6.30pm to 8pm at the Norma Richardson Hall in Woodend, this free discussion explores wildlife stories from your backyard.

On Saturday 11 March, the basics of worm farming are exposed in a free workshop as we shed light on what you need to build a successful worm farm. Held at Woodend Neighbourhood House from 10am to 11.30pm, the course will equip participants with the knowledge and skills necessary to get a worm farm up and running.

If you're looking for a volunteer opportunity that supports our natural environment, come along to an information session and hear from existing Landcare members about what's involved in starting a new group, the benefits of Landcare and what support is available.

Sessions are being held from 6.30pm-8pm at the Gisborne Administration Centre on Thursday 9 March and at Kerrie Hall on Thursday 16 March. For details call 5782 0184. For more information on Council's environment events or to book, visit mrc.vic.gov.au/environment-events or call 5421 9660.



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

Late in January the CoM was informed that our application for funds to repair and refurbish the two WW1 Honour Rolls had been successful; our thanks to Ivar Nelson and Jodie Turner from MRSC for their support and also to the office of Mary-Anne Thomas for their assistance. All told the works will cost a little over \$5,000 with \$4,140 coming from the Department of Premier & Cabinet and the CoM paying the remainder. Once the works on the Honour Rolls have been completed they will hung in the main hall. This location will be better for their preservation than their current in the foyer.

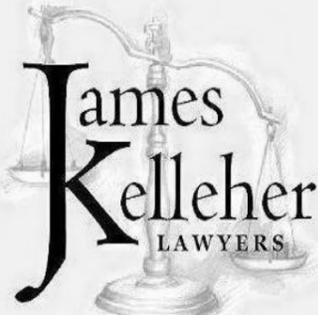
Our **2017 Antiques Fair, Sat March 18th, (9.30 am to 4.30 pm)** is fully booked with stalls offering a wide variety of items. Entry is only \$2.00 so why not come along and have a look and enjoy a wonderful afternoon tea courtesy of the CWA.

Our first **Garden Fair** will run on **Sunday March 19th, (10.00 am to 3.30 pm)** Entry to this event is free. We have a number of stalls offering plants and garden furniture or ornaments as well as expert advice on which plants might suit your particular garden. We will also have antiques appraiser on hand during the day. Charges will be \$5.00 for one item or \$12.00 for three items.

This weekend long 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.

After a little over 12 months our weather proofing works are really beginning to show results. The rising and falling damp is drying out and we have a far better idea of what remedial works will need to be undertaken to bring the RMI back to her best. It will now be a process of locating suitable grants and applying using the information from our recent Development Plan and material from our Structural Engineer's report. Fingers crossed we should be able to tackle some of the internal works that need to be addressed before the RMI is back to her best

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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Maureen P. Wiltshire B.A., LL.B.
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

Probuss is for people 55 years or over.

The Romsey/Lancefield Probuss 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. Monthly meetings are at 10am, on the 4th Thursday of the month in St.Mary's Church Hall Main Street, Romsey.

Our next meeting is
The Annual General Meeting at
10am Thursday 23rd March, 2017

Guest Speaker: Peter Milburn, Rotary District Probuss Chairman, speaking about Ambassadors and Clusters.

Check out our website for information about the Romsey & Lancefield Probuss Club rprobuss.org.au

Now you are retired or close to retiring from work come and join the friendly folk in the Romsey & Lancefield Probuss Club and learn more about what Probuss can offer to assist you in staying active. Or phone the numbers above.



For Active Retirees. Probuss 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. Probuss 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 Probuss: Enjoy the fellowship of like-minded people - Probuss club members meet active retirees in their local areas, across Australia and around the world.

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

www.probussouthpacific.org
Phone: 1300 630 488



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- Dine & Disco
- Family Favours the Dining Experience Show (Sat) 10 Dec



Call us today to book your end of year function (03) 5429 9000
55 Shannone Road, Lancefield
cleveland@grangecc.com.au





Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group
 PO Box 849, Woodend VIC 3442
 mrslf@mrsgonline.org.au
 www.mrslf.org.au

2017 Macedon Ranges Sustainable Living Festival

The Macedon Ranges Sustainable Living Festival is one of the region's most popular and important event, attracting strong support from businesses, community groups and government representatives. Hosted by the local NFP Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group (MRSG), the festival is now in it's 8th year!

For the first time the 2017 Macedon Ranges Sustainable Living Festival will be run in conjunction with the Woodend Community Farmers' Market, another established initiative of the MRSG. This well-loved event draws patrons from all over the Macedon Ranges and beyond, who come to revel in the relaxed country atmosphere and stock their larders with mountains of high quality, local produce. The two programs will run over the course of the day in one central location, with cross-linked topics including food localisation and sustainable agriculture.

The Macedon Ranges Sustainable Living Festival attracts visitors from Macedon Ranges, Central Victoria and Melbourne, and hosts 60+ exhibitors, speakers and demonstrators. The aim of the festival is to showcase ideas, products and practical solutions that will inspire and inform visitors so they can enjoy living more sustainably.

The 2017 MRSLF has confirmed Simon Corbell, the Victorian Government's new Renewable Energy Advocate, as key speaker on the Victorian Renewable Energy Targets (VRET) and its potential impacts on the renewable energy sector in our region. The VRET is integral to the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group's grassroots campaign for a community-owned wind farm of state significance on the outskirts of Woodend. Visitors can learn more about this project, and the future opportunities and challenges for renewable energy in Victoria.



With so much to do and see the Macedon Ranges Sustainable Living Festival is a great day out for the whole family in the picturesque Macedon Ranges. Exhibitors in green technology, sustainable housing design, not for profit organisations and local community groups will all be represented, as well as hands on demonstrations, workshops, film screenings and speaking forums. With live music, free kids activities, including old-fashioned games, a wide selection of hot food vendors, along with the fantastic shopping for high quality local produce, for which the Woodend Farmers' Market is renowned.

The festival will run on Saturday the 4th of March from 9am – 3pm, on the corner of High and Forest Streets, Woodend. Entry is free! More information about the day's events is available on the webpage at www.mrslf.org.au.

Romsey Medical Telephone (03) 5429 5254

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**Bike Safe
 Come and say hello**

Bike Safe Macedon Ranges will be at the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Festival on Saturday 3rd March. It's held behind the Woodend Neighbourhood House and this year it is running in conjunction with the farmer's market. We will be amongst the many excellent and interesting exhibitors for the day. It's a chance for us to continue to connect with our local community and coincides with our "Pass with Care" campaign that is currently running throughout the Shire. This year, entry to the festival is free.

Come and say hello. We will be on the stand from 9am through to the close at 3pm. We will have some information on who we are and why we believe that the Macedon Ranges is an excellent place to be a cyclist. We love to promote our local area as a place for visitors to come and enjoy, preferably with their bikes! Why not take the chance to sign up as a member? We will also have our "Pass with Care" vests for sale. They are a great way to spread our message whilst helping to be safe out on the road by wearing visible clothing.

Jem Richards
 Bike Safe Macedon Ranges

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St. Mary's Parish - Lancefield & Romsey

Parish Priest: Fr. Marc Barry
 Parish Secretary: Mrs. Tammie Dalglish
 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.

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

The parish is delighted to have Fr. Martin Fleming, Parish Priest of St. Ambrose in Woodend, appointed as Administrator of St. Mary's Parish Lancefield-Romsey. Working alongside Fr. Martin will be Fr. Vinoth Santiago who will continue to celebrate weekend Masses with us. Fr. Martin was appointed to St. Ambrose five years ago so many parishioners will already be acquainted. Fr. Vinoth has of course been providing service to our parish since December and it has been a pleasure getting to know him. Fr. Vinoth will continue his Chaplaincy work at The Royal Melbourne Hospital and Peter McCallum Cancer Hospital as well as provide service to our parish. Parishioners may opt to receive our weekly bulletin via email to keep up to date with Mass times by sending a request to – lancefield@cam.org.a or like our Facebook page for regular updates.

FOODcents
 It Pays to Eat Smart
March 19, 2017
 9:30am – 2pm

SUPERMARKET TOUR: This one-hour tour explodes the myth that healthy foods are expensive. Prepare to be amazed!

CENTSIBLE COOKING: Prepare simple recipes that help balance your budget and your diet. Lunch included.

BUDGETING WORKSHOP: Learn the formula that saves the average Australian family over \$2000 a year on their food bill!

BOOKINGS REQUIRED: Dawn – 03 5429 5439

Seventh Day Adventist Church
 18 Barringo Road
 NEW GISBORNE

We are starting our Food Program for 2017. We would love you to take note of what we are doing for the month of March.

This program will show us how to
 “Live Life more abundantly”
 ‘FOODcents’

The day/date is Sunday 19th March 2017. Look at our advertisement in this months paper. For more information please ring Dawn on 03 5429 5439.

New volunteer coordinator for PS My Family Matters

With the imminent arrival of the NDIS into the Macedon Ranges in May this year, PS My Family Matters has appointed a new volunteer coordinator, Joanne Szkilnyk. ‘We see 2017 as a key year for mental health and carers in our region’ said Tamara Wilson, President of PSMFM, ‘Joanne brings a wealth of experience through her volunteering with us. We are very aware that this year may bring new challenges for carers of those with psychosocial illness, and we want be there to help in whatever way we can.’

Joanne can be contacted on 0475 269 965. ‘We are talking with all the local agencies about the impending changes to services this year’ said Tamara. ‘Our objective is to ensure that no local family who needs support slips through the net.’ PS My Family Matters will also be running its regular Coffee for Carers get together at the Kozy Café, Neal Street Gisborne at 10am on the 15th March and 19th April and at the Neighbourhood House in Romsey on the 1st April and the 3rd May. All are welcome.

If you need immediate support or assistance contact Lifeline on 131114.
 Submitted by Mike Hamer- 0411549432.

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


Coffee Shop Conversations

In February I asked you “Do you know what you want ?” So how are you going with that .
 What do you want more of in your life right now ?
 Once we become aware then we know what to **FOCUS** on .So we can begin the year of moving forward, in the right direction, and be where we want to be,

FOCUS is my word for 2017 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, SO have you made your 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.

If you are feeling **LOST , VUNERABLE, UNHAPPY** or just even **STUCK** give me a call **NOW!!!!**
 Contact Gillian 0409801082
OR check out my web site for up and coming events.
www.lifecirclessolutions.com

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- **Nursing Care** - When expert care is needed

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



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The Mount Players Happenings

Our first production "**Little Gem**" an Irish play is now underway but there are still performances up till 11th March so don't miss out!

Auditions were held on 27 & 28 Feb for our 2nd production "**True West**" and will swing into rehearsal mode shortly.

There will be an information night at the theatre for our 3rd production, **The Full Monty** on Monday 10th April at 7.00pm. We invite you to come along to find out about the characters' requirements and hear all about this wonderful musical comedy set in Buffalo, New York. Auditions will be held on Mon 1 May, Wed 3 May with call backs on Sat 6 May. For all enquiries or to book a time please call Leo on 0458 582 838.

To book your tickets go to www.themountplayers.com or call our box office on 5426 1892. By Karen Hunt



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
 0412349849

www.romsey.org.au Follow RRBATA



Pastor's Parables

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

Today, many oppressed people risk their lives, braving open seas or paying a fortune to flee their tyrannical or war oppressed country of birth. They will risk everything for a chance of becoming citizens in another nation rich with opportunity, freedom and prosperity.



The greatest nation of all time is the Kingdom of Heaven – sadly none of us are born citizens. Mankind, through bad choice (sin), sought independence from God and is now imprisoned in the tyranny of a corrupt and fallen world. Because of those choices, there is now a barrier (called judgement) between mankind and God. This barrier separates us from ever being citizens in the Heavenly Kingdom. We can't do anything ourselves to gain citizenship – we can't bribe a church or do any number of good deeds to become an acceptable candidate. The truth is that only God can pay the necessary price on our behalf - and the astounding news is the price for our citizenship has been completely paid.

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 (John 3:16). Through the willing sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross, a way was made through the barrier. Heaven awaits any who accept Christ's gift (sacrifice) on their behalf.

God never intended this corrupt planet to be our eternal home. He desires all to be citizens of His Heavenly Kingdom and gain the magnificent eternal privileges of peace and abundant life that it offers even now. Right now the border is open, the walls are knocked down and all we need do is accept Jesus Christ's gift to become citizens of the most splendid Kingdom ever to exist. The choice is ours.

If you haven't crossed the border (by believing in Christ) - do it now. Citizenship will not be offered after life on Earth – do not miss the greatest opportunity of eternity. (Romans 5:8. Ephesians 2:8 -9)

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
AND ST. PAUL'S ROMSEY**



FOR OUR SAKE

We have now entered into the season of Lent, following in the steps of Jesus into the desert where He fasted forty days and forty nights to be tempted by the Devil, Satan, on the eve of His earthly ministry to gain our salvation for which He had been born. The Collect of the First Sunday in Lent (BCP) reminds us that "it was for our sake" He was led by the Spirit to undergo this bitter experience of testing. The first man, Adam, was tempted in the garden and failed, the second man, Jesus, was tempted in the wilderness and overcame. As Jesus was tempted by Satan so are we in many subtle ways - by our thoughts, words and deeds, and the things we do and should not do and the things we leave undone which we ought to have done. All these break our relationship with God and we need someone to mend that break - Jesus is that Someone who does just that when we put our faith and trust in Him. LENT is a good time to take stock of just where we stand before Him and take Jesus as our model for its forty days. He spent those forty days fasting, praying and meditating on the words of Scripture by which He was able to meet all the temptations Satan threw at Him. Let us all during this time, open our hearts to God and ask Him to reveal to us our spiritual needs, so guiding us during these forty days as to what path we should take in fasting - denial of physical needs and interests -, prayer and meditating on His word. Temptations are real and Satan is ever ready to separate us from our Heavenly Father but Jesus overcame by the power of the Holy Spirit and by the authority of the Word of God, so may we.

*"Forty days and forty nights, You were fasting in the wild;
Forty days and forty nights, Tempted and yet undefiled.*
G. Symttan & F. Pott

2017 is now well on its way and so are our Church activities - the Op. Shop has been busy now looking like a mini-emporium with its new carpet. AMS has drawn up their programme for the months ahead, the needs of Anglicare are always pressing as are the prayer needs and support of members on our sick list.

MARCH 2017 DIARY.

Wed..1st Mar..ASH WEDNESDAY..
9am..Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes..St.Paul's Romsey
7pm. Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes. Christ Church..Lancefield

Fri..3rd Mar.11am..THE WORLD DAY OF PRAYER..Focus on THE PHILIPPINES
At The Uniting Church Pohlman St., Romsey..Please bring a small plate to share.

Tues.7th Mar..LENTEN REFLECTIONS begin.."Giving Up - Taking Up"..Rev B. Carroll.
10am..Christ Church Vicarage...7pm - St.Paul's Romsey..Continuing throughout Lent.

Thurs.9th.Mar..8pm..AMS (Anglican Men's Society) meets Parish Hall Lancefield..
Enq. Tom 5429-6060.

Wed..16th Mar..7.30pm..Parish Council meets..Parish Hall Lancefield.

Sun..19th Mar.. 10am..COMBINED SERVICE .. Christ Church Lancefield
Pastoral Visit by BISHOP PHILIP HUGGINS..Bishop of our Region.
6pm..HEALING SERVICE..Christ Church Lancefield..Rev. W. Carroll

Sun..26th..Mar..4th Sunday in Lent..MOTHERING SUNDAY..With Simnel Cake
Sun..2nd..April..HARVEST THANKSGIVING..for Anglicare..Fresh vegs.etc welcome

Special Dates for April -

Thurs.13th April..7pm.. Holy Communion..Maundy Thursday..St.Paul's Romsey
(Maundy Thursday -Traditional foot washing & giving of alms to the poor)

Fri.14th Apr..GOOD FRIDAY..9am..Good Friday Liturgy..Christ Church Lancefield
Sun.16th Apr.EASTER DAY..9am..Holy Communion..St.Paul's Romsey
10.30am.. Holy Communion Christ Church Lancefield.

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES -

Holy Communion..9am..ST.PAUL'S ROMSEY..10.30am..CHRIST CHURCH LANCEFIELD
Minister Rev. W. Carroll.
Doreen Morgan
Office..5429-1380..MOB..0427-918-607.
Correspondent

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Op Shop
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Saturdays 10.00am—1.00pm

Goods suitable for sale may be left under the veranda at the rear of the Op Shop.

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



Upper Deep Creek Landcare Network

Deep Creek Landcare Group Recognises Outstanding Service and celebrates 30th Anniversary

In December 2016 Deep Creek Landcare celebrated its 30th anniversary and awarded Life membership to 6 members in appreciation of their consistent contributions to both local and regional Landcare activities as well as their commitment to improving local environmental sustainability.

The members recognised were Pat Toomey and George Lobb from Romsey, Robert Green from Lancefield and former local residents David Blicblau, John Blamey and Stephen Hendy.

The specific contributions of each of these volunteers are amazing

Robert Green was an original founding member in 1986 and later served many terms as President and has been a member since day one.

David Blicblau was Secretary, President of DCLG and also President of our regional group, John Blamey and Pat Toomey both served many terms as President with John coordinating a very successful rabbit reduction program in the mid 1990s.

George Lobb's focus has been on the implementation of our goals through practical on ground assistance.

Stephen was Treasurer from the time of the group's formation in 1986 until October 2016 – more than 30 years!!

Each has been a member and committed to Landcare activities for more than 20 years.

President Hayley Goodman presented each of the Life Members with a certificate to recognise their achievements and provided their partners with a beautiful arrangement of native flowers. The presentation to partners recognised their direct efforts at working bees and other Group events and the behind the scenes support they had provided. The awards were presented at the annual DCLG Christmas Luncheon held at Glen Erin Restaurant on Rochford Road.



In 30 years the Deep Creek Landcare Group has completed a significant range of projects in our district of which we are very proud. The Group was one of the first Landcare groups to be established in Victoria. Some key projects have included

- The establishment of an indigenous vegetative buffer zones along the Deep Creek to protect water quality and the identification of pest plant and animal species and the development of control programs. Extensive revegetation projects on public (Doggetts Bridge, Sheahans Crossing amongst many) have provided a template for much broader schemes that Melbourne Water and others have adopted.
- "Rabbit busters" program in the early 1990's which saw an area of Mt William identified as a having a significant rabbit plague. The plague was successfully

controlled and the site continued to monitored for many years - it was seen as a benchmark for rabbit control projects.

- "Dung beetle release" to assist livestock farmers to control nutrient run off into waterways.
- Preservation of the endangered pigmy perch fish species in the Deep Creek. A partnership between DCLG, Melbourne Water and Western Water was formed to survey isolated populations and target habitat protection and revegetation projects to protect the vulnerable species.
- 25 years of Landcare Anniversary Garden – established in January 2012 in the grounds of the beautiful Lancefield Park.

Continued support of Junior Landcare with 3 local primary schools, girl guides and scouts.

A lot has been achieved but there is much more to do.

PS we welcome new members – Contact Secretary Pat Danko - p.danko1@bigpond.com



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Michael O'Gorman
Senior Manager



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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 Macedon Ranges Uniting Church Partnership

has its office at the Riddells Creek Uniting Church. Phone: 5428 6920.

Ministers: Rev. Deacon Wendy Elson
Rev. Peter Cannon
Pastor Annette Buckley

Construction has commenced on a Labyrinth at Riddells Creek Uniting Church.

A Labyrinth is an interactive installation for spiritual journeys. Labyrinths have a long history in many cultures and religions. In the Christian tradition, they date from before the 12th Century and have experienced a resurgence of interest in the 21st Century.

A labyrinth is a meandering pathway that takes a person on a symbolic journey, creating a space to unwind, think and pray. People walk the labyrinth slowly, as an aid to contemplative prayer and reflection, as a spiritual exercise or as a form of pilgrimage.

The Labyrinth is simply an aid to prayer. The Labyrinth is not a "maze" as there are no false paths or tricks to be overcome. Instead we simply walk the path to the centre, rest a little, take some time to meditate and pray and walk the same way out again.

The Labyrinth is a path that mirrors our spiritual journey over a life-time, or when facing a particular concern or challenge, or when, in the here and now of today, we value this "tool" as a discipline of prayer over a few minutes or as long as is desired. It is one way among many others of attending to our journey with God, "getting down to earth" and focusing on the centre of life.

Paraphrased from 'Partnership in Print' February 2017. Text adapted from material by © Robin Pryor and © Kevin, Ana & Brian Draper, Steve Collins, Jonny Baker

Samaritan Purse Shoeboxes:

We had a report that all the 150 Operation Christmas Child Shoeboxes that Romsey took to Mitcham warehouse in November 2016 had been sent to Thailand and arrived there on 24th December. We have been watching back to school sales this past month and have scooped up bargains for this year's collection. Anyone who is interested in helping us with this Mission, please contact Jay Brooks 5429 6163, or Jeni Clampit 5429 5480

Wednesday 1st March. is Ash Wednesday, there will be three Worship Services, each half hour long, held within the Partnership. Riddells Creek 9am, Kyneton 6pm, Lancefield either afternoon or evening.

Friday 3rd March. World Day of Prayer will be held at the Romsey Uniting Church 11am. Lunch to follow. Representatives from the four churches in Romsey/Lancefield will participate in the service. The service this year comes from the women of 'The Philippines'

Future Notice: Sunday 28th May, 1.30pm - Singularity Choir concert featuring music from The Merry Widow in the Romsey Uniting Church. This function will replace the Annual Winter Luncheon which will not be held this year.

Church Services & Activities during March, 2017

3rd	11am	World Day of Prayer
5th	9am.	Worship Service.
12th	9am	Worship and Holy Communion led by Rev. Deacon Wendy Elson
19th	6pm	Romsey @ 6 Service conducted by Pastor Annette Buckley
26th	9am.	Worship Service conducted by Pastor Annette Buckley

MACEDON RANGES

NATURALLY COOL

Music in the Macedon Ranges

It's time to get out and about!

We are about to make it much easier to locate the places to be to hear some great music in the Macedon Ranges. No excuses! Go and have some fun!

Many venues offer excellent live music at the weekends. There are probably far more gigs going on than what you expected! Coming up in March are some outstanding shows, including a major music festival in Gisborne, so take a look and get yourselves out and about! For more details about what's on in the Macedon Ranges, visit

<http://www.visitmacedonranges.com/>

Baringo Food & Wine Co <http://baringo.net.au/>,

Gisborne Golf Club <http://www.gisbornegolf.com.au/>

Holgate Brewhouse <http://www.holgatebrewhouse.com/>

Ida Red <http://www.epak.com.au/riddellscreekhotel/>

Macedon Ranges Music Festival at Gisborne Steam Park – Saturday 4 March www.macedonrangesmusicfestival.org

Macedon Wine Room <https://www.macedonwineroom.com.au/>

Major Toms <http://www.majortoms.com.au/>

Mount Macedon Hotel <http://mountmacedonhotel.com.au/>

Olive Jones <http://www.olivejones.net/>

Royal George <http://www.royalgeorge.com.au/>

Riddells Creek Hotel <http://www.epak.com.au/riddellscreekhotel/>

Telegraph Hotel <http://thetelegraphhotel.com.au/>



Tylden Junction Café
<http://tyldenjunction.com.au/>



Western Water calls for input on five-year plan

Water is fundamental not just to our survival but to our communities, environment, businesses and lifestyle. Now people can have their say on how water and sewer services should be planned and managed across the region.

Western Water is calling on Romsey residents to provide their input on the water corporation's five-year water plan for 2018-23.

Western Water's customer base of around 160,000 people is expected to double in the next 20 years, so planning for the future is critical.

It has launched a website, [http://](http://haveyoursay.westernwater.com.au)

haveyoursay.westernwater.com.au, where people can find out more about topics like water quality and prices, and submit their views or suggestions.

A recent survey of 900 customers found people's top priority for water was planning to meet the challenges of the future.

Western Water will use the input to help produce a draft water plan, setting out service standards, capital works and prices for 2018-23. This will be submitted to the industry's regulator, the Essential Services Commission, late in 2017.



Free
entry

Antiques Appraisal Day

By an Antiques Guild member

Verbal only, \$5 per piece or \$12 for 3

19th March 2017 Sunday

10am - 3.30pm

And...

Garden Sale

Plants and goods on sale from
10am

Refreshments available

Mechanics Institute

122 Main Street, Romsey

This is a partnership event run by Romsey Mechanics Institute and Romsey Neighbourhood House



Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association (RRBATA) UPDATE

Romsey Streetscape Project Update

At the time of writing, RRBATA and Macedon Ranges Shire Council (MRSC) keenly await news regarding the funding application to Regional Development Victoria. It is anticipated that notification re the success or otherwise of this will be conveyed to MRSC before the end of March. Meanwhile, Council officers and RRBATA Romsey Streetscape Project volunteers are meeting at the end of February to progress some of the details on the concept plans so as, if the news from RDV is good, the project's implementation can "hit the ground running". Hopefully, there will be more good news to report on this in the next Rag!

As reported previously, 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'. Working group members and stakeholder representatives will now formulate a brief to facilitate the formulation of this Strategic Plan document.

The **Romsey Historic Plaques Project Team** is finalising plaque design and continuing to collate the information to be included on the plaques as well as the more extensive information for the digital interface with Romsey Online. Over 50 sites have been identified as deserving recognition in this project. The project has been made possible by generous support from Bendigo Bank (Romsey Community Bank) and MRSC (Places for People program).

The **Arts Culture and Events (ACE)** working group is already planning Christmas in Romsey 2017, with potential sponsors being invited to commit support to enable an even more exciting celebration in our town! ACE representatives also recently attended an Event Management Workshop convened by MRSC which was most informative.

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! Meet at the Skate Park (Lions Reserve) to be designated a cleanup zone. RRBATA is proud to acknowledge the support of Romsey IGA for this year's event.

Some of the rubbish collected at last year's Clean Up Romsey Day

Networking with Other BATAs

RRBATA recently received an invitation to attend the first event for the year organised by Business Kyneton, formerly known as the Kyneton District Business and Tourism Association (KDBATA). This event, to encourage networking between businesses and representative groups such as RRBATA, promises to be most interesting. A full report will follow in the April Rag.

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.

Membership Enquiries:

Jenny Stillman Phone: 0412 349849

Email: jennystillman@optusnet.com.au

Follow RRBATA



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ON 1ST, 2ND, 3RD & 4TH APRIL 2017

Join us for another amazing 4 days of unique horsemanship.
Suitable for all riding disciplines, enjoy limited rider positions.

Jeff Sanders was born in Merced, California and raised in the heart of Vaquero country. Jeff shares his knowledge and experience as a classical working Vaquero horseman throughout the USA, Australia, and Europe. Jeff has a unique ability to not only 'do' but also to teach. Jeff is able to pass on the valuable traditions and training methods of the Vaquero he has been using since childhood, with great success.



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Rider position - \$800 includes lunch for whole clinic - PIF by 14/3/17
\$200 deposit/booking fee required on booking, or \$220 per day for busy riders.
\$130 for 4 days paid by 14/3/17 – light refreshments and lunch included.
Fence sitters welcome: - \$40 per day, pay on the day – BYO lunch.
Limited overnight accommodation, fees and availability on application.

**Enquiries:- Helen 0419 030137, helenjsharp@bigpond.com or Trish
0409 349567 t.thom@bigpond.net.au**



Working together to understand and plan for health and wellbeing

Local organisations focused on health are working together to create a healthier, happier community. Cobaw Community Health, Kyneton District Health, Macedon Ranges Health, Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Windarring are inviting community members to identify health priorities via a short online survey, with the support of the Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership.

Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership's Executive Officer, Shelly Lavery said each organisation plays different roles but together they work to promote health and wellbeing of community members "from the cradle to the grave". "It is great to see collaboration on health planning start with organisations asking community members what is important to them in relation to health and wellbeing" she said

Survey responses will help guide planning for community health and wellbeing in the Macedon Ranges Shire. The online survey found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/MRsurvey2017> will close on 10 March 2017. Paper copies are available from each organisation.

People who complete the survey can also go into the draw for a chance to win one of 5 family swim passes and a family ticket to a Macedon Ranges Arts and Culture show.

If you have any further queries about the survey please feel free to contact:
Emma Shannon, Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership, 5472 5333



Kyneton Ridge Estate celebrates 20 years of vines and wines

The Macedon Ranges' Boucher-Russell family is celebrating 20 years of winemaking at Kyneton Ridge Estate on Sunday 2 April and everyone's invited to share the love.

"We are calling all wine and cheese lovers to come and help us celebrate. We have been rewarded for our hard work and so this day is dedicated to the good things in life. We think that is symbolised by delicious wine and cheese pairings," says owner Pauline Russell.

A special *Love Among the Barrels* wine and cheese degustation, at 11am, will celebrate the passion that goes in to making high-quality wines and artisanal cheeses and will demonstrate why these are a match made in heaven. In an intimate workshop in the barrel room, Winemaker John Boucher and Cheesemaker Nardia Keene will guide you through perfect pairings.

"After the class, workshop guests can then enjoy a complimentary glass of their choice of wine on our deck and take in our extraordinary views over Black Hill

Reserve and Mount Alexander. Places are limited for this intimate event, so make sure you let us know you are coming," says Pauline.

There will also be tapas available at the cellar door, cool acoustic tunes by Chris Morley. People can spend the day drinking up the fruits of the winemaker's labours.

Over the next few months, a curated list of events will celebrate 20 years of Kyneton Ridge Estate.

Love Among the Barrels Wine and Cheese Pairing 11am, Sunday 2 April. \$60 per person. \$55 earlybird rate.

Bookings essential 03 5422 7377



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 Golf Club – Men's & Women's Reports
<http://romseygolfclub.net> Pres; 0417 088
 891 Sec; 0400 768 040

Saturday February 18th - Stableford

Flatstick Roofing Summer Cup, Part 2 of Round 3

The forecast was for cool to cold conditions with possible showers, the day turned out quite different. The sun shone through and the wind blew up from the south. Again the harder fairways saw many players well passed their usual landing zone with much shorter approach shots. The greens were in good nick, bar the three savaged by the birds, and those who attached the cup were well rewarded. As with most of this month a number of players had excellent front or back nines but few could put together a consistent 18 holes. As the round drew to a finish the day's winner sealed the result with two chip-ins for four points each. On a cool then warm and windy afternoon the results were;

Winner; Anthony Freeman (21) - 38 pts from Peter Scanlon (29) - 37 pts, John Moody (13) - 37 pts, Mal Mottram (11) - 36 pts & Chris vanDervliet (25) - 36 pts

NTPs; 1st - Chris vanDervliet, 15th - Bob McLennan & 16th - Mal Mottram

Wednesday February 15th - Stableford

Flatstick Roofing Summer Cup, Part 1 of Round 3

Despite the total fire ban the field teed off in quite pleasant conditions, a gentle breeze from the NE and a temperature in the low 20s. As the round drew to a close the wind picked up and the temperature rose; the clubrooms were a welcome respite from the conditions.

On a sunny, warm to hot morning the results were;

Women's winner; Beryl Cole (23) - 32 pts

Men's winner; Hugh Williams (24) - 32 pts

Nine-hole winner; Jenny Hartley (20) - 19 pts

Saturday February 11th - Stroke

Flatstick Roofing Summer Cup, Part 2 of Round 2

It was another very hot afternoon as the players took to the course and, after three days of intense heat, the fairways had hardened considerably. Part 2 of the 2nd round of the Summer Cup had drawn an excellent, mixed, field and everyone was looking to build on their efforts from last week. The wind began from the south but by the latter part of the day it had swung around to the SW making the final few holes a little trickier than usual.

The digging and chewing of the Little Corellas made achieving even a bogey on the 15th and 16th a very good score. During the day a number of players put themselves into a good position but only three men and two women were able to continue on and card a good score. On a hot, dry day the results were;

Men's Winner; Mick Nicholls Snr - 91/23/68 from Dave Richardson - 93/22/71 & John Laing - 102/30/72

Women's Winner; Darlene baker - 94/26/68 from Kath Jekabsons - 98/28/70

NTPs; 1st Mick Nicholls Snr, 15th - Ron Rea & 16th - Mick Nicholls Snr

Wednesday February 8th - Stroke

Flatstick Roofing Summer Cup, Part 1 of Round 2

The field teed off on a very warm morning. The 25mm of rain on Sunday night seemed a distant memory and the green of the fairways was rapidly withdrawing to the lower areas around the sprinklers. The 30 Kph wind from the NE brought a little relief from the heat but it also sucked

additional moisture out of the course. Going was a little tougher than last week, especially it seemed, for the men but the women carded some good scores. On a hot, blustery day the results were;

Women's winner; Darlene Baker - 100/26/74 C/B from Kath Jekabsons - 102/28/74

Men's winner; Len Carless 109/24/85

9 hole Winner; Jenny Hartley; 52/20/32

Saturday February 4th - Par

Flatstick Roofing Summer Cup, Part 2 of Round 1

After a hot, dry January and almost constant attention from the Little Corellas the course was beginning to show signs of strain; three greens in particular had been very seriously attacked. Nevertheless the field took to the course determined to make a good start in the 2017 Flatstick Roofing Summer Cup. This four round/eight event competition (so two goes at each round) allows players to play in all events but only their best three round scores are counted. The day's temperature 34C made sure that every buggy seat was filled and as the afternoon progressed more than a few players headed back to the rooms to stock up on a drink or two.

Despite the conditions a number of golfers headed up the 18th with a good score on their card. On a hot, dry day the results were;

Winner; Mick Nicholls Snr (24) - +3, from Dave Richardson (22) +2, John Laing (30) +1, Anthony Freeman (21) +1 & Chris vanDerVliet (25) +1

NTPs; 15th - Mick Nicholls Snr & 16th - Shannon Wright

Wednesday February 1st - Par

Flatstick Roofing Summer Cup, Part 1 of Round 1

It was a perfect morning for golf, temperature just right for a relaxed stroll through the park and just the gentlest of zephyrs from the south/south west. Being the 1st half of Round One of the RGC/Flatstick Roofing Summer Cup there was a strong, mixed field. The recent heat had continued to dry the course so many players found their drives much closer to the green allowing for far shorter approach shots. News of the event had spread far and wide and a number of additional golfers had decided to take on the course, and did it with class. On a great day to be out in the open air the results were;

Women's Winner; Kath Jekabsons (29) +5 from Darlene Baker (27) +1 and Jenny Hartley (41) +1

Men's Winner; Les Carless (25) +6 (visitor from Wales) from John Laing (31) +3

Saturday January 28th - Monthly Medal - Stroke & Putts

Despite the temperature reaching into the 30s it was an excellent day for the January Monthly Medal. The wind, firstly from the NW before swinging around to the SW was a fairly steady 15 - 20 Kph; it did not really effect balls in the air but did help to cool the players. The last few days of higher temperatures had dried the rough and some sections of the fairways giving players excellent value for well struck drives. The greens, those not dined on by our Little Corellas, continue to putt very true; their condition is a credit to the hard work of Les Gaunt, Scott Williams, Bruce & Lorraine Robb and John Freestone who have all spent time repairing the damage these little birds do. The round saw the return of past club champion Darren Freestone, it seem like he liked the recent changes across the course! On a hot, dry day the results were;

Winner and January Medalist; Darren Freestone - 81/12/69 from Kevin Dunn - 94/24/70, Mick Nicholls (Snr)

Golf Continued.

Wednesday January 25th - Monthly Medal - Stroke & Putts

It was a perfect morning for golf, just over 20C and a steady southerly breeze of about 25Kph. The course was again in great nick but the annual Little Corella vandals had again been at work. This time three greens had received their attention. Usually they spend their days digging up and eating the onion grass bulbs, the greens are just for their relaxation after a hard day in the rough! As the field went around a number of Green Fees golfers also took the opportunity for a hit. On a beautiful morning the results were;

Winner and January Medalist; Jenny Hartley - 114/41/73 from Leila Beasley - 114/37/77

Least Putts; Leila Beasley - 27 C/B from Kath Jekabsons

Saturday January 21st - Stableford

Another amazing week, 36C on Tuesday, cool, overcast weather for the following two days then almost 20mm of steady rain on Friday. The course was again in good condition and the wily old heads prepared to take full advantage. There was a 25 - 30 Kph wind from the SSW which later swung around to the S, this played havoc with the final few holes where the OOB on the 18th cost a

number of players shots. The course had soaked up the rain very well but there were a few wet patches here and there where balls plugged or picked up mud, no relief was given except for plugged balls. The round finished with two of the club's veterans fighting it out over the final few holes, even then it was almost too close to split them. On another almost spring day the results were;

Winner; Les Gaunt (4) - 35 pts C/B from John Freestone (23)

NTPs; 15th - Les Gaunt & 16th - Bob Dwyer

RGC hosted the annual Relay For Life Charity Golf Day on Feb 19th. All told 17 teams teed up and a little over \$2,000.00 was raised for the 2017 Lancefield/Macedon Ranges relay For Life. Our thanks to the day's sponsors "Romsey Hardware" and also to the kitchen and bar staff as well as the many volunteers who worked so hard to get the course ready for the day..RGC will host a Dalhousie District golf event in early April. This event will be on Saturday April 1st. It is a 4BBB Stableford Mixed Pairs event so everyone is welcome to register and play on the day. For more information please contact **DDGA Women's Captain; Glenda Woods. 26 The Parade, Yea. Vic. 3717**

Romsey Golf Club

Relay For Life Charity Golf Day

Sunday February 19th - Relay For Life Charity Golf Day

Seventeen teams teed up at Romsey Golf Club to raise funds for the 2017 Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life. Conditions were good, a light southerly breeze wandered across the park and the temperature was just below 20C. There was plenty of good natured ribbing as the teams spread out across the course with many daring predictions of just how far under par one or another team was going to score. Teams came from within Romsey, many local sporting clubs and surrounding towns. The 12 hole, par 45 "Old Course", echoed with cheers as birdies dropped or groans as balls ran passed the cup and the things really erupted when Shannon Wright aced the par 3, 10th hole.

Light rain began to fall as the teams were completing the final two holes however everyone was inside enjoying a traditional Romsey G. C. lunch when the skies opened and heavy rain fell. The room was more than happy to applaud the day's sponsors "Romsey Hardware" as well as the kitchen and bar staff and the many volunteers who had worked so hard to prepare the course for the day. All told just over \$2,000.00 was raised on the day. On a very relaxed and very enjoyable day the results were;

Winners; Cheryl's Crew - 39/5.12/33.88.

Runner's up - Aloha Glasgow - 42/7.5/34.5

Best team uniform - Super Heroes

16th Runner's Up - Truckers

2017 Winners - Cheryl's Crew

Best Uniform - Super Heroes

