



The Romsey Rag

Vol. 36 Ed. 12

DECEMBER 2018

ABN 80 102 393 407 INC A0102067K

Follow the Star
Thursday 20th December, 2018.



As we leave the Anglican Church and journey through the streets of Romsey join in singing Christmas Carols with the Kyneton Brass Band, then view the animals in the Uniting Church grounds, listen to the Christmas story and enjoy a light supper.

Romsey Uniting Church
25 Pohlman Street, Romsey

email@theromseyrag.com.au

Editorial

The Romsey Rag Inc

Committee

President Tony Lakey

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Treasurer Karen Read

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Shauna Martin
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General Committee

Margaret Mitchell
Pam Neil

All enquiries
Please email
email@theromseyrag.com.au

Welcome to the December Edition of The Romsey Rag

The Romsey Rag has undergone many changes in 2018 and the committee would like to thank the community for all your over the past eleven months. We have worked hard to ensure the Rag has been prepared and published in the best possible format and on time. It certainly has posed a few challenges along the way as we all learnt what it takes to manage and put together a community newspaper.

As this is the last edition for 2018, we would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year! The Rag will return in February 2019. If you have any suggestions for improvements, particular content or general feedback please email us using the address below.

email@theromseyrag.com.au

Please note The Romsey Rag Committee is made up of volunteers, many of whom work full time, therefore it is important to ensure adverts/articles are received by the deadline. With this in mind please allow 48 hours for responses to emails.

Please note the cut off for all articles/adverts for the February edition is the 15th January.

Season's Greetings from all at the Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life



**Celebrate.
Remember.
Fight Back.**

We will be Relaying again in 2019, our 17th year. If you would like to join us at the Lancefield Park on Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd March please visit our website Lancefield Relay For Life, or our Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life Facebook page.

For further information you can contact us at lancefieldrfl@cancervic.org.au or call 1300 656 585.

Earlier in the year the CoM submitted an application to the Bendigo's "Community Investment Program". Happily the application was approved.

On the 25th October The Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank branches of Bendigo Bank held their annual Community Investment Evening. Representatives from The Romsey Rag committee attended the event.

This grant will be used to purchase a dedicated laptop, software more suitable for good quality publications and storage for emails, adverts/articles and previous editions. It will mean the committee no longer have to rely on personal computers to compile the Rag each month. The committee are now in the process of sourcing the most suitable laptop and software for the job. We hope to have this ready for use to produce the February edition.

The committee would like to thank Bendigo Bank for their continued support, not only for the Rag but the Romsey and Lancefield communities.



The Romsey Rag committee members Sonia and Shauna Martin pictured with Ken Allender, General Manager of Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd

"WHATS ON" In and Around Romsey this December

- | | |
|----------------------|---|
| 1st December | Christmas in Romsey "Light Night", Main Street, Romsey |
| 15th December | Romsey Community Carols, Romsey Skate Park, picnic from 6pm, carols starting 7pm. |
| 16th December | RMI Community Market, rear of the Mechanics Institute, 9.30am-1.00pm |
| 20th December | December Ewe Sale, Kyneton Salesyard 12pm. |
| 25th December | Christmas Lunch, Kyneton Town Hall, 11:30am—2pm. |
| 26th December | RGC Boxing Day Golf—Stableford—8:00am for 8:30am hit-off.. |



Are you a sporting or community group wishing to inform the community of your up and coming events?

If so please contact us via the email below to discuss various options that may suit you:

email@theromseyrag.com.au



ROMSEY BRANCH OF C.W.A. INC

President : Anne Barry
M: 0402 066 318 H: 5429 6179

Secretary : Belinda Smeal
M: 0429 429 036 or
Email: cwaromsey@gmail.com

Treasurer: Susy Jarman
M: 0409 860 631

Craft Leader: Shirley Jones
M: 0428 525 372 H: 5429 6280

For further enquiries
Belinda Smeal
0429 429 036

THEME :	Celebrating 90 years of Diversity
Product/Resource :	Lamb and Wool
Country of Study :	Peru
Thanksgiving Fund :	National Centre for Farmer Health
State Project :	Umina B & B
Social Issues Focus :	Elder Abuse

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

Our friendly monthly meeting occurs on the 1st Wednesday of each month from 10.00 am to approx. 12.00 noon.

Our fun craft days occur on the 3rd Thursday of each month from 10.00 am to approx. 2.00 pm; both meetings are held in the supper room (side entrance) of the Romsey Mechanics Institute, Main Rd, Romsey. Examples of crafts we do are: knitting, sewing, crochet, cooking, beading, paper-craft.

October was a busy month for our branch. On Sunday 7th our members celebrated the branch's 80th Birthday with high tea at Umina, CWA Vic headquarters. The girls had a wonderful afternoon enjoying a cuppa, the delightful food and of course a

chat. CWA offer high tea at Umina the first Sunday of the month and is open to the public.

On Saturday October 20th a number of our members enjoyed our shopping tour. We joined with another group as our numbers were small making a full bus. It was a great day. Unfortunately we missed a couple of outlets due to unforeseen circumstances, however there were still plenty of bargains to be had.

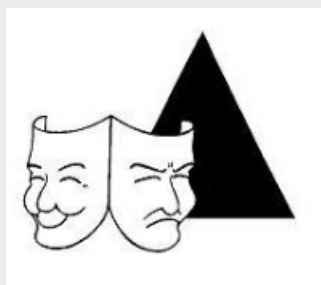
Saturday 27th our branch catered at the local equestrian event at the Lancefield Equestrian Centre.

Our AGM was held on Wednesday November 7th. Welcome to our new committee.

Looking forward to another wonderful year.

Our Romsey Branch participates in various community activities, and we welcome new members. Come and join us! Membership is very affordable.

The Mount Players Mountview Theatre



56 Smith St,
Macedon VIC 3440

Phone: (03) 5426 1892

www.themountplayers.com

Shakespeare comes to the Mountview Theatre Last Performance 1st December - Don't Miss Out!

Our fourth and final production for 2019 – Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew* will open on Friday 9th November and run till Sunday 1st December. Melbourne Director, Drew Mason, has enjoyed himself immensely by setting this production during the Suffragette movement of the early Twentieth Century. An era of great social change for Western democracies being led by some very strong, passionate woman....much like the character in this play, Kate. Shrew is pacey, funny and a must see for both first time Shakespeare goers and of course the die hards! Tickets are now on sale via our website www.themountplayers.com

Auditions for our first production of 2019, **Educating Rita** By Willy Russell, directed by Natasha Boyd will take place on 18th and 19th November. The play requires 2 actors. 1 male aged 50 – late 60's and 1 female aged mid 20's – early 30's. A prepared monologue from the play will be required. For full details and to book an audition time contact Natasha Boyd at info@bookbonding.com.au or phone 0413 188 513.

By Karen Hunt



ROMSEY LICENSED POST OFFICE

1/107 Main Street
Romsey VIC 3434
{03} 5429 5301

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Large range of printers for sale

Romsey Mechanics Institute Monthly Update

In 1904 the RMI was severely damaged by fire, this disaster allowed the then CoM to review the layout of the building & plan for a larger, more solid structure. These plans included a double brick building with a two storey façade facing Main Street. The local Masonic Lodge supported the RMI then by paying the interest on the loan required to double the front section of the RMI. Now, in 2018, the Lodge has again come forward to assist the RMI to improve the "upstairs south room" with a grant of \$500.00



Lodge member Bob Dwyer with RMI president Anthony Lakey

We would like to thank everyone who attended our 2nd Art Show also all the local art groups for their support. The show was a

great success not only were many pieces sold but community members were able to view the full range of art and craft works being created within the town and surrounding district. A big thank you to CoM members who ran the Devonshire Tea stall, very busy but great to catch up with so many locals and chat about the Art Show, the Community Market and the RMI plans for the future.

Our 1st RMI Community Market, run in conjunction with the Art Show, also went very well. The wide variety of stalls kept everyone interested. Our next Community Market will be Sun Dec 16th. Special thanks to Ray White Romsey & Debbie Dax for their efforts to organise & promote this community event

Congratulations to the Romsey/Lancefield Social Club on their gaining Bendigo Bank sponsorship for the club's monthly bus trips, well done to SC Treasurer Rae Hooke & RMI Secretary Kathy Lakey who put the successfully application together.

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, or via the web site. We are more than happy to discuss your function, show you through the hall or supper room and explain the hire process. The CoM at the RMI wishes the community a safe and happy Christmas & New Year.



Romsey Mechanics Institute

PO Box 130
Romsey 3434
Victoria

Mob; 0458 726 106
ABN; 99 340 024 758

presidentrmi@gmail.com
secretaryrmi@gmail.com
rmibookings@gmail.com

www.romseymechanicsinstitute.com

Romsey Medical



Lancefield Medical is Relocating

The doctors and staff of Lancefield Medical wish to inform you that we are relocating **to Romsey Medical in Stawell Street Romsey** as of 17th December, 2018. This change will allow us to continue to provide high quality GP services, specialist consultations, pathology and allied health care at one site. Your usual doctor and our staff will all be available to see you at Romsey. We apologise if this causes you inconvenience. If you have difficulty getting to Romsey, please discuss this with our receptionists or your doctor and we will try to find a solution.

Phone: 54295 254 or book on line at www.romseymedical.com.au



A: PO BOX 151,
KYNETON,
VICTORIA 3444

P: 03 5422 0333

E: mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au

W: www.mrsc.vic.gov.au

Pick up Your Copy of ShireLife & Be Prepared This Summer

Get the latest on how you can prepare for emergencies in our summer emergency pull-out in the November issue of ShireLife.

The November issue of our free resident newsletter was delivered to households in late-November, and includes a handy pull-out guide to the following:

- Bushfire survival plans
- Neighbourhood Safer Places—Places of Last Resort
- Emergency relief centres
- Packing an emergency kit

- Channels for emergency information
- Emergency recovery centres.

The CFA declared the Fire Danger Period on Monday 12 November, with residents encouraged to be prepared for what is predicted to be a long, hot, summer.

For more information on preparing for emergencies, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/fire-ready or cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare

You can also read November's ShireLife online, at mrsc.vic.gov.au/newsletters

Keep Cool and Take a Dip in Our Outdoor Pools this Summer

Grab your towel, hat and sunscreen, and make the most of the refreshing water and shade at one of our local outdoor pools.

The Lancefield and Woodend outdoor pools will open for the 2018/19 summer season from Saturday 1 December until Monday 11 March.

There will be some key changes to the operations of Council's outdoor pools based on a detailed review conducted earlier this year.

The review included community consultation drop-in sessions in Woodend and Lancefield and a shire-wide survey which recorded almost 800 responses. Council would like to thank residents for their feedback and input into the operations of the two facilities.

The review resulted in a range of planned improvements, such as expanded opening hours in December, improved shade, passive recreation options and more community events.

The Lancefield and Woodend outdoor pools will be open for the 2018/19 summer season as follows:

Monday–Friday (during school terms)

- 26 degrees and above: 3.30pm–6pm (possible extension of hours past 6pm dependent upon patronage and weather conditions)
- Under 26 degrees: closed

Monday–Friday (during school holidays) and weekends

- 26 degrees and above: 12noon–6pm (possible extension of hours past 6pm dependent upon patronage and weather conditions)
- Under 26 degrees: closed

Pool opening hours are determined according to Bureau of Meteorology temperature forecasts for Kyneton at 4.30pm the day prior.

Council's outdoor pools and indoor aquatic centres will be closed on Christmas Day.

For more information about our review, pool opening hours and fees, family passes and season tickets, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/outdoor-pools or call 5422 0333.

Environment Events at Hanging Rock Reserve

Fascinated by wildlife? Love spending time outdoors? Macedon Ranges Shire Council has two free environment events on offer in December aimed to get you exploring our stunning natural reserve, Hanging Rock.

Be a citizen scientist during Hanging Rock koala count

They're considered icons of the Australian bush, yet the humble koala faces significant threats. Locally, koalas are under pressure from issues like the loss of habitat and predators such as dogs.

Come along to the Hanging Rock Koala Count at Hanging Rock on Friday 7 December at 10am, and get involved in this unique citizen science survey aimed at finding out more about the reserve's koala population.

Go batty at Hanging Rock

Pack a picnic and come to Hanging Rock Reserve on Sunday 16 December from 7.30pm to get up close with microbats.

Referred to as 'insect terminators', microbats play a major role in controlling pests and assisting with pollination. They can even help spread seeds.

Bring a picnic, and be part of a discussion with bat specialist and naturalist John Harris, then join us to release bats captured in the program.

For more information on environment events, or to book, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events or call 5421 9660.

Kyneton's ewe sale set for December

Thousands of sheep are set to go under the hammer at Kyneton Saleyards next month during the Annual First Cross Ewe Sale.

The highly anticipated event, being held at Kyneton Saleyards on Thursday 20 December at 12pm, brings together sellers from the Macedon Ranges and neighbouring shires.

It is anticipated that up to five thousand head of sheep will be

sold – in line with last year's annual sale held in January which equated to more than \$1 million dollars in sales.

Council is reminding motorists that there will be a significant increase in traffic around the saleyards.

For more information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/saleyards or call 5422 0333.

Dinner Dance Celebrates International Day of People with Disability

Community News



As part of festivities being held across the nation to celebrate International Day of People with Disability, Council is hosting a dinner dance in Kyneton on Saturday 1 December.

Bowling Club on Saturday 1 December, starting at 6pm. Tickets include a two-course meal, and the event features a band and a vintage photo booth.

Tickets are \$15, carers attend for free.

International Day of People with Disability on 3 December is a United Nations-sanctioned day that promotes an understanding of people with disability and encourages support for their dignity, rights and wellbeing.

Purchase your tickets at mrsc.vic.gov.au/events or call 5422 0333.

To find out about other events happening across the country as part of International Day of People with Disability, visit www.idpwd.com.au

The dinner dance will be held at Kyneton

A: PO BOX 151,
KYNETON,
VICTORIA 3444

P: 03 5422 0333

E: mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au

W: www.mrsc.vic.gov.au

Don't Miss Battle of the Bands Competition

Young musicians from regional Victoria will step onto the stage at Kyneton Town Hall in December to perform in the Push Start Battle of the Bands competition.

- The Wilsons (Hepburn Shire)
- Isabella Fortuna (City of Greater Bendigo)
- Meraki Minds (Ballarat City Council)

The Northern Country Battle of the Bands Regional Finals will be held on Saturday 15 December from 6pm, and see bands, duos and solo artists from areas including Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine and the Macedon Ranges play music from a range of genres.

Triple j Unearthed High winner KIAN, from Castlemaine, is also set to play at the event.

Presale tickets are \$10 each (groups of 10 or more receive 10% discount), or \$15 on the door.

The night will feature performances from the following acts:

- Stop That Mammoth (Mt Alexander Shire)
- Crane (Macedon Ranges Shire)
- Tyler Ball (Sunraysia)

The event is a fully supervised, all-ages, drug, alcohol and tobacco-free event.

For more information visit Macedon Ranges Youth's Facebook page, or call 5422 0242.

News from Romsey Recreation Centre

From fitness classes and activities such as karate and squash, to services and facilities for hire, Romsey Recreation Centre is ready and waiting for you to drop by and visit.

Romsey Occasional Care also operates from the centre, providing quality, affordable care for your children in a safe, fun and relaxed environment.

Our sports programs for juniors and seniors include:

- Basketball
- Indoor soccer
- Indoor netball

If you're looking for group fitness classes we've got you covered, with sessions on offer to suit those who want to start an exercise program, maintain their current level of fitness, or simply challenge themselves.

We've also got a range of fun and interactive programs available for 1 to 5 year olds, such as **Lovaball Kids** – a multi-sports program for children that develops sport specific skills, confidence, concentration, teamwork and sportsmanship.

The team at Romsey Recreation Centre wish you and your loved ones a happy and safe festive season, and look forward to seeing you in 2019.

For more information on Romsey Recreation Centre programs, classes, service or facilities for hire, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/RRC, email rrc@mrsc.vic.gov.au or call 5429 5637.

Share a Feast this Christmas Day at Kyneton Town Hall

Council is inviting shire residents who might otherwise be alone over the festive period to share Christmas Day with others enjoying a delicious, free lunch at Kyneton Town Hall on Tuesday 25 December.

For more information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/events or call 1300

Now in its eleventh year, this free event brings together community members to share an afternoon of food, company and entertainment.

The lunch will take place on Tuesday 25 December from 11.30am to 2pm, at Kyneton Town Hall, 129 Mollison Street in Kyneton.

Bookings are essential and can be made by calling 1300 888 802 or via email on ktickets@mrsc.vic.gov.au



Community News

Water Supply Changes in the Macedon Ranges

Western Water customers in the Macedon Ranges may notice a change in their drinking water as several towns switch their supply source.

Customers in Gisborne, New Gisborne, Gisborne South, Riddells Creek, Macedon and Mount Macedon will be switched from the Melbourne drinking water supply system to the local supply from Rosslynne Reservoir.

The water supply for other Macedon Ranges towns remain unchanged. Romsey and Lancefield will continue to source their water from local supplies, which includes bore and reservoir water. Woodend's water is sourced from local reservoirs.

Western Water's General Manager, Customer, Community Relations and Operations, Graham Holt, said customers "may notice a slight change in the taste of their water."

"This is quite normal, as we are switching from one supply source to another. The drinking water we supply is high quality, safe and meets the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines," he said.

The supply switchover will occur mid-November and take several days to reach customer taps.

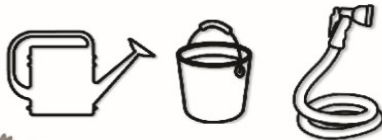
To learn more about where your water supply comes from, visit WesternWater.com.au



Gardens & lawns can be watered

Anytime

with a watering can, bucket or handheld hose fitted with a trigger nozzle.



6pm - 10am

with watering systems, including sprinklers.



Get to know the Permanent Water Saving Rules at WesternWater.com.au/PWSR



Romsey  Dental

FAMILY DENTAL CARE

03 5429 3322

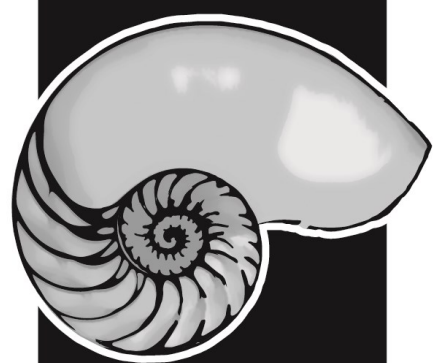
Dr Thomas Hudson
MBBS BDS Sc LDS

Stacey Putker
Oral Health Therapist

**New Patients
Welcome**

www.romseydental.com.au

41 Murphy St Romsey



IN SYMMETRY
Romsey Wellness Centre

120 Main Street Romsey

03 5429 3610

www.insymmetry.com.au

**** NEW LOCATION & A NEW NAME ****

Essence of Chinese Medicine

is moving up the street to expand & diversify its services.

The change in location & brand is due to my ultimate dream to build a wellness hub where a range of health practitioners can come together under the one roof for our community. Come in & see us once we open :O)

Opening Monday 8th October

Library Diary Dates

We are having some creative fun with 12 Days of Christmas-Making! Drop in to Romsey Library and choose from a range of items to make for Christmas gift-giving, decorating or just something fun for yourself! For all ages from Monday 3 December – Monday 17 December inclusive.

Christmas fun continues with the Romsey Library Advent Calendar. Each day, the staff will randomly select a time to reveal the latest offering from the Advent Calendar. The borrower that is nearest to the library desk at the time of the reveal, will get the treat! Commences Saturday Dec 1.

Romsey Decoration and Lights Competition commences on 4 December. Romsey Library's decorated steel Christmas tree will form part of the town's Christmas roadside display. Voting forms available at the Romsey HUB.

Romsey Library's last day of trading before the Christmas break is Friday 21 December. Pop in and stock up on reading, viewing and listening materials and enjoy a chocolate with our compliments! We close at 5pm and re-open on Wednesday 2 January 2019 at 9:30am.

We wish everyone a very Happy and Safe Christmas and New Year. If you're not already a library member, we'd love to meet you and have you join up! All you need is some form of ID with your current address.

Local History Collection

Interested in local history?

Romsey Library has an extensive local history collection containing a wealth of information on Romsey and the surrounding area, from Bacchus March to Gisborne to Kilmore. Our range of titles includes *When Memory Turns the Key: The History of the Shire of Romsey*, *They Went to War: Stories of the Men and Women of the Woodend and Newham district who served in WWI* and *All Wild and Lonely Bush: A History of Kerrie, Cherokee and Rochford*. Some titles are available to read within the library only, but a number of titles may be borrowed.

We warmly invite you to visit us at the Romsey Library and check out our extensive Local History Collection!



Library News



Romsey Library The Hub

98 Main Street
Romsey 3434
Ph: 54293086

Opening hours

Monday 9.30am-5pm
Tuesday 9.30am-5pm
Wed 9.30am-5pm
Thurs 9.30-6pm
Friday 9.30- 5pm
Sat 9.30am-12.30pm
Sunday Closed

Library Services

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enjoyment
opportunities for all

Book Reviews

The Bad Daughter Joy Fielding

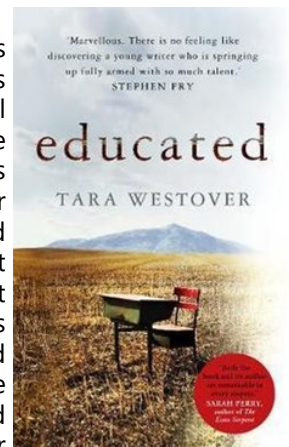
Robin receives an urgent voice mail from her estranged sister Melanie explaining that their father, his second wife and niece have been shot in a home invasion and are in critical condition in hospital. Robin, who is now a therapist, has not returned to Red Bluff in five years and has not spoken to her sister in several years. Melanie, along with her autistic son, have remained in Red Bluff living next door to their father, his wife and her niece.

Joy Fielding has developed a cast of very interesting characters. Everyone knows a Melanie. She is a difficult and objectionable character who has an enormous chip on her shoulder and loves to take it out on her sister Robin. Melanie's son, Landon, is a dark and disturbing character who leaves Robin feeling unsettled and at times frightened. If you enjoy psychological thrillers, this is the read for you! Joy Fielding is the master of suspenseful novels that always introduce several red herrings and a twist which culminates in a thrilling, edge of your seat ending. This is her latest book which I thoroughly enjoyed reading.



Educated Tara Westover

Educated is Tara Westover's Autobiography. It details her life growing up in rural America, isolated by the environmental and religious beliefs imposed on her family by her pious and zealous father, violent brother and compliant mother. Her story details her struggle to find and reinvent herself as she enters adulthood and begins to question her beliefs, finally coming to the realisation that a life exists for her outside of the one knows. I found Tara's story both confronting and uplifting and well worth a read.



By Rae Good

By Marni Hickman

Community News



**COMBINED
PROBUS CLUB OF
ROMSEY and
LANCEFIELD Inc.**
A0042634P

**P.O. Box 280, Romsey
Vic. 3434**

President:
Gerard Hanrahan 5429 5630
Secretary:
Jenifer Clampit 5429 5480

rlprobus.org.au

Join Probus for Fun & Fellowship

Probus is an Association for active members of the community and for those no longer working full time to join together in clubs for a new lease of life.

Its basic purpose is to advance intellectual and cultural interests amongst adult persons; to provide regular opportunities to progress healthy minds and active bodies, through social interaction and activities, expand interests and to enjoy the fellowship of new friends.

All our members are active and aged between 60-90+ years. We enjoy each other's company and have made good friendships along the way. Always plenty of chat and laughter whenever we are together.

Now, are you retired or close to retiring from work? Why not 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. Alternatively phone us to enquire.

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

November 22nd was our last meeting for 2018. There is no meeting held in December. Our Christmas Lunch will be held on Wednesday 19th December at Cleveland Winery.

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

**Our first meeting for 2019 is on
Thursday 28th February.**

Our group enjoy fortnightly coffee mornings and the alternate week 10 Pin Bowling at AMF Bowling Watergardens.

The dates for December Coffee morning - 14th, 28th at Cookies Romsey. 10am.

***Season's Greetings to all from the Romsey/
Lancefield Probus Club***

Romsey & Lancefield Social Club



***Inviting men and women 55 to
105 who are retired, who wish to
make new friends and are
helpful.***

For more information
contact:
Eileen French 0412 787 213

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

On the first Wednesday of the month we have bus trips to some very interesting places. The trip includes a 2-course meal and morning tea. Trips are \$45 which includes your lunch.

What a bargain, we do not have an age limit, maybe you are retired and want a break from driving, maybe you just want an excuse to get out of town or even just have a fun day with like minded people who enjoy exploring and visiting new places or revisiting somewhere you visited a long time ago.

Come along and give us a try!

Wednesday 3rd December 2018 - Craigieburn

The final trip for the year is to Craigieburn. We will enjoy an all you can eat buffet at the Highlands Hotel then have free time for shopping at the Craigieburn Shopping Centre. Depart: Lancefield – 11.00am, Romsey – 11.15am

Community Poem

GRANDMA'S LAUNDRY

by Archie Bigg

I remember Grandma's laundry
With a basket made of cane
And lines that stretched from wall to wall
To hang things when it rained.
There used to be a copper
Out where Grandma used to toil
And a stick to lift the clothes out
When the water reached the boil.
There were twin tubs made of concrete
With a wringer in between
A wringer in a laundry now
Is hardly ever seen.
Upon a shelf a little box
Of starch called Silver Star
Kero tins for buckets –
Remember back that far?
A dipper with a handle
To help our Grandma cope

And a little wire basket
With a piece of Sunlight soap.
She used to have a washboard
For scrubbing out the clothes
You must be getting on in years
If you used one of those.
A saucer on the window sill
With bags of Reckitt's Blue
To make the white clothes whiter still
And good for bee-stings too.
Some sand soap and a scrub brush
For scrubbing every floor,
Some firewood for the copper
In a box behind the door.
A tin roof and some guttering
With a funny sort of sag
And a heap of wooden dolly pegs
In a homemade hessian bag.
And out the back, a clothes line,

Not the kind that spins around
And a clothes prop held the clothes up
Stopped 'em dragging on the ground.
I wonder what would Grandma say
If only she could see
That wash-a-matic marvel
Where the copper used to be.
The dryer in the corner
The tubs of stainless steel
Hot water pouring from the taps,
I wonder how she'd feel.
I think Grandma would approve
The changes made, and yet
There were things in Grandma's laundry
That I simply can't forget!

A sentimental journey! My best wishes
to all for a Happy Christmas.

RRBATA UPDATE

Christmas In Romsey 2018

Bendigo Bank Christmas In Romsey 2018 will be launched on Saturday 1st December 2018 with **"Light Night"**. This will be an opportunity for the community to enjoy the newly installed Thrifty Link Main Street Christmas Trees (featuring 75 Business and Community Group trees plus the Community Tree this year) whilst enjoying street performers and Romsey cafes and restaurants. Santa will also be making an appearance! The official opening ceremony will be conducted soon after 9pm at the Romsey Mechanics' Institute followed by a fireworks display!



The **Christmas Lights and Decorations Competition** will this year feature a new category – Best Decorated Gate – for those homes on very large blocks where whole house decoration is less feasible or visible. Entry forms are available at Romsey Community Hub and the Romsey Community Bank branch of the Bendigo Bank. And don't forget the People's Choice Award for Best Business!



The **Romsey Community Carols** will be held at the Romsey Skate Park on Saturday 15th December. Feel free to arrive from 6pm with a picnic and enjoy the family friendly atmosphere before the event kicks off at 7pm.

Five Mile Creek Master Plan

The Five Mile Creek Group has invited RRBATA to be represented on a working group

associated with the development of a Master Plan for the Romsey Five Mile Creek precinct. This follows the group's successful grant application MRSC's Places For People Funding Scheme. MRSC also recently facilitated successful State Government funding application for exercise equipment for the Five Mile Creek precinct.

Tourism Macedon Ranges

Following the recent Tourism Macedon Ranges (TMR) Inc's Annual General Meeting, RRBATA will again be represented on the TMR Committee in 2019. This advocacy group will serve a key conduit role in 2019 between the interests of the visitor economy sector and the Macedon Ranges Shire Council. RRBATA is the only eastern corridor group represented on this committee.

RRBATA Membership Package

RRBATA Membership is open to all businesses, organizations and individuals who support Romsey business and tourism. Website listing, discounts to RRBATA events, and reciprocal membership rights with Business Kyneton (formerly Kyneton BATA) are included in the package. RRBATA aims to provide networking opportunities as well as facilitating communication with key stakeholders for all RRBATA members. For further details contact Jenny Stillman on 0412349849, jennystillman@optusnet.com.au or go to Romsey Online and RRBATA Facebook.

Community News



Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association (RRBATA)

Jenny Stillman
Phone: 0412 349849
Email:
jennystillman@optusnet.com.au



Follow
RRBATA



The benefits of the Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association.
Be a part of it!

Romsey Online Remember

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.

2018 – A Year of Huge Progress

Romsey Ecotherapy Park Inc (REP) – formally known as GRAAP – this year rebranded to reflect the formal adoption of Romsey Ecotherapy Park as the name for the health and wellbeing park project at the former Romsey Primary School site. With a new name, new logo, new website and social media platforms, the small but tight REP committee welcomed construction of the Park's first stage. The Active Nature Space officially opened in August after more than 9 years since the project's conception.

A serious community campaign reaped success in the Pick My Project funding scheme in October which secured \$200,000 for construction of the Park's Climbing Forest. It is hoped this will be constructed in the earlier part of 2019, although the details of funding agreements in this scheme have yet to be finalised.

The State Labour Government also made an election promise to contribute \$718,000 if successful in the State Election. Meanwhile, Macedon Ranges Shire Council formally voted to apply for funding under the Federal Government's Building Better Regions Fund. If successful, it will involve a leverage funding contribution to be made by MRSC.

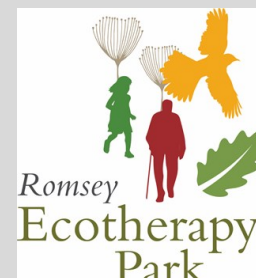
Romsey Ecotherapy Park is now a reality and REP is excited at the possibility of more government funding being secured. However,

REP is determined to ensure the realization of the original vision for this important health and wellbeing resource. As such, REP is preparing to undertake a corporate philanthropic campaign to raise sufficient funds to ensure construction costs are covered. A Park Patron and Ambassadors will be appointed as part of this campaign. There is much to be excited about for Romsey Ecotherapy Park in 2019. As 2018 draws to a close, REP would like to thank all local community members who have supported the project ("Friends of REP"), including the following:

- **REP Photo Day Cast** (see photo)



- **Macedon Ranges Shire Council** - with special thanks to Jodie Turner, (Coordinator Community Places and Partnerships) for her wonderful support,
- **Romsey Community Bank branch of the Bendigo Bank** – for the huge leap of faith demonstrated by last year's \$80,000 grant towards the Sensory Therapeutic Space and backed up this year with a sponsorship of the REP website.



Further information
contact:

Raelene Mottram
(President)

0428 928 908

OR email

romseyecotherapy@romseyecotherapy.com.au

PO Box 53,
Romsey 3434
Victoria

www.romseyecotherapy.com.au



Station Street, Romsey
Victoria 3434

Phone: (03) 5429 5099

Email:

romsey.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au

Principal: Loren Peavey

Exciting Times at Romsey Primary School

2018 has been an exciting time for RPS. In April we were pleased to announce that the Victorian Government had allocated \$3.2 million to enhance the provision of education in the Romsey area, focusing on Romsey Primary School. The first phase of the Regeneration Project was to investigate the long term educational needs within our local area. The community consultation aspect of the project has been undertaken by the Department of Education and Training (DET) assessing the demand for our school to shift from a P-6 school to a P-9 school. The report from the consultation will be available in January. Some aspects of the capital works to upgrade and modernise learning spaces and facilities at the school may commence in the last weeks of 2018.

A further allocation of \$180,000 under the Inclusive Schools Program from the State Government, was announced in October to upgrade our playground area, replacing old and deteriorating play equipment with more inclusive adventure play areas for our students.

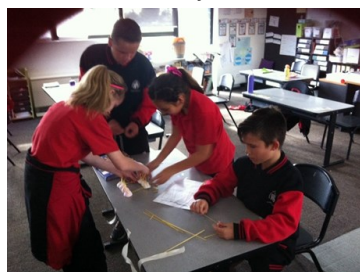


In October the **Bendigo Bank** granted us \$6000 towards the planning costs for the inclusive adventure playground. This has been a wonderful boost for us as it allows us to develop a comprehensive plan and for all of the other funding money to be allocated to the physical playground resource. They also continue to support our Wellbeing Programs at the school with a \$3000 grant. This money is allocated to teacher professional learning in wellbeing and our Bendigo Bank You Can Do It Awards which are presented each week to our children. We thank the Bendigo Bank for their ongoing support of the school it is greatly appreciated.

What is STEAM? (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics)

STEAM education is a way of thinking for example, in a traditional classroom, students might be asked to research ways to stop litter going down the stormwater drains. They present a poster explaining what they consider to be the best solution. In a STEAM classroom, students are asked to work collaboratively to design, build, test and re-design (if necessary) a solution and demonstrate it.

We are just dipping our toes into this approach and will be working with the students, staff and families over the coming months as we gather evidence around this work to align it with the Regeneration Project. We have already had a number of whole school STEAM challenges which were enjoyed by all students, and we anticipate that the STEAM program will be broadened next year.

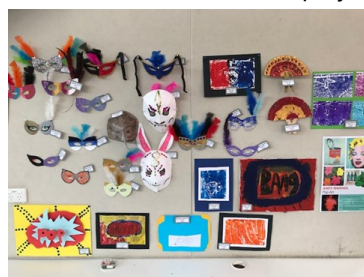


The Year In Retrospect

With the end of the year very close, it is interesting to reflect on the major events of the school year. There were many highlights to the year, too numerous to mention them all, but some were:

Year 5 and 6 students attended Camp Wyuna in Queenscliff, while our Year 3 and 4 students went to Lady Northcote Camp. A number of students from Years 3 to 6 represented the school in district, regional and state athletics and other sports, a real achievement for these young athletes. The students in Year 1 and 2 enjoyed a Lego incursion, while the Preps had their first excursion to the Lego Centre in the city. At the start

of November our annual Art Show took place with beautiful art pieces from all of our children and families. This year the Kinder children also all displayed a piece of art in our show.



All staff have undertaken 2 of 4 modules in the Berry Street Educational Model and this will be completed next year. To complement this educational model we launched our whole school Positive Behaviour Program with a special day featuring t-shirt painting, a picnic and a movie and popcorn afternoon. Late in Term 2 we celebrated achieving our behaviour target with a wheels day, where students brought bikes, scooters, roller blades and other wheeled devices to school to use at lunch time and recess.

The refurbishment of the Office, Library and Performing Arts Centre were completed at the start of the school year, giving these spaces a refresher and increasing privacy for families in the office area.

Our inaugural Comedy Night in August was a real winner, raising approximately \$15 000 for our inclusive education playground. Planning for next year's show is well and truly under way. So make sure you keep an eye out for advertising before August 2019.

ENROLMENTS FOR 2019

We are still accepting enrolments for the 2019 school year. If you are considering Romsey Primary School as the school for your child please contact the office (5429 5099) as soon as possible to book a tour or obtain an enrolment pack. As the town is growing so too is the school. Enrolments need to be handed in to the school as soon as possible as additional students will impact planning and class structures for 2019.

Finally, as a school we would like to recognise the wonderful support we receive from many of the families in our community. We have a very supportive community body who work on School Council and Parent Club to support the students and staff as we all "Dare To Be Excellent" (school motto) in all that we do.

We wish the greater Romsey Community a happy and safe holiday period.

RPS Principal Loren Peavey

Short of breath? Free Lung Assessments Available

Did you know that shortness of breath is not a sign of ageing and is something that can be improved through exercise, diet and medication? If you have noticed a change in the health of your lungs you may have Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease (COPD), a group of lung diseases that block airflow and make it difficult to breathe. Emphysema and chronic bronchitis are the most common conditions that make up COPD and symptoms include wheezing, a chronic cough as well as shortness of breath. One in seven Australians aged 40 years and over have some form of COPD and unless treated, symptoms will worsen over time.

To mark World COPD Day Cobaw Community Health is hosting two events to raise awareness of this disease. On Wednesday 21 November Cobaw's clinicians will be at the Kyneton Mechanics Reserve between 11am and 1pm to offer a free two minute lung health check and exercises and other practical advice to promote lung health.

Later the same day, between 6 and 7pm at Kyneton District Health, there will be an information session aimed at GPs and other

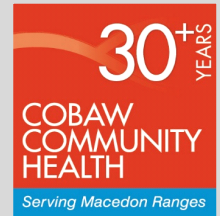
health professionals detailing the COPD services offered by Cobaw.

"Often people are struggling with the symptoms of COPD and experiencing a lower quality of life as a result," says David Grenfell a physiotherapist at Cobaw who runs a weekly COPD group. "With the right diagnosis, treatment and support, people can dramatically improve their quality of life." Regular exercise increases the oxygen supply to the heart and strengthens the respiratory muscles in the lungs improving the lung function.

Wendy Hemphill, Cobaw's COPD nurse says that people can take steps to control their condition and live a more comfortable life. "We want everyone to be proactive about their health. Don't ignore the symptoms and seek medical advice from your GP if you experience a lingering cough, chest tightness or lung pain."

Encourage your family and friends to visit one of Cobaw's sites in Kyneton, Romsey or Woodend. For more details see Cobaw's website www.cobaw.org.au or call 5421 1666.

Community Health



By telephone: 1300 0 26229
(1300 0 COBAW) or 03 5421 1666

By fax: 03 5422 2161

Email: admin@cobaw.org.au

By mail: PO Box 146,
Kyneton
Vic 3444

Opening Hours:
Monday-Friday 9:00am-5:00pm

In person: 47 High Street, Kyneton

Melbourne-Lancefield Roadworks - Driving Residents Crazy!

Having the perfect vantage point I have watched the progress of the roadworks since they re-started in September. I am sure I am not alone to find it comical the roadworks were ceased due to the winter weather conditions! We live in Victoria where the winters can be horrendous yet the works were scheduled during this time, poor planning springs to mind. The road was also deemed to be in a worse state than original thought, another reason the works were suspended.

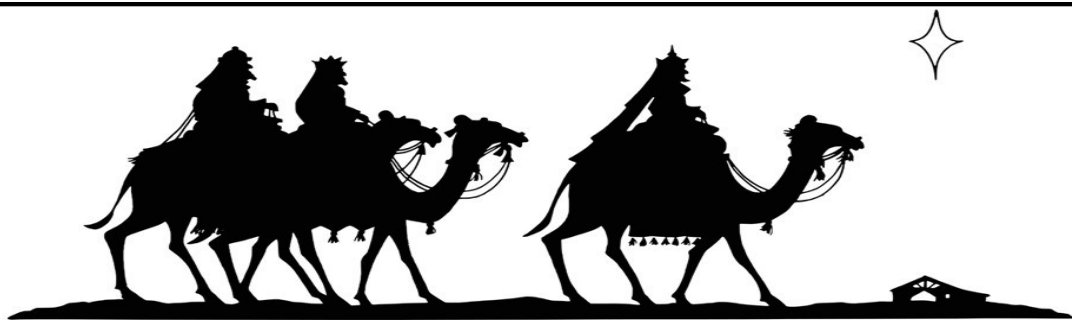
I recently contacted VicRoads as I have watched one section excavated, laid several times over. I am no road builder but this seemed excessive and made me wonder if anyone knew what they were doing! Not to mention on re-starting the works the unfinished section remained unfinished and a new section of road dug up. Why not finish what they started first. My thought's started to turn to a "Benny Hill" comedy sketch. After a few weeks I finally had a response from VicRoads:

"The earlier design was suitable to accommodate the original road safety barrier treatment which included road widening, barrier installation and an overtaking lane. This original scope of work meant that the majority of pavement, the middle section between the widened sections, would have been left in its original condition and not improved."

Over the suspension period, from June to September this year, the decision was made to increase the scope of work and improve the full width of the pavement, ultimately increasing the asset life."

Now perhaps I missed this communication to the public but I am still seeking further clarification as to when the works will be completed, pushing for more communications to the residents and hoping it will all be over soon! I would love to clean all the dust off my windows knowing it won't all be blown back on them hours later!

Shauna Martin



*Family Christmas Service
Sunday 23 December 2018 at 10am*

*Everyone Welcome
Each Child Will Receive A Gift*

7 Mitchell Court, Romsey

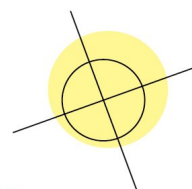


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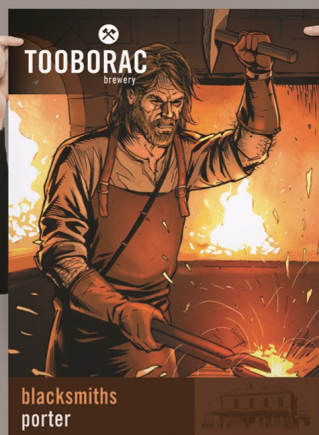
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KIDNEYS, STRAWBERRIES & YOGHURT

Using two handfuls of lambs' kidneys, wash them and pluck the white fat from them. I then dice the flesh of the kidneys and put them aside.

In a pan splashed with a little olive oil, I scatter sliced onion rings with a sprinkle of brown sugar. When the onions change colour - but not brown or burnt - and the sugar has dissolved - I add the diced kidneys with about a quarter of the amount of diced red capsicum to that of the kidneys. In about 2 minutes of occasionally moving the ingredients around with a wooden spoon, I scatter a handful of baby spinach leaves over the mixture with another handful of strawberries. I turn the ingredients over to combine.

I add a small teaspoon of prepared English mustard, which has been mashed into half a cup of yoghurt.

The lot is allowed to warm, but not boil.

Once warmed, it is poured over a toasted slice of good quality bread. Preferably a wholemeal with seeds.

Remember you are not attempting to boil or burn the result - simply to change the colour of the kidneys and serve them hot.



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Call 5429 5637 or visit
mrsc.vic.gov.au/RRC

Church News

THE ANGLICAN PARISH OF



CHRIST CHURCH, LANCEFIELD AND ST. PAUL'S ROMSEY



Correspondent
Doreen Morgan
Parish Office: 5429 1380

Church Services

HOLY COMMUNION

9am ST. PAUL'S ROMSEY
10.30am CHRIST CHURCH
LANCEFIELD

Minister: Rev. Judi Pollard
Mobile: 0402 268 001

FROM HEAVEN TO EARTH DECEMBER 2018

"From heaven to earth you came, helpless Babe, entered our world, your glory veiled; Not to be served, but to serve, and to give Your life that we may live". So one of the later hymns goes - and WHY, we must ask ourselves?? John 3:16 gives us the answer - because of God's great love for us. He longs for us to be at one with Him, separated as we are by our sinful, fallen human natures. So, Jesus, Son of God, left the glory of heaven to become as one of us and to suffer and die nailed to a cross. From Cradle to Cross!

Christ was born for us - that we might be born again. He became the child of the Virgin Mary - that we might become the children of God by adoption and grace. He took our nature upon Him - that we might become partakers of the divine nature in the power of the Holy Spirit. Such is the mystery of the Incarnation - God in the Flesh!

May we all be found this Christmas not wholly caught in the feasting and wassailing of the unbelieving world but humbly kneeling and lifting our hands in penitence and faith, to His, so lovingly stretched out to ours.

"Come see His hands and His feet, the scars that speak of sacrifice,
Hands that flung stars into space - To cruel nails surrendered."

(Graham Kendrick)

"O may we keep and ponder in our mind,
God's wondrous love in saving lost mankind;
Trace we the Babe who has retrieved our loss,
From His poor manger to His bitter Cross;
Tread in His steps, Assisted by His grace, Till
man's first heavenly state again takes place."

J. Byrom.

November has passed quickly, its highlight being the very entertaining concert by the Victoria Welsh Male Voice Choir. Their blended voices in four part harmony delighted us all. The rendering of 'Highland Cathedral' stirred many a Scottish heart, as well as the songs new and old. The amount raised for the

Lancefield Church Restoration Fund will be known later.

A positive Church Annual Meeting was held and we look forward to another year of Worship, Witness and Fellowship under the leadership of Rev. Judi Pollard.

Christmas gifts, wrapping paper as well as Christmas Cheer (food delicacies) are now being collected for our welfare agency Anglicare, caring for Melbourne's needy.

We continue to uphold in prayer our ailing members and those who have suffered bereavements over these last months. Recently, John Severson on the loss of his dear mother - our thoughts are with you and Anne.

DECEMBER 2018 DIARY

Sat 1 Dec. 9am: **Annual Christmas Street Stall** (Outside Romsey IGA Store)

From the Kitchen to You! Cakes, Sponges, slices, Jams, Pickles, Bric-a-Brac etc.

Thursday 13: The Op. Shop closes. (Re-opens Thurs 17 Jan 2019)

BIBLE STUDY continues each Tuesday 10am at Christ Church Lancefield. We are now looking at the problems arising in the fledgling Church in GALATIA. An area into which the Romans had herded the troublesome Celtish clans into the one place. Come and join us and explore together.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES

CHRISTMAS EVE.. 24 DECEMBER:

11.30pm..St Paul's Romsey .. HOLY COMMUNION (Main Street)

CHRISTMAS DAY.. 25 DECEMBER:

10am Christ Church Lancefield .. HOLY COMMUNION (Chauncey Street)

The Rev. Judi Pollard and all the Members of our Parish Of Romsey/ Lancefield pray that all in our community will enjoy a blest Christmas and Happy and safe New Year of 2019.

Services as usual during January 2019.

HOLY COMMUNION 9am St. Paul's Romsey.
10.30am Christ Church, Lancefield.

Mintaro Mansion Monegeetta

By Peter Mitchell

Captain Robert Gardiner was a close friend of "Big Clarke" of "Bolinda Vale". Captain Gardiner made his fortune in whaling, gold buying and farming. In 1854 he bought over 3000 acres west of Monegeetta and south through Bolinda from Charles McMahon. The property was close to his good friend "Big Clarke." The Mintaro mansion was built in the style of Government House in Melbourne, and Queen Victoria's holiday home on the Isle of Wight. It was completed in 1881 for twenty-two thousand pounds. Captain Gardiner suffered a stroke in 1884 and moved to South Yarra. From 1885, Mintaro had a constant stream of owners before it was sold to the Wesleyan Church in 1903 when it became a reformatory for wayward girls. From 1903, until 1911, the young ladies were required to work on the farm. By 1912, the courts were sending fewer girls to the reformatory, so the 16-room mansion, now on 270 acres, was offered for sale. Successive owners of Mintaro have included a lady philanthropist, 1916-1921, the Brown family 1921-1934 and Mr and Mrs Percy Rea, who moved to a nearby property when the mansion was taken over by the army during the second world war. After the death of his parents, their son Derek, a gifted musician, lived there until his death in 2017. The badly rundown property was then sold and is now in the process of restoration.



PASTORS'S PARABLES

The Story of Baby Jesus



A long time ago, in the town of Nazareth, lived a young woman named Mary. Mary did her chores, was kind to others, and loved God very much. She was engaged to be married to Joseph, who was a carpenter.

One day, while Mary was at home cleaning her room, an angel suddenly appeared. Before Mary could say anything the angel told Mary that she was favoured by God and that God was with her.

Mary was surprised. She was trying not to be afraid but she had never seen an angel before. After all, Mary was just a regular person like you or I. Why was this angel visiting her? What did the angel want?

The angel quickly tried to reassure Mary. "Do not be afraid!" the angel said. "God has found favour with you. You will have a baby boy and are to give him the name Jesus."

Mary was confused; she was not yet married to Joseph, so how could she have a baby? The angel thought that this might concern Mary so he said, "The Holy Spirit will perform a miracle and because of this your baby will be called the Son of God." To Mary's surprise, the angel had more exciting news: "Even your cousin Elizabeth is going to have a son in her old age. Mary thought that she couldn't have children, but she is already pregnant. Nothing is impossible with God."

Mary couldn't believe what she was hearing; she didn't know what to say. She realized that she was trembling and knelt down. When she was finally able to speak she said, "I am the Lord's servant and I hope everything you have said will come true."

Then the angel disappeared, and Mary was left alone.

Soon after, Joseph found out that Mary was going to have a baby. Joseph was confused and upset by

this but an angel came to him in a dream and said, "Joseph do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. The child Mary is going to have is God's son and you are to give him the name Jesus."

When Joseph woke up he remembered what the angel had said. He knew that everything was okay and he wasn't upset anymore.

In those days, the government decided that they should count everyone that lived in that area of the world. So Joseph had to take Mary to his town of Bethlehem to register.

It took Mary and Joseph a long time to get to Bethlehem. This was very tiring for Mary because she was soon going to have a baby.

When they reached the town, all the hotels were full and there was nowhere that they could stay. Finally, someone felt bad for them and offered them a place to stay.

The Bible doesn't say for sure where they stayed but most people think that they stayed in a small barn where animals were kept. In any case, doesn't it seem strange that Jesus, the Son of God wasn't born in a fancy palace or even a hospital?

Mary and Joseph were thankful that they at least had a place to lie down. It was warm and there was plenty of straw to lay on.

That night an exciting, wonderful thing happened: Mary and Joseph had a baby! But this wasn't just any baby, he was Baby Jesus! The creator of the whole world, the King of Kings and the one who would save the world. How would He do this?

Jesus lived a life that pleased God every day and He never did anything wrong. But that is not the end. Because for any of us to go to heaven we too have to live a perfect life.

So Jesus suffered in our place and paid the penalty that God requires for us to be perfect so that we too can go to Heaven. In actuality, He exchanged His sinless life for our sinful life.

He did this at Easter when he died on the cross.

Everyone who believes this and trusts what Jesus did for them, will go to heaven when they die.

Thank you God for Christmas and giving your Son Jesus to the world.

On behalf of Encourage Church I extend warm Christmas blessing to you and your family.

Pastor Marilyn Hunter

Church News



Romsey Office:

7 Mitchell Court Romsey

Ph (03) 5429 6327

Email:
office@encouragechurch.com.au

Web:
www.encouragechurch.com.au

At Encourage Church, we are all about people.

God commands us to love one another and by this shall all men know that we are His.

We hope to see you at one of our services or events soon.

Service Time - Sunday 10am

Worship service Sunday 10am

Fortnightly life groups

Youth events

Weekly children's program

<https://facebook.com/encouragechurchromsey/>

ST MARY'S PARISH

MASS TIMES

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month:

8:00am Lancefield and 10:00 am Romsey

2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month:

8:00am Romsey and 10:00am Lancefield

1st Saturday of the month:

10:00am Romsey – Healing Mass

Reconciliation available from 9:30am

COMMUNION SERVICES

Tuesday

9:00am Romsey Church

Saturday

10:00am Romsey Church

CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION & MASS TIMES

Advent Reconciliation

Wed 12th Dec – 7:30pm – Romsey Church

Christmas Vigil Family Mass

Mon 24th Dec – 6:00pm – Romsey Church

Midnight Mass

Mon 24th Dec – 11:30pm for Carols – Lancefield Church

ROSARY

Saturdays

9:45am Romsey Church

RECONCILIATION

By arrangement.

BAPTISMS

2019 – Romsey Church: February 3rd, April 7th,

June 2nd, August 4th, October 6th, December 1st

2019 – Lancefield Church: January 13th, March

10th, May 12th, July 14th, September 8th,

November 10th.

For more information, phone 5429 2130.

SACRAMENTS

Registrations are now open for all Sacraments to be received in 2019. Please send your details to the secretary at

lancefield@cam.org.au to register your child.

followed at – 12:00 midnight for Mass – Lancefield Church

Christmas Day

Tues 25th Dec – 9:00am Mass – Romsey Church

New Years Day

Tues 1st Jan – 9:30am Mass – St. Ambrose Church Woodend



St. Mary's Parish Lancefield & Romsey

27-29 Chauncey St,

Lancefield

&

85 Main Rd,

Romsey

lancefield@cam.org.au

C/- Woodend Presbytery

5427 2690

Presbytery Secretary

5429 2130

St. Mary's Primary:

5429 1359

Parish Priest:	Fr. Martin Fleming	C/- Woodend Presbytery: 5427 2690
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Church News



The Uniting Church in Australia

Macedon Ranges Partnership

Romsey Congregation

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

Chairperson
Mr. Noel Shaw
5429 5509

Secretary
Mrs. Jenifer Clampit
5429 5480



*Let the peace of Christ rule in your
hearts and homes.*

*Let the word of Christ dwell in you
richly.*

*God comes to us, each and every
one.*

God bless you every day.



Operation Christmas Child
A very big thank you from the Romsey Uniting Church and the
Romsey Walking Group to Craig, Julie and the Staff at **Just-in-
Time Transport** for their generous donation given for the
Operation Christmas Child Shoe Boxes.
Their help is so much appreciated.



Christmas Planning

It seems to start earlier each year. The stores stock up with the latest gifts for kids. The bigger the better. The Myer window has been planned long ago and gradually set up in secret. Stores offer payment schemes. better to buy now, pay later is the psychology the unsuspecting fall for. Whether it could be afforded or not: *"After all, it is Christmas,"* is the excuse.

Children write out a wish list, post letters to Santa at the North Pole. Mothers and others, think about Christmas Dinner. At whose place will it be this year? Mustn't offend the in-laws or others. Sometimes we are pulled into family strife. Will we invite so-and-so? Who will we upset if so-and-so is invited?

Of course, parties are planned and Christmas break-ups. While Churches are busy in the planning children's services, special rehearsals for choirs and carol singers, who do the rounds of aged care facilities and hospitals. Wow! What a kerfuffle.... is Christmas really worth it?

We all need to take a step back and remind ourselves of the old saying *'the reason for the season.'*

God had been planning for Christmas, the *real* Christmas for a long time. The birth of a little child in a manger in Bethlehem. His only Son, the saviour of a sinful world. Born when all was ready to be fulfilled, according to the scriptures. This is how to put Christmas plans into perspective. With God's plan.

Reflection: Let us all take a deep breath and put the real story into central place.

"The birth of the baby Jesus stands as the most significant event in all history, because it has meant the pouring into a sick world the healing medicine of love which has transformed all manner of hearts for almost two thousand years... Underneath all the bulging bundles is this beating Christmas heart."

by Bill Pugh - UCAF Network October, 2018

Romsey Church Services & Activities during December 2018

Mondays 3rd, 10th, 17th, at 2pm 'Cuppa at Cookies'

5th Church Council Meet, final meeting for the year..

2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd. 9am. Sunday Worship Service

25th Christmas Day Service 9am.

The Macedon Ranges Uniting Church Partnership Office

is at the Riddells Creek Uniting Church,
3 Sutherland Road, Riddells Creek. Phone: 5428 6920.

Ministers:

Rev. Deacon Wendy Elson 5427 2761

Rev. Peter Cannon 9746 3454

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It was my privilege to be appointed as the new Chair of Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Limited (L&RCFSL) in July when David Plunkett stepped down from this role. As Chair of L&RCFSL, the company that operates our two Community Bank® branches, I am happy to say that the year 2018 has been an especially busy one and one where we have shown strong financial performance and growth.

The year 2018 marked the 20th anniversary of the launch of the Community Bank® model in Australia. In addition to this important anniversary, Bendigo and Adelaide Bank was voted number three in the top ten of Australia's most trusted brands. This is a great achievement and testament to our ongoing commitment to provide a full range of banking products combined with the highest level of customer service. It is reassuring that these accomplishments have occurred at the same time our financial institutions have endured sustained scrutiny through the Financial Services Royal Commission.

The growth and dedication of our branch teams has resulted in a gross profit before the payment of grants and sponsorships of approximately \$600,000, an increase on last years' results.

Our ongoing excellent financial performance has allowed us to give back \$149,211 to over 65 local community groups, clubs and events as part of our 2018-19 Community Investment Program. This takes the total amount we've invested in our community since we first opened our doors in 2001 to over \$1.49 million. We aim to grow that amount each year by providing our existing customers with ongoing access to better services, and by bringing more customers to our branches.

Our ongoing commitment to our customers and shareholders is illustrated by another key achievement for 2018; the substantial refurbishment of the Lancefield branch.

The extensive renovations have resulted in a more inviting and comfortable environment for both customers and the branch team. The layout incorporates technology to make transactions more efficient and allows staff to spend more time with customers.

The vital importance of maintaining our Community Bank® branches in both Lancefield and Romsey was emphasized late last year when the National Australia Bank in Romsey closed its doors. Our Community Bank® branches are now the only bank branches available in Lancefield and Romsey. We continue to offer face to face service to our customers six days a week.

While we offer all the banking products and services of the larger banks, we have a unique point of difference – that is, reinvesting our local banking profits back into the community through grants and sponsorships.

Our partnership with the communities of Lancefield and Romsey is unique; it is something we are all very proud of.

On behalf of the Directors and staff of our Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank® branches, I would like to wish all customers and shareholders a happy and safe Christmas and holiday season.

Suzie Ewart
Chair, Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd

LANCEFIELD DREAMING COMES TRUE THROUGH COMMUNITY BANK FUNDING

Suzie Ewart, Chair of the Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank® branches of Bendigo Bank, has acknowledged the contribution of new and long-standing customers and praised the efforts of the wonderful Community Bank® staff as she announced an additional \$149,211 in grant and sponsorship funding for the Lancefield and Romsey communities. "Without our customers and dedicated staff who support them, we would not have been able to make these announcements and enable our local communities the opportunity to continue to benefit from access to these much-needed funds," Suzie said.

Since opening our doors 17 years ago in Lancefield and 12 years ago in Romsey, our Community Bank® branches have now invested over \$1.49 million in local schools, clubs and valued community projects. While the Community Bank® branches provide full banking facilities and financial services via Bendigo Bank, the fifth largest Bank in Australia, the big difference is that we share our local banking profits with the community and that means everyone benefits.

As part of our 2018-19 Community Investment Program, Lancefield and Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd received 62 applications from community organisations and clubs, for contributions towards local projects with a total cost of over \$2.9 million. The amount of grant and sponsorship funding requested from our Community Bank® Company was \$467,817.

"Unfortunately, we can't support every request, but adding nearly \$150,000 to their endeavors provides a huge boost to what can be achieved together," Suzie said.

As well as giving \$9,000 to our local Emergency Services and \$12,000 to local primary schools, other major grants include:

- \$5,000 to St Mary's Primary School for equipment for STEM subjects
- \$5,390 to Romsey Fire Brigade for ground monitor firefighting equipment

- \$6,000 to Lancefield Primary School to develop a Master Plan for new playground equipment; and
- \$6,000 to Romsey Primary School to develop a Master Plan for a new adventure playground.

A further \$45,621 was provided to 20 clubs and organisations for important sponsorship programs which benefit both the clubs and our Community Bank® branches.

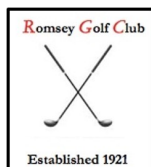
We are also very proud to announce that we will be sponsoring an exciting local project this year – \$40,000 has been allocated to contribute to a documentary entitled 'Lancefield Dreaming', currently being developed by local co-producers Paul Carter, Mike Jones and Harry Nanos.

The end result will be a 45-minute TV and social media documentary that captures the unique and quirky characters that live and work in Lancefield, and depicts the wonderful 'spirit' that comes from being a member of our community.

With funding from the Community Bank® branches, the producers will develop further narratives, including focusing on important annual events like the Farmers' Market, Relay for Life and the Megafauna Festival. Paul, Mike and Harry also plan to further explore the town's history and its exciting future.

"By re-investing back into the community through local projects, events, primary schools, emergency services and sporting clubs, all community members benefit," says Suzie.





Romsey Golf Club
Established 1921
Park Lane, Romsey

PO Box 200
Romsey 3434

www.romseygolfclub.net
mail@romseygolfclub.net

President 0417 088 891
Secretary 0400 768 040

Due to popular demand our Twilight Golf began on Fri Nov 2nd. Despite the blustery conditions there was a good field and everyone enjoyed themselves. Tee-off from 4.30 pm on, no handicap required, \$5.00 for golf, light meal available

The **2018 Romsey Open Tournament** was held too late in the month to make the Dec edition of the Rag. This year we commemorate the years of service RGC received from Graeme Clement. The 24-hole stroke event on the Sunday has been renamed in Graeme's honour - "The Graeme Clement Open".

In early autumn the club sprayed all the greens with nematodes. These small insects attack the larval stage of many beetles. As the beetles grow birds can detect their movement below the soil and then dig them up causing enormous damage to the greens. Only time will tell if our efforts will be successful once the corellas return in mid/late Dec.

Congratulations to John Freestone and Jenny Hartley the 2018 Medal of Medalists. This is always a hard fought shield and both payers had to perform extremely well to win. The 2019 John Laing Shield is underway the final, in early December, will be between Les Gaunt and Mick Squire.

Last month the RMI had their sign stolen, this month it was our turn as someone smashed open the Green Fees box and stole all the monies inside. Members are now hard at work designing and building a new, stronger box.

In 2019 the "11th Relay For Life" Charity Golf Day will be held at RGC on Sunday Feb. 10th. More info will soon be available on the RGC website. So far this event has raised almost \$18,000 for cancer research. RGC wishes everyone a safe and very happy Christmas and New Year.

RGC Weekly Competition Results;

Oct 17th	Foursomes – Beryl Cole/Jenny Hartley from Wendy Gosden/Darlene Baker
Oct 20th	John Laing Shield Qualifying Stroke – Les Gaunt – 81/8/73 from Anthony Lakey – 96/22/74 & Jim Patton – 93/19/74
Oct 26th	Medal of Medalists & Monthly Medal Stroke - John Freestone – 92/21/71 from Mick Squire – 80/8/72 & Pat Chisholm – 84/11/73
Oct 31st	Medal of Medalists & Monthly Medal Stroke; Jenny Hartley – 91/24/67
Nov 3rd	Stableford; Scott Williams (18) – 40 pts from John Freestone (21) – 37 pts
Nov 7th	Stroke; Beryl Cole from Jenny Hartley & Elaine Scanlon
Nov 10th	Rob Rea – 91/18/73 from Sherif Abdel-Sayed – 100/25/75, Bruce Robb – 105/30/75 & Keith Hocking – 105/30/75

For more detailed reports please go to; <http://www.romseygolfclub.net/results/2018/>

Create a Christmas Decoration



Children's Corner

Decorate the Santa however you wish. Then cut out and glue the grey triangle flap to make a circular Santa decoration.

You can use a scanner and printer to make the template smaller or bigger and have as many Santa's as you like!

Note:

The children's competition only closed on the 30th November and the committee is currently deciding on winners. The winners will be notified before Christmas and announced in the February edition.

Christmas is a time of cheer for humans, but for pets it can mean a change in routine, new and potentially dangerous objects around the house, more visitors entering the house, higher noise levels, not to mention all those great smells wafting from the kitchen!

Here are a few things to ensure Christmas runs smoothly for all:

Keep decorations up high

Some pets are attracted to sparkly items and will paw them or chew them. Keep an eye on your pet for such behaviour and put any sparkly items well above their reach.

Cooked bones can cause internal injuries

Do not feed your dog or cat cooked bones. They can splinter easily and damage their throat and intestines.

Sugar and spice is not so nice

Lollies and even sugar-free sweet products can contain Xylitol which is highly toxic to pets. Just a small amount can cause lethargy, loss of balance, permanent brain damage, liver failure and death.

Fireworks are pretty, but also pretty scary

Many pets experience distress and anxiety during fireworks displays and as a result try to escape. Events such as Carols by Candlelight and New Years Eve often include a fireworks display, so caution should be taken during this period.

Put all the pretties away

With all the wrapping paper, boxes, ribbons and bows around, your pet will probably think all their Christmases have come at once - many shiny fun things for them to play with! But gift wrappings aren't good for your pet's health, so after

unwrapping the presents, quickly clean up any plastic, ribbons and bows that could strangle or be swallowed by your pet.



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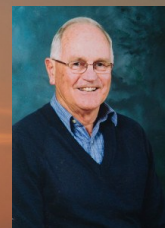
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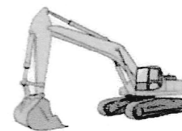
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All material submitted for publication must be named and have contact details and how many months you require your article to run.

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the Editorial Committee.

All contributions remain the responsibility of the author.

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This is a great social media outlet for announcements of your forthcoming local event!

Romsey Mechanics Institute 2018 Art Show

Our 2nd Art Show was held on Sunday November 18th. There was a steady flow of people through the hall to view the art works with many dropping into the Supper Room for a Devonshire Tea before then moving out the back to our 1st RMI Community Market.

The Art Show is run by the Romsey Mechanics Institute (RMI) and the Romsey Neighbourhood House (RNH). The event was sponsored by the Bendigo Bank.

Artist June Deakin won the Bendigo Bank "Most Popular

Artwork" with her piece "Our Nan".

Special thanks to; Helen Banitsiotis who donated a painting to be raffled, Gail Middleton whose organisation was wonderful, Noel Strawbridge for his work with the lights, Elaine Jones & June Deakin for their assistance on the day and to June and Lorraine deKretser for their demonstrations.

The Community Market ran from 9.00 am till 1.00 pm, there were 15 stalls offering a variety of goods for sale. **Our next market will be on Sunday December 16th.**



HN President, Allan Irvine, Artist June Deakin and RMI Chair Anthony Lakey



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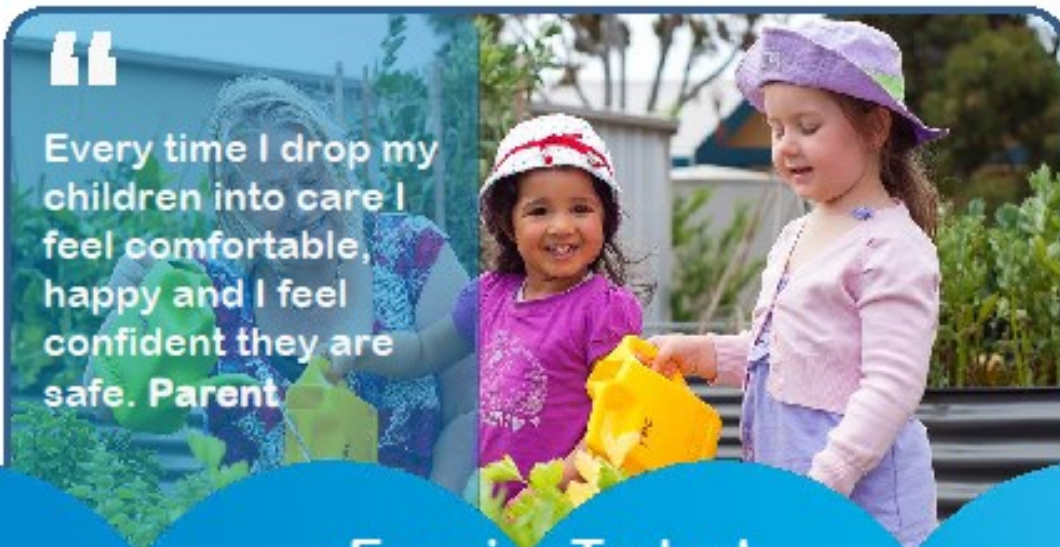
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