

Lancefield Mercury



FOODSHARE

For some months now, the Lancefield Townhouse have been offering Foodshare for residents. The Townhouse is participating in a scheme with the National Food Bank where they receive donated food – fresh fruit and vegetables, as well as a range of groceries – every two weeks. This Foodshare program complements *Feed it Forward* and other community support programs run by Neighbourhood House volunteers.

It was interesting to see that Many of the groceries on offer are of the gluten-free variety and also many plant-based goods. Items such as lentils, rice and pasta can be purchased for as little as 50 cents to \$1.00 per package. I was delighted to see a box of fresh carrots. Some looked a little odd and not at all what you would find in Coles or Woolworths! Fresh and tasty, they were a great find. The Neighbourhood House are to be congratulated for providing this service in Lancefield.

Fay Woodhouse

DON'T FORGET THE LANCEFIELD SHOW

SUNDAY, 16TH OF OCTOBER. 9AM-4PM



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WHAT DOES A 'NO ROAD' SIGN MEAN?

In response to several questions from the Lancefield Mercury, we received the following response from Shane Walden, Director Assets and Operations Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

What does a 'No road' sign mean? As you can see from the photo there is a road. In some places in the Shire there is a no road sign in one direction but not from the other.

'The "No Road" sign shown in the picture is an old sign that was installed in situations where a road would provide access to limited private properties and alert drivers that were not residents not to drive past this point. Therefore, the sign was only installed in the direction of entry to the road. Council is currently working to upgrade these signs with new Australian Standard approved signs throughout the shire.'

The Council does not intend to alter the intersection near the new Brewery in Lancefield (the three-way intersection where the service lane from the hotel, Dundas St and The Crescent all come together) but will continue to monitor the intersection.

There are no plans to collect glass in High Street Lancefield at this stage

DID YOU GET A COPY OF THE MERCURY?

Thanks to Stuart, Michael, Ken and Fay for delivering the September issue of the Lancefield Mercury. We are still feeling our way with our deliveries and hope we haven't missed anyone. (Rural deliveries are still being delivered by the post office). Last month we were a few days late but hope to be on time this month. Let us know if you have any feedback. Don't forget you can pick up a copy at the Corner Store and the Library in Romsey.

ILLEGAL FIREWOOD COLLECTION

The removal of timber or other materials from roadsides is prohibited in the Macedon Ranges, except under special circumstances.

The Victorian Government recently announced that the spring firewood collection season is open until the 30 November. There are designated firewood collection areas in state forests in Central Victoria that are restricted to residents of specific local shires. To find out where you can collect firewood locally visit www.ffmpeg.vic.gov.au/firewood/firewood-collection-in-your-region.






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MACEDON RANGES COMMUNITY ENERGY PARK

ON HOLD

Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group (MRSG) has put its community energy park project on hold indefinitely after receiving a letter from the State Government confirming that any help overcoming regulatory barriers will not be forthcoming in the next term. “This effectively spells the end of a community dream,” said Dr David Gormley–O’Brien, MRSG President. “Until the last two years the dream looked likely,” he said, as the project had secured a financed development partner, a planning amendment to allow a planning permit, technical feasibility, and the potential to power all homes in the Macedon Ranges Shire.

The vital step to enable the project to move forward was for the Government to amend the Plantations Act to allow for non-forestry uses, such as an energy park, on the Hancock’s Victoria Land. “It’s hard to fathom the reason behind the Government’s reluctance to address this seemingly minor regulatory hurdle,” said Dr Gormley–O’Brien. “Community initiated renewable energy is central to government policy

and the project is on government-owned land. And there are already many non-forestry uses on Plantations Act land around Victoria, such as mountain bike tracks and adventure parks, so why not amend the Act to allow those uses to legally operate and allow community projects like ours to proceed?”

Because the fundamental features of the wind, solar and battery project make good economic and environmental sense, there is a chance that a government may support the community energy park in the distant future.

For now, and the foreseeable future, MRSG’s Renewable Energy Action Group will be busy exploring other projects and means to attain its goal of the electricity grid in the Macedon Ranges moving away from its dependency on fossil fuels and being entirely powered by clean, affordable, and reliable renewable energy.

Enquiries: David Gormley–O’Brien president@mrsrg.org.au 0408 578 032

BIN CLIPS FOR SALE

Is litter spilling from your bins? Council has bin clips available for purchase from our customer service centres for \$20 each. Bin clips are easy to use and help you to secure lids

during strong winds and prevent animals from getting into your rubbish. The clips release automatically when emptied into the rubbish trucks.

LANCEFIELD MERCURY INC.
A0045845D



Items for publication should be sent to editor3435@gmail.com enquiries Andy Moore 0430 448 120

Advertising should be sent to advertising3435@gmail.com enquiries Ken Allender 0404 886 580

All articles should reach The Mercury by the fifteenth of the month.

Each edition will be distributed by mail in the first week of the month. The Lancefield Mercury is produced by the volunteer committee as a service to the people of Lancefield and surrounding districts.

The editorial committee reserves the right to edit articles for length and clarity.

Feedback? Let us know your thoughts: editor3435@gmail.com

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Advertising Rates

One eighth page \$35
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Annual full page \$1000

Colour Advertising:

Full page \$240 per edition
1/2 page \$145 per edition
1/4 Quarter page \$80 per edition

The Lancefield Mercury acknowledges the people of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung as the Traditional Custodians of the Country that includes Lancefield and Wil-im-ee Moor-ring. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and extend that respect to all people of the First Nations. We recognise their continuing connection to the land and waters, and thank them for protecting this country since time immemorial.

LANCEFIELD SHOW ON-LINE

We are really excited to launch the new Lancefield Show website. A grant from the Macedon Ranges Shire allowed the Agricultural Society to get a website designed which now allows all entries to the Show Rides and competitions (Craft, Poultry, Horses, Sheep and Cattle) to be done on-line.

The most important aspect of being able to have an on-line platform is that we can now capture the data around Show attendance which has never been possible before. It also means if we are already set up for if we ever had to run a Show under regulations such as were in place during COVID.

Schedules for all the competitions can be downloaded and

entries can be made on-line or sent in as in the past.

The Neighbourhood House is offering to support anyone who would like help to do their on-line entry, you can call on 5429 1214.

Entry to the Show will be by the main front gate only this year and pre-purchased tickets need to be scanned to enter. Purchasing your tickets on-line beforehand will save queues on the day.

Have a look at the website to find out what is happening at this year's Show — www.lancefieldshow.org.au — see you on the 16th.

GOING GANGBUSTERS FOR GANG-GANG COCKATOOS THIS SPRING!

Whether you are a seasoned birder or a fledgling beginner, we invite you to participate in the annual Macedon Ranges Bird Blitz.




This year, we are proud to be partnering with BirdLife Castlemaine and District. We have 84 bird monitoring sites to survey across the Macedon Ranges Shire. Bird monitoring helps us to assess the health of our reserves and roadsides and includes species and numbers of birds present such as the threatened Gang-gang Cockatoo.

On the Bird Blitz Day, participants gather at Hanging Rock Reserve, before breaking into small groups to fan out across the shire to survey 3-4 sites. Each group will have a leader who is confident with bird identification. Participants are also invited to attend an online webinar the week before the surveys to discuss sites and survey methodology.



To get involved or register visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/bird-blitz or contact Tanya Loos at 5422 0333.

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WELCOME (BACK)

Welcome (back) to the team Jodie Schinck. Jodie, a Lancefield local and former employee, has just re-joined us in our Lancefield branch four days a week. Make sure you pop in and say hello.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

When you bank with Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey, the profits pour back into the community. Thank you to all who have participated in our current round of grants/sponsorships through the Community Enterprise Foundation – we had a fabulous response. Written agreements are currently being finalised, so keep your eyes out for the next edition of the Lancefield Mercury to see the full list of recipients.

RDFNL SEASON WRAP

We came on as Major Sponsor of the RDFNL in 2022 to support, the league, our local clubs, and most of all, our local players. It's been great to hear from the RDFNL team how much our sponsorship helps keep costs down for our local football and netball clubs. We know first-hand that sport isn't free, and the costs can add up - at the club, player, and family level.

We saw the season out with lots of fun events, including the Junior and Senior Presentations and the Senior Grand Final Luncheon with a special appearance from Brian Taylor a.k.a. BT. Bring on the 2023 season.

MRSC BUSINESS AWARDS

Once again, Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey are a major supporter of the 2022 MRSC Business Awards. We are the proud sponsors of The People's Choice Award and The Young & Professional Award. Winners will be announced at an event to be held on Friday 18 November.



2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The Annual General Meeting of Lancefield Romsey Community Financial Services Limited (the local company that owns our Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey) will be held at 6.30 pm on Monday 7 November at The Lancefield Guesthouse. Shareholders will have received formal notice of the AGM along with supporting documents mid-September.

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WHAT'S ON

SERVICES

Romsey Church Service 9:00am each Sunday
Lancefield Church Service 10:30 am each Sunday

PRAYER MEETING

Prayer Meeting is held at St Pauls Romsey each Monday 7pm
Bible Study is at St Pauls Romsey Tuesday 6:30pm and at
Christ Church Lancefield Thursday 10:30am
Community Lunch is on the second Saturday of each
month at the Lancefield Church Hall 12noon. All welcome.

OP SHOP

St Paul's Romsey Op Shop is open on: Friday 12:30pm -
4:00pm and Saturday 10am - 1pm

The Op Shop is currently stocked with good quality adult clothing with prices from \$2, baby and toddler clothes from 50c per piece, shoes from \$2 pair. We have a wide variety of bric-a-brac and kitchenware from \$1. Our library section is stocked with old and new books starting from small books at 5 for \$1 paperback novels from \$1 and hardback books from \$2.

Our assistants are happy to welcome you and assist any way they can. We also have our annual hydrangea pruning cuttings on sale for \$2 per bunch. Donations of clothing, bric-a-brac, craft, books and good quality working toys can be left during open hours. Please do not pack in large boxes as they are too heavy for volunteers to carry.

Please note that owing to regulations we cannot accept electrical goods, prams, baby cots, mattresses or furniture.

Your ongoing support and donations are much appreciated.

KYNETON TOWN HALL EVENTS

Lior and Domini – Animal in Hiding, 7.30pm, Friday 21 Oct.
Jude Perl: Participation Award, 8pm, Thursday 10 Nov.

To purchase tickets call 1300 888 802 (8.30am-3pm, weekdays) or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets

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BUDBURST IS BACK

MACEDON RANGES FOOD & WINE FESTIVAL. FRIDAY 18 TO SUNDAY 20 NOVEMBER.

This much-loved celebration of Macedon Ranges wine and hospitality returns in 2022. Discover the cool wines and warm hearts of Macedon Ranges winemakers at Budburst this spring. Dotted amongst the picturesque mountain ranges, winding roads and lush box hedges you'll find some of Australia's best wines. Budburst is your chance to come behind the vines to meet the family-owned and small batch makers that shape Australia's coolest wine region.

This year, Budburst kicks off on Friday 18 November with Budburst Blooms. Celebrate the festival opening as Budburst brings the cellar door to you. Enjoy tastings at four hubs around the region (Lancefield, Kyneton, Daylesford and Woodend) between 5:30pm and 7:30pm, from wineries off the beaten path. A great chance to pick up your wine glass, start the Budburst journey and speak directly to some of Macedon Ranges' more artisanal winemakers. In Lancefield, Budburst Blooms will be taking place at the Lancefield Lodge.

Come the weekend (19 & 20 November), travel independently to explore the wineries of your choice and taste and explore the diverse wine styles grown and produced across the region or board a Budburst Hoppa and visit up to five wineries on two designated routes. From Merlot to Shiraz; Chardonnay to Riesling; Sparkling to Pinot Noir.

Settle in at each stop to experience the country charm of Macedon Ranges winemakers and feast on a curated menu featuring local produce – think spring lamb, gourmet pies and sausages, woodfired pizzas, cheese platters and

charcuterie boards – while listening to the sounds of live music.

Macedon Ranges wineries started small and remain boutique, offering wine that is limited in quantity and exceptionally high in quality. So come join us for Budburst and discover the hidden treasures set among the maze of laneways that weave around the Macedon Ranges.

TICKETS

Budburst tickets start from \$33 (Budburst Blooms) with packages for across the weekend: Budburst Weekend Wanderer (Budburst Blooms + 2 days): \$95. Budburst Sampler (Budburst Blooms + 1 day): \$59

Tickets include a \$20 voucher to be spent at participating Budburst cellar doors and events. A Budburst Hoppa bus ticket is \$50 per person per day and is only available to purchase online prior to the festival.

Festival tickets go on sale from 19 September with bus tickets available from 1 October. Visit budburst.com to book tickets.

LANCEFIELD WINERIES PARTICIPATING IN BUDBURST:

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Are you, or is someone you know, experiencing issues related to alcohol or drug use? Free help is on hand locally with Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health's experienced counsellors. People can either refer themselves or go through their GP, and appointments can be held in person or over the phone.

There is currently no waiting list, and the program can help individuals, couples or families impacted by their own or someone else's alcohol or drug use. There is also a specialist youth counsellor who works with young people aged twelve and over.

"The support we provide is based on each person's needs and goals," says Adam Stefano, Manager Community Mental Health. "Our clinicians can help people reduce or stop their use of alcohol and drugs and we can refer people to other services such as withdrawal units, housing support, financial counselling, or emergency financial relief."

Both individual and group counselling is available, and services can be accessed Monday to Friday, 9am to 5pm. To find out more, email admin@scchc.org.au or call 5421 1666.

REFERENCE GROUP INVITATION

Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health is inviting community representatives from the Macedon Ranges and Sunbury to join one of two community reference groups to

help guide the work of the organisation.

A community reference group's role is to offer reflection and feedback on the needs and concerns of the community.

While anyone can join the group, they are seeking local individual community perspectives, rather than those from community organisations. Ideally, you will either have received services from Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health or have a strong connection to the Macedon Ranges or Sunbury.

"We want the community to see Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health as their local organisation where the services provided are safe, welcoming and effectively meet their needs," says Chief Partnerships Officer Jeremy Hearne. "The community reference group is a central way that we engage with the community and a key contribution to us achieving our purpose of building stronger social fabric in the communities we serve."

The organisation's community reference groups provide important input to service and program development and strategic planning. Both groups meet four times per year with representatives from the Sunbury and Cobaw Board and senior staff. There is an additional fifth meeting each year where both groups can get together.

If you would like to find out more, email healthpromotionsunbury@scchc.org.au or call Lisa Richards on 5421 1666.



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GOOD COMPANY AWAITS

The Romsey/Lancefield Probus Club provides an opportunity for active retirees or semi-retired people to relax and enjoy the welcoming company of those at the same stage of life at our monthly meetings, and for periodic trips and lunches.

Our monthly meeting (4th Thursday of the month) is a chance to catch-up with new and old friends over morning tea and hear interesting guest speakers on a wide variety of topics.

The next meeting of the Romsey/Lancefield Probus Club will be on Thursday 27 October at 10am in St. Mary's Catholic Church Hall, Main Street, Romsey. The guest speaker will be Dimity Reed - Architect - Housing Project.

All attending is subject to current COVID regulations.

President: Tony 0410 747 616

Secretary: Noreen 0401 579 180

CELEBRATE NATURE IN THE RANGES

Council's Environment Events program is full of citizen science activities, nature walks and workshops, to get you out in our beautiful reserves, waterways, and parks throughout the Macedon Ranges this spring.

There are plenty of biodiversity surveys to participate in and webinars to learn from this spring:

A World Habitat Day - Hollow Identification Walk, Mount Gisborne, Tuesday 4 October

Grazing and Farming Discussion Group, Kyneton, Friday 14 October

Flora Walk – What's on your roadside? Newham, Saturday 15 October

Insect and Flora Identification Walk, Taradale, Saturday 15 October

Macedon Ranges Bird Blitz 2022, various locations, Sunday 16 October

Woodland Flora Surveys, Bald Hill Reserve & Black Hill Reserve, Saturday 29 October

Koala Count at Hanging Rock, Monday 7 November

Selecting and Sourcing Plants For Your Property, webinar, 8 November

Integrated weed management on rural properties, webinar, 15 November

Visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events for more information and to reserve your spot.



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CURRENT MASS CONDITIONS - ALL WELCOME

All Catholics in Melbourne continue to be dispensed from the obligation to attend Sunday Mass. We continue to carry the happy obligation to keep Sunday holy, whether we can attend Mass or not, and can do so by any kind of prayer with members of our household, reading holy scripture and encouraging one another in our faith. Prayerfully participating in online Mass continues to be a great source of comfort on Sundays. We welcome the opening up of our places of worship but remain mindful and respectful that many in our community remain feeling cautious. Face coverings are recommended for workers who "serve or face" members of the public. As always, our priority is care for others and especially those most vulnerable. Hand sanitiser will remain available at the church entrance, as will masks if you feel more comfortable using them. Social distancing is always recommended.

MASS TIMES:

Sunday Mass will be celebrated at 9am and will alternate between Lancefield and Romsey.

First and third Sunday of the month it will be in Romsey, second, fourth and fifth Sunday of the month in Lancefield.

SATURDAY HEALING MASS

The Healing Mass will be celebrated at 10am in Romsey on the first Saturday of each month.

BAPTISMS

Baptisms are held at 2:30pm on the second and fourth Sunday of the month. Please contact the office for the next available date.

SACRAMENTS

Bookings are now open for parish children to register for Sacraments in 2022. Eucharist available to Year 4 and above, and Confirmation available to Year 6 and above. Please contact the office if you would like to register your child.

Should a parishioner want to go to Reconciliation, please contact Fr. Martin directly at Woodend on 5427 2690 to make arrangements.

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MECHANICS' INSTITUTES LIT UP

On Saturday 20 August, the historic Lancefield Mechanics' Institute building, opened in 1878, was the site of an unusual event. The Hall was decorated and transformed into an Aladdin's Cave – when we arrived, patrons entered into a whole new and sparkling world.

I recently discussed the evening with John Severson, President of the Mechanics' Institute Committee of Management. This was a project conceived by Lancefield resident Joel Alforte (of BNJ Events and Decorations) and John Severson over a coffee in the Corner Store. The concept was to introduce local residents, businesses and community organisations, to the capabilities of BNJ as an events and decorations company.

Building on the success of the business in the Philippines, in 2008 Joel brought the company to Sydney specialising in events and decorations for all occasions. In early 2021 he and his partner Ben launched BNJ Events and Decorations in Lancefield, servicing all of Melbourne and Victoria. They work together with Hurstbridge Catering Company (HCC) to present events such as this.

To expand on the local theme, John and Joel were keen to show how local products could be used to further enhance any event. Joel approached local wineries Double Oaks and Lyons Will Estate, the Tooborac Hotel and Brewery, and Tina Powell from Bespoke Preservatives & Pantry. Bringing all these talented producers together, visitors would see what a fantastic event and celebration venue the Mechanics' Institute can be.

After witnessing what was achieved on this night, there is no doubt the Hall can be transformed to suit any occasion, and the difference made was quite impressive. Various celebration theme areas were setup within the main Hall – they included a Wedding, a Twenty-first Birthday, a Fiftieth-milestone Birthday, and a Celebration of Life and Love. Promoted as a 'Winters Night Out' in Lancefield, the evening included a degustation and live music at a cost of \$79 per head.

The food presented by Hurstbridge Catering Company (HCC) was a sampling of seven entrées and mini desserts they could offer for an event. For their first offering, we enjoyed Arancini Balls. These were a satisfying start – the crispy outside was complimented by a moist rice mixture inside. The accompanying chilli sauce was milder than I would have preferred but no doubt suited some of the diners. Next, we appreciated the Avocado & Tomato Bruschetta: crispy bread, tasty avocado, red onion, and balsamic sauce. Very nice.

The much-awaited Chicken Satay Skewers did not disappoint. The whole slender slices of chicken on the skewer were hot but not too spicy, and very tender.

Following the Satay Skewers, the Caprese Spoons of Buffalo Mozzarella, with Pesto and Balsamic Glaze were too small to really appreciate the excellent combination of



flavours. The Crispy Spring Rolls could have had more filling.

Finally, the Garlic Prawn Skewers restored my faith in the caterers. They were hot, spicy and the Chilli Sauce was a delight to any chilli or prawn-lover. And the selection of Mini Desserts was a sight to behold. All told, despite my minor grumblings, the catering was good. I can imagine engaging HCC to cater for a big event.

Throughout the evening, patrons purchased wine from Double Oaks and Lyons Will, beers from Tooborac Brewery and cordials from Tina Powell's Bespoke Preserves & Pantry. Seated close to this stall, it was clear how popular cordials (some with added gin or other spirit), were during the evening.

And then there was the music. At the beginning of the evening, we enjoyed classical guitarist Alejandro who regularly plays at our Lancefield Farmers' Market. His music was excellent and much enjoyed. Out of left field, The Havana Palava Street Band entertained the audience. Although somewhat loud in a confined space, the audience loved it and we all got up and danced. To me that is a sign of pure enjoyment. And it was clear that President John Severson was enjoying every moment, leading the Conga Line. It was great. And I had a ball!

I enjoyed this evening and can understand why it was presented as an opportunity for Lancefield people to see what was possible when catering for an event in the Mechanics' Institute.

Fay Woodhouse





**MACEDON RANGES
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2022**




Vote for your favourite finalist!

The finalists for the **Josh's Rainbow Eggs Macedon Ranges Business Excellence Awards 2022** will be announced on Tuesday 11 October. Check out who will be in the running for an award at the gala event being held on Friday 18 November.

Once the finalists have been announced, it will be over to you to vote for your favourite finalist in the People's Choice Award. Voting will remain open until Monday 14 November so let your fingers do the talking.

To book your tickets for the gala event and find out how to vote for your favourite, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/business-awards

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SHIRE NEWS

NEW RECYCLING BIN

Council was successful in receiving some small funding to purchase six comingled recycling surrounds which are being deployed across the Shire. The first one has been paired with an existing general waste bin at the frontage of the Kyneton post office.

In the Lancefield township, a comingled recycling bin surround has been installed next to the existing general waste surround at near the bus stop, close to the Lancefield Post Office.

As time progresses, we will be gradually installing more public place recycling bins. Our landscape subdivision team is also specifying that both general waste and comingled recycling surrounds be installed in all new reserve developments.

Six bins are not enough shire-wide; however these bins were purchased with funding provided through our local waste and resource recovery group as a starting point for a trial.

Budget funds pending, we will gradually be rolling out more and more comingled recycling bins.

The Lancefield location was chosen for two reasons: there was room to place it alongside an existing surround, and the existing surround needed to be of similar size. Initially I had investigated installing it next to the milk bar but there was not enough room for the install and the general waste bin present is a larger type. The stakeholders that decide where a bin is placed include, but are not limited to, Council's Resource Recovery team, Council's collection contractor (who can gauge waste volumes and behaviours) Council's engineering and maintenance teams along with the relevant authorities.

Miles Saunders
Team Leader Waste Management, Resource Recovery
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RT Edgar



INSECTS...WE NEED YOU!

The European honeybee was introduced by early European settlers for honey production but our dependence on them has become evident in recent times. The presence of varroa mite (a honeybee parasite from Asia) in NSW has sent warnings throughout the country. Varroa mite cripples the bee's ability to fly in order to gather food and pollinate crops. The almond industry alone needs about 300,000 hives over a 4-week period in late winter to pollinate the almonds. If the outbreak of varroa mite cannot be contained the number of bees will drop and the cost of maintaining hives will go up considerably. However, because they can displace native bees there is some potential upside.

Some farmers are confident that native bees will be a saving grace for our orchards as they are not susceptible to varroa mite. They have found that being near bushland helps and that native beehives need to be scattered throughout the orchard, more so than European honeybees. Native bees and wasps and some flies can look superficially similar to honeybees. The only native bees to form large social hives are the stingless bees (*Tetragonula* and *Austroplebia*). These bees are very dark coloured and are much smaller than honeybees (less than 5mm long), and do not sting. Other solitary native bees and wasps may look like honeybees, but are not aggressive, and do not have a barbed sting. Some flies are excellent mimics of honeybees but have only one pair of wings and do not sting.

Native bees can flourish in the urban environment because of the variety of flowers and other things that they can collect pollen from, and they are great for pollinating vegetables.

Overall, insects are a crucial component of many ecosystems. They aerate the soil, pollinate blossoms and control insect and plant pests. Many insects are scavengers, feeding on dead animals and fallen trees, thereby recycling materials back into the soil. It is estimated that without insects for them to eat we would lose most reptiles and amphibians and about half of all bird species. Several species of insects are on the brink of extinction which could have a cascading effect on upper levels of the food pyramid and upset ecological balance.

An example of what can be done is the partnering of the City of Melbourne with the University of Melbourne to restore the local population of Matchstick Grasshoppers – a declining native Australian species that is currently locally extinct in the municipality.

Hundreds of tiny, flightless grasshoppers have been released into Melbourne's Royal Park, as part of a pilot project addressing the biodiversity emergency.

Researchers have collected more than 3,000 Matchstick Grasshoppers from across Victoria, which will be reintroduced to suitable new habitats in Melbourne, including Royal Park in Parkville, Burnley, and the bayside area. The population will be monitored and assessed over the coming months, with grasshopper numbers hoped to jump into the thousands by 2023.



John Walter

The experimental translocation is Council's first-ever attempt at reintroducing a locally extinct species, and an important milestone in its Nature in the City Strategy, which aims to support a diverse and resilient natural environment.

Insects like grasshoppers play an important role in maintaining a healthy ecosystem and are an abundant food source for larger animals such as praying mantis, lizards and birds.

The tiny, wingless critters thrive in habitats of everlasting daisies, native grasses, and ample sunlight, and in environments that are free from weeds and predators. A lot of effort has gone into the re-naturing of large sections of Royal Park - certainly, a large improvement from the park I used to jog around back in the 80s.

Recently, the MRSC has released an excellent publication called *Your Guide to the Insects Of The Macedon Ranges*. John Walter led the project on behalf of the Upper Campaspe Landcare Network and his excellent photos, some of which appear here, are an integral part of the booklet.

Deep Creek Landcare Group has nesting boxes for bats, birds, and phascogales for sale from \$25. We also have Myna bird traps to lend out. Annual Landcare membership is \$20 per family. You can catch us at the Lancefield Farmer's Market from October, follow us on Facebook, contact our President, Phil Severs (0476 324 000), or attend our monthly meetings in the Lancefield Mechanics Hall.



John Walter

John Walter

ROMSEY ECOTHERAPY PARK



AFTER 14 YEARS - IT'S NEARLY FINISHED

Get ready to celebrate! The Romsey Ecotherapy Park is so close to completion. Although its opening date has not yet been finalised, the Community Celebration of the Park's completion will be held at the Park on Saturday 19 November. Meanwhile, at the time of writing, the Park's many hundreds of trees and plants were being installed. With the sculpture, nature, meandering pathways, and seating nooks, it truly will be a "special place in nature" – a place for everyone.

THE IMPORTANCE OF **RECORDING** OUR LOCAL HISTORY

The Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society are delighted to announce that their second HistoryFest will be held at the Lancefield Mechanics' Institute on Sunday 6 November 2022. Historical Societies from the Macedon Ranges and others from further afield will spend the day focusing on the importance of writing local history and heritage.

Victoria's peak body of historical societies, The Royal Historical Society of Victoria, will introduce the audience to the work of the RHSV. Our local societies will then discuss their work – their publications, current projects and their members. Two well-known historians, Dr Peter Yule and Dr Richard Trembath will each address the audience, telling their story of writing local history before engaging in conversation and answering questions from the audience.

After lunch, historical societies will discuss their work and contemplate how do we manage to publish so much local history! The afternoon will conclude with book sales while enjoying wine and cheese and live music. The cost of the day is yet to be finalised. Bookings for the day will soon be available via Trybooking but enquiries should be directed to Fay Woodhouse on 0427 042 753.

Help protect our livestock

Whether on a farm or kept as a pet, emergency animal diseases like foot-and-mouth disease pose a significant threat to our animals, industries, and environment.

Here's how you can keep your livestock safe:

- Ensure your Property Identification Code (PIC) details are up to date.
- Have an up-to-date biosecurity plan in place for your property.
- Check if your potential visitors have been to a country where foot-and-mouth disease is present.

To find out more call Agriculture Victoria on 136 186 or visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/fmd

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

Come along to the Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society's HistoryFest

Connecting Communities

The importance of writing local history and heritage

VENUE: Lancefield Mechanics' Institute, 16 High Street, Lancefield
DATE: Sunday 6 November 10.00 am to 4.00 pm
INFORMATION: 0427 042 753

VICTORIA

OBITUARY

RAE HOOKE

Rae Margaret Hooke (nee Stockon) was born on Sunday 19 October 1935, to loving parents Norman and Diana Stockon. Rae passed, surrounded by family, on 8 August 2022. Her Memorial was held at Lancefield Mechanics Hall on 22 August, a wonderful tribute to her well lived life.

Rae contracted polio, at 2 years of age, in all her limbs. As part of her treatment Rae spent 8 years in an iron lung - a mechanical respirator which encloses most of a person's body, and varies the air pressure in the enclosed space, to stimulate breathing. This was a vital part of Rae's treatment, resulting in her only being left with polio in her left leg.

Rae owned a stall at the Victoria Market, where she spent many hours processing and selling rabbits. She was a hard-working businesswoman who later in life managed a home for marginalized people, providing a welcoming home to all.

Rae was a loving mother of three to Wayne Hooke, Michelle Kindred and Debbie Angove. She was a beloved grandmother of 11, and great-grandmother to 13. She filled her family with great joy, always a key part of their adventures.

Rae loved playing cards with her friends, attending Romsey Drop-in Centre, enjoying lunches at Romsey Lancefield Senior Citizens, and going on regular bus trips. Rae was on the committee of the Romsey Lancefield Senior Citizens for 22 years and served as Secretary and Treasurer during this time. She was the current Treasurer. She was



a keen volunteer at the Lancefield Opportunity Shop. Rae enjoyed watching the Western Bulldogs play and was quite a fan of movies. Rae loved traveling with her family, even managing a few overseas trips.

Her family and friends shared that each and every person who encountered Rae has been fortunate and blessed to have her as a part of their journey - her zest and enthusiastic approach to life, forthright views in support of progressive politics and her warm welcomes. Her unconditional love, ability to live in the moment, and desire to make wonderful memories will be very much missed.



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BOOK WEEK FUN

Finally we were able to dress up and celebrate Book Week again. What a colourful bunch of characters we had arriving at school on Friday morning 26 August. It was fabulous to see the effort that had gone into costumes and the overwhelming participation by both students and staff and our newly formed Playgroup participants. The parade was great fun, and we thank all our families for their support by coming along to view the parade and join us in clapping along to the music.

After the parade, students participated in Book Week activities in their classrooms and finished the day with many awards given out at assembly. We thank everyone for their wonderful efforts in dressing up and helping make the day such a great success. A big shout out to Mrs Kilpatrick for organising the Readers Challenge, colouring-in competition and matching the staff to their book competition - lots of great opportunities for students to get involved and win vouchers to purchase books from Book Club. Everyone had a great day, and we thank our families for their amazing efforts in making sure the children came as their favourite characters.

FATHER'S DAY ACTIVITY HOUR


On Wednesday 31 August, to celebrate the wonderful men in our lives, we held our first ever 'Father's Day Activity Hour'. We had well over 120 dads, grandads and special friends join us for this fun hour of activities. We were blessed with the perfect morning, blue skies and sunshine (someone was looking after us). Activities were set up throughout the school and it was up to each family to decide what they would like to participate in. The purpose of the morning was to spend some quality time with dad/grandad/special friend

doing something fun together. Activities on offer included different types of games in the hall (board games, ping pong, down ball, building blocks, Lego, card games) and craft activities - making a wiggly worm or paper bag puppet, trivia quiz - so many laughs, especially when the dads competed to see who could get the most marshmallows in their mouth. Well done Fiore Iaria who managed 23 and Tim McCarthy who managed 22! What a spectacle that was! Kahootz quizzes, dot painting, interactive bingo plus outdoor activities such as kicking the footy or soccer ball or playing basketball - there was so much activity and the excitement on the students faces to be hanging out with dad, grandad, special friend was priceless. All our special males were treated to a free hot beverage from either Zara's Coffee Van which was onsite, or later at the Lancefield Corner Store. We thank everyone who was able to attend, we hope you enjoyed it as much as the students enjoyed you being there.

FEAST DAY CELEBRATIONS

On Friday 9 September, as a whole school community we celebrated the Feast of St Mary. A wonderful day of special significance we began the day with a beautiful Liturgy held in St Mary's Church. It was lovely to have so many family members join us for this service. After play, students were broken into 9 multi-age groups and treated to 90 minutes of Kaboom Kids Sports! So much fun, laughter, dancing, crazy antics and fabulous activities.

The action didn't stop, and everyone had a blast. This was followed by a BBQ and then a quiet afternoon of movies whilst enjoying an icy pole. What's not to love about our Feast Day? We have to say a huge thank you to the amazing parents who gave up their time to come and cook the BBQ,



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ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL LANCEFIELD

thank you Kath, Rhiannon, Kim and Janessa - you helped feed the hungry hoards and we were very grateful.

KIDS TEACHING KIDS CONFERENCE

Our Environment Group, made up of 10 students from Years 4-6 have been working extremely hard over the past few months as they prepared for the annual Kids Teaching Kids Conference. This was held on Tuesday 13th September at Hanging Rock. Kids Teaching Kids is run by Earthwatch Australia and supported by local councils and other organisations. The program promotes positive wellbeing and helps to build resilience in young people. Over 22 years, KTK has motivated over 148,000 students to raise awareness and drive action on local and global environmental issues. They build the capacity of the next generation who will take collective responsibility for our future. As part of the conference we were there to present our workshop which focused on the diminishing population of insects. 'Dropping like Flies!' was about educating others about how 70% of the insect population has disappeared in the last three decades and how a healthy environment relies on a healthy insect population. We were able to show ways in which others can help build and sustain our insect population, thereby contributing positively to our environment. By developing an environmental workshop we not only increased our own understanding of this environmental issue, but we were able to share this valuable knowledge with others.

It was a fabulous day with many other local schools attending and running their own workshops. So many learning opportunities, it was a really well-run day. And the highlight was definitely the attendance of Costa from Gardening Australia. What an inspiration he was, so down to earth and happy to talk and share his knowledge. He was extremely impressed by all the students and the work they were doing. Two of our students, Maggie and Emmett were also the MCs for the day. What a fabulous effort - they got up in front of the huge crowd and welcomed everyone and introduced them to the day ahead. I was extremely proud of them and all our students (Meg, Charlotte, Jada, Summer, Isla, Patrick & Romina), they worked really hard to present their topic, something they are now very passionate about. We will continue to educate our school community on this topic next term and hopefully this will then reach the wider community. An amazing experience for our students with many valuable learning experiences and opportunities to think about what they can do to positively impact our environment.

What a busy term it has been. Already halfway through September, where on earth did the year go? No doubt next term will be just as busy in the lead-up to the end of year and all the celebrations that go with it. Thank goodness for the holidays.

Jo Shannon (Community Liaison Leader)

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You're probably familiar with native plants, but what are indigenous plants and why are they an even better choice for your garden?

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Greater Western Water recommends indigenous plants, because they're perfectly adapted to the local soil, climate and geology – meaning less maintenance and a reduced water bill. And while you sit back and enjoy your garden, so will the native bees, birds and animals who'll be paying you a visit.

FIND YOUR BIOREGION

In the Macedon Shire (on Dja Dja Wurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung Country) the bioregions are Central Victorian Uplands, Victorian Volcanic Plains, or both.

For more water saving tips and news visit gww.com.au

Find out more about biodiversity and bioregions at environment.vic.gov.au/biodiversity

ENCOURAGE CHURCH

WE CAME FROM?

I have been covering 3 key questions that brought me to faith that had to make sense to me. Here I cover the third and last question: "Where did the universe come from?"

I was told in school that the universe came from nothing and that everything was limited to the natural world/universe around us. This begged the question – if I am limited to natural laws, what natural law makes something from nothing? This led me to the conclusion that it would require a supernatural occurrence and I would need some sort of faith to believe that.

Also, when thinking about origins of the universe I came to realise that if I exist here today, then something must have always existed and hence if it always previously existed, then it will always will (it is eternal). If the universe has a beginning (and an end to come), then it isn't the thing that is eternal, it must be something else.

As author Lee Strobel said when talking about his previous atheism: "To continue in atheism, I would need to believe that nothing produces everything, non-life produces life, randomness produces fine-tuning, chaos produces information, unconsciousness produces consciousness, and non-reason produces reason. I simply didn't have that much faith."

The creation of the universe requires a supernatural occurrence, either way you look at it. So where do you place your faith? I place my faith in God, the Creator.



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IT'S YOUR NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

From humble beginnings in 1989, operating from the Mechanics Institute Hall, the Lancefield Neighbourhood House has grown into an important and integral entity in our town and plays a significant part in the life of the residents of Lancefield.

Run by an elected Committee of Management and managed by our coordinator, Vivien Philpotts, the House has the responsibility to be of service to the community. This responsibility reflects the values and spirit of the Lancefield Neighbourhood House and is the basis on which the House determines its service – to reduce social isolation, provide a direct point of contact for support, information, and community pride and connections, regardless of age, gender, ability, or economic status. The service it provides to many diverse groups comes from knowing the community well, and developing enterprises and services to match these groups.

Vivien is based in the former headmaster's house next to Lancefield Primary School. This is the first point of service provision for the community, and she is available on Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday. Inquiries and support requests can also be made on Monday and Thursday and passed on to her for action.

The Neighbourhood House continually strives to meet the needs of its community through its numerous enterprises and

projects.

The School House is used by several community groups weekly: Slow Flow Restorative Yoga, Craft, Painting group, Boomerang Bag making; Community Choir, Postural Alignment. Regular accredited courses such as First Aid and boat licence are also hosted in this space

Located in the centre of the town, the Town House is open daily from 10am until 4pm. It provides additional Information, office services such as photocopying and computer access, and a sales point for local craft. It is also a friendly drop in point for a chat, or assistance.

Surrounding and behind the Town House is the Community Garden.

Run by volunteers, the garden supplies seasonal produce for Feed it Forward and Community support. Community members share excess produce, donate or purchase plants, seed savers and so on, to share with any community members on a 'take what you need, leave what you can' basis

It also supports a successful recycling service.

The most recent addition to the services from the Town House is the Community Food Share available to the whole community with the philosophy of 'swap, share, take or donate.' Groceries and fresh fruit and vegetables are available each week. An enterprise such as this plays a significant role

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when times are tough.

Many of you know of the Opportunity Knocks Op Shop which operates in the main street. What you may not know is this enterprise, run by a very dedicated band of volunteers, raises the funds to support other of the town groups and activities – schools, churches, sporting clubs and other community groups seeking help to launch a project.

The Men’s Shed provides a valuable outlet for men to share interests, skills, knowledge, and friendship. It has at its core a commitment to supporting men’s health and wellbeing. It supports requests from the community to undertake various projects and small repairs. It has also established links to the local primary schools and girl guides. It aims to provide positive role models through a ‘Kids in Sheds’ program in which students make ‘hands on’ projects.

The Farmers Market, held monthly on the Plantation, is a wonderful way to support local producers and showcase our town to visitors.

LNH also works in partnership with Romsey Neighbourhood House to provide two important services.

The first, Feed it Forward, is a part of a generosity food project supported by donations of excess produce from community members, cooked and served by volunteers. Guests pay a small amount for a healthy and delicious meal. It generates social connections and aims to bring isolated members together in a friendly supportive environment. Everyone is welcome.

Allied to this monthly activity, additional meals are prepared and frozen to distribute to needy families or isolated older members of the community. It is a confidential

service designed to support them with dignity and respect.

The second is the Community Transport Ride Share. This is a joint project to support the community through providing transport to medical services, shared social outings and public transport information and support

There are also local yearly events designed to bring the community together – Anzac Day commemorations, a community Christmas event at the park, the community Christmas lunch, whole town garage sale and more.

A wonderful characteristic of the community of Lancefield is that in times of emergency the Neighbourhood House can be the centre for providing care and support. For example, when a serious bushfire threatened the outskirts of the town, it was the Neighbourhood House which provided emergency assistance - clothes, phone charging and more, to those affected. During COVID lockdowns, meals continued to be delivered and the Op Shop arranged for access to books, puzzles and games to provide diversions for children.

All these activities are the result of the hard work of the Committee of Management and the dedicated volunteers.

Lancefield Neighbourhood House will hold its Annual General Meeting on 23 October to report to its members and the community, and to elect a new Committee of Management. You can become a part of this by volunteering or becoming a financial member eligible to vote for, or serve on the committee itself. Check out the website or contact the School House or call into the Town House.

In this way Lancefield Neighbourhood House to continue to serve and grow.



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DIARY DATES

All October: 1000 Hearts Kindness Project

Wednesday October 5: Introduction to Ancestry.com.au, 2.00–3.30pm

Tuesday October 11: Romsey Library Playdate, 1.00–4.00pm

Thursday October 20: A Curious Circle: Bespoke Keyrings, 7.00pm–8.30pm

Wednesday October 26: In Conversation with Pauline Wilson, author of Conflict at Hanging Rock, 2.00–3.00pm

Friday October 28: Teddy Bear Sleepover, 2.30pm–4.30pm

Romsey Library Playdates – a way for families with young children to make new connections!

If you're a family with young children, come along to the Romsey Library's monthly playdates to connect with others and make new friends. Enjoy our spacious, relaxed children's area, with free refreshments and plenty of toys from the Romsey Toy Library.

Everyone is welcome at these 100% free sessions scheduled 1– 4pm on the 2nd Tuesday every month – no bookings required, no need to be a Library member.

Our next session is Tuesday 11 October, 1–4pm.

What do teddy bears do to have fun? Send yours to the Teddy Bear Sleepover and find out.

Hey kids. Bring your favourite teddy or soft toy to this special sleepover party just for them. Join us for stories and fun before saying goodbye to your cuddly friend for the

night. Then pick your toy up the next morning and receive a certificate with photos of their overnight adventures.

Drop off: Friday 28 October 2.30pm–4.30pm. Please arrive no later than 4pm to allow 30 minutes for activities.

Pick up: Saturday October 29, 10am–12pm. Please allow up to 10 minutes for the pickup.

CONFLICT AT HANGING ROCK

Conversation with Pauline Wilson, author of Conflict at Hanging Rock

Join us on Wednesday October 26 to meet Pauline Wilson, family historian and author of Conflict at Hanging Rock. Based on true events, Conflict at Hanging Rock is the fictional story of Robert Blayney, a wealthy man desperate to hide his convict past amid simmering community tensions over the future of Hanging Rock.

With book sales and signings, don't miss this opportunity to hear an in-depth perspective on the 1800s history of our area.

1000 HEARTS KINDNESS PROJECT

Throughout October the Romsey Library is helping to create and collect lovely felt pocket hearts in support of the 1000 Hearts Kindness Project. These hearts will be distributed during World Kindness Week 7-13 November.

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HOME LIBRARY SERVICE - LET THE LIBRARY COME TO YOU

Do you know someone who likes to read, but who struggles to get out and about on their own? Our Home Library Service might be just what they need. Designed for borrowers who are temporarily or permanently housebound, our friendly library staff and volunteers will deliver directly to your door, and help you select titles from month to month. Home Library borrowers have full access to the Goldfields Libraries collection including large print books and audiobooks (ideal for readers whose eyesight is no longer what it was). For more information, please contact the Romsey Library directly on 5429 3086.

A CURIOUS CIRCLE:

Curiosity, Connection & Creativity! 7.00 – 8.30pm, Thursday October 20 & Thursday November 17

We're inviting adult women to come together to connect and explore their curiosity in a creative way. With a different activity each month led by our creative library staff Trish, Karen, and Liv, this is a great way to try out some new arts and crafts, just for fun! Supper is provided, and beginners are 100% welcome. Bookings essential.

For more information, please email romsey@ncgrl.vic.gov.au or phone us on 5429 3086.

RRBATA

AFTER BUSINESS CATCH UPS RETURN

For the first time since the commencement of the COVID 19 pandemic, RRBATA organised an After Work Business Catch Up in Romsey. A number of Romsey and Lancefield business operators gathered at Verdure for a chat and refreshment. It was a great opportunity for business people to meet each other. Many thanks to Bill and Tania Balcam for hosting the evening. RRBATA is keen to schedule these informal events every 6 to 8 weeks, rotating between Romsey and Lancefield venues. Stay tuned to RRBATA Facebook for the next date and venue.

RRBATA was recently invited to meet with Federal Deputy Opposition Leader Sussan Ley when she visited Romsey as part of a regional road trip to speak with businesses. A broad spectrum of Romsey and Lancefield RRBATA member businesses were invited to speak with Ms. Ley, who is also the Shadow Minister for Small Business. The common denominator was concerns about digital connectivity. Staffing shortages, supply chain compromises and regional accessibility (roads) were all canvassed. RRBATA is committed to speaking with representatives from all political parties when it comes to discussing issues relating to our region and its businesses.

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THE TIGERS OF OLD

A lot has happened in the 150 years since 1873, when the Lancefield Football Club was formed, just a short 15 years after the first club in Australia, the Melbourne Football Club, was established at the instigation of the father of football, Tom Wills.

It was a bit of a lonely existence for Lancefield at first – opponents were hard to find, particularly given that the historical records indicate that our bitter rival Romsey's team was not established until 1879.

The Lancefield Football Club is marking its sesquicentenary in 2023, with a history being compiled by three intergenerational Lancefield identities, who are very proud of their Tiger heritage: Denis Graham, Shirley Kishere and John Chisholm. There will be a range of events culminating in a big reunion at the Mechanics Hall on April 1.

The Back to Lancefield/Lancefield Football Club 150th reunion will be a highlight of the celebrations. Numbers are likely to be limited to 300, so people need to get in early and book their tickets. Details including price and how to book will be announced shortly, so watch the Mercury and social media for more information and act quickly.

There will be a separate release of the history in May, as well as other events during the year.

The foundation of the Lancefield Football Club predated the creation of a league or an organised competition, and games were sporadic. The club also predated the invention

of the motor car, so transporting the players to neighbouring towns and localities was no simple feat.

The road between Lancefield and Romsey was nothing like today, and a sealed road surface was unheard of. The best that travellers could hope for would be a gravel road, and there would have been plenty of roads in the district that were far less formed than that – virtual goat tracks.

Pre the motor car, travel would have been horse and cart, buggy, horseback or even Shanks' pony (on foot). The club even predated the opening of the Lancefield railway line, so those pioneers would not have had the option of a trip on the iron rail.

And so the fortitude and determination of the residents to commit to a game of football and the honour of their town was significant, despite all the challenges.

It's the same fortitude and commitment still being shown by the Lancefield Football Club and the community 150 years on, leading in to our significant milestone.

The book of the club history will be a hard-bound coffee table edition, with plenty of photographs and extracts from the Lancefield Mercury and other publications of the time.

Local businesses and residents will have the opportunity to get in on the ground floor, with a range of corporate and personal sponsorship packages to be announced to support the funding of the quality publication. Businesses will be contacted individually to discuss the packages, and we

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encourage our Tigers supporters to get on board.
Details on how to pre-purchase your copy of the book will be announced shortly.

Charlie Graham

The premiership of 1910 was won by Lancefield over their traditional rivals Romsey at Romsey. After their return trip by both train and road the victorious players and their supporters celebrated around the streets of Lancefield long into Saturday evening.

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NEW WEEKEND BUS SERVICES

Lancefield locals will have more choice with new weekend bus services across three routes connecting Lancefield and Romsey with Sunbury, Gisborne, and Kyneton from October.

The new offering will include Sunday services on all three routes for the first time, delivering on the Government's promise to enhance services and better connect Lancefield and Romsey with key destinations across the region. Passengers travelling on the Lancefield – Sunbury bus route will benefit from five new return services on Sunday as well as four additional return services on Saturday.

The additional services have been scheduled to allow bus passengers to better connect with trains leaving and arriving at Sunbury Station, helping provide more options for people

to get to where they need to go as easily and quickly as possible. Two return Sunday services will also be added to the Lancefield – Gisborne and Lancefield – Kyneton bus routes.

The new Sunday services on these routes will have an identical timetable to the current Saturday timetable with one morning and one afternoon service. Additional services will also be added on the route on Friday night.

The Clarkefield Station bus stop will be removed from the Lancefield – Sunbury route on weekends, as Sunbury Station will provide Lancefield passengers with better options to connect with trains on weekends.

The new timetables will be available on the PTV website and app from late September and will begin from 23 October.

MRODC

SPRING MEANS ADVENTURE

Spring means warmer temperatures, and adventures in the garden, but it is also a time when, like humans, dogs suffer more from allergies and other issues that the weather brings.

Ticks – more active in spring, when they reappear and eggs hatch. **Fleas/mosquitoes** – both can transmit disease and cause other issues like weight loss, skin problems and bleeding. **Allergies** -Spring can cause allergies for different

reasons. House dust, mites, and pollens can cause severe itching where your dog will chew, lick and scratch until they bleed. **Heatstroke** – Whilst more common in summer, your canine can get heatstroke in spring on hot days.

So, this spring keep a watchful eye on your furry friends.

Carol Instructor/Treasurer MRODC

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ROMSEY LANCEFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS WE ARE OFF

This month we are off to the Yarra Valley on our Bendigo Bank monthly trip. Our trip on Tuesday 4 October will be to the Tarrawarra Museum of Art, followed by lunch at Alowyn Gardens and a visit to the Yarra Valley Chocolate Factory and Store in the afternoon for all those with a sweet tooth.

The Art Gallery is showing works on the Rhythms of the Earth. Lunch will be in the lovely Maple and Farmshed courtyards of the Alowyn Gardens, which is also home to a nursery and lovely wisteria archway. Last of all is the Chocolate Factory an opportunity to purchase some early Chrissie presents or a sweet treat for yourself. It looks like a great day.

We depart from the Lancefield Post Office and Romsey Mechanics Institute.

FUTURE TRIPS:

November (date to be confirmed) – Open Garden Sculpture Exhibition, Sutton Grange, lunch at Cumberland Hotel, Castlemaine. 6th December Christmas Breakup

Remember, we meet every Monday at the rear of the Romsey Mechanics Institute for lunch, for just \$5 – everyone is more than welcome.

Hope to see you soon.

For further information please contact Helen on 0409 064 303



LANCEFIELD TENNIS CLUB

FINAL RESULTS

Lancefield played in the final of Saturday Winter Comp on 10 September and were runners up, going down to Kyneton by 1 game, 3 sets all.

Teams are now going in for the summer season and it would be terrific if we could enter a second team in this fun and social competition.

Please contact our Captain Rohan Barr on 0468 639 966.

Enter a whole team or we will find a team for you.

Teams are 2 men and 2 women; everyone plays 3 sets to 7.

Monday night Social tennis will be recommencing on 3 October at 6.30 pm.

So come along for a hit, and even sit in on the Committee meeting to see how you might contribute to your club.

Susie Kosa

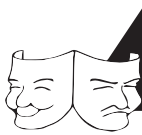
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Tickets on sale at www.themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892 for assistance.

See you at the theatre.

By Karen Hunt

LANCEFIELD PARKRUN

WALK, JOG, RUN...

Just a reminder that the Lancefield Parkrun is on every Saturday in Lancefield Park (starts just to the left of the main entry). Well, not quite every Saturday, we will have a week off when the Show takes over on the 15th/16th of October.

Parkruns are free, weekly, community events all around the world – there are over 450 in Australia.


Parkrun is a positive, welcoming and inclusive experience where there is no time limit and no one finishes last. Everyone is welcome to come along, whether you walk, jog, run, volunteer or watch.

Registration is completely free and only needs to be done once (online), whether you intend to walk, jog, run, or volunteer or do a combination of all these things.

However you do parkrun, you can learn new skills and enhance your health and happiness in the great outdoors whilst making new friends, feeling part of your local community and improving your fitness.

The Lancefield parkrun is small and very welcoming; you are sure to get a great start to your weekend with so much positive encouragement coming from the volunteers.

We'd love to see you soon!



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