

Lancefield Mercury



IT'S MELBOURNE CUP TIME BRIAN COURTNEY REMEMBERS...

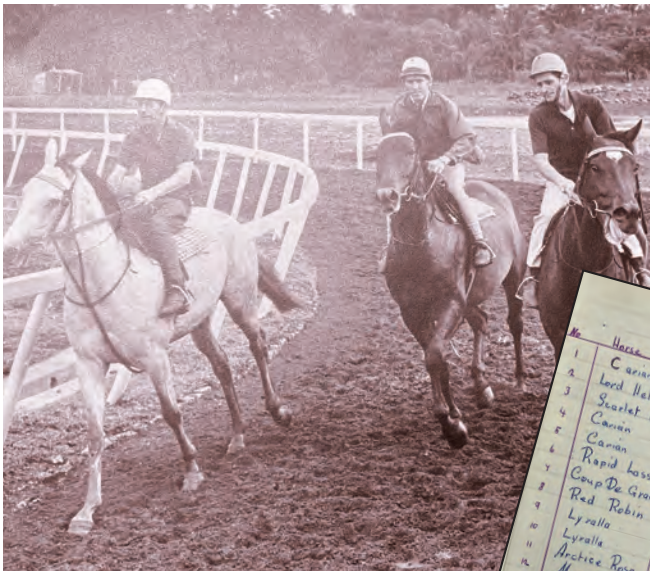
Brian Courtney moved to Lancefield over 40 years ago. Born to Pat and Kath Courtney in 1948, he is the second of six children – five boys and one girl. Horses, riding and training are part of his DNA – both his father and grandfather spent their lives working as horse trainers. Pat Courtney trained horses in various Australian states; Jim and Brian were both born in Tasmania. While his father worked on Rudy Reid's stud farm in Werribee, Brian attended St Mary's Werribee before the family moved to Ascot Vale to be next to Flemington Racecourse.

Leaving school at age 14, Brian became an apprentice, working for his father in the stables at Flemington. This apprenticeship lasted seven years, concluding when he was 21 years old. Exactly one week after his 21st birthday he married Louise McFarlan in May 1969. Their first son, Phillippe was born in Mauritius (where Brian was working) in

1973, Duane was born in 1975 and their daughter, Chantelle, was born in 1977. They lived in Albanvale until moving to Lancefield.

Brian's career as a jockey began when he was 15 years old. The first race recorded in his book of Race Rides was on the horse 'Carian' at Seymour on 18 September 1963; his weight was 8-stone 4-pounds. Brian was placed sixth and his fee for the race was £2-10-0. In his first year, which began in September 1963, he rode in 21 races – two in September, five in October, three in November and eleven in December. In October 1963 he rode 'Carian' once again and won first place, then at Ararat on 14 December 1963 he won first place on 'Talincourt'. The following year, 1964, began as a very busy year: he rode in 10 races in January, 13 in February, 16 in March, 30 in April and 34 in May 1964. The lowest number of monthly rides for the year was 12 in December 1964. ▶

lancefieldmercury.org.au



Undoubtedly, the most memorable of Brian's starts in 1964 would have to be the 1964 Melbourne Cup! Ride No. 205, his book records that on Tuesday 3 November, he rode 'Jamagne'; his weight was 7-stone 9-pound, and he was placed 14th in the race. The fee was higher than many of his rides, at £4-10. By November 1964, Brian had had 15 winning rides. In October 1965 at Ararat he rode three winners. His proud parents collected newspaper

Race Book

No	Horse	Course	Weight	Date	Place	Fee
1	Carion	Seymour	8-2	18-10-63	4th	£2-10-0
2	Lord Helos	Kilmore	8-7	18-10-63	11th	£2-10-0
3	Scarlet Flash	Bendigo	8-2	7-10-63	8th	£2-10-0
4	Carion	Newstead	8-6	7-10-63	15th	£2-10-0
5	Rapid Lass	Weathere	8-4	12-10-63	15th	£2-10-0
6	Coup De Grace	Warrnambool	8-0	12-10-63	6th	£2-10-0
7	Red Robin	Warrnambool	8-0	12-10-63	6th	£2-10-0
8	Lynella	Flemington	7-9	12-10-63	6th	£2-10-0
9	Lynella	Caulfield	8-2	30-10-63	5th	£2-10-0
10	Arctice Rose	Warrnambool	8-7	9-11-63	7th	£2-10-0
11	Arctice Rose	Woodend	8-7	10-11-63	3rd	£3-10-0
12	Talmanaur	Ararat	8-0	30-11-63	3rd	£3-10-0
13	Wood hurl	Ararat	8-12	7-12-63	3rd	£3-10-0
14	Juddabum	Cobden	8-0	10-12-63	3rd	£3-10-0
15	Malika	Cobden	8-0	10-12-63	3rd	£3-10-0
16	Grabet	Cobden	8-0	10-12-63	3rd	£3-10-0
17	Solar High	Locharr	8-0	3-1-64	6th	£2-10-0
18	Rassera	Locharr	8-2	3-1-64	7th	£2-10-0
19	Tarusuh	Locharr	7-12	24-1-64	5th	£2-10-0
20	Tarusuh	Locharr	7-12	24-1-64	5th	£2-10-0
21	Wise Regn	Locharr	7-12	24-1-64	4th	£2-10-0
22	Mikes Pride	Warrnambool	9-0	24-1-64	4th	£2-10-0
23	Mikes Rose	Hanging Rock	7-8	10-2-64	2nd	£2-10-0
24	Lord Helos	Hanging Rock	8-0	10-2-64	5th	£2-10-0
25	Mike's Pride	Hanging Rock	8-4	10-2-64	5th	£2-10-0
26	Burn Filou	Woodend	7-12	17-2-64	2nd	£2-10-0
27	Coup De Grace	Woodend	8-12	17-2-64	6th	£2-10-0
28	Coup De Grace	Woodend	8-12	17-2-64	6th	£2-10-0
29	Coup De Grace	Woodend	8-12	17-2-64	6th	£2-10-0

reports of his many races which reveal a fresh, young and enthusiastic face.

Brian's Race book documents his riding career through the statistics. For example, in the period 1963-1970 he rode across Victoria at meetings as far-flung as Bendigo, Werribee, Seymour, Caulfield, Cranbourne, Woodend, Pakenham, Newstead, Warrnambool, Terang, Avoca, Bachus Marsh, Kyneton, Heathcote – and many more.


In 1971 Brian and his wife packed up and went to Djakarta where he was employed for two years at a new track.

From there he went to Mauritius for one racing season from May to

November 1973. The last entry in Brian's Race Book – Race No. 1815 – is dated 22 May 1975. Twelve years and 1,815 starts – what a career!

Following his racing career, Brian worked with Comet Transport before selling his van and training horses at Woodend for Blue Ribbon Bloodstock. Later, he took up odd jobs at Kilmore Hospital and retired from the Hospital after working there for 26 years. After selling his property on the Kilmore Road, he now lives in the Lancefield township.

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BATHURST UPDATE

In their first-ever Repco Bathurst 1000 start, Caltex Young Stars Jaylyn Robotham and Matt Chahda have finished the Great Race in 18th position. In a highly competitive showing throughout the day, the team ran as high as 9th position in a typically drama-filled race that proved the competitive intent of the pair of Bathurst 1000 first-timers. Chahda started the 188 Commodore from 26th position and avoided the early carnage that eliminated several key competitors - while gaining several spots in the process. The duo gradually worked their way through the field with strong race pace and strategy in the early stages.

They floated between 10th and 20th position throughout the lap 40-60 period, before climbing as high as ninth just before making their fifth pit stop. That stop on Lap 80 proved to be the team's most challenging moment in the race, thanks to an issue with the brake rotor change that cost time and two laps of track position.

Jaylyn resumed in 22nd position for his second stint as the race moved into its second half. Their strong pace continued in the remaining laps with both drivers able to regain their lost laps - Chahda climbing onto the lead lap in his final stint with a late-race wave-by prior to the race's penultimate restart.

The team crossed the line in 18th position of the 22 classified finishers, completed the race on the leading 161st lap and finished the full 1000km.

"We finished on the lead lap which was one of our main goals, and just to finish, and we did that.

We were sitting just outside the top 10 before the brakes seized during the pit stop. We lost two laps there, so it was good to get back on the lead lap and finish 18th. We beat a few cars and just stayed out of trouble, we're all really happy. The highlights were definitely getting in amongst the pack, racing some of the main game guys. Making a few passes here and there, it was cool being up amongst it!" said Jaylyn

IT'S AGM SEASON

The Lancefield Mercury AGM is on Thursday 24 November. Everyone is welcome (email editor3435@gmail.com for details). We are in need of an advertising guru and/or treasurer, and we always have other jobs available, so if you have a bit of spare time and are interested, come to our AGM.

Lancefield Netball Football Club
Tuesday 8 November, Laurie Green Pavilion.

Lancefield Romsey Historical Society
Tuesday 22 November, at the courthouse, 7pm.



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HISTORY OF OUR LOCAL LIONS CLUB

The Lancefield/Romsey Lions Club will be celebrating their 50th Anniversary in August next year. For many years the Club has been working behind the scenes to assist our community. So now I have the pleasure of telling you some of the history of our wonderful club each month.

To begin as an example, in 1975 the Shire of Romsey, (which is now the Macedon Ranges Shire), was approached by members of our Club with a proposal to build an elderly persons accommodation village. After much consideration they enthusiastically supported our idea, and twelve months later we were successful in gaining a grant from the Ian Rollo Currie Foundation to commence. During those twelve months, our Club was very active doing fund raising activities to achieve our goal. We held various Shindigs, one on the grounds of the Mintaro Mansion, and the others on private properties in the area, thanks to the generosity of the owners. They were a huge success and the whole community attended. Our Club also grew potatoes and sold them at the roadside. They also grew and sold lucerne hay, did scrap metal drives, had raffles and more. The first 5 homes were built in Romsey, and since then we have built another elderly person accommodation village in Lancefield. All up we now have 25 homes.

Angela Heywood Vice President

HISTORY@ LANCEFIELD - CONNECTING COMMUNITIES

HistoryFest – Sunday 6 November at Lancefield Mechanics’ Institute from 10.30am to 3pm

The theme of our second HistoryFest is ‘Connecting Communities’. During the day we will focus on the importance of connecting with our local communities through the writing and recording of our local history and heritage.

We have speakers from the Royal Historical Society of Victoria - the key body for local historical societies - as well as representatives from Broadford, Chewton, Kilmore, Malmsbury, Trentham and Woodend.

This event has been partly sponsored by Visit Victoria’s Reginal Events Fund. We have been supported financially and in-kind by several local Lancefield businesses.

The Lancefield CWA are catering for us with a good country lunch which we look forward to. And at the end of the day music, cheese & fruit, wine, mingling and talking will be the order of the day.

All enquiries to Fay Woodhouse on 0427 042 753

LANCEFIELD MERCURY INC.

A0045845D



Deadline for articles and advertisements is the 15th of the month. The Mercury is distributed by post and volunteer deliverers to all premises with a letter box in the Lancefield postal area at the start of the month. Copies of the paper can also be found at the Romsey Library.

The Lancefield Mercury is produced by volunteers as a service to the people of Lancefield.

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

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

Enquiries about advertising: advertising3435@gmail.com – Ken Allender 0404 886 580

Check lancefieldmercury.org.au for general information about advertising and how to contribute articles, as well to see digital back copies.

Editorial Committee:

Andy Moore
 Craig Longmuir
 Karen Barr
 Fay Woodhouse
 Ken Allender
 Julianne Graham
 Beth Child
 Editorial Enquiries to
 Andy Moore 0430 448 120
 Advertising Enquiries to
 Ken Allender 0404 886 580.

Advertising Rates

One eighth page \$35
 One quarter page \$55
 Half page \$100
 Full page \$165

Rates for one year – 11 editions (no edition in January)

Annual 1/8 page \$280
 Annual 1/4 page \$360
 Annual 1/2 page \$650
 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.

ZONTA SAYS NO TO VIOLENCE



Zonta members wore orange to mark 16 Days of Action in 2021

Wednesday November 25 is the International Day for the elimination of violence against women. December 10 is Human Rights Day. The 16 days that begin and end on these dates are recognised internationally as the '16 Days of Activism' to prevent violence against women.

In Australia, on average, one woman a week is murdered by her current or former partner, and intimate partner violence is the leading cause of death, disability and illness in Australian women aged 18-44 years. Statistics prepared by Women's Health Victoria show that, of the reported sexual offences against women in Macedon Ranges during 2020, the offender was known to the victim in 77% of cases.

This year, the Zonta Club of Kyneton continues working

with several other community organisations, through Macedon Ranges 16 Days of Activism Working Group, to raise awareness of gender-based violence, challenge discriminatory attitudes and encourage community-based support for those living with violence.

For the 16 days of Activism the Zonta Club is planning a display in the community window in Mollison Street, Kyneton, highlighting the impact of violence against women. We will also have a pop-up event at the Social Foundry Café in Kyneton on 3 December at 10.30am. Come along and learn more about 16 days of activism to prevent violence against women, while sharing a cuppa and cake with our passionate club members.

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TEAM NEWS

We warmly welcome Pete Klages to the Romsey and Lancefield team. Pete is a Romsey local of nearly 3 years, and with 15 years of experience in the banking and insurance industry, he is excited to come to the Community Bank.

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Congratulations to the following community groups who were successful in their applications to this year's Community Investment Program. As in previous years, the number of applications and total funds requested far exceeded the available CIP budget, so we would encourage those groups who did not receive funding to apply in future programs. Our next grants program for events will open in March/April 2023.

In addition to the below grants, eight local emergency services units also received \$1,500 each. We will also be continuing with our scholarship program for 2023 and are a sponsor of the Loddon Murray Community Leadership Program, taking our total funding to approximately \$260,000.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The 2022 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, November 7th at The Lancefield Guesthouse. Shareholders will have received formal notice of the AGM along with supporting documents mid-September.

Community organisation	Project	Funding
Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association Inc	RRBATA Business Breakfast	\$1,500
Working Equitation Lancefield Districts	WELD Obstacle Purchase	\$2,200
Macedon Rangers Soccer Club	Club Equipment	\$2,850
Safe Space Performances Ltd	Australian Way of Life Romsey Lancefield Community Participation Project	\$3,000
Lancefield Kindergarten Inc	Cooking with Kids	\$3,141
Deep Creek Landcare Group	Romsey/Lancefield Native Botanic Garden – planning	\$4,800
Macedon Ranges Photographic Society Inc	New 4K Graphics Laptop Computer	\$4,900
Lancefield Football Netball Club	Lancefield Football Netball Club 150 Year History Book 1873-2023	\$5,000
Deep Creek Landcare Group	Junior Landcare Environmental Showbags	\$5,905
Lancefield Tennis Club	Outdoor Upgrade	\$6,219
Romsey Neighbourhood House Inc.	Romsey Neighbourhood House Feed It Forward Foodbank	\$6,262
Cancer Council Victoria	Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay for Life	\$7,550
Lancefield Bowling Club Inc	Renovation of Toilet Amenities	\$8,000
Lancefield Cricket Club	Veranda Extension	\$49,760
Romsey Junior Football Netball Club	Romsey Park Bendigo Bank Oval Electronic Scoreboard	\$50,000
Lancefield Football Netball Club & Lancefield Junior Football Netball Club	Electronic Scoreboard for Lancefield Park	\$50,000
TOTAL	\$211,087	

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Need help with the costs of study?

Applications are invited from eligible students who require assistance with educational costs in 2023.

Scholarships are available for students studying full-time at an Australian University, TAFE Institute or College for the first time.

Applications are open now, and close on Friday, 27 January 2023.

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Community Bank Scholarships will be funded from management accounts of the Community Enterprise Charitable Fund ABN 12 102 649 968 (the Fund). The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo VIC 3550. Sandhurst Trustees Limited ABN 16 004 030 737 AFSL 237906, a subsidiary of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL 237879, is the trustee of the Fund. OUT_26260219, 13/10/2022



LANCEFIELD COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

President: Angela Turner, Secretary: Tracy Kemp, Treasurer: Lorraine Pearce, lancefieldcwa@gmail.com

LET US HOPE THE FLOODING IS BEHIND US

By the time you read this, let us hope that the high rainfall and flooding is behind us.

When the warmer weather returns, and the floods recede and you wish to have a day out, may I suggest the Winton Wetlands? The wetlands feature a series of swamps which fill out after long periods of rainfall, providing a wonderful habitat for a multitude of birds and animals. To add to the interest around the delightful cafe there are many and varied sculptures depicting native fauna. The Murray Cod constructed from stainless steel is most spectacular. This day trip would be most interesting for your grandchildren.

For our students, term four is well under way. We wish all students a happy final school term. Best wishes to Year 12 students who will be sitting for their VCE, and to the year 6s who will be graduating from primary school.

Our A.G.M. was held at the end of October. There were some changes to office bearers, more in next month's article.

We will be having a 'Pop-Up' stall on Saturday 26

November at the Lancefield Farmers' Market. This will be an opportunity for you to purchase early gifts and goodies for Christmas, such as lots of yummy homemade treats and produce, as well as merchandise such as linen tea towels (all Australian made) and the very popular recipe books 'Biscuits Galore', 'Thrifty Cooking', 'Delicious Lamb Dishes' and 'Mince Matters' just to name a few. These are all CWA publications and would be very useful for our younger generation who may be setting up their home.

Who was Ruby McCullough and why is the CWA honouring her? You will find the answer in next month's article. Clue: She was a member of the Woodend branch. Why don't you come along to a meeting one Friday morning when you are free? You will be made to feel most welcome. I am sure that you will find us good company, with lots of interesting discussions and an insight into how we can support one another and our local community. The meetings are held at 10am on the fourth Friday of each month in the annexe of the Lancefield Mechanics Institute.



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BUDBURST

Lyons Will Estate is very pleased to announce that they will be participating in the long-awaited return of Budburst, the Macedon Ranges wine festival, which is back in 2022 for the first time in two years. Over the weekend of 19 and 20 November, Lyons Will Estate will be throwing open their gates for tastings of their new release wines paired with locally grown and sourced European inspired tasting platters.

If you're in need of transport, Lyons Will is also part of the Lancefield Loop Hoppa bus, so you can hop-on and hop-off across five fantastic wineries in the Romsey/Lancefield/Newham region.

To coincide with both the return of Budburst and their ten-year anniversary in the Macedon Ranges, Lyons Will Estate will be unveiling their new cellar door this spring. Contemporary and sophisticated, with sweeping views towards Mount Macedon and Lancefield, and more than a year in the making, it is a must-see when visiting the Macedon Ranges. Winery owner Ollie Rapson says: "It's an intimate yet expansive space, where our guests are immersed in the vineyard. We can't wait to introduce our new release wines to visitors in this fantastic space". The Lyons Will Estate cellar door is open every Friday, Saturday and Sunday from 11am to 5pm.

Visit <http://www.budburst.com> to purchase Budburst tickets.

ANNIVERSARY, BOOK LAUNCH AND SHOW

On 15 October, The Mount Players celebrated their fiftieth anniversary at the Gisborne Golf Club and what a night it was! A packed house of 140 past and present members gathered for one heck of a reunion, enjoying lots of reminiscing, guest speakers including Patron of the theatre, Athol Guy, and representative from the Victorian Drama League, and of course lots of in-house presentations.

The evening also celebrated the launch of their magnificent book "Box Office to Back Stage - 50 Years of Community Theatre" a culmination of three years hard work by their History group.

The final production for 2022 Madagascar by JT Rogers, is a must-see drama for theatre lovers. A haunting story of a mysterious disappearance that changes three lives forever.

At three different periods in time, three people find themselves alone, in the same hotel room overlooking the Spanish Steps in Rome.

They each tell their individual story of how and why they are here. Their relationship to each other, what this room means to them, and why they have been called to it slowly reveal themselves. The show opens 4 November and runs till 20 November. Tickets via www.themountplayers.com

See you at the theatre.

By Karen Hunt

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Budburst tickets through www.budburst.com

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YOUR DOG AND THE RAIN

October induction saw us welcome eight new members. Our ground has suffered with the rain making it wet and muddy - not pleasant to train on, the dogs seem to find every puddle and patch of mud.

Rain is the ultimate disrupter. A dog's routine is much simpler than that of their owner, but rain doesn't spare their plans either. The evening walk they look forward to... postponed. Going outside to run around and relieve themselves - well, it's still necessary, but it'll be quicker and less pleasant than normal.

Unfortunately, bad weather can present some real health and safety problems for dogs.

Here are four of them:

LOW VISIBILITY

Rain makes it harder for drivers to see our dogs, so try and keep them safe and out of the way of cars.

LIGHTNING/THUNDER

It's frightening for your dog. Some dogs are more scared than others. One reason for this is that they can't sense where it's coming from or what horrible creature is making the noise.

Lightning strikes can occur and anything metal in your dog's yard could cause serious risk from electrocution.

PUDDLES

Dogs love splashing in puddles, but there are risks that they could contain toxins like motor oil and weed killer. Best not to let them drink from them. Water can also get into ears causing infection.

PNEUMONIA

Exposure to wet/cold weather for too long can cause inflammation to the respiratory tract, which can lead to pneumonia. This is more common in older dogs or those with compromised immune systems. So, towel them off and bring them inside as soon as you can.

Visit www.macedonrangesdogclub.org.au for more information.

Take care, stay safe... a dog is family.

Carol

Instructor/Treasurer MRODC



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PRESENTATION NIGHT

We recently held our Presentation Night at Kilmore Trackside, please see results below:

Senior Football: B&F and Players MVP: Michael Conlan; Runners up and Leading Goal Kicker: Alex Simpson; Most Committed: Harry Taylor; Best Under 21's Player: Reuben Schembri

A Grade Netball: B&F: Kira Baldwin; Runners up: Amanda Bruce; Players Player Award: Darcee Ellard

Reserves Football: B&F: Anthony Pacers; Runners up: Scott Ilgoutz; Graham Meyer Award (Most Committed): Chris James

B Grade Netball: B&F and Players Player Award: Beth Lyons; Runners up: Keeley Holter

C Grade Netball: B&F: Sharna Smith; Runners up: Jessica Dittloff; Players Player Award: Kirrily Lumsden

Under 19s Netball: B&F: Stephanie Hammond; Runners up: Amber Winks; Most Consistent: Jayla Laffan-Zoch

Legend of Lancefield Tigers: Barry 'Mocca' Hunt

COACHING ANNOUNCEMENT!

Congratulations to Tim Bannan on being appointed as our new senior coach for 2023. Tim was previously coaching Leitchville Gunbower in the Heathcote District Football League, and we look forward to welcoming Tim and his

family to our community.

We also thank Tom Waters for doing a terrific job as playing coach, particularly during difficult and interrupted COVID seasons. We are excited that Tom will be continuing to play with the Tigers next year.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Tuesday 8 November – Annual General Meeting @ Laurie Green Pavilion. LFNC would like to make the following changes to our constitution: Name: Lancefield Football Netball Club Inc. Colours: Black & Yellow

150TH YEAR CELEBRATIONS (2023)

If anyone is interested in joining the Celebrations Organisation Committee, please contact LFNC President Mark Morgan – 0408 389 900.

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Whether that's taking to the footy field, the netball court, sponsorship or the many different volunteering opportunities, please get in touch with LFNC Club President Mark Morgan – 0408 389 900 – lancefieldfnc@gmail.com



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LANCEFIELD FOOTBALL NETBALL CLUB 150-YEAR HISTORY BOOK



1958 Premiers

Readers may not be aware that there are many local sporting clubs, community organisations and societies whose records are held at the Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society. Early in 2022, the Lancefield Football Netball Club announced that the Club was about to celebrate its 150th anniversary and approached the Society to assist with research. The first task was to establish, beyond doubt, that the Club had held its first match in 1862. Well, when the research began, it was found that in fact the Club held its first match one year later than they had originally thought – it was actually 1863. This was a great relief for the Club, as it was a major project to attempt to organise celebratory events and produce a book at the same time! So, changes in plans meant that the Club had almost one year to achieve their goal of book and celebrations.

For many months now, Football Club member Denis Graham has regularly spent time at the Historical Society

going through both hard copy (the original papers) and microfilm copies of the newspapers – the Lancefield Mercury – to find out all he could about the club, their wins, their losses, rivalries between Lancefield and Romsey, and more. Premiership years have been a special focus for Denis and, assisted by Shirley Kishere, he has substantial research material to work with to complete the book. The material Denis and Shirley are researching and working with is mainly nineteenth century and up to the mid-twentieth century. From the 1970s, John Chisholm is compiling information about players, matches and, of course, premierships.

To date, this has been a wonderful collaboration between our two organisations and is a fine example of what can be achieved. The end result will be the production of a much anticipated 150-year history of the Lancefield Football Club.

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THE TIGERS OF OLD

Prior to the introduction of the VFL/AFL draft in 1986, there was great excitement and hope among football supporters each pre-season about the smokies and raw diamonds about to be unearthed from the bush leagues and country zones.

There was a frenzy when Hawthorn plucked Brendan Edwards from Sandhurst in 1956, matched when Essendon snared a 15-year-old Tim Watson from Dimboola in 1977.

But this excitement over emerging bush champions is old hat for the Lancefield Football Club.

More than a century ago Lancefield was producing ready-made stars for the old VFL, with plenty of fanfare.

The list is led by the man who is arguably Lancefield's greatest-ever player, Alex "Ike" Johnston, and four-time VFL premiership player Frank "Silver" Caine, with two at Carlton and two at Essendon.

You will be able to read all about these champions in the history book to be released next year to mark the Lancefield Football Club's 150th year.

The book is being compiled by three intergenerational Lancefield identities who are very proud of their Tiger heritage: Denis Graham, Shirley Kishere and John Chisholm, with a range of events culminating in a big reunion function 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.

Ike Johnston fitted his playing career at Lancefield and Carlton around three wars, managing to fit in a couple of



games for Richmond for good measure.

He played in a Lancefield senior premiership in 1895 aged just 14, and played for Carlton in 1906 before the lure of the bush grew too strong.

Silver Caine was recruited from Lancefield to become a sensation at Carlton in 1905, playing 80 games for the Old Dark Navy Blues and a further 22 for Essendon before hanging up the boots.

The 150th anniversary history book will be a hard-bound coffee table edition, with plenty of photographs and extracts from the Lancefield Mercury and other publications of the time.

A range of corporate and personal sponsorship packages are supporting the funding of the quality publication. Sponsors – with packages of \$1000, \$500 or \$250 – will be acknowledged in the book. Supporter sponsorships are \$100, and reserved pre-paid copies of the book are \$60. People wanting more details, or a pledge/order form can contact Pam Choate on garychoate@bigpond.com or 0414 491 749.

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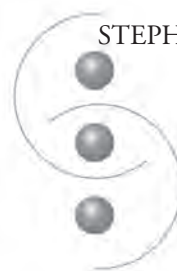
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SNOW GUMS

The River Red Gum is a lovely tree, and it might have been crowned Australia's favourite native tree recently, but if you have hiked or skied around places like the Baw Baw Plateau or Dinner Plain, you will know why I voted for the runner-up, the Snow Gum. It is a beautiful tree and needs all the friends it can get.

The Macedon Ranges Shire Council has recently released a report which assessed the distribution and health of Snow Gum (*Eucalyptus pauciflora* ssp. *pauciflora*) populations across the Macedon Ranges Shire (mrsc.viv.gov.au/Biodiversity). "The 2021 assessment surveyed all stands of Snow Gum known to occur in the Macedon Ranges Shire. This confirmed that the Macedon Ranges Shire supports the largest number of individuals and sub-populations of Snow Gum known to occur outside of the Alps region. The assessment also found that most populations are in relatively good health and that adequate natural recruitment is occurring. Despite these generally positive findings, Snow Gums are at risk from a range of threatening processes, including predicted global climate change, and there are a range of management actions that landowners and management agencies can adopt to further protect and enhance regional populations."

The Snow Gum is one of over 700 *Eucalyptus* species in Australia. The species has a wide distribution, ranging from eastern South Australia, across central and southern Victoria, central and eastern Tasmania, eastern NSW, extending north across the New England Tablelands plateau to near the Queensland border. Given the relatively slow rate of spread of most eucalyptus species, this very wide distribution suggests that the species is quite ancient, possibly having evolved during the series of ice ages that affected Australia over the last 2.5 million years (the Pleistocene epoch).

In Victoria, there are six separate sub-species of *Eucalyptus pauciflora*. Four of these are restricted to higher altitudes of the eastern highlands where annual snow cover is a common occurrence, another sub-species is restricted to Mt William in the Grampians with the remaining sub-species, *Eucalyptus pauciflora* ssp. *pauciflora* the subject of the MRSC report. This sub-species is not only found at higher altitudes in eastern Victoria but is scattered across the lowlands and foothills south and north of the Great Dividing Range. This includes populations on the inland slopes north of the Divide near Beechworth, across the Gippsland Plain, in the Strathbogie, Macedon, Ballarat, Beaufort and Moriac areas, and extending across south-west Victoria. The lowland populations extend very close to sea level, with some populations occurring at less than 50m asl (e.g. Gippsland and south-west Victoria). The sub-species is known to hybridise with several other loosely related eucalypt species, including Broad-leaved Peppermint (*Eucalyptus dives*), Narrow-leaved Peppermint (*Eucalyptus radiata*) and Gippsland Peppermint (*Eucalyptus croajingolensis*).

Outside the Alps bioregion, *Eucalyptus pauciflora* ssp.

pauciflora generally occurs in small stands or as scattered trees. It does not compete well with the taller eucalypts and prefers a temperate climate, typically growing in areas with an annual rainfall ranging between 600–1,000mm. It is common with many Victorian gum-barked eucalypts, the sub-species typically forms extensive hollows with age (e.g. 100 years +) providing valuable nesting habitat and shelter for various mammals and birds. Trees typically flower from spring to late summer, producing large quantities of nectar and pollen-rich flowers that provide food for birds, insects and mammals.

The Macedon Ranges Shire supports the largest known concentrations of Snow Gum in central and western Victoria and the area around Newham represented the largest cluster in the Shire with large stands also near the summit of Mt Macedon and Camels Hump.

Most of the region's Snow Gum populations are confined to roadsides, further highlighting the importance of these areas for local biodiversity. These populations may be at risk from damage by cars, machinery and roadworks. These trees may also be targeted for illegal firewood collection.

Climate change leading to an expected reduction in rainfall and more extreme weather events, including extended heat waves and severe wind storms, are likely to impact the species. However, Snow Gums have smooth bark and a light canopy and so do not pose a high fire risk unless located very close to assets.

The report found that in the lowland sites the majority (77%) of trees were assessed as in 'good' or 'very good' health. For the Mt Macedon sites, just over 50% of the trees were assessed as in 'very good' health, with the remaining trees distributed relatively evenly across the categories of 'poor', 'very poor' or 'dead'. Most of the dead trees were on the west facing slopes near the summit. These dead trees were likely killed by either the 1983 Ash Wednesday bushfire or drought conditions that have occurred since.

Regarding landholders the report finds that "Large areas of the Shire are suitable for planting Snow Gum, particularly the more fertile paddocks, however Snow Gum will not grow well in drier habitats near box and stringybark eucalypts, or on flats that become waterlogged for many months of the year. Landowners should consult their local Landcare Group or MRSC to determine if Snow Gums are suitable for their property." For landowners fortunate to have Snow Gums and are interested in protecting them, they could consider fencing isolated trees or groups of trees off from stock to encourage natural recruitment.

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 over summer, follow us on Facebook, contact our President, Phil Severs (0476 324 000) or attend our monthly meetings in the Lancefield Mechanics Hall.





A BUSY TIME

Term 4 is always such a busy time at Lancefield Primary with lots planned, especially as we hopefully move into some better weather. Our Prep, Year 1,2, and 3 students have already enjoyed a day at Sovereign Hill as part of the Department of Education initiative “Positive Start”, free experiences for schools in 2022.

UPCOMING EVENTS -

Years 3,4,5,6 are participating in a day of action at the State Netball Centre to “Train like a Vixen”.

Our 2023 Preps will be beginning transition sessions in readiness for their first year at school.

Red Day – Day for Daniel will be held at LPS on Friday 28th of October to focus our attention on explicitly teaching personal safety strategies and the importance of child safety.

LPS always recognise Remembrance Day and will have representatives from our school attending the local service.

Our volleyball team are participating in the regional competition in Swan Hill.

Colour Run – raising money for Back Packs for Vic Kids. Christmas raffle and family picnic evening.

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WHAT A DELUGE

Here are a few photos of our local area taken when it was safe to venture out when the rain finally stopped. Our rain gauge had to be emptied many times over Wednesday and Thursday in the middle of October. If the gauge didn't overflow, and it was hard to be sure, then we had 151mm of rain in three days. And it was only seven years ago that we were worried about our homes surviving a bushfire in spring.



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RRBATA is represented on the committee of Tourism Macedon Ranges Inc (TMR) which advocates for the visitor economy and its businesses in the Shire. TMR's Macedon Ranges Business Breakfast was held at the Macedon Ranges Hotel and Spa. Several RRBATA member businesses attended this event, which saw dynamic presenter Simon Kuestenmacher explain the implications of current data trends on the region's businesses and their customers in the future.

The Lancefield Guesthouse was the site of RRBATA's October "After Work Business Catch Up" with wonderful hospitality from Kate and Peter Chiller. A diverse range of Romsey and Lancefield business operators gathered for a drink, nibbles and chat at yet another of our region's great

venues. These "catch ups" are casual where all businesses (even if not a RRBATA members) can drop in for as little or as long as they like. Follow RRBATA's FB (Romsey Lancefield Region Business and Living) for more information regarding the next one.

RRBATA has been successful in its application to the State Government's Business Chambers and Traders Groups Round Three program, having secured funding to support a professionally managed social media marketing program for our region's local businesses as well as now enabling the Main Street Festive Illuminations event to proceed. The latter was very successful last year, and it is hoped that this year's event will give even more prominence to our eastern corridor region and its businesses.



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When I left Lancefield for Tahbilk winery at Nagambie on Monday 10 October, I had no idea that I would end up being stranded there and unable to return to Lancefield for some days!

It had been raining on and off since my arrival at Tahbilk on Monday (this meant no morning walks as I had planned). By Wednesday and Thursday, the water level was very high. The Cottage I was staying in on Tahbilk estate is built on the banks of the Goulburn River – a beautiful pastoral scene to enjoy with a glass of wine as you watch the river flowing by... I took lots of photos from Monday and the more rain we had, the more the river rose steadily. Initially it looked as if the distance between the house and the riverbank was about 20 feet. People were a bit worried, but it seemed to me the water was a long way off. On Thursday the Old Cellar, built in 1860 with an extension built in 1875, was at risk and by Friday morning it had flooded – four steps up the ladder were covered in water and the casks and wine archive were not only at risk but

under water. The last time Tahbilk flooded was in 2010 and it affected the 2011 vintage. It is expected that dozens of bottles of packaged wine from vintages dating back to 2005 will be ruined. By Friday night I was evacuated out of the winery – which by then was completely covered in water – and relocated to higher ground, just outside the estate.

At the same time, the water levels in Lancefield were steadily rising. Friends in Lancefield gave me updates. Even if I had been able to leave Tahbilk, I could not get back to Lancefield. The Lancefield Show had been cancelled and many of the streets and bridges were flooded, blocking access to the township. So, there I was, flooded in and flooded out!

Over the weekend the water subsided in Lancefield. By Tuesday 18 October the road out of Tahbilk was clear and I drove home after quite an adventure!

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ROMSEY LIBRARY

BABY RHYME TIME AT ROMSEY LIBRARY

Baby Rhyme Time sessions at the Romsey Library run every Thursday morning at 11am during the school term. Sessions are free and open to all parents/carers and their babies aged 0-18 months old. Sessions are friendly and relaxed and include songs, rhymes and stories intended to develop early literacy and a love of reading.

THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY LITERACY

Did you know that the first 1000 days, from conception to 2 years old, are the most important years for brain development? By the time a baby reaches 2 years old, 80 percent of their brain is already developed.

It is never too early to start your baby on their learning journey - read, sing, talk and play together every day.

Research using the Longitudinal Study of Australian Children (www.growingupinaustralia.gov.au) found that children whose parents read to them very day when they were 2-3 years old had higher Year 3 NAPLAN reading scores on average, compared with children who were read to less frequently. And children starting Prep with low literacy rarely catch up, even with appropriate intervention, according to the Let's Read Literature Review, Murdoch

Children's Research Institute.

The building blocks for literacy start very early in life - well before a child starts pre-school. And the Library is here to help.

ROMSEY LIBRARY PLAYDATE

Come along to the library to connect with others and make new friends. We have a lovely space for interaction between parents/carers and children, and toys loaned from the Romsey Toy Library to keep the children entertained. Everyone is welcome at these free sessions scheduled 1- 4pm on the second Tuesday of every month, with light refreshments provided. Our next session is Tuesday 8 November.

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You can also join us for coffee at the Lancefield Corner Store at 10am every Friday for a chat and a bit more fun.

It was a quiet month, in addition to lunch at the Macedon Pub, also a three-day bus trip to see the sights of Melbourne and surrounds: Royal Botanic Gardens, Fitzroy Gardens, Captain Cooks Cottage,

Australia Gardens in Cranbourne, Puffing Billy & the Dandenong Ranges. We also shared plenty of laughs, wonderful food and drink and great company.

We are a friendly, welcoming group from diverse backgrounds with a variety of interests, and we'd love to meet you!

Phone: Tony (President) 0410747616 or Noreen (Secretary) 0401579180

Thursday 17 November. Everyone is welcome to join this fun inclusive session. Bookings essential.

A CURIOUS CIRCLE: CURIOSITY, CONNECTION & CREATIVITY!

We're inviting adult women to come together to connect and explore their curiosity in a creative way. Try out some new arts and crafts just for fun – no special skills required!

In November we are making felt hearts in support of the 1000 Hearts Kindness Project, and our December evening will focus on Christmas craft.

Supper is provided, and beginners are welcome - 7 – 8.30pm, Thursday November 17. Bookings essential.

DIARY DATES

- Melbourne Cup: Tuesday November 1 - Library closed for public holiday.
- Kyneton Cup: Wednesday November 2 - Romsey Library open.
- 16 Days of Activism against gender-based violence starts 25 November

For more information, call into the library at 98 Main Street Romsey, visit www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au or phone us on 5429 3086.

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LANCEFIELD POST OFFICE - DID YOU KNOW?

A post office first opened in Lancefield on 19 January 1860, although the location has not been identified. Money order facilities became available in 1866, the Post Office Savings Bank was established in May 1871, and in May 1874 telegraph facilities were provided.

The first 'unofficial' post-master was Joseph Beasley from 1860-68; he was followed by three other men, all well-known Lancefield citizens – Richard Onians (1868-69), Thomas Little (1869-70) Joseph Beasley again (between 1870-78) and William Derrick (1878-84).

While it was quite common for men to hold these roles in townships across Victoria, it is interesting to note the number of women post-mistresses in Lancefield. It seems that both hotels and post offices were viable occupations for women. In 1884, Evelyn Rose acquired the status of the first 'official' post-mistress. She was the first of eleven women to hold this role – Harriet Barclay (1884-5), Rose Rudd (1885-6), Margaret Davies (1886-7), Bessie Robertson (1887-90) – when the present building was completed, she was handed the keys - Mary Dorrigh (1890-3), Caroline Maynard (1893-1907), Emily Bedell (1907-8),

Ellen Sullivan (1908-10), Agnes Williams (1910-3) and Kate Howell (1913-6). John Evans became the seventeenth post-master from 1916-9 and thereafter the names are not documented in the files.

From 1884 to 1887 the Post Office operated in leased premises (location unknown) and the present site on the corner of High and Raglan Streets was purchased in 1886. Tenders for building a Post Office and residence were invited in April 1887 and awarded to Henry Cuttance in May 1887; his fee was £1,114. A writer to the Romsey Examiner opined that: 'it certainly should be a good one for this sum'.

The Post Office remains a significant example of 1880s Public Works Department architecture, notably near its original form externally, and contrasts with the classical formalism used in the same era by the National Bank opposite. The Post Office contributes to the dominantly nineteenth century Lancefield commercial precinct.

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EVERYONE IS INVITED

On 13 November, at our 10am service, a number of people at Encourage Church are being water baptised (everyone is invited). We practice full immersion baptism, where the individual goes fully under the water. It is where adults and teenagers confess their faith in Jesus Christ in a public way.

It is a highly spiritual and quite an emotional day. I remember my baptism when I was thirteen, which ended with me crying on my mum's shoulder due to the significance and emotion of the day. I've seen people come up out of the water and start speaking in tongues or have visions. In this simple act of going under the water in front of your family and friends, God touches people.

One of the key aspects of water baptism is the identification with the death, burial, and resurrection of Jesus Christ (Romans 6:3-5). We are also saying that our old life is dead and has been buried with Jesus, and that we have been resurrected to a new life in Jesus. We live a new life, as if we had been born again (John 3:3).

New life through Jesus Christ is the best. The old life has gone, a new life has begun (2 Corinthians 5:17).

Romans 6:4 (Living)

Your old sin-loving nature was buried with him by baptism when he died; and when God the Father, with glorious power, brought him back to life again, you were given his wonderful new life to enjoy.



DEEP CREEK LANDCARE GROUP

Covering Lancefield – Romsey and Monegeeta Districts

BANK GRANT

The Deep Creek Landcare Group has been successful in gaining two grants from the Bendigo Bank's 2022 Community Investment Program.

Landcare is interested in exploring the potential of establishing a Native Botanic Garden in the Lancefield/Romsey area. The grant of \$4800 enables us to engage a consultant to search for suitable land of at least 3 hectares and within 5 km of Lancefield or Romsey.

A second grant of \$5905 will enable us to continue to provide Junior Landcare Environmental showbags. We source and purchase environmentally sustainable paper carry bags and fill them with literature, native flora/fauna colour-in books, coloured pencils, drink bottles and our showcase item which is a book that reflects the learning children have received during one of our volunteer presentations, demonstrations, talks or on-ground activities such as planting in our local project areas. The grant enabled us to purchase the showcase items, which for school age children is a locally sourced book called "The First Scientists – Deadly Inventions and Innovations from Australia's First People" written by Corey Tutt, and 'Backyard Buddies' for the kindergarten aged children.

Deep Group Landcare Group is very appreciative of our local Bendigo Bank's support and its ongoing support for community organizations.



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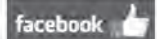
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SING WITH THE STARS

Join our massed choir to sing Beethoven's 9th Symphony with soloists Teddy Tahu Rhodes, Merlyn Quaife, Kristen Leich and Michael Petruccelli, accompanied by the Bendigo Symphony Orchestra led by Luke Severn. It's not too late to join. The event is part of a new choral festival called Symphonia Choralis to be held on the weekend of 11 and 12 December at the Ulumbarra Theatre, Bendigo. Teddy Tahu Rhodes is Australia's favourite leading man of the operatic, music theatre and concert stage, dazzling audiences with his extraordinary voice and presence. He is joined by the distinguished, versatile and fearless soprano Merlyn Quaife AM, emerging "pure, glowing" leading tenor, Michael Petruccelli and American mezzo soprano Kristen Leich, whose exquisite singing and stunning stage presence

have won her rave reviews. Kristen also resides in the Macedon Ranges. There is a fee to participate (includes all workshops, concerts, music, midi files and 6 weeks of practices with The Gisborne Singers). Concession/Student \$150, Full \$170. Book now on Trybooking <https://www.trybooking.com/CAGDQ>. For more details go to events@gisbornesingers.org.au or Facebook: @gisbornesingerssymphoniachoralis To book tickets go to Bendigo Venues & Events. Concession/Student \$45, Full \$55 Choir practice night is Wednesdays. For more information have a look at www.gisbornesingers.org.au or phone 0408 156 263.

Alison Kinghorn

SWAP MEET ON THE 6 NOVEMBER

Lancefield/Romsey Lions Club Swap Meet 6 November

Wonderful news - the Romsey Swap Meet is on again at the Romsey Recreation Reserve, Barry Street. Cost for site holders is \$20, general admission is \$5 and children under 15 are free. The gates open for site holders- at 6am and at 8am for the general public.

Unfortunately, due to renovations on the grounds, there will be no car show this year. For stall holders who wish to book, and all other enquiries call 0456797153.



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CURRENT MASS TIMES

SUNDAY MASS

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

First and third Sundays of the month in Romsey, second, fourth and fifth Sundays 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

Baptism's are held at 2:30pm on the second and fourth Sundays of the month.

Should a parishioner want to go to Reconciliation, please contact Fr. Martin directly at Woodend.

ROMSEY ECOTHERAPY PARK

AFTER 14 YEARS - IT'S TIME TO CELEBRATE

Get ready to celebrate at The Party in the Park on Saturday 19 November between 1pm and 5pm. Supported by Macedon Ranges Shire Council, this community celebration will mark the completion of the 14-year project and the delivery to our region of a unique health and wellbeing space for all ages and abilities.

In the beginning, there was no confirmed project site and only a vague concept, so fundraising was incredibly difficult. Soon, the community-based Romsey Ecotherapy Park Inc committee had a vision for the derelict former Romsey Primary School site that would eventually see it acquired by Macedon Ranges Shire Council for the project. It has since been transformed to include sensory gardens, active nature play, innovative art installations, water/sand play, and a performance space.

There will be food, music, storytelling and poetry, as well as some of the Art in the Park artists in attendance.

This party has been a long time coming so come and join the celebration.

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WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF HISTORICAL SOCIETIES? WILL THEY BECOME A RELIC?

Local historical societies exist in nearly every township across the State. The first historical society in Victoria was founded in 1909 as the Historical Society of Victoria. Concerned to capture the memories of 'old pioneers still living who have the whole history ... in their heads', its founders set out to collect, classify and publish information about Victoria's history. Pioneer historian Henry Giles Turner moved the founding motion; the Hon. Frank Madden, Speaker of the Victorian Legislative Assembly, was the first president, and one of the first vice-presidents was Alfred Deakin, soon to become Australian prime minister.

In 1920 the society incorporated the Royal Geographical Society of Victoria (established 1883), inheriting its collection of journals, records and maps, and gained the 'Royal' title in 1952 in commemoration of the centenary of Separation. It has been active in lobbying for an increased respect for history, with members campaigning in 1916 for the preservation and classification of materials held in Victorian Government departments, many years before the foundation of the Public Record Office in 1973; in 1960 it exacted a promise from the premier that no documents would be destroyed by any public department without prior submission to the State Library.

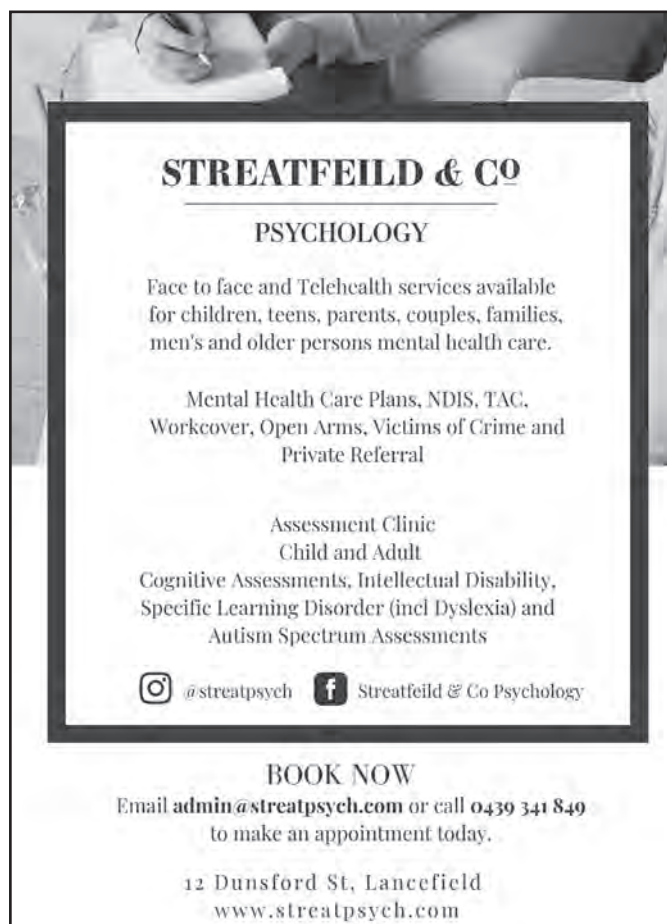
The RHSV is the State's premier historical society, and the peak body for local history across the State. Its library

houses a research collection of national significance, and the society runs a series of activities designed to bring history to the wider community. Publications include the Victorian Historical Journal (formerly Victorian Historical Magazine), which has been published continuously since 1911, a monthly newsletter, History News, brochures and monographs.

In the Macedon Ranges there are five local historical societies: they are the Gisborne & Macedon, Woodend, Malmsbury, Kyneton and Romsey Lancefield. Local history groups exist in Riddells Creek and Carlsruhe. Nearby, the Kilmore Historical Society and Broadford Historical Society are active, as are the Castlemaine, Chewton, Harcourt, Maldon, Tarradale and Bendigo Historical Societies. However, we have just learned from Dr Dannielle Orr, Heritage Planner at the Macedon Ranges Shire, that the Eaglehawk Heritage Society in Bendigo has announced they are closing their doors. They only have about five volunteers, all over 60, and they can't manage it anymore. As Dannielle says, 'It will be an issue for all of these groups in the next decade and something we should flag in the heritage strategy'. What will happen to all the material they have collected over decades? This is not known.

Will your historical society become history?

Fay Woodhouse





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CONTROL SERRATED TUSSOCK!

Now is the ideal time to check your property for the noxious weed serrated tussock (*Nassella trichotoma*). The recent rains and warm start to spring in some parts of Victoria has been good for pastures and crops, but unfortunately, also good for the growth of serrated tussock. Controlling serrated tussock before the plant goes to seed is critical to prevent further spread, lost productivity and increased control requirements.

“Before seeding, serrated tussock has a lime green appearance. When seeding the flowerheads have a distinctive purple colour developing as the seeds ripen in late spring and early summer. These features help serrated tussock stand out from the native tussock grasses,” Victorian Serrated Tussock Working Party Chairperson Lance Jennison said.

The VSTWP has developed an online video and information sheet to help landowners identify the unwanted grass, at <http://www.serratedtussock.com/how-identify-serrated-tussock>

“Serrated tussock has a fine leaf and will roll smoothly between the index finger and thumb, while native tussocks feel as though they have flat edges,” Mr Jennison said. “The leaves also feel rough when you run your fingers downwards due to fine serrations,” he said. “A mature serrated tussock plant can produce thousands of seeds in a season, blowing up to 20 kilometres from the parent plant.”



Before they flower and seed, serrated tussock plants can be controlled with a registered herbicide, manual removal or cultivation. “Having a healthy pasture and competitive ground cover is one of the most important aspects to weed management. Serrated tussock is a prime example of a weed that does not like competition and well-established pastures,” Mr Jennison said.

It’s estimated that serrated tussock now covers more than 250,000 hectares of land in Victoria. Treating plants prior to seeding is vital to prevent further spread across Victoria, and impacts on our agricultural and environmental assets. It is best to control serrated tussock before it gets out of control.

Large infestations require ongoing management and the integration of several control techniques, which can cost large sums of money and time.

The VSTWP recently commissioned case studies on the economic costs of not treating serrated tussock, which concluded that if serrated tussock is left to infest a property or landscape, the cost of controlling it will be at least five times higher than if it was prevented in the first instance”. This is a massive cost saving and an important message to deliver to landowners who have untreated plants on their property.

For further information, please visit www.serratedtussock.com, or contact the VSTWP on info@serratedtussock.com



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THERE'S A LOT HAPPENING

CHURCH SERVICE

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

WHATS ON

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 each month at the Lancefield Church Hall 12noon. All welcome.

Parish General Meeting 30 October in the Lancefield Hall
150th Celebration Service of St Paul's Romsey 30 November 9am and at Christ Church Lancefield 30 November 10.30am. Followed by morning tea at Lancefield Church Hall at 11.30. All past and present parishioners welcome to join the service and morning tea.

Annual Parish Meeting 30 October, Lancefield Church Hall 12noon

Community Lunch Sausage Sizzle is on Saturday 12 November and we will be joined by the local Fire Brigade for a fun lunch at 12noon. All welcome

150th Celebration Service of St Paul's Romsey 27 November 9 and at Christ Church Lancefield 27

November 10:30am. It will be followed by a light lunch at Lancefield Church Hall at 11:30. All past and present parishioners welcome to join the service.

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. 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 good, prams, baby cots, mattresses or furniture. Toys can now be donation and sold at the Op Shop.

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NEW OWNERS FOR THE PUB

After many months of speculation and anticipation, the Lancefield Hotel has reopened with new owners, big plans and a strong sense of community engagement.

The Lancefield Hotel is steeped in heritage and tradition that dates back to its opening in the 1870's: the new owners - Alex, Ash, Terry and Cathy plan to bring some of this back with some modern twists.

With an already popular restaurant and dining offering, the Hotel will see some new additions to its menu, combined with some of the traditional favourites to take customers on a new culinary journey in the near future.

"We have been blown away by the support from the community in our first days of being open and you can really feel a buzz around the hotel. We were lucky to purchase a pub that has such a great customer base and, being locals ourselves, it's been fantastic to hear all of the suggestions and feedback firsthand. We have inherited a

really strong team behind the bar, in the kitchen and on the floor and they have been incredible in our first week of operation," said Alex Gorman - owner and operator. "We have some really exciting projects in the pipeline. People will start to see some of these changes very quickly, with some of the bigger projects under way and hopefully well progressed in the coming months. With Ash's background in design and her long list of incredible transformation projects, we know the Lancefield Hotel will become one of the iconic landmarks in the Macedon Ranges".

Aside from the physical transformation of the hotel, the owners have expressed their desire to connect with the community as much as they can and support the many sporting teams, schools and various associations who play a big role in making Lancefield one of the most popular destinations in the Macedon Ranges.

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