

# Lancefield Mercury



L-R Ken Allender, Rob Mitchell MP, Roger Lavelle, Judy Stammers, Syd Green, Bill Balcam, Noreen Yorke

During the second half of 2022 the Lancefield Park Committee of Management were successful with a grant application under the Queen's Jubilee Tree Planting Program.

The program was a Federal Government funded program, with the process handled locally by the office of MP Rob Mitchell.

The plan accepted provides for Federal funding of \$10,000 plus a contribution of \$2500 from the Park Committee and includes two major elements.

- Replacement of damaged specimen trees in the main park area which will include cedars, pines and elms in the avenue, and replicate heritage varieties existing in the Park such as redwoods and ancient natives. The first plantings in the Park occurred about 140 years ago.

- The second element is revegetation of the High St

Reserve at the rear of the Lancefield Primary School. Native woodlands (approx. 350 trees and shrubs) will be established in the northern area and around the boundaries, which will provide shelter and windbreaks plus habitat for local birds and fauna. This aspect of the project has been developed in the conjunction with the Primary School, the Lancefield Kindergarten and Deep Creek Landcare.

These groups will assist with the planning, preparation and planting (Autumn 2023) of native species suited to the area. Members of the local community will be also invited to assist. Judy Stammers of the Lancefield Park Committee of Management has been a keen coordinator of the project and arranged the initial planting by local MP Rob Mitchell on December 6 2022.

The project will be completed by November 2023.

# LANCEFIELD HAIRDRESSER WINS BRIDAL HAIRSTYLIST AWARD

It was great to hear that Lancefield's newest hairdresser, Janelle Urritia, owner of Instyle Hair, won first prize for Bridal Hairstylist at the Australian Wedding Awards in Sydney on Wednesday 11 January 2023. The salon had to have a minimum of 20 brides vote for them; they won the rural award which then made them a finalist in the National Awards. It was the first time the salon had entered these awards – so well done!

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PARK NEWS

# WHATS HAPPENING?

## FLOOD DAMAGE

Much of the walking track was damaged quite severely by the flooding last year and more than half the softfall on the playground was washed away. The sand arena in the Horse precinct was damaged as well, with a lot of sand being washed away.

The Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning assessed the damage just prior to Christmas and we are currently awaiting their response.

## TREE DAMAGE

The trees in the Park were all assessed last year by a specialist arborist following the storm damage the year prior. Some trees were removed, and others were trimmed to make them safe and healthy. This work was carried out under the Government program. The Committee of Management was grateful for this program, as the cost for the works was way beyond our budget.

## JUBILEE TREE PLANTING

Mr Rob Mitchell MP officiated at the planting of 3 trees to commemorate the Queen's Jubilee. These 3 trees are ancient natives and begin a planting program replicating trees already in the Park and replacing trees lost through storm damage.

In the Recreation Reserve beside and north of the School, we will be planting tubestock of natives along the boundary and creating a woodland area.

Community involvement in these plantings will be advised closer to the date of planting.

## LANCEFIELD NEW KINDER

Negotiations with MRSC are well under way in relation to locating the new kinder on Crown land managed by the Committee of Management.

The proposed location is the Recreation Reserves land in

High St adjacent to the school and near the Men's Shed. We will keep you posted on developments with this project.

## MOWING

We have nearly caught up with mowing the whole Park. It has been very difficult to do this due to the ground being so wet. Several attempts were made, but this just caused deep ruts.

The water table was so high in parts that water was running through the grass making it impossible to mow.

The Park is mowed by volunteers, to whom we owe many thanks.

## PARK BOOKINGS

At the time of writing, a very successful Greek Charity Picnic had been held on Sunday 15 January with rides, music, dancing, races and raffles. Approximately 800 attended this event including a few locals who joined in the fun.

February will see the resumption of user-group activities - cricket, guides, parkrun, small bore, tennis, bowls, and football and netball training.

The Committee wishes all participants a great year and encourages everyone to have fun in the Park, including all the walkers.

Please remember that the Park is Crown Land and therefore all dogs must be on a leash.

## REAPPOINTMENT OF THE COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT

Committees of Management are appointed for a 3-year term by the Government.

Lancefield Park Recreation Reserves Inc will hold a meeting in February, details of which can be found in the Public Notices of the Kilmore Free Press.

At the time of submitting this article a date had not been confirmed.

Enquiries can be made to the Secretary, Judy Stammers on 0437 566 138.

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# DEPARTMENT INSULTS LOCAL HISTORY

I know locals who are angered by apparent moves by a State Government department or agency to dump a long-standing road name which honours an old family.

The track leading from the northern end of Mooneys Lane into the Cobaw State Forest north of Three Chain Road has been known for decades as Evans Track, but signposts mysteriously appeared at the start of January renaming it Mooneys Track.

Mooneys Lane is the public road running about 600 metres, and the renamed track is the continuation into the forest.

I can only presume that it's the work of the newly-named Department of Energy, Environment & Climate Action or its land management agencies, but I haven't yet been able to get to the bottom of it.

Stan and Blanche Evans took up Thoomee Park on Mooneys Lane in the 1950s. Stan died first and Blanche passed away somewhat later – more than 40 years ago, and Mooneys Lane landholder Graeme Walker said the access road outside his gate was always known as Evans Track.

There's still an old and battered sign half way up a peppermint gum – in clear view of the new post.

Graeme has owned the original Mooney family property for more than 30 years and has connections to the block going back almost 60 – and said the new name was an insult

to the Evans family.

He said there was no consultation by the Department or its agencies with the property holders along Mooneys Lane.

There's no reason or logic why Evans Track has been renamed. The forest maps of DEECA or its predecessor DELWP don't call it Mooneys Track.

Their maps nominate it as Nudist Camp Track, but that's a misnomer, as that track actually starts about 200 metres up the range, where it branches off from Evans Track. Evans Track runs all the way around to Croziers Track – but their maps even show that section is now nominated as Croziers Nudist Link Track.

It's bad enough that the agencies have mismanaged our Cobaw State Forest – and we all know the devastation and destruction caused by the 2015 controlled burn that went wrong.

Let's not let them mismanage our history by erasing the name of a well-known former family which has been honoured by Evans Track since last century. The pioneering Mooney family has been appropriately honoured by Mooneys Lane – don't let these agencies change the name of Evans Track when even their own maps don't recognize the new name they're trying to bestow on it.

Henry Bleeck

## LANCEFIELD MERCURY INC.

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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

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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.



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# LOCAL PARAMEDIC HEADING TO UKRAINE

Local Lancefield resident, Paramedic Jodie Rogers, will be travelling to Ukraine in May as a volunteer for not-for-profit charity SMART Medical Aid. Jodie says she is passionate about helping people facing difficult circumstances and has recently worked to provide medical aid to detainees kept on Nauru under Australia's mandatory detention policy. While she has worked overseas, she has not yet worked in a war zone which she thinks is 'a bit concerning'. She will be going to Lviv which is near the Polish border where she expects to be pretty safe.

Jodie holds great ambitions for her own fundraising efforts – hoping to raise \$100,000 to buy an ambulance. She has set up a Go Fund Me page which, at last estimate, had raised over \$3,000 – but she is hoping to raise much more. Visit [gofundme.co/f/ambos-for-ukraine](https://gofundme.com/f/ambos-for-ukraine) to donate to Jodie.

Fay Woodhouse

## ROMSEY LANCEFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS

# MONTHLY BUS TRIPS

Welcome back. We hope you all had a lovely Christmas and New Year and were able to catch up with family and friends. Our weekly sessions have started back in our club rooms at the rear of the Romsey Mechanics Institute.

We will be holding our monthly bus trips again this year. They will be held on the first Tuesday of each month. We will be travelling to a variety of interesting places, which we are still in the process of finalising. We have pickups on these days in Romsey and Lancefield. We hope to see you and your friends soon on one of the bus trips.

Look out for a list of the upcoming trips in next month's newsletter.

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

For further information please contact Helen on 0409 064 303.

Hope to see you soon.



Mon	6.00am - 5.30pm
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In 2021, 36,974 Victorians were diagnosed with cancer. That's an average of 1 new cancer diagnosis every 14 minutes. In 2021 in Victoria 32 people died from cancer every day.

But it is not all doom and gloom as the 5-year survival rate for Victorians diagnosed with cancer has increased 22% (to nearly 70%) over the past twenty years.

What do these statistics tell us? They tell us that there is a lot that needs to be done to prevent or limit the incidence of cancer, and to improve the outcomes of those who are diagnosed with cancer.

These are not just tasks for researchers and clinicians, they are goals that need to be supported by the wider community by fund raising, and by giving comfort and care to those who have cancer.

What these statistics do not measure is the loss and pain suffered by the families and friends of those who have cancer and those who have been lost to cancer.

Lancefield Relay For Life is a Macedon Ranges-based event run to support those who have cancer and to raise funds for the Cancer Council of Victoria (CCV).

The money raised is used by the CCV to fund research, the provision of a range of services to those affected by cancer, and to support its advocacy work. It was CCV which gave us the enormously successful 'Quit' and 'Slip Slop Slap' campaigns. CCV also runs a Cancer Support Hotline (131120) staffed by trained cancer nurses. The CCV website contains

an amazing amount of information about cancer and the work that CCV undertakes.

Nationally the state and territory Cancer Councils are the largest non-government funder of cancer research in the country, investing almost \$250 million in Australian cancer research over the past five years.

In March 2002 a marvellous group of local people, most of them women who had lost friends or family to cancer, formed a committee and rallied the local community to run and support the first Lancefield Relay For Life. In 2023 we will have our 20th Relay (COVID robbed us of one event). The Lancefield Relay For Life has raised about \$1,500,000 to date.

COVID greatly limited the ability of the CCV to run community-based fund-raising events such as the Relays, Daffodil Day and Australia's Biggest Morning Tea. We want to do what we can to support CCV in its vital work.

Lancefield Relay For Life has been fortunate in having had over the years dedicated participants, many of whom have been with us since the early days of the Relay. Having to cancel one Relay means we have lost some of our supporter base, and we now need to rebuild and reenergise the Relay.

You can help CCV and those who have cancer by becoming a part of the 2023 Lancefield Relay For Life on Saturday 4 March from 11am to 9pm. See [relayforlife.org.au](http://relayforlife.org.au) for more information and to become a participant.



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# COMMUNITY BANK CONNECTIONS

## THANKS JODIE

Jodie Dobbs, who has worked across both our Lancefield and Romsey branches over the last 7 years as a Customer Relationship Officer and Customer Relationship Manager, left us in December. We thank her for her contribution over the years and wish her all the best for her next endeavour.

We farewelled Amy Gauld from our Lancefield branch late last year as she left on maternity leave. We're pleased to say she welcomed an adorable little girl, Lotti, in December. Congratulations Amy.

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

In accordance with corporate regulations, Lancefield and Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd held its AGM at Lancefield Guest House on Monday November 7, 2022. Graeme Bruce was elected as a Director of the Company. Directors Beverley Beaumont and John Roach were re-elected to the Board. Stephen Thorogood retired from the Board and his role as Treasurer. The vacancy for a Board currently exists.

### COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM

Applications for sponsorship of local events will open March 1. To get a head start on your application, email [cip@lrcfsl.com.au](mailto:cip@lrcfsl.com.au).

com.au to get access to an application planning form, and to be kept up to date on future grants programs.

All applications need to be submitted through [communityenterprisefoundation.com.au](http://communityenterprisefoundation.com.au), once the program opens. Follow our Facebook page [facebook.com/communitybanklancefieldromsey](https://www.facebook.com/communitybanklancefieldromsey) or call into our branches for more information. Applications close 5pm Friday 31 March.

### RELAY FOR LIFE




Our Community Bank Carnival team is registered and ready to go for the Lancefield/Macedon Ranges 2023 Relay For Life on Saturday March 4 at Lancefield Park. We welcome our community to get behind this fantastic cause and join us on the day, and if you can, donate to help raise vital funds for Cancer Council's research, prevention, information and support services.

### DID YOU KNOW?



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# TEACHING AT LANCEFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL ONE FAMILY'S THRIVING YEARS: 1944-1950

The family history of James Lawrence (JLD) and Mary Veronica Doyle, as told by Mary Doyle, was published in January 2023. Chapter Ten of the book traces the family's moves: his three country postings were Wonga Park, Mount Egerton and Lancefield. The family moved to Lancefield when Mary was two years old when her father, James, became Lancefield Primary School's headmaster. The Doyles lived in Lancefield from 1944-1950 – years described by Mary as 'the thriving years'.

Mary writes that when they arrived here, they all joined the Gould League of Bird Lovers and they spent lots of time looking at magpies, kookaburras, robin red breasts and wrens – and they always kept chooks for eggs.

The family moved into the red brick headmaster's house beside the school, in 1944 and Mary writes that the family felt 'part of things'. One of her brothers went to the Primary School and another brother went to St Mary's – they were a Catholic family – and Mary moved to St Mary's when she was in Grade 2. Life was busy in Lancefield for the Doyle family

– JLD was active in running the scout group in the hall next door to the house, and her brother Lawrence became a keen member. JLD took his children on picnics, some 'at Mt William and he showed them old aboriginal flints and axes'.

It is interesting to note that in her family history, Mary writes that 'My parents felt Dad had problems juggling being both a Catholic and the local State School headmaster.' However, when the family left Lancefield, he received 'generous praise which the Anglican and Presbyterian ministers gave them at their farewell'. A large article, 'Valedictory: Mr and Mrs Doyle Honoured' was published in the Lancefield Mercury on 18 May 1950. Jim was also a member of the Catholic Rural Movement and Secretary of the Holy Name Society. Mary remembers that the Josephite nuns in Dunsford Street were 'pretty skint', they were not paid much of a stipend by the parish, so her father and Mr Connors used to take them veggies all the time.

The Doyles and the Connors were close friends: they had a property out in the bush as well as a nice house in the

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# SPRINGFIELD REVISITED

LATEST HISTORICAL SOCIETY PUBLICATION

In late 2021 Brenda Sorraghan's book, Discover Springfield, was published, launched at Red Door Books, and sold out very quickly. One year later, Brenda has updated her book with contributions from readers, including more information on the Laing family. The new book, Springfield Revisited, is on sale at Red Door Books.



Fay Woodhouse

town. Mary was best friends with Frances, the younger daughter. She writes that: 'Dad dubbed her Little Friend Frances after Milly Molly Mandy's mater Little Friend Susan.' She also adds that the boys played footie a lot 'and I was jealous of them'.

Included in this beautifully produced book are a few of the mementos from the 1940s kept by Mary's father. They include a notice from the Consultative Council on Poliomyelitis, issued during the serious outbreak of polio in the 1930s and 1940s and Lawrence Doyle's unused 1948 Clothing Ration Card. From Lancefield the family moved to Tullamarine, where they built a house on the family farm in 1950. Mary and her daughter Catherine visited Lancefield in September last year and visited the Historical Society who were able to find some photographs of the school and a class photograph during the period 1944-1950. The whole family look forward to visiting again soon.

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# LANCEFIELD'S FAMOUS FOOTBALLER: **ALEXANDER (IKE) JOHNSTON** (1881-1965)

Alexander Johnston, grazier, footballer and revered member of the Lancefield community, was born on 7 December 1881. He was the eighth of nine children born to Arthur and Elizabeth (née Seymour) Johnston. The Johnstons were a farming family in Lancefield with connections to another the well-known farming family, the Seymours of Romsey.

Arthur Johnston, the son of John and Ann (née Livingston) was born in 1836 in Edenreagh, County Tyrone, Ireland. He arrived in Australia in 1861 and initially worked as a farm hand before joining the Police force. After resigning from the Police, he began his own business in Lancefield as a storekeeper and then as a publican. Formerly the Commercial Hotel, on the site of the present Lancefield Guest House, Johnston was licensee of the Hotel from 1868-1887 when he sold to Cornelius Lehane. In 1891 the property burnt to the ground and Lehane perished in the fire. Arthur then purchased a farm on the Kilmore Road, adding to the acreage by purchasing some of the Dunsford Estate for cattle grazing.

Elizabeth Seymour, the third of ten children, was born in 1845, to Elizabeth and Sidney Seymour who had arrived in Melbourne in 1840. The family left Melbourne around 1847 when, we understand, Seymour found work in the Goulburn district. He returned to the Lancefield area working for landowners, Dr Thomas Baynton and William Dunsford until 1855 when the Seymour family moved to Five Mile Creek (before it became the township of Romsey). Their wedding certificate informs us that at the time of his marriage, Arthur Johnston was living in Bacchus Marsh. The marriage took place at the Seymour's Cottage in Palmer Street Romsey on 29 August 1867. Arthur was 29 and Elizabeth was 22 years of age.

Arthur and Elizabeth Johnston had nine children: Sidney John (1868-1945), Anne Elizabeth (1870-1886), Alice Ruth (1872-1922), William Arthur (1873-1916) George Edward (1875-1959), Frances Amelia (1877-1881), Charles Ernest (1879-1969), Alexander (1881-1965) and Mary Elizabeth (1887-1961). Elizabeth died in July 1899 age 54; she had been ill for some time. In 1900, Arthur and his brother-in-law John Derrick, travelled to Ireland together to see his old home. Arthur Johnston died in November 1919. Johnston's estate (real and personal property) was valued at £13,848. Arthur's sons Sidney and George were granted probate on 3 March 1920.

Alexander was educated at the Lancefield Primary School until he began working for his father on the farm. We do not know when he was first nicknamed 'Ike,' but what we do know is that in 1894, when he was 13 years and 8 months old, Alex Johnston was listed as Lancefield Football Club's 'second best player'. The following year he is listed in the football reports as the half back flank in the losing grand final to Woodend. There is no evidence of Ike playing in the 1899 premierships win, although he was elected to the Club's committee in 1901 and amongst the best players in games



against both Kyneton and Romsey. In the August game against Kyneton at the Park, the match report mentions 'A. Johnston, as usual, was irresistible'.

Ike's football career was placed on hold when he enlisted as a volunteer in the Australian forces deployed to South Africa to fight in what became known as the Boer War (1899-1902). In January 1902 when he was still 19 years old, Ike Johnston joined the 4th Australian Commonwealth Horse and arrived in Durban in March 1902. The war ended when the Boers' surrendered on 31 May 1902. Johnston sailed for Australia in July and arrived back in Lancefield in August 1902. Johnston was recognised with the Queen's South Africa Medal. Lancefield celebrated his return, and



the return of other volunteers from the area, soon after their arrival in September 1902.

Following his return from South Africa, Johnston resumed his football career and became a key element of the Lancefield premierships in their successful back-to-back wins in 1903 and 1904. Three years later in 1906, after a brief sojourn at North Melbourne in the VFA, Ike arrived at Princes Park to play for Carlton under the Blues' charismatic first coach, Jack Worrall. Johnston's first senior match took place at the Junction Oval against St Kilda in round two, 1906. He started in a back pocket alongside Doug Gillespie and Rod McGregor and the Blues hammered the Saints by 65 points. Five more games followed in succession, before either a dispute or family responsibilities brought Alex's time at Carlton to an abrupt end. He did return briefly to VFL football with Richmond in 1908 but played only twice

with the Lancefield Tigers before heading back to the bush for good. Carlton, meanwhile, went on to triple Premiership glory in 1906, 1907 and 1908. Ike played one game with Richmond in 1908. He played five more games before leaving the Carlton club and returning to Lancefield.

It remains unclear why Ike's VFL career did not continue; anecdotally, it seems to be based on 'farm and family' reasons. His loyalty to farm work is illustrated in meeting notes from an Association delegates meeting. After very protracted, fruitless debate over a result dispute emerging from a Lancefield-Romsey game, the delegates sought Ike's opinion on how to resolve the matter. He told the delegates that the meeting had been a waste of time and that he would rather be at home digging spuds!

In September 1909, Ike is photographed in the Gisborne Association representative team in front of the members

stand of the MCG, where he sits in the middle row holding the ball; it is assumed he was the captain of the team. Ike was premiership captain of the much-celebrated 1910 team that again defeated Romsey. His captaincy then extended to 1912 and the grand final loss to Darraweit Guim.

When Britain declared war against Germany in August 1914, Australia, as a dominion of the British Empire, was also automatically at war. Thousands of men rushed to volunteer; most of those accepted into the Australian Imperial Force in August 1914 were sent first to Egypt. Ike Johnston enlisted on 15 September 1914 with the rank of Private. He was 31 years of age and single.

The Australian War Memorial write that the 8th Light Horse which was formed at Broadmeadows camp on 23 September 1914 as the 6th Light Horse Regiment. A reorganisation of the rapidly expanding AIF in early October resulted in the 6th being renumbered the 8th, becoming part of the 3rd Light Horse Brigade. After four months training in Broadmeadows, Johnston's unit embarked from Melbourne on board the transport A16, Star of Victoria. It sailed from Melbourne on 24 February 1914 and arrived in Egypt on 14 March 1915.

After training near Cairo, the Australians departed by ship for the Gallipoli peninsula, along with troops from New Zealand, Britain, and France. On 25 April 1915 the Australians landed at what became known as Anzac Cove, where they established a tenuous foothold on the steep slopes above the beach. The 8th formed the first two waves for the Brigade's disastrous attack on the Nek on 7 August and suffered heavily. Exhausted and under-strength, the

regiment then played a defensive role until it finally left the peninsula on 20 December 1915.

Throughout his time on Gallipoli and in other theatres of war, Ike met up with his friends from Lancefield, especially his football friends. He wrote home to his family regularly, and many of these letters were reprinted in the Lancefield Mercury. On 3 September 1915, he writes: 'I have met all the Lancefield boys, and they are all quite well... Jack Bristow is a corporal and Roy Robinson a sergeant'.

The Anzac pursuit of the Turks culminated in the Allied capture of Jerusalem in December 1917, a defeat that the Turkish command never recovered from. Shortly after that triumph, Ike was sent to officer cadet school and graduated as a Second Lieutenant in December 1918, one month after the Armistice had been signed. In March 1919 as the 8th Australian Light Horse awaited their passage home, dissident Egyptians began a revolt against their government. In May 1919 Johnston was promoted to Corporal, and a month later, to Sergeant. Because of a shortage of officers, Johnston was immediately promoted to full Lieutenant, and the regiment was called back to operational duty. It took one month to quell the rioting and restore order, and as a result they did not embark for Australia until 3 July 1919. He returned to Lancefield from the Middle East in late 1919.

Ike's father Arthur died on 28 November 1919 while Ike was on his return journey to Australia. The funeral for Arthur Johnston was held on Sunday 30 November. The Lancefield Mercury reported on the funeral on 5 December 1919. A large article provided exact detail of the 'very largely attended' funeral. It also noted that the burial service was 'recited by

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Ike, 1901. Boer war



the Rev. J Francis who, as Worshipful Master of the Masonic Lodge, of which Mr Johnston was a member, also took part in a special service by members of that order'. The full list of coffin-bearers, pall-bearers, the name of those contributing wreaths and other businesses associates of Arthur were all listed.

Six months after his return to Lancefield and resuming his life as a grazier, Alex Johnston married May Agatha Trindles on 23 June 1920. Although both were residing in Lancefield, they were married at St Luke's, Church of England in North Fitzroy. Ike was 38 and May 35 years of age. May was the

daughter of John and Elizabeth Trindles, storekeepers and later publicans also had a strong presence in Lancefield. The Farmers Arms in Dunsford Street, built by Andrew Madigan in 1862. Madigan transferred the licence to William Boyd in 1892 and he sold it to Elizabeth Trindles in 1894. When she died in 1900, the licence passed to John Trindles, and he was responsible for the reconstruction of the current hotel and the incorporation of the pressed metal ceilings. In 1928 John Trindles was involved in the Hibernian Catholic Benefit Society, indicating that the family were Catholic and perhaps the reason Ike and May were married in North Fitzroy. Alex and May remained childless.

When England declared war on Germany in 1939, once again Australia went to war and once again Ike Johnston answered the call for volunteers. Although 58 years and past the maximum age for active duty, he was accepted into the Volunteer Defence Corps. The VDC was Australia's Home Guard, set up to defend the country against foreign incursion or invasion.

Ike and May lived in Lancefield until 1947 when they moved to Heidelberg where Ike died on 19 March 1965 at the age of 83. May died in 1974. They are both buried in Lancefield Cemetery. Ike Johnston remains a football legend in Lancefield. When he died, Ike had lived a long, varied and action-packed life. A longer, more detailed biography of Ike Johnston's life and his football career is one of the features of the forthcoming history of the Lancefield Football Club to be published this year to celebrate the Club's 150-year history.

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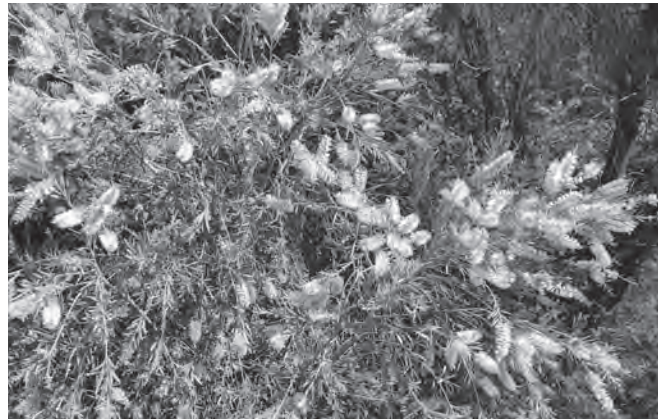
# A QUIET TIME

Mid-summer...a quiet time for our Landcare group, but there is plenty to do and to contemplate for landowners. A wet 2022 has encouraged weed growth in many unwanted areas, and shown us where water flows and where it pools.

One such place where weeds have flourished is the gravel paths up near the house and down in the vege patch. We decided to renovate the paths. The first step was to rip up all of the weed mat from underneath the gravel. Why did we put it down? It was a mistake, it didn't work, and in fact it made it more difficult to weed as the roots pierced their way through it, making it hard to pull them out. (I should note here that we don't use herbicides). Another issue is where will the weed mat end up? Either in landfill like ours, or it will slowly disintegrate in the soil. The next step was to get out the weeds and re-spread the gravel. On top of the gravel around the vege garden I have applied a thick layer of freely available mulch, it looks good and suppresses the weeds, completely, I hope! The other paths also look good; the task now is to keep them weed free.

Flower gardens generally thrive up here over summer. It is a time to enjoy the garden, keep the plants alive and looking good. A bit of water and plenty of mulch will do the trick, and for most established native plants the mulch will be sufficient. It is also time to plan for autumn, as autumn is a good time to plant trees and shrubs. Three wet years in a row has certainly let us identify the wet areas on our properties and the opportunity to plant suitable species. There are many that will look good and assist biodiversity by attracting insects and birds. These include: tea tree, melaleuca, bottle brush, wattles such as prickly moses, blackwood and wirilda, and eucalypts such as swamp gum, red gum and manna gums. Tall sedge, thatch saw-hedge, hollow and joint leaf rush as well as the common spiny-headed mat-rush (*Lomandra longifolia*) will all thrive in damp areas and provide cover for birds and frogs and food for butterflies and birds.

February is an important month in the vege patch. It is a time when I am thankful of leaving some onions,



carrots and coriander to go to seed and attract countless butterflies, native bees and other pollinators. I am also glad that I invested in some straw to suppress weeds and maintain moisture in the patch. It is now time to sow seeds for broccoli, sprouting broccoli, kale, cabbage, kohlrabi, cauliflower, brussell spouts and brukali. In cold areas it is important that these plants are established before winter sets in. We can also continue to plant parsnips, carrots, lettuce and beetroot. In March we can give spinach, pak choi and snow peas a go. Unfortunately, last year my autumn crop of snow peas was wrecked by frost but the slow start to summer was terrific for the spring crop. Another crop to benefit was the broad beans as we picked them right through until Christmas. April is the best time to plant them with the first of the beans to be ready to pick in spring. If you are fan, do as my parents do, freeze a years' supply!

The Landcare Anniversary Garden in Lancefield Park has been blooming throughout spring and summer. The wattles, tea tree and bottle brush have been stunning. A bit of weeding and a bit more mulch will keep our native patch looking good throughout the year and continue to attract a variety of feathered friends.


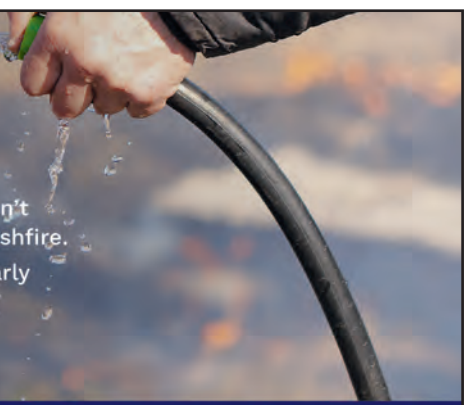
The flood damage at some of our sites will necessitate a

*Continued on page 18 ►*

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**DEEP CREEK LANDCARE GROUP**



clean-up and some autumn planting. We also have a project in Romsey and another in Lancefield to complete in autumn. If you are keen to help, we would love to hear from you.

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

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A huge Christmas in Romsey festival saw record numbers of community members and visitors enjoy its many elements - the Main Street Christmas Tree Installation (90 trees fabulously decorated by businesses and community groups), Main Street Building Illumination Nights (who could forget Forbes' Garage's transformation into a gingerbread house with resident Grinch?), the Lights and Decorations Competition (Old Mates dominating the business category again) and the return of the Community Carols with a record crowd in attendance.

### PRE-CHRISTMAS AFTER WORK BUSINESS CATCH UP

The final After Work Business Catch Up for 2022 was held at Verdure Café with a great turn out and wonderful hospitality provided by the Café. These casual get-togethers for eastern corridor businesses were recommenced in 2022 after a COVID forced break. Follow RRBATA Facebook (Romsey Lancefield Region Business and Living) for the scheduling of the next gathering.

### RRBATA DINNER EVENT IS COMING SOON

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to be a Location Manager for big television and film productions? Book your ticket now for the RRBATA Dinner (Friday 24 February at Glen Erin Lancefield) to hear JC Strouts tell his story. JC began a successful career working as a Location Manager in film and television in Vancouver. He has worked on hundreds of TV commercials as well as countless big-name films including "The Sixth Day", "Santa Clause 2" and "I Robot". More recently he was involved in "La Brea" filmed in the Macedon Ranges. Book your tickets through TRY Booking.

### RRBATA - THE WAY AHEAD

RRBATA's Committee of Management will review its focus and strategy as 2023 progresses, ahead of leadership transition later this year. Its priority, generally, will be to even more effectively advocate for businesses and the visitor economy in the eastern corridor, whilst continuing to consolidate business and community connection.

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# THE LOST WATERING HOLE HAS BEEN FOUND

Lancefield's newest business, the Lost Watering Hole, opened on Monday 14 December 2022. As the story goes, the Lancefield Brewery was born from a tiny idea that two mates from Lancefield had one day whilst having a beer 'Let's open a brewery!'. The good idea has paid off: Lost Watering Hole, The Lancefield Brewery is already popular with locals and visitors alike.

Apparently, it all began in 1888, when Henry Lindsay bought the former flour mill in Lancefield North and converted it into a brewery. We learn from the website that Lindsay trademarked the name 'The Trent Brewery' and began producing both alcoholic and non-alcoholic beverages. In the years that followed, the brewery changed hands many times, continuing to trade until early 1898, when it seems both the building and equipment were put up for auction, although it did not find a buyer. Sadly, a mysterious fire gutted the building the night after the auction, signalling its closure. It's been a long time between drinks!

When you enter the impressive modern building you pass the brewing tanks – naturally the beer is made on the premises. Tasting notes for the beers inform us that all Lost Watering Hole beers are 100% naturally brewed without additives. The owners and brewers present four beers, and the tasting notes are descriptive: the Flightless Draught 'refreshing, crisp, clean'; the Wide Wombi IPA is 'hoppy, balanced, caramel'; the Swamp Rat Dark Lager 'chocolate, clean, crisp' and the Big Roo Pale Ale is described as 'citric,



smooth, crisp'. They are served in small and large glasses and the tasting notes provide food, cheese and dessert pairings.

The food menu is divided into Small Plates, Brewhouse Favourites, Boards to Share, Large Plates (including two vegan choices), Premium Beef and a menu for Kids. The Tasting Platter and Cheese Platter offer tasty bits, while the Small Plates offer an arancini – and main meals include pizza as well as a Spanish Paella and Sesame Calamari which I've heard were good. Coffee and cake are also available. The prices are competitive and together with the Lancefield Hotel next door, the town now offers a very wide range of food choices. Once the settling in period resolves timing/service issues, the Lost Watering Hole will be the place to be.

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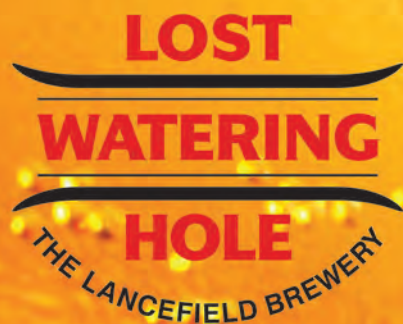
SCAN FOR DETAILS

At Lost Watering Hole, The Lancefield Brewery, we're fast becoming famous for the organic, flavoursome beers we brew on site. All 100% naturally brewed without nasty additives, our crafted beers are made using the world-renowned German brewing method.

We offer four core beers - Big Roo our Pale Ale, Flightless our Draught, Wide Wombi our India Pale Ale and Swamp Rat our Dark Lager. All with their own uniquely distinct taste and flavour. We also offer a special Beer of the Month.

It's not only beer we offer either... our quality wines and ciders, all carefully selected from local producers and range of spirits will please any palate.

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# GARLIC FESTIVAL - A FOODIE'S DELIGHT!

On Saturday 17 December 2022, friends and I decided to check out the Garlic Festival in Romsey – and what a delight it was. For the last four years, the founders of the Force of Nature Food Co., Jo Corrigan and Matthew Donnally, have been leasing a few acres of land in Ochiltrees Road, Romsey, formerly owned by the late Gordon and Judy Cope-Williams. The beautiful rich, red soil has proved to be a great asset to the couple in their farming venture.

Jo and Matt, formerly owner chefs of the Fitzroy restaurant, The Commoner, moved to Romsey more than five years ago and were lucky enough to find this plot of land to grow their produce. Keen gardeners, often using Diggers heirloom seeds, they found that the community of Romsey embraced their ideas of creating a farm, and now a shop, to sell their fruit and vegetables.

The Garlic Festival certainly showcased their produce. We joined a tour of the farm, and Matt showed us how they began with only a couple of plots and then increased their plantings. They now grow tomatoes, zucchini (and especially zucchini flowers for the Melbourne restaurant market), lettuce, squash, tromboncino and strawberries. Matt, a keen mushroom forager, also sells mushrooms. The photographs of mushrooms Matt has foraged in Romsey are on their Instagram page.

But the garlic! They grow three types of garlic – purple, white and Italian Red. As well as the garden tour, Matt ran a garlic braiding workshop. They also sell large volumes of this garlic to local and Melbourne retailers. In addition, they produce the fermented black garlic, apparently a light and delicate gourmet food.

My friends and I were pleased that we could easily purchase either a beautiful braid of garlic or unbraided bunches of ten heads of garlic, as well as a range of vegetable

and herb seedlings. Their shop was enticing; we were especially interested in the Elderflower cordial – mixed with ice and sparkling water, it is the perfect refreshing drinks for a hot day. I was very impressed with the saffron-infused mayonnaise – it is a fabulous colour and beautifully bottled. In addition to the Force of Nature produce, Cope-Williams wines are available for tasting and sale.

One of the aspects of the business Matt and Jo are keen to expand is their presentation of delicious food, cooked on site. On the day of the Garlic Festival, the aromas of roasted shoulder of lamb, the featured dish of the day, were quite irresistible. They look forward to serving beautifully crafted sandwiches as well as savoury pastry dishes in the future. I understand that in April they will be holding a Pumpkin festival and I look forward to attending. While as yet they don't have a website, you can see some of their products on Instagram (@mrs mushroomsan) or phone Jo on 0408 139 352. The shop is open on Saturdays from 8am to 2pm.

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# WHERE DOES IT END UP?



Macedon Ranges Shire Council has been working hard to raise awareness around recycling and resource recovery and find out what information residents need to make this work for them.

In 2022, Council conducted a shire-wide community survey to better understand household behaviour, attitudes and knowledge toward recycling and waste.

Council also undertook a blitz audit of bins across the shire, focusing on the recycling (yellow lid), glass-only (purple lid) and FOGO (food organics garden organics (green lid) bins.

The audit identified the contamination rate in Lancefield household bins is 33.55 per cent. This result indicates that some people put the wrong item in the wrong bin.

The top two contaminating items across recycling and FOGO bins were soft plastics and bagged recycling or waste. Glass was found in 2 per cent of recycling bins. If the contamination rate of the resource recovery stream is too high, the contaminated batch is not reused; instead, it is sent to a landfill, undermining the good work people do to separate their waste.

Survey results show that 42 per cent of residents do not know how the household materials collected were processed

and where they ended up.

All four waste streams are collected on bin day by Council's contractor:

- 'FOGO' is processed into high-quality compost to enrich the soil in parks, farms and gardens across Victoria.
- 'Glass-only' is processed for use in road base and construction materials.
- 'Recycling' is processed and sent to recyclers across the country and recycled into new products.
- 'General waste' is transported to the Ravenhall Landfill Facility.

We know residents want to recycle as much as possible. The information obtained from the audit and survey will help inform the upcoming relaunch of Council's education campaign 'Let's get sorted'. Our local 'Let's get sorted' campaign aligns with the Victorian State-wide 'Small acts, big impact' campaign.

For information about Council's bins, the 'Let's Get It Sorted Guide' and collection days, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/bins](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/bins) or call 5422 0333.

If you are unsure where an item should go, you can also download the free MRSC A-Z guide from your app store.

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# BACK ON THE BEAT

After being away for an extended period of time last year I would like to thank Senior Constable Steve Davies from Kyneton Police Station for keeping the chair warm. I have had very good feedback about Steve and, if he chooses to, he would fit well into the life at a One Member Station.

## TRAILERS

One of the most handy and essential items to own when you live in the country is the humble trailer. We use them to collect wood, take rubbish to the transfer station, move to a new house, the list is endless. I have noticed a few unregistered trailers around the area, one recently had been unregistered for 8 years, so if you know your trailer is a registered one and you are not sure if the registration is current then hop onto the Vicroads website and check. There are three conditions for a trailer to be exempt from registration. They are: the trailer cannot weigh anymore than 200kgs empty, cannot be wider than the car towing it and cannot be more than 3 metres in length from the tow ball to the end of the trailer. If your trailer does not meet all of these then it will need to be registered.

## DOGS AND SHEEP

I was sitting in the station recently with a local sheep farmer discussing the cost of loss of livestock through dog attacks. If a farmer loses a sheep it is not only the cost of the sheep that the farmer loses but the ongoing revenue earned from them, ie wool and lambs.

With the influx of people moving to Lancefield and surrounds from Melbourne for a tree change I will remind everyone, and educate those who don't know.

## UNDER SECTION 30 OF THE DOMESTIC ANIMALS ACT 1994.

The owner of any animals or birds kept for farming purposes, any person authorised by the owner or an authorised officer may destroy any dog or cat found at large— (a) in the

place where the animals or birds are confined; or (b) if the animals or birds are tethered, in the vicinity of the animals or birds. (2) The owner, a person authorised by the owner or authorised officer does not incur any civil or criminal liability for acting under subsection (1).

In a nutshell, if your dog is caught in the process of attacking or worrying stock on a farm it can, and likely will, be shot. It is up to the farmer to protect his stock, not to protect your dog. Your dog is your responsibility!

## CARS AND BICYCLES

Just a reminder to all that on the 26 April 2021 the laws changed about how much room a driver should allow when overtaking a cyclist. If in a 60 kph zone a driver must leave a space of at least 1 metre between their vehicle and the rider. In any other speed zone above 60 kph the driver must allow at least 1.5 metres.

## FIREARM STORAGE

In 2022 the laws changed around the storage requirements for firearms. Gone are the days of using an old clothing locker or wooden cupboard. The law now specifies that the storage must now be purpose built, made of steel no thinner than 1.6mm. I urge anyone who has not updated their storage to comply with the Firearms Act to do so. Purpose built gun safes can be purchased from all firearms stores, Bunnings and some rural hardware stores. Victoria Police are running Operation ATHENA which generates random storage inspection files. So you never know when you may get a knock on the door to inspect your firearms storage.

If you have any information regarding any matters, please contact me at the Police Station on 54292000, Police Advice Line 131444 or leave the anonymous information with crime stoppers on 1800 333 000.

Thanks, and stay safe.

Chris Botwood  
Lancefield Police Station.



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# HAVING FUN, MAKING NEW FRIENDS, AND CATCHING-UP WITH OLD ONES!

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.

Our monthly meeting (fourth Thursday of the month) is a chance to share a pleasant, delicious, morning tea, and hear interesting speakers on a wide variety of topics.

The first meeting of the Romsey/Lancefield Probus Club for 2023 will be on Thursday 23 February at 10am in St. Mary's Catholic Church Hall, Main Street, Romsey. There are many activities members can enjoy, some being regular, and others planned from time to time. Join us for coffee at the Lancefield Corner Store at 10am every Friday for a chat and a bit of fun.

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

President: Tony 0410 747 616

Secretary: Noreen 0401 579 180

Visit [www.rlprobus.org.au](http://www.rlprobus.org.au) for more information.

## INTRODUCING COOL-ER CHANGES

Join Council in the launch of Cool-ER Changes: a project that will create a collaboratively-designed Council and community Climate Emergency Response Plan.

From renewables to regenerative agriculture, future-proofing community sport to the liveability of our homes, this plan will cover all things climate change, and needs your input.

The launch will be held from 7-8:30pm on Thursday 2 March at Kyneton Town Hall. Celebrate grassroots climate action and learn how you can get involved in the creation of the plan.

Following the launch, there will be six workshops including:

- Nurturing Nature – Thursday 16 March
- Climate Ready Communities – Thursday 30 March
- Post-Fossil Fuels – Thursday 20 April
- Health & Wellbeing – Thursday 4 May
- Waste and Circular Economy – Thursday 18 May
- Adaption and Emergency Response – Thursday 1 June

Visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/Cool-ER-Changes](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/Cool-ER-Changes) for more information.

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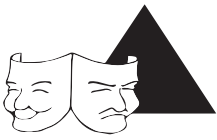
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email: [deepcreeklandcare@gmail.com](mailto:deepcreeklandcare@gmail.com)

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THE MOUNT PLAYERS HAPPENINGS

# A RIOTOUS, FAST-PACED COMEDY CLASSIC

2023 Kicks off for The Mount Players with a Riotous, Fast-Paced Comedy Classic

Based on the 1935 Hitchcock thriller, "The 39 Steps" has been adapted as a BBC Radio Play with 6 talented actors playing over 25 characters. Director John Rowland, who brought us "Too Many Crooks" in 2021, promises to take you, as the live audience in a BBC radio studio, on a thrilling, riotous and hilarious journey. The play contains every legendary scene from the award-winning movie including the chase on the Flying Scotsman, the escape on the Forth Bridge, the bi-plane crash and the sensational death-defying finale in the London Palladium.

The play runs from Friday 24 Feb – Sunday 12 March.

Fifty percent of the takings of takings from our Thursday night performance will be donated to Gisborne Foodbank. We will also be accepting cash and food donations in the foyer at each performance so please consider this when attending.

A play reading/information night for our second



production "Buried Child" by Sam Shepard and directed by Robert Wallace will be held at the theatre on Friday 3 February, with auditions running over the weekend of 11/12 February.

For full details on the plays and to book tickets go to [www.themountplayers.com](http://www.themountplayers.com) or call 5426 1892 for assistance.

See you at the theatre.

By Karen Hunt



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## FROM THE DESK OF PASTOR TIM

Encourage Church. Pastor Tim Emonson, Worship Service Sunday 10am, 7 Mitchell Court Romsey.  
Ph 5429 6327 E: office@encouragechurch.com.au W: encouragechurch.com.au

# HOPE

I find it interesting how the meaning of words can change over time. One word that has changed is 'hope'. We say "I hope the weather is good tomorrow", but we may have no confidence that this will actually occur. Our hopes are now wishes.

In a dictionary the word 'hope' often has an archaic (old) meaning such as 'trust, reliance'. That is, rather than a 'wish' for something, it is a confident expectation of it happening.

It is this hope, this confident expectation, that the bible mentions. God is the God of hope, not wishes. For everything that was written in the past was written to teach us, so that through the endurance taught in the Scriptures and the encouragement they provide we might have hope (Romans 15:4).

As a Christian I have hope – hope in the eternal, loving

God and that there is something beyond the world that I live in. I look at atheists, and I hear that we are born, we die, and it is survival of the fittest inbetween. Where is the hope in that? As a Christian, you bring hope.

As a great For King and Country song says, "hope is what we crave". Who do you place your hope in? Maybe you are finding no hope in your life. We do crave it and God is the only source of true hope.

Romans 15:13 (NKJV) Now may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

For more on hope, check out our Christmas Day service on YouTube (search for Encourage Church Romsey) or visit us at church on a Sunday morning.

## GREATER WESTERN WATER

# BE PREPARED FOR FIRE SEASON

With the fire danger period now declared across the Macedon Ranges, Greater Western Water (GWW) is encouraging customers to be prepared with alternative water sources in the event supply is impacted by fire.

In a bushfire, customers may experience low water pressure, loss of supply or reduced quality of water. This could be due to several factors including heat and fire damage to equipment, or extreme demand for water from firefighters.

Jodie Hallam, General Manager, Operations and Delivery Solutions, said while GWW is prepared for the fire season, water supply cannot be guaranteed during a bushfire. As a precaution alternative supplies of water should be on hand.

"The Fire Ready Kit available at the CFA website provides helpful advice on how to prepare for bushfires, including setting up alternative water supplies independent from the mains," she said.

If the water supply is affected, GWW will alert customers via text messages, web updates and social media.

"We urge all customers to check their personal details are up to date to make sure they receive all safety messages."

To update your details please call 13 44 99 or text 0480 015 200.

Visit [gww.com.au/bushfires](http://gww.com.au/bushfires) for more information.

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HALL HAPPENINGS

# WHO STARTED THE MECHANICS' INSTITUTE?

The Mechanics' Institutes movement began in Scotland in the 1800s as a model for free education for workers and were established throughout British colonies. In Victoria the Melbourne Mechanics' Institute was established in 1839 and from the 1850s the movement spread quickly to many Victorian towns where a library or hall was needed. The Committee to establish the Lancefield Mechanics' Institute was formed in 1868 and the hall continues today to play a vital and vibrant role in community life.

## WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

The final months of 2022 saw a range of events including several weddings, an engagement party, funeral wakes, Bendigo Bank's Community Investment night,

The Savoy Opera company performance of Pirates of Penzance, the Woodend Rock'n'Roll group dance and the Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society's Historyfest.

Regular user groups include Line Dancing, Pilates, Old Time Dancing, Patchwork/Quilters, Landcare, Feed-It-Forward Community Lunches, and CWA, to name a few. If you are interested in any of these groups, contact them directly or through our Booking Officer (0437 313 564).

## WHAT'S COMING UP

Our regular user groups restart mid-to late-January and bookings are coming in for 2023, which looks like being a busy year.

Some up and coming early dates to mark in your calendar include

the Anglican Church hosting the Welsh Men's Choir on Saturday 4 March, the Lancefield Football Club's 150th Year Celebrations on Saturday 1 April, and GAB Theatre 3-night season on 14, 15 and 16 April.

## YOUR CURRENT COMMITTEE OF MANAGEMENT (COM) MEMBERS:

Sandra Clark (Treasurer), Angelique Mott (Secretary), Bronwyn Wilson, Stephan Kosa and John Sevenson (President and Booking Officer).

This volunteer committee manage, operate, maintain and develop this Crown Land reserve on behalf of DELWP/State Government for our community.

We are seeking Expressions of Interest for more volunteers to join our Committee of Management.

Please email John Sevenson, President at lancefieldhall@gmail.com

## BOOKINGS:

For enquiries regarding bookings of the whole or part of the hall complex – for special events and celebrations, meetings/activities, social events, club events, birthday parties, local fundraisers, keep fit and connected and many

## OTHER ACTIVITIES....

Contact: Booking Officer  
lancefieldhall@gmail.com  
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# ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTHY LANDSCAPES EVENTS

## RABBIT CONTROL WORKSHOPS

Are you having problems with rabbits on your property? You are not alone. In this field activity, we will listen to a rabbit control expert where we explore potential control techniques.

- Bunnies in my backyard, Sunday 5 February, 9:30am-11:30am, Magnet Hill, New Gisborne
- Bunnies on the farm, Sunday 12 February, 9:30am-11:30am, Lancefield Closed Landfill (Approx. 500 metres along Baynton Rd, heading north from Three Chain Road).

## GRAZING AND FARMING DISCUSSION GROUP

Friday 24 February, 6:30-8:30pm, Romsey

Jason McAinch, our Private Land Conservation Officer, will discuss how the Romsey property owner manages grazing in the context of operating a trading cattle operation. You will learn from each other and discuss the current situations on your own property.

# KYNETON TOWN HALL EVENTS

## INVENTI ENSEMBLE PRESENTS THE ENCHANTED FOREST

5pm, Saturday 18 February, Kyneton Town Hall

Winners of the Melbourne Recital Centre's Contemporary Masters Award and one of the most prolific chamber ensembles in Australia, Inveni will perform The Enchanted Forest, featuring a new arrangement of Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony and Debussy's Prelude to the Afternoon of a Faun, along with a world premiere performance of a new Australian work by Melody Eötvös.

## NURSE GEORGIE CARROLL: SISTA FLO 2.0

8pm, Saturday 25 February, Kyneton Town Hall

Nurse Georgie is just what the doctor ordered! Winner of 'Best Comedy Show' at this year's Adelaide Fringe Festival and following a sell-out season at the Melbourne Comedy Festival, don't miss Nurse Georgie Carroll as she performs for one night only at Kyneton Town Hall.

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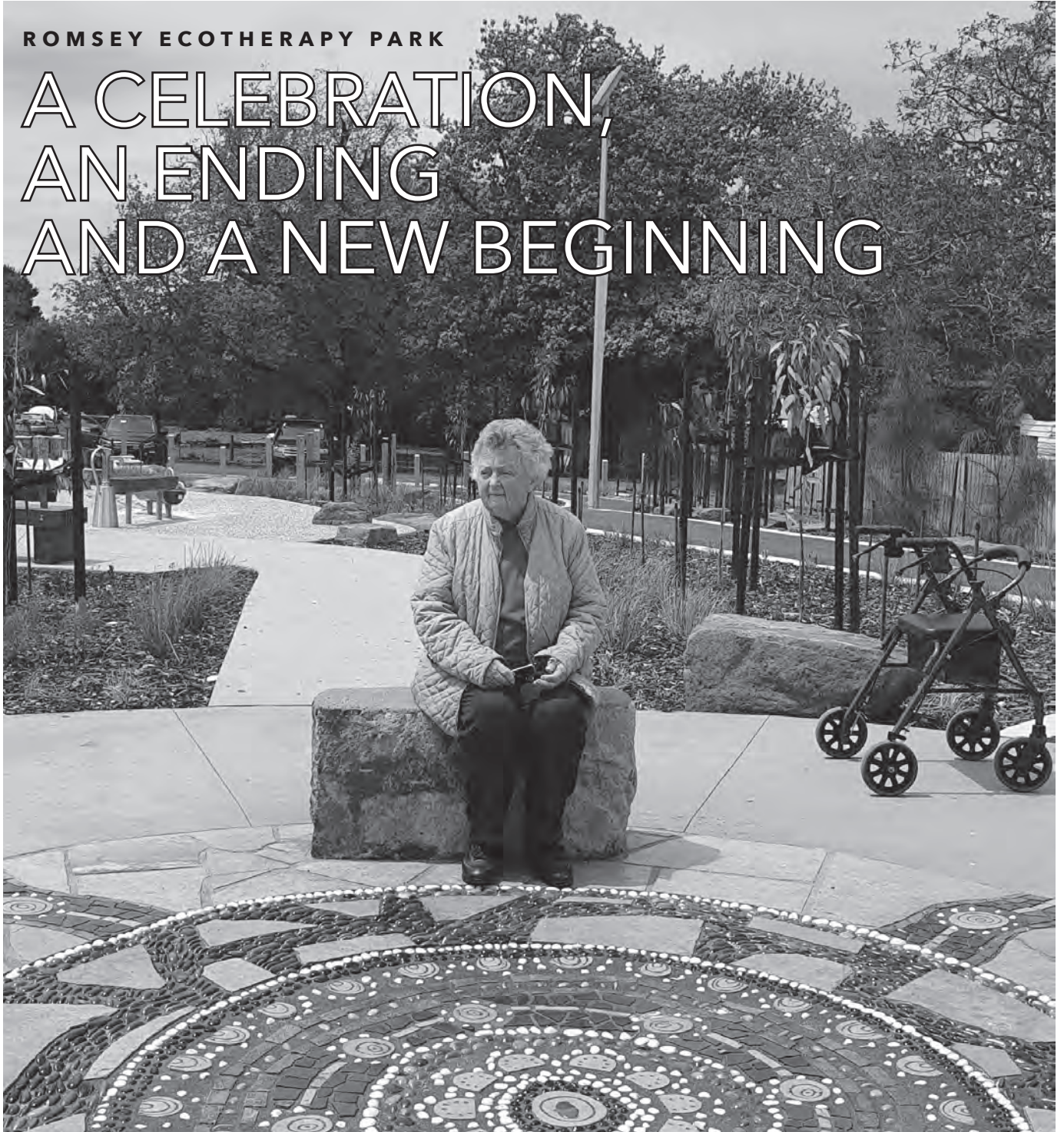
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ROMSEY ECOTHERAPY PARK

# A CELEBRATION, AN ENDING AND A NEW BEGINNING



After terrible weather resulted in the cancellation of November's Party in the Park, this celebration has been rescheduled for Sunday 12 February between 1pm and 5pm. Supported by Macedon Ranges Shire Council, this community celebration will mark the completion - after more than 14 years - of a unique health and wellbeing space for all ages and abilities. The park has already been embraced by local community and visitors to our region.

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!

The completion of the Park project means it is nearly time for the end of Romsey Ecotherapy Park Inc, the incorporated

association of community members which has lobbied for, and facilitated, this project from the beginning (so many years ago) to its completion. A Special General Meeting will be held on Monday 20 March (7.30pm at Romsey Community Hub) to seek approval to cancel its incorporated status.

In the meantime, REP Inc is seeking interest from community members to begin a less formal "Friends of Romsey Ecotherapy Park". This would be the community-based advocacy group for the Park and "connector" to Council regarding the Park's maintenance and how it is activated moving forward. Those interested in being involved should contact Jenny 0411 700464.



# ACTIVITIES ARE RETURNING

## CHURCH SERVICES

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

## PRAY MEETINGS & BIBLE STUDY RETURNS FEBRUARY

Prayer Meeting is at St Pauls Romsey each Monday 7pm.  
Bible Study is at Christ Church Lancefield Thursday 10:30am.

We would like to wish everybody a Happy New Year and a healthy and safe year ahead.

## MONTHLY PARISH COMMUNITY LUNCH

Saturday 11 February there will be a picnic/BBQ lunch at the Christ Church Lancefield Hall at noon. The lunch is free and all are very welcome to attend.

## ST PAUL'S ROMSEY OP SHOP IS NOW OPEN FOR THE NEW YEAR

During the December break the Op Shop has undergone some maintenance work and is open for normal hours of Friday 12:30-4:30 and Saturday 10-1pm.

The Op Shop is refreshed and ready with lots of new items for your perusal. Your valued donations of clothing, bric-a-brac, craft items, books and good quality working toys can be left on Friday afternoons and Saturday mornings - these items are very much appreciated.

Unfortunately some donations were left over the Christmas break while we were closed, and these items were left out under the elements and as a result had to be sent to the tip.

Please note that owing to regulations we cannot accept electrical goods, prams, baby cots, furniture or mattresses. Your ongoing support and donations are much valued and appreciated.

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# DIABETES EDUCATION

A new diabetes education service has started in the Macedon Ranges. Run by Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health, the service is for adults who have pre-diabetes, type 1 or type 2 diabetes.

Diabetes education can help with blood glucose monitoring and with the use of glucose monitoring devices. A diabetes education nurse can also support the use of injectable insulin and discuss other medications and lifestyle changes that can be made to help manage diabetes.

Family members or other support people are welcome to come along to the appointments.

Sunbury and Cobaw Community Health also runs an 8-week education and exercise group program called 'Don't Sugar Coat Diabetes' featuring guest speakers covering topics such as podiatry, exercise physiology, diet and cardiac health.

To find out more, contact 5421 1666, email [admin@scchc.org.au](mailto:admin@scchc.org.au) or pop into their offices at 1 Caroline Chisholm Drive Kyneton or 12-28 Macedon Street Sunbury.

# AT LAST, A MARKET DAY COMING TO ROMSEY

It has been at least 10 years since our town last enjoyed a market day, and there is so much great talent and creativity here in the Shire. So why not start up again.

The Market will be run by the local Lancefield/Romsey Lions Club and will commence 12 February, then once a month on each second Sunday.

This market will consist of a variety of bric-a-brac, candles, woodwork, handmade items, flowers, antique items and much more.

We will also have great coffee, hot food so you can enjoy a breakfast or lunch, doughnuts and ice cream, and a delicious sausage sizzle cooked and served by our Lions members.

We have a great variety of stall holders, and a great positive response from the public re having a market day here and we believe it will be a fun day for our community.

Angela Heywood  
Market Coordinator, Vice President  
Lancefield/Romsey Lions Club 0413065177

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## ROMSEY LIBRARY

# HOWDY FOLKS!

Romsey Library has reopened after a short break, and we are full steam ahead for a cracking year. We wish you all a very happy and prosperous 2023.

We have several monthly programs for a variety of age groups. We love to see new people join in with these sessions. If you're even just a little bit interested but not sure if these are for you, please call the library or pop in and speak to Trish. (We are very friendly library staff).

### MONTHLY PROGRAMMING FOR 2023

We have several monthly programs for a variety of age groups, as follows. We love to see new people join in with these sessions. If you're even just a little bit interested but not sure if these are for you, please call the library or pop in and speak to Trish. (We are very friendly library staff!!)

### ROMSEY LIBRARY PLAYDATES

1pm – 3pm every second Tuesday of the month. Upcoming dates are: February 14, March 14, April 11, May 9.

Playdates are free and bookings are not required. We have a lovely space for interaction between parents, carers, and children with toys from The Romsey Toy Library to keep the kids entertained. Refreshments provided.

### A CURIOUS CIRCLE: CURIOSITY, CONNECTION & CREATIVITY

6:30pm – 8:30pm every third Thursday evening of the month. (except the February session is Saturday 18 at the library from 1pm – 4pm.)

We've had a very successful 18 months running this fun program and have some great things in store for a very creative 2023. If you enjoy making, chatting, having a laugh, making new friends or all the above, we'd love to have you join in.

Try out some new arts and crafts just for fun – no special skills required.

Supper is provided, and first timers are always welcome. Bookings essential.

Upcoming dates are February 18 (Saturday), March 16 (Thursday) and April 27 (Thursday).

### STORYTIME SCHEDULE 2023 (NO BOOKINGS REQUIRED)

For the 2-5 year-olds story time is Monday and Tuesday at 11am for 45 minutes, and for the under 2s our Baby Rhyme Time in on Thursday from 11am for half an hour.



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BOOKS

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*Shelter From The Storm* by Penelope January

This novel follows naval officer Patience Cartwright, who is forced to move back to her hometown to recover from a life-threatening illness. Whilst battling traumas from her past Patience finds herself falling for the man she swore she would never forgive. Will the secrets she keeps and the shadows of her past send her adrift all over again? Or will Patience finally get a second chance at love?

*Without A Trace* by Danielle Steel

From bestselling author, Danielle Steel, comes a powerful story of fighting for a chance at happiness regardless of the cost.

In *Without a Trace*, Danielle Steel tells an irresistible story of the risks two people are willing to take in exchange

for a second chance at the life they've always wanted.

*Dead Tide* by Fiona McIntosh

Versatile author Fiona McIntosh set her first three DCI Jack Hawksworth novels in the UK. But in a change of direction for the series, this timely 4th instalment brings Hawksworth to Adelaide. These thoughtful, action-driven stories are definitely worth checking out if you like Ann Cleeves' Vera and Shetland books, or the Roy Grace series from Peter James

*A World Of Curiosities* by Louise Penny

Disturbing memories resurface for the residents of Three Pines in rural Quebec, in this new mystery from Canadian author Louise Penny. Reviewers describe this as a darker, pacier and more compelling novel than many of Penny's previous works. It will be interesting to see if this tonal shift makes it into the new Netflix adaptation.

*Desert Star* by Michael Connelly

Harry Bosch is now one of the longest running fictional detectives, appearing in some capacity in over 30 novels. This time writer Michael Connelly has brought the aging Bosch back as the central character - brooding, reflective and maybe even more dangerous than before.

To reserve a copy of any of these titles, for more information about library activities and to book, head to the library desk, visit [www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au](http://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au) or phone the library directly on 5429 3086

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## CHRISTMAS SPIRIT

Firstly, a huge thank you to the Neighbourhood House led Christmas Decoration team – our town looked absolutely spectacular over Christmas. Many thanks also to the people who came along this year to help put up the decorations and to help pack them away again in January – it was definitely a case of many hands making light work with the packing up only taking about an hour.

This doesn't include the large decorations on the buildings for which we have Bruce Ferguson and his team to thank for their incredibly generous support to put up and remove these decorations every year, in what would be a very busy time of year for them.

We also had another delicious Community Lunch and our fun and noisy Christmas Event (once again held indoors), both made possible by the support of volunteers and generous contributions of talented members of our community.

It really renews my faith in human nature when so many good people work to make our community such a great place to live. The Neighbourhood House has around 40 – 50 people volunteering every week and more who come along for the events we hold throughout the year. If

you would be interested in being a volunteer please give the House a call to find out the range of things we have on offer.

### FOOD SHARE

The Food Share space in The Townhouse at 28 High Street has just had a storage area built which has allowed a large fridge for fresh produce to be added to the room. The Food Share is for everyone, supporting people who are struggling to make ends meet and giving others a lower grocery bill, with donations for any goods taken supporting the overall project to continue.

We will be posting on Facebook the fresh produce we get in each week. If you are not on Facebook call the House (5429 1214) so we can add you to our of phone text update list.

### RESIDENTS EVENT

The third Residents Event will be held on Sunday 26 March from 2- 5 pm at the Lancefield Mechanics Hall. This is an afternoon to be part of community and find out what

## The Wood Bloke

### Deliveries

**Gas Cylinders 45kg - no rental charges**  
**Thursday deliveries to Romsey & Lancefield**

**Wood – Delivered Romsey / Lancefield**

**[www.lancefieldfirewood.com.au](http://www.lancefieldfirewood.com.au)**

**Ph Manny 0418-570-249**

**Email [sales@lancefieldfirewood.com.au](mailto:sales@lancefieldfirewood.com.au)**

**Credit Cards Accepted**

**547 Lancefield Tooborac Rd Lancefield**

**Follow us in Facebook for the latest updates.**





Lancefield has to offer. There will be free children's entertainment, local food vendors, information and local organisations and businesses showcasing themselves.

This is a fun afternoon and an opportunity to provide the Neighbourhood House with feedback about community

needs.

Please contact the House on 5429 1214 if you would like to include your business.

Vivien Philpotts



A GREAT night out awaits you!

# THE RRBATA DINNER

Glen Erin Lancefield  
Friday 24th February @ 7pm



"In Conversation" with JC Strouts  
(Film Location Manager)

TICKETS (3 course meal, drinks at bar prices):

- GENERAL \$85pp
- EARLY BIRD (before Feb 6) \$80pp
- RRBATA MEMBERS 10% Discount



TRY BOOKING

<https://www.trybooking.com/CFJIG>





The Garlic Festival in Romsey. See page 25