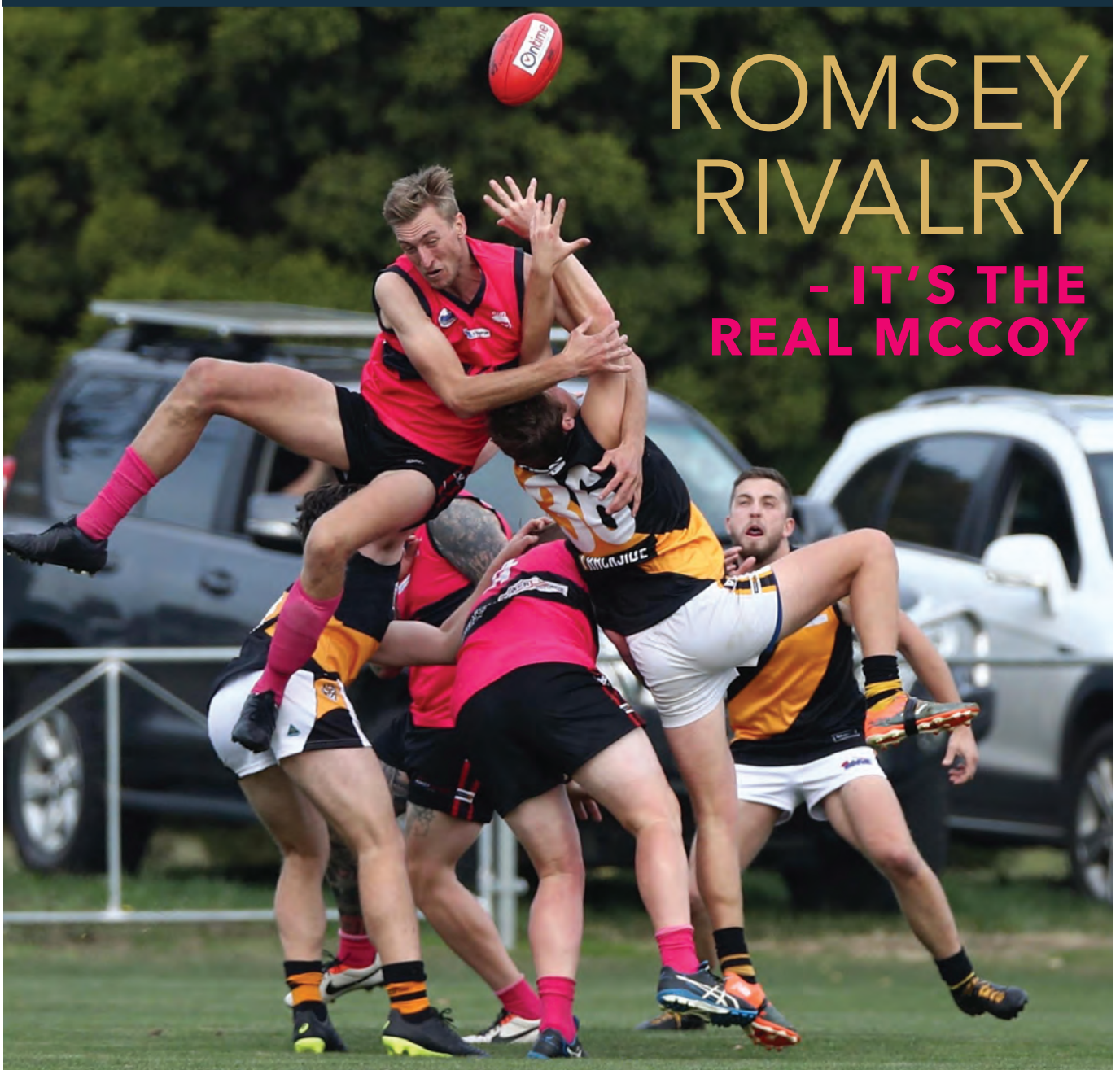


# Lancefield Mercury



## ROMSEY RIVALRY

- IT'S THE REAL MCCOY

J8 Photography

There are many threads throughout the 150-year history of the Lancefield Football Club, but the one constant that carries through to today is the enduring rivalry with Romsey.

You can read all about the Lancefield-Romsey rivalry in a history being compiled by three intergenerational Lancefield identities who are very proud of their Tiger heritage: Denis Graham, Shirley Kishere and John Chisholm. Fay Woodhouse has been exceptional in her guidance, editing and uncovering of the historical record.

A range of events culminating in a big reunion function at the Mechanics Hall on April 1 will mark the 150 years.

It might be Lancefield's one-upmanship – our footy club was formed in 1873, whereas the historical record shows the

newcomer Romsey didn't put a team on the park until 1879. And Lancefield won the first premierships playoff between the two towns in 1888.

It might be that Lancefield from 1890 wore the yellow and black and then took on the fearsome emblem of the Tigers, while Romsey for a significant part of its history played under the moniker of the Robins – hardly inspiring if it came to an on field stoush.

Relations between our two towns have become a bit more cordial over the past couple of decades – witness the co-operation that led to Bendigo Community Bank branches in Lancefield and Romsey – but when it comes to football, we're still willing to this day. ►



## ROMSEY RIVALRY - IT'S THE REAL MCCOY

The first-ever game between Lancefield and Romsey in 1879 ended with “some unpleasantness” over a goal, and a proposal to amalgamate the two teams for a match against Kyneton or Kilmore was scrapped as a result.

In 1894 Romsey lodged a protest and threatened to withdraw from the association over a disputed goal, and with newspaper bias Lancefield was knocked out of the final. But justice prevailed when Newham-Hesket beat the Robins.

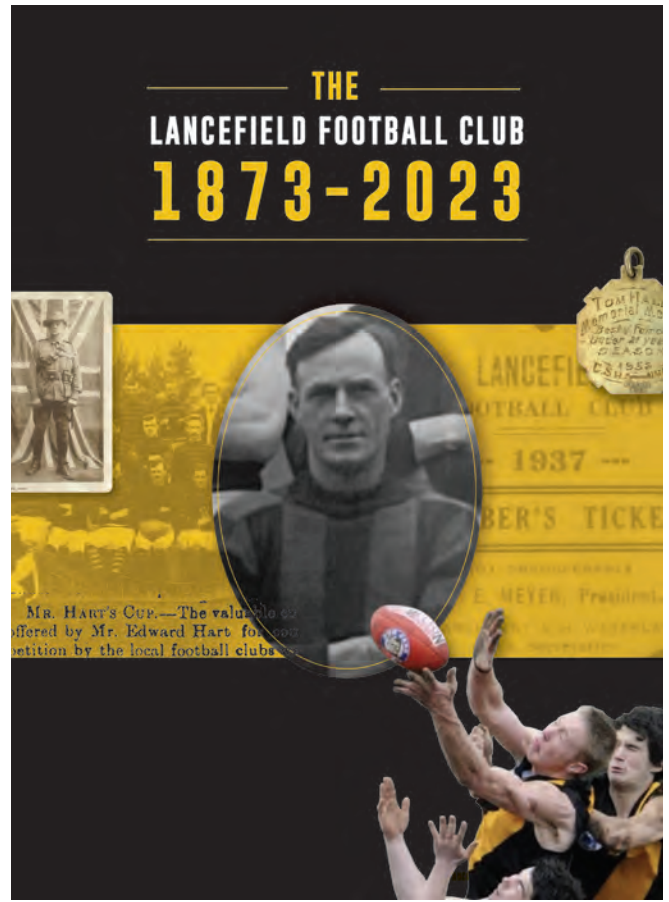
In 1904 Romsey stiffed Lancefield over the eligibility of players on a team sheet – after we had won the game – and it dragged on all season. And then Romsey refused to hand over its team sheet when ring-ins were spotted in a rematch.

In a July 1907 game Romsey’s “barrackers” were kept in check by two mounted policemen paid for by supporters of the Lancefield team – as Romsey refused to engage police for crowd control.

And the rivalry goes on to this very day.

The 150th anniversary 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.

Corporate and personal sponsorship packages are supporting the funding of the book. Sponsors – with packages at either \$1000, \$500 or \$250 – will be acknowledged. Supporter sponsorships are \$100, and reserved pre-paid copies of the book are \$60. For more details or a pledge/order form contact Pam Choate on 0414 491 749 or garychoate@bigpond.com or collect one at the Lancefield Community Bank.



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Macedon Ranges Shire Council

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# Lancefield CAR & COLLECTABLES Swap meet

Sunday  
**16<sup>TH</sup> APRIL**  
2023

## Something for everyone

Hosted by Lancefield  
Football/Netball Club Inc.

BBQ breakfast/lunch,  
canteen, coffee cart  
and Sat tea

No Outside Catering Allowed



### Show and Shine

Entry \$6 per  
person in the car

Main Oval  
- 11 am Judging

#### Categories:

- Best Street Rod
- Best Vintage Car
- Best Classic Car
- Best Motorcycle
- Best Overall Vehicle at Show

**Sites**  
Approx 6m x 6m  
or 6m x 5m

**\$20** Outdoor **or** **\$25** Indoor

**400+ STALLS**

**\$200**  
PRIZE

Best Car at Show

**\$6** Buyers entry

Meet opens 7 am

www.lancefieldswapmeet.com  
email: lancefieldswapmeet@outlook.com

Sponsored by: Lancefield Football/Netball Club Inc. and Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank Bendigo Bank

All enquiries phone 0414 491 749. Lancefield Park, Chauncey St, Lancefield 3435





A classic Land Rover that has been converted to electric

<p><b>SUSTAINABLE LIVING FESTIVALS</b></p> <p><a href="http://MRSG.ORG.AU/SLF">MRSG.ORG.AU/SLF</a></p> 	<p><b>WOODEND E-BIKE EXPO</b></p> <p>WOODEND NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE</p> <p>10AM - 1.30PM <b>SATURDAY APRIL 1 2023</b></p> 	<p><b>MALMSBURY ELECTRIC VEHICLE EXPO</b></p> <p><b>SATURDAY APRIL 15 2023</b> 10AM - 4PM</p> <p>MALMSBURY TOWN HALL</p>
<p><b>2023 MACEDON RANGES EDGY VEG AWARDS</b></p>  <p>A SEARCH FOR THE BEST PLANT BASED DISH IN THE RANGES</p> <p><b>1-30 APRIL 2023</b></p> <p>WITH THANKS TO OUR PRINCIPAL PARTNERS:</p> 	<p><b>LIVING WITH E-BIKES IN THE MACEDON RANGES</b></p> <p>TEST RIDES &amp; DEMO BIKES DUTCH CARGO BIKES WOODEND CYCLES &amp; GIANT BIKES REV E-BIKE CONVERSIONS</p> 	<p><b>LIVING WITH ELECTRIC CARS IN THE REGIONS</b></p> <p>EV INDUSTRY EXPERTS EV CONVERSIONS PREPARING YOUR HOME</p>  



# LIVING WITH E-BIKES AND ELECTRIC VEHICLES

The Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group (MRSRG) is holding a series of events in April as part of the Macedon Ranges Shire Council's growing and popular Autumn Festival.

Held in conjunction with the Woodend Neighbourhood House, the first ever E-Bike Expo on April 1 will host and showcase a range of ebikes including Dutch Cargo Bikes, Giant E-Bikes courtesy of local business, Woodend Cycles, along with a variety of bikes owned by community members who will be there to share their experiences of living with an ebike in the Macedon Ranges.

Alongside new ebikes, REV Bikes will guide you through the process of converting your existing bike to an ebike. REV specialise in installing top-quality e-bike kits to virtually any bike, building practical and personalised electric bikes, to suit your riding style and to meet your individual needs.

If you have been exploring the transition to electric vehicles, then the Malmsbury Electric Vehicle Expo on April 15 will explore the pros and cons of moving to electric vehicles with a range of EV industry experts presenting on topics such as classic car conversions, preparing your home for an electric vehicle, and new EVs available in Australia in 2023.

Come to the Malmsbury Expo and presentations on transitioning to EVs in the Macedon Ranges as part of the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival. Lots of models to explore including a classic Land Rover that has been converted by guest presenter David Budge (pictured).

Visit [mrsg.org.au/slf](http://mrsg.org.au/slf) for bookings and more information.

Submitted by Nikki Barker on behalf of the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group.

## COLLABORATION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Thank you to everyone that attended Council's Cool-ER Changes Launch at Kyneton Town Hall on 2 March. Around 150 people attended the event showing a collective commitment to climate action here in the Macedon Ranges.

The Cool-ER Changes project will result in Council's inaugural Climate Emergency Response Plan, outlining our key strategic approach to enacting our Declaration of Climate Emergency.

A highlight of the night was the premiere screening on 'Bridging the Divide', a short film with climate conversations between our younger and older communities, which can be viewed at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/BTD](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/BTD)

During March, Council also hosted the first two of six themed Cool-ER Changes workshops, which allowed collaborative conversations between community members, Council and local agencies. A big thank you to all who attended the 'Nurturing Nature' and 'Climate-ready Communities' workshops.

The next two workshops are:

### POST FOSSIL FUELS

Thursday 20 April, 6-8:15pm, Gisborne Community Centre.

From electric vehicles and sustainable transport to neighbourhood batteries and community owned renewables, what does a post fossil fuels world look like in the Macedon Ranges?

### HEALTH & WELLBEING

Thursday 4 May, 6-8:15pm, Romsey Hub.

From future-proofing community sport to strengthening our mental health. Let's be a community that prioritises its physical health and wellbeing in a climate crisis.

A light vegetarian dinner will be provided at each workshop.

Join us to help address the climate emergency in our own backyard. Visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/Cool-ER-Changes](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/Cool-ER-Changes) for more information and to register.



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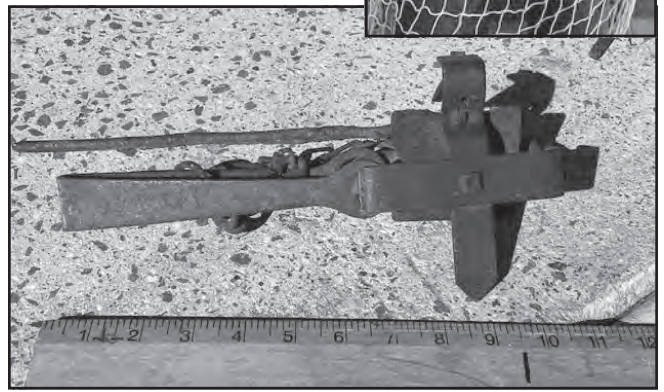
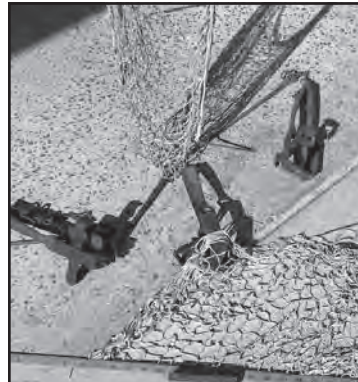
# FAMILY MEMORIES OF RABBITING DURING THE DEPRESSION YEARS AND BEYOND

The following family story was contributed by Lynne Larkan on behalf of her father, Norman Gaylor.

Across Victoria, many families augmented their meat supply with rabbit meat. This happened more than ever during the 1930s Depression and Second World War when rabbit meat was sought after. Wild rabbits were, and still are, considered pests by farmers due to their excessive grazing which leads to soil erosion.

Thomas Gaylor (1890-1965) was a carter who drove a team of draught horses, moving steel to and from the Melbourne docks. The family lived at 6 Bent Street, Kensington. Thomas's son Norman, born in 1931, remembers that as a young boy he and his father would often harness up their draught horse, attach it to their cart and drive up to Clarkefield, a small town on the road to Lancefield, to catch rabbits overnight. Once hitched up, Thomas would sit up on the cart holding the reins and Norman, together with his brothers, plus a dog, traps, ferrets and nets, and any food for the overnight stay, would all be loaded on board.

They would leave their house in Kensington and head up Boundary Road, onto Mt Alexander Road, across to what is now Melbourne Airport and on to the Bulla Hill. Arriving at Bulla Hill, they would all get out of the cart and walk



## 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](mailto:editor3435@gmail.com) – enquiries Andy Moore 0430 448 120

Enquiries about advertising: [advertising3435@gmail.com](mailto:advertising3435@gmail.com) – Ken Allender 0404 886 580

Check [lancefieldmercury.org.au](http://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.



down the steep Bulla Hill. Then they had to walk back up the Hill; this meant less weight for the horse to pull. Once they arrived at the top of the hill, the horse would be rested, fed and watered for 30 minutes, before they continued onto Clarkefield via the old Lancefield Road. This journey would take three hours. They would camp on the property of a farmer they knew, a Mr Williamson, and set the traps and nets over the rabbit burrows in the paddocks.

Early the next morning the ferrets would be placed into a rabbit burrow; the ferrets would chase the rabbit out of the burrow and the rabbit would be caught in the net that had been placed across the burrow entry. The journey back home to Kensington would be slightly longer after stopping at the Clarkefield pub for a few beers.

When Norman was a bit older, he would catch a train from Spencer Street Station (now Southern Cross) to Clarkefield on a Friday night with his mate. They would take on board the train a bicycle, dog and ferrets (in box), plus some nets and a little bit of food. On arrival at Clarkefield Station, they would ride the bike for five miles to Williamson's farm and would sleep rough on the property. They would spend the

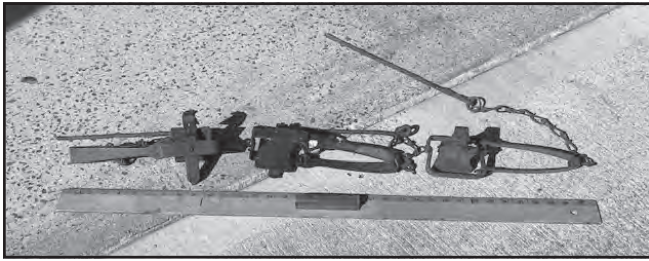
following day catching rabbits and take the train back with dead rabbits dangling over the handlebars of the bike to sell them outside the pub before closing time at 6pm. You can only imagine the sight and smell of all of this. Any rabbits not sold would be taken home. Trains did not run on Sunday then, hence the train trip back was on Saturday. If they were lucky the farmer would give them a ride on his horse and cart back to Clarkefield station.

After leaving school Norman mostly worked in the rabbit industry for Jack McCraith. The industry was thriving due to rabbit skins being made into hats at a time when most men and woman wore hats. The introduction of refrigeration also made it possible to pack and export rabbit meat and at its peak the company was exporting 100,000 rabbit carcasses per week. The work however was dirty, smelly and repetitive – but it paid well. Keeping ferrets and going rabbiting was something Norman continued to do with his family until he was in his 60s when his brother Jack could no longer go with him due to illness.

The rabbit/ferret nets in Norman's collection were handmade by Norman (and there are several made by his father Thomas), out of twine with rings at the ends so they could be secured over the burrows. The nets are between 50-80 years old and the traps that belonged to Norman are over 100 years old.

Mr Gaylor and his daughter Lynne Larkan are gifting several rabbit traps and nets from his collection to the Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society.

Fay Woodhouse



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REMEMBERING ALEXANDER AMBROSE MURPHY (1886-1919)

# A LANCEFIELD SOLDIER

Alexander Murphy, the son of William and Annie (née McDougall) Murphy, was the eighth of ten children; he was born in Goldie on 17 December 1886. He was one of many Lancefield men who volunteered, fought in the First World War, and returned to Lancefield.

Like many of the Lancefield men, Alexander was a farm labourer, horse breaker and horse trainer, making him a prime candidate for the Light Horse Regiment. He was 28 years of age when he enlisted. He, like Alexander 'Ike' Johnston, was accepted into the 8th Light Horse Regiment 'A' Squadron with the rank of Private. Murphy and Johnston had quite a few things in common. First their names – they were both named Alexander; their enlistment date – only one day apart: Johnston on 14 September and Murphy on 15 September 1914; both trained at Broadmeadows prior to embarkation. Johnston sailed from Melbourne in February and arrived in Egypt in March 1915; Murphy embarked for Gallipoli in May and arrived in

July 1915.

During the landing at Gallipoli, Alexander Murphy received injuries which required hospitalisation in Malta where he was treated for septic wounds to his hand and foot. Returning to Gallipoli in September 1915 he served in the battle zone until November when he became ill with influenza. He was subsequently admitted to Mena House in Cairo with rheumatism. By February 1916 Alexander was back with his regiment and promoted to Lance-Corporal. Other Lancefield boys – Eric Vinnicombe, H V (Harris) Goller, Roy Robinson, C A H (Harry) Hunt, Jack Burns, Joe Hemphill, Edgar Lockwood, James Washbourne and James Guthridge doubtless crossed paths with Alexander Murphy while they were all serving on Gallipoli.

In August 1916, under the command of Harry Chauvel, his regiment was part of an attack on Bir el Abd; during this battle Alexander sustained a gunshot wound to his head. This injury required an operation to remove

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fragments of bone and the insertion of draining tubes. He was repatriated back to Australia. In April 1917 he was discharged as medically unfit after serving 583 days on active service at Gallipoli and in Palestine.

As a horse breaker and trainer, Alexander re-enlisted in June 1918 for service abroad with the Australian Naval Military Expeditionary Force and served in India and later in New Guinea with military horses. It seems his health was not robust, and in December 1918 he was granted a medical discharge.

Once back in Lancefield, his ill-health, probably caused by his head injury, continued. The Lancefield Mercury reported that on 17 May 1919 Alexander became ill in the street. Dr Nesbitt was called and attended to him, taking him to the nearby Shamrock Hotel for examination and treatment. His condition was critical and, despite every effort by Dr Nesbitt, he died early the next morning. He was 32 years of age.

The funeral of Alexander Ambrose Murphy was held on 18 May 1919 and was fully reported in the Mercury. It was attended 'by an exceptionally large number of people, many being present from Romsey, Kyneton and elsewhere'. He was buried with full military honours, the ceremony 'being a most impressive one'. The Kyneton Brass Band (of thirteen performers) headed the lengthy procession. A gun carriage bearing the coffin, draped with the Union Jack, was drawn by 'four fine upstanding black horses' in charge

of Sergeants H V (Harris) Goller and James Guthridge, two of his friends and fellow soldiers. The mourning coach conveyed his relatives, a firing party of ten and about twenty other soldiers and riflemen, all in uniform and with rifles reversed (as a sign of respect). Motor cars and a long line of buggies and horsemen followed the coffin to the Lancefield Cemetery. The Kyneton Brass Band played the Dead March in Saul as the funeral 'wended its way slowly from the town'; the solemn rendering being repeated at the graveside. He was buried with Catholic rites and Reverend Father Harnett conducted the service. Three volleys were fired by the firing party with Lieut. James Washbourne in charge, and the Last Post was sounded. The coffin bearers were Messrs J. Derrick, J. McElhinney, C. Houlihan and J. Hobbs. After the burial, the Band, playing military march music, headed the gun-carriage and soldiers back to the town.

Murphy's name (A. Murphy) appears on the War Memorial in Lancefield along with the names of 24 others who died during this War. Sadly, Alexander Ambrose Murphy is but one example of the thousands of loyal men – young and old – who left their small towns or suburbs to serve their country in the years 1914-18 and were either killed while in service or died as a result of their service. Lest we forget.

Fay Woodhouse

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# PRINCIPLES OF THE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

The Lancefield Neighbourhood House is governed by a committee of twelve volunteer community members. They receive some funding from the State Government which allows them to employ staff for 25 hours a week to carry out community development work in the town.

Program brochures are delivered to every household with a 3435 postcode four times a year. This outlines the 'stuff' we are doing, and you can call into the Neighbourhood House or Townhouse, at 78 and 28 High Street respectively, to find out more or see how you can get involved.

Behind the 'stuff' is a number of principles, which underpin the work of all Neighbourhood Houses, which revolve around a unique community development approach.

'Community development empowers communities to identify and address their own needs and aspirations. It then utilises the existing strengths and assets within that community to make the community part of the solution.'

## THE PRINCIPLES FOR THE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE SECTOR ARE:

**Community ownership:** To set, manage and control the direction, resources, decision making and processes of the Neighbourhood House so that local volunteer members have

a sense of ownership and intrinsic belonging.

**Community participation:** To recognise that everyone has a valuable contribution to make and to facilitate community members to join in at any level. Volunteers and community members are integral to the decision making, evaluation, provision, participation and direction setting at all levels of the organisation.

**Empowerment:** To put into practice a process that respects, values and enhances people's ability to have control of their lives. This process encourages people to meet their needs and aspirations in a self-aware and informed way that takes advantage of their skills, experience and potential.

**Access and equity:** To ensure fair and equitable access for all people. Striving to make meaningful opportunities, programs, activities and services accessible to individuals, groups and the community. To promote a fairer distribution of economic resources and power between people.

**Lifelong learning:** To build and support the personal skills, knowledge, abilities and resilience of people. To develop the health, wellbeing and connection of people and their



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families through formal and informal pathways in education, employment and self-development.

**Inclusion:** To value the diverse contributions that people make and to be sensitive to their individual needs.

**Networking:** To link, form alliances, collaborate and work with individuals, groups, other agencies, government and business.

**Advocacy:** To act with and on behalf of community members to endeavour that their individual or group needs are met.

**Self-help:** To come together in a supportive group environment to share information, knowledge, skills and life experience in order that each participant can reach their own personal goals.

**Social action:** To analyse internal and external factors that have an impact on the local community, and to transform relationships between individuals, groups and organisations and within the community through collective action.

These are fairly hefty principles and are captured in the Lancefield Neighbourhood House Mission Statement: *'To contribute to a happy, healthy, inclusive and connected community'.*

Obviously, this is all about you, as a community member, letting the Neighbourhood House know your ideas and needs – please contact us on 5429 1214 or coordinator@lancefieldhouse.org.au or call in to the House.

# MOTHERS DAY REMEMBRANCE AND OPEN DAY AT LANCEFIELD CEMETERY

SUNDAY MAY 14 10AM

Many people mark this day by visiting their deceased mothers or special women in their lives who are resting within the Lancefield Cemetery. We would like to offer refreshments and share information about the Cemetery with you and any other interested persons who might like come along.

Trust members will be in attendance to assist with information and the history of the Cemetery and identities who are interned within. We can also provide some exciting updates of long-term planning and works the Cemetery Trust intend to carry out in the future at this special community asset.

We look forward to seeing you there.

Visit lancefieldcemeterytrust@gmail.com or call 0477 092 946 for more information.



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Presbytery office hours: Wednesday & Friday 8am-5pm - lancefield@cam.org.au 5429 2130

# WHAT'S ON

## SUNDAY MASS

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

## EASTER MASSES

Fr. Arnold will join us to celebrate Easter Masses this year.  
Wednesday March 29 - 7pm - Lenten Reconciliation – Romsey  
Wednesday April 5 – 7:30pm – Lenten Reconciliation – Woodend

Both Lenten Reconciliation Services will be with Fr. Martin.  
Thursday April 6 – 7pm Holy Thursday – Romsey  
Friday April 7 – 3pm Passion of the Lord – Romsey

Saturday April 8 – 7pm Easter Vigil – Lancefield

Sunday April 9 – 9am Easter Sunday Mass – Lancefield

Holy Thursday to Easter Sunday Masses with Fr. Arnold

## BAPTISMS

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

## SACRAMENTS

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

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

Please direct enquiries to the parish office on 5429 2130 or by email at lancefield@cam.org.au

For funeral arrangements, please contact Fr. Martin by email at woodend@cam.org.au or on 5427 2690.

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# EVENTS FOR OVER 55s

## PATHWAYS FOR CARERS

This initiative offers carers of older people, people with a disability or mental illness a chance to attend free walking events in Victoria together, and to learn more about news, services and supports available to them.

The next dates are Fridays 14 April and 5 May. Meet at 9:45am at Barry Doyle Memorial Rotunda, 2 Campaspe Crescent, Kyneton.

This is a free event. Registration is required. Contact Abbey on 5422 0262 or visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/village-connect](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/village-connect) for more information.

## SHARE COFFEE AND A CHAT WITH VILLAGE CONNECT

Village Connect is a service for older people provided by Macedon Ranges Shire Council. As part of the program, free 'coffee cup' events frequently held for older residents, their families and carers.

Come along to hear about how Village Connect can help you stay socially connected. Enjoy a chat with others in the local community and a free cuppa and cake.

May coffee cup events will be held from 11am to 12noon:

- Tuesday 9 May, Malmsbury Bakery - 77 Mollison Street
- Thursday 11 May, Macedon & Mt Macedon Community

- House - 47 Victoria Street
- Tuesday 16 May, Kyneton Social Foundry - 86 Mollison Street
- Thursday 18 May, Tylden Springhill Nursery - 1 Trentham Road
- Tuesday 23 May, Gisborne Golf Club - 25 Daly Street
- Thursday 25 May, Woodend Maison Maloa - 95 High Street
- Tuesday 30 May, Riddells Creek Dromkeen Gallery - 1012 Kilmore Road

## BOARD GAMES AND CARDS FOR OVER 55

Meet, gather and keep connected with like-minded individuals in your community who are aged over 55, with casual rounds of cards and board games.

- Mahjong – Friday 28 April, Riddells Creek Neighbourhood House
- Chess – Friday 26 May, Gisborne Community Centre
- Scrabble – Friday 23 June, Lancefield Neighbourhood House – The Townhouse
- Backgammon – Friday 28 July, Romsey Co-op Café  
From 10:30am-12pm, followed by light refreshments.  
Registration is essential. Email [villageconnect@mrsc.vic](mailto:villageconnect@mrsc.vic).  
[mrsc.vic.gov.au/village-connect](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/village-connect) or call Abbey on 5422 0262 for more information.

## SUSTAINABLE HOUSE KITS

Council is pleased to partner with Goldfields Library to provide Sustainable House Kits. These kits allow you to conduct self-assessments of your home and offer practical tips to help increase energy efficiency and lower bills.

The kits include:

- Thermal camera – to identify draughts and heat/cooling-loss spots
- Power Meter – to identify electricity usage of individual appliances

- Energy saving thermometer – to build understanding of seasonal temperature comfort levels
- The Energy Freedom Homes handbook – a practical guide to home energy efficiency & reduction.  
Kits can be borrowed via the Woodend and Gisborne libraries, using a library card. For information and availability visit <https://www.ncgrl.vic.gov.au/> or contact the libraries directly (Gisborne – 5428 3962; Woodend – 5427 2074)

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Patricia Vowles 03 5429 3456.  
romlanrsl@gmail.com PO Box 315 Romsey Vic 3434

# RSL ANZAC DAY SERVICE

The communities of Romsey and Lancefield are advised that the following arrangements have been made for the 2023 Anzac Day Commemoration service. A flag rising and wreath lying service will be conducted at the Romsey Cenotaph, Rain Street at 0730 hours (7:30am).

The main commemoration service will be held at the Lancefield Cenotaph, High Street commencing at 0830 hours (8:30am).

It is requested that Veterans wishing to march form up outside the Lancefield Hotel in the High Street by 0815 hours.

Provisions have been made for the community members to lay private wreaths or floral tributes. Any community organisation wishing to lay a wreath is requested to advise the President Reinhard Goschiniak on 0419 375 060 or Mr. John Horan on 0448 279 830 before the scheduled event.

The Lancefield Neighbourhood House is generously providing a morning tea at the Lancefield Mechanics Institute after the ceremony. All attendees are welcomed.

## KYNETON TOWN HALL EVENTS

**Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow.** 7:30pm, Friday 28 April

**Diesel: Greatest Hits Alone with the Blues Tour 2023.** 7:30pm Sunday 30 April

To purchase tickets, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets) or call 1300 888 802 (10am-4pm, weekdays).

# FUNGI TOWN CARAVAN

The Fungi Town Caravan is an interactive art installation on wheels that artist Kathy Holowko has been touring through the Macedon Ranges. The Fungi Town Caravan provides a tactile experience for people of all ages, and a chance to learn about environmental and community resilience.

Join Kathy for a fun and creative school holiday workshop. Kathy weaves environmental learnings into a fun and interactive workshop for children aged five and above.

A colourful caravan appears as a magical entry point to view a diorama of a forest floor with fungi as the main attraction. During the workshop, children are introduced to the fascinating life of fungi in our local forests, learning about the way they grow and their role in ecology. The workshop is followed by a hands-on activity of making fungi sculptures out of paper, tape and oil pastel.

- Wednesday 12 April, 10am-12pm and 1-3pm, Kyneton Town Hall
- Thursday 13 April, 10am-12pm and 1-3pm, Romsey Community Hub

The caravan will also be visiting the following local markets:

- Saturday 29 April - Macedon Village Farmers Market
  - Saturday 20 May – Riddells Creek Farmers Market
- Tickets to the school holiday workshops are \$15. Visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/fungi-caravan](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/fungi-caravan) to register for these and to learn more.

## CLIMATE CHANGE AND WELLBEING

Council has also developed two handy factsheets about health and wellbeing and climate change, plus conversations cards to use at home, school or work. Email [environment@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:environment@mrsc.vic.gov.au) for copies.

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## DEEP CREEK LANDCARE GROUP

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# WHY WE VOLUNTEER

Why am I doing this? Why do we volunteer? Why is there a nationwide shortage of volunteers? What can be done to address the situation?

Before speaking to a few volunteers about what they do and why they do it, I indulged in a bit of reminiscing. Growing up, I hardly noticed the many volunteers that supported what I did. Although impossible today, I would love to catch up with them all and say thanks for their contribution. At least, now that I have retired, I have time to contribute in my own small way. Upon moving up to Lancefield we joined the local Landcare group and got involved in Parkrun.

Pat, our Secretary, informs us: "When I moved to Lancefield while I still worked in Melbourne part-time, I didn't know anyone, but I knew from working in community health that joining local groups was a sure way to meet local people. A Melbourne friend, who had also moved to a country area, told me that joining a Landcare group introduced him to like-minded people who knew the local area and plants. Landcare was the first group I joined and as a result I learnt lots about the local environment, plants and waterways. I enjoy working-bees and other activities which are both social

and working to improve the local environment. Since I love gardening, Landcare is a good fit in terms of information about what grows in Lancefield and how it is impacted by the local weather. Next, I volunteered at the Town House half a day a week, learnt about services groups in Lancefield and surrounds. I met lots more people and subsequently felt less isolated and kept up my computer skills. So from moving to a town where I did not know anyone, and potentially living a very lonely single life, I now know lots of people by sight, and personally am part of an active social group which also sustained my mental health through COVID. It seems to me that volunteering has a two-way effect; getting involved with like-minded people doing activities and making friends, as well as helping to sustain local organizations."

Jackson, our youngest member offered: "I'm 21 now; growing up in Lancefield the word Landcare has always felt familiar, yet vague. I'd grown up surrounded by farms and would always notice random green plastic guards on the roadside, indicating a tree planting. It wasn't until a year deep in Environmental Science studies at RMIT, when I got pointed back to my hometown to do 'ecological restoration or rehabilitation', did I realise what Landcare

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really meant. Through my course I was required to complete a set number of hours learning basic methods of restoration of native ecosystems; I've well and truly finished those practical hours and have been volunteering at Deep Creek Landcare for a year, as I'd learned that these Friends of and Landcare Groups are not only the local expert groups on our native fauna and flora, but are also one of Australia's many vital working volunteer groups. Through Deep Creek Landcare I have not only gained a greater knowledge about the native flora and fauna, their varying ecosystems or habitats, but also the history of what makes our local area, the Macedon Ranges, so different. This has also motivated me to contribute and clean areas I use like the skate park. During our monthly working-bees we conduct clean-ups, install nesting boxes, organise native plantings along Deep Creek, and site maintenance. Anyone could strengthen their environmental knowledge or simply just enjoy our laid-back contribution to the environment."

We would love to have more young members. In the meantime, we are looking forward to working with, and engaging, children in environmental issues and projects. Emma Stevens, our Junior Landcare Facilitator, will be working in this space.

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 follow us on Facebook, contact our President, Phil Severs (0476 324 000), see us at the April Lancefield Farmers Market or attend our monthly meetings in the Lancefield Mechanics Hall.

## GET VOTING ON YOUR FAVOURITE VEGGIE DISH!

Will your favourite dish be a mixed mushroom cannelloni with cauliflower bechamel sauce? Little Vic's in Riddells Creek have entered this dish, as well as a Carciofi Pizza. Another local restaurant, Spices and Pestle, are also in the competition to find Macedon Ranges' best plant-based meal with some fantastic entries in the Edgy Veg Awards 2023.

The Edgy Veg Awards run from April 1 – 30 and there are a whopping 42 dishes entered across 26 cafes, pubs and restaurants. The event is an initiative of Veg Action to encourage people to eat more veg. We all know eating more veg is important – for our health, and the planet's. Reducing your meat and dairy intake helps cut methane gas and nitrous oxide emissions.

The Edgy Veg Awards give you the perfect opportunity to try new dishes made by the best chefs in the Macedon Ranges, and to add a little more veg to your day.

Voting in the competition is easy, each participating venue will display the competition QR code that you can scan to rate your dish online. You can find out more about the Edgy Veg Awards from the competition website: [veg.mrsg.org.au/edgy-veg-award](http://veg.mrsg.org.au/edgy-veg-award). The awards are funded by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council, as part of the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group's Sustainable Living Festival series.

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# IT'S BEEN A BUSY FIRST TERM

It's been a busy first term at St Mary's. Students have been involved in a number of different learning experiences, both in and outside of the classroom. They have all settled in well, as we begin the countdown to Easter. Our Year 3s and 5s begin Naplan today and we wish them well.

## 3/4 EXCURSION TO 'BOUNCE'

On Monday 20th February our Year 3/4s attended 'Bounce' in Heidelberg. Bounce is a place that creates and celebrates joy, fun and self-powered adrenaline. Through a unique blend of fun, freestyle, progression and development, Bounce is a place to develop and harness balance, coordination and agility. Their purpose is to 'Inspire movement, self-expression and human connection'. This fitted in perfectly with the 3/4 Inquiry Unit of 'Being our Best'. Students were able to participate in the following activities - Free Jump Arena, Dodgeball, Slam Dunk, Big Bag, X Park, Wall Climb, Foam Pit and Battle Beam. Needless to say, they had an awesome time, and we thank their teachers for organising this amazing excursion.

## FEED IT FORWARD

As we have so many Mini Vinnies this year (15) they have been put into smaller groups of 5 for the different activities that they may attend throughout the year. Our first group of 5 attended the February Feed it Forward lunch in Romsey on Tuesday 28 February. All the girls - Sophie, Milla, Pippa, Millie and Harper were very nervous to begin with, but as have all previous Mini Vinnies before them, they shone very brightly on the day, impressing everyone with their exceptional manners, excellent social skills and the ability to make everyone feel very welcome and comfortable. They

received very high praise from the attendees and made St Mary's very proud. Well done girls.

## VISIT TO THE NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE

On Wednesday 1 March our 1/2s walked down to the Lancefield Neighbourhood House and Op Shop to find out more details about what goes on and the services they provide. The students learnt a great deal on their visit and shared this information with the whole school at our fortnightly assembly. Thank you to the 1/2 teachers for giving the students this opportunity and sharing all the valuable information with us.

## 'SUPER STAR ME!'

As part of their Inquiry unit, our Year 1/2s have been learning lots of new skills. On Tuesday 7 March, we had some very clever parents and grandparents come and teach our students some words in Italian, French, Spanish, Gaelic, Japanese and Hungarian. This included counting, songs and greetings. We even had two parents zoom in via video link to teach some Auslan - the language for the deaf. We are very proud of our brave and respectful learners who were excited to learn some words in another language.

## SHROVE TUESDAY

On Tuesday 21 February, like many Christians around the world, the students came together to celebrate Shrove Tuesday. Shrove Tuesday is the day before the season of Lent begins. Traditionally, it was a day when people used up all their flour, milk, eggs and other goodies before they embarked on the forty-day period of fasting before Easter. ▶



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## ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL LANCEFIELD

We marked this celebration with students by enjoying some delicious pancakes and jam.

### COBAW DISTRICT TENNIS

On Wednesday 15 February, Cole, Isaac and Charlotte competed in the Cobaw District Tennis Competition at Kyneton. They all played a number of singles matches and had lots of close games and good rallies. Well done to all, and congratulations to Cole who made it through to the semi-finals. A great day of tennis was had by all and thank you to Louise Newnham for umpiring.

### DIVISION SWIMMING

On Wednesday 1 March, Cole, Anna, Charlotte and Emmett participated in the swimming championship at Bendigo East. First up was Anna, who swam in the Girls 9-10 Years 50 Metre Freestyle and got out of the pool with a third-place ribbon. Not long after Anna, Emmett swam in the Boys 11 Years 50 Metre Freestyle and ended up with a second-place ribbon, missing out on coming first by a millisecond! Then Cole swam in the Boys 12-13 Years 50 Metre Freestyle. Cole had an excellent swim and came fifth. Lastly Charlotte swam in the Girls 11 Years 50 Metre Freestyle and came fourth. They also participated in the 50m backstroke with Anna coming fourth, Emmett second, Charlotte fifth and Cole sixth in their respective age groups. Overall it was a great day, and the results were fantastic.



### COBAW SUMMER SPORTS

On Friday 3 March our Year 5/6 students participated in Cobaw Summer Sports at Romsey. Competing against other schools in the area they played mixed volleyball, girls' volleyball, boys' and girls' cricket and T ball. All students had a great day and played to the best of their ability. We congratulate our girls' volleyball team who won all of their games on the day.

### FAMILY WELCOME PICNIC

On Wednesday 22 February we welcomed all within our school community for a Family Welcome Picnic. It was




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great to see so many families join us on a very warm evening and to have our students entertain us with their fabulous dances that they had learnt throughout the day, thanks to Footsteps Dance Company. Thank you to Ms

Manski for organising Footsteps for the students. Once again it was clear to see how much the students enjoyed taking part, just as much as we all appreciated watching their performances. It was a great.



## New Autumn Menu @ The Lancefield Lodge!!

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# COMMUNITY SUPPORT FOR LANCEFIELD PRIMARY

We are thrilled to update the community about the projects taking place at Lancefield Primary. Our new Chess and Checker play area is nearly complete with our students loving this new play space. This area was made possible through the generosity of the Lancefield Op Shop and our own Brown family. We are looking forward to this area being completed with gravel pathways and some landscaping.

Our refurbished top play area has been made possible due to the generous donation from the Lancefield Kinder parents' group. We are now able to keep our soft fall in place and not have it wash away in every storm. We also have a new bench seat (just completed) to make this a more welcoming area for everyone at drop off and pick up times. A few more touches and this area will be complete as well.

## CROSS COUNTRY

This term has been already busy with all students enjoying our whole school cross country event held at the Lancefield Park. Many of our senior students will be off to the district Hanging Rock Cross Country early in term 2.

## PERFORMING ARTS EXPERIENCES COMING UP

This year we are excited to be offering our students a free performing art experience that we have accessed with thanks

to the Victorian Arts Centre. Our year 5/6s are headed to the Myer Music Bowl in a couple of weeks to attend a concert by King Stingray. Later this year the Prep/1/2s and the 3/4s will be attending the Playhouse in Melbourne to experience some live theatre events.

## STREET LIBRARY

If you are a regular Street Library visitor, you may have noticed that our LPS street library is currently out of action. It was in desperate need of some TLC and one of our Visual Arts teachers, Paul Allan and a group of students are working hard to bring this back to life! Keep a look out on our front fence and soon it will be back looking very snazzy.









# EASTER TREATS FOR YOUR DOG



Our second month back saw another 7 new members. Welcome to you all.

Easter is nearly upon us and whilst it is time to celebrate with family – both pets and people – be careful of the dangers to dogs, such as chocolate.

Hot cross buns and Easter eggs are very tasty Easter treats for humans, but they can be deadly to dogs. The most important Easter treat your dog should avoid, chocolate which contains theobromine, which is toxic to dogs as well as raisins, sultanas, currents and grapes which can cause fatal kidney failure in dogs.

So what treats can you give your dog for Easter? Carob is reportedly safe as it does not contain theobromine. Fruit, sugar, and lactose free yogurt is safe for dogs.

Try the following for a tasty homemade dog treat for Easter:

Ingredients:

2 cups almond flour, 3/4 cup rolled oats, 1 cup raspberries, 1/2 cup unsweetened applesauce, 3 tbsp almond butter, 1/2 tsp ground cinnamon

How to cook:

1. Preheat oven to 180°C. Line a cookie sheet with baking paper.
2. In a large bowl add all the ingredients except the raspberries.

3. If dough is too dry add water gradually until you can knead into a sticky ball.
4. Gently fold in raspberries. If you use frozen ones, break them into smaller pieces and add them to the dough.
5. Remove dough from the bowl and roll on a floured surface. Using your cookie cutters, cut out the treats and place on lined cookie sheet.
6. Bake treats for 20 minutes or until they turn golden brown on the edges.

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Rob Stenson



# RELAY FOR LIFE RAISES OVER \$50,000

Those little flames, those candles placed with such care and love are the memory I cherish from the Relay for Life (from the poem by Robyn Poletti).

To all those participants in our local Relay for life held in the Lancefield Park for our twentieth year on Saturday 4 March you can be rightly proud of the wonderful sum of money raised for the Cancer Council. Over the 20 years we have raised over \$1.7 million.

Without you, our volunteers, and of course our generous donors, these funds would not be available to fund researchers and clinicians to keep up the fight against cancer. The funds also assist the programs that support sufferers and support the advocacy work of the Cancer Council.

The day opened to the forecast 32 degrees and the Lancefield oval looked a picture. Under the shade of the trees, we put up our marquees and chairs and raised our team banners.

Our very own local Gisborne resident, Associate Professor Jane Oliaro from the Peter MacCallum Hospital spoke about the importance of her research in extending the lives of many sufferers. She spoke of real people who had been helped by the immunotherapy and various drug trials now available as

a result of research funded in part by Relays. The importance of our contributions to the Relay was brought home to us in her words. Walking then began in perfect sunny and warm conditions. Fourteen teams registered with countless walkers in each team.

During the day, lots of fun and activities entertained the kids and adults alike. To hear our local musicians put on hours of live music, all of it voluntary, was to both enjoy and to recognise the immense talent that can be found right here in the Macedon Ranges.

The day finished with the beautiful young voices of the future, the Newham Primary School choir together with the Gisborne Singers performing Amazing Grace and Ave Verum bringing to an end the day, as we watched those little flames around the oval, each one placed with care, each personifying a beloved individual.

To all those involved including the volunteers, the sponsors, the teams, the participants and the donors: a sincere thank you.

M. Wiltshire



# OFF ROAD TRACKS UPDATE

The Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action has committed funds for repairs to the Lancefield Park walking track, but the time frame is unclear at this stage.

The Federation Trail between Lancefield and Romsey is still officially closed. The Shire has no further updates as we went to press.

The Mercury received this from Rob Mitchell's office:

'The storms and floods that swept through the Macedon Ranges in October 2022 left behind in their wake severe damage to homes, infrastructure and facilities across the Macedon Ranges shire. I saw first-hand the impacts and advocated strongly for support for our towns from the Commonwealth.

The Commonwealth provided immediate financial assistance to those affected by the floods with the Victorian Floods October 2022 - Disaster Recovery Payment and the Disaster Recovery Allowance. This provided much needed assistance to those who had lost their homes and/or incomes due to the floods.

State Government and Council are responsible for the repair of State and Council roads and infrastructure and while resources have been stretched attending to storm damages it is important that popular community infrastructure like recreational walking paths are repaired. I am happy to advocate to these levels of government to deliver for the community.'



THE MOUNT PLAYERS HAPPENINGS

## A FLYING START

Attending the second night's performance of the comedy-classic, *The 39 Steps*, was, for me, a delight in every way. Written as an adventure novel by Scottish author, John Buchan in 1914, it was first published in serial form before being published as a book in 1915.

The 1935 film, directed by Alfred Hitchcock, deviated substantially from the novel. However, this production of *The 39 Steps* was 'based on the 1935 Hitchcock [movie] thriller', later adapted as a BBC radio play. It was successfully presented by the Mount Players as a radio play – a novelty in itself.

Six actors played over 25 characters. Live on-stage sound-effects – the staple of every radio play and a whole technology in its own right – added to the atmosphere, intrigue and, for me, the enjoyment of the show. The play included 'every legendary scene from the award-winning movie' including the chase on the Flying Scotsman and the escape on the Forth Bridge. Notable for this audience member were cheeky musical references such as a few bars of the dramatic strings from Alfred Hitchcock's 1960 film *Psycho*, and snippets of the theme of the 1981 film *Chariots of Fire*. The audience appeared to enjoy the radio play as much as I did. For me, this was the Mount Players best ever production!

Fay Woodhouse



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## CATCHING-UP

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 and delicious morning tea, and hear interesting speakers on a wide variety of topics.

The April meeting of the Romsey/Lancefield Probus Club will be on Thursday 27 April at 10am

in St. Mary's Catholic Church Hall, Main Street, Romsey.

Club members will present family ANZAC/War histories.

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.

Phone: President: Tony 0410 747 616 Secretary: Noreen 0401 579 180

Visit our website: [www.rlprobus.org.au](http://www.rlprobus.org.au)



**LANCEFIELD COUNTRY  
WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

President: Angela Turne, Secretary: Maybelle Briggs, Treasurer: Sandra Stevens, [lancefieldcwa@gmail.com](mailto:lancefieldcwa@gmail.com)

## AUTUMN DAYS

Aren't we having some cool autumn mornings? Just perfect for that early walk or jog.

Let me share with you a little about our organisation.

CWA is not just for older women it is for women of any age wanting to be involved in their local community and from all places in the country and the city. We raise funds for community projects. We are a voluntary group and we meet in the annexe at the Mechanics Institute every fourth Friday at 10am. On Sunday 26 March we had a stall at the Meet the Residents afternoon gathering held at the Mechanics Institute. We hope that our smiling faces encouraged some newcomers to join our group.

Now another zucchini recipe, similar to the previous issue but with a few changes.

### Zucchini and Pea Fritters.

Two medium zucchinis grated, half a cup of frozen peas, half a cup of grated cheese, half a cup of plain flour, two eggs lightly beaten.

In a bowl, mix all ingredients together. Heat up some vegetable oil to a high temperature and drop spoonful of mixture into the hot oil, drain on paper towel and serve.

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## RECYCLE RIGHT AND WIN!

Keep an eye out for your bins on recycling day. Council is thanking and rewarding households who make a big impact by sorting their waste correctly.

If you receive a 'Kerby' bin mascot sticker on your bin between 1 April - 31 July, your household will automatically go into the lucky prize draw to win one of three \$100 gift card vouchers each month.

The good recycling habits program is part of Council's relaunch of the 'Let's get sorted' waste education campaign and is aligned with the state-wide 'Small acts, Big impact' campaign. Visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/four-bin-system](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/four-bin-system) to learn more.

## THE ROMSEY UNITING CHURCH

### MUSIC, FUN AND LAUGHTER

The Romsey Uniting Church invites you to join us for an afternoon of music, fun and laughter from Gilbert & Sullivan's 'Trial by Jury and HMS Pinafore' performed by the Singularity Choir Sunday, 28th May, 2023 at 1.30pm in the Romsey Uniting Church Hall, 25 Pohlman Street Romsey.

The cost is \$20 and for concessions \$15.

Please RSVP before 12 May.

Jeni Clampit 5429 5480 0429 050 184

Carol Toy 0419 350 139

Payment may be made on the day.

Afternoon tea will be provided.

## SHIRE FLOOD RECOVERY UPDATE

It has been over five months since severe flooding impacted Macedon Ranges residents, and Council has been working hard behind the scenes to advocate, investigate and repair damage since the floods.

Council has appointed a Flood Recovery Coordinator, Leah Rushford, whose role it is to support the community with recovery and make sure everyone impacted by the October 2022 floods has the support they need.

The Flood Recovery Coordinator liaises with various community organisations, State Government departments and agencies about the impacts and recovery of our towns and residents.

Council has been working on a number of key activities to support recovery from the floods:

- There are now only two roads closed in the shire from a peak of 41 roads initially. Works will continue to be carried out over the coming year to repair all roads that were damaged.
- Council has installed 15-tonne load limit signs on Darraweit Valley Road bridge, and has informed the Department of Transport and Planning to remove it as a heavy vehicle route.

- Drainage concerns across the shire are being investigated by Council. This is expected to be a lengthy process, but is a priority for our staff.
- Waste levy reductions have been extended by the Victorian Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action (DEECA) until 2 May. Residents in the shire with flood waste can take it to Sunbury Landfill or any Macedon Ranges Shire Council transfer stations free of charge.
- Some exclusions apply for this, including the amount you are offloading. Macedon Ranges Shire Council transfer stations are unable to accept commercial quantities. This would need to be taken to Sunbury landfill.
- The information, visit [www.vic.gov.au/supporting-flood-waste-management](http://www.vic.gov.au/supporting-flood-waste-management) or call Council on 5422 0333
- Dangerous trees that were identified by an independent arborist in parks and reserves after the floods are being addressed by contractors. Not all trees will be removed completely, but will receive the treatment they require to remain healthy in the long term.

If you have questions or require support from Council for your flood recovery, please email [recovery@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:recovery@mrsc.vic.gov.au) or call 5422 0333.

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# ROMSEY MARKET DAY

At the Romsey Skate Park, corner of Main Street and White Avenue

Next market Sunday 9 April 9am to 1pm

Arts, crafts, bric-a-brac, preserves, jams, and much more. Also a variety of food stalls and an Easter Raffle – sold and drawn on the day. Don't miss out on another great day.

Email Angela [heywoodangela70@gmail.com](mailto:heywoodangela70@gmail.com) with any enquiries.

## LOCAL LAW REVIEW

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is reviewing its General Purposes Amenity Local Law No. 10 of 2013.

From permits, to rubbish, to pets – our Local Law covers a wide range of activities that impact our community. Council has a legislative obligation to review and prepare a new Local Law every ten years.

To learn more about the review and the draft new Local Law visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/local-laws](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/local-laws) or call 5422 0333 to register your interest.

## REGISTER YOUR PET

Council pet registrations renewals are due by 10 April 2023.

## NEW ROUND FOR \$250 POWER SAVING BONUS

Every household in Macedon will be able to access a new round of the \$250 Power Saving Bonus. The \$250 Power Saving Bonus will be re-opened to all eligible Victorian households from 24 March, including those that received payments under previous rounds, when they visit the Victorian Energy Compare website. Since the current round of the \$250 Power Saving Bonus launched on 1 July 2022, more than 1.7 million households have received this cost-of-living support. Applications for the payment can be made through the Victorian Energy Compare website, where customers can quickly and easily find the best energy offers in their areas

The Government is also reducing cost of living stress through the Energy Assistance Program, a free service providing energy consumers experiencing hardship with one-on-one assistance. The Energy Assistance Program is an initiative that will help Victorians struggling with power bills to navigate the energy market, apply for eligible grants and concessions, find and switch to better offers, and address billing errors. The program is being delivered in partnership with community partners Anglicare Victoria and Community Information & Support Victoria.

Victorians can save on their household energy bills through the \$1.3 billion Solar Homes Program by installing solar PV systems, batteries, solar hot water and heat pumps. To access the \$250 Power Saving Bonus, visit [compare.energy.vic.gov.au](http://compare.energy.vic.gov.au) or call 1800 000 832. To speak to an Energy Assistance Program advocate, call 1800 161 215.

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# THE LANCEFIELD LODGE

## THE BEGINNING OF A NEW VENTURE

December 2019 marked the beginning of a new venture for Peter and Danielle Cassidy as they made a bold move from Ivanhoe in Melbourne to take on the run down old motel, previously known as The Grange, in Main Road Lancefield.

Some would say not great timing as COVID struck our shores a month later, yet the couple decided to use the time to renovate accommodation rooms, modernise the bar, restaurant and conference/functions spaces, create a games room and gym area, update the outdoor pool and fencing... and The Lancefield Lodge was born!

Three years later and The Lodge is a hive of activity. Peter and Danielle have supported the local community by creating events, sporting sponsorships, buying and supporting local, from supplies, food, an extensive local wine list and choosing to stay open during COVID despite the strict hospitality trading regulations and lockdowns, with the sole purpose of being able to give locals a place to go during tough times.

The newly renovated and enclosed courtyard area is home to a large outdoor cinema where movies are screened, a stage where bands play, an outdoor fireplace and "ELSIE" - an old caravan converted into a pizza van

whose doors (window) will be officially open on April 5.

The Lodge continues to receive rave reviews for their food and their kitchen have recently launched a new Autumn menu with a fabulous mix of choices including the best charcuterie around.

### BAR, RESTAURANT AND ELSIE OPENING HOURS:

Wednesday and Thursday 5pm -10pm Friday 3pm -11pm  
(Happy Hour 3-5pm)

Saturday 12pm-11pm (all day food)

### WINE TOURS

The Lancefield Lodge also run Wine Tours and their bus seats up to 11 passengers, perfect for an intimate tour of the wonderful Macedon Ranges wineries.

Don't miss the next *Long Lunch* @The Lodge. Consisting of 6 delicious courses from 1-4pm after the Lancefield Market Day on April 22. Featuring live music by Yolanda Ingley 11 band (of Tesky Brother's fame!)

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# EASTER

As a Christian, I look forward to Easter each year. Yes, I get my share of Easter eggs and hot cross buns, but it is the spiritual significance of Good Friday and Resurrection Sunday that I cherish.

Good Friday is the day we celebrate, yes celebrate, Jesus dying on the cross. Jesus was sinless (1 Peter 2:22) which means that through His dying on the cross the sins for the whole world have been paid for (1 John 2:2).

John 3:16-18 (NIV) says: For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but to save the world through him. Whoever believes in him is not condemned, but whoever does not believe stands condemned already because they have not believed in the name of God's one and only Son.

Many people think that if you are 'good enough' you will make your way to heaven. It isn't like that at all, you cannot 'work' your way into heaven. As the verses above say, it is only through believing in Jesus that you will receive eternal life.

After dying on the cross Jesus showed who He is, the Son of God, by rising from the dead. This is what we celebrate on Easter Sunday, or Resurrection Sunday. If Jesus was still dead, then we would serve a dead Saviour and our faith would be dead. However, Jesus rose, so we all have the opportunity to believe in Jesus and receive eternal life.

If you want to know more, please contact the church or visit us on a Sunday morning.

**PRUDENCE WILLIAMS**

# QUICK WEIGHT LOSS OR OTHER HEALTH BENEFITS?

As a dietitian, I am often asked about the latest food trends and fad diets that promise quick weight loss or other health benefits. Whilst some of these diets may provide temporary results, they are not sustainable in the long-term and are often harmful to your health.

Instead, I recommend focusing on a colourful diet loaded with whole foods to provide your body with the nutrients it needs to function optimally and help prevent chronic diseases such as heart disease, diabetes, and cancer.

My non-rocket-science recommendations for creating healthful, sustainable eating manners:

1. Choose whole, nutrient-dense foods. This means foods that are as close to their natural state as possible, like fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean proteins, and healthy fats. These foods are packed with nutrients and are commonly lower in calories, helping you maintain a happy weight.
2. Practice portion control. Even apples can contribute to weight gain if consumed in excess. Use smaller plates and put your knife and fork down in between mouthfuls to help control your portions and prevent overeating.
3. Be mindful of your eating habits. Avoid eating whilst distracted, such as when watching TV or scrolling through social media. Instead, sit down at a table and savour your food. This can help you tune in to your body's hunger and fullness signals.
4. Drink plenty of water. Staying hydrated is key. It is *the* number one tip.

Remember, healthful eating is not about deprivation or strict rules. It is about nourishing your body and enjoying the pleasures of food in a mindful way. Next month I will discuss that old fashioned conundrum of "What to do for dinner?".

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# ADVENTURE BINGO HAS ARRIVED

The rules are simple:

- Pick up a Bingo card from Romsey Library or online
- Mark off the sites on the Bingo card as you see them.
- Once you find all the sites in a straight vertical, horizontal or diagonal line you've got Bingo!

Plus, complete your Adventure Bingo card online and you can go in the draw to win one of 50 x \$20 sports store gift cards.

Come see us at Romsey Library and join in the fun.

Our Facebook page is moving - follow us on Macedon Ranges Libraries to stay connected.

New magazine titles have landed at the Romsey Library.

We now have Australian Geographic,

Lunch Lady, Marie Claire, Vintage Made and Yarn.

Reserve or borrow some today.

The Autumn school holidays - Friday 7 April to Sunday 23 April - are nearly upon us.

Romsey Library has two drop-in activities to keep the children entertained.

Week 1: Bling Station - Drop-in activity between 11 – 3.

Colour yourself *Gold* at the Library's bling station. Pop in to make a crown or beaded creation.

Recommended for 4 – 12 year-olds.

Week 2: Autumn leave craft - Drop-in activity between 11-3

Have some creative fun with colourful and crackly autumn leaves. Grab a gold or silver sharpie and doodle on them, write a word or a message and attach to the branches on our tree. For all ages.

Pick up a school holiday program, or visit [ncgrl.vic.gov.au/holidayprogram](http://ncgrl.vic.gov.au/holidayprogram) for details.

## EASTER HOLIDAY CLOSURES.

The Romsey Library will be closed on the April 7 (Good Friday), of April 8 and the April 10 (Easter Monday).

## A CURIOUS CIRCLE, THURSDAY 27 APRIL 6.30-8.30 PM

Join our friendly women's craft group and embrace the beauty of Autumn as we make felt leaves to create lovely autumn garlands or bunting. No experience necessary.

Visit <https://goldfieldslibraries.com/romsey-events/> or ring 5429 3086 to book.

# ENVIRONMENT AND HEALTHY LANDSCAPE

Council's autumn calendar of environment events is full of exciting opportunities for you to get involved:

## CREATURES OF THE NIGHT - SPOTLIGHT EVENTS

Our biodiversity monitoring program includes surveying for night animals that are found by the roadsides within our biolink areas. Five spotlight evenings will be held in the following areas:

- 4 April – 7pm, Bullengarook
- 6 April – 7pm, Newham
- 11 April – 7pm, Kyneton

- 13 April – 7pm, Lauriston
- 18 April – 7pm, Riddells Creek

## BIRD WALK FOR BEGINNERS

Jacksons Creek, Gisborne - Thursday 20 April, 9-10am.

Join bird enthusiast and Biodiversity Project Officer, Tanya Loos, along Jacksons Creek for an hour with the birds. Learn to identify the little birds, practice using Birddata to record your sightings. Monthly walks will be held on the third Thursday of each month.

Visit [www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events](http://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events) to find out more about all of the above events and to register.



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# AUTUMN FLOWER SHOW

After an absence of four years, the Kyneton Horticultural Society is excited to once again host its annual Autumn Flower show as part of the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival at the Watts Pavilion, Kyneton Showgrounds.

It will run from Saturday 1 April from 1pm to 5pm and Sunday 2 April from 10am to 4pm. The Show highlights dahlias, roses, cut flowers, shrubs, pot plants, cacti and succulents, floral art, vegetables and a children's section.

A range of plants and spring bulbs will be available – an ideal time to do your Autumn planting.



With a growing presence of new gardening enthusiasts due to the pandemic, President Nicholas Scott encourages everyone of all ages to participate to show what they can grow. This is a show for all who love gardening and gardens.

Refreshments and raffle available and admission is only \$5.

For more information visit website [www.khs1894.com](http://www.khs1894.com) to download the entry form – alternately, entry schedules will be

available from the shire offices in Mollison Street.

The flower show is proudly sponsored by Kyneton Garden Supplies.



## ACCLAIMED PHOTOGRAPHER

The Romsey District & Lancefield Historical Society presents acclaimed photographer John Gollings.

John is giving a talk about his work in the Mechanics Institute at 1pm on Sunday 23 April. Famed for his documentation of some of the most spectacular indigenous sites across north-west Australia, Gollings' breathtaking photography continues his ongoing work to raise public awareness of and respect for the sacredness of these places for Aboriginal people. The cost of this event is \$30 and it can be booked on Trybooking.

Beth Child

## OPEN AIR CINEMA

The Macedon Ranges Youth Team have recently been spending quite a bit of time in Romsey, and this is ramping up with an Open-Air Cinema night on 28 April at the Romsey Ecotherapy Park. The night will feature food trucks and other entertainment and kicks off at 4:30pm.

The movie is to be confirmed, but keep an eye on our website for information, and if you have any movie requests please email them to us.

Youth Services will assist with transport of young people from Lancefield to Romsey for this event. Bookings are required. Visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/youth](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/youth) or contact [youth@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:youth@mrsc.vic.gov.au) for information.

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## THE LANCEFIELD PARK RECREATION RESERVES

# NEW COMMITTEE - NEW ENERGY

The Lancefield Park Recreation Reserves - Committee of Management AGM was held on 27 February and we now have a new committee.

Many of the well know and long-term committee members were re-elected. They include Syd Green, Judy Stammers, Stephen (Fred) King, Roger Lavelle, Bill Balcam and Hugh Parks. There was also an influx of new energy to the committee with Andrew Smith, Jeffrey Smith, Kim Mouser, Dina Robotham, Angela Dickins and Kathryn Lewis all putting their hands up to get involved for the first time.

The long-term contribution by Syd Green was recognized. Syd has been on the Park committee for over 47 years much of that time spent as the chairperson. The committee, as always, will rely heavily on his local and historical knowledge of our beautiful Park and are grateful that he is staying on board. Then there is Judy Stammers and Vivian Phillpotts who have served as Secretary and Treasure respectively for 12 years!

The enormous contribution they have made, giving countless hours of their time over the years has ensured our Park continued in the proud tradition of being a community owned and run Park. Their valuable involvement along with many other past Park Committee members, too many

to name here today as this article is just not long enough, will be recognized more formally in due course, with the new committee's first motion being one of appreciation and recognition of all past Park Committee members.

There were over 50 Lancefield residents in attendance at the AGM with representation of the majority of the Park's user groups which include the Lancefield Tennis Club, Lancefield Equestrian Group, Lancefield Pony Club, Lancefield Football Senior Club, Lancefield Junior Football Netball Club, Lancefield Bowls Club, Lancefield parkrun group, Lancefield Agricultural Committee, Lancefield Truck Show, and the Lancefield Rifle Club.

Each of the user groups in attendance gave a report of their activities over the last 12 months; it was impressive to hear the amazing work being done by the clubs and to have so many new people from the user groups being interested in being part of the overarching Lancefield Park Committee. The new Committee would like to thank everyone who attended, either to give a report, to support their Club or to support the Park; it was a lively meeting.

I attended the meeting thinking of putting my hand up to be on the committee and help out a bit, but ended up being elected as chairperson. Picking up the role from

# Greenwood

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Syd Green, a local Lancefield legend, is overwhelming. Thankfully Syd and Judy continue to be generous with their time and are working closely with me as I get my head around the role. It is complex, and I am impressed by the way they have managed it over the years.

There was plenty of enthusiasm about the all the tasks ahead with the new members bringing fresh energy, support and ideas to the committee, and the previous committee members keen to guide them and share their collective wisdom and past experiences. All are keen to work together effectively for the betterment of our Park, user groups and community - the Park truly is the heart of Lancefield.

Following up from the article in the last Mercury about the walking track, the Committee has been advised that DEECA will provide funding for repairs for the track and to top up the soft fall at the playground - we are just still waiting for the funds to be supplied so we can action the repairs.

Please email: lancefieldpark@hotmail.com for further information about the Park or to contact Lancefield Park Committee members.

Kathryn Lewis



**HALL HAPPENINGS**  
Lancefield Mechanics' Institute

# SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

There is something for everyone happening at the hall for over the April and May, so come along and enjoy what is on offer.

## APRIL

Saturday 1 – Grand Gala 150th year Celebrations for the Lancefield Football Club

Sunday 23 - Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society Inc. with guest speaker John Gollings, photographer, talking about his vast collection of photographs from Indigenous sacred sites in remote Australia and Asia.

At 1pm - \$30 which includes refreshments. Book online at TryBooking.

25 – ANZAC Day Morning Tea

29 & 30 – CWA Group Art and Craft Exhibition

**REV. MATTHEW BROWNE. 0401 615 099**

***Easter Services: Good Friday Romsey - 10:00am  
Easter Sunday regular weekly times.***

**Easter Family Fun**

Easter Saturday  
APRIL 8 • 11 AM - 1 PM  
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ANGLICAN PARISH OF  
**LANCEFIELD**  
WITH  
**ROMSEY**

**Prayer Meeting**  
**St Pauls**  
**Romsey each Monday 7pm**

**Bible Study**  
**Christ Church Lancefield hall 10:30**

**The Op Shop will be operating Friday and Saturday as per normal hours as well as during the Easter Family Fun Time.**

# KITTIES NEED A HOME RIGHT MEOW

Lancefield farmed animal sanctuary Edgar's Mission recently got more than they bargained for after an alpaca and sheep rescue grew to over 50 cats and kittens in urgent need.

Upon arrival at the flood-affected property, the rescue team were alerted to the plight of the free-roaming felines.

"Their situation had escalated as the cats were not desexed, a problem that was beyond the property owner," said the not-for-profit's founder, Pam Ahern.

The authority charged with handling the cat situation granted a window of opportunity for Edgar's Mission to save as many cats and kittens as they could before moving in. Over the course of several days, more than 50 felines were brought to safety, starting with seven young kittens whose wellbeing was critical.

"We never, in our wildest imagination, anticipated such a situation, however these were animals in urgent need who had come into our sphere of being. We could not walk away from their suffering and imminent death without giving it a go," Pam said.

Upon meeting the cats, it was clear they were not 'feral',

with several very friendly and most eager for a pat and a cuddle.

"They are beautiful," Pam enthused. "Whilst underweight, flea and parasite riddled, which has been addressed, they are otherwise okay. Many of the females are pregnant, some heavily so."

Edgar's Mission is now urgently calling on rescue groups and kind individuals who can assist with taking on the cats and kittens.

"You can also help by spreading the word, and if you are able to make a financial donation towards the significant cost of food, care, bedding, kitty litter, toys, and veterinary expense for these animals, it would be greatly appreciated," Pam said.

"And finally - please, if you have a cat, have them desexed unless a health issue prevents this. And do keep them inside at night for their safety and to protect our precious native animals."

If you would like to adopt or donate, please contact Edgar's Mission at [info@edgarsmission.org.au](mailto:info@edgarsmission.org.au) or 0408 397 301.



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**YOUR  
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**TJ SCOTT & SON**  
FUNERAL DIRECTORS

# COMMUNITY BANK CONNECTIONS RELAY FOR LIFE

Once again, our Branch Team and volunteer Board of Directors enjoyed participating in the Cancer Council's Relay For Life at Lancefield Park with our "Community Bank Carnival" team. This event is such a significant occasion for cancer survivors, carers and the community in general and Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey are honoured to support such a great celebration of life. As a team, we raised \$4,385, which will go a long way in supporting the Cancer Council's efforts. Thank you to all those involved who contributed to such a wonderful fundraising outcome.

## COMMUNITY INVESTMENT PROGRAM FOR EVENTS

Thank you to all who have participated in our current round of grants for events – we had a fabulous response. Keep your eyes out for the next edition of our Community Bank Connections to see the full list of recipients. Don't forget, email [cip@lrcfsl.com.au](mailto:cip@lrcfsl.com.au) to be kept up to date on future grants programs.

## TAC L2P PROGRAM

Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey are helping young

locals get driving experience. The Transport Accident Commission L2P program helps young learner drivers access a volunteer mentor and a car to get the driving experience they need for their P-plates. As part of our 2022 Community Investment Program, a grant was provided towards the purchase of a TAC L2P vehicle that will service the Kyneton, Woodend, Lancefield and Romsey communities. If you, or someone you know, would like to become a volunteer driving mentor, or are interested in participating in the program, please call Denise Sibenaler,

L2P Program Coordinator on 0409 246 416.



## The Wood Bloke

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**ROMSEY LANCEFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS**



**A LOVELY  
BUS TRIP TO  
MICA GRANGE**

We had a lovely trip to Daylesford last month and this month looks even better.

Our next bus trip will be held on Tuesday 4 April. We are heading to Mica Grange in Sutton Grange. A beautiful garden with sculptures as the website states:

“The expansive gardens are designed to fit the natural contours of the land and are an oasis of fragrance, colour, tranquillity and charm. Pebbled paths lead you through rose walks, rockeries and shrubberies across treed lawns to the orchard and raised vegetable gardens. Mica Grange gardens are a place to meander, relax and enjoy the beauty of


gardens, the wonders of art and spectacular views.”

We will be having lunch in Castlemaine. Remember the bus trips are open to everyone. The trips depart from Romsey Mechanics Institute and the Lancefield Post Office.

We meet every Monday at the rear of the Romsey Mechanics Institute for lunch, for either \$5 or \$10 depending on what we serve – everyone is more than welcome. Come along and join us for a chat or a game of cards.

For further information please contact Helen on 0409 064 303 or Jan on 0408 371 755.

Hope to see you soon.




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# Intimidation, suggestive jokes, exclusion...

**Gendered violence comes in many forms.  
All are OHS issues. All are unacceptable.**

**Employers have an obligation to protect their workers.**

**Q WorkSafe Gendered Violence**



Reducing workplace harm.





LANCEFIELD FOOTBALL  
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Enquiries about  
ticketing for the 1  
April - 150th reunion  
or orders for the book  
(to be launched 27 May) can be  
made via:  
lancefieldfnc@gmail.com  
Stacey Deimos 0466716585,  
Kaylene Cruise 0447364497

*The 150th Anniversary of the  
Lancefield Football Club*

LANCEFIELD MECHANICS HALL  
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TICKETS \$50 FROM TRYBOOKING



All players and supporters are  
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