

Lancefield Mercury



A PATCH OF LANCEFIELD



A HEX ON UFOs

I met quilters Jo, Tracy, Kathy, Sue, Vicki, Lesley, Jenny and Christine in their usual Thursday morning meeting place, the annexe of Lancefield Mechanics Institute – as this was a Saturday morning, I'd been expecting Jo and maybe one other, but was greeted by eight enthusiastic quilters who had dropped everything and picked up their best/most recent quilts to come and talk about the upcoming Quilt Show, to be held in the Mechanics Institute Hall on the weekend of May 27/28.

The group has about 25 regular members and most weeks around 15 of them arrive to work on their latest projects and get help with the odd technical issue – “making your points meet” is one – whilst learning new sewing skills, and supporting each other with ideas, fabric swaps and cups of tea – lots of cups of tea!

Kathy is the longest-standing member – she joined in 1994, left to do family things and came back after a few years' hiatus. Lesley began a quilt in one session and fifteen years later, she completed it.

Everyone brings different skills and tastes to their quilting. Christine's grandmother was a seamstress and passed on her precision and attention to detail, Tracy inherited eleven 60 litre tubs of hand-dyed fabric from her mum – so what are you going to do but use them? Her

specialty is “art quilts” which are hand-painted shapes which she then oversews. Some quilts are miracles of small scraps pieced together, some have quite large pieces of patterned material, arranged to make an interesting overall picture. Some are abstract, some, like Vicki's, recall her trip to Africa.

When the group started originally, back in the CFA Hall, all the quilts were pieced and quilted by hand; more recently sewing machines have made their way into the process.

Jo began with a hexagon quilt, the very traditional shape used in so many classic quilt pieces. She later acquired a “hex” quilt and when she investigated how it was made, the hexagon templates had been cut out from Melbourne Council Water Board plans; they are still there, adding an unexpected layer of history to her find.

Everyone talked about UFOs, which turn out to be unfinished objects – most people have at least a few; some complete one quilt before launching into another.

The group makes lots of quilts for such organisations as Very Snuggly Quilts – cot-sized quilts for babies in hospital; quilts for people after the fires, when they were more than just a decorative covering if you've lost even your bedding; pillow cases for cancer patients; and in one case a quilt for the Pastoria CFA, in memory of their oldest volunteer, Marge ►



Griffin.

Quilting is a very old practice – soldiers in the British Army in India were given quilting projects as a way of dealing with what we now know as PTSD – some stunning examples still survive and are regularly shown in touring exhibitions. The National Museum in Canberra has the Rajah quilt, made by convicts, and the local historical society has a wonderful quilt – the Sale of Gifts quilt - with all contributors’ signatures embroidered onto it.

The group say that it’s a very calming thing to do – and you have to focus as well; easy to stick a needle into a finger if you aren’t entirely present.

Fabric is sourced from everywhere – it’s a way of

reusing old garments, or produce bags (in the USA); Tracy says they are “freeing fabric imprisoned in shops and bringing it to life.” And not only specialist shops, op shops as well. An old dress, or tie, or skirt, will suddenly reappear in someone’s new design.

The group has made a quilt as a raffle prize for this year’s exhibition (see photo above) – tickets are on sale now, or when you arrive to see the glorious, varied work on display.

The group welcomes new members, even if you don’t sew, come along for excellent company, feasts for the eye, and cups of tea – lots of cups of tea.

Beth Child

Savoy Opera Company Inc
presents
Iolanthe

Saturday 6th May at 2pm

Lancefield Mechanics Institute
4 The Crescent, Lancefield

Tickets:
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savoyoperacompany.com

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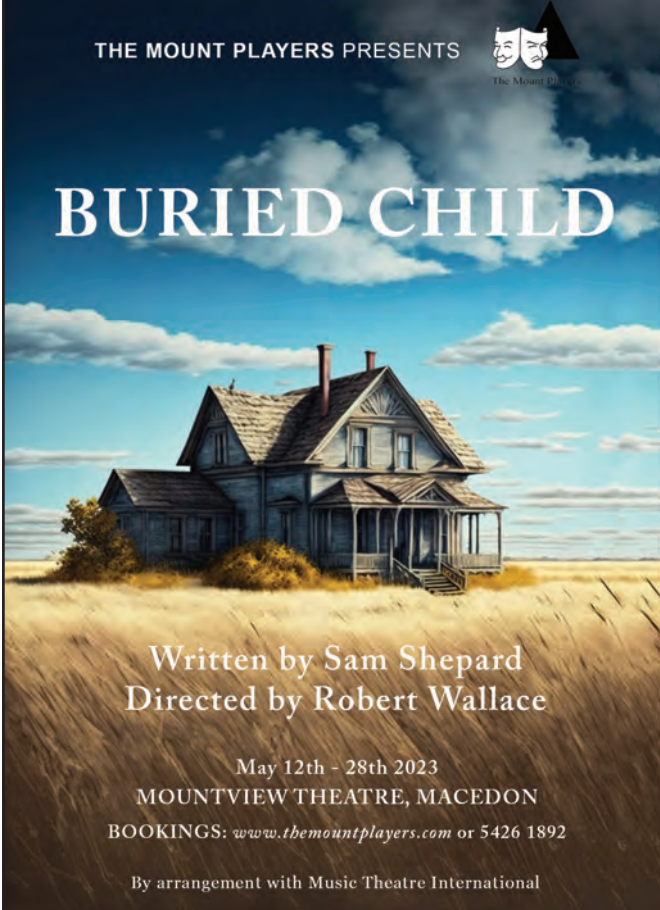
SCAN FOR DETAILS

Rehearsing a scene in Buried Child. Jason Triggs (left) with director Robert Wallace, Garry Dover (couch). Photo by Karlana Santamaria.



THE MOUNT PLAYERS PRESENTS 


BURIED CHILD



Written by Sam Shepard
Directed by Robert Wallace

May 12th - 28th 2023
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BOOKINGS: www.themountplayers.com or 5426 1892

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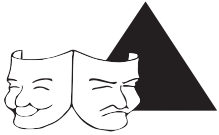
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THE MOUNT PLAYERS HAPPENINGS

A MACABRE LOOK AT AN AMERICAN MIDWESTERN FAMILY

Our second production for 2023, *Buried Child*, written by Sam Shepard, was first presented in 1978 and won the 1979 Pulitzer Prize for drama launching Shepard to national fame as a playwright.

The play is an intense drama set in an old farm house, in mid-century Illinois. A macabre look at an American Midwestern family with a dark, terrible secret. Heavily atmospheric and challenging, the play will entrance its audience with questions of morality and its take on the disintegration of the American dream. Although dark in many respects, it is delivered with humour and pathos. There is hope however, as the final moments of the play suggest salvation with a surprise ending.

With a superb cast, brilliant set and one hell of a script, the audience will be taken on an emotional journey under the experienced eye of director, Robert Wallace. This is our 2023 Victorian Drama League entry where The Mount Players have received many accolades for their productions over the years.

The season runs from Friday 12 May – Sunday 28 May with only nine performances so book early to avoid disappointment at www.themountplayers.com or call 5426 1892 for assistance.

See you at the theatre!

By Karen Hunt

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FEDERATION TRAIL IS STILL OFFICIALLY CLOSED

The Council website indicates that the shared path that runs parallel to Melbourne-Lancefield Road (between Romsey and Lancefield) is still closed due to flood damage. There are still some 'road closed' signs in a couple places on the track, in mid-April two were face down on the ground and one was facing in a different direction. At the time of editing, the signs were back up and facing the track.

The track appears fine for walking/running apart from a 500m section just south of Collivers Road where care is needed, and it would hard to ride on with anything but a bicycle with wide tyres.

There has been no work on the track in the Lancefield Recreation Reserve, causing issues for weekly parkrun which uses the track on Saturday mornings.

Andy Moore



LANCEFIELD COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

President: Angela Turner, Secretary: Maybelle Briggs,
Treasurer: Sandra Stevens, lancefieldcwa@gmail.com

HEALTHY COFFERS

We trust that our readers had a lovely time over the Easter break. It was a shame that the weather spoilt any activities planned for outdoors, yet the rain was welcome. And it seems more rain is on the way. As our bank balance is in a healthy state at the Association, we were able to make donations to various community groups for this coming twelve months.

They were Lancefield Junior Tennis Club, Lancefield Primary School, Lancefield Kindergarten, St. Mary's Primary School and Nulla Vale CFA.

We know that all of these groups are most grateful for our contributions, and we are proud that we can assist in this way.

On Mother's Day, Sunday May 14, we hope that all of our Mothers, Grandmothers and Great-Grandmothers have a special day with their families and loved ones.

LANCEFIELD MERCURY INC.

A0045845D



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

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

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

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

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

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

Editorial Committee:

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



Advertising Rates

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

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

Annual 1/8 page \$280
Annual 1/4 page \$360
Annual 1/2 page \$650
Annual full page \$1000

Colour Advertising:

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

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

FIRE DANGER

The Fire Danger Period for the Macedon Ranges has been lifted. Residents wishing to conduct a burn-off must ensure they are abiding by Council local laws, which prevent burn-offs on land less than 4000 square metres (one acre) without a permit. All burn-offs must also be registered online at www.firepermits.vic.gov.au or by calling ESTA on 1800 668 511. Council's Director Community, Maria Weiss, said residents should ensure weather conditions are safe for burning off, and that their burn piles do not exceed the size appropriate to their land as set out in the local laws. "It is important residents check with Council to see if they require a permit to conduct a burn-off, as well as the amount of vegetation they can burn at any one time," she said. Residents are also reminded to check for wildlife which may be nesting in burn piles. Wildlife officers recommend using a torch and a broom, or pole, to carefully check the centre and bottom areas of the pile. CFA's North West Region Manager Community Safety, David Allen, said it was important residents registered their burn. "Registering your burn-off ensures that if smoke or fire is reported, the incident is cross-checked with our register, which prevents firefighters from unnecessarily responding," he said. Green waste disposal is free at Council's resource recovery facilities (transfer stations) for ratepayers and tenants in the Macedon Ranges. For information visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/transfer-stations - or detailed information on burning off and permit requirements, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/burning-off or call 5422 0333.

PARKRUN

BOOST YOUR ENERGY

Parkrun has resumed in Lancefield Park on Saturday mornings. Come down early enough for an 8am start to get your weekend off to a flyer. Run, walk, or volunteer to boost your energy levels. It is a flat five-kilometre course (usually), easy to follow and you won't have to fight the crowds.

If you are not up for a run or a walk join the volunteers at the finish line and help out. It is free and all-inclusive for anyone from 5 to 105.

Visit lancefieldparkrun.org.au for more information



HALL HAPPENINGS

Lancefield Mechanics' Institute

BOOKINGS STRONG

Bookings at the hall continue to be strong on a month-to-month basis. Our regular classes have taken a break over the school holiday period and will resume again in Term 2. Karate and Tai Chi from Wu Lin Retreat will also be offered beginning in Term 2.

MAY

Saturday 6 May at 2PM

The Savoy Opera Company will be presenting Gilbert & Sullivan's hilarious operetta Iolanthe, a satirical fantasy. Phyllis and Strephon wish to marry, but as Phyllis is a ward of court, she requires the Lord Chancellor's permission. The Lord Chancellor, however, wants her for himself. Featuring a melodious score and brilliant wit, Iolanthe not only targets peers of the realm and the British system of government, but also offers thinly disguised portraits of Queen Victoria and William Gladstone (Liberal PM of the day).

Tickets: Adult \$35 Child \$10 at trybooking.com

Friday 12 May

The Paranormal Investigation Group will meet

Saturday 27 and Sunday 28 May

A Patch of Lancefield will hold their Quilting Exhibition which is always a visual delight

JUNE

Sunday 11 June Yarn and Fibre Expo

Saturday 17 June Rock and Roll Dance

For enquires regarding events or booking all or part of the hall complex please contact our Booking Officer at lancefieldhall@gmail.com or 0437 313 564.



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TOWN HALL EVENTS

SATURDAY 13 MAY
TIM WINTON – LOVE LETTER TO NIGALOO

A reflection on writing in the throes of a climate emergency and extinction crisis. Tim has been writing about coastal life for over 40 years, but instead of publishing a new novel, the four-time Miles Franklin winner has delivered a three-part natural history series for television. What makes an artist step so far outside his lane at this stage of his career? How does a novelist reconcile a lifelong defence of ‘useless beauty’ with the urgent need for action? To purchase tickets visit mrrc.vic.gov.au/buytickets or call 1300 888 802 (10am-4pm, weekdays).

HERITAGE STRATEGY

This year, Macedon Ranges Shire Council will begin to review its existing Heritage Strategy.

This strategy aims to identify what we need to know about and how we are to manage, protect and celebrate this significant heritage. Initial community consultation is expected in May, to find out what you love about our shire’s heritage.

Keep an eye on Council’s Heritage protection & planning page (<https://www.mrrc.vic.gov.au/Build-Plan/Heritage-Protection-and-Planning>) for updates, or call 5422 0333 to register your interest.

THE BEAT COMES TO LIFE

Macedon Ranges musician and educator Shaun Evans is assembling some of the best local talent for a special home-grown show. The 14-piece Orkestra Llektriq will present THE BEAT over two performances -- coming to life in Romsey and Kyneton in May. The Orkestra is a fun and fanciful take on the traditional orchestra, incorporating strings, harp, woodwinds, brass and percussion. The Llektriq portion comes through a rock rhythm section (guitars, drums, keyboards) plus 3 powerful vocalists. Further putting the concept on its head is the 14th member of the ensemble -- Macedon Ranges DJ & Electronic Artist DJ Stamp. THE BEAT producer and musical director is Shaun Evans. THE BEAT is a multi-sensory experience bringing to life the story of The Beat from the ‘Big Bang’ to the Internet age. Told through music, video and multi-sensory light, sound and projections the experience will be unlike anything the Ranges has seen. The show will be presented in two formats, with a 45-minute daytime presentation (for the public and school groups) and an evening, 3-hour non-stop extended dance party show. THE BEAT will come to life on Friday, May 12 at the Romsey Mechanics Institute and Friday, May 19 at the Kyneton Town Hall. The production is brought to you by Ranges Events & The Ranges Music Network with support from Macedon Ranges Arts & Culture and Creative Victoria. Visit rangesevents.com.au to make a booking.

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THE LANCEFIELD SWAP MEET AND CAR 'SHOW AND SHINE'

The Lancefield Swap Meet is regularly held in autumn sunshine which ensures a big crowd, but for this year's event the weather gods conspired to provide a weekend of heavy rain.

The night prior to Sunday morning the rain cascaded down, leaving many exhibitors, who camped overnight, less than pleased with their soggy digs and the park grounds very wet under foot.

Early Sunday morning the rain stopped and the drizzle eased and the skies started to clear, and although the ground was still soft underfoot, the brave souls started to appear, many a hardy local and visitor alike to Lancefield Park, people eager for bargains and a small but unfazed cohort of show and classic car exhibitors who ventured in with their pride and joys.

Although numbers of exhibitors, browsers/buyers and show cars were well down on previous years the show went on. The weather stayed dry for the rest of the day, but due to the overnight rain some changes were quickly organised by the tireless organisers, moving the show cars to the east-side of the park away from the oval to protect the oval's soft surface.

The footy club volunteers and the Swap Meet

organising committee did an excellent job in trying weather conditions to run the Swap Meet and 'Show and Shine' and although numbers were down, those that did attend found many bargains and enjoyed the visual feast of show cars.

At 11am the judging of the show cars was complete and although the field was smaller, the calibre of the show entrants was good but alas there can only be a few winners and trophies were awarded as follows.

Best Car of the show was awarded to a delicious Orange 1966 Chevy Nova powered by a 350 engine with exquisite paint and top level engineering and detailing.

The Best Vintage Car was awarded to Large Black Sunbeam open top tourer Circa early 1920s.

Best Street Rod was awarded to an understated hot rodded Red Ford 1935 businessman's coupe.

The best Classic car was awarded to a very tidy Red 1969 XW GT Ford Falcon that came from Mulwala just to attend the show.

Due to the weather, unsurprisingly, no motorcycles attended, and that trophy was not awarded.

David Kemp

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HISTORICAL SOCIETY IN DIRE STRAITS

If you want to see the very valuable asset to the local towns that is the historical society – we need action from the community now! We need local residents who feel passionate about their township to come forward and support the Society.

For example, we desperately require volunteers:

- to collect and file documents – such as weekly newspaper clippings;
- to file family history documents.
- to sort and file photographs of local people, houses and businesses that we regularly receive.

Without volunteers, without enthusiasm and eagerness to maintain the Society and therefore the history of all the towns and hamlets mentioned below in the former Romsey Shire – we will be closing our doors.

We have so much fascinating information and so many wonderful objects in our collection to stimulate your

curiosity.

For example, on May 27 and 28 the local quilting group, A Patch of Lancefield held their biennial show in the Mechanics Institute, and one of the Society’s great treasures – the Sale of Gifts Quilt, completed in 1896 – was on display for the first time since 2011.

Seymour Cottage in Romsey is one of the jewels in the Society’s crown – we await news of funding to help restore it to its glory days, and there are fetes and open days twice a year. Any keen gardeners out there might like to come along in the meantime to help with working bees, so that the Friends of Seymour Cottage group can be re-energised.

If you don’t care about your history and heritage – do nothing. If you DO value and care about your town’s history and heritage – and wish to see it maintained – you can do something!

The Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society

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Inc. was formed in April 1979 to preserve all written and photographic items relating to the former Shire of Romsey. This Shire existed from 1862 until it was amalgamated in 1995 to become part of the Macedon Ranges Shire. The former Shire covered 628 square kilometres and included the townships of Benloch, Bolinda, Cherokee, Chintin, Clarkefield, Darraweit Guim, Kerrie, Lancefield, Monegetta, Mount William, Riddells Creek, Rochford, Romsey, Springfield and Tantaraboo. Our rich pre-history includes the Aboriginal Greenstone Quarry at Will-im-ee Moor-ring (Mount William) and the Archaeological Megafauna site in the old swamp at Lancefield Park.

Our collection of documents, artefacts and photographs of Romsey, Lancefield and its surrounding districts informs us about the lives of the traditional owners of the land as well as our pioneering families, our businesses and the society we have become.

The Society's collections include family trees, manuscripts, town histories, church histories, school histories, club histories, businesses and many more. Today the Society continues to document our history, adding to existing papers relating to its earliest history through to the twenty-first century.

The Society began as the Romsey Historical Society and expanded to include Lancefield in the name in July 1985. Locals with a passion for their township's history, volunteered regularly and began to collect documents, photographs and artefacts. In the early 1980s, Sidney

Seymour Cottage was bequeathed to the Society and restoration and work on the cottage was maintained until the last two decades. In 1983 the society moved into the former Lancefield Courthouse where it remains today. Originally established as a Museum, the Courthouse has operated only as an historical society since the 2000s.

Residents of the two largest townships, Romsey and Lancefield, have been involved in the Society for many years. However, over the past decade, fewer and fewer members of the public have maintained an active interest in the Society; fewer and fewer currently volunteer their time for the ongoing collection of material and maintenance of the existing collections. In the past five years the number of members, and of volunteers, has dwindled further. In 2023 there are around 40 members of the Society, and only a handful are actively involved and we struggle to find a committee.

A few hours with us on a regular basis will make all the difference to our doors staying open.

If history is your passion, come along to the Courthouse – open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 10am till 3pm – and see some of our treasures, whilst you talk to us about helping the Society thrive into the future.

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Dimity Reed
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CHURCH NEWS

Sunday Mass is celebrated at 9am and will alternate between Lancefield and Romsey – First and third Sunday of the month in Romsey, second, fourth and fifth Sunday of the month in Lancefield.

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

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

Bookings are now open for parish children to register for

Sacraments. 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 (lancefield@cam.org.au).

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

YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID

Youth Mental Health First Aid Training has now been scheduled across the shire for 2023.

The training is designed for adults wanting to increase their knowledge about common mental health problems experienced by young people, as well as developing skills and confidence to support young people seek help and

maintain good mental health.

Each course is held over two-to-four sessions and participants must complete all sessions to qualify as a first aider. There are courses in Romsey on May 29, 30 and June 5 and 6. Visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/Youth-Mental-Health for more information on these sessions.

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When Tuesday 13th of June

Time 7pm - 8pm

Where Romsey Community Hub 96 Main St,
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RECONCILIATION WEEK 2023

Macedon Ranges Shire Council will host and support a number of events and activities across the shire during National Reconciliation Week this year from 27 May – 3 June. There will be a key event at the Kyneton Town Hall on Tuesday 30 May at 7pm with Brent Ryan, Assistant Director at the Yoorrook Justice Commission, accompanied by one of the Commission's Truth Receivers. They will be presenting on the last 12 months of Truth Telling across the state.

There will also be yarnning circles, smoking ceremonies and Welcome to Country held on the Lands of the three Traditional Owners in the Macedon Ranges: Djadjawurrung, Taungurung and Wurundjeri Woi-wurrung Peoples. This year's theme is Be a Voice for Generations, and is an opportunity for all Australians to come together to learn about our shared histories and rich culture. It is a time to acknowledge truths and explore how each one of us can contribute to reconciliation.

To quote the words of Karen Mundine, Reconciliation Australia's CEO: "Reconciliation is about building a better nation; a more united Australia that respects and takes pride in 65,000 years of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, histories, stories and achievements; an Australia that believes in the right of First Nations peoples to make decisions about our lives and our communities; and an Australia that stands opposed to racism, inequity and injustice."



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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 May meeting of the Romsey/Lancefield Probus Club for 2023 will be on Thursday 25 May at 10 am in St. Mary's Catholic Church Hall, Main Street, Romsey. The speaker will be Bri MacPherson – Meteorologist.

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: Noreen 0401 579 180 Secretary: Betty 0409359048

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

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Authorised by MA Thomas, Shop 14, Nexus Centre, 9 Goode Street, Gisborne



WHY DOES RRBATA EXIST AND WHAT DOES IT DO?

Many community members only know RRBATA (Romsey Region Business and Tourism Association) for the events it has organised over many years (Christmas in Romsey Festival, annual Breakfast and Dinner events, the 150th Anniversary Dinner, Light up the Sky).

However, RRBATA is so much more than an event organiser.

RRBATA's overarching vision is for a vibrant, collaborative and prosperous eastern corridor community which enhances liveability in the region. RRBATA is committed to actively collaborating with business, community and government to advocate for initiatives that foster regional prosperity.

The Business Breakfast and Dinner events, as well as the bi-monthly After Work Business Catch Ups provide forums for discussion and exchange of ideas. RRBATA's advocacy to Macedon Ranges Shire Council (both directly and with its seat at the Business and Tourism Industry Stakeholder group – BATI), State and Federal government bodies, Daylesford Macedon Tourism (the regional tourism board) and Tourism Macedon Ranges is ongoing in order to promote eastern corridor economic development and the visitor economy. This includes promotion of member businesses to the local

community and regional visitors.

For the past two years, RRBATA received State Government funding to support professional social media marketing of our region and its businesses.

RRBATA has previously worked in partnership with MRSC in the Romsey streetscape enhancement initiative which actively engaged the broader community. It was supportive of the Romsey Ecotherapy Park project (especially as a regional attraction) as well as providing input to the Barry Street roundabout project some years ago. Later this year, the Digital Interface Historic Plaques project will be completed for Main Street landmark sites.

Very soon, RRBATA will launch its new website which will showcase our wonderful eastern corridor and its businesses. See www.rrbata.com.au

RRBATA's membership is always growing with member businesses spread between Lancefield, Romsey, Darraweit, Monegetta and Chintin.

This year is a stock-take one for the organisation, from which RRBATA will emerge with an even stronger focus on its members and the region's prosperity, whilst also being an ongoing great community supporter more generally. Visit www.rrbata.com.au for more information.



EVERYONE IS VERY WELCOME

Regular weekly Romsey Church Service - 9am each Sunday,
Lancefield Church Service - 10:30am each Sunday.

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

Our thanks go to the community for attending the Easter Family Fun Day held on Easter Saturday at St Pauls Romsey. The day was a great success, and it was lovely to see all the children enjoy the face painting, animal nursery and the Easter egg hunt.

Monthly Parish Community Lunch will return to the usual venue of Christ Church Hall, Lancefield on Saturday May 9 at 12noon. The day is free to all and everyone is very welcome to attend.

St. Paul's Op Shop is open Friday 1:30-4:30 and Saturday 10am-1pm. The Op Shop is now on the parish website for viewing the week's specials. Your valued donations of clothing, bric-a-brac, craft items, books and good quality working toys can be left during opening hours, these items are very much appreciated.

Unfortunately some donations were left outside of the Op Shop open times. These items can end up wet or damaged owing to the weather conditions and as a result, consequently, need 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.

PROGRAM ENDS

In 2020, Lancefield and Romsey Neighbourhood Houses partnered to start our "Lancefield Romsey Community Support Program" with the goal of supporting our community throughout the pandemic. Our program now has come to an end, with over 10,000 meals having been produced by our local volunteers, filling an incredible need.

Thanks to our wonderful volunteers who raised their hands (paws) to help us. Anna Quigley and Rob Good, together with Charlie the dog, have been delivering meals, providing much needed support, an ear to listen, a shoulder to cry on, and supporting those who are doing it tough.

From the bottom of our heart, thank you for your contributions, and for the wider community who have supported this initiative.

You can still refer people to either the Neighbourhood Houses (Romsey - 5429 6724, Lancefield - 5429 1214), or Foodshare, for assistance.

VOLUNTARY TRANSPORT SERVICE

This is a joint project providing affordable and flexible options for people with transport needs in our community. We provide Health Transport – which is one to one transport to medical and health appointments, as well as ShareRide - share a ride with others for your shopping, recreational and social needs, and once in town, there is the option to be picked up and dropped off wherever you would like to go.

Volunteer drivers and other opportunities to help keep the initiative going.

Do you have some spare time or looking for volunteering opportunities? We are recruiting volunteer drivers!

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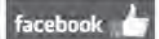
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BOOMERANG BAGS LANCEFIELD

In 2013 two Australian women started a conversation about plastic. They found how it was overflowing landfills, floating in the oceans, strangling marine life and causing all sorts of trouble. So what could be done about it?

The answer - instead of the one million new plastic bags being used every minute, the 10.46 million tonnes of waste fabric waste created each year could be turned into reusable bags – Boomerang Bags. This initiative is now in over 1100 communities worldwide, with volunteers producing over 500,000 bags, 3800 of these in Lancefield.

The bags are of course supposed to 'boomerang' back, but many of them seem to disappear into the same place that odd socks do. Of the 3800 made by our small but dedicated team in Lancefield 3795 have not been returned. Please check your cupboards and car boot to see if you have any extras, they can be returned to the box outside the Townhouse. The makers of the bags will be very appreciative.

Speaking with the wonderful group Lancefield volunteers, it seems people come along firstly to Boomerang Bags to contribute to the positive change of reducing the number of plastic bags used. Over time it ends up the being much more about the socialising, fun and friendships which are formed.

The Lancefield team have been meeting on Wednesdays at the Neighbourhood House since 2018. They really enjoy each

other's company while they sew, cut or screen print the bags and I'd say there is a good sense of satisfaction in being part of an environmental solution. New members are always welcome.

RESIDENTS EVENT

A huge thank you to the groups that attended our Residents Event at the end of March. It is quite amazing to see how much members of this small community achieve. The low number of people who came to the event was really disappointing but for those who did come I think it was more about quality over quantity.

Contact information for all our community organisations can be found in the calendar, copies available at the Townhouse, and lancefield.org.au website - the community directory of the Neighbourhood House.

MEGAFUNA FESTIVAL

This year's Extinct – Lancefield Megafauna Festival will have a theme of biodiversity – if you love Megafauna or biodiversity, or would like to find out what they are, then please join us for a festival planning meeting at the Neighbourhood House on Tuesday 20 May.

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TIGERS FLYING HIGH TO CELEBRATE THEIR 150TH ANNIVERSARY

On Saturday 1 April, with the image of a tiger projected onto the screen and the music of Survivor singing 'Eye of the Tiger', footballers old and new, and their families and friends gathered at the Lancefield Mechanics' Institute Hall to celebrate a great anniversary. Russell Pattinson acted as Master of Ceremonies for the evening. At the outset he welcomed everyone – the hall was full, with over 200 in attendance. He then introduced Rob Bryant who was representing the Bendigo Bank – a major sponsor of the Football Netball Club, the anniversary and the forthcoming book.

The evening was divided into three parts – remembering the 100th anniversary of the 1923 premiership led by its Captain, Ike Johnston. I learned on the night that Johnston proudly donated the clock that has hung in the Mechanics' Institute Hall since that victory. The clock had a special spotlight focussed on it for the evening, to mark the first premiership victory after World War One, where several players were killed, including the Club's first League Medallist, Bonny Lamb.

The second part of the proceedings focussed on the 1950s to 1970s, and the third was focus on the 1980s up to the present day. Denis Graham presented the audience with a fine line-up of players and family members from the 1950s, including Brian and Pauline Russell. Brian reminisced about his brother, Sammy Russell, Lancefield's first Bowen Medallist and three-time premiership player from the 1940s and 1950s. Brian's wife Pauline, also recalled winning a football club 'Belle of the Ball' and proudly displayed the winning sash. Col Richmond, sole surviving member of the 1952 premiership team and his wife Vera, were also interviewed and Col remembered his days playing in the back pocket. The audience was captivated by their memories.

Glenice Rainey, one of the early members of the Ladies Team, recalled that they played football to raise money for the hospital. A photograph of the team was projected onto the back of the stage, and everyone was in awe of the fact that Glenice had no hesitation in naming every woman in the photograph. This particular photograph is part of the Rainey Collection. Denis made it clear that without access to this remarkable and important collection, the Club's history would not have been written.

The 1958 Premiership was clearly a feature of this decade, and five members of the 1958 Premiership team were invited onto the stage and talked about their memories of the game. They were Barry Connors, Bern (Herb) Shannon, Ian Mustey, Wally Connors and Frank Garvey. Denis then interviewed Bernie Shannon, asking him what it meant to be considered 'Lancefield greatest living sportsman', and what football meant to him. In Bernie's modest response, he simply stated that he was an all-rounder – he played football, cricket, golf and bowls – and that he would rather play golf. Golf!



Denis Graham

And here we were celebrating the football club's milestone anniversary! But when it came to nominating the man he considered to be Lancefield's best player – he nominated Jack Showler – and it seems there was little dispute about Jack's talents on the football field.

The rivalry between Lancefield and Romsey is well known, and a photograph of the 1960s melee projected onto the screen was known to many in the room. Bern provided some good-humoured commentary on this long rivalry.

Celebrating the players and the 1966 grand final win against Romsey, Denis Graham interviewed four players on stage: Bob (Wild Man) Williams, David Ellison, Noel Milligan and Bill West. When asked about the celebrations after the match, Bob assured the audience he had no memory of them! David remembered that it was hard to get a kick and Noel thought it was a great effort and a great pleasure to knock off Romsey for this Premiership.

Denis then interviewed Angeliq Mott about her role as the first female President of the Football Club (the first and only female President to date) and the Club's first dual Football-Netball Premiership flag of 2004. Members of the audience were clearly enthralled by Angeliq's memories of the dual premiership flags.

Peter Shannon then took charge of the microphone to cover the 1980s to the present day and began by interviewing two Lancefield football icons, Neil (Mort) Haslett and Ray (Blue) Malone, who played a combined total of over 1,000 games for the club. Mort Haslett revealed that his secret was to keep fit and to 'just keep going'. Blue Malone concurred – he 'just kept going' and 'it was fun while it lasted'!

Marty Lakey and Mickey Graham were interviewed. For Marty, winning the 1995 premiership was 'awesome' and ►



Jack Richmond, auctioneer; Paul Rix, president, Russell Pattinson



Angeliqe Mott



John Chisholm and Shirley Kishere



Mickey Graham,
Simon Jorgensen,
Marty Lakey

it was great winning the ‘back-to-back’ with 1996 the culmination of all the work – it was a gutsy win. Finally, Simon Choate, Simon Jorgensen and Tom Waters reminisced about the 2004 and 2009 Premierships, saying: ‘You don’t realise while you’re in the moment how talented the team was’.

Paul Rix, President of the Lancefield Football-Netball Club then made his concluding remarks about the excitement of celebrating the Club’s 150th anniversary and looking forward to the years ahead. The final event of the night was the auction of the replica of the maroon and blue striped guernsey with the 1888 Premiership team names. Local identity Jack Richmond conducted an exciting and very lively

auction, and the jumper was sold for \$1,600.

The Lancefield Football-Netball Club has a great following in Lancefield and in neighbouring towns. The organisers of the evening must be congratulated on the well-organised event; the decoration of the Mechanics’ Institute Hall; the catering by Lorraine Kraus and her team; the music and the lighting. It was a mighty achievement and emphasised to me how important this sporting club is to our township.

Paul reminded the audience that the launch of the 150th anniversary book will be held in the Laurie Greene Pavilion on Saturday 27 May at the Romsey-Lancefield home game.

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WIL-IM-EE MOOR-RING- A MOVING EXPERIENCE

As part of the Macedon Ranges Autumn Festival, on Sunday 2 April, with a brilliantly blue sky and few clouds around, residents from the Macedon Ranges and some from further afield, attended two excursions out to the Will-im-ee Moor-ring (Mt. William) stone quarry.

Elder Uncle Bill Nicholson welcomed us to country. He then described the nature of a smoking ceremony, allowing the audience to experience the smoke by walking through the little clumps of burning twigs and grass. He showed us a possum cloak and the drawings decorating the cloak, clapping sticks and a football and explained their use. The Wurundjeri people had their own football, called marn-grook – long before Australian Rules football was invented.

We then walked up to a hillside where he explained that we stood at a junction of Woi Wurrung, Taungurung and Djadjawurrung lands. On the clear day and from the top of the hill where the sky seemed endless, we could see a long way to our north, east and south. Uncle Bill pointed out that the lands to the north were the lands claimed by the Taungurung around the Goulburn River.

Uncle Bill then pointed out that the former quarry now consists of mounds of waste rock. It is clear from these mounds where Aboriginal people mined greenstone (diabase), and manufactured stone blanks for axe heads. These stone axes or hatchets were an essential part of Aboriginal hunting equipment in southeast Australia; they were extensively traded on the eastern seaboard and further afield. Uncle Bill described the most likely method of mining the stone. In the twenty-first century with our modern sensibilities, it is remarkable to learn that pouring boiling water over the stone structures and using fire, allowed the men to mine and refine these stones to make them into workable hunting equipment.

After walking through the bush and then sitting in a beautiful and sheltered gully, one of the audience asked Uncle Bill about the Voice to Parliament. I felt privileged to hear his view of the process in this setting. As some of us commented afterwards, it was a rare and special experience to sit and discuss this important question with a First Nations person.

I congratulate the Macedon Ranges Shire for organising this important and very moving experience.

Fay Woodhouse



Uncle Bill Nicholson

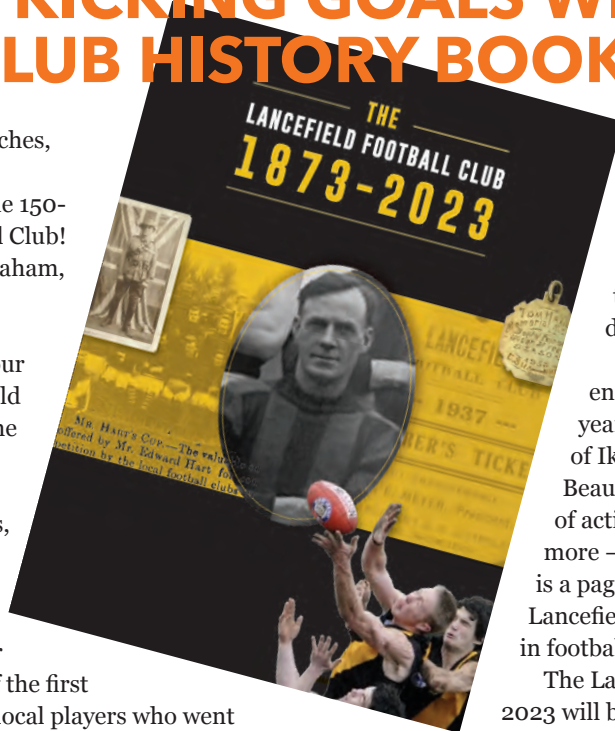




LANCEFIELD KICKING GOALS WITH FOOTBALL CLUB HISTORY BOOK

Full of names of players, dates of matches, scores for the day, medals awarded, premierships won and lost – this is the 150-year history of the Lancefield Football Club!

Three Lancefield locals – Denis Graham, Shirley Kishere and John Chisholm – compiled the information contained within this book’s pages. It was a labour of love, and Lancefield residents should congratulate them for their efforts. The life of the Lancefield Football-Netball Club is told through the huge range of photographs and images, illustrations, press reports and personal reminiscences; together they tell a compelling story of the Club’s history. The raw data, woven together by the editor, brings to light stories of the first decades of football in Lancefield, the local players who went to the First World War and efforts to retain a team during hard times. Vignettes of five of Lancefield’s most famous footballers in the first decades of the twentieth century bring to life the skills of these talented men. And of course, you will read exciting stories of the Club’s current players and their recent premiership wins. Not forgetting the women – the



Lancefield Ladies Team (now the Netball team) began in 1966 and is still going strong. As we know, the Romsey/Lancefield rivalry continues to this day - an entire chapter is devoted to it.

The striking front cover encapsulates the Club’s 150 years – featuring photographs of Ike Johnston and Tom Waters. Beautifully illustrated with hundreds of action photos, team photos and more – this exciting local history book is a page-turner and a must-read for Lancefield locals and anyone interested in football.

The Lancefield Football Club: 1873-2023 will be launched, appropriately, at the Football-Netball Club’s grounds on Saturday

27 May. Email the club (landcefieldfnc@gmail.com) with enquiries about purchasing book (price \$80). To purchase a copy from the Lancefield Courthouse phone 0402 248 540.

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WHAT A SEASON!

What a season! Overall, we had a really successful year on and off the field, with lots to celebrate.

Thanks to Chris and Ash Collins, we were able to run a brilliant BLAST program with 40 participants on a Friday night. Lots of fun, new skills and sausages! Thanks to all the parents that assisted and made it possible to have varied activities and games to keep the little ones entertained and enthusiastic. The program will return later in the year for 5 to 8-year-olds. Details will be on our Facebook page.

The juniors had a great season with the U13 boys narrowly missing out on finals. Congratulations to Patrick Shanahan for taking out the GDCA Best Bowler (19 wickets @ 2.79) and Champion Player for U13 C.

U15 girls had lots of fun as they continued to work on their skills, teamwork and leadership. Our U11 mixed team are improving and continually growing and developing their skills as they learn more about the game and teamwork. Our thanks to our amazing coaches Emily Consiglio, Shannon McElhinney and Scott Hatcher. Your time and expertise are greatly appreciated.

Andrew Richardt led the First 11 (Jensen Shield) this season with the support of fellow players. Throughout the season they came up against the challenge of player availability to field two-day games, however they were able to make up numbers and just missed out on finals. There were some great performances throughout the year. Thank you to those players that played up and filled in.

The Second 11 (Club Grade North) was led by Damien Cusack and improved on their position last year and finished first. The side once again saw a mix of experiences to combine to build a fun and enjoyable atmosphere. With the return of a few gun players, the second 11 was able to make the grand final and took out the premiership at our home ground. There were some great performances from Matthew

Bowden and Owen Phillips with the ball, and Luke Malone and Matthew Bowden with the bat. Matthew Bowden was named player of the match. It was great to have a crowd down there to cheer them on. We were well supported by our local community and had some Life Members enjoying the celebrations. Well done to Damien and the team on an amazing season.

Our women's competition was represented by two teams in a competition of seven. We saw the women's competition continue to follow last year's format of 20-over cricket and 30-over cricket. This allowed our players to show off their skills, have more of a go and improve overall. We had 31 players involved across the two teams this season. We had a few players score their first 50 for the club and take their first senior wickets.

This season saw Lancefield Black make it all the way to the Grand Final with some solid performances throughout the season. The Grand Final loss was disappointing, but it will only add more fight for next season.

Lancefield Yellow showed some great signs this season with some solid games. Unfortunately, they finished in a position where we had to play the other Lancefield team and there can only be one winner. A great season regardless.

CLUB PRESENTATION

On Saturday 25 March we held our Club Presentation Night at the Peter Burns Social Rooms. Congratulations to the following award winners: U11 Coaches Award- Emma Donnellon. U13 and U15 Best Batter- Lachlan McElhinney/Charli Laity, Best Bowler- Patrick Shanahan/Eve Keogh, Coaches award- Jackson Hardham/Olivia Goodes, Most Improved- Jasper Gillham/Emily Bonnici. Jensen Shield and Club Grade North Best Batter- Harrison Lehner/Luke ▶



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LANCEFIELD CRICKET CLUB

Malone, Best Bowler- Alan Sinclair/Matthew Bowden, Coaches Award- Jake O'Meara/Huon Wells, MVP- Alan Sinclair/Damien Cusack and Luke Malone. Women's Black and Yellow Best Batter- Brooke Jeffery/Bethany Reece, Best Bowler- Brooke Jeffery/Bethany Reece, Coaches Award- Nat Jeffery/Carolyn Cusack, MVP- Nat Jeffery/Bethany Reece and Carolyn Cusack. Well done to Harry Cusack for his hat trick and to Harrison Lehner for taking 5 wickets in one match. Congratulations to our Club Champions Harrison Lehner and Brooke Jeffery. Thank you and congratulations to Best Club Person Simon Donnellon and Best Junior Club Person Molly Consiglio for your hard work and dedication to the club.

A special mention to Bethany Reece, Nat Jeffery, Brooke Jeffery and Carolyn Cusack for being named in the first ever inaugural GDCA women's team of the year. Well done ladies.

We have been well supported by local sponsors this season, including Bendigo Bank, Kanga Roofing, Ray White Romsey, Sharp and Carter, LM Cabinetry House, Lancefield Bakery, Mt William Advance Tree Nursery, CMC Plumbing, RM Premier Plumbing, Mighty Mouse Roofing, A Slice of Perfection, Stickers by Nikki, Sankey Excavations, Lancefield Pharmacy, ACE Floors, Romsey Collision Centre and Metroll. On behalf of the club, we thank you for your ongoing support, we really do appreciate it. Being in a comfortable financial position means that we can keep our junior fees low for families, buy essential protective equipment and encourage new players into the club knowing that they don't



Andrew Richardt and Harry Lehner



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immediately have to buy their own gear. Having this financial support, means that we can continue to develop players and grow our club. We couldn't do it without you – thank you.

A big thanks to Kevin Cusack for your ongoing commitment to the ground's maintenance. We could not get through the season without you. Your endless hours on the mower have been a blessing to the club. The oval looks amazing!

We held our AGM on Wednesday 5 April. Thank you to outgoing executive committee members Pauline Goodes and Mark Caton (LCC Life Member). Mark will remain on the committee as a general member and Pauline is having a break.

NEW COMMITTEE FOR 2023/2024

We welcome our new committee for 2023/2024:

President - Andrew Richardt

Vice President – Simon Donnellon

Secretary – Owen Phillips

Treasurer – TBC (thank you to the player that's interested in this position)

Junior Coordinators – Aaron and Amy Bonnici

General Committee; Emily Consiglio, Shannon McElhinney, Rita Vandervalk, Mark Mouser, Jake O'Meara, Hayley Fisher, Leigh Gardner, Damien Cusack, Mark Caton.

SPONSORSHIP

Damien Cusack will be heading up our sponsorship program this year. If you would like more information or know

someone or a company that may be interested in sponsoring our club, please contact Damien 0408 351 408 or damien@cusack.com.au and he'll be more than happy to have a chat with you.

We will be advertising ALL coaching positions for juniors and seniors in the coming weeks. Please email Owen Phillips lancefieldcc@gmail.com if you're interested in a coaching position or would like more information. (Fee negotiable for senior roles.)

Thanks to everyone that helped this year. From cooking the BBQs, mopping the floor, supporting the coaches, working in the bar, grant writing (a massive, often unnoticed task), washing the windows, padding up the juniors, washing dishes, transporting the kits and everything else that people helped with, thank you. It takes a big effort from a lot of people to run a successful club. If you'd like a role within our club, please speak with Andrew or Simon. Alternatively, if you're there on game day and have five minutes free, please lend a hand to a committee member. It really helps us out and "many hands make light work."

We are working behind the scenes to get the new verandah up, proudly sponsored by Lancefield Romsey Community Bank. It's a huge, almost \$50,000 investment from them, thank you and we look forward to a grand opening!

Thanks to everyone for your support, effort and enthusiasm and bring it back in October!

In the meantime, stay warm and enjoy the footy.

Any enquiries please email lancefieldcc@gmail.com and follow our Facebook page for club updates.

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ROMSEY UNITING CHURCH

GILBERT & SULLIVAN

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 on Sunday 28 May, at 1.30pm in the Romsey Uniting Church Hall, 25 Pohlman Street Romsey. The cost is \$20, and \$15 for concessions. Please RSVP before 12 May.

Jeni Clampit 5429 5480. 0429 050 18. Carol Toy 0419 350 139

Payment may be made on the day. Afternoon tea will be provided.

DID YOU KNOW PROPERTY NUMBERS FORM PART OF OUR LOCAL LAW?

Our Local Law covers a wide range of activities that impact our community, including, believe it or not, property numbers! Where Council has allocated a number to a property, the owner/occupier of that property must ensure the property is clearly marked with that number.

Our Local Law also specifies additional requirements for rural properties and flats/units when it comes to displaying property numbers. This requirement ensures both Council officers and emergency services staff can easily identify an address in an emergency and/or service-related call.

Visit www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/local-laws for more details on this, and other requirements within our Local Law, as well as the opportunity to have your say on the draft Community Local Law 2023.



STAYING SAFE FROM MOSQUITOES

The Department of Health has recently detected mosquitoes carrying Murray Valley encephalitis virus (MVE) and Japanese Encephalitis Virus (JEV) in some parts of Victoria and is advising visitors to these areas to be diligent and take precautions to protect themselves from mosquito bites in these areas. Mosquitoes can carry diseases that may be passed on to people through mosquito bites, which can lead to serious health problems for some people. Recent wet and warm weather has increased mosquito breeding.

As of Sunday 29 January 2023, the following local government areas (LGAs) are considered high-risk for mosquito-borne disease: Benalla, Buloke, Campaspe, Gannawarra, Greater Bendigo, Greater Shepparton, Hindmarsh, Horsham, Indigo, Loddon, Mildura, Moira, Northern Grampians Shire, Strathbogie, Swan Hill, Wangaratta, West Wimmera, Wodonga and Yarriambiack.

The best way to prevent mosquito-borne diseases is to avoid mosquito bites. If planning a visit to a high-risk LGA, you are advised to use insect repellent that contains picaridin or DEET on all exposed skin if outdoors when mosquitoes are observed, from October to March – families should always follow the instructions on the repellent to ensure it is appropriate for young children and wear long, loose-fitting clothing if mosquitoes are around, cover exposed skin as much as possible, and limit outdoor activity when mosquitoes are active.

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LET'S KEEP THE MACEDON RANGES BEAUTIFUL

The Macedon Ranges are not only a great place to live – they are beautiful. Let's keep it that way, but unfortunately there are a few things working against us. Litter is one of them, and rubbish dumping is another.

As part of our commitment to the Keep Australia Beautiful campaign, our Deep Creek Landcare Group does a roadside clean-up, twice a year, between Doggetts Bridge and the crossroads in Lancefield. We generally pick up about 14 bags of litter but on Sunday, March 26 the final tally was 22 bags plus an assortment of large items such as tyres. Well-known fast-food outlets were well represented in our collection as well as the paper, cardboard and plastic packaging from many fast-food products. In addition, we are still picking up many cans and bottles. A big thank-you to the 7 Landcare members who gave up a couple of hours of their time on Sunday to pick up the litter. Also, special thanks to the residents along the Lancefield/Kilmore road who keep the roadside along their boundary litter free. Mostly, they pick up the litter before mowing, which is better than breaking up glass bottles, chopping plastic into small pieces and ripping up metal cans. In an ideal world people wouldn't throw out litter as they make their way along our roads, ignoring the environmental hazards they create, the work they create for others to clean up their mess, and the damage they do to the aesthetic beauty of our countryside.

The dumping of rubbish along country roads is also an issue and in many other parts of the state and I fear that it will get worse in the Ranges as our population increases. I don't know the solution. We have a terrific four bin system and waste collection centres that take virtually anything. The Romsey Transfer Station will take plastic bottle top lids, soft plastics and most garden waste free of charge. We are even able to take home free mulch for the garden! Other

items incur a charge but that is not a surprise given the cost of running the transfer stations and rubbish tips. Users should pay at least part of the cost but unfortunately the cost of cleaning up the selfish dumping of rubbish falls on ratepayers and the environment.

The environment can also suffer from the dumping of garden waste. Many garden plants, most of which are still available in nurseries, have the capacity to become a weed if they escape onto roadsides or into the bush. They often out-compete indigenous plants and take over large areas, which have a domino effect on our insect population and native animals. Plants to watch include agapanthus, English ivy, cotoneaster, crocosmia, privet, broom, angled onion, arum lily, castor oil plant, cape tulip, evening primrose, gazania and periwinkle. Grasses like bent grass, kikuyu and various forms of couch as well as trees such as sweet pittosporum, radiata pine, sycamore, maple and cootamundra wattle can also spread quickly. We need to be aware of the capacity of plants in our garden to become weeds, dead head such plants to prevent seeding and dispose of the seeds and plants responsibly. We are fortunate that garden waste can be put in our FOGO bins which will be composted at a sufficiently high temperature to destroy their capacity to regenerate.

Our beautiful district has enough challenges from climate change and a growing population without us adding to them unnecessarily. Let's do the right thing, encourage others to do the same and keep the Macedon Ranges beautiful.

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) or attend our monthly meetings in the Lancefield Mechanics Hall.

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LIBRARY

A CURIOUS CIRCLE

Curiosity, Connection & Creativity! 6.30 – 8.30pm,
Thursday 18 May.

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

In May simple drawings will be passed around the group for everyone to add to. The results will be a creative, collaborative art piece

Supper is provided, and beginners are welcome.

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

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for borrowers who are temporarily or permanently housebound, our friendly library staff and volunteers will deliver directly to your door, and help you select titles from month to month. Home Library borrowers have full access to the Goldfields Libraries collection including large print books and audiobooks (ideal for readers whose eyesight is no longer what it was). For more information, please contact the Romsey Library directly on 5429 3086.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

- 4 May - Star Wars Day (May the Fourth Be With You)
- 4 May - 7 May – Bendigo Writer's Festival
- 14 May – Mother's Day
- 15 – 21 May – National Volunteer Week
- Against Homophobia, Biphobia, Lesbophobia and Transphobia)
- 18 May – A Curious Circle, Pass the Picture
- 26 May - National Sorry Day
- 27 May – 3 June - National Reconciliation Week

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WOODEND HANGING ROCK PETANQUE CLUB

WOW, WHAT A BUSY FEW MONTHS

On the middle weekend of March, several of our teams travelled to Avoca for the weekend, to play in the Pyrenees Doubles Petanque Tournament (played with 2 people and 3 boules) which is held every year at this time. They also have a Triples (played with 3 people and 2 boules) tournament in November. The Pyrenees Petanque Club put on a great weekend of play with lots of opportunities for prizes as well as a fabulous raffle of several hamper baskets. Our teams did well, with Louise and Clive Potter playing in the consolante and winning prizes of bottles of wine. Members Ruth Giddings and Rod Gell came thirteenth out of the 45 teams overall, despite the dreadful weather.

The next two weeks brought several of our team to Nagambie for a beautiful sunny day of petanque, on Sunday 2 April all our teams played well, with Ruth Giddings and Rod Gell, coming eighth. It's always a good day, and we all enjoy the company of other teams who come from all parts of the state.

The National Petanque Tournament, held at Easter, was held in Adelaide this year.

One of our club members Shirley Marshall, along with her team made up of members of the Camberwell club, came in second in the National Ladies Triples over 60s.

We are currently organizing our President's Cup, in honour of Marilyn Steel, for 4 May with a delicious dinner, and fun and prizes to follow a few games of petanque, of course.

We are asking anyone who has ever been involved in our club over the last 20 years to join us to celebrate the work and dedication of our long-standing president Chinka Steel, who will soon be leaving Woodend for the sunny climes of the Mornington Peninsula.

Our members do travel far and wide for our wonderful game, some members will join in with members from other



clubs to make a team to travel to various country towns.

So, if you have a spare Monday afternoon come and join us at the racecourse in Forest Street, Woodend at 2pm and give it a go!

Our season is closing down soon for the winter, but we are always trying to find the day and time to put a game, picnic or lunch together including some pétanque. Any enquiries or if you want to be included in our activities, please email: vicepresidentatpetanqueattherock.com.au with your details.

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YOUTH NEWS

YOUTH AWARDS

The Youth Awards return this year, with Council's Youth team excited to once again showcase the incredible achievements and hard work of young people in the Macedon Ranges.

This event provides a unique opportunity to bring all members of the community together in a really positive way and celebrate the immense contributions that young people make in our society. It also provides an opportunity for local young people to showcase their talents in music and the arts on a stage in front of a large crowd.

Award nominations open in May, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/Youth-Awards for more information. We look forward to receiving nominations and seeing you there. Email youth@mrsc.vic.gov.au with any enquiries.

LET'S GET PREPARED TOGETHER

If the power, internet and mobile reception were out because of a natural disaster - who would you turn to first? Most likely it would be your neighbours. In the Macedon Ranges we have experienced severe fires, storms and flooding. Stronger ties in the community help individuals and communities bounce-back faster. With the Neighbours Connect card, you can get ready to deal with any emergency by getting to know the people around you.

After an emergency, would you welcome a check-in from your neighbours? Let them know, and whether you are able to check in on them, with the Neighbours Connect card. Use the card as an icebreaker to share a little about your household, and learn a little about your neighbours in return.

The time to build relationships is before an emergency hits. You can collect cards from your local neighbourhood house and your nearest Council Customer Service Centre. Visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/neighbours-connect to find out more.

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LANDCARE AND JUNIOR GRANTS NOW OPEN

The Victorian Government is providing a \$4.4 million funding boost to volunteers and young people across the state, including in Macedon, to help them protect and restore the natural environment. Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas said the 2023 Victorian Landcare Grants and the 2023 Victorian Junior Landcare and Biodiversity Grants are now open and aim to help volunteers and kids care for the state's precious environment and biodiversity.

Through these grants, environmental volunteer groups can apply for up to \$20,000 for on-ground works and community education projects that protect or improve the natural environment in Macedon. Support grants of up to \$500 are also available to help with group administration and running costs.

The Victorian Landcare grants are open to environmental volunteering groups, including Landcare, Friends groups, Conservation Management Networks, Committees of Management and First Nations groups to support the important work they do in protecting and restoring our land and environment.

More than 200 projects were funded through last year's grants, including rehabilitation of wetland near Anglesea, monitoring and maintenance of nest boxes for sugar gliders and brush-tailed phascogales, and the planting of thousands of Indigenous plants in East Gippsland.

Grants of up to \$5000 will be available for projects that provide childcare centres, kindergartens, primary and secondary schools, Scouts, Girl Guides and youth groups in Macedon with opportunities to participate in hands-on projects including planting Indigenous gardens, building habitat to attract native insects and birds, collecting data about nature and excursions to wildlife sanctuaries. Visit environment.vic.gov.au/grants for more information.

Mary-Anne Thomas

ENVIRONMENT NEWS

COOL-ER CHANGES, COLLABORATION FOR CLIMATE CHANGE

Cool-ER Changes extends from Cool Changes: a program that enabled seven local community climate action plans to be developed across the shire. The Cool-ER Changes project will result in Council's inaugural Climate Emergency Response Plan and will outline the key strategic approach to enacting our Declaration of Climate Emergency.

During March and April, Council hosted three themed workshops – a big thank you to all those who attended. The workshops have been exciting evenings of collaborative conversations between community members, Council staff and local agencies. Join us for these solutions-focused, collaborative workshops and help address the climate emergency in our own backyard.

Get involved and register for one (or all) of our workshops – we want to hear from you.

UPCOMING COOL-ER CHANGES WORKSHOPS:

Workshop 4 – 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.

Workshop 5 – Waste & Circular Economy

Thursday 18 May, 6 – 8:15pm, Romsey Mechanics Institute

How can we create a world with less waste and more innovation? We are already leaders in waste management here in the Macedon Ranges, but how do we make sure we continue to stay leaders of the pack?

Visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/Cool-ER-Changes for more information on Cool-ER Changes, past workshops and upcoming registration.



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VISIT THE FUNGI TOWN CARAVAN AT RIDDELLS CREEK FARMERS MARKET!

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 at the Riddells Creek Farmers Market on Saturday 20 May. Visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/fungi-caravan to learn more.

HAVE YOUR SAY ON COUNCIL'S DRAFT BUDGET

Council's annual budget seeks to strike a balance in delivering essential services, delivering major projects, maintaining service delivery and supporting our communities to recover from impacts of emergencies.

Council will be inviting public feedback on the draft 23/24 Budget and updated Year Three Council Plan 2021-2031, commencing in April through to May. Visit the Have Your Say page on Council's website (mrsc.vic.gov.au/Have-Your-Say) for more information and to provide feedback.

FLOOD RECOVERY UPDATE

As we approach the six-month mark of floods and storms that impacted the Macedon Ranges, Council is continuing recovery work behind the scenes. Council continues to advocate for increased support for residents and is actively seeking grants for activities in these communities to support recovery.

Drainage investigation works continue to be progressed by our Engineering team and further assessments of Council infrastructure continue to take place, including walking trails and paths. These assessments will support Council's bid for additional budgets to repair this damage.

Government funding is still available to residents affected by floods. The Australian Government Disaster Recovery Payment is a lump sum of \$1,000 per adult and \$400 for each child under 14 years old. This payment is available until 16 June 2023 for affected Victorians. This claim should be made directly through your MyGov account.

Mental health and wellbeing support is available to businesses affected by the floods. Service provider EACH has services and people available. This support can be as simple as a chat, all the way through to group-facilitated sessions on how to support others in need of support. Support is also available to staff and family members of owners and employees of these businesses. If you know a business that could use some support after the floods and other natural disaster events, please contact me and I can share the details.

Remember – Council has a supply of COVID-19 rapid antigen tests available for community members. These are available at all Council customer service centres, resource recovery facilities and aquatics centres. Please don't hesitate to stop by and grab some for your household.

Leah Rushford
Flood Recovery Coordinator recovery@mrsc.vic.gov.au

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SORRY

It is Mother’s Day this month, which has made me think back to Mother’s Day last year and the special service that we had on that day. You can watch that service on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=AMnrTAPedM8>.

Not only was the focus of the service on mothers, in my short talk (from about the 59th minute of the video), I also spoke to women as a group. I spoke about how Jesus was towards women.

I mentioned that you cannot find any instance in the bible where Jesus disgraces, belittles, reproaches, or stereotypes a woman. The gospels show how Jesus liberated and affirmed women. Jesus did not discriminate in any way against women. By word or deed, He never encouraged the disparagement of a woman.

Jesus, in all His interactions with people, always

honoured women, showed the worth and dignity of women and recognised the intrinsic equality of men and women.

I also made an apology to all the women present, and I want to extend it to any woman who reads this article.

If any church has treated you in any way that was discriminatory, they put you down because you are a woman, limited how you served, made any reference to you being a female in the negative, used unfavourable stereotyping, hurt or abused you in any way, whether mental, physical, sexual or any other form of hurt or abuse, on behalf of the church I am sorry. I am sorry and ask for your forgiveness on behalf of the church.

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

RESOURCE RECOVERY NEWS

Reusable nappy, sanitary and incontinence product rebate program

Did you know, around 660 million disposable nappies, sanitary and incontinence products end up in landfill in Australia each year? Council has launched a reusable nappy, sanitary and incontinence product pilot rebate program to reduce waste to landfill and assist residents to access affordable reusable items.

Residents can claim up to 50 per cent of the purchase on selected reusable items (conditions apply). The pilot rebate program will run until 31 June, unless the funds are exhausted prior. To learn what items are eligible for the rebate and terms and conditions, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/reusables or contact 5422 0333.

COMMUNITY GRANTS NOW OPEN

The new round of the Community Funding Scheme and Events and Festivals grants opened on 1 May. If you have an idea for an event or a project that will benefit the community in the Macedon Ranges, we would love to hear from you. There will be a trouble-shooting clinic on Wednesday 24 May, 10am-12pm at the Romsey Hub – an opportunity to bring in your partially completed applications and seek support on any sections you may be struggling with. This is a free event – but bookings are essential.

To register for an information session or view guidelines for either grant program, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/grants or contact the grants team via grants@mrsc.vic.gov.au or 5422 0216 (Melissa Telford, Community Funding Scheme) and 5421 9521 (Nicole Pietruschka, Events and Festivals Grants) to discuss your project ideas.



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MOZART'S REQUIEM WITH FERVOUR

The Gisborne Singers are presenting Mozart's Requiem for their first concerts of the year in collaboration with the Macedon Ranges Chamber Orchestra. Guest artists, soprano Merlyn Quaife (also the choir's Patron), mezzo soprano Kristen Leich (a resident of the Macedon Ranges), tenor Michael Petruccelli and baritone Teddy Tahu Rhodes will be performing as soloists. Luke Severn, Gisborne Singers' Artistic Director will be conducting.

Commissioned to write the Requiem for a Viennese Count Franz von Walsegg in late 1791, to commemorate the first anniversary of the death of his young wife Anna, it remained unfinished at the time of Mozart's death on 5 December that year. A student of Mozart's, Franz Xaver Süssmayr, presented the finished work to the Count, but others may

have contributed.

Mozart's widow Constanze was responsible for a number of stories surrounding the composition of the work, including that Mozart came to believe that he was writing the requiem for his own funeral.

The first performance will be at a new auditorium (Worship Centre) at St Mary's Anglican Church in Sunbury at 2pm on Sunday 30 April. The second performance will be held at Our Lady of the Rosary Catholic Church in Kyneton at 2pm on Sunday 7 May. The choir's famous afternoon tea will be available at the Kyneton performance.

Tickets \$55 adult, \$45 concession, under 12 free.

Booking through trybooking. Enquiries: www.gisbornesingers.org.au or phone 0408 156 263

ROMSEY LANCEFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS

MONTHLY BUS TRIPS

Our next bus trip has unfortunately been cancelled.


Keep an eye out next month to see where we will be going on Tuesday June 4.

However we will still be meeting at our rooms 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 0409 064 303 or Jan 0408 371 755.

Hope to see you soon.



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DINNER DILEMMA

Whether you are preparing that last Venn diagram, commuting, picking up kids, or sweating from your evening workout — the thought of dinner starts wandering into your head as the sun sets.

The most offered solution is Meal Prep and Meal Planning. This is a pragmatic solution, and it works. However, gradually, I have started prepping less and cooking every day more often. It is part of my routine now, something that I genuinely look forward to, rather than whinge about.

This realisation took me back to my uni days when I would whip up weekday dinners with my house mates. It was during those dinners that we made some amazing memories, exchanged family recipes and secret cooking hacks, and shared our highs and lows of the daily grind.

I am not suggesting trying new recipes every day or having three course dinners every night. But by making weeknight cooking more stimulating, it will become less of a bore and more of a daily habit that you do willingly. I always listen to music when cooking; music makes me happy and in turn makes me happy to cook. I set the table and include one thing that elevates it a little, such as adding a candle or some flowers to the setting. You could even set the table in the morning – one less thing to do when you get home in the evening.

Stop by the Lancefield Providore on your way home from

work and grab the ingredients for your meal, start with simple recipes first, make the slow cooker your friend and tap into your friends, family, and of course the internet, for under 30-minute recipes. I have a recipe swap friendship group which has saved me countless hours of anxiety come dinner time.

Cook once, eat twice. Try pulled pork, then add to quesadillas or nourish bowls the next night. Try butter chicken, double it, freeze the second half, and use later to make naan pizza.

Make supermarket “fast” foods your takeaway. A rotisserie chicken and a bag of salad will take you no time to get onto the dinner table compared with ordering a hamburger and chips from the local fry-up.

Stock up on a solid variety of foods. Shop the entire store - the perimeter, centre aisles, and frozen section. This is how you build a pantry that has plenty of variety and takes into consideration those days when you're like: “I need dinner that's done now”.

Take all the liberties and enjoy not reinventing the wheel to put dinner on the table this week.

Prudence Williams
Accredited Practising Dietitian
www.nutritionarch.com



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SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED

TEAM NEWS

We'd like to take this opportunity to thank Leanne Hammond for her more than 11 years with Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey. We'll miss her helpful nature and seeing her smiling face in our branches daily and we wish her all the best for her next endeavor.

HOMEBUYER SEMINAR

Join us on Tuesday 13 June, 7pm - 8pm at the Romsey Community Hub 96 Main St, Romsey for our free Home Buyer Seminar.

Whether you're buying a new home, looking to invest, or are ready to purchase your next property, our free information session will have something for you, with a focus on all current Government Home Buyer Schemes. With industry experts available to answer your questions, you will hear all about how to achieve your property goals.

Visit trybooking: <https://www.trybooking.com/CHIWN> by 11 June at 5pm to RSVP.

SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

It is with great pleasure we announce the recipients of Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey Tertiary Scholarship program. Five tertiary scholarships were awarded, totaling \$45,000 over the course of the 3 year scholarships.

3 Year Tertiary Scholarship

- Elizabeth Quigley - Bachelor of International Studies at Deakin University
- Madeline Ryan - Bachelor of Nursing at Victoria University
- Michael Steele - Bachelor of Engineering (Electronic and Computer Systems Engineering) at RMIT University
- Musetta Choi-Hatcher - Bachelor of Communication (Journalism) at RMIT University
- Priya Stern - Bachelor of Fine Arts (Visual Art) at Deakin University

Congratulations to all the above recipients and we wish them every success for the next step in their education.

In addition to these 5 scholarships, we will also be awarding our two Rebecca Harrison Memorial Bursaries ▶

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2023 Tertiary Scholarship
 Madeline Ryan
 3 Year Scholarship
 March 2023

Madeline Ryan

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 Phone down. Buckle up.




COMMUNITY BANK CONNECTIONS




Museeta Choi-Hatcher



Chris Smith and Priya Stern

this year, in memory of our late staff member. And, for the first time in 2023, we will also be awarding scholarships for two local youths to participate in the Magic Moments Youth Leadership & Business Summit being held in Sydney from Saturday 1 July to Wednesday 5 July.




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Michael Steele



Elizabeth Quigley

LANCEFIELD PIZZA VAN

Elsie's

Opening Hours

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For bookings call

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ELSIE'S DINER @ THE LODGE



It's been a while coming but we are excited!

Our beloved Pizza Van **Elsie** is finally here & her window is officially open! We invite you to enjoy the wholesome creations of house-made pizzas with fresh locally sourced ingredients & toppings. **Elsie** sits cozily in our outdoor courtyard, perfect for alfresco dining. As the weather cools down our outdoor fire, heaters & nanny rugs keep the chill at bay! **Elsie** will also happily serve you inside our Home Bar, where a **roaring open fire**, friends, family & great food & wine is the best place to be....



Scan to View Full Menu

The Lancefield Lodge
THINK MOTEL... THINK AGAIN!



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