

DOWN MEMORY LANE WITH THE

# CHISHOLM FAMILY



William and Ellen Maria (née Mathieson) Chisholm emigrated to Australia from Scotland in 1853. This was probably due to two factors: the attraction of the gold rushes in Victoria from 1851, and as a result of the land clearances in Scotland which had begun in the 1840s. Additionally, the demand for Australian wool meant that shepherds like William would easily find work in the Port Phillip District, the southern tip of the colony of New South Wales.

*Continued on page 8*

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Did you see the Target Rifle Victoria “Come and Try” tent at the Lancefield Show in October? Approximately 90 people came to learn and experience shooting an air rifle under the guidance and supervision of qualified TRV members. The Lancefield Small Bore Rifle Club members were very pleased to have this together with our static display at our local Show.

Rodger was once again the only club member to have travelled to other club venues this past month. He recently competed in a marathon competition and came home with Gold and Silver medals. Congratulations !

We have three teams in the Ladies Commonwealth Competition which concluded at the end of November. We are all eagerly awaiting the results and welcomed the novice shooters who participated in this event.

The Club will enjoy our annual Christmas BBQ breakup and presentation of awards. Secretary Max is the person to contact on 54292259 if you would like to know more about the club. There are several people currently going through the process of obtaining a licence and joining the Club and we are very happy to welcome more in the New Year.

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LANCEFIELD ARTISTS

# MIM OSMELAK

## WATERCOLOUR PAINTER

Mim (Miriam) Osmelak began painting at a very young age, in fact, as a school girl. She has always been interested in this artform because 'it took me to another place'. However, when Mim, like so many other women, suffered from post-natal depression, she was advised to find a hobby so, she found a hobby in painting! This was, she believes, her turning point. Mim undertook classes in watercolour painting at her local community house in Balwyn. From that moment, she said, 'I knew it was for me' because it was such a wonderful thing to do. That was more than 30 years ago, and Mim has been painting with watercolours ever since. For Mim, 'time stands still when I am painting'.

After taking classes at her local Neighbourhood House, Mim found her next teacher, Pat Turner, a great woman who was still teaching at the age of 70. From there she attended classes with David Taylor at the Victorian Artists Society in Albert Street, East Melbourne. She also became a model for life drawing classes at the Society.

Although Mim would have loved to study Fine Arts at the Victorian College of the Arts, raising children meant that this was never going to be a possibility. Instead, she continued honing her skills while participating in classes; in doing so, she was also refining her practice.

Painting with oils on acrylics is very different to painting in the medium of watercolours, she explains. As she describes it, 'the paint is always going to be the master... the artist is not ever entirely in control... sometimes because you are working with water, the paint takes its own path and that can be a magical thing.' In

admiring the paintings of Mim's that I have seen, I would never know that the paint rather than the painter, was the master.

When I asked her about some of the subjects she paints, Mim listed landscapes, seascapes and still life such as butterflies, bees and rusty gates – anything that attracts her attention. Life is full of worthy and inspirational things that are often overlooked, she believes. She will usually paint a series of one subject, then move on to another subject, making her range very broad. Mim is currently interested in working on and capturing the immediacy of light on the human body and skin.

Like so many of our local artists, Mim has exhibited her work for more than ten years – in places such as the Gallery at Mt Macedon, the Buttlejork Gallery at Kyneton and annual exhibitions at Woodend and Kerrie. Until the Mad Gallery closed, Mim also exhibited her work there.

About five years ago, Mim began teaching watercolour painting at the Romsey Neighbourhood House. She is adamant that 'anyone can paint' because 'you can just throw paint on paper and see what happens'. In the last couple of years, Mim has given up teaching in Romsey and begun teaching in Dunsford Street. Her studio in Dunsford Street is full of light and a beautiful space for both new and experienced painters. Her classes are held on a Friday afternoon from 1.00-3.00 pm (phone: 0455 131 659).

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# BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Due to its great success earlier this year, the Lancefield Long Table Lunch is on again! Four sporting clubs, consisting of Lancefield Tennis Club, the Senior & Junior Football Netball Clubs and Lancefield Golf Club, are uniting to run the event on Sunday 17 February 2019 at midday, to raise much needed funds. The lunch will be held on the East End Plantation in High Street and consist of a delicious 3 course meal, drinks at bar prices, live entertainment and raffles.

Seats will be limited, so get in early to guarantee your spot for this great fundraising event.

Bookings can be made via Trybooking <https://trybooking.com/YVLW> or Kaylene Cruise 0447 364 497. Early bird tickets \$60 pp. This event is not suitable for children. Also, please let us know if you have any special dietary requirements.

Come and enjoy a pleasant day with the community in one of High Street's major landmarks.

## WE APOLOGISE COTTAGE ON HIGH

For those with excellent vision last month's ad for Cottage on High was an easy read. For those with normal vision we apologise for the fine print.

It's a great shop for plants and gifts—please support Cottage on High into the Festive season

## LANCEFIELD & DISTRICT FARMERS' MARKET

The next market is on Saturday December 15th from 9am until 1pm. Come and see our stall holders for a great range of exceptional products for your Christmas celebrations as well as quality handmade gifts

Make sure you shop at the Farmers' Market and support our local producers this festive season.

An initiative of the Lancefield Neighbourhood House. More info 0407860320

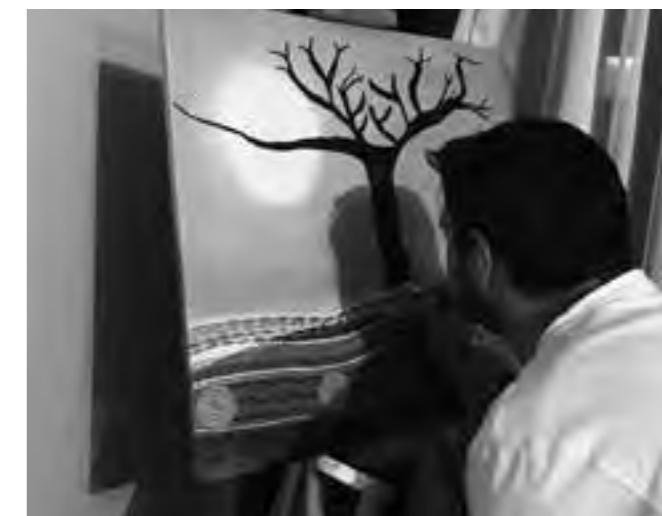


## POP UP ART ... SMALL WORKS FROM A BIG PLACE

I went along to the opening of this exhibition in the bluestone building at Riddells Creek Station and was delighted to view the wide range of styles, themes and expertise in the 249 selected pieces from 130 artists. A minimum of one piece and a maximum of three pieces per artist have been displayed. Each artist worked within a set size guideline and works are either 2D or 3D.

Set within the beautiful bluestone Riddells Creek train station are five large, beautifully crafted timber frames exhibiting these small works. There is also a glass cabinet showcasing 3D works. The creative energy released and varying mediums used within these display cases is astounding and I would encourage everyone to make a little time to take something out of whatever makes up your ordinary day and spend some time to look and experience this most enjoyable exhibition.

It is a wonderful union of local artist's works showcased in three of Victoria's most beautiful country railway stations – at Riddells Creek, Castlemaine and Bendigo (December 1 – 10). The works then travel in January to Bendigo Marketplace (January 15 – February 12), Arnold St. Gallery in North Bendigo (February 14 – March 19) and then onto the Castlemaine State Festival (March 21 – April 1). Works are for sale. We are very fortunate to live here in the Macedon Ranges – an area where there is a wide range of creativity.



Pop Up Art, a Victorian artists network, aims to support professional and emerging artists. It is a way to promote creativity and innovation to build healthy communities. The focus is 'Providing for greater productivity, connectivity and viability' and linking artists to the community.

Julianne Graham

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Items for publication should be sent to [editor3435@gmail.com](mailto:editor3435@gmail.com) enquiries Andy Moore 0430 448 120

Advertising should be sent to [advertising3435@gmail.com](mailto:advertising3435@gmail.com) enquiries Ken Allender 0404 886 580

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

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

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

Supported by Macedon Ranges



### Editorial Committee:

Andy Moore

Craig Longmuir

Karen Barr

Murk Schoen

Fay Woodhouse

Ken Allender

Julianne Graham

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

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**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

DOWN MEMORY LANE WITH THE CHISHOLM FAMILY

Continued from page 1

After their arrival in Australia, William and Ellen had eleven children – eight sons and three daughters. The first three sons were born in Geelong before the family moved to Emu Flat near Lancefield; it appears the remaining children were born in this area. William Angus (Bill) Chisholm was born on 6 June 1867 at Mt William, his birth was registered at Kilmore. William's older brothers Hugh, Peter and John moved to Highlands near Seymour. This was the Parish of Switzerland, County of Anglesey (the area between Kobyboyn, Dropmore, Yarck and Molesworth). Peter, John, James, Roderick, Ellen and other Chisholm's all selected land in the Parish of Switzerland, together totalling well over 2,000 acres. Bill farmed with his brothers Jim and Rod before purchasing his own farm nearby.

In 1908 Bill married Mary Ann Kennedy (1873-1958) and purchased a farm in Ruffly in 1910. Born in Kyneton, Mary Ann was the daughter of James and Nell (née Danaher) Kennedy. Bill and Mary Ann had three children: Ellen Margaret (Nellie, 1909-37), Kathleen (Kath, 1910-2007) and William James (young Bill, 1916-1986). Nellie was born in Yea, Kath in Gobar and Bill in Euroa. Five months after Bill was born, his father died of pneumonia following a riding accident. After the sudden death of her husband in 1916, Mary Ann moved the family from the farm at Ruffly to Lancefield which was close to her family in Emu Flat.

Young Bill Chisholm was educated at St Mary's Lancefield then Assumption College. After leaving school, Bill began work with Mr Hugh Cameron in the Lancefield General Store. Originally a weatherboard structure built around 1882, it was eventually replaced by the current brick shop and house in High Street. Hugh Cameron added his name to the brick façade of the building and operated the General Store from 1891 to 1946. Bill Chisholm and his older sister Kath both worked for Mr Cameron and took over the General Store when he retired. The store offered a wide range of items from groceries to clothing, hardware and farming supplies. Local people were employed to assist in the shop.

In 1948 Bill Chisholm met Anne Hennessy. They fell in love, but, as was the custom of the time, did not rush into marriage. Instead they corresponded for a couple of years while saving up to marry. They were married in Horsham in November 1950 at St Michael and St John Catholic Church. Bill and Anne had four children: Celestine Mary (b. 1951), William Francis (Bill) b. 1952), Anthony Dennis (b. 1954), and John James (b. 1957). The four children were all born at the Kyneton Hospital and attended St Mary's Primary School Lancefield. Celestine boarded at Kilibreda College, Mentone for her secondary education before going on to university and then working for the Victorian Government. The three boys all attended Assumption College, Kilmore. Bill has combined farming with various occupations and is currently a Councillor with the Mitchell Shire. Anthony worked for the Australian Government and John became an accountant. They retained the Kennedy farm at Emu Flat until recently.

When interviewed for this story, Celestine, Anthony and John all had vivid memories of their school years, growing up in Lancefield and the years their family operated the General Store. When they were growing up, the population of Lancefield was only 300-400 residents.

The Chisholm children remember that St Mary's Catholic School, run by two Josephite Sisters, had only two classrooms – one for Prep to Grade 2 and the other for Grades 3 to 6. They had an enrolment of around 40 pupils. They also reminisced that entertainment for the children of Lancefield during the 1950s and 1960s included the visiting circus which set up alongside the Farmers' Arms Hotel and on vacant blocks around the town.

The General Store was open on a Monday to Friday from

9.00 am to 12.30 pm, then it closed for an hour for lunch. It reopened at 1.30 pm and traded until 5.30 pm. On Saturday the hours were from 9.00 am to 12 noon. Locals who required an item urgently out of hours knew that they could go to the Chisholm home and the shop would be opened up especially for them. Celestine Chisholm clearly recalls helping in the General Store and on Auntie Kath's side (the drapery). She also spoke about having responsibility for paying money into the bank in the days when Lancefield supported the Commercial Bank of Australia and the State Savings Bank. These banks had all closed by the 1980s. Her brothers spoke about going with their father and other employees on their rounds when they delivered orders around the town and district. Service was all important. Often the children accompanied their aunt and mother on buying trips to Melbourne where they did the rounds of the wholesalers to ensure the shop was well stocked.

Bill and Kath Chisholm ran the business until 1973 when it was sold to become a supermarket. The first Coles supermarket had opened in Melbourne in 1960. By 1973 supermarkets had been built in every capital city in Australia, so Lancefield was not far behind the trend.

The Chisholm family have made their mark on the town and the area. Bill Chisholm died in 1986, his sister, Kath in 2007, and his wife Anne died in 2012. Bill Chisholm was a member of the Lancefield Water Trust Board and the Fire Brigade and helped organise the sheepdog trials and other community activities. Chisholm Drive was named after Bill Chisholm, largely in acknowledgement of his contribution to the local community and local business.



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# BIN SERVICE GROWS

The Macedon Ranges Council is expanding the options on using our green garden bins, following research showing the amount of food waste going into landfill. We can now place fruit and vegetables into green garden bins following the expansion of the garden waste service. Waste including scraps, peelings and whole fruit and vegetables can now go into the green bins, and will be processed with the garden waste and turned into compost.

Council data shows about 25% of the contents of our garbage bins is food waste which ends up in landfill, where it generates harmful greenhouse gases. By composting fruit and vegetable waste we can significantly reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill and at the same time generate a useful product in compost.

I understand that many keen gardeners in Lancefield already do their own composting to enrich the soil in their gardens, and I encourage this to continue. Others feed their fruit and vegetable waste to chickens and other animals, and I encourage them to continue that good work. The expansion of the green bin service will enable those residents who do not have green-fingers to do their bit.

I now take the opportunity to wish our Lancefield

Mercury readers and East Ward residents a merry and safe Christmas and festive season. I also reiterate my commitment to fighting for a fair deal for our East Ward residents, and recap on some of the issues where I've had to speak out. Firstly, I'm totally committed to an indoor swimming pool for the East Ward. The other wards and neighbouring municipalities have one.

I'm concerned that proposals to turn the Cobaw State Forest into a conservation park will lock up this wonderful jewel of public land and prevent the amenity our residents have enjoyed for generations. The proposals include a ban on firewood collection and restrictions on activities such as horse riding, dog-walking and camping. This fight continues.

I also took up the fight over the discrimination against the Lancefield Football Club, when the Council voted to fund nets behind the goals at every other footy ground in the municipality.

Stay tuned for 2019. I'll continue to strongly represent the residents of Lancefield and the East Ward.

Cr Henry Bleeck.  
Your East Ward Councillor

# FATHER CHRISTMAS

December is nearly upon us. It is a chaotic month. There are school holidays. Then there is Christmas and then there is New Year's eve with its celebrations. The maddening sales are starting already. Journalists think of all sort of things to make December exciting, not to forgetting the interviews with Father Christmas. All tall poppies tell the papers what they would like for Christmas; generals want peace, artists full house theatres and galleries, the RACV better traffic flow, the Mayor of Melbourne anything that makes Melbourne better.

Of course we must cut the pine trees down for our Christmas trees, with a star at the top and snow on its branches. As far as I know there was never snow in Bethlehem!

Only children know the real taste of Christmas. Towards the end of December my mother would say: "Come children we are going to eat Christmas-cake", and she took us, in our best clothes, our hair combed and our hands extra washed, to a luxurious hotel in town. What a service. I had my mouth filled with cake and Father Christmas stood next to our table. It couldn't been easier for Mum, because near the door was a notice, "Father Christmas will also come to your home, if needed". Nowadays it is pretty hard to get a plumber or electrician



to come to your home. Yes your doctor will come, if it is urgent. But Father Christmas? You have got to book him a month in advance and his beard is not like in the olden days. When my mother offered him a cup of coffee, he replied: "I don't know if

I can, with my beard". I replied: "Don't worry Father Christmas, my father is dentist. If your beard discolours, he will put new cottonwood on your beard". As I sat on his lap, I noticed that he spoke like aunty Helen, with an Australian accent. As a matter of fact, when he lifted his beard to drink his coffee, he even had a

face like my aunty Helen. I said to my brother later: "You know, Father Christmas is a woman". It is amazing that we children believe what our parents tell us. But I had my doubts. I was always more interested in the presents I would get!

The Memory-Lane of Murk Schoen.

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Friday	9am to 3pm
Saturday	Alternate 9am to 3pm

# A YEAR OF GROWTH

It was my privilege to be appointed as the new Chair of Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Limited (L&RCFSL) in July when David Plunkett stepped down from this role. As Chair of L&RCFSL, the company that operates our two Community Bank® branches, I am happy to say that the year 2018 has been an especially busy one and one where we have shown strong financial performance and growth.

The year 2018 marked the 20th anniversary of the launch of the Community Bank® model in Australia. In addition to this important anniversary, Bendigo and Adelaide Bank was voted number three in the top ten of Australia's most trusted brands. This is a great achievement and testament to our ongoing commitment to provide a full range of banking products combined with the highest level of customer service. Our ongoing commitment to our customers and shareholders is illustrated by another key achievement for 2018; the substantial refurbishment of the Lancefield branch. The extensive renovations have resulted in a more inviting and comfortable environment for both customers and the branch team.

Our Community Bank® branches are now the only bank branches in Lancefield and Romsey. Our partnership with the local community is unique; it is something we are all very proud of.

## LANCEFIELD DREAMING COMES TRUE THROUGH FUNDING SUPPORT

As part of our 2018-19 Community Investment Program, L&RCFSL received 62 funding applications. On 25 October 2018, at our annual Community Investment Event, we announced \$149,211 in grant and sponsorship funding for local community organisations and clubs.

As well as giving \$9,000 to our local Emergency Services and \$12,000 to local primary schools, other major grants include:

- \$5,000 to St Mary's Primary School for equipment for STEM subjects
- \$5,390 to Romsey Fire Brigade for ground monitor firefighting equipment
- \$6,000 to Lancefield Primary School to develop a Master Plan for new playground equipment; and
- \$6,000 to Romsey Primary School to develop a Master Plan for a new adventure playground.

A further \$45,621 was provided to 20 clubs and organisations for important sponsorship programs which benefit both the clubs and our Community Bank® branches.

We are also very proud to announce that we will be sponsoring an exciting local project this year – \$40,000



(L-R) Mike Jones, Harry Nanos and Paul Carter, Co-Producers of Lancefield Dreaming are joined by Michael O'Gorman, Senior Manager, Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank branches.



Max and Betty Dansey, Anglican Parish of Romsey & Lancefield are joined by Shaun Leech, Regional Manager – Central Victoria, Bendigo & Adelaide Bank.

has been allocated to contribute to a documentary entitled 'Lancefield Dreaming', currently being developed by local co-producers Paul Carter, Mike Jones and Harry Nanos. The end result will be a 45-minute TV and social media documentary that captures the unique and quirky characters that live and work in Lancefield, and depicts the wonderful 'spirit' that comes from being a member of our community. With funding from the Community Bank® branches, the producers will develop further narratives, including focusing on important annual events like the Farmers' Market, Relay for Life and the Megafauna Festival. Paul, Mike and Harry also plan to further explore the town's history and its exciting future.

On behalf of the Directors and staff of our Lancefield and

Romsey Community Bank® branches, I would like to wish all customers and shareholders a happy and safe Christmas and holiday season.

Suzie Ewart  
Chair, Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd



(From L-R) Ken Allender, General Manager, Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd; Sandra Chestnutt, Arts, Culture & Events Working Group of Romsey Region Business & Tourism Association (RRBATA); Robert Green, President, Lancefield Agricultural Society; Rob Bryant, Director, Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd

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## ENVIRONMENT EVENTS AT HANGING ROCK RESERVE

Fascinated by wildlife? Love spending time outdoors? Macedon Ranges Shire Council has two free environment events on offer in December aimed to get you exploring our stunning natural reserve, Hanging Rock.

Be a citizen scientist during Hanging Rock koala count.

They're considered icons of the Australian bush, yet the koala faces significant threats. Locally, koalas are under pressure from issues like the loss of habitat and predators such as dogs.

Come along to the Hanging Rock Koala Count at Hanging Rock on Friday 7 December at 10am, and get involved in this unique citizen science survey aimed at finding out more about the reserve's koala population.

### GO BATTY AT HANGING ROCK

Pack a picnic and come to Hanging Rock Reserve on Sunday 16 December from 7.30pm to get up close with microbats. Referred to as 'insect terminators', microbats play a major role in controlling pests and assisting with pollination. They can even help spread seeds.

Bring a picnic, and be part of a discussion with bat specialist and naturalist John Harris, then join us to release bats captured in the program.

For more information on environment events, or to book, visit [mrc.vic.gov.au/environment-events](http://mrc.vic.gov.au/environment-events) or call 5421 9660.



**DEEP CREEK  
LANDCARE GROUP**  
Covering Lancefield – Romsey and Monegeeta Districts

## TIS THE SEASON...

It has been a busy year for the Deep Creek Landcare Group. We have had a successful and engaging river detective's display at the Lancefield Show and we have also conducted bush tucker presentations for St Mary's Primary School and the Woodend Cub Scouts. We have had planting days with the Lancefield Girl Guides in the Megafauna area of the Lancefield Park and with St Mary's Primary School and our existing project areas.

We have been conducting drought monitoring activities in Deep Creek including DNA testing of the creek water with Melbourne Water and are now working with them in regards to revegetating and protecting stream side reserves.

We have been pleased to see the withdrawal of the mining submission from Macedon Resources and have been actively involved with the MRSC biodiversity strategy, VEAC proposal, deer strategy and now our new President Robin Ford has volunteered to be part of the Three Chain Road fire strategy working group.

Trapped Myna bird count for last month is 54. If you are interested in borrowing an Indian Myna trap please contact Secretary Pat Danko at [deepcreeksecretary@gmail.com](mailto:deepcreeksecretary@gmail.com)

We have a lot to look forward to in the coming year and we would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone in our community a very Merry Christmas and a safe and happy new year. Our Landcare meetings for 2019 will be held on the second Monday of every month (except January) at the Lancefield Mechanics Hall Annexe at 8pm

All are welcome. Come and join us.

Hayley Goodman



**LANCEFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE**

78 High Street, PO Box 171 Lancefield 3435; Phone: 5429 1214; Email: [lancefieldhouse@tpg.com.au](mailto:lancefieldhouse@tpg.com.au); Web: [www.macedoncommunity.org](http://www.macedoncommunity.org)

## A BUSY TIME

December is a busy time of year for the Lancefield Neighbourhood House and we hope that we can see as many community members as possible join with us to celebrate the festive season.

Whilst we can all get very busy at this time of year, it is timely to also think of our neighbours and community who may find this time of year tough and lonely...there are plenty of ways to help locally though, and make a difference and work to build a strong Lancefield.

### Community Christmas Lunch

This event is one of the highlights of our annual calendar, held this year on Tuesday 18th of December and the Lancefield Mechanics Hall. This is a free event, with all community members invited to attend. Please RSVP before the 5th December by calling the House on 5429 1214 or drop in to the Townhouse to reserve your spot.

### Carols in the Park

Our community, especially our families are invited to join us for Carols in the Park on Friday 14th December from 6pm. There will be free entertainment for the children, with Farmer Daryl's Animal Farm, jumping castle, face painting and of course a visit from Santa. Christmas carols will be in abundance, with performances from local musicians and both local primary schools.

Either bring a picnic or enjoy a BBQ dinner...we do aim to keep this as affordable as possible. This year our BBQ is proudly supported by St Mary's Primary School.

### Christmas Hours

This year the Op-shop and Townhouse will close on Monday 17th December and reopen Monday Jan 14th.

This break will allow for our volunteers to have some much needed down time after a busy year and also to regroup for the year ahead. Please do not drop items at the door of the Op-shop during this period as we cannot manage this and it becomes a safety issue.

### Mens Shed

The Mens Shed meets Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays from 10-4pm, with Wednesday being the more social day with a shared BBQ lunch. The men report that they are currently working on some exciting projects and eagerly trying to get things finished before the Christmas break. New members are always welcome, just drop in, say hi and meet some of the members or email [lancefieldshed@tpg.com.au](mailto:lancefieldshed@tpg.com.au) for more information. The Shed will however have its last session of 2018 on Thur 20th December and reopen Tuesday 15th January 2019.

This week the Shed was visited by grade 6 from St Mary's Primary School as part of the Kids in Sheds Program. There was much laughter and banging coming from the Shed that day!

Thank you to all in the community who purchased a ticket in our recent raffle, with a special thanks the Manny the Woodbloke who provided the wood.

To keep up to date with what is happening at the Neighbourhood House and around town visit [www.lancefield.org.au](http://www.lancefield.org.au) or follow us on Facebook. You can also join our mailing list to get email updates, via the 'news' page on the website or email us on [lancefieldhouse@tpg.com.au](mailto:lancefieldhouse@tpg.com.au)

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## WHICH 'MONEY PERSONALITY' MATCHES YOUR TEENAGER?

According to the Australian Bureau of Statistics, Australia's household debt is among the highest in the world but financial literacy is not improving. The implications for young people, who tend to repeat their parents' money habits, are troubling. Romsey author Liliane Grace has written a new YA (Young Adult) novel to help teenagers identify their attitude to money, become financially literate, and develop better monetary habits.

'With life skills still not being taught in Australian schools as an official subject, and only intentionally taught in some families, most young people are left to unconsciously perpetuate family habits when it comes to saving, spending and investing,' Liliane says.

Liliane's new book, *Quest For Riches – four Teenagers Discover the Keys to Wealth and Prosperity*, shows how four 15-year-old students respond to the opportunity of a school trip to India. Each teenager represents one of the four 'money personalities':

- the 'Leader', who is entrepreneurial, prepared to take risks, and makes and loses money easily;
- the 'Perfectionist', who is a methodical saver but can get stuck in 'paralysis by analysis';
- the 'Steady Supporter', who works hard but can fall for get-rich-quick schemes and be overly generous – and sometimes a bit of a doormat;
- the 'Enthusiast', who doesn't want to miss out and 'must' keep up with the Joneses, so frequently lives beyond her means.

Liliane was approached by Australian Sweden-based life and business coach Camilla Mendoza to write the book as an accompaniment to Camilla's financial literacy workshop,

'Money Mastery For Teens'. The idea for this book was to model four different approaches to managing money as each of the teens responds to the opportunity. Who will save for the trip? Who will expect parents to pay? Who will assume a trip to India is not affordable?

In Part 1 the teenagers respond to the opportunity of the school trip to India in their four very different ways, in Part 2 they travel to India where they experience the dizzying extremes of wealth and poverty in that country, and in Part 3 they return home to financial challenges in each family. A mentor steps up to provide advice as these teens come to grips with their own financial habits and the effects on them of their parents' habits.

The beauty of this book is that the financial education is delivered through an entertaining and contemporary story. Liliane believes that life skills such as communication skills and goal-setting should be taught formally in schools as compulsory subjects. Author of the award-winning YA novel, *The Mastery Club*, her new book adds the life skill of better money management. Readers can enjoy the book purely as a novel or respond to 'reflection question pages'.

Liliane is new in the region, having moved from Melbourne to Romsey in April this year in a surprise development after writing her first novel for adults, *Wanted: Greener Grass* – a novel about love, envy and a crazy kind of courage.

She will be signing books on December Market Day (15/12) at Red Door Books, Lancefield, so pop in to say hello and browse the books! For further information about any of her books and programs, please call Liliane Grace – 0407 901 008, Liliane@lilianegrace.com

## DON'T MISS BATTLE OF THE BANDS

Young musicians from regional Victoria will step onto the stage at Kyneton Town Hall in December to perform in the Push Start Battle of the Bands competition.

The Northern Country Battle of the Bands Regional Finals will be held on Saturday 15 December from 6pm, and see bands, duos and solo artists from areas including Ballarat, Bendigo, Castlemaine and the Macedon Ranges play music from a range of genres.

The night will feature performances from the following

acts: Stop That Mammoth (Mt Alexander Shire), Crane (Macedon Ranges Shire), Tyler Ball (Sunraysia), The Wilsons (Hepburn Shire), Isabella Fortuna (City of Greater Bendigo), Meraki Minds (Ballarat City Council)

Triple j Unearthed High winner KIAN, from Castlemaine, is also set to play at the event.

Presale tickets are from \$10 or \$15 on the door.

For more information visit Macedon Ranges Youth's Facebook page, or call 5422 0242.

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**LANCEFIELD FIRE BRIGADE**

Burn off notification: 1800 668 511,  
Vic Emergency Hotline 1800 226 226. www.cfa.vic.gov.au

**IT'S HERE!**

The Fire Danger Period (FDP) was declared in the Macedon Ranges Shire on the 12th of November 2018.

As the fire danger period is now upon us, it is imperative that you understand where to find the key information that helps you make the decisions that support your 2018 fire plan, and what that information means. It's up to each and every one of you to stay informed.

Make it your habit this fire season to:

- Check your Fire Danger Rating every day
- Know if it is a Total Fire Ban
- Check for warnings, especially on hot, dry, windy days
- Listen to ABC local radio, commercial and designated community radio stations
- Vic Emergency hotline 1800226226 website emergency.vic.gov.au
- Twitter@CFA-Updates and facebook.com/cfavic

**PICK UP YOUR COPY OF SHIRELIFE AND BE PREPARED THIS SUMMER**

Get the latest on how you can prepare for emergencies in our summer emergency pull-out in the November issue of ShireLife.

The November issue of our free resident newsletter was delivered to households in late-November, and includes a handy pull-out guide to the following:

- Bushfire survival plans
- Neighbourhood Safer Places—Places of Last Resort
- Emergency relief centres
- Packing an emergency kit
- Channels for emergency information
- Emergency recovery centres.

The CFA declared the Fire Danger Period on Monday 12 November, with residents encouraged to be prepared for what is predicted to be a long, hot, summer.

For more information on preparing for emergencies, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/fire-ready](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/fire-ready) or [cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare](http://cfa.vic.gov.au/plan-prepare)

You can also read November's ShireLife online, at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/newsletters](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/newsletters)

**RECYCLING**

Recycling is a constantly evolving industry, with new initiatives and technologies in continual development. Despite improvements in recycling and waste management systems, the Australian economy is still losing a significant amount of valuable recyclable items that could be reprocessed into new products. Around 20% of the waste sent to landfill each year in Australia is made up of recyclable materials.

Research shows that the main barrier to recycling efficiency in Australia is the contamination in kerbside recycling bins due to confusion about certain parts of the recycling process and the outcomes it achieves.

After households have put their recyclables in the kerbside co-mingled recycling bins, a collector picks up the bins and transport them to a Material Recovery Facility (MRF). Inside the facility, different materials are segregated through a series of both mechanical and manual processes including hand sorting, fans, trommels, magnets, eddy currents and optical sensors. The separated materials are prepared and sent to end-use manufactures to be made into new materials.

The most common contaminants are recyclables in plastic bags, soft plastics, drinkware glass, food, polystyrene, clothing and nappies. Some of these contaminants are so common that waste companies have been developing scheme to collect and recycle them. A prime example of that is Redcycle, a program found in some supermarkets, designed to collect and recycle soft plastics, which are not accepted in the kerbside recycling.

Recycling reduces waste going to landfill and the need to extract raw materials conserving scarce natural resources. In addition to that, recycling reduces the amount of energy required to process and manufacture new products compared to virgin materials.

For more information relating to waste and resource recovery services within your area download the FREE Loddon Mallee Waste Info App through the App Store or Google Play with the search: Loddon Mallee or visit the Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group website [www.lmwrrg.vic.gov.au](http://www.lmwrrg.vic.gov.au)

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From fitness classes and activities such as karate and squash, to services and facilities for hire, Romsey Recreation Centre is ready and waiting for you to drop by and visit.

Our sports programs for juniors and seniors include:

- Basketball
- Indoor soccer
- Indoor netball

We've also got a range of fun and interactive programs available for 1 to 5 year olds, such as Lovaball Kids – a multi-sports program for children that develops sport specific skills, confidence, concentration, teamwork and sportsmanship.

Romsey Occasional Care also operates from the centre, providing quality, affordable care for your children in a safe, fun and relaxed environment.

If you're looking for group fitness classes we've got you covered, with sessions on offer to suit those who want to start an exercise program, maintain their current level of fitness, or simply challenge themselves.

The team at Romsey Recreation Centre wish you and your loved ones a happy and safe festive season, and look forward to seeing you in 2019.

**MORE INFORMATION**

For more information on Romsey Recreation Centre programs, classes, service or facilities for hire, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/RRC](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/RRC), email [rrc@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:rrc@mrsc.vic.gov.au) or call 5429 5637.

**ROMSEY REGION BUSINESS AND TOURISM ASSOCIATION (RRBATA)**

**CHRISTMAS IN ROMSEY 2018**

Bendigo Bank Christmas in Romsey 2018 will be launched on Saturday 1st December 2018 with "Light Night". This will be an opportunity for the community to enjoy the newly installed Thrifty Link Main Street Christmas Trees (featuring 75 Business and Community Group trees plus the Community Tree this year) whilst enjoying street performers and Romsey cafes and restaurants. Santa will also be making an appearance! The official opening ceremony will be conducted soon after 9pm at the Romsey Mechanics' Institute followed by a fireworks display!

The Christmas Lights and Decorations Competition will

this year feature a new category – Best Decorated Gate – for those homes on very large blocks where whole house decoration is less feasible or visible. Entry forms are available at Romsey Community Hub and the Romsey Community Bank branch of the Bendigo Bank. And don't forget the People's Choice Award for Best Business! The Romsey Community Carols will be held at the Romsey Skate Park on Saturday 15th December. Feel free to arrive from 6pm with a picnic and enjoy the family friendly atmosphere before the event kicks off at 7pm.

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# ANOTHER SUCCESSFUL YEAR

Our October meeting was followed by our AGM which was chaired by Helen Ryvitch, our Group President. Helen congratulated us on a successful twelve months. Both the Secretary and the Treasurer presented their reports.

All members were congratulated on the branch's successful year financially. As the bank balance was in a healthy state, we were able to make donations totaling \$2,307 to various community organisations. New positions for office bearers were announced and we look forward to working together as a team. We were delighted to provide catering for an afternoon tea at the Lancefield Kindergarten which celebrated their fortieth anniversary on Sunday 18th November.



Maybelle and Agnes at the Lancefield Show

It is always a pleasure to be out in the community as part of our wonderful district. Do come along to our stall at the Lancefield Christmas Farmers' Market on Saturday December 15th. There will be a variety of items of homemade produce for sale as well as Christmas baking such as shortbread, mince tarts, chocolate truffles and much more.

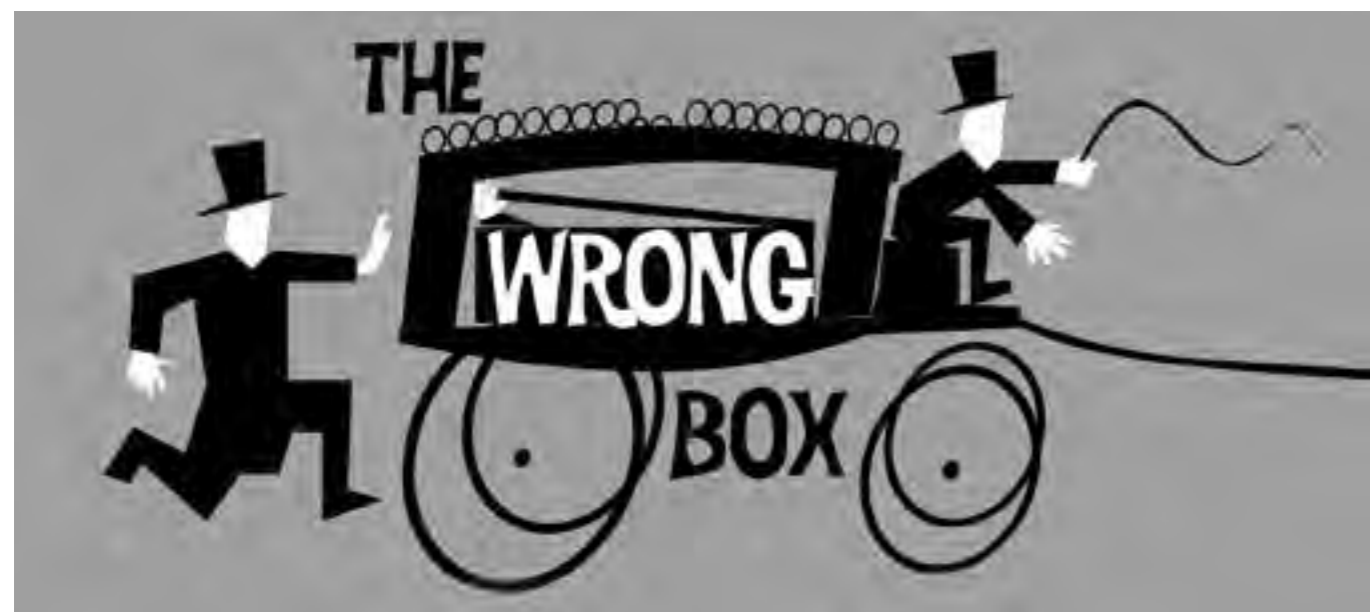
Our next meeting will be on Friday January 25th at 12 noon.

This is an informal lunch meeting held at the Lancefield Hotel to start

the CWA year of 2019.

New members are always very welcome. You may like to join us at our January meeting.

Publicity Officer Maybelle Briggs. 54291624



## A BUSY DECEMBER FOR THE PLAYERS

A busy month is coming up for The Mount Players with two separate shows and, of course, the members Christmas break up. Hard to believe another year has passed us by!

First up, we welcome a visiting theatre group from Castlemaine. Moonlight Theatre Company will present an armchair theatre production of a hilarious comedy, 'The Wrong Box' which is play for radio directed and adapted by John Rowland. Set in Victorian London, this dark farce involves two brothers, each standing to inherit a fortune so long as the other dies first. Living right next door to each other they have not spoken for forty years but now aging, frail and close to death the race is on. Enter the families. Two scheming brothers, two star crossed lovers. There is also a corpse, a corrupt doctor, a box, a statue, a bag of money and a butler who actually didn't do it. But then it starts to get complicated! Join the ride, even if it is on a hearse, and laugh all the way to the cemetery.

The Wrong Box....It's a comedy to die for!  
Friday 7 & Saturday 8 December at 7:30 pm & Sat Matinee at 2.00 pm. Tickets can be purchased from Maine Shoes, 174 Barker St, Castlemaine or via Trybooking.com/YTNI.

Then on 14, 15 & 16 December The Mount Players Youth Theatre presents a re-telling of Mark Twain's *The Pauper Princess* by Holly Beardsley. Youth theatre members aged from 10 – 18 years old will be involved. The Youth production is always a wonderful way to see our future stars strutting their talent and a memorable way for a family to come along and be thoroughly entertained. Tickets are via our website or call 5426 1892 with enquiries.

Once again, we would like to thank our valued sponsors throughout 2018. A huge thank you & season greetings go out to our members, subscribers and patrons who make up our theatrical family.

If you would like to become a member and be part of something special we invite you to go to our website and follow the prompts.....we would love to have you! For full details of both of the above shows and much, much more go to [www.themountplayers.com](http://www.themountplayers.com)

From everyone at The Mount Players –  
'Break A Leg' & 'Chookas' for the Christmas Season.  
See you at the theatre!

By Karen Hunt

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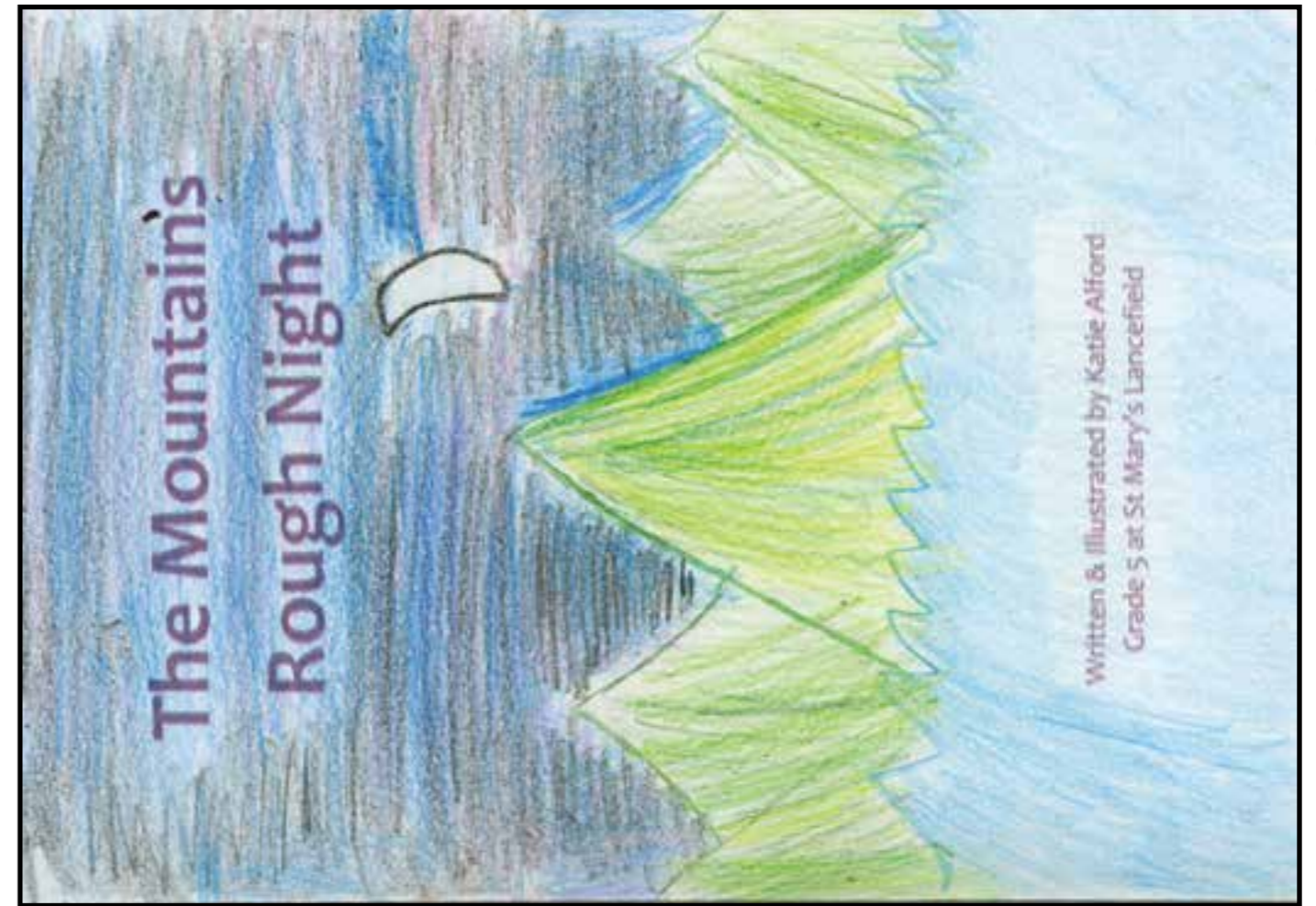
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We will be Relaying again in 2019, our seventeenth year.  
 If you would like to join us at the Lancefield Park on  
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 For further information you can contact us at  
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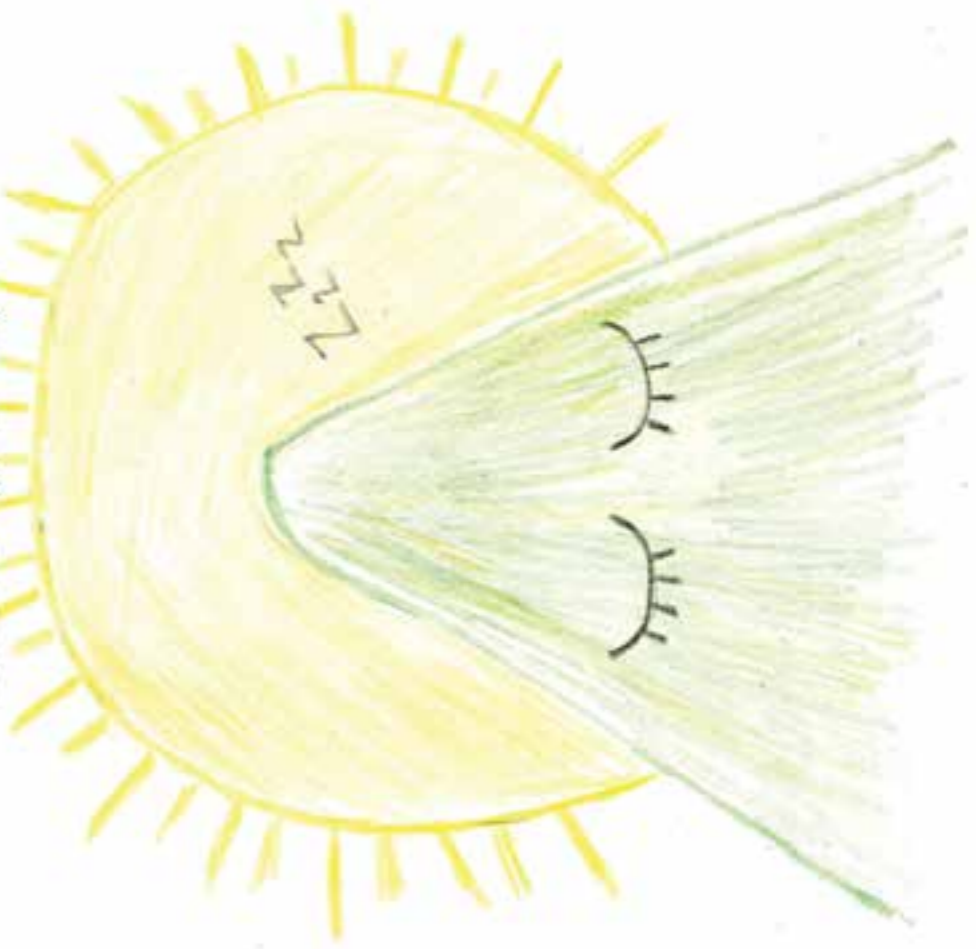
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**Lancefield Mercury Young Writers Award 2018**



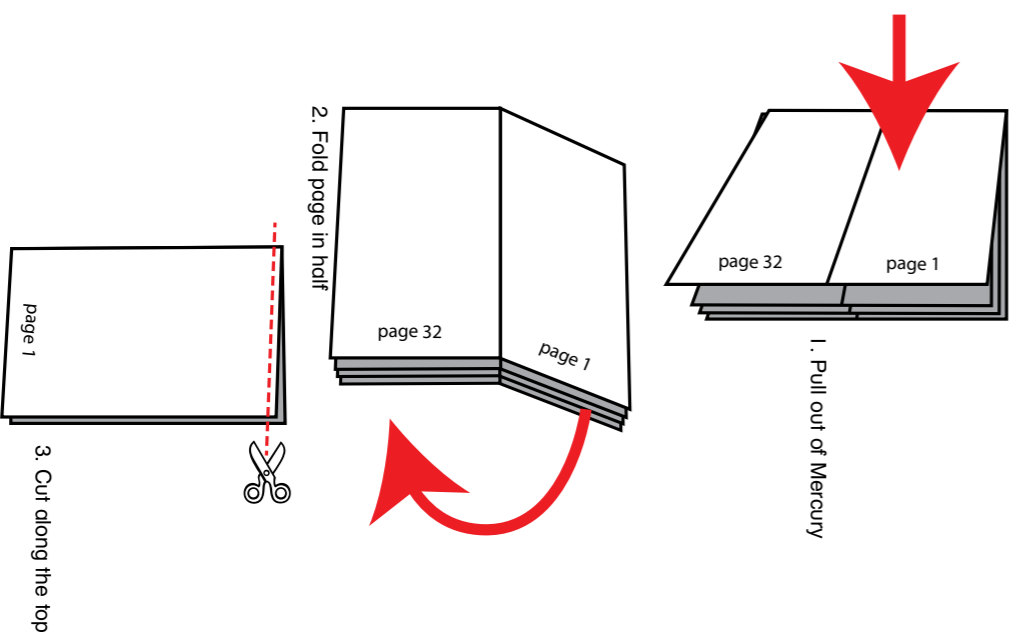


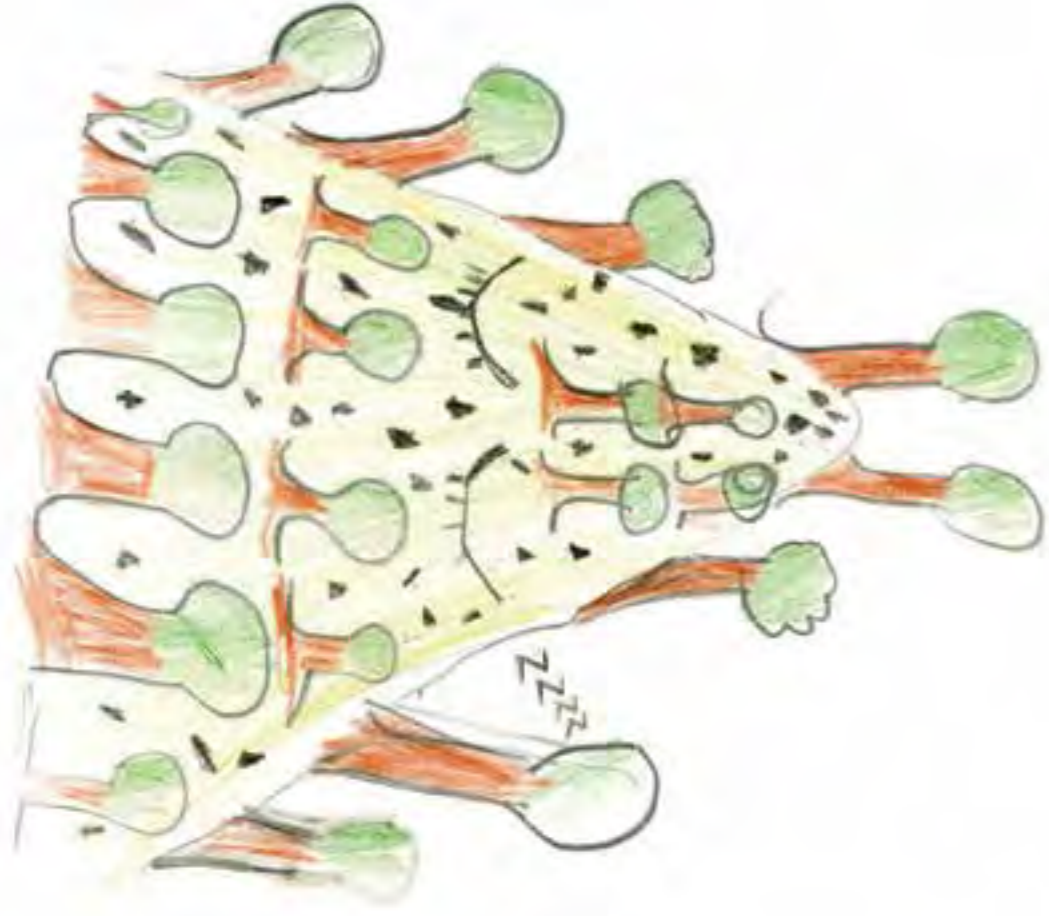
Once there was a Sleepy  
Mountain who lived on the **Sunny**  
coast of Byron Bay

**DEDICATION –**

To my Family & Tutor Eloise for supporting  
and encouraging me in my writing journey

To make up this book pull the centre page out of the Mercury and fold in half.  
Trim along the top and you have your book





He was covered with big **thick** trees and *spiky* rocks

**FOR NOW ...**

He looked down at the new growth and drifted off to sleep...

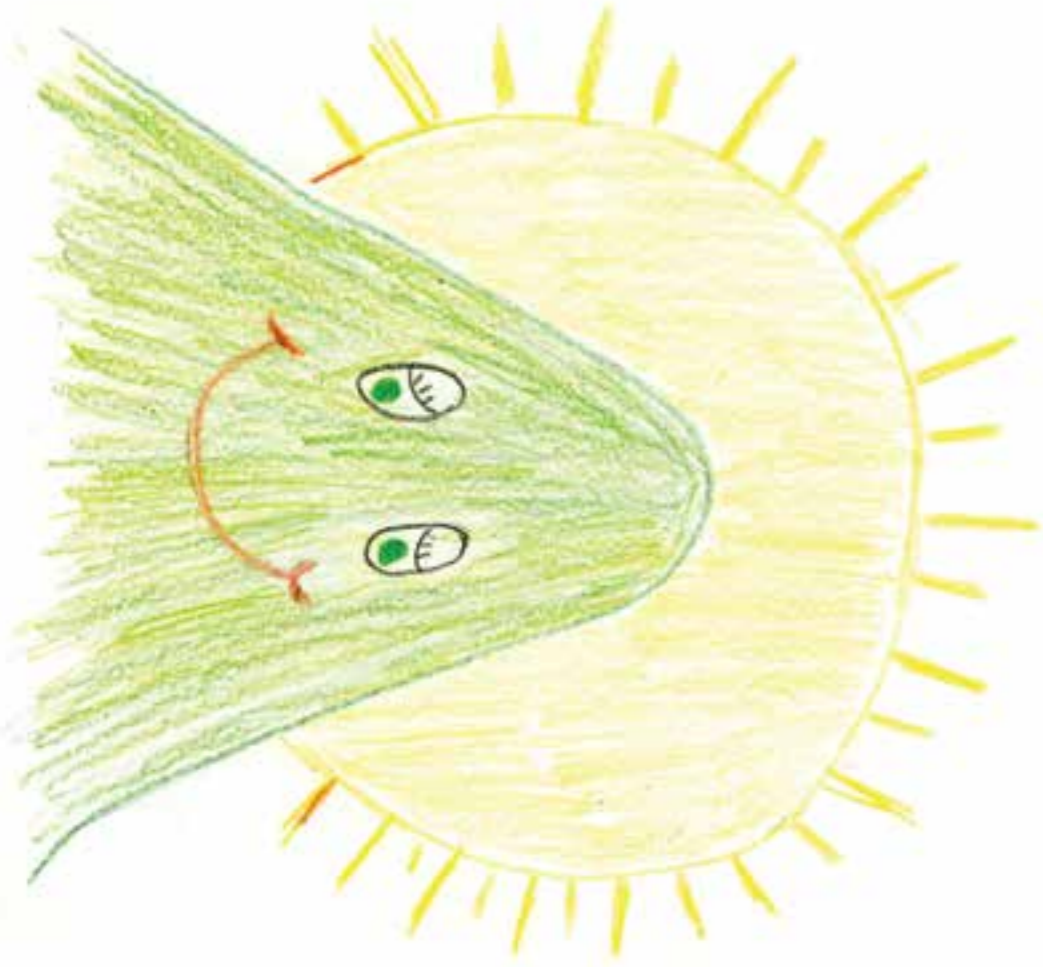


He grew mounds of soft grass and collected beaches of soft sand that kept him warm while he was asleep.





One afternoon, he found himself being jolted awake, and to his surprise, the sun was gone.



The mountain was excited when the sun finally came back.



New animals came to stay.

There were wild waves and powerful currents. They made him very dizzy and sore.

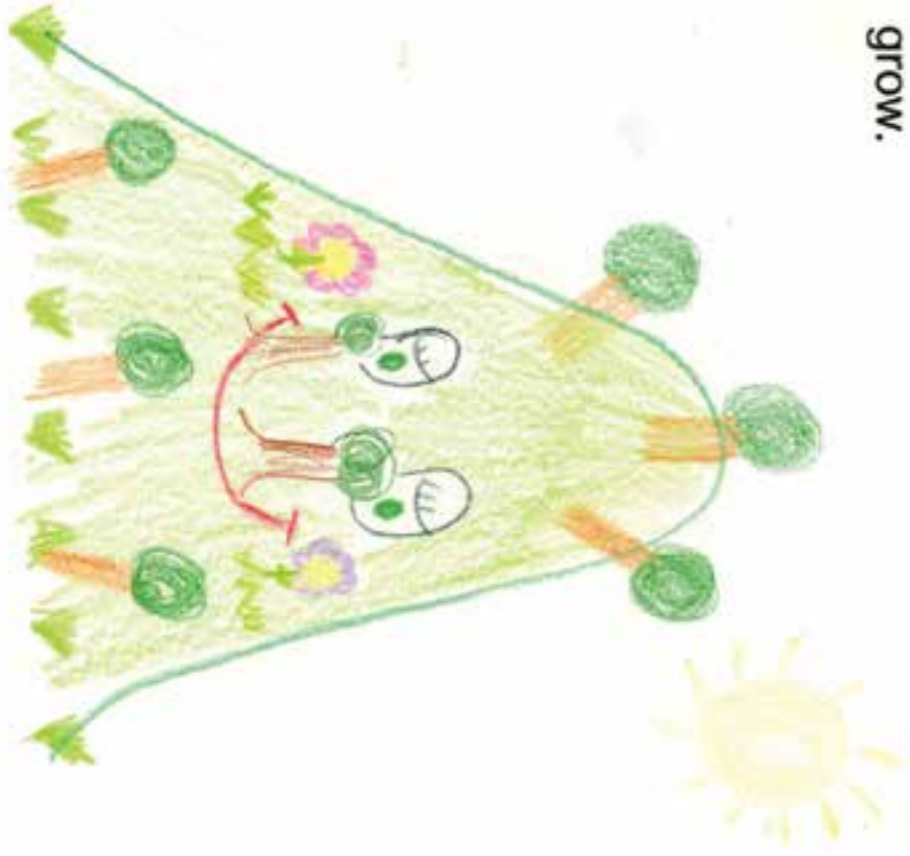




He stretched one way...



He decided to **stretch** to loosen up.

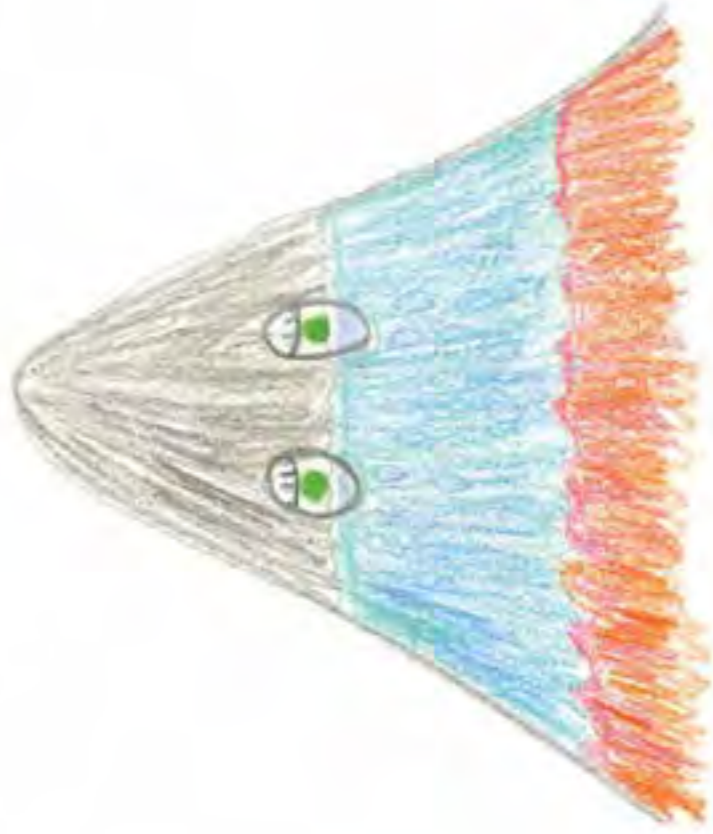


New grass and trees began to grow.

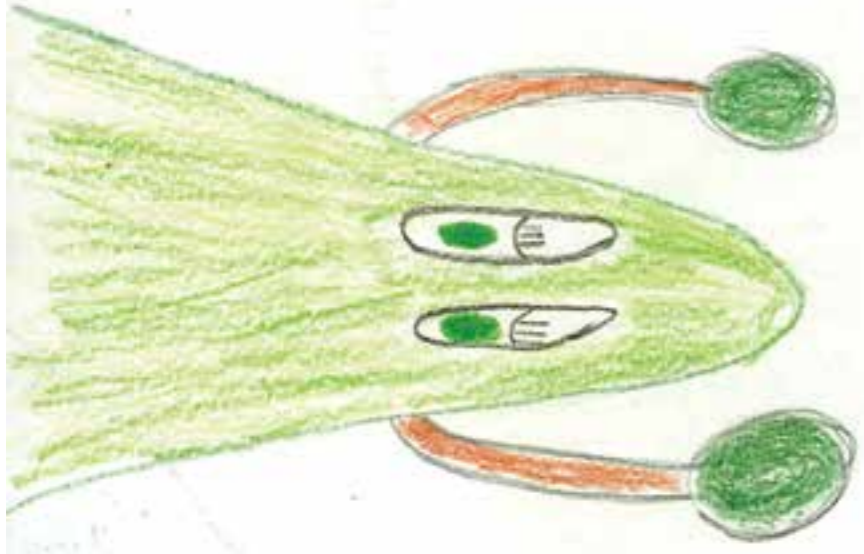
And then the other,



His tears flooded the mountain,



washing the lava and magma away.



Then up to the sky!

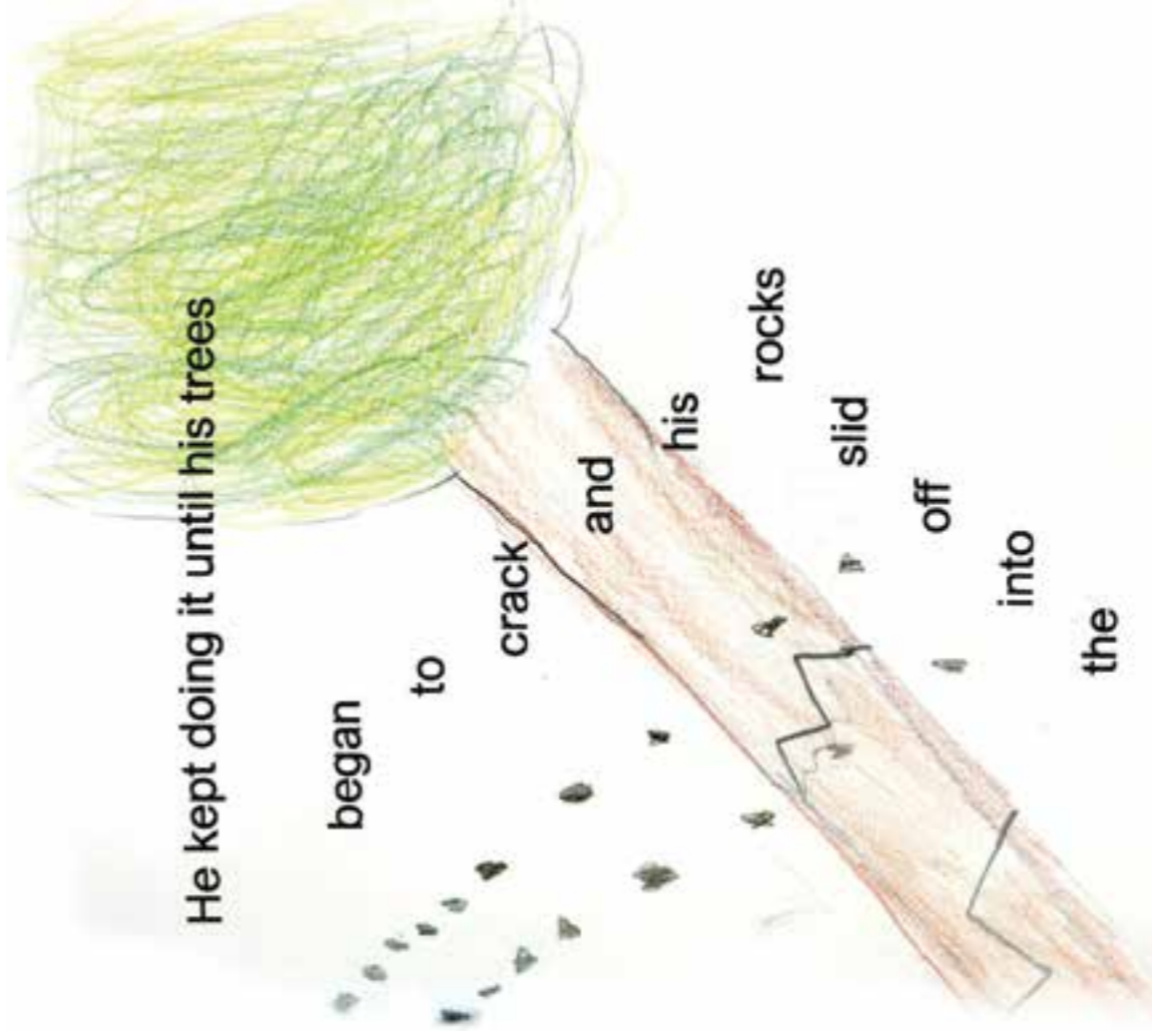


He started to **CRY LOUDLY.**



Lava poured down him until he turned to **STONE.**

He kept doing it until his trees

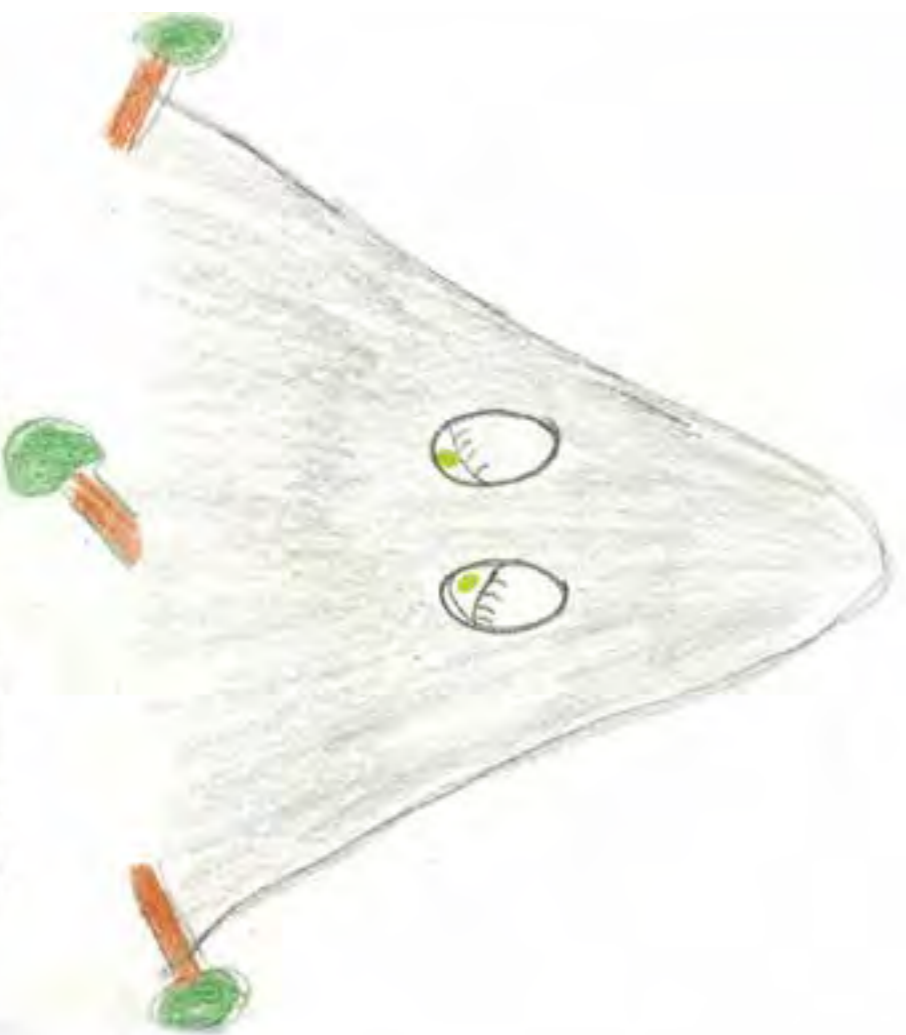




And  
extremely  
**Cold!**

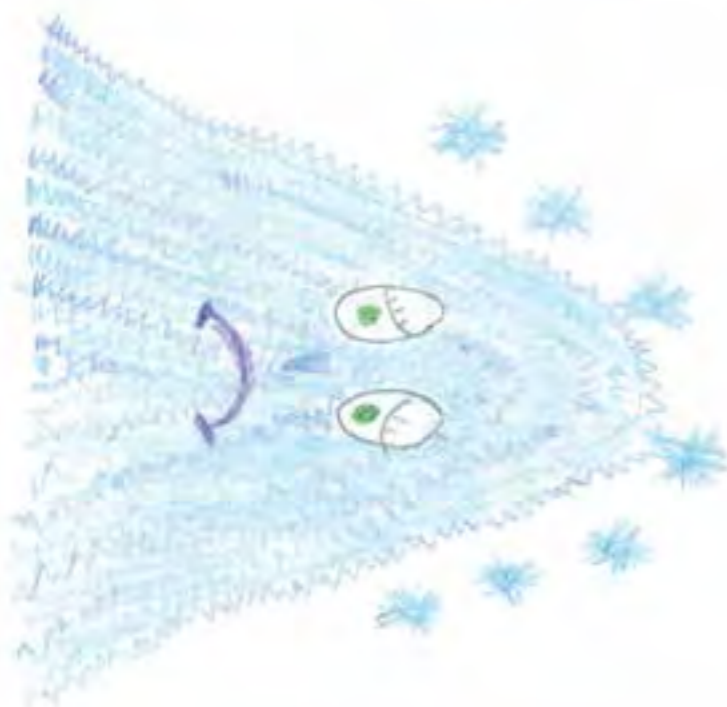


**erupted!!**



Then all his trees and sand slid  
down leaving him barren.





He started to shiver harder and harder.

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 From 17<sup>th</sup> December 2018

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**Romsey Medical - Stawell Street Romsey**

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If you have difficulty getting to Romsey, please discuss this with our receptionists or your doctor so we can work with you to find a solution. Providing quality care to you is our priority.

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# THE MERCURY QUIZ

1. Who wrote the novel War and Peace?
2. What is the hardest natural substance?
3. Who painted the famous painting Sunflowers?
4. In cycling, what colour jersey is awarded to the leader in a stage race in the Tour de France?
5. Which bird can run the fastest?
6. What starts with a 'T' ends with a 'T' and has 'T' in it.
7. If a sow is a female pig, what is a male pig called?
8. Which superhero has a butler named Alfred?
9. After how many years would you celebrate a Ruby Wedding Anniversary?
10. What is Dr. Who's time box called?

Answers on page 54



LANCEFIELD MERCURY YOUNG WRITERS AWARD 2018 WINNER GRADE 3/4 STORY

## THE GREAT BUT HORRIBLE REALLY DANGEROUS GAME

Chris and Tom had always loved playing the board game called Soccer Star at home in the attic. Soccer Star was not like other board games that other kids would play at their homes. Soccer Star was a much more exciting (and dangerous) game.

"Goal for red team," came a yell from a little umpire figure inside the game, "and foul for blue." "YAY!" Tom yelled in joy. "NO!" grumbled Chris. "BINGALING! BINGALING" went the buzzers. "End of game, red team wins!" The little umpire yelled for the second time. "Awesome!" Tom said while breaking into his happy dance. "Rematch?" "Nah, lets pack this game up," Chris said with a very exhausted voice.

As the boys packed up the game they heard the little umpire ask "Rematch?" "NO," said Chris and Tom together. "Then get in!" the umpire said with a very mischievous voice. The game made a highly annoying sound and the PUFF! The boys had been sucked into the game!

"Now your team must win the game so you can get

out!" went a giant speaker with a voice that sounded like the umpire they had played with before. "Sweet, we are playing soccer but in real life!" Tom screamed from the other side of the field. "Yeah and we are on blue team, the losing team. How are we going to win?" Chris said with doubt in his voice. "It is easy, all we have to do is win the game." Tom said like it was the most obvious thing in the world. "How are we going to do that?" Chris said as he got bit annoyed. "We work together of course!" Tom laughed.

So the boys played. They played like they were fighting for their lives (which they were). The score was 9-9 and the first to 10 would win. Tom grabbed the ball, dodged a player, then passed the ball to Chris. Chris did an amazing leap for the ball, caught it and he shot the winning goal!

"Blue team wins, all blue teams being released," went the umpire for the last time. The game made an annoying sound again then PUFF! The boys were out!

Created by Rylee Needle  
Year 3, Lancefield Primary School



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Romsey Ecotherapy Park Inc (REP) – formally known as GRAAP – was this year rebranded to reflect the formal adoption of Romsey Ecotherapy Park as the name for the health and wellbeing park project at the former Romsey Primary School site. With a new name, new logo, new website and social media platforms, the small but tight REP committee welcomed construction of the Park’s first stage. The Active Nature Space officially opened in August more than 9 years since the project’s conception.

A serious community campaign reaped success in the Pick My Project funding scheme in October which secured \$200,000 for construction of the Park’s Climbing Forest. It is hoped this will be constructed in early 2019, although the details of funding agreements in this scheme have yet to be finalised.

The State Labour Government has made an election promise to contribute \$718,000 if successful in the State Election.

Meanwhile, Macedon Ranges Shire Council formally voted to apply for funding under the Federal Government’s Building Better Regions Fund. If successful, it will involve a leverage funding contribution to be made by MRSC.

Romsey Ecotherapy Park is now a reality and REP is

excited at the possibility of more government funding being secured. However, REP is determined to ensure the realization of the original vision for this important resource. As such, REP is preparing to undertake a corporate philanthropic campaign to raise sufficient funds to ensure construction costs are covered. A Park Patron and Ambassadors will be appointed as part of this campaign.

There is much to be excited about for Romsey Ecotherapy Park in 2019. REP would like to thank all local community members who have supported the project (“Friends of REP”), including the following: Macedon Ranges Shire Council - with special thanks to Jodie Turner, (Coordinator Community Places and Partnerships) for her wonderful support,

Romsey Community Bank branch of the Bendigo Bank – for the huge leap of faith demonstrated by last year’s \$80,000 grant towards the Sensory Therapeutic Space and backed up this year with a sponsorship of the REP website.

FURTHER INFORMATION

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## FROM HEAVEN TO EARTH

*"From heaven to earth you came, helpless Babe, entered our world, your glory veiled; Not to be served, but to serve, and to give Your life that we may live".* So one of the later hymns goes - and *Why*, we must ask ourselves.?? John 3:16 gives us the answer - because of God's great love for us. He longs for us to be at one with Him, separated as we are by our sinful, fallen human natures. So, Jesus, Son of God, left the glory of heaven to become as one of us and to suffer and die nailed to a cross. From Cradle to Cross!

Christ was born for us - that we might be born again. He became the child of the Virgin Mary - that we might become the children of God by adoption and grace. He took our nature upon Him - that we might become partakers of the divine nature in the power of the Holy Spirit. Such is the mystery of the Incarnation - God in the Flesh!

May we all be found this Christmas not wholly caught in the feasting and wassailing of the unbelieving world but humbly kneeling and lifting our hands in penitence and faith, to His, so lovingly stretched out to ours.

*"Come see His hands and His feet, the scars that speak of sacrifice,*

*Hands that flung stars into space - To cruel nails surrendered."* (Graham Kendrick)

*"O may we keep and ponder in our mind, God's wondrous love in saving lost mankind;*

*Trace we the Babe who has retrieved our loss, From His poor manger to His bitter Cross;*

*Tread in His steps, Assisted by His grace, Till man's first heavenly state again takes place."* J. Byrom.

November has passed quickly, its highlight being the very entertaining concert by the Victoria Welsh Male Voice Choir. Their blended voices in four part harmony delighted us all. The rendering of 'Highland Cathedral' stirred many a Scottish heart, as well as the songs new and old. The amount raised for the the Lancefield Church Restoration Fund will be known later.

A positive Church Annual Meeting was held and we look forward to another year of Worship, Witness and Fellowship under the leadership of Rev. Judi Pollard.

Christmas gifts, wrapping paper as well as Christmas Cheer (food delicacies) are now being collected for our welfare agency Anglicare, caring for Melbourne's needy.

We continue to uphold in prayer our ailing members and those who have suffered bereavements over these last months. Recently, John Severson on the loss of his dear mother - our thoughts are with you and Anne.

## DECEMBER 2018 DIARY

Sat 1 Dec. 9am: Annual Christmas Street Stall (Outside Romsey IGA Store)

From the Kitchen to You!..Cakes..Sponges..slices.. Jams...Pickles..Bric.a.Brac..Etc.

Thursday 15: The Op. Shop closing. (Re-opens Thurs 17 Jan 2019)

**Bible Study** continues each Tuesday 10am at Christ Church Lancefield. We are now looking at the problems arising in the fledging Church in GALATIA. An area into which the Romans had herded the troublesome Celtish clans into the one place. Come and join us and explore together.

## CHRISTMAS SERVICES

Christmas Eve.. 24 December: 11.30pm..St Paul's Romsey .. Holy Communion (Main Street)

Christmas Day.. 25 December: 10am Christ Church Lancefield .. Holy Communion (Chauncey Street)

The Rev. Judi Pollard and all the Members of our Parish Of Romsey/ Lancefield pray that all in our community will enjoy a blest Christmas and Happy and safe New Year of 2019.

Services as usual during January 2019.

Holy Communion..9am..St.Paul's ..Romsey. 10.30am.. Christ Church: Lancefield.

Doreen Morgan..Correspondent

Minister: Rev. Judi Pollard ..0402-268-001

## WATER SUPPLY CHANGES IN THE MACEDON RANGES

Western Water customers in the Macedon Ranges may have notice a change in their drinking water as several towns switch their supply source. Customers in Gisborne, New Gisborne, Gisborne South, Riddells Creek, Macedon and Mount Macedon have been switched from the Melbourne drinking water supply system to the local supply from Rosslynne Reservoir.

The water supply for other Macedon Ranges towns remain unchanged. Romsey and Lancefield will continue to source their water from local supplies, which includes bore and reservoir water. Woodend's water is sourced from local reservoirs.

Western Water's General Manager, Customer, Community Relations and Operations, Graham Holt, said customers "may notice a slight change in the taste of their water.

"This is quite normal, when we are switch from one supply source to another. The drinking water we supply is high quality, safe and meets the Australian Drinking Water Guidelines," he said.

The supply switchover occurred mid-November. To learn more about where your water supply comes from, visit [WesternWater.com.au](http://WesternWater.com.au)

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**PASTOR'S PARABLES**  
Encourage Church, 7 Mitchell Court Romsey. Ph 5429 6327

## THE STORY OF BABY JESUS

A long time ago, in the town of Nazareth, lived a young woman named Mary. Mary did her chores, was kind to others, and loved God very much. She was engaged to be married to Joseph, who was a carpenter.

One day, while Mary was at home cleaning her room, an angel suddenly appeared. Before Mary could say anything the angel told Mary that she was favoured by God and that God was with her.

Mary was surprised. She was trying not to be afraid but she had never seen an angel before. After all, Mary was just a regular person like you or I. Why was this angel visiting her? What did the angel want?

The angel quickly tried to reassure Mary. "Do not be afraid!" the angel said. "God has found favour with you. You will have a baby boy and are to give him the name Jesus."

Mary was confused; she was not yet married to Joseph, so how could she have a baby? The angel thought that this might concern Mary so he said, "The Holy Spirit will perform a miracle and because of this your baby will be called the Son of God." To Mary's surprise, the angel had more exciting news: "Even your cousin Elizabeth is going to have a son in her old age. Many thought that she couldn't

have children, but she is already pregnant. Nothing is impossible with God."

Mary couldn't believe what she was hearing; she didn't know what to say. She realized that she was trembling and knelt down. When she was finally able to speak she said, "I am the Lord's servant and I hope everything you have said will come true."

Then the angel disappeared, and Mary was left alone.

Soon after, Joseph found out that Mary was going to have a baby. Joseph was confused and upset by this but an angel came to him in a dream and said, "Joseph do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife. The child Mary is going to have is God's son and you are to give him the name Jesus."

When Joseph woke up he remembered what the angel had said. He knew that everything was okay and he wasn't upset anymore.

In those days, the government decided that they should count everyone that lived in that area of the world. So Joseph had to take Mary to his town of Bethlehem to register.

It took Mary and Joseph a long time to get to Bethlehem. This was very tiring for Mary because she was soon going to

have a baby.

When they reached the town, all the hotels were full and there was nowhere that they could stay. Finally, someone felt bad for them and offered them a place to stay.

The Bible doesn't say for sure where they stayed but most people think that they stayed in a small barn where animals were kept. In any case, doesn't it seem strange that Jesus, the Son of God wasn't born in a fancy palace or even a hospital?

Mary and Joseph were thankful that they at least had a place to lie down. It was warm and there was plenty of straw to lay on.

That night an exciting, wonderful thing happened: Mary and Joseph had a baby! But this wasn't just any baby, he was Baby Jesus! The creator of the whole world, the King of Kings and the one who would save the world. How would He do this?

Jesus lived a life that pleased God every day and He never did anything wrong. But that is not the end. Because for any of us to go to heaven we too have to live a perfect life.

So Jesus suffered in our place and paid the penalty that God requires for us to be perfect so that we too can go to Heaven. In actuality, He exchanged His sinless life for our sinful life.

He did this at Easter when he died on the cross.

Everyone who believes this and trusts what Jesus did for

them, will go to heaven when they die.

Thank you God for Christmas and giving your Son Jesus to the world.

On behalf of Encourage Church I extend warm Christmas blessing to you and your family.

Pastor Marilyn Hunter

### WANT TO KNOW MORE

We are a Family Church and genuinely care about the people of our Community.

We offer Life Groups for Adults; Young Adults; Youth and Children. mainly music is held on Wednesday mornings for babies to pre-school aged children and we also run the Kidzone Before and After School Nationally Accredited Program. WE are a progressive Church with a live band as part of our Worship team. If you have needs we would welcome you to join us on a Sunday morning and connect with someone who can help you or just drop in enjoy the music, friendship, and have a barista coffee on us.

Our aim is to Encourage one another to be all we can be, in Life and in God.

If you would like to know more about faith in Jesus Please contact Pastor Marilyn or our Church office Ph 5429 6327

Worship service Sunday 10am

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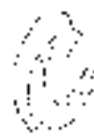
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**MASS TIMES**

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month:  
8:00am Lancefield and 10:00 am Romsey  
2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month:  
8:00am Romsey and 10:00am Lancefield  
1st Saturday of the month:  
10:00am Romsey – Healing Mass  
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**COMMUNION SERVICES**

Tuesdays 9:00am Romsey Church.  
Saturdays 10:00am Romsey Church.

**ROSARY**

Saturdays 9:45am Romsey.

**RECONCILIATION**

By arrangement.

**BAPTISMS**

2019 – Romsey Church – February 3rd, April 7th, June 2nd,

August 4th, October 6th & December 1st.  
2019 – Lancefield Church – January 13th, March 10th,  
May 12th, July 14th, September 8th & November 10th.  
For more information, please phone 5429 2130.

**SACRAMENTS**

Registrations are now open for all Sacraments to be received in 2019. Please send your details to the secretary at lancefield@cam.org.au to register your child.

**CHRISTMAS RECONCILIATION & MASS TIMES**

Advent Reconciliation Wednesday 12th December – 7:30pm – Romsey Church.  
Christmas Vigil Family Mass Monday 24th December – 6:00pm – Romsey Church  
Midnight Mass Monday 24th December – 11:30pm for Carols – Lancefield Church - followed at 12:00 midnight for Mass – Lancefield Church  
Christmas Day Tuesday 25th December – 9:00am Mass – Romsey Church  
New Years Day Tuesday 1st January – 9:30am Mass – St. Ambrose Church Woodend

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## STILL TO COME

Our school has received funding through the School Pride Program of \$288,900 to develop our current library area into a Discovery Learning Centre. We are hoping to include a kitchen and student kitchen stations for our Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, a science area, an outside learning space, indigenous megafauna garden area and new container to support outdoor learning and our garden program. The Discovery Learning Centre will also include a library space. Our students will be the absolute winners with these new developments and improvements to our school!

### REMEMBRANCE DAY MEMORIAL SERVICE

On Monday 12th November, students in years 3-6 walked to the Lancefield Cenotaph to join St Mary's students for a Remembrance Day 100th anniversary memorial service. Our student leaders placed a wreath on behalf of Lancefield Primary School.

### 3/4 ANGLESEA CAMP

Our year 3/4 students were a pleasure to take away on the Anglesea camp in October, embracing all challenges. Our motto on camp was "Have a Crack". Some of the many activities included: the giant swing, vertical challenge, orienteering, initiatives, walks, crate climbing, geocaching, canoeing, team games, and mountain bike riding. Camp is always exhausting but it must be good because we always go back for more! These are the special times our kids remember (and teacher's too!).

### PREP/1/2 CLASSES

The Prep/1/2 grades have had a very busy start to term 4 exploring fairy tales in the classroom. So far they have looked at 'Little Red Riding Hood', 'The Gingerbread Man', and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'. Classes recreated 'Little Red Riding Hood' with a play, made gingerbread men and wrote down the main ideas of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'.



In Physical Education, P-2 students have been participating in a basketball program run by Wallan Basketball. Students have been learning a variety of skills associated with basketball such as dribbling, passing and moving around the court.

### JUNIOR CAMP DAY & YEAR 2 SLEEPOVER

Friday 9th November was our annual Camp Day for P-2 students. Everyone loved setting up their tents for the day and participating in a range of camp type activities. At 5.30pm the year 2 students returned to school for a BBQ dinner and sleep over. We also went on a secret walk around Lancefield and went to visit a very special friend or two...it's possible you heard us!

### PREP TRANSITION SESSIONS COMMENCED

Transition sessions for our 2019 Preps are underway. These excited new students have been enjoying activities in the classrooms, getting to know their way around the school, and by session four on 11 December, they will be well and truly comfortable and confident to commence school in 2019!

### FARMER SUPPORT DAY

On Friday 19th of October was Lancefield Primary Schools Farmer's Day. The student council had been planning



Mount William, Wil-im-ee Moor-ring (Home of many axes), north of Lancefield is one of the most important cultural sites of the Wurundjeri people and is National Heritage Listed in recognition of its national significance. Excavations reveal that giant wombats, or Diprotodon, as well as many other species of megafauna roamed the region until approximately 40,000 years ago. The bones of thousands of these animals are preserved in the clay of Lancefield Swamp, making the site one of the most significant for megafauna fossils in Australia.

On Friday 7th December (5.30-7pm) we will be hosting a summer picnic and end of 2018 celebration for families to come and

enjoy a family outing and celebrate our 2018 year. The Grade 6 students, on Tuesday 11th December will attend their secondary school for the state wide transition day. This is a very exciting day for year 6 students who will travel to school on their designated school bus and enjoy a day at their new schools, meeting new friends and teachers. Finally, the Grade 6 Graduation will be celebrated at Cleveland Winery on Monday 17th December, and this is always an exciting event and creates a buzz around the school as the school year comes to an end.

### STILL TO COME THIS TERM...

Prep-2 students are off to the Bendigo Discovery Centre on Thursday 29th November. They will be visiting the Planetarium and other exhibits within the Discovery Centre, followed by lunch in the park.

On Friday 23rd November the Grade 3-6's will have had a visit to the Mt William Quarry for a one hour guided tour.



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# BOOK REVIEWS



The Christmas Book- by Dick Bruna RRP \$19.99

Beautifully illustrated, this book tells the timeless story of Christmas. Bruna is best known for his children's books which he authored and illustrated, now numbering over 200. His best known creation is Miffy, a small rabbit drawn with heavy graphic lines, simple shapes and primary colours.

Merry Everything!- by Tania McCartney RRP \$25.99

It's Christmas Eve and the world is buzzing with

busy. With baubles to hang, shimmer to drape and scrumptious treats to prepare, enjoy this peek inside the festive homes of animals all over the world. From deer baking gingerbread to elephants gobbling candy canes and ducks snapping crackers, join these adorable creatures as they celebrate the togetherness that is Christmas.



The Aussie ABC Christmas- by Nancy Bevington RRP \$24.99

Going to the beach, eating ice cream and having a barbeque are just some of the things that make

an Aussie Christmas great. Explore the Australian way of celebrating Christmas whilst navigating each letter of the alphabet. With kangaroos, koalas, the Opera House and the Harbour Bridge, learning the alphabet has never been so much fun!

Father Christmas Heard a Fart- by Olaf Falafel RRP \$19.99

The side-splitting festive follow-up to Old MacDonald Heard a Fart, from hilarious picture book superstar, Olaf Falafel. "Father Christmas heard a fart ... E-I-E-I-O!" Father Christmas is getting ready to deliver the presents - but



he keeps getting distracted by some *very* rude noises! Who keeps *farting*?! Could such a big noise actually be coming from someone rather small...? More windy fun is in store in this brilliant picture book by the sensational Olaf Falafel. Featuring helpful do-it-yourself instructions so you can fart along to your heart's content and drive your family nuts during the holidays, it's set to be the ultimate stocking filler for Christmas! Fans of



The Dinosaur That Pooped series will love this tongue-in-cheek Christmas tale. Perfect for ages 4 and up.



Young Scrooge- by R.L. Stine RRP \$11.99

Young Scrooge: A Very Scary Christmas Story is a funny, scary middle-grade send up of A Christmas Carol, about a boy who hates Christmas, from bestselling Goosebumps author R. L. Stine. Rick Scroogeman hates Christmas. He can't stand the carols and the pageants. He can't stand the lights and the mistletoe. But what he hates the most is having to watch the old movie A Christmas Carol every year at school. Since

his name is Scroogeman, all of his classmates start calling him Scrooge. And he hates being called Scrooge. But everything starts to change when three ghosts visit him. At first, he thinks it's a dream. But then he realizes that it might be a nightmare. A nightmare that could become real



The Colouring Book of Cards and Envelopes: Christmas- by Rebecca Jones RRP \$14.99

Get creative with this amazingly innovative

colouring book, full of beautifully-designed cards and envelopes to tear out and colour. The twenty four festive designs include Christmas trees, gingerbread men, reindeer and more and are perfect for all ages to decorate and send to family and friends. Take inspiration from real life, or get experimental - try unusual colours and different materials to make each card truly unique! With enough blank space inside for a message, envelopes to customise and cute stickers to seal your card - this is the complete Christmas creative package!



Botanicals- by Edith Rewa RRP \$24.99

All Wrapped Up is a series of gorgeous stationery

books celebrating the work of Australia's best and brightest artists. Botanicals showcases the unique flora of Australia as seen through the eyes of textile designer and illustrator Edith Rewa. Love the pattern? Rip it out and wrap something up! Includes 20 gift wrapping sheets and 2 sheets of stickers.

The big one for this Christmas is *definitely* Samuel Johnson's book Dear Santa \$22.99.

If you could ask Santa for absolutely anything, what would you ask for? Samuel Johnson OAM, Australia's favourite skylarker, brother and determined cancer vanquisher, has asked his friends and supporters (who just happen to be some of Australia's best writers, comics, actors,

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**BOOK REVIEWS**

artists, musicians and personalities) to share their letters to Santa. Some letters are naughty. Some letters are nice. Some echo a favourite childhood memory. Some beg forgiveness. Some are angry. Some just want something sweet. Some want to change their own world, others want to change the whole world. Contributors include Helen Garner, Adam Hills, Deborah Mailman, Rove McManus, Leigh Sales, Grant Denyer, John Williamson, Myf Warhurst, John Paul Young, Mia Freedman, Shaun Micallef, Missy



Higgins, and many more. This little book of letters is wicked, witty and warm-hearted. It will make you laugh, think and feel and is the perfect Christmas gift for those who speak human. Illustrations by Shaun Tan Every copy sold will contribute to cancer research

**MERCURY QUIZ ANSWERS FROM PAGE 28**

- 1. Leo Tolstoy 2. Diamond 3. Vincent van Gogh 4. Yellow
- 5. Ostrich 6. Teapot 7. Boar 8. Batman 9. 40 10. The Tardis

SHARE A  
**FEAST**  
THIS CHRISTMAS  
DAY AT KYNETON  
TOWN HALL

Council is inviting shire residents who might otherwise be alone over the festive period to share Christmas Day with others enjoying a delicious, free lunch at Kyneton Town Hall on Tuesday 25 December. Now in its eleventh year, this free event brings together community members to share an afternoon of food, company and entertainment.

The lunch will take place on Tuesday 25 December from 11.30am to 2pm, at Kyneton Town Hall, 129 Mollison Street in Kyneton.

Bookings are essential and can be made by calling 1300 888 802 or via email on [ktickets@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:ktickets@mrsc.vic.gov.au)

For more information visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/events](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/events)

**BRYCE HENDY  
WINS PHOTOPRIZE**

Prize totalling almost \$2000 were presented by Bruce Woodley AO during a sumptuous two course dinner enjoyed by more than sixty people at the historic Tooborac Hall on Friday night. Bryce's winning photo is on the back page of the Mercury. Second prize of \$500 went to Patrick Clarke for his technically superb image of a wedge-tailed eagle in flight. Third prize of \$250 was won by Jaiden Comi for his serene image of McIvor creek. There were two special awards for junior photographers—Milla and Regan Hiscock—each of whom received \$50 in prize money and a commendation certificate.

This is the second year that the NV&PW Landcare group has conducted the Photoprize, which, is one of the State's richest photographic competitions. Chairman of judges—Chris Darling—said the event, which is sponsored by the Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank Branches of the Bendigo Bank is set to become a permanent fixture in the NV&PW's event calendar. Event organisers included Margaret and Ray Hayes, Tric O'Heare, Jeff Young, Sue and Chris Darling, Deborah Wright and Grahame Dingle.

You can view the 30 finalists and winning pictures on the Photoprize Web site at [www.photoprize.com.au](http://www.photoprize.com.au)

**TAKE A DIP IN OUR  
OUTDOOR POOLS  
THIS SUMMER**

Grab your towel, hat and sunscreen, and make the most of the refreshing water and shade at one of our local outdoor pools. The Lancefield and Woodend outdoor pools will open for the 2018/19 summer season from Saturday 1 December until Monday 11 March.

The Lancefield and Woodend outdoor pools will be open for the 2018/19 summer season as follows:

Monday–Friday (during school terms) 26 degrees and above: 3.30pm–6pm (possible extension of hours past 6pm dependent upon patronage and weather conditions). Under 26 degrees: closed

Monday–Friday (during school holidays) and weekends. 26 degrees and above: 12noon–6pm (possible extension of hours past 6pm dependent upon patronage and weather conditions). Under 26 degrees: closed

(Pool opening hours are determined according to Bureau of Meteorology temperature forecasts for Kyneton at 4.30pm the day prior.)

Council's outdoor pools and indoor aquatic centres will be closed on Christmas Day.

For more information about our review, pool opening hours and fees, family passes and season tickets, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/outdoor-pools](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/outdoor-pools) or call 5422 0333.

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# THE WATER CYCLE - YOGA & MINDFULNESS

On the first two Fridays of Term 4, Lisa (a qualified yoga instructor) from Western Water visited our school to conduct a Yoga & Mindfulness incursion for all students. This was a free incursion developed by Western Water to combine the exploration of the water cycle with yoga and mindfulness.

## BENDIGO BANK GRANT AWARDS

On the evening of Thursday 25th October, Bendigo Bank held their annual Awards night for grant recipients. We are very pleased that St Mary's received a \$5000 grant towards our Protolab. Our Protolab is where students can apply their STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) knowledge, develop entrepreneurial skills, and gain experience in working with emerging and advancing technologies. This program aims to foster creativity and inquiry based learning for all students at St Mary's and then broaden out into our local community. This space would allow students to develop solutions to real world problems using digital technology. It is extremely important for our students to be future ready in this digital age. The Protolab is a creative, self directed learning space where students can create, invent and learn. It allows students to collaborate and solve problems with modern tools and technology. These hands-on projects promote multidisciplinary thinking and learning. Exciting times ahead!

## CATHOLIC MISSION MASS

On Wednesday the 24th October, our School and Sport Leaders along with our Mini Vinnies participated in Catholic Missions Annual Children's Mission Mass. This was held at St Patrick's Cathedral, Melbourne and our celebrant was Monsignor Greg Bennett, Vicar General. It was a beautiful Mass with participation from many schools across Victoria. We shared a bus down with Mini Vinnie students from St Ambrose in Woodend. Students were very well behaved and did a great job representing St Mary's. Monsignor Bennett spoke about Catholic Mission during his eulogy and explained how important our fundraising efforts are in 2018 for the people of Myanmar. We look forward to doing our little bit at St Mary's to raise some funds for the people of Myanmar.

## SOCKTOBER - CATHOLIC MISSION

On Friday 16th November, St Mary's will celebrated Crazy Sock Day. Students wore crazy socks with their school uniform and brought along a gold coin donation. All funds raised during Socktober go to Catholic Mission and contribute to the professional development of young teachers in Myanmar. Education offers the people of Myanmar a message of hope, allowing students a hopeful future and a chance at a good life. During Socktober we asked families to decorate an unused sock at home and use this to collect loose change over the 4 weeks. They brought in their decorated sock and prizes were awarded for 'Best Decorated Sock' & 'Most Money Raised in a Sock'.

## DAY FOR DANIEL

On Friday 26th October a sea of red descended on St Mary's as we took part in Day for Daniel, a day to promote and support educators and families to teach children and young people personal safety messages. Staff and students took part in a Walk for Daniel around the township of Lancefield along with many activities to learn about the importance of personal safety. We raised a total of \$160 for the Daniel Morcombe Foundation and increased awareness of a very important cause. Well done everybody!

## WALK TO SCHOOL MONTH

Congratulations to all students and families for participating in Walk to School Month. The month consisted of lots of active travel and many lunchtime activities. Thank you to our School Leaders and Sports Captains for running the lunchtime activities, they proved very popular!

Our month of activity concluded with a Healthy Family Breakfast on the morning of Friday 2nd November, followed by our annual parade of decorated bikes, scooters and shoes. Even though the weather got a little crazy on the morning, that didn't stop students creating some wonderful designs. A huge congratulations to the following students who each won a \$30 Coles/Myer Voucher - Best Decorated Bike - Emily Stocker: Best Decorated Scooter - Nellie O'Meara: Best Decorated Shoes - Kacey Warren

## REMEMBRANCE DAY CEREMONY

On Monday 12th November we joined members of the Romsey / Lancefield RSL and Lancefield Primary School for a special Remembrance Day Ceremony at the Lancefield Cenotaph. Before heading down, the 5/6 's were lucky enough to have a visit from John Wyke a WWII British Army Veteran who flew with the Bomber Squadron as an Air Gunner over Germany. John had many amazing stories to share with the students, a first hand insight into the treacheries of war. We thank John for taking the time to visit with us.

## CAROLS IN THE PARK

Once again St Mary's will be supporting Lancefield Neighbourhood House Community Carols in the Park. From 6pm - 8pm on Friday December 14 at the Lancefield Park, we invite members of both St Mary's School and Parish community along with members of Lancefield and the wider community to join us for a wonderful night out. Students will sing some carols, there will be a band, petting zoo, face painting and jumping castle. Santa will visit later in the night and there will be a BBQ for you to purchase food or bring along your own picnic. We hope to see you there!

Jo Shannon (Community Liaison Leader)



THE LANCEFIELD PROVIDORE...

# ONE YEAR ON

When the Lancefield Providore opened its doors on 10 November 2017, the town was delighted that we could access fresh fruit, a juice bar, a comprehensive range of vegetables, flowers and other ingredients under the one roof. One year later, it is clear that Gabby and Greg Cheatley have struck the right note with the range of fresh, frozen and preserved food as well as fancy goods that they offer. Today, while the juice bar continues to satisfy, frozen pizza, preserves, coffee, local eggs add to the mix. They have also just started to offer organic boxes to order and grazing boards / fruit platters. With free delivery and friendly service, the Lancefield Providore continues to satisfy local customers as well as those who discover it for the first time while attending the monthly Farmers' Market. ... if only they served coffee!!

Fay Woodhouse



## HOW DO YOU FEEL ABOUT MISSING A LOVED ONE THIS CHRISTMAS?

For so many Christmas is a time of celebration and catching up with family and friends, but for some of us, we can be approaching it with mixed emotions. When someone you love will not be here to celebrate Christmas, feeling the 'Christmas Spirit' may feel impossible – and that is perfectly normal!

If you are facing Christmas without someone you love sometimes it can help to acknowledge how you are feeling and to do something that honours and remembers them in a special way, rather than avoid it all together. We often feel we have to put on that 'brave face' so it looks like you are 'ok', yet often there are family and friends who are feeling that way too and would appreciate the opportunity to share something special, in memory of someone much loved.

Perhaps you or your family could organise something to do or share together and even start a new Christmas tradition. Here are a few suggestions:

**PHOTOS:** Display a favourite album or collection of photos in a special place for the Christmas period. Alternatively, if you can scan your favourites, you could make a special photo book to share or even give to family and friends using a site like Snappish, or give them a framed photo to keep in a special place.

**PERSONAL MEMENTOS:** Share special mementos of your loved one perhaps giving a special item to someone you know who will treasure it. This is a beautiful way to share little items of significance – be it a favourite dish, clock, book, scarf for

example. Add a hand written card saying why you chose to give them this memento and maybe the history or story behind it.

**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS:** Make or buy a beautiful candle or Christmas bauble and use a photo of your loved one to have on display.

**CHRISTMAS RECIPES:** Use a favourite recipe of your loved one for a get-together – perhaps print out copies to give to family and friends.

**SHARE STORIES:** Invite family and friends to share a story or start a little gratitude jar where you each contribute something you are grateful for that person for. At an appropriate time light a candle and share your thoughts.

For more suggestions please call in to T J Scott & Son at 5 Piper Street Kyneton for a little gift bookmark with 'Ways to Remember Those We Love at Christmas'

T J Scott & Son's annual Christmas Service of Remembrance is another way to acknowledge and remember special people who are no longer with us. This year this very special service will be held on WEDNESDAY December 5th at 7pm. The Scott family and staff invite you to join with them, in their beautiful chapel of reflection. If you have any questions you are welcome to contact Kelly Scott on 03 54226455 or email [kelly@tjscottandson.com.au](mailto:kelly@tjscottandson.com.au). Details are in the invitation on this page.

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The Scott family and staff invite you to join us for our

**Christmas Service of Remembrance**

*We hope that you can join us as we reflect on the wonderful lives we have helped to celebrate, pay tribute and say farewell to.*

**Wednesday December 5th 2018 at 7pm**  
**Thomas J Scott Memorial Chapel,**  
**5 Piper Street, Kyneton**

Please RSVP and email a photo of your special person for our memorial tribute, to Kelly Scott  
[kelly@tjscottandson.com.au](mailto:kelly@tjscottandson.com.au)  
before November 29.



Moon under the Milky Way image ©Bryce Hendy-Sawdijw 2018. Nulla Vale and Pyalong West Landcare Photoprize Winner sponsored by the Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank.