

JOHN WYKE

WORLD WAR 2 RAF VETERAN RECEIVES THE RSL'S MERITORIOUS SERVICE MEDAL

John was born in Shropshire, England, in 1925. Leaving school in 1938 to work on the farm, it was not until 1943 when at age 18 he was eligible for and volunteered to join the RAF. In 1944 John qualified as an Air Gunner before taking up his first posting at "Merton on the Marsh" flying Wellington, Halifax and Lancaster bombers. In January 1945 John joined 626 Squadron as a rear gunner. In this unit, he completed twelve operational raids over occupied Europe.

John recalled his final operational mission, in what was the last bombing raid of the war; as follows:

"I participated in the last European bombing raid of WW2; to Berchtesgaden, Hitler's home (The Eagle's Nest). Due to signal interference the

Continued page 2



OPEN DAY

Lancefield Romsey Little Athletics Centre are holding an open day on Saturday September 22 between 9am and 11am at their track in Park Lane Romsey. There is a free bbq and activities. Little Athletics is open to all children between the ages of 5 and 15. Competition in Romsey is held on Saturday mornings from 8.45 and commences on October 6 for the 2018/19 season. For more information contact Cheyne Warren 0409 435 479 or Kaye Walker 0409 352 867



Pathfinders were circling, unable to locate the target. We received a message "Do not bomb, cannot find." However, I spotted the target and notified the crew and the navigator, confirmed the sighting. We radioed the Pathfinders and they replied; "Thank you Mainstream, but do not bomb until we drop the Blue Smoke Puffs."

After the war, John flew in the Manna (food) Drop supplies into Holland and also transported enemy prisoners of war held in the UK back home to Europe and also brought liberated allied POWs home to the UK.

One of John's favourite war recollections was being reunited with his twin brother Gordon, who served in Myanmar (Burma), and on arriving in the UK visited John at his airforce base. At that stage John was in charge of the Officers Mess and when the officers found out John's identical twin was on base much mischief ensued.

John studied at Broomefield Agricultural college in 1947

before marrying in 1950 and emigrating to Australia in 1952. John was an active member in many RSL branches. His ongoing work with other veterans saw him receive the RSL's highest award "The Meritorious Service Medal"

John, although a young 93 year-old, is very astute and he regaled all present at the award with tales of his service and later farming life in Victoria. John's daughter, well know Romsey Local Gillian Gorrie, was present for the presentation. In 2014 John retired to Lancefield where he joined the Romsey/Lancefield sub-branch of the RSL where he is well known and respected by the members and affiliates.

The Meritorious Service Medal is the most prestigious award bestowed by the RSL. It is given in recognition of many years of service to the veterans' community; taking a pro-active role in the operation of branches, assisting members to attend functions and enhancing the welfare of all members.

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MACEDON RANGES SUICIDE PREVENTION ACTION GROUP



WALK FOR AWARENESS

The Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group (MRSPAG) is inviting our community to its fifth annual Suicide Prevention Walk. This event will be held at the Woodend Children's Park, 13 Nicholson Street, Woodend on Sunday the 9th of September at 9.30am.

You can register on the day of the event or via the MRSPAG website if you wish to have the name read out of a loved one or friend that you have lost to suicide.

The walk is an opportunity to come together in remembering those lost to suicide, those bereaved by suicide and those amongst us who are struggling. The walk aims to

bring our community together because suicide is everyone's business and we need to be talking about it in order to prevent it.

Highlighting the importance of raising awareness for suicide prevention the walk takes place every year as it coincides with World Suicide Prevention Day in September.

Entertainment, food and information bags will be handed out after the walk takes place

For further information please contact suicidepreventionwalk@mrspag.com.au or to register online please go to www.macedonrangesspag.com.au

FEED IT FORWARD

An exciting new initiative is coming to Lancefield and Romsey and you can become involved!

The 'Feed it Forward' program is a combined project of the Romsey and Lancefield communities which will be co-ordinated by the Neighbourhood Houses and supported by the Lancefield Mercury, Uniting and Anglican Churches, St Mary's and Lancefield Primary School, the CWA and the Lancefield Mechanics Hall among others.

The project involves a monthly community cook-up 'Harvest Luncheons'. The whole project will promote community health, well being and skills while providing support for all community members especially people in need of assistance.

It will involve individual gardeners to provide produce (specifically grown or just the usual seasonal surplus), community gardens, local commercial shops and producers, drivers, cooks – a range of people and groups will be utilized to help produce low cost meals for the community. The monthly meals will alternate between Lancefield and Romsey, with transport supplied to move the meals or the hungry mouths.

You can contribute to the project by registering your interest as a grower, sourcing food, donating excess produce, helping to harvest, transporter, dinner helper (learn to cook or share your skills) or just to join in with the meal.

The first meal will be on October 31 in Healthy Aging week.

ANZAC SPIRIT AWARD (2018)



The Romsey-Lancefield RSL sub-branch invites nominations of any local adult, child or community group who performed an exceptional commitment, or unselfish deed, which benefited any section of our local community, over the past twelve months. This is an annual award. The recipient is presented with a 20cm tall bronze statue with his or her name inscribed on the attached plaque. The statue is on permanent display in the Romsey Community Centre.

The winner receives a smaller statue, plus a cheque for \$150 donated by the Romsey-Lancefield RSL.

Nomination forms are available from Romsey and Lancefield Neighbourhood House and Romsey Post Office, or contact Trish Vowles for a copy of the nomination form - romlancrsl@gmail.com

Nominations close on Friday, 5 October. The Award presentation is at the Romsey Community Centre on Friday, 12 October 2018, formalities commence at 6.30pm.

Romsey and Lancefield residents are welcome to attend and refreshments will follow.

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STRIKE AN EARLY LIGHT FOR FIRE SAFETY

With the third anniversary of the Lancefield-Benloch bushfires looming in October, it's timely to start thinking about fire safety and preparedness. Every indication is that this is going to be an early fire season, so we should all start working now on making our homes and properties as fire-safe as possible, and reviewing our fire plans. Where in the past the view was that we don't have to turn our mind to these tasks until mid to late October, the common view is that we should start without delay.

And it's not just the people on farms and on small acreage on the township fringe who have to prepare for summer. We can all remember back to 2015 and the very real threat to Lancefield when the bushfire burst out of the Cobaws and towards the town before the wind shifted and pushed it to Benloch.

Residents of the town equally need to think about cleaning and tidying up around the home and to have a clear and decisive plan about whether they will stay or go in the event of a bushfire threat.

And those outside the town boundaries should be cleaning up around the home now, removing potential fuels and where appropriate preparing firebreaks or some other defensible lines.

We can't leave all the effort and all the preparation to the hard-working volunteers of the Lancefield Fire Brigade and the adjoining CFA units.

Residents can also start planning how they will help the

support and relief effort in the event of another bushfire. We banded together magnificently for the Lancefield-Benloch bushfire, and the Mechanics Hall was a key focus of the relief effort – utilising the new kitchen which was part-funded by a significant grant from our own Lancefield Community Bank.

The fuel load is already building up after a relatively dry winter, which is why we've got to act now.

I spend a fair bit of time in the Cobaw Ranges, particularly in parts which were hard-hit by the 2015 controlled burn bushfire, and the potential for another significant fire out there is real.

The bracken has come back considerably thicker than before the fire, a lot of trees – particularly the thinner-barked species such as Candlebark and Manna Gum – were killed by the intense heat. The dead trees are shedding a lot more branches, twigs and other potential fire fuel than had been the case pre-blaze, so the reality is the bush is already ripe for another fire.

So the take-away message is to be prepared, and prepare early. The Council website has a lot of good advice on preparing for fire season, and also information on help available to residents. I encourage everyone to get online and have a look, and to take the steps needed now to be fire-ready for this summer.

Cr Henry Bleeck. East Ward.



MACEDON RANGES RUNNING CLUB

The Club is commencing another 'Start Running Group' for Lancefield and Romsey residents. It goes for 8 weeks if your target is 5km or 13 weeks to reach the 10km milestone.

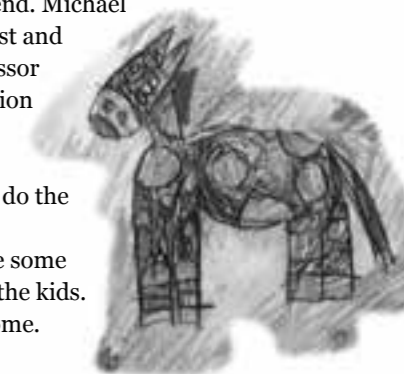
The meeting point is the Romsey skate park on Monday and Wednesday evenings at 7pm and on Saturdays at 8am.

For more details contact running club phone no 1407 048 407

LANCEFIELD MERCURY YOUNG WRITERS AWARD

We have had a fantastic response from our local children to our Young Writers Award. Nearly one hundred stories have flooded into the Mercury "office" and our judges have been hard at work – well, they have a great time reading all the stories. It was a tough task to pick out the best stories in such a high quality field but after much discussion we have come up with some worthy winners. Presentations will be held at the Red Door Book Shop on September 22 at 11 am. All participants and interested locals are welcome to attend. Michael Meehan, novelist and Emeritus Professor of Communication and Creative Arts, Deakin University, will do the presentations.

There will be some door prizes for the kids. Everyone welcome.



LANCEFIELD MERCURY INC.
A0045845D



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

Advertising should be sent to 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 Shire Council



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Advertising Rates at 2016-2017 Financial Year

One eighth page \$35
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Full page \$240 per edition
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LOCAL BUSINESSES ARE AWARD FINALISTS

Three local businesses have been shortlisted as finalists in the Bendigo Bank Business Excellence Awards.

The awards aims to support businesses which provide local employment, improve the health and wellbeing of residents, and provide an outstanding service to the shire and beyond.

Local finalists and their categories are:
Excellence in Agribusiness: Lyons Will Estate

Excellence in Health & Wellbeing: Return to Stillness
Excellence in Tourism : Homestead, The Manse
The winners will be announced at the Awards Gala Dinner at the Kyneton Town Hall on Wednesday 19 September.

To view the full list of Bendigo Bank Business Excellence Awards finalists, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/business-awards

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SHINNING A LIGHT ON SCAMS AND LIGHTS!

CHEEKY BLIGHTERS

There are lots of scams out there but recently I heard of one that really got my hackles up.

This was what is called a cold caller scammer, where the scammer rings you purporting to be someone he is not. On this occasion the caller identified himself as a member of the Victoria Police and suggested he had a file regarding harassment that he wanted to discuss with the person he called. When asked to repeat what he had just said he appeared to be confused almost as if he was reading from a script. When the victim asked, "Who are you." the scammer got cold feet and immediately hung up.

This was likely an attempt at identity theft to try to get personal details such as dates of birth etc. Fortunately the victim was on the ball and realised what was happening but you can bet this was not his one and only try. I am sure he has honed his routine to a better extent and sooner or later will get the information he wants.

Note – you should never give out personal details over

the phone in particular dates of birth or any passwords or banking details.

AMMENDMENTS TO VEHICLE REGULATIONS

LED Light Bars – these lights are becoming more and more popular and light up the road like never before. The vehicle regulations have been changed so that "Additional headlights will no longer have to be fitted in pairs to permit the fitment of LED light bars."

Up to four additional headlights will be allowed to be fitted to a vehicle, provided they are fitted in way so that they are facing forward and symmetrical in relation to the vehicles centre line.

LED Light Bars not to be fitted to the top of bull bars!!!

The bull bar and any attachments must not have any sharp edges, corner or protrusions

Equipment which project forward of the bull bar must not have any sharp edges or be an unsafe projection.



Roadworthy

Fittings such as driving lamp brackets (and fishing rod holders) must not protrude above the top or forward of the bull bar

Yes, you can mount an LED light bar on a bull bar but it must not be mounted on the top bar of the bull bar if it protrudes above the bull bar or forward of it. This would suggest to me that mounting your LED's lower or alternatively on a roof bar/rack would be a legal option.

In most cases there is a centre bar below the top bar off a bull bar that would allow the fitment of the LED light bar, but be warned that if they are fitted to the top bar your vehicle will likely fail to comply with the new regulations and would



Unroadworthy

therefore be deemed to be unroadworthy.

Personally I cannot see the point in having rod holder tubes fitted on your bull bar in Victoria. If you were to put rods in them with reels fitted you would shake the reels to pieces before you got to your fishing spot. I can see the purpose in having them if you are driving down the beach on Fraser Island going from one fishing spot to another but in Victoria?

Food for thought, good fishing and tight lines, regards, Roger.

Roger Barr, Officer In Charge, Lancefield Police.

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CURIOSITY WITH OUR PROGRAM OF ARTS AND CULTURE THIS SPRING

URBAN SEA SHANTIES

Join a musical celebration of misadventure with Urban Sea Shanties; a collaboration between singer-songwriter Fred Smith and mischievous all-male choir, Men in Suits.

The outfit are performing on Friday 7 September from 7.30pm at Kyneton Town Hall.

Expect tender harmonies, burly beards and heartfelt folk songs that transport audiences from the streets of New Orleans to the mosques of Karachi.

Tickets are \$45 adults, \$42 seniors and \$40 concession. To find out more or to book tickets, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets or call 1300 888 802.

HELL SHIP

On Friday 21 September from 7.30pm prepare for a remarkable story of endurance and survival from one of the most dramatic, yet now-forgotten chapters of Australia's maritime history. Written and performed by comedian and

actor Michael Veitch, and on at Kyneton Town Hall, Hell Ship recalls the stories of those on the ship, and the courage of his heroic great-great-grandfather who was a surgeon on that fatal trip.

Tickets are \$32 adults, \$29 seniors and \$25 concession.



WOMEN OF EMPIRE: HOMECOMING

Kyneton Museum explores the lives of women more than a hundred years ago in the exhibition, Women of Empire: Homecoming.

The sequel to last year's Women of Empire 1914-1918, which examined the role of women in WWI, follows-on from that time, revealing the challenges and opportunities facing women returning from war.

MACDETH

Combining Shakespeare's rich language with a healthy dose of invention and idiocy, Macbeth incorporates all the gruesome murder, foul play and pathos we've come to expect from one of the world's most famous literary legends.

Performed by physical theatre ensemble Company 13 on Monday 1 October at 3pm at Kyneton Town Hall, catch this fresh take on an old classic.

Tickets are \$25 adults, \$22.50 seniors and \$15 concession.

EQUUS

Bringing together photographs, original paintings, historical artefacts and more, Equus examines Australia's continuing love affair with horses.

Showing at Kyneton Museum from Friday 21 September, the exhibition presents the evolution of equine fashion, grooming tools and traditional riding equipment in this fascinating exhibition.

For more information or to book tickets, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/museum (Kyneton Museum), mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets (Kyneton Town Hall), or call 1300 888 802.



ROMSEY ECOTHERAPY PARK

At up to 3 metres high, the amazingly challenging Climbing Forest will excite and thrill older children, youths and adults alike with its pole, ropes and net course in the Active Nature Space of the Romsey Ecotherapy Park. Including lookouts, rope bridge, a vertical climbing net and hammock, it will provide an innovative health and wellbeing resource whilst at the same time engaging and connecting people across a broad range of ages.

It will be the largest such park element in the Macedon Ranges region!

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Community Engagement Reference Group

Expressions of Interest

Western Water is inviting community members to apply for its face-to-face Community Engagement Reference Group.

If you have the ability to work collaboratively with others and have an interest in contributing ideas on water-related issues, please submit an expression of interest by 28 September 2018.

The Terms of References can be obtained at WesternWater.com.au

Please send your expression of interest to feedback@westernwater.com.au or to Western Water, PO Box 2371, Sunbury DC VIC 3429.

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2018 – Romsey Church – November 4th.
 2018 – Lancefield Church – December 9th.
 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.

INVITATION TO BE INVOLVED WITH WESTERN WATER

Western Water is inviting community members to apply for its face-to-face Community Engagement Reference Group (CERG). The CERG is one of the many ways Western Water provides opportunities for customers to provide feedback and learn about its strategies and projects.

Other opportunities include our online panel which has almost 30,000 members, via social media and our contact centre, during speaking engagements at various community clubs and the H2O Café at community events.

Members of the group will be selected through a process including formal interviews and will be expected to comply with the organisation's Code of Conduct.

A copy of the group's Terms of Reference, which include further details of the group's role and the selection criteria for membership, can be obtained at WesternWater.com.au.

Written expressions of interest close on 28 September 2018 and can be sent to Western Water, PO Box 2371, Sunbury DC VIC 3429 or via feedback@westernwater.com.au

NEW MANAGEMENT

After nearly six years at the helm of the organisation, CEO Neil Brennan is leaving Western Water to pursue a career as the Chief Executive Officer of SEQWATER (Queensland).

Western Water has delivered some of the most affordable water and sewerage services to Victorian households while also supporting the needs of some of the fastest growing and diverse residential precincts in the state.

Western Water is pleased to announce Rob Murphy as Acting Managing Director. An MBA-qualified engineer with more than 20 years' experience in managing large infrastructure projects in Australia and abroad, Rob brings to the role substantial management and strategic leadership experience.

Prior to this position Rob was General Manager, Planning and Capital Delivery responsible for the delivery on Western Water's significant investment in our service region.

THE FIELD TRIP



SOMEDAY

Someday you'll write that book, clean the garage, become an artist, invent, design, create and live the dream you've had for years, or dream a new dream. Someday is October 5-7. It's time to do it. No stalling anymore. This weekend is for you. Fully catered. Full accommodation. Fully programmed. You can relax and soak it in. Be inspired. Be delighted and enlightened. Your facilitators are kids. This is an intergenerational opportunity of a life time. Book via website (discounts and scholarships are available for those who in need).

What if the movie *School Of Rock* was real? Local kids aged 9-17 can sign up to be part of a real school of rock starting Oct 14th. Sean Dixon who busks at the Lancefield Markets will be our 'Jack Black' character and form a band with the kids - those who can sing and play an instrument and those who can't - which will culminate in a live gig! Starts Oct 14. Register via website

The Field Trip wants to build a Tiny House in the Macedon Ranges with your help. Our project idea is to trial a model to reduce homelessness and provide more affordable housing for those who need it. The idea has been approved to progress to the voting stage of the 'Pick my Project' initiative. This means that people in the Macedon Ranges and surrounds can vote for our project idea. Voting is already open and closes on Monday 17 September – so it is time to rally together behind an initiative that will help locals and change lives for the better!

Vote via the website www.thefieldtrip.co

CHRISTMAS-IN-JULY EVENING HELD 31 JULY '18

The Romsey-Lancefield RSL sub-branch held its Christmas-in-July evening at the Seniors' Room of the Romsey Mechanics Hall.

Remember Frankie Valli and the Four Seasons song, Oh What a Night? It encapsulated the RSL's recent gathering at the Mechanics Hall...Oh! What a night! Forty one attended the event.

Two special guests from Chiltern, Garry and Robyn Sanderson, who discovered a Romsey Shire citation, made in the late 1940s to local resident and identity CPO Haddon Russell, for his service during WW1 and WW11 in the RAN. The Sandersons found the citation in the draw of a second hand piece of furniture. They contacted our RSL branch and offered to present the document. Naturally, the Christmas in July evening was an ideal opportunity to make the presentation to President Reinhard Goschiniak ; so they accepted an invitation.

Also present at that evening were two other guests, local ex-servicemen, Joe Lewandowski and Tony Davis.

Rupert Vowles entertained attendees with several poems including; Man from Iron Bark and Geebung Polo Club, and told a story of the African Elephant. John Horan spun some good yarns to humour the folks. Eileen French also recited poems.

Vanessa Meredith and her Blackrange Business Group team prepared and served a magnificent feast ranging from prawn entre, roast duck, turkey, pork and hot veggies, then a tasty plum pudding with lashings of Grand Marnier and, finally cheeses and port. Many thanks to Vanessa for a great presentation of magnificent foods.

Overall the gathering was relaxed, full of bon-homme and laughter. The RSL will hold a traditional Christmas-in-December, as part of the lead-up to Christmas. Roll on Christmas!

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LANCEFIELD COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

COME AND JOIN US

Following on from our August issue, here are some more reasons why members joined our branch.

"For years I was exposed to CWA through my mum. She was always telling me what she was entering, cooking, achieving and it was just apart of everyday life. When I read about the CWA and no longer had a commitment on a Friday, I thought that it was something that I could join."

"I joined the Lancefield CWA 24 years ago in 1994 when we moved from Wonga Park to live in West Goldie. One of my neighbours was the then secretary of the Lancefield CWA and invited me to join.

This invite was accepted and on joining the Branch I was immediately accepted with friendship and good wishes, which has continued for the past 24 years.

Over the years I have learnt new crafts and handy hints for cooking as well as learning local history. This has helped me to become a local community member."

"I retired from my professional career mid 2005, giving

me the time to pursue my interest in knitting, crocheting and sewing. I was pleasantly surprised (and grateful) to receive offers of assistance from two committed Lancefield CWA ladies. The late Mrs. Mary Penberthy invited me to her home to show me how to use a sewing machine and cut fabric using a pattern. The late Mrs June Martin also did likewise. Over a cup of tea and biscuits in her home, she taught me how to make the stitches required in knitting and crocheting patterns.

Now I enjoy our craft mornings that are held at the Mad Gallery every second Friday of the month."

SO COME ALONG

Good fun and friendship is what the CWA is all about. All Women, All Ages, All Places.

Meetings are held on the 4th Friday of each month in the Neighbourhood House at 10 for a 10:30 start

For enquiries contact the Publicity Officer Maybelle Briggs on 54291624

MAY THIS FATHER'S DAY BE YOUR BEST

We all have images of what a Father is.

Often these are based upon what our Father is or was like. Many have had Father's that were selfish, work-a-holics or perhaps even cruel to their wives and families.

Then there are those Fathers who have been loving, caring, and sacrificed for their families. They leave us with a beautiful imagery of Fatherhood.

Either way we cannot use our personal imagery to try and understand the Fatherhood of God.

He is the Father of fathers. He is the Demonstration of Perfection in a Father. He is 1000 times more loving, caring, supportive, sacrificial and faithful than any Father this earth has ever known.

This is why we need to let the Bible, His word, to reveal to us who He really is.

Then as we begin to believe, we get to experience all of His wonderful Fatherly traits.

God is our heavenly Father. He spends every moment with us: giving, teaching and caring - yet, many turn away. In spite of this, God still continues to support us with the desire that we will come around. He supplies us with the riches of the universe, things that cannot be measured in wealth (like sunshine, oxygen, gravity, atmosphere, environment and more); He has paid our bills (Christ dying in our place on the cross for all of our sins) and written to us (the Bible - His word to us). We may curse God - but isn't it ironic that we still expect Him to continue supporting us - which, as the

loving Father, He does. WE pray that this Father's Day will be one of joy and Thankfulness for you and your families.

But even more than that, that this September 2nd will be a "new" Father's Day where you come to know and experience your Heavenly Father.

Then every Day will be Father's day in your life, overflowing with love, joy, thankfulness, security, provision and peace.

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 pre-schoolers and we also run the *kidzone* Before & 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. If not, why not just drop in enjoy the music, friendship, and have a Barister Coffee on us.

Pastor Marilyn Hunter

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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JOIN IN THE SPRING SCHOOL HOLIDAY FUN

From swimming lessons and dance classes, to nature workshops and physical theatre performance, there's something going on for all ages during the spring school break.

Activities and games at Kyneton Toyota Sports & Aquatic Centre (KTSAC)

This popular program for primary school aged children will run for two days during the school holidays, from 10am–3pm on Tuesday 25 September and Thursday 4 October.

POOL INFLATABLE FUN IN GISBORNE AND KYNETON

Gisborne Aquatic Centre

When: Monday 24 September to Thursday 27 September, and Monday 1 October to Friday 5 October.

Time: 1pm–3pm

Cost: \$5 per child (pool entry)

Kyneton Toyota Sports & Aquatic Centre

When: Monday 24 and Wednesday 26 September, and Monday 1, Wednesday 3 and Friday 5 October.

Time: 12.30pm–2.30pm

Cost: \$5 per child (pool entry)

INTENSIVE LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM

Give your child the chance to improve their confidence in the water and build on their swimming skills during the school holidays by enrolling in an intensive Learn to Swim program in Kyneton and Gisborne. These 30 minute classes are held from 9am–12pm over consecutive weekdays, and are suitable for children aged three years and over.

For more information or to book, contact the Kyneton Toyota Sports & Aquatic Centre on 5421 1477 or email ksacreception@mrsc.vic.gov.au or the Gisborne Aquatic Centre on 5421 1452 or email gac@mrsc.vic.gov.au

NATURE WORKSHOPS FOR CHILDREN

What do nocturnal animals really get up to at night? Join Victorian National Parks Association's Caitlin Griffith to find out as she shares pictures of nocturnal animals snapped in the Wombat State Forest and Bunyip State Park. Children will also get a chance to see how wildlife cameras work.

When: Tuesday 2 October, 10am–11am (Woodend Library) and 2pm–3pm (Romsey Library).

This event is free.

For more information or to book, visit ncgrl.vic.gov.au

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A REAL LOSS TO LANCEFIELD

IN MEMORIAM

The Neighbourhood House Community has been shaken last month with the tragic loss of our friend and acting House Coordinator Deb Bailey on 1st August 2018.

Over the years Deb has had many roles and been involved in many of our projects. Most recently she had stepped into the role of Coordinator whilst Viv is on leave, however her work as a committee member and volunteer over the years is also not forgotten. Deb's involvement in the Lancefield Show, Mega Fauna festival, Christmas carols, community lunch and many other activities around town will be greatly missed, as will the splash of purple that so often accompanied Deb.

Deb's funeral was a fitting tribute to her life and many in the community were able to express their grief along with her family. We can only hope that Mark, Krystal and Brad were able to sense the love in the room for Deb, and our thoughts are with them as they move forward. We thank everyone in the community who contributed to the lovely afternoon tea following the service.

COMMUNITY FUNDING

We are thrilled to announce that our Committee has approved two funding requests for support of exciting new facilities at Lancefield Park.

The new and wonderful Cricket Clubrooms have been given approval to purchase furniture to enhance the amenities of the rooms. This funding is for \$12,000.

Also, you will all have seen the works going on at the old tennis court area at the park. We are pleased to advise that we have granted approx. \$50,000 to the clubs involved in this initiative to provide lighting in this area.

Both these funding decisions were made taking into account "whole community" benefits. The funds for these projects come from profits made at Opportunity Knocks, our wonderful Op Shop in Lancefield.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS - OP SHOP

The Op Shop is staffed and managed entirely by volunteers. This group of men and women are absolutely amazing and we cannot thank them enough. We also thank the community

of Lancefield who continually support us with wonderful donation of goods to be sold.

We are always in need of more volunteers to man the shop, do any maintenance required and to pick up donations and deliver purchases. If you are able to help please give the House a call on 54291214. We would appreciate as little or as much as you are able to do.

CHRISTMAS

As the year is going so quickly we are starting to plan our Christmas functions. The Carols night is scheduled for Friday, 14th December 2018. This is an ever evolving event that we are very proud of. Last year we worked in conjunction with St Mary's and Lancefield Primary School and we are aiming to do this again. If you are able to help in any way to enhance this evening, please feel free to contact Alison on 54291214 or email lancefieldhouse@tpg.com.au. We would especially welcome anyone who can coordinate the singing, music, sound, entertainment, etc.

Our Community Christmas Lunch planning is underway, so keep the date free: Tuesday, 18th December 2018.

FEED IT FORWARD - GENEROSITY FOOD MOVEMENT AND COMMUNITY LUNCHES

Feed It Forward, our generosity food movement project continues to gain momentum. If you would like to know more, check out details on our website: www.lancefield.org.au. Our first lunch is set for October 31st, and will occur in

conjunction with Healthy Ageing week. Keep your eye out around town for information on how to become involved!

PLASTIC BAG FREE - BOOMERANG BAGS

How are we all going living in "a plastic bag free" town? Have you made use of the great Boomerang Bags available within our town? The team that make the bags have a workshop every Wednesday morning at 10 am. The location is the nice toasty warm room at The School House (Neighbourhood House). We guarantee that you will be made very welcome!

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

The Lancefield/Romsey Community Transport project has been progressing well, with some fantastic volunteers making the project a success. Our dedicated, small group of volunteers have already completed over 30 trips to get local people to much needed medical appointments and we can't thank them enough! In many cases these individuals would have no other way of getting to their appointments. We have been working in with the local doctor's surgeries with Lancefield Country Practice and Romsey Medical centre providing encouragement and support of the project.

If you would like to volunteer as a driver in our project or are in need of assistance to get to appointments please contact the House or Alison on 0419 327 914.

We look forward to the return of Viv at the end of September, in the mean time Alison will be looking after things house wise.

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

FIGHT BACK

Lancefield Macedon Ranges: Celebrate, Remember, Fight Back

Saturday 2nd and Sunday 3rd of March 2019

Local residents are encouraged to fight back against cancer by joining the Relay for Life movement when Relay For Life returns in its 17th year next March.

In the past Relay For Life events in the Macedon Ranges Shire have raised over \$1,450,000 to help the 269 people diagnosed with cancer in the Macedon Ranges Shire every year.

Whether you're volunteering or taking part in the Relay, the Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life is a fun and moving experience for all ages.

A celebration of hope, the Relay For Life provides community members the chance to join together and acknowledge local cancer survivors, patients and carers. While the moving candle ceremony provides participants with the chance to pause and honour loved ones lost.

Now is the time to register for the 2019 Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life with early bird registrations costing only \$25 for an adult or \$60 for a family.

If you're interested in registering a team, joining a team or volunteering please email lancefieldrfl@cancervic.org.au, call 1300 656 585

By getting involved with Relay For Life, you can create a community experience to support locals and help fight back against cancer in the Macedon Ranges.

BOOKS FOR SALE

The Romsey-Lancefield & District Ambulance Auxiliary have hundreds of books to buy at cheap prices. Get down to Stawell Street Romsey on Saturday September 8th from 9am to 2pm to load up. For more information Helen Richardson 0448208655 Wendy Gosden 0411493544

SEPTEMBER IS FREE MULCH MONTH

This September is Free Mulch Month at Macedon Ranges Shire Council's transfer stations. To help you get your garden ready this spring, residents are encouraged to take advantage of this offer of free mulch available at the Kyneton, Romsey and Woodend transfer stations. Residents will need to provide proof that they live in the shire, such as a driver licence, rates notice or utility bill. This is a first-come, self-load offer. Residents should bring their own shovel, containers or trailer, and protective clothing.

To assist Council in managing demand for the free mulch, residents are asked to register their interest by contacting Council on 5422 0333.

RATES NOTICES TO INCLUDE NEW PROPERTY VALUATIONS

Ratepayers will shortly receive annual rates notices, which contain new valuations for properties in the shire and which reflect the strong local property market.

A valuation is an assessment of the market value of a property at a specific date, in this case 1 January 2018, which is used to calculate rates for the 2018/19 financial year.

Council recently adopted the 2018 general valuation, which included strong growth in property values with the overall average increase across the shire in the past two years for all property types being 14.94%.

Overall, during the last two years there has been strong and fairly consistent growth in property values across the shire, particularly in the value of vacant residential land.

All areas of the shire showed a greater than 10% increase in value over the last two years. The highest percentage changes were in Romsey, New Gisborne, Riddells Creek, Malmsbury and Gisborne.

While the last valuation took place in 2016, the next will occur in 2019 following a Victorian Government decision for valuations to take place annually from next year.

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First prize winner 2017 from Toni Pusterla. Nulla Vale.

GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR AMATEUR PHOTOGRAPHERS IN NULLA VALE & PYALONG WEST LANDCARE GROUP'S ANNUAL PHOTOPRIZE

There's gold in the rolling hills around Lancefield, Pyalong and Tooborac with thousands in cash prizes up for grabs in a local Landcare group's annual, amateur photographic competition.

Last year Toni Pusterla's dramatic shot of a golden dawn breaking over misty valleys around Nulla Vale was the judges' top pick, while Cheri Cole took second prize with a lush green image of Mollison's Creek. (See next page).

The 2018 Photoprize is one of the biggest amateur photographic competitions in Victoria with \$1000 for the 1st prize winner; \$500 for 2nd place; and \$250 for 3rd.

There are also encouragement prizes and special prizes for primary school age photographers.

The competition aims to promote the stunning local environment to a broader community and by doing so help preserve it. Now in its second year, the Nulla Vale & Pyalong West Landcare Group Photoprize has as its principal sponsor the Bendigo Community Bank at Romsey and Lancefield.

Entries can be submitted electronically or in printed format by close of business Friday October 5th.

Winners will be announced at an exhibition and Awards dinner at the 100-year-old Tooborac Hall on Friday, October 26 and all shortlisted entries will be on exhibit at the hall over the weekend of October 27 and 28.

For competition details and to see last year's winners, or to book tickets to the Awards dinner go to www.photoprize.com.au



Second prize winner 2017 from Cheri Cole. Mollison's Creek

COUNCIL MAKES IT EASIER FOR HOUSEHOLDS TO GO GREEN WITH SUSTAINABILITY INITIATIVES

Sustainable design is an approach to building or renovating that considers elements such as orientation, thermal mass, cross ventilation, better insulation, external shading and window placement as key factors in helping to reduce a building's reliance on natural resources. Council is demonstrating its commitment to protect the environment with fact sheets and a free advisory service focussing on the benefits of sustainable design

SUSTAINABLE DESIGN ADVISORY

Council is trialling a new sustainable design advisory service, where feedback from a qualified sustainable building design officer is offered to home-owners.

The service is free, and can include recommendations on:

- site analysis and pre-planning
- siting and layout to optimise performance
- cross flow ventilation and access to natural light
- renewable energy generation
- environmentally friendly products
- energy and water efficient appliances
- reducing potable water use

To book an appointment, contact Felicity Houghton by emailing fhoughton@mrsc.vic.gov.au or call 5421 0829.

Council has prepared a series of fact sheets outlining key sustainable building design principles.

To view the fact sheets, or for more information on environmentally sustainable design, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/sustainable-design



COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF ROMSEY AND LANCEFIELD INC.

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GOOD SPEAKERS & FUN OUTINGS

The Probus club monthly meetings are at 10am on the 4th Thursday of the month in St. Mary's Church Hall Main Street, Romsey. Our next meeting is on Thursday, 27th September, 2018 and the guest speaker will be Roger Barr of the Victoria Police stationed at Lancefield.

Our outing on Wednesday 19th September is the Roseberry Hill Farm tour which will include morning tea followed by lunch at the Albion Hotel, Kyneton.

Our group enjoy fortnightly coffee mornings and the alternate week 10 Pin Bowling at AMF Bowling Watergardens. The dates for September Coffee morning - 7th & 21st, 10am at the Mad Gallery - or - Corner Store, Lancefield

Check out our website for information about the Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club rlprobus.org.au

President: Gerard Hanrahan 5429 5630
Secretary: Jenifer Clampit 5429 5480

ACTIVITIES AT YOUR LOCAL LIBRARY

From workshops and performances to stimulating *Stem* activities - there's a range of free holiday activities on at libraries across the shire.

To find out more, see the school holiday program available online and at local libraries from Monday 10 September.

Visit ncgrl.vic.gov.au/holidayprogram or contact your local library: Romsey Library, telephone 5429 3086

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BOOK REVIEWS

Father's Day Book Reviews from Red Door Books

TO READ TOGETHER:



The Most Important Thing about Sons and Fathers by Avi \$19.99

In this compellingly honest collection of stories, Avi introduces seven boys seeking acceptance, guidance, or just someone to look up to. Luke sees the ghost of his father. Paul takes a camping trip with the grandfather he's just met. And Ryan has some surprising questions for his potential stepfather. Each story shines a different light on the question, "What's the most important thing a father can do for his son?"



My Dad is Brilliant by Nick Butterworth \$9.99

A joyous, charmingly illustrated celebration of fathers everywhere. This dad is, quite simply, brilliant! He's as strong as a gorilla, fantastic on roller skates, and can sing like a pop star! And not only all that, but he's a dab hand at cooking too! Find out what else he can do in this colourful book that positively bursts over with appreciation for pa's ... everyone's dad is brilliant at something!

My Dad used to be so Cool by Keith Negley \$24.99

Keith Negley's playful and emotional art tells this

story of a new father who is no longer the cool guy he once was.



He looks back wistfully on his crazy times playing in a band, riding a motorcycle, and getting tattoos. Those days may be behind him, but his young son still thinks he's the coolest guy in the world.



Tough Guys by Keith Negley \$24.99

A boldly illustrated picture book read-aloud about how everyone gets sad--ninjas, wrestlers, knights, superheroes, everyone ...even dads have emotions! Did you know wrestlers

have feelings? And knights. Even superheroes and ninjas feel sad sometimes. In fact everyone has feelings--especially dads who love their children!



My Dad thinks he's funny and MY Dad *still* thinks he's funny by Katrina Germein \$16.99

My dad doesn't like babysitting. He says no one should sit on babies.

My dad doesn't eat seafood. He says there's something fishy about it.

My dad doesn't lie in bed. He says you should always tell the truth.

My dad *still* thinks he's



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All Enquiries for Jack Richmond 0411429003

Yard Mobile Number 0418956090

richmondparkrural@gmail.com

ABN 29099088481

BOOK REVIEWS

funny. My dad says, "I've told you fifty million times, don't exaggerate."

Dad is back by popular demand with more hilarious material. And yes, my dad *still* thinks he's funny.



Things to do with Dad. By Sam Zuppari \$16.99

A morning of fun with Dad takes a turn for the boring when a long to-do list interferes. At first content to let Dad cross things off his list, the boy in the story soon realizes that the whole day will be spent on chores - unless he can come up with a solution.



Peck Peck by Lucy Cousins \$14.99

A "hole" lot of fun in a board book, from the creator of Maisy! The stunning Peck Peck Peck from multi-award-winning Lucy Cousins is now available as a board book, with colour so exuberant it leaps right off the page. Today my daddy said to me, "It's time you learnt to peck a tree." Little Woodpecker has just learnt how to peck and - ooh! yippee! - what fun it is! Off he goes, on his first big pecking adventure, and he peck, peck, pecks his little heart out. He pecks the hat and then the mat, the tennis racket *and* the jacket... just *look* at all the holes he has made!

TO READ ALONE (FATHER'S DAY QUIET TIME)



Early Riser by Jasper Fforde \$29.99

The Sunday Times Bestseller Every Winter, the human population hibernates. During those bitterly cold four months, the nation is a snow-draped landscape of desolate loneliness, and devoid of human activity. Well, not quite. Your name is Charlie Worthing and it's your first season with the Winter Consuls, the committed but mildly unhinged group of misfits who are responsible for ensuring the hibernatory safe passage of the sleeping masses. You are investigating an outbreak of viral dreams which you dismiss as nonsense; nothing more than a quirky artefact borne of the sleeping mind. When the dreams start to kill people, it's unsettling. When you get the dreams too, it's weird. When they start to come true,

you begin to doubt your sanity. But teasing truth from Winter is never easy: You have to avoid the Villains and their penchant for murder, kidnapping and stamp collecting, ensure you aren't eaten by Nightwalkers whose thirst for human flesh can only be satisfied by comfort food, and sidestep the increasingly less-than-mythical WinterVolk. But so long as you remember to wrap up warmly, you'll be fine.



Hell Ship by Michael Veitch \$32.99

For more than a century and a half, a grim tale has passed down through Michael Veitch's family: the story of the Ticonderoga, a clipper ship that sailed from Liverpool

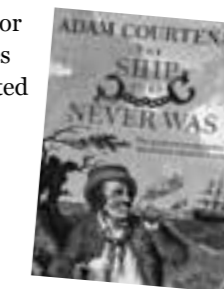
in August 1852, crammed with poor but hopeful emigrants-mostly Scottish victims of the Clearances and the potato famine. A better life, they believed, awaited them in Australia. Three months later, a ghost ship crept into Port Phillip Bay flying the dreaded yellow flag of contagion. On her horrific three-month voyage, deadly typhus had erupted, killing a quarter of Ticonderoga's passengers and leaving many more desperately ill. Sharks, it was said, had followed her passage as the victims were buried at sea. Panic struck Melbourne. Forbidden to dock at the gold-boom town, the ship was directed to a lonely beach on the far tip of the Mornington Peninsula, a place now called Ticonderoga Bay. James William Henry Veitch was the ship's assistant surgeon, on his

first appointment at sea. Among the volunteers who helped him tend to the sick and dying was a young woman from the island of Mull, Annie Morrison. What happened between them on that terrible voyage is a testament to human resilience, and to love. Michael Veitch is their great-great-grandson, and Hell Ship is his brilliantly researched narrative of one of the biggest stories of its day, now all but forgotten. Broader than his own family's story, it brings to life the hardships and horrors endured by those who came by sea to seek a new life in Australia.

The Ship That Never Was by Adam Courtenay \$29.99

The greatest escape story of Australian colonial history by the son of Australia's best-loved storyteller In

1823, cockney sailor and chancer James Porter was convicted of stealing a stack of beaver furs and transported halfway around the world to Van Diemen's Land. After several escape attempts from the notorious penal colony, Porter, who told authorities he was a 'beer-machine maker', was sent to Macquarie Harbour, known in Van Diemen's Land as hell on earth. Many had tried to escape Macquarie Harbour; few had succeeded. But when Governor George Arthur announced that the place would be closed and its prisoners moved to the new penal station of Port Arthur, Porter, along with a motley crew of other prisoners, pulled off an audacious escape. Wrestling



control of the ship they'd been building to transport them to their fresh hell, the escapees instead sailed all the way to Chile. What happened next is stranger than fiction, a fitting outcome for this true-life picaresque tale. The Ship That Never Was is the entertaining and rollicking story of what is surely the greatest escape in Australian colonial history. James Porter, whose memoirs were the inspiration for Marcus Clarke's For the Term of his Natural Life, is an original Australian larrikin whose ingenuity, gift of the gab and refusal to buckle under authority make him an irresistible anti-hero who deserves a place in our history.

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ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL LANCEFIELD

SUPPORT OUR PROJECT

'PICK MY PROJECT'

We have submitted a proposal for 'Pick My Project' - a State Government Initiative for community grants. Our Project name is 'Community Footpath Linking Lancefield', which is a proposal to get a concrete footpath along Chauncey Street from Main Road all the way to Park Street. Our proposal has been accepted and now it's time for the community to vote. We are asking all in our school and local community to vote and to pass on the details to friends, family, sporting clubs and everyone you know to also vote for this much needed piece of infrastructure to link our town and make travelling safe for all. To vote you will need to register.

HOW TO VOTE

Voting is quick and simple, and open until 5pm, Monday 17 September 2018.

Register for a Pick My Project account at pickmyproject.vic.gov.au. If you already have an account, simply sign in.

Need help with voting? Contact us on 1800 797 818 (translation services are available) or contact@pickmyproject.vic.gov.au. Or drop into your local library or Neighbourhood House for assistance.

MINI VINNIES WINTER APPEAL

Our Mini Vinnies ran a Winter Appeal to collect blankets, beanies, socks and jackets for the homeless. A big thank you to all those that donated, we received many goods which will now be shared among those who need it most.

SSEA GROUP - LEADER LOCAL GRANTS

A few months ago we applied for a Leader Local Grant to go towards our school Remembrance Garden. On Thursday morning 26th July, Mrs McDougall and Mrs Shannon attended the Leader Local Grants Awards Breakfast hosted by Nine News program ambassadors Peter Hitchener and

Livinia Nixon. It was a lovely morning filled with excited anticipation from the many worthy recipients who had made the finals. There were 26 winning grant recipients and St Mary's was one of them!! It was with great happiness that we accepted the award knowing the \$1000 was going to such a great cause. A huge thank you must go out to our school community because it was their votes that got us over the line! Well done everyone, keep your eye out as the garden begins to take shape over the next few months.

COMMUNITY NOTICEBOARD

We have a new Community Noticeboard outside the entry to the classrooms - this board is proudly sponsored by Lancefield/Romsey Community Bank Branch and pictured with our students is Michael O'Gorman the Senior Manager at Lancefield Branch.

This noticeboard will keep everyone up to date on what is happening within the school and local community. Included will be the current school newsletter, student activities and photos and any relevant community information. We would like to thank Bendigo Bank for their sponsorship support and look forward to continuing to work with them in the future.

ROBOGALS WORKSHOP

On Wednesday 18th July a group of 4 female students from Year 5/6 attended the Robogals Workshop at Melbourne University, a chance to participate in a STEM based Primary Robotics Workshop. Our attendees were Charli Laity, Ava Mezzatesta, Bethany Higgins and Isabelle Perry.

This fun hands on day provided information about various disciplines of engineering and some of the many opportunities they offer. The day started with an information session followed by a robotics workshop. The final segment of the day was a series of challenges with increasing levels of difficulty. This opportunity helped the students gain additional life skills such as communication, collaboration and critical thinking.



The girls had a fantastic day and enjoyed the experience of working with students from other schools. They were very interested in finding out about the different types of engineering and were happy to share their experiences with their classmates.

ST MARY'S NETBALL

On Wednesday July 18, our St Mary's A netball team consisting of Ava B, Maisie, Ruby O, Sofia, Lizzie, Scheldon, Sophie and Summa travelled to Bendigo to represent St Mary's in the Divisional School Championship. The girls played really well, displayed fairness and big smiles throughout the day. They won 3 games and lost 2. A fantastic effort by them all, they did St Mary's proud. A big thank you to their coaches, Hayley and Janine for all their great work in preparing the girls for the competitions, their efforts were very much appreciated.

NEW WEBSITE

Our new school website is live! We have been working hard over the last few months to redesign and refresh our website. This new site will provide a wonderful insight into our school for current and prospective families. You will find updated information about the programs we offer, parent calendar and achievements of our students. The weekly newsletter for families will be posted on a password protected page. We would like to acknowledge and give a very special thank you to Darren Haslett who volunteered his time and expertise to take the beautiful photos for the site. Also to Troy Christmas, from Sacred Heart College, who kindly redrew our stunning logo of Mary and her Child.

YEAR 6 CONFIRMATION

On Saturday 11th August, 21 Yr 6 students celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation. It was a wonderful celebration and all the students should be proud of how well-prepared they were. Thank you to the Year 5/6 teachers for preparing

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the students so well and to Bishop Terry Curtin and Fr Vinoth Santiago for celebrating the Mass.

PREPS 100 DAYS

On Monday 6th August, our Prep students and their teachers celebrated 100 days of prep! It was a very busy day which entailed lots of fun activities about 100. The preps made fairy bread with 100s and 1000s, monsters with 100 body parts and fancy 100 days smarter hats. They played 'Race to 100', painted 100 dots and did lots of 100 second challenges like seeing how many times they could sing the alphabet or write their names in 100 seconds. And best of all they didn't even have to get dressed for the day - they rolled out of bed and came to school dressed in their favourite pajamas! A big thank you to Mrs Zarb and Mrs Walker for organising such a fabulous day!



ENVIRONMENT GROUP

Today our Environment Group students participated in an incursion by Western Water as part of Science Week. This Sustainable Practices presentation gave them the opportunity to learn about the health of our rivers and waterways and the effects pollution and plastic are having on them and the ecosystems within them. They learnt about drinkable and non drinkable water and participated in a



Water Cycle experiment. They were made aware of household cleaners and the damage they can do to our environment and what else can be used that won't harm the environment. The students had some great questions for our presenter Alice and will share some of their learning at the next school assembly.

Jo Shannon (Community Liaison Leader)

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Over the last 17 years, our Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank® branches have given back over \$1.3 million to local community projects, events and clubs.

We're proud of our investment in the growth of Lancefield, Romsey and the surrounding areas.

Our Board and staff would like to thank our customers and shareholders for their support.

NEW CHAIR

Suzie Ewart appointed new Chair of Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd

The Board of the Company that operates the Community Bank® branches of Bendigo Bank in Lancefield and Romsey has a new Chair. Suzie Ewart has been elected and is thrilled to lead the Company into its exciting next phase.

"I have been a local resident with an active interest in the region since 1999, when my husband and I purchased an



Suzie Ewart



David Plunkett

80-acre property just outside Romsey. We love living in the Macedon Ranges and I've been a big fan of the community banking model for a long time," Suzie said.

An economist and CPA, Suzie has extensive experience at senior levels in large Australian corporations, including in the brewing, mining, banking, communication and commodity industries. She currently runs an advisory business and serves on several other boards either as Chair or as a non-Executive Director.

In taking up her role as Chair, Suzie paid great tribute to David (Dave) Plunkett, a practicing lawyer who has performed with distinction as voluntary Director since 2011 and as Chair since 2016.

"Dave has done a wonderful job as Chair," she said, "and I have big shoes to fill. He has been instrumental in leading the organisation in its revised strategic plan and the refurbishment of the Lancefield Community Bank® branch, so really setting the Company up for the future."

SALUTING THEIR CONTRIBUTION

Saluting their contribution – a fond farewell to two Community Bank® champions

When Graeme 'Charlie' Walker resigned as a voluntary Director on the Board of Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Limited in March 2018, it marked the end of an era.

Charlie grew up in Lancefield and was an enthusiastic member of the steering committee to establish Community Bank® branches in Lancefield and Romsey in the late 1990s.

As a member of the inaugural Board in 2000, Charlie brought his considerable experience as a journalist to the role. His contribution included membership of the Marketing & Community Investment Panel, responsible for allocating funds to hundreds of local groups and organisations.

As an esteemed and highly experienced journalist, Charlie was the unofficial 'wordsmith' of the Community Bank® Company, writing press releases, articles and speeches for nearly 20 years. His contribution is without parallel and will be sorely missed.

At the same time, after dedicating five years as a Director, Michael Meehan has also resigned from the Board. With an enduring interest in the literary world, Michael is a



A fond farewell to Charlie (top) and Michael, who have both made significant contributions to our Company and the local community.

novelist, former chair of Adelaide Writers Week and has worked in London as an editor. He is Emeritus Professor of Communication and Creative Arts, Deakin University.

Michael played an active role in key areas of the Company, including Chair of the Governance & Risk Panel and member of the Marketing & Community Investment Panel.

Michael was instrumental in getting the 'Lancefield Megafauna Festival' on the map with the strong support of the Community Bank® branches. He brought a wealth of knowledge and expertise to the role of Director and made a wonderful contribution to the community.

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'SUICIDE PREVENTION IS EVERYBODY'S BUSINESS'

We are seeking local residents to join the Macedon Ranges Suicide Prevention Action Group (MRSPAG).

This local community group is made up of residents, council and service providers in the Macedon Ranges. Some members have been impacted by suicide, whilst others are passionate about preventing suicide in their local community. MRSPAG aims to smash stigma around suicide and mental ill health, raise awareness in their community, offer support for those bereaved by suicide as well as work collaboratively to improve the quality of mental health services in the Macedon Ranges.

To be an active member of MRSPAG involves contributing to a working group. Members share their opinions, knowledge and skill sets to take actionable measures in the prevention of suicide. Some of the working groups include, Communications and Advocacy, Peer Support for those Bereaved by suicide and the annual MRSPAG walk.

Narelle Trewin, an active member of MRSPAG's peer support group, explained why being apart of MRSPAG and contributing to the prevention of suicide in her local community was important for her.

"I sadly lost my brother to suicide and felt absolutely devastated by the loss. However, through my adversity I found an amazing group of people (MRSPAG), a group where I can passionately and actively create change. The absolute bonus is I have made some wonderful lifelong friendships".

By being part of MRSPAG you have the opportunity to take action in preventing suicide and reducing stigma in your community.

For further information please contact info@mrspag.com.au

IT'S NEARLY SHOW TIME!!

It's nearly *Show Time* with only 8 weeks until our Annual Agricultural Show on 21st October at the Lancefield Park. The Committee have been working hard all year to plan a great day for all.

Yard Dog Trials will be a new attraction this year, with working dogs coming from all over Victoria to compete in four classes and a Local Working Dog class.

The rides this year are being supplied by a new operator, with a great selection. Pre-purchase your wristband at the Farmers Market or Town House for \$30, or \$35 on show day.

Farmer Daryl will be along with his petting zoo, Wild Action Zoo will have the crowd enthralled with their vast array of 'wild' animals. As well there will be all the favourites we have come to expect at our Country Show - the Vintage Tractor Pull, Wood Chop, Dog High Jump and terrier races, sheep sheering displays, livestock competitions and horse events, to name but a few.

Thank you to all of our sponsors for the great raffle prizes they have contributed. Tickets are available in many local shops now and it will be drawn on Show Day at 3pm

We would like to acknowledge the passing of 2 of our show committee members and pass on our condolences to families and friends

Deb Bailey our Secretary, who has been with the show for a few years and was a selfless, tireless and efficient team member will be greatly missed by us all. To help remember and honour Deb, we ask our patrons to please wear a little purple on Show Day. Deb was part of the team organizing the new rides and our ride wristbands will be purple Deb's memory.

Stuart Glen has also passed after illness. He always travelled a long way to work with his brother Ian and family in the sheep section. He will be missed at Farmers Markets and Show alike, his smile and work never forgotten. The Glen family have donated a Perpetual Cup to be given to Supreme Sheep in show to honour Stuart.

See you at the Show!

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'LES MISERABLES' WOWED AUDIENCES

After 18 months of planning and hard work (longer if you include the Director's years of dreaming!) The Mount Players presented Les Misérables during the month of August – and what a show it was. A huge cast, including understudies to all principal roles, a massive orchestra and a back stage crew that could fill quite a few seats at the 'G' worked tirelessly and passionately to ensure this production was nothing short of superb.

An unprecedented 20 shows were sold out 6 weeks prior to opening night prompting them to add yet another show to enable more patrons the opportunity to attend – which was sold out to those on the waiting list!

Director, Andrew Meldrum supported by co Director, Margaret Cameron and musical Director, Jem Sherwill are to be commended for gathering such a cast and crew and bringing to life this iconic show at our unique Mount View Theatre. What a moving experience it was.

Karen Hunt.



A PICTORIAL GUIDE TO THE LONG LOST LANCEFIELD AND KILMORE RAILWAY

Since its launch at the Lancefield Station B&B on Saturday 14 July and the book-signing at Red Door Books on 28 July, the publication by the Romsey & Lancefield District Historical Society Inc. has taken off! The reviews have been very complementary and we are all very proud of Kylie and Bob's efforts to give a new lease of life to this old railway line and its history.

The reviews and feedback we have received say it all: *I have received your most handsome book which is such a splendid and permanent record of a vital part of the region's history.*

The photos and text are excellent! Congratulations Kylie and Bob on this wonderful book. I have had a quick look through it and it is a fantastic book.

The Society has been swamped with orders and more books had to be printed prior to the signing at Red Door Books of Lancefield on 28 July. A second edition is on its way. We are very proud of the fact that the first print-run sold out completely just 4 weeks after the official Launch! This seems to indicate that Romsey and Lancefield locals are very proud of their history and enjoy reading about it.

THE MERCURY QUIZ ANSWERS FROM P 4

1. Italy. 2. Western Australia. 2526,786 square km. 3. Dopey and Happy. 4. Italy. 5. Mosquitoes. 6. 1998. 7. 50 metres. 8. Melbourne. 9. Belfast. 10. Revelation

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ROMSEY REGION BUSINESS AND TOURISM ASSOCIATION

ROMSEY STREETSCAPE PROJECT UPDATE

The Main Street Garden Landscaping component of the Romsey Streetscape Enhancement Project is complete. Installation of new garden beds, new seating and the focal redevelopment at the Fountain precinct (adjacent to the Mechanics) will be complimented by a new shaded seating area adjacent to the Community Hub. The lighting component is yet to commence but will be completed by the end of this year.



9TH ANNUAL BUSINESS BREAKFAST

Save The Date – Hot on the heels of the successful inaugural RRBATA Business Dinner comes this year's Annual Business Breakfast (RRBATA's 9th!) which will be held on Friday 12th October 2018 (postponed from 17th August) at Glen Erin at Lancefield. Watch the Rag, RRBATA Facebook and Romsey Online for updates.

ROMSEY ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES

RRBATA was represented at one of the recent issues and Opportunities workshops convened by MRSC to discuss issues pertinent to Romsey's future. This will inform the development of the Town Structure Plan for Romsey. Environment, housing, safety, town character, recreational facilities, traffic, retail and a myriad of other issues were discussed. RRBATA supports the town centre retaining

its character and consolidating its aesthetic charm in the wake of the streetscape enhancement project. In addition, a retail and hospitality mix to cater for both local community and entice visitors to the town augers well for economic development and the tourism economy. RRBATA urges all community members to have an input into the Town Structure Plan process.

WOMEN WELDERS OF ROMSEY

With support from Romsey Neighbourhood House (which ran the recent Welding Course for Women) and Romsey Engineering, RRBATA organised a welding party to commence construction of the 21 extra trees required for this year's Main Street Christmas Tree Installations. It was a huge success, with the Women Welders giving up a Friday night to hone their new skills and contribute to Romsey's Christmas spirit!



THE MERCURY QUIZ



1. To which country does this flag belong?
2. Which is the largest state in Australia?
3. Grumpy, Sleepy, Dopey, Bashful, Doc and name the other 2
4. Moto Guzzi, Laverda and Ducati motorcycles are made in which country?
5. What do dragonflies prefer to eat?
6. In which year was Google launched on the web?
7. How long is an Olympic swimming pool?
8. Which city was the capital of Australia from 1901-1927?
9. In which city was the Titanic built?
10. What is the last book of the New Testament?

Answers on page 38

ANOTHER FANTASTIC REASON TO COME TO THE HAIR ROOM !

Finally we have David on board in The Hair Room, and with almost 30 years experience in the hairdressing industry he brings his own unique expertise.

David is an apprenticeship trained hairdresser ex salon owner colouring technician and industry trainer. Although hair colouring is David's specialty, he is also a

very experienced cutter and formal stylist.

Please note the extended trading hours and "by appointment only" times now available.

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SUPER BUSY

It has been a super busy start to Term 3 especially for our youngest students. The Prep/1/2 swimming program was a great success with our students learning new skills, meeting new people and coping with being in different places and situations. Everyone displayed terrific resilience, persistence and confidence.

On Monday 30th July, the Prep/1's enjoyed a fabulous "100 days of school". We had some very mini old looking people at school along with some aged staff members!

Our Prep 2019 transition program has begun with year 5 students visiting the Lancefield Kinder to meet some of our new 2019 preps and to get to know their new buddies. Our current Preps will be visiting the kinder and then kinder children will be visiting us before the end of term.

If you are intending to enrol your child to begin school at LPS in 2019, now is the time. Please ring us to arrange a visit or call in to collect an enrolment pack.

Our year 3-6 students have all been busily writing amazing stories for the Lancefield Mercury Young Writers competition. Well done to all of our young authors. We are looking forward to finding out the results of the competition and thank the Mercury for making this authentic writing activity available for our students.

GARDEN TO TABLE PROGRAM

Grade 3/4M is participating in the Garden to Table Program this term. The students have been working really hard shovelling compost and dirt and finishing the Hugelkultur beds. The students then planted the beds with broad beans, brussel sprouts, brown onions, kale, spinach and parsley. The students also look after the chook shed and our fabulous chooks. The compost has been cleaned up and new compost bins started. We used two bins of the compost in our hugelkultur beds and the compost was rich with nutrients, worms and helpful insects. 3/4M have also planted some seeds in coffee cups to grow in the classroom. We plan to plant these out as seedlings later in the term.



On Tuesday 31st July, the Green team were treated to a special visit from Trinity Mawson, the Project Officer for Loddon Mallee Waste and Resource Recovery Group where they discussed ways to improve our recycling and waste management. The Green Team have identified waste as a target area in the school for this term! Thank you to Norm West for working with students and teachers to teach us how to prune our fruit trees. They were in need of some attention and are looking ready for spring and summer.

Thank you to Lancefield Neighbourhood House and



the Lancefield Romsey Bendigo Community Bank for their ongoing support of this Program.

PARENT EDUCATION

We have been working closely with other local schools this term, St. Mary's and Romsey Primary, to provide education opportunities for parents and these sessions have included: Kids and Worry workshop, Cyber Safety and your Child and Growth Mindset

PARENTS AND FRIENDS

Our past two Farmers Markets have been a lot of fun with '100 ticket only' raffles. First raffle the prize was an amazing Macedon Spa accommodation package and the second raffle prize was a much-desired yellow ladies bike donated by Ray White Romsey. Congratulations to both winners!



We would like to thank both Macedon Spa and Ray White Romsey for their support.

On Sunday 16th September, LPS Parents and Friends are hosting a *Springtime High Tea* at the Cleveland Winery, and invite you to join us. It promises to be a lot of fun! Please see the flyer for further information.

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