



HOPE LIVES IN RELAY FOR LIFE AND IN YOU!

SATURDAY 3RD AND SUNDAY 4TH OF MARCH 2018

The 16th annual Relay for Life will be held this weekend at Lancefield Park.

Survivors and Carers are invited to join us for our Opening Lap on Saturday March 3 at 3pm. Participants in the Survivors and Carers Lap are also invited to share an afternoon tea afterwards in the Laurie Green Pavilion.

At this year's Candlelight Ceremony we will be celebrating those we 'Relay' for with a slide show of people important to team members. Join us at 8pm as we play some beautiful music and reflect during the Candlelight Ceremony.

The couch is back. *Untitled Youth* will be giving trips around the oval with their couch on wheels. It is one of the great fundraising activities on the day at the Relay.

A PURPLE TOWN

February has been *Paint The Town Purple* month. We would like to thank all the businesses who took part. Your shop fronts and businesses looked great.

Registrations can be made on the day at Lancefield Park. Donations to the event or to Teams can be made online at Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life.

Hope to see you there!



VALE JAMES (JIM) DONALDSON HALL

Jim was the son of George and Jean Hall.

George and his family came to Lancefield in 1915 and purchased the Universal Provider in High Street (now Connolly Real estate and Field Store) from Mr. Nice.

The family lived in Lancefield for many years. Jim's eldest brother Tom died in Malaysia during WW2.

Jim played football for the Lancefield Tigers and played in a few Grand Finals. He also played cricket, a game he loved, with for Lancefield Team. He joined the staff at the State Savings Bank of Victoria at Lancefield and rose to manager at a branch in the City. When he retired Jim and his wife Mary returned to the area and built a home in the Cobaws, later moving into town.

Jim was an early member and great supporter of the Romsey Lancefield & Districts Historical Society where he held the position of treasurer for many years. Jim often mowed the grass at the Courthouse in Lancefield and he was instrumental in gaining support from the Shire to assist where possible with the Society's Historic Seymour Cottage in Romsey.



WORKS BEGIN ON MELBOURNE-LANCEFIELD ROAD SAFETY BOOST

Work is underway on the \$20 million upgrade of Melbourne-Lancefield Road between Sunbury and Lancefield, to reduce the risk of head-on and run-off-road crashes. Flexible centreline safety barriers will be installed to reduce the risk of head-on crashes, while lefthand side flexible safety barriers will protect drivers from run-off-road crashes.

Regular breaks will be provided in the flexible barriers at appropriate locations for local traffic, and to ensure safe access for residents and emergency services. Other safety improvements include extra overtaking opportunities, including four new

overtaking lanes, to enable motorists to pass safely. The road shoulder will also be widened and sealed to improve safety, while audio tactile lines will also be installed along the full length of the road, to alert drivers if they stray from their lane.

Between July 2010 and June 2015, two people lost their lives and 24 others were seriously injured in crashes on this stretch of road. Stage one works from north of Monegeetta to the south of Lancefield are expected to be complete by the end of July 2018, while the second stage of works, from north of Sunbury to Monegeetta, are scheduled to begin mid-2018.



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LANCEFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

SCHOOL GETTING BUSY

In 2018 we have welcomed twenty-nine new Prep students to our school! They are all settling in wonderfully and we are looking forward to the year ahead.

This year is shaping up already to be as busy and wonderful as last year!! We are continuing with our Garden to Table Program which was very popular with the students last year. Our vegetable garden is thriving and there is plenty of produce to be prepared and cooked into delicious meals to be shared by the students.

The chooks which, are also an important part of the Garden to Table program, have been on an extended holiday and are returning to school next week. We look forward to their return.

There is plenty planned for this term so stay tuned.



Grade 6 students proudly wearing their new LPS Grade 6 hoodies for 2018.



Uncovered! The secret romance of two of Australia's most famous faces is being unveiled in the Macedon Ranges.

For decades Australians have fleetingly looked at the faces of two literary giants when handing over a ten dollar note, never realising that Henry Lawson and Mary Gilmore, "the faces on the money" had shared a love that was kept hidden from the public.

Details of the romance did not come to light until writer Anne Brooksbank, researching a biography of Dame Mary Gilmore, uncovered actual letters between the two which revealed for the first time the extraordinary relationship and the dramatic betrayal that emerged.

All My Love is a play that uses excerpts from the surviving letters the audience discovers their story in the words from two of the greatest names in Australian literature.

The show will be staged at Kyneton Town Hall on Wednesday March 28th at 11am and 7.30pm.

Respected actor Dion Mills, who featured in the Foxtel series Conspiracy 365 and the film Killer Elite starring Robert De Niro, brings Henry Lawson to the stage.

"I'm really excited to bring this new work about such famous faces to the Macedon Ranges. I know people from Lancefield to Kyneton and all over will see the show not as a lesson in history but a lesson in love and what threatens it" Said Mr. Mills.

"Lawson was such a famous and complex man. Funny, brilliant, a larrikin but very troubled. It is a rare privilege to be able to speak his own words when telling this true story." said Dion.

"While many of us grew up reading works like *The Loaded Dog* and his other incredible stories of the bush, few have seen the romantic side of this Aussie bloke." said Dion.

Producer Christine Harris has been touring high profile shows across Victoria for over two decades says this production brings to life a famous yet forgotten woman

"I guarantee, after seeing *All My Love*, you will never look at a ten dollar note the same way again!" said Ms. Harris.

"Mary is Australia's most famous 'unknown' woman. She replaced the man she loved on the \$10 in 1993. Mary is a celebrated writer and led campaigns for women's right to vote, pensions and for aboriginal rights said Ms Harris.

Kim Denman, from *Neighbours*, *Blue Heelers* and *Romper Stomper* plays Mary Gilmore.

"Mary was a trailblazer, an important literary and political figure who dedicated her life to fighting against injustice and inequality." said Kim

Gilmore and Lawson were two of the most famous people in the country, yet remarkably they managed to keep their relationship secret. But more in keeping with a Jackie Collins novel, their fairytale suffered an extraordinary plot twist, again something the public never knew until now.

Already both Denman and Mills have received rave reviews for their performance in this production, which has been touring Australia. The show is produced by HIT Productions and is directed by award winner Denny Lawrence.

For more details contact Richard Fitzgerald-rfifty2@icloud.com M 0419525034.

Romsey
Antiques, Vintage & Collectibles Fair
17th March 2018
Saturday 9.30am till 4.30pm
Mechanics Institute
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This is a partnership event run by Romsey Mechanics Institute and Romsey Neighbourhood House as a Fundraising Event

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CULTURAL DIVERSITY AT KYNETON MUSEUM

Kyneton Museum is celebrating Cultural Diversity Week during March with the new myth-busting exhibition 'Chinese Fortunes'. The exhibition, opening on Tuesday 20 March at 5pm, explores the stories of Chinese migrants in Victoria, and offers new insights into the political, economic and cultural dimensions of their experiences.

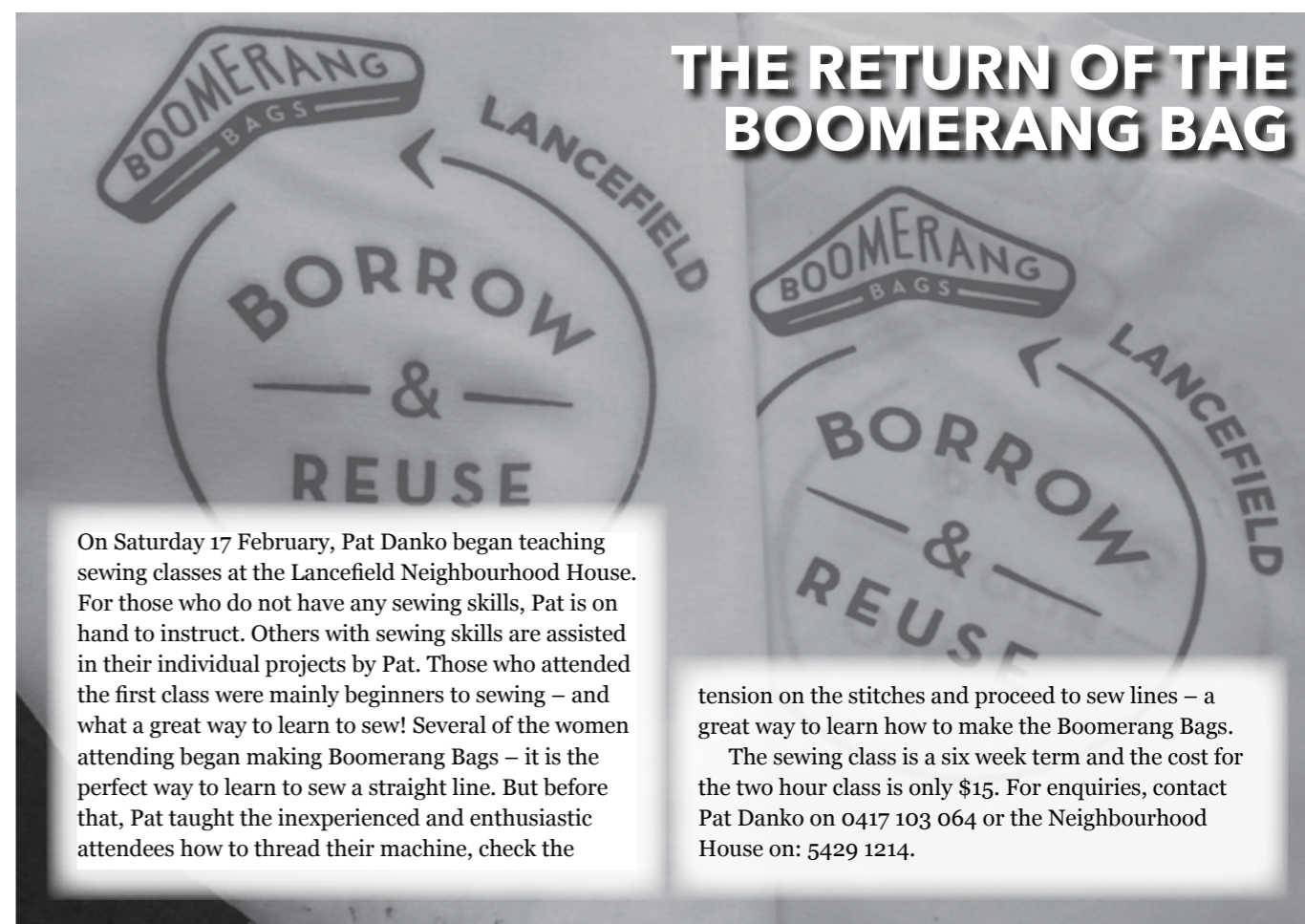
Developed in conjunction with The Museum of Australian Democracy at Eureka (M.A.D.E) in Ballarat, and The Golden Dragon Museum in Bendigo, Chinese Fortunes uncovers the remarkable contributions made by Chinese migrants from 1851 to 1901 and highlights their resilience and cultural pride.

The exhibition, which is part of the state-wide multicultural celebration, Cultural Diversity Week, has toured to the Immigration Museum and Parliament House in Melbourne, and is supplemented with education and public programs that will teach and demonstrate aspects of Chinese arts, language and culture.

Kyneton Museum is open Friday to Sunday from 11am to 4pm. Entry fees apply. For more information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/museum or call 1300 888 802.

WANT TO JOIN THE CASSEROLE CLUB FAMILY IN 2018?

Casserole Club is a free meal sharing initiative for residents of the Macedon Ranges. The project began in Lancefield in October 2014 and was so popular it has since been rolled out throughout the shire. The program connects those who love cooking (Cooks), with their older neighbours who find it difficult to prepare regular meals (Diners) and would appreciate having a home-cooked meal delivered by a friendly local face. You can get involved as a Diner or a Cook, or if you know someone that would appreciate having a home-cooked meal delivered, then you can act as a Recruiter. To find out more about Casserole Club, visit casseroleclub.com To register your interest, call 5422 0246 or email casseroleclub@mrsc.vic.gov.au



THE RETURN OF THE BOOMERANG BAG

On Saturday 17 February, Pat Danko began teaching sewing classes at the Lancefield Neighbourhood House. For those who do not have any sewing skills, Pat is on hand to instruct. Others with sewing skills are assisted in their individual projects by Pat. Those who attended the first class were mainly beginners to sewing – and what a great way to learn to sew! Several of the women attending began making Boomerang Bags – it is the perfect way to learn to sew a straight line. But before that, Pat taught the inexperienced and enthusiastic attendees how to thread their machine, check the

tension on the stitches and proceed to sew lines – a great way to learn how to make the Boomerang Bags.

The sewing class is a six week term and the cost for the two hour class is only \$15. For enquiries, contact Pat Danko on 0417 103 064 or the Neighbourhood House on: 5429 1214.

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



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 at 2016-2017 Financial Year

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

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

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

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BEEN A BUSY TIME

It has been a busy time for the Landcare group with onground work and strategic planning in a range of areas to help enhance and protect our local biodiversity.

What is biodiversity? Biological diversity refers to the variety of species of animals, plants and micro-organisms and their ecosystems in which they live and interact. This is a major part of what Landcare strives to protect and enhance.

With this in mind we are currently contributing to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council Biodiversity strategy which aims to identify policy and planning initiatives and priorities for on ground action and monitoring change in our unique and diverse environment.

We have also had some dedicated Landcare members who have been training with Melbourne Water to monitor the health of the Deep Creek through their Water Watch program with some pleasing results. Elements such as water turbidity, salinity, temperature and general water quality are being assessed on regular intervals. Deep Creek is home to the endangered Yarra Pigmy Perch which is often found in our local area, so the health of the creek is paramount to the success of this species.

We have also been working with the Rivers of the West Campaign which has been launched by the Environmental Justice Australia which seeks to gain greater legal protections for the Maribyrnong and Werribee catchments. Increases in

urban development and land clearing are two of the many threats to these vital waterways. Our local Deep Creek is one of the upper reaches of the Maribyrnong and is an important component of the catchment and well worthy of protection.

If you have a property with Deep Creek frontage and would be interested in learning about how to better protect and enhance this beautiful natural asset, feel free to contact us at deepcreeklandcare@gmail.com.

The annual Indian Myna bird count submission for Lancefield for 2017 was an incredible 612. Well done to those who have contributed. For any trapping enquiries please contact Pat Danko at deepcreeksecretary@gmail.com.

Anyone may feel free to come to our Landcare meetings which are held on the second Monday of every month at the Lancefield Mechanics Hall Annexe at 8pm. All are welcome.

Member News - Phil Hayes - Phil and Pauline have recently sold their farm in Lancefield and moved to Ballarat.

Phil joined our Group in 2015 and has been a regular keen worker at many working bees and attended meetings over those years. Our thanks go to Phil for his donation of a range of materials and equipment to the Group.

We also wish Phil well in tackling issues with his health.

Hayley Goodman

LANCEFIELD SMALL BORE RIFLE CLUB

COMPETITION SEASON HAS COMMENCED

The competition season has commenced and club members are competing in the State postal competition in Prone, 20m rimfire bench rest, 20m air rifle bench rest and 10m supported air rifle classes. These competitions run over a number of weeks with entrants shooting the targets at their own venues and then posting them off for scoring. A great way to compete if you are limited by time to travel to events.

Further improvements have recently been made to our undercover range and the club rooms are receiving a spruce up at present also.

As always, we welcome those interested in the sport to come along one evening to see what it is all about. Junior members are most welcome.

If you would like to know more about our activities please ring our Club Secretary Max on 54 292259.

LOVE IS ALL AROUND

FALL IN LOVE WITH A GREYHOUND

Greyhounds across the world are getting ready to share their love and invite everyone to join them for the annual Great Global Greyhound Walk (GGGW). The date for your diaries is Sunday 10th June 2018. As part of this global event there will be a walk held at Lancefield Park, commencing 10am, followed by morning tea.

Further details can be found on the website – www.greatglobalgreyhoundwalk.co.uk or find the Lancefield Walk on Facebook.

You can also email us lancefieldgggw@gmail.com



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THE FORK IN THE ROAD

Tom and I were driving along a bush road recently when we came to a fork in the road, no signs, leaving us undecided as to which way to go. Left or right? Jesus spoke of the two ways we all have to choose along life's way. He advised, "Enter through the narrow gate. For wide is the gate and broad is the way that leads to destruction, and many enter through it. But small is the gate and narrow is the way that leads to life, and only a few find it." (Matthew 7.13).

In Bunyan's *Pilgrim's Progress*, Christian tried to get through the narrow gate but was unable because of the heavy load he was carrying on his back. His Christian companion on the way pointed out that his heavy load was Sin and the only way he could rid himself of that heavy load of sin, was to believe in Jesus as his Saviour and Lord. Jesus, he explained, died on the Cross bearing our sins and offering Himself as "the one and only true sacrifice for the sins of mankind". (BCP). Jesus Himself chose "the narrow way" leading to His death on the Cross on that first Good Friday, for us! On that Cross He cried in anguish, "My God, My God, why have You forsaken Me." (Matthew 27:46) and it is about this hour our A.F.L. has decided to begin a football match!!!

But God had not forsaken Him, as He never forsakes those who put their trust in Him - by His mighty power on

the third day, the Sunday, He raised Jesus from the dead to live for evermore, opening the way for us to enter that narrow gate and through to the narrow way, leading to LIFE. The choice is ours!

"There was no other good enough, To pay the price for sin, He only could unlock the gate of Heaven, and let us in."
(Mrs C. Alexander)

Last month an enthusiastic group met for our first Bible study, KYB - Know Your Bible - beginning at the beginning of the Bible, the Book of Genesis, where we learnt of our "Beginnings". We meet weekly on a Tuesday, 10.30am at Christ Church Lancefield. (Except in School Holidays) As it was Shrove Tuesday, (Pancake Day) John Woollard made delicious pancakes for us to finish up with. Lent began next day.

A warm welcome to everyone. Study booklet \$8. Studies are led by the Rev. Jeannie Woollard. Term 1 finishes on the 27th March and studies will resume on Tuesday 17th April.

We remember in prayer all our troubled and ailing members.

MARCH 2018

Fri 2nd 11am - World Day of Prayer Service at Christ Church Lancefield. A combined service of participating Churches.

This service is drawn up by the women of Suriname, on the N. E. Corner of Sth. America. Speaker: The Rev. Lilian Morgan. Enq. Glenice..5429-6060.

Tues 6th 10.30am - Bible Study - Book of Genesis Unit 4. Christ Church Lancefield.

Sun 11th - Fourth Sunday in Lent (Mothering Sunday with Simnel Cake)

Tues 13th 10.30am - Bible study - Book of Genesis Unit 5. At Christ Church Lancefield.

Sun 18th - Fifth Sunday in Lent. Harvest Thanksgiving for Anglicare.

Tues 20th 10.30am - Bible Study - Book of Genesis Unit 6. Christ Church Lancefield.

Wed 21st 7.30pm - Parish Council meets at Lancefield.

Sun 25th - Palm Sunday with Distribution of Palm Crosses.

Tues 27th 10.30am - Bible Study - Book of Genesis Unit 7. Christ Church Lancefield.

Thurs 29th Holy or Maundy Thursday 7pm - Holy Communion. St. Paul's Romsey.

Friday 30th 9am - Good Friday Service at St. Paul's Romsey.

Sun 1st April Easter Day 9am - Holy Communion. St. Paul's Romsey. 10.30am - Christ Church Lancefield.

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

We pray that all the members of our community will have a joyful Easter season.

Doreen Morgan, correspondent.

Locum Minister: Rev. Jeannie Woollard, 0413 877 906.

WESTERN WATER

BORE WATER ADDED

Bore water has been reintroduced to the Lancefield drinking water supply, after a decline in water levels in local reservoirs. Up to 30% bore water has been added to the town's water supply since early February, to help preserve reservoir levels and ensure there is enough water for the town over the coming months. Western Water has added bore water to Lancefield's water supply during dry times for many years. It is a standard approach designed to make the most of local water supplies. Customers are not likely to notice a change in the taste or smell of their water, as the percentage of bore water will be relatively low. All drinking water is filtered and treated at the Lancefield water filtration plant to meet Australian Drinking Water Guidelines before it is piped to customers. If the dry weather continues, water can also be made available to the town from Western Water's broader supply network through the Romsey-Lancefield pipeline. Western Water will continue to monitor reservoir levels and water usage in Lancefield, and adjust the supply system as needed.

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'COMMUNITY TRANSPORT' TRIAL UNDERWAY

COMMUNITY TRANSPORT

Our community transport trial is underway. Please contact the House on 5429 1214 or Alison on 0419 327 914 if you would like to take part or are interested in being a volunteer driver in the future.

YOUNG FAMILIES

Activities for babies and pre-school children are on the increase in Lancefield. Next term we will be starting *Mother Goose* and are in the process of organising a story telling session and a music group. Playgroup currently runs on Thursday mornings at the Old Guide Hall.

The Old Guide Hall, next to the Neighbourhood House has undergone a renovation to make it a nicer space for Out of School Hours Care and Playgroup. Thanks to a grant from Bendigo Bank and another from Macedon Ranges Shire Council, the building now has a new roof to stop the leaking and a sliding door in the side to allow direct access to the outside and to let in more light. During the next school holidays the interior will get a coat of paint, new carpet and new storage cupboards.

The Neighbourhood House is now supporting the

fabulous 'Babes and Picnics Macedon Ranges' initiative. For dates and locations of the Picnics join their Facebook Group.

MENITATION-MEDITATION FOR MEN

For men who are brave enough to acknowledge it, responding to the increasing complexities and demands of modern life often lead us to experience a bewildering array of chaotic, fragmented or depleted inner states. The impacts on men are evident everywhere and no man is immune.

Meditation is the practice of exercising the functions of consciousness to collect and use our energies more effectively. It is similar to exercising the functions of the body, such as our muscles or cardiovascular system, to develop physical strength or endurance.

The historical roots of meditation can be traced back to the further reaches of antiquity. It is a technology that develops our latent possibilities in successfully adapting to life conditions.

The mystery of meditation lies in the fact that the development of focused attention and intention, through sensory awareness of the body, naturally produces many mental, emotional and physical benefits such as reduction of stress, anxiety, depression and pain, and elevated levels of

calmness and strengthened resilience.

It is a difficult work. Maybe the most difficult men can encounter as the pressures of modern life constantly draw on our energies. Yet, without something to balance the situation, it is no wonder that we are often left with very little, and feel as though we are running on empty or at the mercy of our animal instincts.

While we may seek relief through alcohol, drugs or adrenaline-fueled activities, these are all short lived and risk harmful addictions. Long term changes in our states of consciousness for a happier and productive life can only come through a sustained work on a more fundamental level.

For men, the consciousness technology of meditation is a tool to help respond to the demands of living by exercising those inherent abilities that form the basis of a healthy and integrated life.

Menitacion is an initiative to support men of all ages work together through regular practice of meditation in a safe and supportive environment. It is run by Luke Behncke who has over twenty years of meditative experience and holds a number of qualifications in health and education.

Menitacion is held 7.30pm every Thursday at the Lancefield Neighbourhood House, with a \$5 attendance fee. Registration to attend is compulsory, and further information can be obtained by contacting Luke Behncke on 0439 390 968 or luke.behncke@gmail.com.

FIRST AID CERTIFICATE

Provide First Aid – Level II Certificate, update and first time,

and Provide CPR will be held on Saturday 17 March at the Neighbourhood House. There is a bookings link at www.lancefield.org.au/lancefieldhouse.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Fortnightly updates of what is on in Lancefield emailed directly to you. Subscribe at www.lancefield.org.au/#news

DEFIB SESSION

The Romsey-Lancefield & District Ambulance Auxiliary would like to invite the community to an AED (Automatic External Defibrillator) familiarisation session.

Do you know how to use a defibrillator? Do you know where they are located in the community?

Well come along to the Romsey Ambulance Station, Main St Romsey (next to the Police station) on Wednesday March 14TH at 10 am or 7pm and see how to use these life saving devices. *All Welcome*

For further information contact Helen Richardson 0448208655

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COMMUNITY BIKE SHED GROWS AT MACEDON NURSERY

Following the planting of the seed of an idea with a local nursery a couple of years ago Wilkinson's wheels had overwhelming community support in 2017 (now dubbed "year of the bike collection"). The social enterprise now has a permanent home in a former machine shed at Macedon Nursery and Garden Supplies that has been provided in-kind.

Chief spokesmen and co-founder Phil Wilkinson says "2018 is the year of the thriving bike workshop." Judging by the activity to date they are well on track. Over 40 volunteers of all ages have been involved in scavenging parts from old bikes, improving the shed, catering, grounds maintenance and fixing bikes up for the Macedon CFA fleamarket.

Wilkinson goes on to say "We want to create a place that people are drawn to and enjoy being at. A place where all ages, capabilities are welcome. We are very grateful to Scott and Kate O'Brien for hosting us at the Nursery.

This week saw another part of the vision beginning to sprout – Gisborne Secondary College teacher and keen cyclist David Butler, brought a group of his VCAL students to visit the workshop to learn new skills from

lead bike mechanic and co-founder Mark Horner and local volunteers.

If you are interested in being part of this exciting new enterprise contact Phil to discuss getting the "weekday warriors" off the ground.

Bendigo Bank recognised the value to the community and awarded Wilkinson's Wheels a \$3000 grant to help with the set-up of the workshop.

For more information, join the Wilkinson's Wheels Facebook page or contact Phil on 5426 2281

ABOUT WILKINSON'S WHEELS:

Transformation of a fundraising idea into an ethical enterprise recycling bikes to improve social, sustainable and financial outcomes across the Macedon Ranges.

- Over \$10,000 raised for local CFA
- Hundreds of bikes fixed up for new owners
- Now a collaborative organisation driving community, contribution and wellbeing
- Active advocate for cycling initiatives in the region, including training and ecotourism.



APPLY NOW.

Event Sponsorship Program

Planning an event in 2018? Apply for funding from the Lancefield and Romsey **Community Bank**® branches, via our new Event Sponsorship Program.

We are offering this funding in addition to our annual Community Investment Program. This is a coordinated way for us to help support events that will run pre-November 2018.

The Program opened on Monday 19 February and applications are due in by Friday 30 March 2018.

Contact Sally Peeler at marketing@lancefieldromseybank.com.au to request an application form, or to discuss your sponsorship application.

'Supporting our local community.'



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BOOK REVIEWS SUBMITTED BY RED DOOR BOOKS

CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS



This Zoo is not for You - by Ross Collins. RRP \$19.99

When a small platypus applies for a vacancy at the zoo, he is taken on a rigorous interview process. But he's far too bland for the chameleons, not nearly graceful enough for the flamingos, and his tricks, quite frankly, will never impress the monkeys. So, disappointed, he leaves. But soon the animals regret being so unkind and join

together to welcome him to the zoo... Leading to a very fun party on his Platybus!



Shake the Tree! By Silvia Borando. RRP \$24.99

It all begins with one tasty nut, hanging on the highest branch of a tree. A little Mouse looks at it longingly - he wants to eat it, so very much. But how can he get it down? By shaking the tree, of course! Can you, the reader, help him? Shake the tree - a little to the right (shake) ... and a little to the left (shake shake). But

- UH-OH - something else is falling from the tree, and it's looking rather hungry... From minibombo, the innovative creators of The White Book and Black Cat, White Cat comes an interactive, hilarious story for the very youngest of readers - a story that only unfolds when you, the reader, shake shake shake that tree!

CHILDREN'S FICTION 9-13 YEARS

Pirate Blunderbeard; Worst Pirate Ever- by Amy Sparkes and Ben Cort. RRP \$4.99

Can the worst pirate ever win the Pirate of the Year Award? 'Mum is making me take part in the stupid

Pirate of the Year Award. All I have to do is fight an enormous sea monster, (doom), beat my oh-so-brilliant brother at something (please please please) and find the legendary treasure that no one has ever found *ever* (easy peasy, then). Wish me luck! Pirate Blunderbeard. Blunderbeard might be the worst pirate ever but he's also the funniest - laugh-out-loud fun for young readers of 7+

Friday Barnes; Never Fear- by R.A Spratt. RRP \$15.99

Friday's time at Highcrest is running out! The new



Friday Barnes will have to use her head and get a grip on her beating heart in order to find the gold that lies within.



Rose Raventhorpe Investigates Black Cats and Butlers- by Janine Beacham. RRP \$14.99

headmaster is turning everything upside down. Friday's irritatingly high IQ has her fast-tracked to graduation, while a pair of incriminating pants puts Ian on the rocky road to expulsion. When a rumour emerges of embezzled gold stashed on the school grounds, Friday is determined to uncover the truth. But some big questions remain- Can she stay out of detention long enough to solve the mystery? How will Melanie survive without Friday to tell her what class she's in? And will Friday ever get that first kiss with Ian? With implosions and explosions everywhere,

The Clockwork Sparrow meets Downton Abbey. When Rose Raventhorpe's beloved butler is found (gasp!) murdered in the hallway of her own house, she's determined to uncover the culprit. Especially since he's the third butler to die in a week! Rose's investigation leads her on a journey into a hidden world of grave robbers and duelling butlers,

flamboyant magicians and the city's ancient feline guardians. Knives aren't just for cutting cucumber sandwiches, you know . . .



The Lost Rainforest; Mez's Magic- by Eliot Schrefer. RRP \$14.99

The Lion King meets Wings of Fire in the magical rainforest kingdom of Caldera in this new middle grade animal fantasy series from New York Times bestselling author and National Book Award finalist Eliot Schrefer. Caldera has forever been divided into those animals who walk by night and those who walk by day. Nightwalker panthers, like young Mez and her beloved sister, have always feared daywalkers as creatures

of myth and legend. Until the eclipse. Now Mez has discovered that she can cross the Veil and enter the daylight world. Her magical power has unknown depths, but she must rush to discover it after a mysterious stranger arrives at her family's den, bearing warnings of a reawakened evil. Saving Caldera means Mez must leave her sister behind and unite an unlikely group of animal friends to unravel an ancient mystery and protect their rainforest home.

TEEN FICTION

Arrowood- by Mick Finlay. RRP \$19.99

1895: London's scared. A killer haunts the city's streets. The poor are hungry; crime bosses are taking control; the



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BOOK REVIEWS



police force stretched to breaking point. While the rich turn to Sherlock Holmes, the celebrated private detective rarely visits the densely populated streets of South London, where the crimes are sleazier and the people are poorer. In a dark corner of Southwark, victims turn to a man who despises Holmes, his wealthy clientele and his showy forensic approach to crime: Arrowwood - self-taught psychologist, occasional drunkard and private investigator. When a man mysteriously disappears and Arrowwood's best lead is viciously stabbed before his eyes, he and his sidekick Barnett face their toughest quest yet: to capture the

head of the most notorious gang in London.



Blade Runner meets Game of Thrones in *Between the Blade and the Heart*, a gripping story of love and revenge from Amanda Hocking, author of the *Trylle* trilogy and the *Kanin Chronicles*. Malin is a Valkyrie-in-training. It's her responsibility to slay immortals, returning them to the afterlife to maintain balance in the world. She also struggles to maintain balance in her own life - between her studies, her duties as a Valkyrie and her conflicting feelings for her

Between the Blade and the Heart- by Amanda Hocking. RRP \$14.99

ex-girlfriend. But when a beguiling stranger breaks into her home on a quest for vengeance, Malin's carefully balanced life falls apart. Asher is hunting the rogue immortal who murdered his mother, and he thinks Malin may have information. Her loyalties are tested, as she uncovers a betrayal that unravels everything she thought she knew. And she must decide if helping the mysterious Asher enact his revenge is worth the risk - to the world, and to her heart.

ADULT FICTION

The Woman in the Window- by A.J Finn. RRP \$29.99

Get ready for the biggest thriller of 2018...It's been ten long months since



Anna Fox last left her home. Ten months during which she has haunted the rooms of her old New York house like a ghost, lost in her memories, too terrified to step outside. Anna's lifeline to the real world is her window, where she sits day after day, watching her neighbours. When the Russells move in, Anna is instantly drawn to them. A picture-perfect family of three, they are an echo of the life that was once hers. But one evening, a frenzied scream rips across the silence, and Anna witnesses something no one was supposed to see. Now she must do everything she can to

uncover the truth about what really happened. But even if she does, will anyone believe her? And can she even trust herself?



Iron Gold- by Pierce Brown. RRP \$19.99

Darrow was born a slave. He became a weapon. He ended centuries of Gold rule, broke the chains of an empire, and now he's the hero of a brave new republic. But at terrible cost. At the edge of the solar system, the grandson of the emperor he murdered dreams of revenge. In his hidden fortress in the oceans of Venus, the Ash Lord lies in wait, plotting to crush the newborn democracy. And, at home, a young Red

girl who's lost everything to the Rising questions whether freedom was just another Gold lie. In a fearsome new world where Obsidian pirates roam the Belt, famine and genocide ravage Mars, and crime lords terrorise Luna, it's time for Darrow and a cast of new characters from across the solar system to face down the chaos that revolution has unleashed. The 4th book in the 'Red Rising' series.



The Naturalist's Daughter- by Tea Cooper. RRP \$29.99

Two women, a century apart, are drawn into a mystery surrounding the biggest scientific controversy of the nineteenth century,

the classification of the platypus.1808 Agnes Banks, NSW. Rose Winton wants nothing more than to work with her father, eminent naturalist Charles Winton, on his groundbreaking study of the platypus. Not only does she love him with all her heart, but the discoveries they have made could turn the scientific world on its head. When Charles is unable to make the long sea journey to present his findings to the prestigious Royal Society in England, Rose must venture forth in his stead. What she discovers there will change the lives of future generations. 1908 Sydney, NSW. Tamsin Alleyn has been given a mission: travel to the Hunter Valley and retrieve an old sketchbook of debateable value, gifted to the Mitchell Library by a recluse. But when she

gets there, she finds there is more to the book than meets the eye, and more than one interested party. Shaw Everdene, a young antiquarian bookseller and lawyer, seems to have his own agenda when it comes to the book but Tamsin decides to work with him to try and discover the book's true provenance. The deeper they delve, the more intricate the mystery becomes. As the lives of two women a century apart converge, discoveries rise up from the past and reach into the future, with irrevocable consequences...

NON-FICTION

Danger Music- by Eddie Ayres. RRP \$32.99

Eddie Ayres has a lifetime of musical experience - from learning the viola as a child in England and

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Lancefield CWA has a craft meeting on the 2nd Friday of the month and a club meeting on the 1st Friday of the month, followed by a shared lunch. If you would like to sign up or find out more about CWA please contact our Secretary (on banner above).

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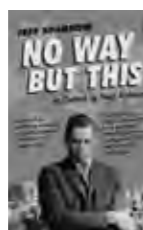
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BOOK REVIEWS



playing with the Hong Kong Philharmonic for many years, to learning the cello in his thirties and landing in Australia to present an extremely successful ABC Classic FM morning radio show. But all of this time Eddie was Emma Ayres. In 2014 Emma was spiralling into a deep depression, driven by anguish about her gender. She quit the radio, travelled, and decided on a surprising path to salvation - teaching music in a war zone. Emma applied for a position at Dr Sarmast's renowned Afghanistan

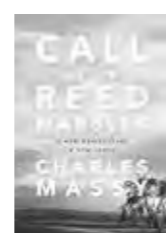
National Institute of Music in Kabul, teaching cello to orphans and street kids. In *Danger Music*, Eddie takes us through the bombs and chaos of Kabul, into the lives of the Afghan children who are transported by Bach, Abba, Beethoven and their own exhilarating Afghan music. Alongside these epic experiences, Emma determines to take the final steps to secure her own peace; she becomes the man always there inside - Eddie.



Film star. Icon. Agitator. Martyr. Paul Robeson

No Way but This; In Search of Paul Robeson - by Jeff Sparrow. RRP \$32.99

was a prize-winning scholar and the greatest footballer of his era, even before he ascended to global superstardom as a singer, Hollywood actor, and activist. The son of an escaped slave, Robeson stunned audiences with 'Ol' Man River' and Othello, as his passion for social justice led him from Jazz Age Harlem to the mining towns of Wales, from the frontiers of the Spanish Civil War to Stalin's Russia. Charismatic, eloquent, and handsome, he had everything - and then lost it all for the sake of his principles. Jeff Sparrow traces Robeson's troubled life and stellar career, in a story that traverses the arc of the twentieth century and illuminates the fissures of today's fractured world. From Black Lives Matter



This ground-breaking book will change the way we think of, farm and grow food. Author

Call of the Reed Warbler - by Charles Massy. RRP \$39.95

to Putin's United Russia, Sparrow visits the places Robeson lived and worked, exploring race in America, freedom in Moscow, and the legacies of communism and fascism in Europe. Part travelogue, part biography, this is a tale of political ardour, heritage, and trauma - a luminous portrait of a remarkable man, and an urgent reflection on the crises that define us now.

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BOOK REVIEWS

and radical farmer Charles Massy explores transformative and regenerative agriculture and the vital connection between our soil and our health. It is a story of how a grassroots revolution - a true underground insurgency - can save the planet, help turn climate change around, and build healthy people and healthy communities, pivoting significantly on our relationship with growing and consuming food. Using his personal experience as a touchstone - from an unknowing, chemical-using farmer with dead soils to a radical ecologist farmer carefully regenerating a 2000-hectare property to

a state of natural health - Massy tells the real story behind industrial agriculture and the global profit-obsessed corporations driving it. He shows - through evocative stories - how innovative farmers are finding a new way and interweaves his own local landscape, its seasons and biological richness. At stake is not only a revolution in human health and our communities but the very survival of the planet. For farmer, backyard gardener, food buyer, health worker, policy maker and public leader alike, Call of the Reed Warbler offers a tangible path forward for the future of our food

supply, our Australian landscape and our earth. It comprises a powerful and moving paean of hope.

Black Tudors- by Miranda Kaufmann. RRP \$36.99

A Book of the Year for the Evening Standard and the Observer A black porter publicly whips a white Englishman in the hall of a Gloucestershire manor house. A Moroccan woman is baptised in a London church. Henry VIII dispatches a Mauritanian diver to salvage lost treasures from the Mary Rose. From long-forgotten records emerge the remarkable stories of Africans who lived free



in Tudor England... They were present at some of the defining moments of the age. They were christened, married and buried by the Church. They were paid wages like any other Tudors. The untold stories of the Black Tudors, dazzlingly brought to life by Kaufmann, will transform how we see this most intriguing period of history.

PRACTISE PATIENCE

Where did the end of year holidays go? Did you get away somewhere and do you remember how you just weren't in a rush to get anywhere? Getting angry because of someone else's action just wasn't going to happen! "Don't sweat the small stuff" as I often say to my kids.

Bike Safe Macedon Ranges has just launched our "Pass with Care" campaign aimed at encouraging all road users to be careful when overtaking other vehicles on the road. It's simply about being patient and leaving plenty of room and time to pass safely. It's particularly relevant to new users of our county roads which presents different challenges to the urban environment. Who knows what is around that corner? All it takes is a little impatience or lack of concentration and someone's dad or mum, brother or sister, son or daughter could end up in hospital or worse. Nobody wants that kind of outcome.

We have placed billboards and posters across the Ranges to remind people of this simple message. Maybe in 2018, we can all think about taking a little more time and care out on our roads? A few seconds just isn't worth the risk.

Jem Richards
Bike Safe Macedon Ranges

GIRL GUIDES

The Romsey Lancefield Girl Guides is a group of girls that meets on Monday nights at Lancefield Park. We do a variety of activities outdoors and inside with different aims and themes. We recently celebrated Thinking Day on 22nd February, at a combined night with Woodend and Gisborne Guides. "Impact" was the theme - the impact that Guides can have on each other, our families, and our communities. A badge can be earned for this day.

A fun Commonwealth Games badge has been designed for the girls to complete in the near future too. It offers challenges under the headings Physical, People, Practical and Self. It is designed learn about some of the challenges for competitors and challenge the determination and personal development of each girl in the unit.

We currently have girls aged 6 to 15 years. If you are interested in finding out more come along to the pavilion at Lancefield Park on Monday evenings from 5.00 to 6.30pm. Or ring Rita on 5429 1996.



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THE TINIEST TEN POUND POM

The *Tiniest Ten Pound Pom* is the story of one of many families who left England to make a new life in Australia. Enticed by the promise of great opportunities for those who had the courage to make the journey.

In 1959 Janice is born and six months later, despairing of ever being able to buy a home in the UK, the family decides to up sticks and move to Australia. 'Within a decade, a family of two became a family of six. Together my parents built a dream and when I was six months old, they packed what they could and with four young children, boarded a ship bound for Australia in search of that dream. That was the day we became what was known as Ten Pound Poms.' Her parents buy some acreage just outside a small hamlet about 70 kilometres north of Melbourne in a tough and arid land. Will this new life in Australia make or break Janice? Only time will tell.

Author Karen Gardam never went to university. The best she did was eleventh grade as a kid and a couple of stints at TAFE as a mature age student. She did go to the school of hard knocks though. Karen feels it is important that we have tolerance, understanding, respect and an appreciation of what it is to be an Australian and for each other and she hopes her book portrays these qualities.

The *Tiniest Ten Pound Pom* by Karen Graham was published in January 2018 and will be initially available to purchase via Amazon.co.uk, Waterstones and austinmacauley.com

CRAFT DE-STASH

Christmas is coming soon and so is the Newham Craft De-Stash event on Saturday 7th April 2018.

The list of goods for sale is getting longer for the de-stash event at the Newham Mechanics Institute hall. You can de-stash, re-cycle, and re-vamp your art and craft supplies that have been gathering in your drawers or garages! Book a table to sell your wares! Or just turn up to buy.

The list so far....

Craft magazines and books, pin doll kits and patterns, cloth doll patterns, American cross stitch patterns, finished and unfinished cross stitch works, card and card making materials, stencil brushes and paints, fabric & silk paints, pottery glazes, bottles Parker Quink, cheese making moulds and instruction/recipe book, picture mount boards and picture framing tools, papermaking books/presses, macramé books, raffia, easel, beads and findings, knitting wool & needles/crochet hooks, material lengths, embossing folders, washi tape, sewing machine, embroidery threads, spools of cotton, pencils, mosaic supplies(tiles) and Woodend Boomerang bags. And that's only the tip of the craft iceberg!

Craft demonstrations and children's activities will be held on the day. Free entry.

Café on site for cuppa & cake. Newham General Store across the road for more substantial fare. Tables, at a nominal charge, are limited. No large retail concerns. All profits from the day will go to the maintenance of NMI hall.

(More information and/or application form contact Fran Spain 54270661)



THIS EASTER CONSIDER THE IMPORTANCE OF THE CROSS

We will all eventually die. If the Bible is correct, there is an afterlife with judgement, heaven and hell. What is our plan to reach heaven? Many say: 'Well, I'm a relatively good person – when I die I'll just hope for the best. Others add: 'I've been baptised, had communion, plus I give regularly to the church and charities – I think I've ticked all the boxes.'

It's ironic that many people, including many Christians, think getting to heaven depends on what they do. When asked about the relevance of Jesus Christ and the Cross, most scratch their heads; they don't see a connection between their going to heaven and what Christ did on the Cross. Many people consider the cross simply a symbol of Christianity – a story told at Easter how a good man was wrongly crucified and miraculously rose from the dead.

Fact is, if we could earn our way to heaven by good deeds or religious rituals, Christ died needlessly on the Cross. If we could save ourselves by our works, there would be no point for Jesus to die for our salvation (John 3:16).

The Bible states: we can never be good enough to save ourselves (Eph. 2:8-9) – our works are filthy rags in God's sight (Isaiah 64:6) – that we need to be born-again (John 3:3) – and become a new creation in Christ (2 Cor. 5:17).

To enter the kingdom of heaven we need to have God's perfect righteousness. This is the whole point of Jesus being crucified on our behalf. If we accept the gift of salvation by believing in Christ we receive His perfect righteousness and are instantly adopted into the family of God. Alternately, if we are hoping our good deeds or religious rituals will save us; sadly, we are in for a very rude shock. We need the Cross. Christ is our salvation – He is the only door and way into heaven. Jesus said to him, "I am the way, the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through Me." John 14:6. "For by grace you have been saved through faith, and



that not of yourselves; it is a gift of God not of works, lest anyone should boast." Ephesians 2:8-9.

This Easter we would love to invite you to join us in a very Special Easter Celebration @ 10 a.m. @ Encourage Church 7 Mitchell Court Romsey. There will be Hot Cross buns, an Easter egg hunt, and time for you to consider what the Importance of Easter really is.

If you would like to know more about faith in Jesus Please contact Pastor Marilyn or our Church office Ph 5429 6327 We would be happy to help you find true peace and joy in life.

Encourage Church: "Encouraging one another to be all we can be in life and in God". www.facebook.com/encouragechurchromsey/

You are invited to join us at our regular Sunday Service: 10am at 7 Mitchell Court Romsey or one of our fortnightly Life Groups, Fortnightly Youth events and weekly Children's Programs. We also offer Kidzone Before & After School Care, Vacation Care, 'mainly music' Program

Senior Pastor Marilyn Hunter - "Encourage Church"

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 **LANCEFIELD COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

BEARS AND THEME MUSIC!

Towards the end of the 2017 school year two of our members attended school assemblies to present the annual CWA scholarship to two Year Six students. The scholarship money goes towards text books for their Year Seven studies. We congratulate Blair Huggins from Lancefield Primary School for his leadership across the school, and Jessica Cernjavic from St. Mary's.

The Lancefield Country Women's Association began 2018 with an informal luncheon at the Lancefield Hotel. This year we are hoping to enhance our meetings with learning opportunities from guest speakers and social outings for members.

On Friday March the 23rd. we are holding a fashion parade at the Mechanics Institute. This is a fundraiser for our CWA. We invite you to come along and bring your friends and family. There will be terrific raffle and door prizes plus a delicious morning tea. It will start at 10:30 am.

Now, what does a bear that arrived in London from the darkest jungle where he lived with his Aunt Lucy and the

theme music from the film "Picnic At Hanging Rock" have in common? Yes, you guessed it, they both originated in Peru.

Each year the CWA studies a different country. In 2017 it was Denmark and we thank Kay Malinowski for teaching us about all things Danish.

Peru is part of South America and borders Ecuador to the North West, Columbia to the North East, Brazil to the East, Bolivia to the South East and Chile directly south. It is a tropical country where the northern tip touches the equator.

However, it has a diverse climate due to its extreme elevation. The Andes mountain range runs through the country and there are sweeping winds from the Indian Ocean.

Our International officer, Sandra Stevens, will continue to share all things Peruvian with us throughout the year.

Remember, we warmly welcome new members.

We meet on the 4th. Friday of the month at the Neighbourhood House for a 10:30 start.

HANDS UP!

As the summer sports season heads towards its conclusion, our winter sports clubs are working hard behind the scenes to gear up for the year ahead. It's a timely reminder for us all to think about how we can help our local clubs and organisations – and not just sports clubs – and contribute to our community. Clubs and community organisations are always in need of volunteers, and I urge everyone to consider what they can do to help make a difference. I can tell you from personal experience that giving back to the community as a volunteer gives great satisfaction.

A couple of volunteer roles I have filled over the years have been President of the Lancefield Primary School Council and President of the Lancefield Fire Brigade, and I like to think these committees which I led have helped make our community a better place. But you don't need to take on an executive role, or even join the committee to make a contribution – although committees are always crying out for more members and people should consider joining up.

Even if you're not on the committee, clubs and organisations have myriad roles and tasks that need to be done, and every volunteer who takes on a job is

appreciated. It might be as informal as taking on some shifts in the canteen to give the regular volunteers a break, or being part of the crew to set up the ground or arena for the weekend's sporting activities.

Whether the role you take is big or small, it all adds up to make the organisation run more smoothly and spreads out the responsibility across more people. You get the satisfaction of having made a difference, and busy, vibrant clubs and organisations help make our Lancefield community a better place. Volunteering your time and effort to help others and help your community is one of the highest ideals you can follow.

If you need inspiration, just think of the words of one of the most electrifying world leaders of the 20th century, John F. Kennedy, in his 1961 inaugural address when he was sworn in as US President: "Ask not what your country can do for you – ask what you can do for your country."

It was a direct challenge to every American to contribute in some way to the public good. On a local level, let's follow this ideal in our Lancefield groups and clubs and put our hand up.

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Supply Priest: Fr. Vinoth Santiago, Parish Secretary Mrs. Tammie Dalgleish Presbytery 5429 2130

MASS TIMES

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month: 8:00am Lancefield and 10:00 am Romsey
2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month: 8:00 am Romsey and 10:00am Lancefield

COMMUNION SERVICES

Tuesday 9:00am Romsey Church

Saturday 10:00am Romsey Church

ROSARY

Saturdays 9:45am Romsey

RECONCILIATION

By arrangement.

BAPTISMS

2018 – Romsey Church – July 1st, September 2nd &

November 4th.
2018 – Lancefield Church – June 10th, August 12th, October 14th & December 9th.

For more information, please phone 5429 2130.

SACRAMENTS

Parents with children not attending St. Mary's School who are scheduled to receive the First Holy Communion or Confirmation in 2018

are invited to email their details to the secretary at lancefield@cam.org.au to register your child.

EASTER SERVICES

During Lent, Fr. Martin will celebrate Saturday morning Mass at Romsey – 10am.

Easter Mass times will be advertised on our Facebook page or by phoning the presbytery.



COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF ROMSEY AND LANCEFIELD INC.

P.O. Box 280, Romsey. Vic. 3434

Probus is an Association for active members of the community and for those no longer working full time to join together in clubs for a new lease of life. Its basic purpose is to advance intellectual and cultural interests amongst adult persons; to provide regular opportunities to progress healthy minds and active bodies, through social interaction and activities, expand interests and to enjoy the fellowship of new friends.

All our members are active and aged between 60-90+ years. We enjoy company and have made good friendships along the way. Always plenty of chat and laughter whenever we are together.

Monthly meetings are at 10am, on the 4th Thursday of the month in St.Mary's Church Hall Main Street, Romsey.

NEXT OUTING

Our next outing is on Wednesday 21st March when we will enjoy a bus trip to Ballarat.

NEXT MEETING I

Our next meeting is our AGM. 10am Thursday 22nd March, 2018

Our group enjoy fortnightly coffee mornings and the alternate week 10 Pin Bowling at AMF Bowling Watergardens. The dates for March Coffee morning - 9th & 23rd at 10am at the Mad Gallery in Lancefield.

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

Now you are retired or close to retiring from work come and join the friendly folk in the Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club and learn more about what Probus can offer to assist you in staying active. Or phone the numbers above.

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

SHOW WHAT YOU CAN GROW

In its 124 year old history, Kyneton Horticultural Society is once again hosting its annual Autumn Flower show at the Watts Pavilion, Kyneton Showgrounds; Saturday 3rd March from 1pm to 5pm and Sunday 4th March from 10am to 4.30pm. The Show highlights dahlias, roses, cut flowers, shrubs, pot plants, cacti and succulents, floral art, vegetables and a children's section. There is even a special division

recognising 70 years of the hybrid 'Peace' rose. An excellent range of plants will be available for sale grown by the KHS members – an ideal time to do your autumn planting of things that will grow in our region. Afternoon tea provided. Admission \$4.

For enquiries and entry forms contact Nicholas on 0438 664 849 or email nicholasscott@bigpond.com with your details.

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THE MOUNT PLAYERS HAPPENINGS

Our first show for 2018 will open on Friday 9 March. The Offshore Island by Marghanita Laski and directed by Cherry Servis is a powerful drama that will provide much food for thought, especially in the world's current climate, where nuclear arms and power are always at the forefront. The season will run till 25 March. To book your tickets go to www.themountplayers.com or call our box office on 5426 1892.

Our 2nd show, Love Letters by A.R. Gurney has now been cast. Director, Frank Harvey is more than excited to stage this beautiful, moving play about 2 childhood friends who exchange letters throughout their separate lives. As their lives move on they realise they have been spiritually as close as only true lovers can be. The show will open in May.

The AGM was held on 12 February and as always members gathered for the social as well as the 'getting down to business' side of the theatre. Current President, Andrew Meldrum will continue on as President in 2018. Andrew has done a power of work over the last 12 months and will again work towards achieving many more goals. There was no problem in gathering a team of dedicated, experienced members who will work alongside Andrew to ensure the theatre enjoys yet another successful year.

If you would like to become a member of our unique theatre you will be most welcome. Go to our website for details.

Don't forget to book your tickets for The Offshore Island.....see you at the Mountview Theatre!

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2018 FUNDING PROGRAM OPENING SOON

Community groups and organisations with a great idea for a project are invited to apply for financial assistance via Council's Community Funding Scheme, opening on Friday 30 March. This scheme is Council's annual grants program for not-for-profit community groups and organisations of all sizes, and offers financial assistance towards a variety of projects and activities such as equipment purchase and/or community building improvements. Groups can apply for up to \$6,000. Community groups are invited to submit an application which aims to do one (or more) of the following:

- Meet local needs
- Strengthen community relationships
- Aligns with the scheme priorities of: - Accessibility, diversity and fairness - Economic benefit to local towns - Environmental sustainability and conservation - Health and wellbeing.
- Complement strategic Council directions and plans.

Applications must relate to projects/activities commencing from 1 July 2018 and be completed by 30

June 2019. A grant writing workshop to assist community groups and organisations in preparing their application will be held on Thursday 29 March, from 6pm (workshop from 7pm) at the Woodend Community Centre, corner High and Forest streets (next to Woodend Library). This will be the official launch of the Community Funding Scheme, with Council officers available to provide an overview of the grant application process, answer questions, offer grant writing tips and distribute grant guidelines and application forms. Applications for the program close on Monday 30 April. For more information on the Community Funding Scheme, or to RSVP to attend the workshop, call Emilie on 5422 0206 or email placesforpeople@mrsc.vic.gov.au Community Funding Scheme guidelines and application forms will be at mrsc.vic.gov.au/CommunityFunding-Scheme or at Council service centres in Gisborne, Kyneton, Romsey and Woodend closer to the launch.

FREE TECH-SAVVY INFORMATION FOR OVER 55's

Tech Savvy Seniors sessions are designed to give people over 55 years the opportunity to develop technology skills for socialising, accessing important services and doing personal business. These sessions are coming to the Romsey Library from 10am-12pm on the following:

- Tuesday 17 April - Introduction to the Internet & Tablets, Part 1 (for those without email or wanting a refresher)

Tuesday 24 April - Introduction to the Internet & Tablets, Part 2 (to continue on from part 1 or for those already with an email account) • Tuesday 1 May - Introduction to Email • Tuesday 8 May - Introduction to Social Media (including Facebook). Sign up for one or all. Bookings essential. To find out more, call Romsey Library on 5429 3086 or visit ncgrl.vic.gov.au

ADFAS

PICASSO, MAN RAY & MAX ERNST

Australian Decorative and Fine Arts Society Central Victoria is delighted to launch their 2018 lecture program with a journey to the early 20th Century Surrealist Movement. 'Picasso, Man Ray & Max Ernst through the Eyes of Lee Miller & Roland Penrose'

On Thursday 1 March, at the Kyneton Town Hall Mr Antony Penrose will present a unique perspective on three key artists of the 20th Century: Picasso, Man Ray & Max Ernst. All three were close friends of the Surrealist photographer Lee Miller and her husband, Surrealist artist Roland Penrose. This is the hidden part of a significant friendship, which spanned the Surrealist movement, and the last 30 years of Picasso's life with the unique perspective of someone who witnessed some of the events himself, using the words and images of those who were there.

Antony Penrose is the Co-Director of the Lee Miller Archives and The Penrose Collection. He is the son of the American photographer, Lee Miller, and Roland Penrose, surrealist artist, and biographer of Picasso Miró, Man Ray and Tàpies.

Entry is \$30 cash or cheque payable on the evening and this includes refreshments (served from 6.30-7.30pm), in addition to the lecture (7.30-8.30pm).

We look forward to welcoming you. For more information please call Norma on 5427 4918.

2018 COUNCIL ARTS & CULTURE PROGRAM

Get the scoop on what music, comedy, drama and cabaret events are headed to the Macedon Ranges this year as Council launches its Arts & Culture program for 2018 on Friday 16 March at Kyneton Town Hall. The festivities begin at 5.30pm, with guests treated to door prizes, complimentary drinks and nibbles and a generous 20% discount on full-priced tickets. This free event, hosted by performer Emilie Bloom, will include special live performances, roving entertainers and the premiere screening of the Too Many Mirandas dance flash mob film. To attend the launch, please RSVP by Thursday 15 March by calling 1300 888 802 or email ktickets@mrsc.vic.gov.au Copies of the 2018 season brochure will be available for collection from Monday 19 March in Council service centres in Kyneton, Gisborne, Woodend and Romsey. Program details will also be published on Council's website after the launch.

Tai Chi Classes

Tai Chi has been practiced in China for centuries to develop balance, coordination and overall wellbeing. Classes are suitable for all ages offering a balanced approach to both martial and health traditions.

Classes are run on Saturdays at 11am. Come and try at a free introductory lesson.

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Classes operate on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, with a Children's class at 5:00 and adult class at 6:30 during the week, and at 2:00 on Saturdays.

All classes are run by Kyoshi James Sumarac, 8th Dan assisted by Shou Mei Sumarac, 5th Dan and Glen Cannon, 4th Dan.

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Junior Programs Basketball and indoor soccer:

Shooting Hoops and Goal Kick Give your child the chance to learn the skills before progressing into our junior competitions. Shooting Hoops and Goal Kick are development skills program for children aged 5 to 10 years. Shooting Hoops sessions are held on Mondays, 4pm-4.45pm and Goal Kick sessions are held on Fridays, 4pm-4.45pm. Places are still available.

Soccer: Under 12s and Under 16s Under 12 games are played from 4.50pm and Under 16 games are played from 6.30pm on Fridays. Register now for winter competition starts 16 April. Basketball—Under 11 games are held from 4pm on Thursdays. Under 13 games are held from 4.50pm on Mondays. Winter season starts 16 April.

Senior Programs: Indoor men's basketball Players must be over 15 years old. Team and individual registrations accepted. Men's basketball games are played on Tuesdays from 7.30pm. Winter season starts 17 April.

Staying strong circuit classes: High intensity, group circuit classes for the mature adult. Increase muscle and cardiovascular strength. Classes are held on Mondays,

Wednesdays and Fridays, 10.30am-11.30am. Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9.30-10.30am.

Ti-ga Karate Self Defence: Classes are designed to develop confidence, focus, respect, fitness, strength and discipline. For more detail on class time contact Sensei Ivan Kucera on 0451 118 707 or email tigakarate@yahoo.com.au

Romsey District Netball Association: Competitions for juniors and seniors played locally indoor at our sports facility Romsey Recreation Centre. For more detail on class time contact Christine Dickinson romseydistrictnetball@hotmail.com

Macedon Ranges Squash club runs senior mixed competition held Tuesday nights at the Romsey Recreation Centre. All programs and competitions are dependent on interest and sufficient registration numbers. We welcome feedback and suggestions for new programs you would like to see offered. For more information about a program or to register, call 5429 5637 or email rrc@mrsc.vic.gov.au



Cake cutting

The Lancefield Community Bank branch has reopened after extensive renovations to make it more inviting and comfortable to both customers and the staff team. Redesigned under Bendigo Bank's Network of the Future concept, the layout incorporates technology to make transactions more efficient and allows our staff more time to spend with customers. At the new look branch customers can talk one on one with specialist members of the branch

team in a comfortable sit down environment. Lancefield and Romsey Community Bank Senior Manager Michael O'Gorman said the branch reopened with its new look on 25 January. Customers were able to use the facilities at the Romsey branch during the days Lancefield was closed. Lancefield Community Bank, at 20A High St, is open from 9.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 12 noon on Saturdays.



Ribbon cutting (from l-r: Maureen Wiltshire, David Plunkett and Russell Pattinson of Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Ltd)



Plaque unveiling (from l-r: Maureen Wiltshire and Russell Pattinson)



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ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL LANCEFIELD

WELCOME TO THE NEW SCHOOL YEAR

Welcome everyone to a brand new school year. We especially welcome our new preps and all our new families. The holidays seem like a thing of the past, as we settle back into the school routine and the many learning activities ahead.

PREP 2018

Our Preps are settling in well and enjoying the new experience of school. During February they have a day 'off' on Wednesday, which gives them a chance to rest and recharge as they settle into the longer school days. We wish them all the very best for an exciting year ahead!

RIVER DETECTIVES

St Mary's has been lucky enough to be accepted into the 2018 River Detectives Program. Run by North Central Waterwatch this program will focus on providing primary and secondary students with a hands-on education in waterway and catchment health. There are lots of activities, with the core activities focussing on habitat, water bug and water quality surveys. Students will have the chance to:

- Monitor their chosen waterway (we have chosen Deep Creek) once a month. This involves looking at water science and waterbug activities.
- Record the data they collect on the River Detectives website, allowing them to compare data, create graphs and explore what is happening in other parts of the waterway with other junior citizen scientists.
- Share their learning throughout the year, this could be through the Billabong banter or a water quality report/presentation at the end of the year.



Back Row (Sports Captains) - L to R - Maisie, Charlie, Sophie, Angus, Ned, Ruby, Sam & Eliza
Front Row (School Leaders) - L to R - Leila, Charlie, Matilda & Sofia

This is an exciting program for our students to be involved in and we look forward to the many discoveries ahead.

FUTURE SCHOOLS CONFERENCE

All staff at St Mary's will be attending the National Future Schools Expo & Conference in Melbourne on Wednesday 21st & Thursday 22nd March. Shaping the future of Australia's Schools, this conference combines technology, environment, pedagogy and curriculum. It should be an exciting couple of days and a wonderful learning experience. The staff look forward to sharing their learning with the students on their return.



2018 SCHOOL LEADERS

Congratulations to our 2018 School Leaders. We wish them well in the year ahead and hope they learn many valuable skills to take with them on their future learning journey.

SHROVE TUESDAY

On Tuesday 13th February students were involved in making pancakes for Shrove Tuesday, otherwise known as Pancake Tuesday. The prep students worked with their buddies in 5/6 to decorate them before devouring them! Students in Years 1-4 each had the opportunity to make their own pancake (with assistance) and then choose from various toppings before eating them! Afterward they wrote about the process

during their writing session. Well done to all the students for their patience and co-operation during this process. A big thank you to all our wonderful parent helpers whose assistance was very much appreciated by all.

First Term is only a short one, however it is always busy, with many learning opportunities for the students to get involved in. Our 3 - 6's have just participated in a week of swimming lessons at the Kilmore Leisure Centre and the whole school will be involved in a Walkathon on Friday 16th March. We congratulate the students on settling well into the new school year and wish all our students and their families a wonderful year ahead.

Jo Shannon
Community Liaison Leader

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COWS IN THE MIST

On Saturday 18 February, Lancefield experienced a heavy fog. At around 6.30 am, these cows were spotted feeding near the fenceline of paddocks on Chauncey Street. It was a beautiful and serene moment which begged to be photographed.

