

See page 18 for the future plans for your Town



## DID YOU SEE THAT BOOMERANG (BAG) FLYING BY?

Volunteers at the Lancefield Neighbourhood House are busy creating Boomerang Bags. These are bags made of fabric to be re-used instead of taking plastic bags from shops, supermarkets, etc. and throwing them away after one use. Boomerang Bags started in Queensland in 2013 when co-founders, Tania Potts and Jordyn de Boer dreamt of reducing plastic bags within their community at Burleigh Heads. The Boomerang Bags movement now has supporters and hundreds of dedicated volunteers in communities Australia-wide! The co-ordinator of Kyneton Boomerang Bags introduced members of the Lancefield Neighbourhood House to the concept and provided the Boomerang Bag pattern for the Lancefield group to follow. The whole venture begins and ends with sound principals of creative re-use of one product into another – and cutting down the waste of plastic bags in our community and environment.

When the Lancefield Mercury sleuths visited in January, three volunteers were cutting, constructing and packing the new Boomerang Bags. Led by Pat Danko, the production process is streamlined and, as well as being useful, is a pleasant morning's work for the participants. One volunteer (in this case Nichol Hebert) was cutting out the pattern from a very handsome second-hand men's shirt. Other fabrics –

and many of them were very smart, in particular some very edgy screen-printed fabric from someone's personal stash – were on the cutting board too! The construction process began when Lynne Barclay overlocked the individual pieces to keep them from fraying. Pat was edging the logo before it was attached to the front panel of the Bag. The next step was to join the back, front, sides and handles to create the bag. Before the Boomerang Logo can be attached, it first has to be screen-printed, and Nichol demonstrated this process. To date, the group have made 200 bags for distribution.

Being part of the team creating Boomerang Bags can be a fun as well as a useful contribution to our local community. At the moment, members of the Lancefield patchwork and quilters groups are making bags, as are some of the women from the CWA and the Neighbourhood House sewing class. The group meets on the second Wednesday of each month from 10 am to 12 pm at the House to produce bags and enjoy this worthwhile activity. The House provides an overlocker and sewing machine. To date, many individuals in the community have donated fabric. A Kyneton B&B have donated the old sheets and doona covers they no longer require, and these are great items with which to create our

*Continued on page 2*



Continued from page 1



viable entity. Once the group has been officially launched, bags will become available in shops such as the Lancefield Providore, the IGA and at the Farmers Market. They also are hoping to be able to leave bags at the Hardware store, the Nursery and Gift Shop, the General Store and other places around the town. Why not get involved?

For all enquiries and to volunteer phone Pat Danko on 0417 103 064 or phone the Neighbourhood House on 5429 1214. See you there!

Boomerang Bags. More fabric is required, however, and if you have any spare sheets or shirts, doona covers or dressing gowns, curtains or kaftans, they will be happily received. All items of fabric can be by left at either the Op Shop or the Neighbourhood House. The best fabrics are natural fibres such as cotton, linen, silk and wool, but of course poly-cottons are also fine. If you are thinking about donating your old curtains, just be aware that plastic-backed curtains are not ideal. And for those interested in upgrading plain fabrics, Pat will demonstrate how to tie-dye fabrics in your own washing machine. So, come along to the monthly production workshop – as well as making a meaningful contribution to the community and the environment – you will learn new skills (stitching, tie-dyeing and screen-printing) as well as meeting new people.

While the group currently have 200 ready-made Boomerang Bags, they are aiming to produce 500. With this number, the local group can be 'launched' and become a

# HANGING ROCK'S SECRETS FINALLY REVEALED



Hanging Rock March 1919. Clyde schoolgirls on the top of Hanging Rock soon after the school opened at Woodend on 10 March, 1919.

The first comprehensive chronicle of Hanging Rock has been released, "Hanging Rock – A History". Written by noted historian Dr Chris McConville and published by the Friends of Hanging Rock, this unprecedented book provides answers to many long-standing questions about the iconic landmark. Is its geology unique? Who were the traditional custodians? Was Joan Lindsay's story fact or fiction?

The Friends of Hanging Rock committee worked with McConville to draw together information collated over more than three years of research. Sifting through records in historical societies, archives, museums and libraries across the world, members discovered previously unknown material and records, including the earliest known painting of Hanging Rock from 1858, a watercolour by artist W.H.Burkitt. Friends of Hanging Rock President Luke Spielvogel said, "Hanging Rock has had a profound impact on Australian cultural identity."

This is the story of its shared social landscape which we think needed to be told. "There is a conversation currently that seeks to find a balance between commercial development and environmental value", Spielvogel added. "This book demonstrates that this friction has long existed here and of course far beyond the Rock. This place remains special for visitors who come for a picnic while also being an icon of global popular culture."

Better understanding that diversity of experience remains our great opportunity to ensure Hanging Rock retains its unique place in the Australian imagination." Legendary Australian broadcaster, writer and film-maker Phillip Adams, and supporter of the Friends group, has written the book's foreword, and describes it as "a fine book that

documents its geological rarity and its cultural significance to indigenous, white and other hued Australians".

The book was officially launched at the Newham Mechanics Institute in Newham, Victoria at 7.30 pm on Friday 8 December and is available for sale online and in bookstores.

More information can be found at [hangingrock.net.au](http://hangingrock.net.au). RRP \$ 29.99, 264 pages, 146 illustrations.



Dryden's Rock, Mount Macedon c. 1886. Artist unknown, engraving.

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# FIGHTING FOR A FUTURE OF



It is necessary to carry out a more comprehensive and physically intrusive investigation to assess and document the full extent of the termite damage.



# SEYMOUR COTTAGE

*The Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society Report on the current situation at the historic Seymour Cottage property from John Spring*

All society members and many in our regional community are now aware of the extensive termite damage to Seymour Cottage and outbuilding and the consequent safety and repair reasons for closing the building to the public in August 2017. See online article at <https://romseylancefieldhistorical.com.au/our-blog/item/9-seymour-cottage-update>

Temporary propping of roof structure support beams have now been carried out to arrest their structural deterioration. It is however necessary to carry out a more comprehensive and physically intrusive investigation to assess and document the full extent of the termite damage. The society cannot gain accurate quotations for rectification works without more detailed identification of the full extent of structural timbers needing replacement and other related repairs. Consequently the temporary removal and storage of all of Seymour Cottage's historic displays and chattels is necessary before the intrusive investigations in the roof, ceiling, walls and floors are undertaken.

The Council has indicated that it will contribute \$1,500 towards a steel storage shed-garage at the rear of the property. The total cost of which it is estimated at over double this grant amount.

The Society's recent application to the Macedon Ranges Shire Council for a 'People & Places' funding grant of \$8,000 towards completing the storage shed works plus the consultants termite related investigations and structural restoration works and repair costs has been unsuccessful. This rejection of the Society's urgency application for funds has been very disappointing and greatly effects the schedule of investigations and repairs and the realistic drafting of a strategic master plan.

Currently much of the repair discussions and financial estimates is just conjecture until investigative reports and works assessments are received and repair costs have been

quoted on by builders with experience in this type of historic restoration. The gardens and re-landscaping are another area of 'green thumb' works that need a new master strategy but can be implemented with dedicated local 'Friends of Seymour Cottage' people power. Can anyone help us in this 'garden & landscape' area?

Seymour Cottage is registered by Heritage Victoria and has town planning zoning control overlays which impose statutory responsibilities to obtain Heritage Permits (or permit exemptions) before undertaking any repairs and decorative changes. The Council's heritage consultant Ivar Nelsen has been most helpful in advising the Society with a preliminary strategic repair plan along with making several Heritage Permit exemption requests on our behalf. Heritage Victoria has an annual 'Living Heritage Grants' funding program and it is hoped that the Society may have better luck in an application for consultants costs and restoration funds in the 2018 new year. But the timing for all the necessary investigations, reports, restoration quotes and building repairs will now take much longer than initially estimated as other funding sources or grants must be obtained before proceeding.

The drafting of a master plan has also been set back because realistic options and costs cannot be generated until specialist reports are completed and appropriately experienced heritage consultants and builders provide comparative work quotes. The Society has resolved that it cannot authorise spending on consultants investigations and any building works without there being adequate covering funds and grants 'in our bank' to cover the expenditure payments. The potential for your Historical Society going bankrupt over these restoration processes and works is a continuing possibility and must be conservatively managed to ensure restoration and future use of Seymour Cottage property is a longer term success.

If you can assist please email the Society's Secretary at the [lancefieldcourthouse@gmail.com](mailto:lancefieldcourthouse@gmail.com)

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## CEMETERIES ARE UNDER PRESSURE

Cemetery trusts in the Macedon Ranges are facing various pressures, with one of the worries being an upsurge of interest from Melbourne suburban families seeking much cheaper country area sites for interment. The possibility of more liaison and co-operation between district cemeteries was flagged at a detailed information meeting convened by Lancefield Cemetery Trust late last year.

There are 11 volunteer-run cemeteries in the Macedon Ranges, with a majority represented at the get-together meeting held on a Sunday afternoon in the Lancefield Mechanics' Institute.

Cemeteries & Crematoria Association of Victoria president David Crowe – who is also CEO of the Greater Metropolitan Cemetery Trust – congratulated the Lancefield trust on its initiative in organising the event, and this was endorsed by Bryan Crampton, from the Department of Health and Human Services.

Lancefield trust chair Linda Reinsford said it was great to have the networking opportunity to meet members of other trusts, to talk about issues faced by cemeteries outside the metropolitan area, and to hopefully improve future practices. Ms Reinsford said a burning issue for Lancefield was the acquisition of land to cater for future needs; totally accurate and efficient keeping of records, cemetery maintenance and upkeep requirements, and

future recruitment of new and younger volunteers also need to be addressed.

Gisborne Cemetery Trust recently weighed up all considerations and is now managed by Geelong.

Representatives of Kyneton, Macedon and Woodend trusts were among those to provide important input. The dedicated Kyneton trust members are all retired, and they carry out extensive upkeep and maintenance.

Benefits of a cross-section of expertise on trusts was emphasised by several speakers.

“You can get young people ... they are out there,” stated Phillip Walton OAM, who gave a detailed summary of how Box Hill Cemetery had revived over the past seven years and was now a multi-million enterprise as the result of a total business approach.

He advocated CCAV and DHHS establishing a sound business model to secure the future of all Victorian cemeteries.

Huge differentials between some metropolitan and country cemeteries were outlined, with examples of non-locals showing increasing interest in utilising the latter being given.

There are 470 Class B cemeteries in Victoria all run by volunteers.

Mr Crampton said community expectations have risen,

as have governance, and some trusts are finding it difficult to meet expectations.

Frustrations over vandalism and robberies at some cemeteries were voiced.

The ‘local network’ scenario for Macedon Ranges trusts was suggested as a possible way forward.

Occupational health and safety requirements are much stricter than in the past; some instances of a minority of stonemasons and other people being in cemeteries without the knowledge of the relevant trust were given.

Karl Bates, from GMCT, outlined details of the OH&S third party system and provided examples of flagrant breaches of the law detected in cemeteries. Offenders can incur heavy penalties.

Mr Crowe said CCTV was more than happy to help district trusts further into the future.

He said he had inspected the Lancefield cemetery recently, and his reaction was “How good is this”. Lancefield cemetery also caters for the fast growing Romsey area.

Promotion of cemetery trusts is soon to be undertaken by the State Government.

Bill West

## SPLIT PERSONALITY

Why is Australia a nation of split personalities? It is one of the few countries where one can have two nationalities. It has even people in its parliament with multiple nationalities.

When I became an Australian in 1957, I had to renounce my Dutch nationality and swear allegiance to our Australian Queen Elizabeth. How can a person serve multiple countries? What a madness! Can your right side be labor and your left side liberal and what if you want to support other parties or nations?

Just as well, that our Government refers this silly business to the High Court because it is a legal matter in breach of our Australian constitution. It's not a matter for politicians to solve. One is either an Australian or not.

Murk Schoen

## GARAGE SALE

Riddells Creek Neighbourhood House is organising a ‘Whole Town Garage Sale’ on Saturday February 17! Only \$5 to register to sale and \$3 for a map. Details from the Neighbourhood House on 5428 7836 or rcnh@westnet.com.au

### LANCEFIELD MERCURY INC.

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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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## LONG TABLE LUNCH

The first Long Table Lunch will be held on Sunday 18th February, 2018 from 12:30pm to 5:00pm. The venue is the East End Plantation, High Street, Lancefield (opposite the Mechanics Hall). Tickets are \$60 per head for a delicious three course meal. Drinks are at bar prices and numbers are strictly limited to 200 people. Ticket purchases can be made online through Try Booking at [www.trybooking.com/TPSS](http://www.trybooking.com/TPSS) or [www.trybooking.com/344570](http://www.trybooking.com/344570)

For details: Kaylene Cruise 0447 364 497 : [crybeck@bigpond.com](mailto:crybeck@bigpond.com) , Michelle Rix 0413 183 387 : [rixlancefield@bigpond.com](mailto:rixlancefield@bigpond.com) or Loraine Kraus 54291520

This is a community event, run by a volunteer group, to assist the Football/Netball/Tennis Clubs to raise funds for construction of multi-purpose netball/tennis courts to be located on the western boundary of the Lancefield Park. The new facility will be open to the public at all times and is desperately needed to cater to the growing number of youth in our area. Sponsorship or support would be greatly appreciated, should anyone be in a position to assist.

"Proudly sponsored by Lancefield Community Branch of Bendigo Bank".

## MEGAFUNA FUN AND GAMES

Saturday 25 November 2017 was a very busy day in Lancefield. It was the day of the Extinct Lancefield Megafauna Festival. Activities included a tour of the Mount William Axe Quarry, scientists spoke about the latest Megafauna research, music was played to entertain and an art exhibition featured local and other work. As well as these happenings taking place during the day of the Farmers Market, the program included children's activities aimed to educate.

The Fossil Discovery Show was one of the highlights of the day. Over three sessions, around 60 children – mainly from school years 3 to 5 – enjoyed the fun and highly educative presentation by Brett Hoppenbrouwer of Fizzics Education. Brett, a science graduate, entertained and challenged the enthusiastic youngsters as he quizzed their knowledge of the types of megafauna found in Australia. Working in groups, the children themselves discovered a number of fossils and were taught how to gently brush away the sand they were laying in. As he told stories and questioned the audience of young minds, the children were mesmerised by his words. Observing the responses of the children, their parents and grandparents, it was an exciting experience for all.



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Always plenty of chat and laughter whenever we are together.

### MONTHLY MEETINGS

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 10am Thursday 22nd February, 2018

### WEBSITE

Check out our website for information about the Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club [rlprobus.org.au](http://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.

### VALE:

We were all saddened by the death of our Probus Member and friend Donn Gray. Donn passed away just a few days before Christmas. Donn was a very well known and much loved character in Lancefield and Romsey. He was a gentle man and had a great sense of humour. 'Rest in Peace Donn'.

President: Gerard Hanrahan 5429 5630

Secretary: Jenifer Clampit 5429 5480

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Dr Olive has lived and studied in Italy for a number of years, then taught Italian language, literature and history at the University of Sydney. Kathleen now works with Academy Travel, leading tours to Europe and, particularly, Italy.

The event will be held at the wonderful Cope-Williams Winery, Conference Centre, 160 Glenfern Rd, Romsey. Entry is \$45 cash or cheque payable on the day. Prior registration



is required.

Please register by calling Norma on 5427 4918 or 0419 234 012 or email: adfascenvic@gmail.com

Thursday 8th February 2018

Entry cost includes a light lunch, a glass of wine in addition to lecture. Lunch will be served at 12md and the lecture commences at 1pm sharp.

We look forward to welcoming you for the first 2018 ADFAS CV event.

DON'T LET LANCEFIELD BECOME A CULTURAL BLACK HOLE



Our Council has put out ideas on a municipal Arts & Culture Strategy for the next 10 years – but again Lancefield and the east of the Shire are in danger of being left off the map. The Council website has an online survey to give residents the chance to comment on the preparation of the strategy, but Lancefield has been left in the shadows of Kyneton, Gisborne and Woodend. I call on our residents to participate in the survey and call for a fairer balance for Lancefield, Romsey and the east.

For example, one of the survey questions asks for support for a number of planning options – including a capital works program for the provision of new cultural facilities in Gisborne, Kyneton and Woodend. Excuse me, but why aren't Lancefield and/or Romsey on that list?

The survey asks about support for regular exhibitions at Kyneton Museum. What about support for some exhibitions and displays for our historical society at the

old Lancefield Courthouse? Council says the strategy will guide how it promotes, supports and invests in arts and culture in the Shire over the next 10 years. It's our job to ensure that the focus is not just limited to the towns in the west.

Lancefield has a thriving arts and culture scene, with our cafes and eateries, tourist attractions and a wonderful focus for events and exhibitions at our exceptional Lancefield Mechanics Institute hall. Let's build on these features and really make a name for our town.

Let's all participate in the survey – at <http://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/About-Council/News/Have-Your-Say/Help-shape-our-Arts-and-Culture-Strategy> - and make sure that Lancefield is front and centre as the Council develops its plans for the next 10 years.

Cr Henry Bleeck

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## FORWARD IN FAITH

As we enter the New Year with all its hope and fears, what better way to start the year than putting ourselves into the hand of God, the One who made us, knows us, loves and sustains us and died for us that we might know Him and be in fellowship with Him. This Christmas season was the most Christless one I have ever experienced, no traditional carols or manger and wise men, shepherds or Angels pictured in the marketplace but plenty of cash registers ringing to the tune of the commercial, secular, froth and bubble. Our Nation has turned its back on its Christian heritage, especially here in Victoria, with all the radical programmes in progress to change our society.

When Jesus taught those of His day, many of his followers found His teaching too hard so they turned away from him. Jesus then asked the twelve disciples, "You do not want to leave too, do you?" Peter replied, "To whom shall we go, for You have the words of eternal life. We believe and know You are the holy One of God." (John 6.66-69).

Well said, Peter! Jesus is the One we should look to - to strengthen and guide us in the days ahead of 2018. As King

George VI quoted in WW2, "Go out into the darkness and put your hand into the hand of God that will be better than a light and safer than a known way".

*"Forth in Your Name, O Lord, I go, my daily labour to pursue;*

*You, only You, resolved to know, In all I think or speak or do." Charles Wesley.*

For Christmas, a packed car of goods and gifts were delivered to Anglicare by Betty and Max for some Christmas cheer for Melbourne's needy families. During January our diligent Op. Shop team have been working hard sorting and cleaning for the 2018 season of operation.

We hope and pray that 2018 will be a happy and prosperous year to all in our community.

### FEBRUARY 2018 DIARY

Feb.13th. KYB – Know Your Bible Studies - Open to all - commencing – Feb. 13th @ 10.30 am. Christ Church Lancefield Hall.

Studies will be on – Genesis Chapters 1-11 - "In the beginning..." Cost - \$8 per book

Each person will need a book as you will have questions to answer and there is provision for them to be written in your book. Rev. Jeannie will lead the studies.

Wed. 14th Ash Wednesday (40 days of Lent begins) 9am - Holy Communion - St. Paul's Romsey. 7pm Christ Church Lancefield.

Wed. 21st Parish Council 7.30pm - Christ Church Lancefield.

March 2018 Fri. 2nd March - 11am - Christ Church Lancefield

World Day of Prayer Service\*\* - compiled by the Christian women of Suriname - on the N.E.coast of South America. Their theme is - "All God's Creation Is Very Good."

The churches of Romsey/Lancefield unite for this service and members of our community are warmly encouraged to join us.

Guest speaker - Reverend Lilian Morgan. - DipStud. MCD; SRN; Dip.Th. Ridley

Please bring a plate to share Enq. Glenice 5429-6418. Church Services Held - Holy Communion 9am St. Paul's Romsey 10.30am Christ Church Lancefield.

Locum Minister Rev. Jeannie Woollard 0413-877-906

Correspondent Doreen Morgan

## MUSIC FESTIVAL

The 6th annual Macedon Ranges Music Festival is set to take off again on March 3rd at the Gisborne Steam Park. The family friendly event will be headlined by Mick Thomas, the legendary singer and songwriter of Australian folk/rock band Weddings Parties Anything. Thomas, accompanied by long-time collaborator Squeezebox Wally, will appear alongside a line-up of acts from the Macedon Ranges and across Australia. The event is entirely volunteer-run and proudly donates 100% of its ticket sales directly to the non-profit organisation, Cambodian Kids Foundation (CKF). The 2017 festival raised almost \$20,000 for CKF. The festival appeals to all ages with a diverse range of musical genres from folk and jazz to blues and rock evolving throughout the afternoon and into the evening upon the doorstep of the extraordinary Mount Macedon.

The festival also hosts a Youth Zone with featured performances from the Youth Stage Competition, jumping castle, face painting and other kid's activities.

Three local sideshows will also take place in music venues across the Macedon Ranges throughout February. For more information on these shows and the festival line-up visit our website [www.macedonrangesmusicfestival.org](http://www.macedonrangesmusicfestival.org)

The festival would like to thank major sponsors Gisborne & District Bendigo Bank and the Macedon Ranges Shire Council for their support. Early bird tickets are on sale now via the festival website; Adult - \$20, Concession - \$15, kids under 12 free. [www.macedonrangesmusicfestival.org](http://www.macedonrangesmusicfestival.org)

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# ARE YOU PREPARED THIS SUMMER?

If an emergency such as a bushfire occurs in the shire, Council is the lead agency for emergency relief and recovery and will provide a range of assistance to help those affected.

## WHAT TO DO IN AN EMERGENCY

If an emergency such as a bushfire occurs and you need to leave your home, Council will open an Emergency Relief Centre. This centre is located well away from the affected area and the location will be broadcast on radio, social media and online, [www.emergency.vic.gov.au](http://www.emergency.vic.gov.au)

Services available at emergency relief centres:

- Food and water
- Personal support
- Temporary accommodation
- Information

A place to bring your pets (make sure you bring a leash or cage, food, water bowls and anything else they may need).

## RECOVERING FROM AN EMERGENCY

Following the immediate emergency, as soon as possible after the event and where necessary, Council will open a recovery centre. This centre will be located as close as possible to the affected area.

At a recovery centre you can get information about emergency grants, clean-up, health and wellbeing, housing and insurance. You can also register for assistance including counselling, hazardous tree assessment and water tank cleaning and refill if needed.

Immediately following an event, Council works with other agencies to assess the impact of the event. You may receive a visit from staff or volunteers who will be checking to see how you are managing after the incident and assessing damage to your property, animals and fencing.

Experience shows that those people who have prepared their property and have a bushfire survival plan recover more quickly from an emergency.



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**APPLY NOW.**

## 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 will open on Monday 19 February and applications will be due in by Friday 30 March 2018.

Contact Sally Peeler at [marketing@lancefieldromseybank.com.au](mailto:marketing@lancefieldromseybank.com.au) to be included in our community database.

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## BE PART OF THE FIRST EVER FLASH MOB AT HANGING ROCK

What do a pink ribbon, white frock and straw boater hat have in common?

In February, fans of Hanging Rock and the iconic Picnic at Hanging Rock story will channel their inner Miranda as part of a special flash mob dance event, featuring moves such as the "Corset Conga" and the "Miranda Mirror".

Starting with a series of community and school dance workshops and culminating in a mass performance on 24 February, Too Many Mirandas is an opportunity to get involved in a large-scale community event that celebrates an iconic Australian story and landmark.

Open to everyone, participants can choose to become a "Master Miranda" by attending a dance workshop, or simply pick up the basic Miranda dance moves during rehearsals on the day. Spectators are also welcome.

### THE EVENT

The event will take place in the East Paddock, adjacent to Hanging Rock. School and community workshops will be held in Gisborne, Lancefield, Woodend and Kyneton in January and February.

The community workshops will go for 1 hour and be held from 9.30–10.30am and 11–12noon on the following dates:

- Sunday 28 January—Kyneton Town Hall
- Sunday 4 February—Woodend Children's Park
- Sunday 11 February—Lancefield Plantation
- Sunday 18 February—John Aitken Reserve, Gisborne

### TOO MANY MIRANDAS

Too Many Mirandas was conceived by Council's Arts and Culture team as a way to support community involvement in the arts and mark the 50th Anniversary of Joan Lindsay's novel, Picnic at Hanging Rock.

The project is funded by a \$20,000 grant from Creative Victoria's Regional Partnerships program. Inspired by The Most Wuthering Heights Day Ever, a dance event held annually in Melbourne, it aims to bring the community together for a fun-filled activity that is unique to the Macedon Ranges.

To register for the event or dance workshops, and to receive project updates via email visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/toomanymirandas](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/toomanymirandas).



## ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN EXTRA CURRICULAR ACTIVITY FOR YOUR CHILD?

*Would you like to help your child develop life skills whilst enjoying what they are doing?*

*Is your child aged between 7 and 14?*

*Have you ever thought about the scouting movement?*

Scouting can give your child life long skills to help them through all stages of their life just ask our Chief Scout of Scouts Victoria Shane Jacobson of Kenny and Oddball fame "Scouting provided me with memories, skills and friendships that will last my lifetime. I was shown great leadership and as a result, I believe I became a good team player in the game of life." Another famous Aussie Dick Smith AO said "I owe a lot to scouting. It had to be the most fantastic influence on my life. It taught me responsible risk taking"

Past scout members from around the world that have credited scouting to a part of their learning include Nelson Mandela, Sir Richard Branson, Bear Grylls, Sir Richard Attenborough, David Beckham, Bill Gates, Barack Obama and ever wondered where Steven Spielberg made his first



movie.... As part of his Photography merit badge! To read more visit [www.scoutsvictoria.com.au](http://www.scoutsvictoria.com.au)

Romsey scouts returns after the summer break on Monday 5th Feb whilst cubs resume Tuesday 6th Feb. New children are more than welcome to come and have a look at a session for free to see if they may enjoy the adventure. The cub group is also looking for an assistant cub leader so if any adults would like to reconnect with their scout experience please let us know. Further inquiries [1stromsey@gmail.com](mailto:1stromsey@gmail.com) or check out our fb page 1st Romsey/Lancefield scout group

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# THE FUTURE OF YOUR

## COMMUNITY FEEDBACK SOUGHT ON NEW LOCALISED PLANNING STATEMENT

The Macedon Ranges community is being urged to have its say on a new Victorian Government policy that aims to protect and enhance the shire's significant values and strengthen planning controls.

The draft Macedon Ranges Localised Planning Statement aims to provide a balanced approach for ensuring that future development does not detract from the state significant values that make the Macedon Ranges special.

It includes proposed new settlement boundaries for the townships of Gisborne, Kyneton, Romsey, Riddells Creek, Lancefield and Woodend that if approved, would only be able to be amended with parliamentary approval. It also complements new legislation—The Planning and Environment Amendment (Distinctive Areas and Landscapes) Bill 2017—which was introduced into Parliament on Wednesday to provide a high level of planning protection to the region.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council Mayor, Cr Jennifer Anderson said planning is an important issue for the shire. "When we were preparing our Council Plan last year, we could see there was a strong desire among locals to ensure our towns maintain their character and that any future growth is managed appropriately.

We've listened to our community and I encourage residents to take the time to review the draft statement and have their say to let us know if this is the right way forward."

In 2015 the Victorian Government established the Macedon Ranges Protection Advisory Committee to work with the community, Council and Traditional Owner groups on how best to protect the shire's unique values

and landscape. The committee made 12 recommendations, which were accepted by the government and formed the basis for the draft statement and the new legislation.

Information sessions will be held across the shire from 30 January:

Town	Venue	Date and time
Kyneton	Kyneton Mechanics Institute 81 Mollison St, Kyneton VIC 3444	Tuesday 30 January 2018 3.00pm – 7.30pm
Gisborne	Gisborne Community Centre (Hall) 8a Hamilton Street, Gisborne 3437	Thursday 1 February 2018 3.00pm – 7.30pm
Romsey	Romsey Community Centre (Monegeetta Room) 96-100 Main Road, Romsey 3434	Thursday 8 February 2018 3.00pm – 7.30pm
Woodend	Woodend Community Centre (Hall, near library) Corner of Forest and High Streets, Woodend 3442	Tuesday 6 February 2018 4.00pm – 7.30pm

To view the consultation draft and find out more about how to have your say, visit: [planning.vic.gov.au/macedon-ranges-protection](http://planning.vic.gov.au/macedon-ranges-protection)

# TOWN!

## SAY NO TO THE DESTRUCTIVE MADNESS OF URBAN SPRAWL.

8000 people in Lancefield? Join our forums to explore ideas for the creation of thriving communities.... communities whose security is strongly underpinned by clear prescriptions for sustainable development.

Let's discuss ideas which have the potential to save us all from the planning crisis into which the draft of the Localised Planning Statement threatens to plunge us.

*Say Yes To Growth* that truly protects the character of our towns and region.

We're at a crossroads in the Macedon Ranges. Do we give in to the prospect of embracing the urban sprawl we see around the outskirts of Melbourne, or do we search for a different path that concentrates on making our towns and rural areas more vibrant and sustainable?

The Localised Planning Statement (up for your feedback by 19th February) takes us down the destructive growth path – it expands town boundaries beyond the existing and generous allocation in the Shire's recent Settlement Strategy, adding hundreds and hundreds of hectares for development; it doesn't give specific policy direction to new dwellings in rural areas outside towns; it doesn't say that the existing town and rural character must be preserved, only that this should be encouraged.

Residents who don't want this will *say no* to the proposed Localised Planning Statement. But having said *No*, what will we say *Yes* to?? We need creative thinking and deliberation by local residents about how our Shire will grow:

What kind of housing do we want, and where?

Let's talk about the benefits of medium density and infill housing development

What do we want for our town centres?

What alternatives are there to cure our addiction to the car?

What are the options for moving around our towns and between towns?

What mix of agriculture, conservation and rural living do we want in each part of the Shire?

How can we prescribe the creation of bio-links/habitat restoration and protection?


Let's talk about the benefits of town advisory groups.

These Forums are timed to catch you when you're thinking about these issues. They are an opportunity to hear the ideas of other people who are sick of reacting to bad planning proposals, and crave discussion that brings out the best of what we want. We are aiming for sketch plans for the future to which developers can respond, not blank spaces on maps that get filled with urban sprawl.

At each Forum, a keynote speaker will open up our thinking about planning topics. We will hear about alternatives to what is proposed in the LPS.

The Forums will be a first pass to gather ideas, and link up with residents who want to take these ideas further. We need on-going conversation, but we have link up to make that happen. The Forum for Democratic Renewal, a voluntary movement of Macedon Ranges residents who want to do democracy differently, will document and communicate the results; the people who will drive it, with their local knowledge, professional experience, creativity and their own time, will be you, the people who want growth which is designed to make communities and the environment thrive.

The first forum was in Kyneton, two other forums are in Woodend and Romsey on February 6 and 8. For more information phone Rob Bakes on 5422 1808, Ross Colliver on 0411 226 519 or email [macedonrangesec@gmail.com](mailto:macedonrangesec@gmail.com)



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**LANCEFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE**  
78 High Street, PO Box 171 Lancefield 3435; Phone: 5429 1214; Email: lancefieldhouse@tpg.com.au; Web: www.macedoncommunity.org

The Neighbourhood House Program of Activities for January to April has been distributed around the town. If you did not receive a copy they can be collected from The Town House, Lancefield Bakery, The Corner Store and Mad Gallery or phone the House on 5429 1214.

There are six Neighbourhood Houses in the Macedon Ranges, each House runs different courses and activities – program brochures for each House can be collected from The Town House.

At Lancefield we have some great new classes running this term which include workshops on basic car maintenance, a Floristry Course which covers contemporary floristry design, a mosaics class and an introductory Wordpress course. The weekly yoga class will continue this year, there is an error in the brochure – yoga will actually start on Monday 29 January. Also continuing are the scrapbooking mornings and the sewing classes. There is also our regular activities of meditation, craft group, card afternoon, Friday morning bike ride and decorative painting class.

**STOP PRESS**

A First Aid Certificate will be held on 17 March. This course covers CPR updates, bi-annual renewal of Certificates and

the Certificate required for employment. Bookings through [www.lancefield.org.au/lancefieldhouse](http://www.lancefield.org.au/lancefieldhouse).

More information about all of the above and more can be found in the Program or by visiting [www.lancefield.org.au/lancefieldhouse](http://www.lancefield.org.au/lancefieldhouse).

We are very excited to be hosting a series of Damanhur workshops in February. The Federation of Damanhur, often called simply Damanhur, is a commune, ecovillage, and spiritual community situated in the Piedmont region of northern Italy. Damanhur in Australia will be running workshops covering a range of eco spiritual topics in Lancefield from February 7 – 12. There is a free introductory evening on Wednesday 7th. For more information about Damanhur visit their website or Facebook page, for more information on the workshops phone Gwen, 0407687998, or Jodie 0458811442

In another really exciting project the Neighbourhood House is partnering with the Shire to run a pilot for a Fire Safety initiative. The Shire has received funding to run six courses for women which will cover handling a chainsaw, petrol pumps, generators and other skills which could be lifesaving during a fire or other emergency. The course will cover a day of chainsaw sculpting with sculptor Angie Polyglaze – the artist who carved the bone tree and reptile seat at Lancefield Park – and you get to keep your

chainsaw. More information about this course, and the Intrepid Women Day where it will be launched, will be available on the [lancefield.org](http://lancefield.org) web site, on flyers around town or call the House and talk to Vivien on 5429 1214.

The Neighbourhood House has a new photocopier and a folding machine. The copier has the ability to fold and staple booklets and the folding machine can create a wide variety of fold options for A4 or A3 paper. Phone the House for prices.

The Lancefield Ballroom Dancing group is reuniting for a commemorative dance night to celebrate the life of Donnn Gray (the last two 'n's are silent). Don loved dancing and was part of the Lancefield group which the Neighbourhood House ran for five years. Don's Dance Party is being organised for the near future, everyone is welcome, please register your interest in attending through the House.

To receive updates about activities and news in Lancefield register on the [lancefield.org](http://lancefield.org) website. Alternatively you can read the flyers in The Town House window or drop in and talk to one of our wonderful volunteers. To be posted updates phone the House for this to be organised.

**DISTRACTION IS THE ENEMY**

At Bike Safe Macedon Ranges, we are big advocates of a shared responsibility model to road safety. As car drivers and cyclists, fathers and mothers, sons and daughters we need to look out for ourselves and for others on our roads. Unfortunately, the best infrastructure in the world and being visible by running day time lights, for example, can only work if drivers are paying attention. In the world of the "smart" phone, too many of us feel the need to always be on our phones, the fear of missing out.

We live in a country where many of us are privileged enough to own a car. Yet, we seem to treat that privilege to drive as a background activity, something that we can do while doing something else like reading or looking at our phones. Is that fear of missing out enough to risk the life of another on our roads? When you drive, there is nothing more important than piloting that vehicle safely. Everything else can wait.

Please, please concentrate on driving and leave that phone until you stop. We owe it to ourselves and to our community.

Jem Richards,  
President,  
Bike Safe Macedon Ranges

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**THE MOUNT PLAYERS HAPPENINGS**

Rehearsals are already in full swing for our first show of 2018. A powerful drama, *The Offshore Island* is being directed by Cherry Servis and runs from 9 March - 25 March. Set in England some 10 years after a nuclear explosion, a widow and her family have lived in a valley untouched by the war or its subsequent contamination. They have had no contact with the outside world until one day a group of Americans arrive. The family's initial delight and gratitude soon gives way to concern. Written in 1954 at the height of the Cold War the story still rings true today, although with different protagonists. Tickets are now selling.

**AUDITIONS FOR LES MISERABLES**

Yes, this incredibly popular musical will be staged at our own Mount View Theatre in August! Director, Andrew Meldrum along with the company is extremely excited and invite anyone who is interested in being a part of this experience to contact producer Karlana on 0412 131 260 for full details and to book an audition time. Auditions will be held will be held on the first three weekends of February, Saturdays 10.am – 4.pm, Sundays 10.am -1.pm.

All in all a huge year ahead for the theatre which we are sure our patrons will thoroughly enjoy. To book tickets please visit our website [www.themountplayers.com](http://www.themountplayers.com)

See you at the theatre!

Karen Hunt

**FLORA AND FAUNA**

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has started work on two new projects that will protect and enhance the shire's unique natural environment and is inviting feedback from the community at a series of drop-in sessions to be held in February. All feedback received at the drop-in sessions will inform the development of two important strategic documents—a Landscape Assessment Study that recognises the importance of the shire's unique landscapes and a Biodiversity Strategy to protect the many plants and animals that call the Macedon Ranges home.

The Landscape Assessment Study will review significant views and vistas in publically accessible locations across the shire, focusing on the visual, cultural and historic qualities of these landscapes. The Biodiversity Strategy will outline a shared vision for the protection and enhancement of ecological values across the shire.

The drop-in sessions will be held on:

Monday 12 February, 4pm–6pm, Gisborne Community Centre, 8am Hamilton Street

Thursday 15 February, 5pm–7pm, Room 3 at Kyneton Mechanics Institute, 81 Mollison Street

Wednesday 21 February, time to be confirmed, Lancefield Neighbourhood House, 78 High Street

For more information:

Landscape Assessment Study, call Liz Jardine on 5421 9684. Biodiversity Strategy, call Krista Patterson-Majoor on 5421 9503.

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All Enquiries for Jack Richmond 0411429003

or Helena Richmond 0437365700

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# HAPPY NEW YEAR TO ALL RESIDENTS

We have some really good news for all our you... (please read on) For most, business and pleasure is not the same thing. When asked: 'Are you here for business or pleasure?' people often mean: 'Are you here because you have to be or want to be?'

Christianity was designed to be a wonderful relationship with God - not a religion. Sadly, the greatest obstacle for many people coming to Christianity is religion. It has turned what should be a pleasure into a business. Religion, burdened with its numerous works, rituals, cults, intolerance and atrocities, has distorted the true meaning of Christianity.

God isn't interested in religion - He doesn't need our insignificant works or our meagre money to complete His purpose, (Ephesians 2:8-9). He is God, the Creator of the universe - Governor of the laws that sustain science - Possessor of all knowledge and riches. God doesn't need our help - we need His. God is like a loving parent whose children have run away. His greatest desire is for us to choose to come back to Him. God created mankind with free will. He cannot and will not force anyone to love Him. We are created in His image - just as we desire people to freely

love us, so too does God want us to freely love Him.

God desires a personal relationship with each of us. As a parent, He wants to protect and provide for us. He wants to impart His wisdom. His rules are written not to spoil our chance at happiness, but to increase it. Christianity is not a set of meaningless rituals, but a restoration of a family relationship with our Heavenly Father.

*You will show me the path of life; in Your presence is fullness of joy; at Your right hand are pleasures forevermore. Psalm 16:11.*

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.

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

## Disability Support Worker

We are currently looking for a support worker to assist a male client in Lancefield. Providing high care support, managing challenging behaviours, providing social, rehabilitation support and companionship. If you are interested please email your resume to care@ability1.com.au or call Louise on 08 9367 4400



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### MASS TIMES

1st & 3rd Sunday of the month:  
8:00am Lancefield and 10:00 am Romsey  
2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month:  
8:00 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 - January 7th, March 4th, May 6th, July 1st, September 2nd & November 4th.

2018 - Lancefield Church - February 11th, April 8th, 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 Sacraments in 2018 are invited to email their details to the secretary at lancefield@cam.org.au to register your child. Information will be sent out early in 2018 with the Sacramental schedule for the year.

Like us at <https://www.facebook.com/stmarysparishlancefieldromsey/> to keep up with parish activities and news.

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# YOUTH MENTAL HEALTH FIRST AID TRAINING PROGRAM

Youth Mental Health First Aid training is back for 2018 and residents are invited to register for one of the sessions. The training program teaches adults how to provide first aid to young people who are developing mental health problems, experiencing a worsening of an existing problem or in a mental health crisis.

The practical and interactive program includes information about adolescent development, identifying signs and symptoms of mental health problems and how to encourage young people to access support.

The following sessions will be held:

Thursday 15 and Friday 16 March, 9am–5pm at Romsey Neighbourhood House. Friday 20 and 27 April, 9am–5pm at Kyneton Town Hall (teachers only). Friday 15 and 22 June, 9am–5pm at Kyneton Town Hall. Tuesday 7, 24, 31 July and 7 August, 6.30pm–10pm at Holgate Brewhouse (evening sessions, men only). Saturday 13 October, 9am–5pm and Tuesday 16 and 23 October, 6pm–9.30pm at Gisborne Administration Centre, Council Chambers.

Cost: \$30 for residents, \$150 for non-residents.

For more information, contact Loren Polzot on 5422 0275 or email [lpolzot@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:lpolzot@mrsc.vic.gov.au)

## AMBULANCE AUXILIARY

The Romsey-Lancefield & District Ambulance Auxiliary is pleased to announce the placement of two more AEDs (Automatic External Defibrillators) into the community.

One is attached to the outside of the Romsey Ambulance station and the other will be placed outside the Lancefield Police station. Both these AEDs will be accessible 24hrs/day.

A community training session will be held soon.

For further information contact: Helen Richardson 0448208655

## COUNCIL EMAIL

Get the latest Council news delivered direct to your inbox

This change means that the news can be delivered to you faster, making it more up-to-date. By printing less editions we can also reduce our carbon footprint.

Sign-up at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/eNews](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/eNews) to ensure you receive the latest news about Council projects, services and events happening in the Macedon Ranges. While you're there, you can also choose to subscribe to one or more of our other eNewsletters about a range of topics including aquatics and leisure, arts and culture, business, environment, disability and family services.

## MY STORY- MICK MARRETT

"I've created my facebook page because I want to make a difference. I'm inspired by the work that beyondblue does and want to support them. I will be completing a 24 hour run/walk across the Mitchell shire on February 17. The aim of this is to place myself in a situation that is out of my comfort zone, as anyone who experiences depression and or anxiety are placed in uncomfortable positions everyday of their life. Through my job, my sporting club, my family and friends I hear too much the pain these people are in. If I can impact one life via this run then maybe I can inspire someone else to impact others. Every donation helps and makes a significant impact to mental health in Australia, so thank you for your generosity. Thank you for supporting beyondblue!"

Mick Marrett is currently training extremely hard to build his fitness so he can run/walk a marathon to raise money and awareness about mental health issues. He is working with *beyondblue* in order to raise funds and will complete this marathon on February 17. I had the privilege of been Mick's manager for many years and during this time Mick was involved in a serious accident that almost took his life and it took a lot of courage and determination to overcome. His heart is really in this worthy course and he is reaching out to the community to try and help those in need of support and to raise



awareness of this debilitating condition.

Our business is sponsoring Mick and I think it would be great if we could encourage more people to get behind him. He trains and works with a lot of people who travel from Lancefield to him regularly at the Leisure Centre in Kilmore. Therefore he has a strong following from this community who I am sure would get behind him if they were aware of what he is aiming to achieve.

For more info check out <http://beyondblue-individual.everydayhero.com/au/a-step-in-the-right-direction> or <https://www.facebook.com/runthemitchellshire/>

Helen Milner

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

Private lessons are available by arrangement.

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Email: [james@jamesumarac.com](mailto:james@jamesumarac.com)

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[www.wulinretreat.com](http://www.wulinretreat.com)

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## SMALL BORE RIFLE CLUB

Our Club enjoyed a successful finish to 2017. In the TRV Commonwealth Ladies Pennant our team won the Club Scratch results and was second in the handicap class. Congratulations Anita, Karyn, Tarsha, Kate and Melissa. The Numurkah Postal competition results had Lancefield shooters Rodger, Max & Tarsha taking out the top three places in A Grade Air Supported, whilst Max took out 1st prize in B Grade 20m Bench and Anita 3rd place in D Grade 20m Bench competitions.

All members enjoyed a pre-Christmas BBQ and award presentation evening and following a short break, the Club is now back for practice sessions and planning the next competition entries.

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. Our Club has ranges for 10m Air Rifle and 20m Air Bench, Rimfire Prone and Bench Rest which offers shooting styles and classes for people of all ages and of varying physical abilities. If you would like to know more about our activities please ring our Club Secretary Max on 54 292259.

## GRANTS AVAILABLE

Council's annual Events and Festivals Grant Program will open to the public from 1 March 2018, a month earlier than in the past. The program is a dedicated fund for organisers seeking funds and other Council support specifically for events and festivals. Funding is available for not-for-profit and commercial activities that deliver benefit to Macedon Ranges residents.

The program has been redesigned with options available for festivals and events of every size and type and include:

**TIER 1** - designed to support small scale events or festivals up to \$2,000 cash and \$1,000 in-kind support.

**TIER 2** - designed to support events or festivals that provide a strong economic and community benefit to the shire up to \$6,000 cash and \$500 in-kind.

**TIER 3** - designed to support major, large scale events and festivals which display significant economic and/or community benefit to the shire. Applicants can apply for a multi-year agreement with \$6,000 to \$10,000 available per year.

Details of the in kind support available including some permit fees, bin hire and cleaning of public amenities can be found in the grant kits on Council's website.

The guidelines are now available to view at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/grants](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/grants)

For more information, call Bridgette O'Brien on 5421 9521 or email [bobrien@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:bobrien@mrsc.vic.gov.au)

## REGISTER NOW FOR WOMEN'S NETBALL AND BASKETBALL

Would you like to play netball or basketball?

Buffalo Sports Stadium in Woodend offers women's day and night netball competitions and The Stadium in Gisborne has a Thursday morning basketball competition.

The Monday morning netball competition games are played from 9am. Tuesday night netball games begin at 7.10pm. Thursday morning basketball games are played from 9.30am.

New and experienced players welcome. Register as an individual or as a team—a number of teams are seeking extra players and new teams are always welcome. The next season begins in February.

Family friendly competition, with no games in the school holidays, and children are welcome to attend.

To register your interest in netball, contact Buffalo Sports Centre on 542 7 3411 or email [buffalo@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:buffalo@mrsc.vic.gov.au).

To register for basketball, visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/thestadium](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/thestadium) or call 5428 1619.

## 60 IN 2018

Macedon Ranges Health (MRH) celebrates its 60th Birthday in 2018. Since starting as the Gisborne Bush Nursing hospital in 1958, MRH has grown to become one of regional Victoria's most comprehensive primary health and aged care services.

We will share this fantastic milestone with the local community through a range of socially inclusive, accessible events in March and April 2018. This is a great opportunity to recognize the wonderful contribution of our organisation's founders, clients, residents, partners, volunteers, employees and supporters.

The birthday celebrations will also include the installation of some artwork and the production of a commemorative pictorial book celebrating MRH's history and 60 years of service to the community.

Researching our history has been a priority for MRH. We know one lady who had 11 babies in the hospital – and there are plenty of stories we would love to document and include in the book.

If you have a story, picture or piece of memorabilia you would like to share with us or for more information on the celebration events please contact Kelly Milne on Kelly.milne@mrh.org.au or 5428 0300.

MRH is an award winning provider of primary, community, mental health, welfare, home based and residential services to support people's health and well-being across the Macedon Ranges and beyond.

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## COMMUNITY BANK BRANCH GETS A NEW LOOK

Lancefield Community Bank® Branch has undergone extensive renovations as part of Bendigo Bank's Network of the Future project, which aims to meet the changing needs of our customers.

The Bank's Senior Manager, Michael O'Gorman, said the branch reopened with its new look on 25th January 2018.

"The branch's design promotes a welcoming and engaging environment that allows customers to choose how they interact with the bank. The new layout incorporates technology to make transactions more efficient and allow our staff more time to spend with customers."

Lancefield Community Bank® Branch is located at 20A High Street and is open from 9.30am to 5pm Monday to Friday and 9am to 12 noon on Saturdays.

## JOBS FUTURE

With more than 50 per cent of residents leaving the shire for work each day it is vital to create options for our residents to work locally. To better understand the local workforce, Council is working with Deakin University on a new study to support business growth and local job creation. The findings will be published in a Jobs for the Future Blueprint.

Last year, local businesses were surveyed to find about the ways in which they can be supported to grow and employ more people. Now we would like to hear from residents about their goals, skills and future priorities. For example, is it important for you and your family to access employment and training close to home? What types of jobs should be provided for your children? Have your say and complete our survey by Thursday 1 March at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay)

## BALANCING ACT

How would you balance Council's budget?

Tell us how you think Council should spend its budget for the upcoming 2018/19 financial year. You can let Council know your priorities and how you think we should spend our budget by using the new interactive online tool we are trialling, Budget Allocator. To find out more, try the Budget Allocator and provide feedback we can use to prepare the budget, see [mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay)

## THE FIELD TRIP

# WHAT ARE THE CHANCES?

Something new for Lancefield kids in 2018. The Dice Age is a weekly (two hour) program for kids aged 9-17 - every Sunday. It all starts Sunday 4 February in Riddells Creek and in Daylesford too. But what will the kids actually do? In fun, workshop, inclusive, creative and participatory program style, the kids will *Roll Dice* to determine their destinies: what game they'll play next and what kind of life they want; their lunch and their legacy, who they'll sit next to and who they'll become, their short term fun and long term futures. Kids often never think beyond dinner, but in this program, each Sunday, they will. "We are living in The Dice Age, when decision-making seems random, but our choices are ours."

## OTHER NEWS

In other news, local Lancefield young person Chloe Hansen, who won the honour of *MP for a day* with Mary-Anne Thomas MP last year is now fundraising to go to Cambodia in July 2018. The Aspy Cafe and Lancefield Bakery have jumped on board to support Chloe's efforts to raise the money for the trip! Thanks to the local Lancefield community for supporting her.

## OTHER YOUTH PROGRAMS

Other youth programs coming up in 2018: In Their Shoes, starting 22 April (every Sunday 3-5pm), a program for kids aged 9-17 about seeing life from a different perspective. Kids will be introduced to all kinds of people who live locally but whom they might never have met previously.

In Term 3, The Gran Plan: kids cooking with grandmothers (and grandfathers) - a different grandmother (or grandfather) every week!

And in October 2018, as part of the Victorian Seniors Festival, Lancefield will again be running its Someday Weekend Retreat for senior citizens at the Lancefield Guest House. It's about all the things you've always wanted to do someday but never done! Now is the time to do it. It's fully catered and run by young local people aged 9-24!

For information about all of the above programs for kids and seniors happening locally, see our website: [www.thefieldtrip.com](http://www.thefieldtrip.com)

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# WHAT'S ON

## AT ROMSEY RECREATION CENTRE-TERM 1

### 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.

Term 1 sessions begin on Friday 2 February.

Register your child now at [mrsc.vic.gov.au/rrc](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/rrc) or call us on 5429 5637.

### 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. Call 5429 5637 or email your interest to [rrc@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:rrc@mrsc.vic.gov.au)

### BASKETBALL-UNDER 11S AND UNDER 13S

Under 11 games are held from 4pm on Thursdays. Under 13

games are held from 4.50pm on Mondays.

Winter season starts 16 April. Call 5429 5637 or email [rrc@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:rrc@mrsc.vic.gov.au) to register your interest.

### JUNIOR BASKETBALL AND INDOOR SOCCER TRAINING

We're seeking expressions of interest from anyone interested in junior basketball and indoor soccer training. Sessions would be held in term 2 and dependant on numbers. To register your interest, email [rrc@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:rrc@mrsc.vic.gov.au) with your child's name, date of birth and chosen sport.

### SENIOR PROGRAMS

Indoor mixed soccer

Indoor men's and women'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. Women's basketball games are held on Thursdays from 7.40pm.

Senior mixed soccer held on Tuesdays from 6pm.

Winter season starts 17 April. Register now online [mrsc.vic.gov.au/rrc](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/rrc) or call 5429 5637.



LANCEFIELD COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

# HOMEMADE GOODIES AND GIFTS SOLD OUT QUICKLY!

Our last branch meeting last year was held on Friday November 24 and was followed by a delicious lunch at the Lancefield Bed and Breakfast.

Our stall at the Farmer's Market was a great success! Lots of homemade goodies and gifts sold out quickly.

We thank all those members of our community who supported our Christmas stall and also, our stall in April where we sold our Memorial biscuits.

All the profits made from our stalls and catering efforts are poured back in to the community for things such as; the CFA, Girl Guides, St. Mary's Primary School, Lancefield Primary School, the Kindergarten, Junior netball, football and tennis clubs.

As well as this the Lancefield CWA provides an annual scholarship fund to a Year Six student from each of the



Lancefield Primary School and St. Mary's. This assists the two recipients to purchase text books for Year Seven.

Our meetings are held on the 4th. Friday of each month at the Neighbourhood House starting at 10:30 am.

Remember, we always welcome new members.



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# TWO CHAMPIONS

Lancefield residents Bev Holmes and Garry Templar (pictured) have won Gladstone Park Bowling Club's singles championships. Bev and husband Jeff were formerly two of the outstanding bowlers in the Central Highlands division, with the former a seven times Lancefield champion.

Garry Templar, who is coach at Gladstone Park this season, recruited the Holmes duo to lift premiership prospects this season, and the club is in second position on the division four pennant ladder.

Templar grew up in Romsey and has been heavily involved with various sports over the years. He beat Jeff Holmes in the semi-final before accounting for Bill Holland 25-14 in the final.

Bev eclipsed last season's champion 25-13 Kerry Gibbs in the women's final.



# IT'S THREE IN A ROW

Lancefield bowlers have been making their presence felt in Central Highlands Division events. Pictured are (from left) are Chris Jolly, Barry Godbolt, Aaron Young and skipper Mark Godbolt after their victory in the divisional fours, for the third successive season.

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# PAINT THE TOWN PURPLE

Macedon Ranges: Hope Lives in Relay For Life and you! Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th of March 2018. Only a month to go until our 16th Relay For Life, to held at the Lancefield Park. It is not too late to register or join a team. If you're interested in registering a team, joining a team or volunteering please email [lancefieldrfl@cancervic.org.au](mailto:lancefieldrfl@cancervic.org.au), call 1300 656 585 or visit the Lancefield/Macedon Ranges Relay For Life Facebook page or [fundraising.cancer.org.au](http://fundraising.cancer.org.au)

February is also *paint the town purple* month. Businesses are encouraged to deck their windows out in purple, the colour of the Relay. Why purple? Well, Mr Mirura, a lung cancer survivor and the founder of Relay For Life in Japan, tells his story of why the color purple resonated with him. He believes in the wee hours of the morning when he felt alone, he would look out the window just before light. The

color in the sky right before the sun comes up is the most beautiful purple in the world – for just a few seconds the sky turns purple between night and morning, between the darkness and the brightness. He believes this is the color that all cancer patients wait to see. It's proof that they made it one more night, they've survived another day! If you are interested in taking part in the Paint the Town Purple please contact Kathy on 0419 644 688 for more details. You can vote for your favourite window by visiting our Facebook page and pressing "like" on their picture. On a sad note, the Relay Committee and Relay Family mark the passing of Donn Gray. Donn was a fantastic supporter of Relay working in the Merchandise Stall, MC'ing on stage and even dying his hair purple for a fundraiser. He was at every Relay and will be greatly missed. Pictures by Chris Fleming

