



BRINGING THE AGE OF STEAM BACK TO LIFE

An almost-forgotten piece of our history will come back to light, as the defunct Lancefield to Kilmore rail line is retraced.

The Council has made a \$1500 grant to the Romsey Lancefield Districts Historical Society as a contribution towards a pictorial guide to the short-lived line of more than a century ago.

The line, opened in 1892, ran from Lancefield across the Great Dividing Range to Kilmore. Due to the steepness of the terrain, it meandered through almost uninhabited land, with little or no passenger custom or freight use. The line was such a furphy that it closed five years after opening, although the tracks were not torn up until 1917.

Some of the old right-of-way is visible around the Lancefield Gap and on the approach into Kilmore. For such a relatively short section of railway, the line had a significant number of stations, or more particularly whistle-stops. These included Mount William, Goldie, Springfield, High Park and Forbes.

The Historical Society does a wonderful job in capturing and preserving our local history, and I wish them well with this rail line project.

I'm pleased that the Council has funds to help local volunteer groups such as the Historical Society to undertake such projects.

Our Small Community Grants Scheme supports community projects that are unlikely to be funded through annual funding schemes. Grants of up to \$1500 are available, and I encourage all our local community organisations to sit down and think if they have a project which would benefit

from this funding.

Guidelines are available on the Council website at <http://www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/About-Council/Find-A-Grant/Small-Community-Grants-Scheme> and are fairly simple and easy to access.

But to get back to the rail line project, it's interesting to see there was a platform at the Macedonia Hotel. This was in addition to the Lancefield Railway Station, which operated through to 1956.

Henry Bleeck

A PICTORIAL GUIDE TO THE LONG LOST LANCEFIELD AND KILMORE RAILWAY

The long awaited 'A Pictorial Guide to the Long Lost Lancefield and Kilmore Railway' is about to go to the printer.

You can secure a copy by pre ordering from the Romsey & Lancefield Historical Society.

The pre order price is \$37.50, you can prepay by direct credit 633000 136759362) and leave your name and reference- railway book, or come to the courthouse and complete an order form.

For further information contact Bob Tomkins on 5784 2041.



LANCEFIELD TENNIS CLUB

LANCEFIELD TENNIS CLUB SNAPSHOT NEWS



SUMMER JUNIOR TENNIS FINALS!

Well done to all our juniors this season for making it to finals. It's a great reflection on our sensational coach Jamieson Liersch and his assistant coaches Jamie, Mitchell and Jared. As a club, it's rewarding to see how well-mannered and happy all the kids and parents from Lancefield and Romsey are!

Lancefield/Romsey v Romsey/Lancefield in the semi-final. These two teams need to be commended for how much fun they had in a final.

Very entertaining tennis!

Four members of the awesome D team didn't quite make finals but next Summer look out...

We are looking forward to another Winter season. If you are interested in playing tennis or coaching please contact the tennis club on their FB page or at lancefieldtennisclub@outlook.com.

Tennis Champions! Roger and Rohan Barr have come home victorious after winning the D grade doubles at the Yarrowonga Easter Tournament. Really proud of these two, and as a club we are starting to plan for a bus trip to Yarrowonga for next Easter!

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THE SHOW MUST GO ON ...

Newly elected Lancefield Agricultural Society president Robert Green is enthused about the future of agricultural shows, even if they may not be entirely in the truly traditional form. The well-known local contractor is pictured working on a vintage American tractor which will be taking part on the time-honoured tractor pull at this year's Lancefield Show on Sunday, October 21.

"While we want to keep the annual event an agricultural show, new ideas will be very welcome. It is important to showcase the districts' agriculture and produce, as well as still stage woodchops, the tractor pull, pavilion events, and various entertainments.

Robert Green takes over the presidency from John McCarthy, who was thanked for his efforts over a long period of time. The new president said it is hoped to have

a walking tour of exhibits spread around Lancefield Park at this year's show. Working sheep dog trials are expected to be added to the program.

Syd Green is the society's vice-president, with Deb Bailey secretary, Leanne Smith treasurer, and Nikki Reeves vendor secretary. The executive and committee members are meeting on a regular basis, and welcome volunteers who are willing to help in the lead-up to show day.

Anyone with ideas, or willing to devote time to assist with show preparations or on the day, can contact Robert Green 0408 532 603.

Bill West



DEEP CREEK LANDCARE GROUP
Covering Lancefield – Romsey and Monegeeta Districts

WHY ARE NEST BOXES SO IMPORTANT?

Australian birds and wildlife have the highest rate of natural nesting hollow dependence in the world according to the South Australia Natural Resource Department.

It takes more than 80 years for a tree to form even small hollows and can take 300 years to form larger hollows for larger species such as possums and parrots. Often by the time a tree gets old and large enough to form hollows it is removed due to it being considered a public danger. Different species require different size hollows which provide shelter from heat, cold, wind and most importantly a site to breed and raise their young.

Due to the clearing of bushland, urban encroachment and collection of firewood, natural nesting hollows have declined significantly which has impacted many birds, mammals, reptiles and insect species.

But it's not all bad news, there is lots we can do to help if we wish to lend a helping hand to our native wildlife. When you see a hollow tree or log on your property or in the bush, let it stay where it is. Hollow trees are actually quite strong and sturdy and provide such long awaited vital habitat. Mother nature is supposed to be untidy, so when you see a hollow log, try looking at it as a warm safe home for an animal as opposed to something making the environment untidy.

Another way to help is to create nesting boxes which provide an important supplement to naturally occurring hollows. Nest boxes are a great way to observe native wildlife in all their life stages in your garden or on your property or local park.

Deep Creek Landcare Group have over the last few years installed around 15 different sized nesting boxes around our project sites. Our nest boxes are made from



hollow logs retrieved from burn piles on acreage and cut into sections and fitted in a fork of a large tree. We have made bat boxes, bird boxes and mammal boxes.

We are happy to contribute to providing habitat for our unique native species in this way.

If anyone is interested in making nesting boxes please visit the website of the National Wildlife Federation or contact us at deepcreek@gmail.com for information and links to assist you.

The myna bird total count for March was 63. Well done! 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.

Hayley Goodman

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PUBLIC TOILET UPGRADE

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is upgrading the public toilet in the Lancefield town centre, located on the Crescent opposite the Grain Store. Works will significantly improve and enhance this facility for the general public. Upgrades will include new paint, flooring and internal fixtures. The works are scheduled to start the week commencing 30 April and will conclude by 25 May. Signage will be placed on site and the toilet block will be closed to the public during the upgrades. The nearest public toilet is located at Lancefield Park on Chauncey Street. Council thanks Lancefield residents, businesses and visitors for their patience during these works.

RED CROSS

The Lancefield Red Cross Branch would like to thank the Lancefield community for joining many thousands of Australians this year who supported Red Cross Calling. The Lancefield Branch organised an Easter Raffle and raised \$5342 which will support the life-changing work of Red Cross - whether it's standing by someone as they recover from disaster, helping someone get to their hospital appointment when no one else is around, or lending a hand to newly arrived migrants. The winners were: first prize "Cathy" Noel St. Lancefield, second: Barry Hunt Lancefield and third Sue Darling Nulla Vale. New Members are most welcome to join our branch, we meet bi-monthly and we are a small and friendly group. For enquiries please contact Secretary, Jean Buist Ph. 54291116

LANCEFIELD PARKRUN

Lancefield parkrun will commence on Saturday the 12th of May at 8am at the Lancefield Park. It is a free, weekly, timed 5km run and everyone is welcome! The parkrun community is inclusive, fun and friendly. Prams and dogs (on a short leash) are encouraged to come along and walkers are more than welcome! There will be a coffee van on site at the park to catch up for a coffee after the run (or walk). The Macedon Ranges Shire Council very kindly contributed \$5000 to get

this happening. This money will pay for all the equipment required for timing the run, as well as access to the parkrun website. The event itself is only possible with the help of volunteers, so if you would like to get involved as a volunteer, give Erin a call on 0499 880 962. There is no minimum time commitment and there is a role to suit everyone.

For more info on parkrun check us out on Facebook or the parkrun website www.parkrun.com.au.

FIND OUT WHY LESS IS MORE AT OUR ZERO WASTE FORUM

Be inspired to live a modern life with less waste at Council's free Zero Waste Forum on Thursday 3 May at Woodend Neighbourhood House.

The event, being held from 7pm to 8pm at 47 Forest Street, Woodend will feature a stimulating talk from zero waste advocate and writer, Erin Rhoads.

In 2013 Erin started The Rogue Ginger blog, documenting her experience of participating in Plastic Free July—a month going without single-use plastic items like shopping bags, straws and over-packaged foods.

Her brief experiment led her to quit plastic for good, and now educates others on the health, social, economic and environmental benefits of throwing away less.

Brimming with a range of practical and useful ideas, don't miss Erin as she shares her journey on the road to a plastic-free and zero waste life.

To find out more or to book, visit mrc.vic.gov.au/environment-events or call 5421 9660.

RECYCLING

The increased cost of recycling in the shire will be addressed by Council in its draft budget, which will be considered at the Council meeting on 18 April. Council's contractor Wheelie Waste sends our recycling to Visy Recycling and normally receives a payment for the product. This offsets collection costs. The material is then sold by Visy to China for processing into recycled products.

This year China decided to not to accept this type of mixed recycling from Australia. Visy Recycling notified Wheelie Waste it would need to introduce a charge to keep taking this type of recycling as processing cost more. This cost is passed on to councils. For the period from February to June 30 Macedon Ranges Shire is facing additional costs for recycling of around \$230,000. While the Victorian Government has offered an assistance package, this only covers about half the unbudgeted costs and runs out on 30 June.

Councils are subject to a rate cap but waste charges are exempt from this cap. While there will be no additional charges levied on ratepayers this financial year the extra cost of recycling may lead to an increase in the waste charge to residents after 30 June. Details of Council's budget, fees and charges will be available on Council's website mrc.vic.gov.au/yoursay on 24 April.

Submissions on the budget will remain open until 22 May.

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)

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LOCAL AUTHOR MIKE GARNETT "ROMSEY'S TRIBUTE"

This monograph is a companion to Michael's Kyneton Mounted Rifle Corps and Militia Units of Maryborough 1860-1901 that were published in 2013 and 2017 respectively.

When approaching some Australian towns by car, one may drive through an Avenue of Honour – trees planted to honour those who fought in the First World War. The people in the (then) Romsey Shire opted to recognise all who served in WW1 by striking the Romsey Tribute Medal. It is this Medal that provided the catalyst for the writing of Romsey's Tribute 1914 – 1919.

By 1914 Romsey had become an independent town that was served by a railway line providing access to Melbourne and seaside resort towns for day-trippers. Mills and factories provided employment for those not on the land, and numerous trades, three hotels and two papers made it a self-sufficient and an important local hub.

A brief history of the volunteer units and rifle clubs that existed prior to Federation and subsequently the militia and cadet units explains how Australia was in a sound position to raise a sizeable force to send overseas in 1914. In September 1914 the local Red Cross Society moved that the Shire put aside money for a Patriotic Fund. There was no lack of local patriotism as the Shire moved that 'the meeting of residents of Romsey re-affirm its determination to assist in every possible way in the prosecution of the war in which the British Empire and her Allies are now engaged'. This level of patriotism was to persist for the duration of hostilities. Extracts from The Romsey Examiner indicate the pressure exerted on the local citizens to enlist or support the war. The Examiner regularly published a Roll of Honour listing those who had volunteered. The problem of recruiting diminishing the farm labour pool certainly had a local impact.

In 1916 Romsey and Lancefield had a military visitor seeking suitable horses for mounted and artillery regiments of the Australian Imperial Force. There were huge demands for horses for Light Horse and Mounted Regiments both in Europe and the Middle East.

At Mia Mia, 45 kilometres north of Romsey, John Duigan flew Australia's first homemade aeroplane in 1910. Duigan enlisted and flew with No 3 Squadron, Australian Flying Corps, winning the Military Cross for action in May 1918.

He returned to pioneer aviation and transform communications and travel in Australia.

At home, at the 1882-built mansion Mintaro, Madame Charlotte Crivelli, the vice-president of the French Red Cross in Victoria, hosted a Grand Fete to raise funds for the women and children in France. Over 500 people attended, with a special train assisting district locals who wished to attend the April 1916 event.

The Shires of Romsey, Lancefield and Springfield amalgamated to form the Shire of Romsey in June 1916. The amalgamated shires continued with the recommendation to honour citizens with a commemorative medal as a tribute for their service. The September 1916 Gisborne Gazette noted: 'The public of Romsey will give a bronze medal (cost 5/-) to each of the men from the district going to the front (sic).' The Tribute Medal had a Shire Crest surrounded by 'Romsey and District, Victoria' and the obverse with a margin 'Honour to whom Honour is due' and a central inscription 'Presented to _____ who nobly responded to the Empire's call in the Great European War 1914-15' indicating that it was issued subsequent to the Gallipoli campaign. It came with its own ribbon and was the same size as bravery and campaign medals.

There were numerous well-attended public occasions when departing enlistees received their Medal as well as those who had been wounded and returned. Former residents who had moved and enlisted at other locations also received the Tribute Medal.

Other aspects of the First World War are also mentioned: the large memorial medallion that was issued to the next of kin to every soldier of the British Empire who died (to become known as 'the dead man's penny'); and the Lancefield connection to Lieutenant Harry (Breaker) Morant.

Reviewer: Lt. Colonel Neville Taylor



PASTOR'S PARABLES

Encourage Church, 7 Mitchell Court Romsey

IT TAKES LOTS OF TIME, EFFORT AND THOUGHT

In life, we soon learn that it takes lots of time, effort and thought to build something, but practically no effort to destroy it.

A good relationship is hard to build. It demands a lot of consideration and effort. It needs 'give and take' but mostly 'give' in the form of understanding, listening and forgiveness.

So, are we relationship builders or wreckers? When we review our life do we see a trail of broken relationships due to carelessly spoken words, thoughtless acts or an unforgiving heart? Do we soon destroy friendships because we are too self-absorbed? Do we constantly demand attention but seldom give it? Do we always seek favours but never return them? Do we insist on sensitivity and understanding yet in turn we are insensitive and unforgiving? If we are honest, there is a little wrecker in each of us; however, we should all aim to be prolific builders.

God created humanity to have a relationship with Him. But friendships are not formed by one party doing all the taking. God has given us so much; in return He hopes we will give back some time getting to know Him.

God also created us so we can build lasting relationships with each other. This takes effort but is one of the primary reasons of our existence. In life, we may build impressive portfolios of wealth and fame but if we haven't made good relationships, what have we really accomplished? Relationships can last into eternity – all our accumulated wealth will not.

A Mother's heart is for all of her family to get along. For brokenness in her family's relationships to be mended. This Mother's day let's make it our goal to Invest in relationships; build them up – spend more time encouraging each other than tearing them down. This could be the best Mother's day gift your Mum has ever had!!



OUR GIFT TO YOU MUM THIS MOTHER'S DAY

Thus God implores us in Ephesians 4:32, '...be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another, even as God in Christ forgave you.'

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Tourism Macedon Ranges (TMR) would like to invite any tourism-related business operators, including accommodation providers, tour operators, restaurants, cafes, wineries and visitor attractions to take part in an upcoming tourism workshop.

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The Lost Trades Fair

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Time: Arrive 6.15pm for a 6.30 start - until 8.45pm

Cost: \$40 including light catering which will include finger food, tea and coffee

At: Kyneton Mechanics Institute, 81 Mollison Street
Hear from Lisa Rundell (Lost Trades Fair) and Jennifer Ward (Macedon Ranges Vignerons Assoc. and Budburst) about the opportunities available to your business, and learn skills about packaging that you can apply to any event.

Facilitator, Rachel Donovan (BA, MBA) has worked in tourism development in some of Victoria's most popular visitor destinations to improve visitor experiences, and grow visitation. She commenced a consultancy, Insight Communications, nearly 25 years ago. One of the programs she offers is packaging training. The training focuses on how we can make travel experiences even more enjoyable and satisfying through packaging.

To book tickets follow the link to Trybooking
<https://www.trybooking.com/VFDL>

TIME TO TURN ON THE TAP WITH FLUORIDE

The public release of a Royal Children's Hospital child health poll on tooth decay earlier in March is a timely reminder on why we need to have Lancefield's water supply fluoridated. Lancefield does not have the health-giving benefit of fluoride in our water and our health and wellbeing suffers. By contrast, Kyneton is fluoridated through Coliban Water and Romsey and Woodend are partly fluoridated. The poll found infrequent toothbrushing, few dental visits, especially in toddlers and preschoolers, and a sugar-laden diet all combine to set children up for a lifetime of poor oral health. It also promoted the significant benefits of fluoride.

One in three Australian children do not brush their teeth twice a day and one in 10 have had at least one tooth pulled out as a result of decay before they turn eight, according to the research.

Almost half of parents (48%) don't know that tap water, which in the vast majority of Victorian supplies contains fluoride, is better for teeth than bottled water.

Children who drink a lot of fluoride-free bottled water are missing out on the health-giving benefits of stronger, healthier teeth which its inclusion provides.

With all these benefits in mind, it's time for us to lobby Western Water and the State Government for the funding to set up the equipment to add fluoride to the water supply of Lancefield.

Victoria's first fluoride was added to the drinking water for Bacchus Marsh in 1962, with Melbourne beginning fluoridation in 1977.

Currently, 90% of Victorians drink water with either naturally occurring or added fluoride. Lancefield needs to be part of this movement now. Let's get Western Water and the Government to the table.

While some people criticise fluoridation and raise health concerns, these have been debunked by Australian and international evidence which is supported by health experts including the World Health Organization, the World Dental Federation, Dental Health Services Victoria and the Australian Dental Association.

Melbourne and some regional centres have had fluoridated water for more than 40 years. Let's get Lancefield on to that list now.

Henry Bleeck

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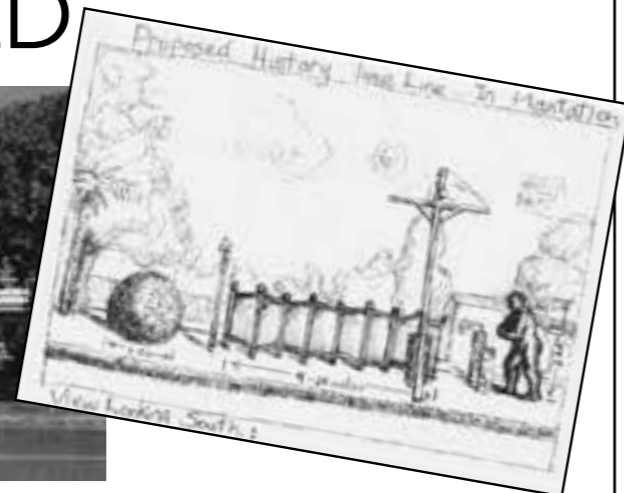



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A NEW PUBLIC SCULPTURE FOR LANCEFIELD



The Lancefield community are invited to provide their feedback on a new sculpture for Lancefield plantation.

The proposed art piece is to be a mosaic which will articulate the history Lancefield in a timeline layout. The design includes a mosaic sphere and a figurative sculpture of an indigenous woman carrying a child in a coolamon. The art concept has been developed by local artist, Chris Wyatt.

A mock-up of the sculpture will be in place on Thursday 17th of May at the intended location of the western plantation between the hours of 12pm and 6pm.

Register your opinion on-line at www.surveymonkey.com/r/artinLancefield
Phone the Neighbourhood House on 5429 1214 or fill in the sheets at the Town House



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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 Confirmation in 2018 are invited to email their details to the secretary at lancefield@cam.org.au to register your child.

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HELP SHAPE THE FUTURE OF ARTS AND CULTURE IN THE MACEDON RANGES

Did you share your ideas on arts and culture in the Macedon Ranges with Council recently?

The draft Arts and Cultural Strategy 2018–2028, which will guide Council’s promotion, support and investment in arts and culture over the next ten years will be released shortly, and we want you to have your say.

Council will be hosting public forums and listening posts in the shire that offer an overview of the draft strategy.

Come along, have your say and be part of shaping the future of arts and culture in our community.

For more information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay or call Robyn Till on 5422 0333.

MARY - ANNE THOMAS STEPHEN MYALL

We are all deeply saddened by the passing of Stephen Myall on 15 March, husband of former Member for Macedon, Joanne Duncan, long-time resident of the Macedon Ranges and Victorian Magistrate. Stephen was greatly respected within the legal profession and judiciary, dedicating his life to serving the community with compassion, integrity, fairness and respect. Following a distinguished legal career, Stephen was elevated to the Magistrates’ Court in December 2005, having served as chair of the Law Institute of Victoria’s Criminal Law Section when he was a lawyer. Stephen was a devoted father to Stevo and loving and cherished husband to Jo, who served communities across the Gisborne and Macedon electorates for 15 years, as the State Member. Stephen provided great support and wise counsel to Joanne, and by extension to the people of Macedon. He will be deeply missed by his many friends across the Macedon Ranges. On behalf of the people of the Macedon electorate, I want to extend my deepest sympathies to our dear friend Joanne, to Stevo and to Steve’s family and friends. Vale Stephen Myall



COMBINED PROBUS CLUB OF ROMSEY AND LANCEFIELD INC.
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COME AND JOIN US

WHO ARE WE?

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 each others company and have made good friendships along the way.

Always plenty of chat and laughter whenever we are together.

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

MONTHLY MEETINGS

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

During May a group from our club will be travelling to Echuca / Moama for a three day trip Tuesday15th to Thursday17th May.

Our next meeting is on Thursday, 24th May, 2018

Guest Speaker: A club member - Tony Davis on his life as a Barrister.

Our group enjoy fortnightly coffee mornings and the alternate week 10 Pin Bowling at AMF Bowling Watergardens

The dates for May Coffee morning - 4th & 18th at 10am at the Mad Gallery, Lancefield.

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

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Secretary: Jenifer Clampit 5429 5480

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SUPPORTING THOSE BEREAVED BY SUICIDE

On April 9th 2018, an open community meeting from 7pm-8.30 was held in which some generous community members shared their lived experience of suicide bereavement, how they felt supported during their acute and ongoing grief and how they self care. Lots of community members became better informed around the impact of suicide. Some people attending were supporting those currently grieving even though they were not personally impacted by suicide.

This event was organised by Support After Suicide Macedon Ranges (SAS MR) which is a support group providing opportunity for people who are suicide bereaved to come together and access helpful information, build a sense of community and gain support with their grief journey.

The Support After Suicide group meets at the Newham Mechanics Institute on the 2nd Monday of each month

(1292 Rochford Road, Newham) 7pm-8.30pm.

It is led by fully trained peer support workers from the Macedon Ranges who have lost a loved one to suicide. Our peer workers are also supported by the Jesuit Social Services Support After Suicide Program to ensure we are bringing the best possible service to the Macedon Ranges.

We know that the grief experienced after suicide is often unique and complex, and hence requires a specific response. We also know that those who have lost a loved one to suicide are themselves at higher risk of suicidal thoughts. This is why this peer support group was formed.

The community meeting will be held at Newham Mechanics Institute and nibbles, hot drinks and tissues will be provided.

Please contact macedonrangesspag@gmail.com with any queries or to RSVP.



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MAKING THE MOST OF WHAT WE HAVE

BYO

By next year NSW will be the only state in Australia which hasn't banned light weight plastic bags. There is a reason why the rest of the country has got rid of them – they cause huge environmental problems and kill lots of animals, especially in the ocean.

The transition for Lancefield residents becoming plastic bag free is going to be easier than most places thanks to the support of Loddon Mallee Waste Management . This group is supporting our businesses to make the change by providing the paper bags to use instead of plastic. They will start introducing these from 22 May.

Yes, we had gone plastic bag free in Lancefield but it fell apart with a change of supermarket owners. IGA is now on board, with all but one business in town, to make Lancefield one of the early starters in the Victoria-wide transition to being Plastic Bag Free.

Ultimately we all have to start taking responsibility for reducing plastic waste through changing our habits - so we have reusable bags, drink bottles, coffee cups and containers. Once you make the change it is very satisfying knowing each time you shop you are making a positive difference to the world. Remembering to take your own bags shopping can be difficult to start with, and there are times when you just forget, this is where Lancefield Boomerang Bags fit in – they keep coming back, either you keep reusing them or return them for the next person who forgets their bag. We do however need your help to make them work.

There are now 500 bags which have been made, this represents over 500 hours of work done by a small group of volunteers who will continue to make bags into the future. The initiative won't work if people take a bag and don't return it or reuse it - be proud of your Lancefield boomerang bag, use it to carry your other reusable bags so that they are always in your car.

To celebrate the launch of the Boomerang Bags join us for morning tea at 11am on Wednesday 23 May at the Neighbourhood House. Meet the team who made

the bags and learn about ways to replace plastic bags in your household. Door prize to win a special edition lined Lancefield Boomerang Bag.

GREEN BAG DRIVE

As part of the Op Shop going plastic bag free we are doing a 'green bag drive'. All those reusable bags which are lurking in cupboards and car boots please drop them into the Op Shop so they can be used.

WOMEN'S CHAINSAW CLUB

The first Women's Chainsaw course was held in April. Over 100 women applied to be part of the pilot program and ten local women are now accredited chainsaw users and have all used their saw to carve a fantastic owl sculpture. They also learnt some valuable fire preparedness and safety skills.

This project was funded through a CFA grant and Macedon Ranges Shire Council and was run in partnership with the Neighbourhood House. The pilot was very successful and we hope to run more of the courses in the future.

WHOLE TOWN GARAGE SALE

The Lancefield Whole Town Garage Sale will be held on Saturday 19 May.

If you don't want a sale at your house or only have a few items to sell you can be part of the Car Boot Sale which is being held at the Mens Shed at the same time.

Being part of the whole town sale means that all advertising and signage is done for you and larger crowds attend your sale. Registering your garage sale means you are on the maps which are sold and you are supporting the 'whole town' concept, which supports many people.

To register your sale fill in the form at the Town House or Neighbourhood House or go online at www.lancefield.org.au/lancefieldhouse, registration is \$5. Maps will be on sale for \$5 at the Mens Shed from 8am on Saturday 19 May.



OLD GUIDE HALL ALL NEW

The old building next to the Neighbourhood House has just undergone a renovation so we have a nicer space for children's activities in Lancefield. The building has a new roof, a sliding door to access the outdoor area, has been painted and carpeted and new cupboards and pin boards have been installed. The Neighbourhood House received grants from the Macedon Ranges Shire Council, a very generous grant from the Bendigo Bank and a contribution from Lancefield Park Committee to complete the works.

It's been a project of great community spirit and some huge contributions of peoples time and skills.

Lancefield Playgroup runs out of the building one morning a week, Out of School Hours Care everyday and Cobaw will be starting an activity afternoon for parents and pre-schoolers in about a month. Phone the House on 5429 1214 for more information on these.

A huge thanks to everyone who moved heaven and earth to make sure the Old Guide Hall was ready for the children of the Lancefield Playgroup and OSHC . Moe and Bruce Ferguson, Sando, Harry and the rest of the In2it team – who all just dropped everything to fix a problem – we had with the flooring.

Also a very big thank you to Chris Jolly and the Purple

Painting team who have transformed the interior of the building and went above and beyond with the extra work they did, the Mens Shed for fixing the cupboards and Bruce Ferguson again for the new roof.

Lancefield Playgroup runs out of the building one morning a week, Out of School Hours Care everyday and Cobaw will be starting an activity afternoon for parents and pre-schoolers in about a month. Phone the House on 5429 1214 for more information on these.

SHARING THE FOOD

There are some people in the community who grow an abundance of food, there are some people who love cooking, there are some businesses with quality waste food. There are also some people who are struggling to put a meal on their table, some people are without the skills or are unable to cook or have a nutritious diet.

Statistics show that Lancefield has a relatively high proportion of people needing support. What as a community can we do to help? There are many great initiatives already working around the country, join us for a discussion on what we could do to help with this situation. 7pm at the Neighbourhood House Monday 7 May.

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SPLIT PERSONALITY 2

Some time ago I wrote about split personalities. This referred to the idea of having two nationalities.

But since then, I have noticed that many older people have split personalities. I don't like to live through the common discomfort of being old, but our bodies have a dominant side. Many of the aches and pains of age can be prevented. Often such complains are caused by one side of the body being stronger than the other.

I was born left handed and reaching to the high shelves of a cupboard, putting a key in a keyhole, turning to find a parking spot, was all done first with my left side. My aches and pains are mainly on the right side.

You can easily test this by simple exercises. Try kneeling first with one leg then with the other. Is kneeling harder with one leg or the other? Push a can of food to the back of a top shelf. Can you pick it up easier with your fingertips, of your left or right hand? Over the years your skeleton has adapted to this dominant side. Your bones on the stronger side are connected to stronger ligaments.

So which side do you think, are more likely to get weak? Older people are more likely to fall. The National Library of Medicine states that "falls are caused by unstable joints, muscle weakness and unreliable postural reflexes". The ideal solution is to visit a physical therapist. But not everybody can afford this. For the majority of us, the only option is a D.I.Y. plan, to strengthen the weaker side of your body by using it more often.

When you climb stairs, use your weaker leg first and bring the stronger up after. When doing this, support yourself with both hands, but again with your weaker hand first. If you reach high in the cupboard use the fingers of your weak side.

If you are serious about equalising both sides of your body, you will have to do this for the rest of your life. Yet living without the discomfort of age, is well worth the effort, of starting the process now.

Murk Schoen.

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BOOK REVIEWS SUBMITTED BY RED DOOR BOOKS

CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS



Room on Our Rock- by Kate & Jol Temple. RRP \$24.99

Two seals are perched on a rock. When others need shelter, do they share it? Room on Our Rock celebrates the truth that there are two sides to every story. This clever picture book has one story that can be read two different ways. When read from front to back, the seals

believe there is definitely no room on their rock for others. But when the book is read from back to front, the seals welcome others to shelter on their rock. A heartwarming story about sharing and compassion.



We Are Family- by Ryan Wheatcroft. RRP \$19.99

All families are different - and yet in many ways the same! This book uses a gentle rhyming text to follow eight different

families, celebrating their everyday differences as well as the similarities they share.



The Old Man- by Sarah V. & Claude K. Dubois. RRP \$19.99

Day breaks over the town. Wake up, everybody! It's time to go to school. It's time for the old man to get up, too. The night was icy and he's hungry. His name? He no longer knows... This is the story of a person with no job, no family, no home, a nobody,

who can't even remember his name. But his day changes when he is noticed by a child.

CHILDREN'S FICTION



The Secret Diary of Thomas Snoop; Tudor Boy Spy- by Philip Ardagh. RRP \$14.99

Thomas Snoop is a Tudor boy spy. Ordered by England's spymaster, Lord Severn, to travel to the beautiful Goldenhilt Hall, home of the Earl of Drayshire, Thomas has been given a most important mission: to help the fight against

fellow Englishmen who are plotting with a foreign power - the Spanish! It will take all Thomas's wits and cunning to uncover the traitors lurking at Goldenhilt Hall -and he must do so without being discovered himself...



Belle and Sebastien- by Cecile Aubry. RRP \$14.99

The son of a gypsy woman, Sebastien is found as a newborn baby in the Alps and brought up by Cesar and his grandchildren Angelina and Jean. Born on the same day, Belle is a beautiful white Pyrenean Mountain Dog who has been neglected and passed on from owner to owner, until one day she escapes from a kennel. When Sebastien

rescues the runaway Belle from the wrath of the villagers, the boy and the dog form a lifelong friendship and embark on exciting adventures in the mountains. First published in 1965 to coincide with the internationally successful television series of the same name, Belle and Sebastien is a heart-warming story of camaraderie, adventure and freedom. Available for the first time into English, this edition Includes extra material for young readers, including a section on the book, information about the author and a test-yourself quiz.

The Unicorn Quest- by Kamilla Benko. RRP \$14.99

Claire Martinson still worries about her older sister Sophie, who battled a



mysterious illness last year. But things are back to normal as they move into

Windermere Manor ... until the sisters climb a strange ladder in a fireplace and enter the magical land of Arden. There, they find a world in turmoil. The four guilds of magic no longer trust each other. The beloved unicorns have disappeared, and terrible wraiths roam freely. Scared, the girls return home. But when Sophie vanishes in the night, it will take all of Claire's courage to climb back up the ladder, find her sister, and uncover the unicorns' greatest secret. Blending the timeless feel of The Chronicles of Narnia with Frozen's powerful themes

of identity and sisterhood, The Unicorn Quest will draw you into a magical world you'll never want to leave.

TEEN FICTION



The Price Guide to the Occult- by Leslye Walton. RRP \$24.99

When Rona Blackburn landed on Anathema Island more than a century ago, her otherworldly skills might have benefited friendlier neighbors. Guilt and fear instead led the island's original eight settlers to burn "the witch" out of her home. So Rona cursed them. Fast-forward one hundred some years: All Nor Blackburn wants is to live an unremarkable teenage life. She has reason to hope: First,



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BOOK REVIEWS

her supernatural powers, if they can be called that, are unexceptional. Second, her love life is nonexistent, which means she might escape the other perverse side effect of the matriarch's backfiring curse, too. But then a mysterious book comes out, promising to cast any spell for the right price. Nor senses a storm coming and is pretty sure she'll be smack in the eye of it. In her second novel, Leslye Walton spins a dark, mesmerizing tale of a girl stumbling along the path toward self-acceptance and first love, even as the Price Guide's malevolent author Nor's own mother looms and threatens to strangle any hope for happiness.



Neverland- by Margot McGovern. RRP \$19.99

After doing herself near-fatal harm, Kit has returned to her island home. But it's a place she hardly recognises- the witch and the mermaids are hiding and the pirates

have sailed to more bountiful shores. In their place is Neverland and its inhabitants - damaged teens too sick to be in regular school, watched over by her psychiatrist uncle. And now Kit is one of them. Kit has a choice. She can use illicit night-time adventures with friends and mysterious new boy Rohan to avoid the truth. Or she can separate harsh reality from childhood fantasy and remember the night of her parents' deaths. What really prompted her family's departure from the island? Did a monster drive them away? Is the monster still there?



Small Spaces- by Sarah Epstein. RRP \$19.99

We don't pick and choose what to be afraid of. Our fears pick us. Tash Carmody has been traumatised since childhood, when she witnessed her gruesome imaginary friend Sparrow lure young Mallory Fisher

away from a carnival. At the time nobody believed Tash, and she has since come to accept that Sparrow wasn't real. Now fifteen and mute, Mallory's never spoken about the week she went missing. As disturbing memories resurface, Tash starts to see Sparrow again. And she realises Mallory is the key to unlocking the truth about a dark secret connecting them. Does Sparrow exist after all? Or is Tash more dangerous to others than she thinks?

ADULT FICTION



The Howling Miller- by Arto Paasilinna. RRP \$19.99

When Gunnar Huttunen turns up in a small village to restore its run-down mill, its inhabitants are wary. Gunnar is big. He's a bit odd. And, strangest of all, he howls wildly at night. If Gunnar is different, then he must be mad, the villagers decide. Hounded from his home, he must find a way to survive the wilds of nature

and the greater savagery of civilization. The Howling Miller is a dark fairytale of community, conformity and our place in the world.



The Woman at 1000 Degrees- by Hallgrimur Helgason. RRP \$24.99

Living alone in a garage with her laptop, an oxygen tank and her fathers old hand grenade, eighty-year-old Herra Bjornsson counts down her final days, and looks back at her own remarkable life. Featuring one of the most original narrators in literary history -in a voice by turns darkly funny, bawdy, poignant, and always, always smart.



Macbeth- by Jo Nesbo. RRP \$32.99

Set in a dark, rainy northern town, Nesbo's Macbeth pits the ambitions of a corrupt policeman against loyal colleagues, a drug-depraved underworld and the pull of childhood

friendships. Get ready to helter-skelter through the darkest tunnels of human experience.

NON FICTION



Two Sisters- by Asne Seierstad. RRP \$32.99

One morning in October 2013, nineteen-year-old Ayan Juma and her sixteen-year-old sister Leila left their family home in Oslo. Later that day they sent an email to their parents. 'Peace, God's mercy and blessings upon you, Mum and Dad ... Please do not be cross with us...' Leila and Ayan had decided to travel to Syria, 'and help out down there as best we can'. They had been planning for months. By the time their desperate father Sadiq tracks them to Turkey, they have already crossed the border. But Sadiq is determined to find them. What follows is the gripping, heartbreaking story of a family ripped apart. While Sadiq risks his own life to bring his daughters back, at home his wife Sara begins to

question their life in Norway. How could her children have been radicalised without her knowledge? How can she protect her two younger sons from the same fate? Asne Seierstad - with the complete support of the Juma family - followed the story from the beginning, through its many dramatic twists and turns. It's a tale that crosses from Sadiq and Sara's original home in Somalia, to their council estate in Oslo, to Turkey and to Syria - where two teenage sisters must face the shocking consequences of their decision.



The Wasp and the Orchid- by Danielle Clode. RRP \$39.99

In 1922, a 48-year-old housewife from Blackburn delivered her first paper, on native Australian orchids, to the Field Naturalists Club of Victoria. Over the next thirty years, Edith Coleman would write over 300 articles on Australian nature for newspapers, magazines and scientific journals. She

would solve the mystery of orchid pollination that had bewildered even Darwin, earn the acclaim of international scientists and, in 1949, become the first woman to be awarded the Australian Natural History Medallion. She was 'Australia's greatest orchid expert', 'foremost of our women naturalists', a woman who 'needed no introduction'. And yet, today, Edith Coleman has faded into obscurity. How did this remarkable woman, with no training or connections, achieve so much so late in life? And why, over the intervening years, have her achievements and her writing been forgotten? Zoologist and award-winning writer Danielle Clode sets out to uncover Edith's story, from her childhood in England to her unlikely success, sharing along the way Edith's lyrical and incisive writing and her uncompromising passion for Australian nature and landscape.

Birds in their Habitats- by Ian Fraser. RRP \$39.95

This is a book of the discovery of birds and



the places they live. Everywhere we go there are birds, and they all have mysteries to be unravelled. These mysteries include the way they look, from bizarre to apparently mundane, why they live where they live, and the things they do, many of which are far too incredible to even be imagined as fiction. Birds in Their Habitats is a collection of stories and experiences, which introduce fascinating aspects of birdlife, ecology, and behaviour. Informed by a wealth of historical and contemporary research, Ian Fraser takes the reader on a journey through four continents: from places as unfamiliar as the Chonos Archipelago of southern Chile and the arid Sahel woodlands of northern Cameroon, to those as familiar as a suburban backyard. And with humour and personal insight, it is a book about the sometimes strange world of the people who spend a life absorbed in birds.

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BOOK REVIEWS



Art as Therapy- by Alain de Botton and John Armstrong. RRP \$24.95

Two authorities on popular culture reveal the ways in which art can enhance mood and enrich lives - now available in paperback. This passionate, thought-provoking, often funny, and always-accessible book proposes a new way of looking at art, suggesting that it can be useful, relevant, and therapeutic. Through practical examples, the world-renowned authors argue that certain great works of art have clues as to how to manage the tensions and confusions of modern life. Chapters on love, nature, money, and politics show

how art can help with many common difficulties, from forging good relationships to coming to terms with mortality.



In The Kitchen- by Michele Curtis and Allan Campion. RRP \$59.99

In The Kitchen is an updated version of the beloved original 2008 cookbook of the same name. Across 17 chapters are more than 700 recipes (plus more than 400 recipe variations), offering cooks a definitive guide to meals for every occasion and a fresh look at everyday favourites. This new edition includes some sugar-free and gluten-free recipes, quinoa and kale,

and a chapter dedicated to basics. It's as definitive as definitive gets for the home cook who wants to extend their repertoire - or for someone who is just starting out and wants to establish a foundation for good cooking and experimentation in the kitchen.



Sunburnt Country- by Joelle Gergis. RRP \$34.99

What was Australia's climate like before official weather records began? How do scientists use tree-rings, ice cores and tropical corals to retrace the past? What do Indigenous seasonal calendars reveal? And what do settler diary entries about rainfall, droughts, bushfires and snowfalls tell us about

natural climate cycles? Sunburnt Country pieces together Australia's climate history for the first time. It uncovers a continent long vulnerable to climate extremes and variability. It gives an unparalleled perspective on how human activities have altered patterns that have been with us for millions of years, and what climate change looks like in our own backyard. Sunburnt Country highlights the impact of a warming planet on Australian lifestyles and ecosystems and the power we all have to shape future life on Earth.



Owl Sense- by Miriam Darlington. RRP \$32.99

Owls have captivated the human imagination for millennia. We have

fixated on this night hunter as predator, messenger, emblem of wisdom, something pretty to print on a tote bag or portent of doom. Darlington sets out to tell a new story. Her fieldwork begins with wild encounters in the British Isles and takes her to the frosted borders of the Arctic. In her watching and deep listening to the natural world, she cleaves myth from reality and will change the way you think of this magnificent creature.



Megatech- by Daniel Franklin. RRP \$22.99

Technology moves fast - so where will it have taken us by 2050? How will it

affect the way we live? And how far are we willing to let it go? In Megatech, distinguished scientists, industry leaders, star academics and acclaimed science-fiction writers join journalists from The Economist to explore answers to these questions and more. Twenty experts in the field, including Nobel prize-winner Frank Wilczek, Silicon Valley venture-capitalist Ann Winblad, philanthropist Melinda Gates and science-fiction author Alastair Reynolds identify the big ideas, fantastic inventions and potentially sinister trends that will shape our future. Join them to explore a brave new world of brain-computer interfaces, vat-grown cruelty-free meat, knitted cars and guided bullets. The writers predict the vast changes that technology

will bring to everything from food production to health care, energy output, manufacturing and the military balance. They also consider the impact on jobs, and how we can prepare for the opportunities, as well as the dangers, that await. Thought-provoking, engaging and full of insight from the forefront of tech innovation, Megatech is essential reading for anyone who wants to understand tomorrow's world.



The Last Battle- by Peter Hart. RRP \$49.99

By August 1918, the outcome of the Great War was not in doubt: the Allies

would win. But what was unclear was how this defeat would play out - would the Germans hold on, prolonging the fighting deep into 1919, with the loss of hundreds of thousands more young lives, or could the war be won in 1918?

In The Last Battle, Peter Hart, author of Gallipoli and The Great War, and oral historian at the Imperial War Museum, brings to life the dramatic final weeks of the war, as men fought to secure victory, with survival seemingly only days, or hours away.

Drawing on the experience of both generals and ordinary soldiers, and dwelling with equal weight on strategy, tactics and individual experience, this is a powerful and detailed account of history's greatest endgame.

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VIRTUAL REALITIES: THE ART OF FRESCO

Have you loved a painting but found out it's actually a fresco. What's the difference? Guest lecturer, Nicole Mezey, will explain all on Thursday 17 May, at the Kyneton Town Hall.

Fresco is the supreme medium in which one can track the ideas and the accomplishments of the Italian Renaissance. This lecture illustrates the complex technique involved and explores some of the great projects of the age to understand the fascination and significance of fresco for rulers, clergy and painters.

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). For more information and registration, please call Nicky on 0400 958 449.

APRIL LECTURE UPDATE

The 17th century diary of Samuel Pepys was the topic for ADFAS CV's April lecture and it was a cracker of an evening. In addition to the considerable ADFAS CV membership over 20 non-members attended to hear Susannah Fullerton, OAM, share her extensive knowledge of the man and his daily observations of London life. Not all was of a serious nature: his diary record of the day he saw a Royal mistress' pantaloons drying in the sun was one of many amusing entries.

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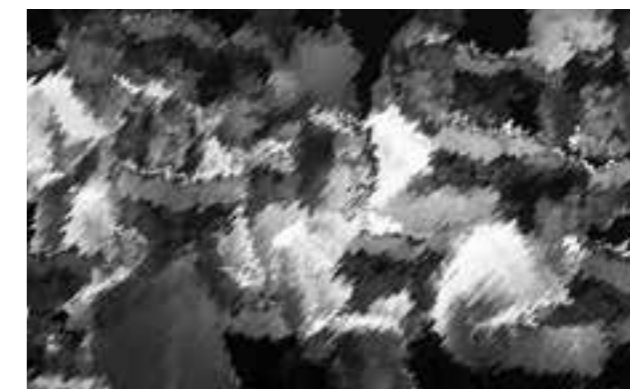
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THE GISBORNE SINGERS PERFORM CANTATA MEMORIA

Cantata Memoria commemorates the 50th anniversary of the Aberfan tragedy of 21 October 1966. It was on this day that 116 children and 28 adults perished when a coal spoil tip enveloped Pantglas Junior School together with some nearby houses in Aberfan, South Wales. It was not only the disaster itself, but the following insensitive bungling by authorities, and lack of prosecution of the National Coal Board and employees which has cast this tragedy deep within the Welsh psyche.

22 Gisborne Singers took up the offer to be part of the North American premiere in Carnegie Hall, New York in January 2017. Karl Jenkins work was not new to our choir having performed his The Armed Man (a Mass for Peace) in 2015. Thus preparing and performing the Australian Premier of Cantata Memoria is fitting. It's also worth mentioning that the Gisborne Singers have developed a fine reputation for the quality of their performances. One of our professional soloists said after a recent concert: "Thanks again for having me, I honestly think the Gisborne Singers are the finest amateur choir I've heard in Australia. Very impressive sound."

The music is accessible, memorable and truly moving. It uses repetition effectively and borrows appropriately



from other musical sources, and the final result is riveting. As in Jenkins' other works, it shows a truly Jenkins stamp throughout.

There will be two Sunday performances at 3.00pm: 20th May, Church of Christ New Gisborne; 27th May, Our Lady of the Rosary Church Kyneton.

Bookings through Trybooking; easiest access is the link on our web site www.gisbornesingers.org.au or Robert 5428 7033.

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SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

From hands-on workshops for creatives, to performances that promise belly laughs and plenty of family drama, Council's program of arts and culture in May is guaranteed to put a smile on your dial.

2018 MELBOURNE INTERNATIONAL COMEDY FESTIVAL ROADSHOW

Get your month off to a mad-cap start, as the 2018 Melbourne International Comedy Festival Roadshow spills into town.

On Saturday 12 May from 7.30pm, a cast of funny makers from Australia and beyond showcase everything from stand-up and sketch to satire and song.

Always a popular event on the Kyneton Town Hall calendar, get in fast because these tickets won't last.

Tickets are \$45 adults, \$42 seniors and \$40 concession.

To find out more, or to book tickets, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets or call 1300 888 802.

HOTEL SORRENTO

The complexity of Australian families come under the microscope on Wednesday 23 May at 7.30pm, as the award-winning play Hotel Sorrento takes to the Kyneton Town Hall stage. Written by acclaimed author Hannie Rayson, the story chronicles the life of three sisters who grew up together in the seaside town of Sorrento.

Dubbed a 'gentle psychological thriller that no Australian should miss', Hotel Sorrento highlights the importance of blood ties and collective family memories.

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

To find out more, or to book tickets, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets or call 1300 888 802.

WORKSHOPS: CALLING ALL CRAFTERS AND MAKERS!

Don't miss your chance to be part of two professional development sessions for artists and makers, being presented by Council and Craft Victoria.

WORKSHOPS INCLUDE:

Market Ready: a discussion for creatives interested in finding out more about what's involved in taking their wares to market.

Topics will include how to create strong product branding, negotiating cross-platform selling, savvy market preparation and logistics and more.

Selling Yourself: a confidence building workshop for artist and makers with tips on how to promote yourself and your work. This session will unpack ideas on how to help you and your work stand out in the crowd, with topics such as how to write a compelling artist bio, the art of a press release and social media smarts. If you're a maker or artist looking to build your business, don't miss this!

Both workshops will be held on Tuesday 1 May, 4pm-6pm (Market Ready) and 7pm-9pm (Selling Yourself) at Kyneton Town Hall, 129 Mollison Street. The cost is \$40 per person per workshop.

To find out more, or to book tickets, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets or call 1300 888 802.

EXHIBITION: CHINESE FORTUNES

Don't miss the myth-busting exhibition at Kyneton Museum, Chinese Fortunes.

The exhibition, showing until Sunday 24 June, 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.

CATCH CHINESE FORTUNES

Catch Chinese Fortunes at Kyneton Museum on Friday to Sunday from 11am to 4pm.

Entry fees apply. For more information, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/museum or call 1300 888 802.

The influenza season is coming – Think about a flu vaccination!

Last year's flu season was one of the most severe we've experienced in some time. There were 250,000 cases of flu across Australia with nearly 4,000 children affected and 745 deaths. Many of the people badly affected by flu were over 65 years of age. This year, new stronger and more effective vaccines will be provided for this group. To reduce risk to you, your family and community of another season of severe flu we encourage everyone to consider influenza immunisation this year.

Government will fund vaccination for the following groups who are at a higher risk of complications of flu:

- Seniors over 65 years of age
- Children between 6 months and 5 years of age
- People with long term illness – please ask your GP if you qualify
- Pregnant women
- Most Aboriginal people and Torres Strait Islanders

Flu vaccination will be available for Romsey and Lancefield Medical Centres in May at no cost to the groups listed above and at \$20 for all other patients.

Flu vaccinations offer the best protection in the first 3 months after the injection and the flu season peaks in August most years. You will get the best protection if you have your vaccination in May or June rather than earlier in the year.

It is never too late in the season to have your flu vaccination.

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FULL CIRCLE

Six months have passed during which time we have celebrated all the events in God's great plan for Man's redemption - us - redemption means being reconciled to God for we are alienated from Him by our sinful, fallen human natures. In Advent - remembering His first coming and preparing for His second coming; *Christmas* - Jesus leaving the glory of heaven to born in human form and identifying as one of us; *Good Friday* - when He offered Himself as the One True Sacrifice for the sins of the whole world; *Easter Day* - when He was raised from the dead by the mighty power of God the Father to live for evermore. So, He opened the way for us to have victory over sin and death when we give ourselves over to Him as our Saviour and Lord.

Now in May we come the full circle in God's redemptive plan - *Ascension Day* when Jesus, after His post-resurrection appearances, returned to the glory of heaven, taking His humanity into the Godhead. He is now the *Reigning Christ* and the *Resting Christ* as He sits at the right hand of God the Father. (Mark 16:19) where He ever lives praying for us. Before He ascended He commanded His followers to "Go into all the world and preach the Good News of salvation to all people" which His Church is committed to carrying out.

Ten days later comes Whitsunday/Pentecost - the momentous pouring out of the *Holy Spirit* into His disciples and many other believers. Changing them forever, from cringing fearful men and women into bold and powerful witnesses of Jesus Christ, the Saviour of the world. The Holy Spirit is the third Person of the Holy Trinity, which means that He is one with the Father and the Son, and is essentially God, bringing enlightenment and power to all who seek Him.

Next comes *Trinity Sunday* - as we celebrate the mystery of our Trinitarian Faith - Three Persons and One God - Father; Son; and Holy Spirit

God's plan for our Redemption and Regeneration through Revelation has now come full circle. So, it is now up to each and each of us to seek this great God who made us and loves us so much that He devised this plan to bring us to Himself - to become His sons and daughters in Christ.

"Glory be to God the Father; Glory be to God the Son; Dying, risen, ascending for us, Who the heavenly realm has won; Glory to the Holy Spirit; to the One God in Persons Three Glory both in earth and Heaven, Glory, endless glory be. Bishop C. Wordsworth.

MAY 2018 DIARY

Tues.1st KYB Bible Study resumes. Study Unit 1. 2nd Corinthians 10.30am Christ Church Lancefield.

Sun. 6th. Welcome to the Rev. Heather Vander Reest - (Locum until Rev. Judi Pollard comes mid-July)

Tues.8th. Bible Study. Unit 2. 2nd Letter to the Corinthians.10.30am.Lancefield.Welcome to anyone interested.

Thurs.10th. *Ascension day* - Jesus Christ returns to the glory of Heaven and the Father.

Tues.15th.Bible Study. Unit 3. St. Paul's 2nd Letter to the Corinthians.10.30am Lancefield

Sun.20th.*Whitsunday/Pentecost* coming of the Holy Spirit. Wear a touch of red or white.

Tues.22nd.10.30am.Lancefield.Bible Study.. Unit 4. St. Paul's Letter 2nd Letter to the Corinthians.

Sun.27th.*Trinity Sunday* - celebrating the Triune nature of God.

Tues.29.10.30am.Bible Study.Unit 5.St.Paul's 2nd Letter to the Corinthians.Lancefield.All welcome

Doreen Morgan..Correspondent.



WHAT A YEAR

Our second show for 2018 opens on Friday 11th May and runs till Sunday 27 May.

A.R. Gurney's *Love Letters* is a tender, tragi-comic, and nuanced examination of the shared nostalgia, missed opportunities, and deep closeness of two lifelong, complicated friends. While spanning five decades and numerous locations, it is staged simply, with two actors on stage, letting their words describe a world of emotion. Despite the painful differences which will ultimately tear them apart, they remain each other's most trusted confidante, and are "true lovers" on paper, if not on the earth. To book tickets go to our website www.themountplayers.com or call our box office on 5426 1892.

After *Love Letters*, we will hold our annual One Act Play Festival over the weekend of 6/7/8 of July and of course the highly anticipated *Les Miserables* opening on 3rd August - what a year!

Karen Hunt

KYNETON BADMINTON ASSOCIATION

The Winter season of the Kyneton Badminton Association has just begun and new players are welcome to join. Competition is held on Monday nights from 7:00pm at the Kyneton Toyota Sports and Aquatic Centre. Players of all ages and abilities are catered for. For more information contact Kevin Roberts on 5422 3057.

KINDERGARTEN READINESS SESSION: HELPING LITTLE FEET TAKE BIG STEPS

Parents of children who turn four years old before 30 April 2019 are invited to attend a free information session on assessing their child's readiness for kindergarten the year before school.

Presented by Council and featuring members of Council's Early Years team, Cobaw Community Health's speech pathologist and guest speaker Michelle Savage from Bloom Psychology, the session will provide an overview of how you can prepare your child for kindergarten and support available for you and your child if needed, what kindergarten is about and the unique aspects of each of our kindergartens.

The free information session will take place on Wednesday 16 May from 7pm-8.30pm at the Woodend Community Centre, corner of High and Forest streets.

"If parents have any concerns, or are unsure about the benefits of kindergarten, or whether their child is ready for the transition, I'd encourage them to attend", said Council's Acting Director of Community Wellbeing, Jill Karena.

"This sessions gives parents the tools to feel more confident in assessing whether your child will be ready for kindergarten next year, and to learn some strategies for supporting your child in their transition to kinder."

Places are limited. To register visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/kinder-ready

Registrations for kindergarten and three year old groups are now open

Council would like to remind parents that registrations for our three year old groups and kindergarten programs across the shire are now open. To register your child today visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/kinder-enrol

Kindergarten supports your child's development, in particular their social, emotional, fine motor language, literacy and numeracy skills and instils in your child a joy for learning.

For more information about our kindergarten or three year old programs please contact Council's Early Years unit on 5422 0239 or visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/kinder-enrol

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UNSPOKEN:

WHAT WILL BECOME OF ME?

Uncomfortable conversations that explore end of life wishes, ageing and poor health are in the spotlight in the art and theatre work, Unspoken, being performed at Kyneton Town Hall on Thursday 3 May.

The interactive performance aims to generate awareness, understanding and action around end of life conversations, and gives audience members a gentle and humorous entry point into the discussion.

There are 3 sessions available, with performances being held at 11am-1pm, 2pm-4pm and 7pm-9pm.

For more information or to book, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/buytickets or call 1300 888 802.

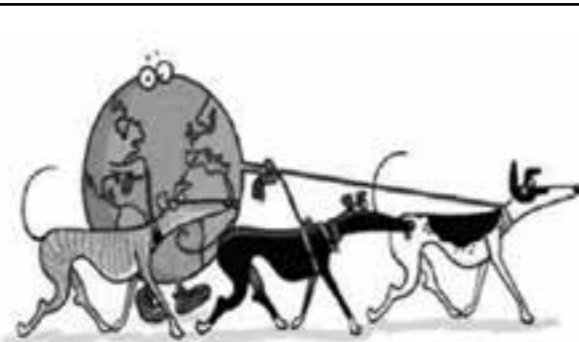
INFORMATION SESSIONS

COTA Victoria are offering three information sessions on end of life options, with topics including Advance Care Planning, palliative care and the new Voluntary Assisted Dying legislation.

These will be held on: Thursday 3 May, 1pm (Kyneton Town Hall, 129 Mollison Street, Kyneton)

Thursday 17 May, 10am (Romsey Neighbourhood House, 96-100 Main Street, Romsey) and 1pm (Macedon Ranges Health, 5 Neal Street, Gisborne).

To attend an information session, email sharper@mrsc.vic.gov.au or call 5422 0258.



CALLING ALL GREYHOUNDS!

Be part of a greyt day when greyhounds the world over walk out together and promote themselves as greyt pets. Come down to Lancefield Park in Chauncey Street and meet at the Laurie Green Pavilion by 10 am on Sunday June 10.

Shorter walks available for seniors and there will be terrific raffle and lucky prizes as well as morning tea. Don't miss this exciting day. Other canine friends are very welcome as well.

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LANCEFIELD SMALL BORE RIFLE CLUB

GOOD TIME TO JOIN!

Club members are continuing with their entries in the State Postal competitions, plus comps run by other Clubs. These will continue for another few weeks before results are out. Our annual membership renewals are due now, so a good time to join the club and get the full value from your membership fees. Members of our Club are also required to be members of Target Rifle Victoria. Take a look at their website www.trv.org.au There's a lot of information about getting started in the sport, newsletters and links to clubs.

Our recently covered range provides a good venue for competition in all weather conditions. If you would like to know more about our activities please ring our Club Secretary Max on 54 292259.

RECOGNISE THE EFFORTS OF YOUR SPORTING CLUB'S MOST VALUABLE OFF-FIELD PERFORMER

Nominations are now open for the 2018 Sports Focus 'Administrator of the Year' award. Do you know someone:

- Who has made a significant contribution to their local sporting club?
- Is an inspiration to the community for their tireless work, commitment and dedication to sport?
- Goes above and beyond to change their club for the better and to encourage, support and motivate others?

Then nominate them now. The award is celebrating its 30th Anniversary in 2018, and recognises the achievements and contribution made by volunteer Administrators to the sport and active recreation sector. Visit www.sportsfocus.com.au or phone 5442 3101 for more details or to nominate. Nominations close 30 June, 2018. The recipient of the 2018 'Administrator of the Year' award will be announced at the 2018 Sports Focus Annual General Meeting in Bendigo later in the year.

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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A GOOD START

The Lancefield Football Netball Club has gotten the year off to a good start with the club welcoming new and old faces for the 2018 season.

The first round of the season against Woodend at home saw the local community rally around the club, with great attendance at all games.

A LOCAL FOCUS: & NEW COMMITTEE

This year the Lancefield Football Netball club is excited to be moving in a new direction focussing on local players and sponsors.

Clark Todd has stepped up as President, with Nick Walsh backing him up as Vice President Gina Morgan taking the role of Treasurer and Sam Bender as Secretary.

COACHES:

We are excited to have Chris Collins back as our playing coach this year after a couple of years away spending time with his family and growing a successful plumbing business. Michelle Rix has also come on board as our playing coach for B Grade netball.

She brings many years of experience and expertise to the side and we look forward to seeing her lead the girls. Stacey Deimos has also joined the club as our assistant netball coach.

FOOTBALL & NETBALL

Lancefield will field three senior netball teams this year, an under 19.5's, a C Grade and B Grade. We're on the lookout for new players for the Under 19.5s side. For further information call Michelle on 0413 183 387. The club will field a reserve and seniors football side this year. After a challenging preseason the boys are fit and geared up for a great 2018 led by Matthew Bowden (captain), Jordan Kindred and John Morgan. We are also seeking new football players. Training is held at 6pm Tuesdays and Thursdays and we would love to see some new faces down at the club-rooms.

SWAP MEET:

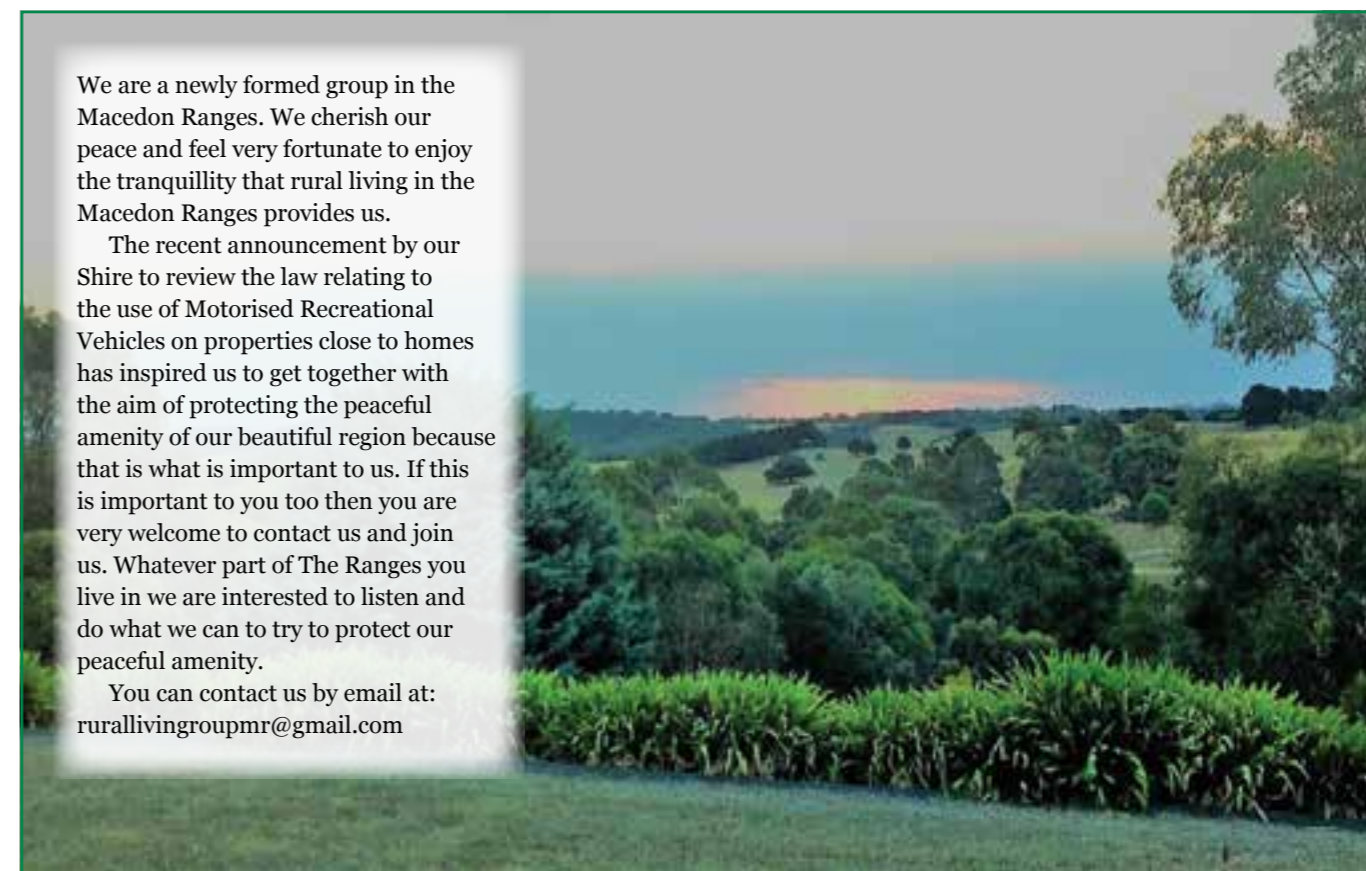
A big thank you to Pam and Gary Choate for all of their hard work planning and executing the Lancefield Swap Meet. Despite the less than favourable weather we have 120 sites booked and 2500 people through the gate. Thank you to the many people who worked hard to make this happen and everyone who came down and had a look on the day.

UPCOMING EVENTS:

Saturday 28th April – Past Players Day – Lancefield Park
 Saturday 26th May – Poker Night – Laurie Green Pavilion

Erin Foster, Lancefield Football Netball Club

MACEDON RANGES RURAL LIVING GROUP



We are a newly formed group in the Macedon Ranges. We cherish our peace and feel very fortunate to enjoy the tranquillity that rural living in the Macedon Ranges provides us.

The recent announcement by our Shire to review the law relating to the use of Motorised Recreational Vehicles on properties close to homes has inspired us to get together with the aim of protecting the peaceful amenity of our beautiful region because that is what is important to us. If this is important to you too then you are very welcome to contact us and join us. Whatever part of The Ranges you live in we are interested to listen and do what we can to try to protect our peaceful amenity.

You can contact us by email at: rurallivinggroupmr@gmail.com

NEW MEMBER SPECIAL DURING MAY

If you've been thinking about joining the gym, here's your chance to save!

During the month of May, new members to the Kyneton Toyota Sports & Aquatic Centre, Gisborne Fitness Centre or Gisborne Aquatic Centre who buy a three-month gym or swim membership, get one month

membership for free! That's four months membership to one of our aquatic and leisure facilities for three.

Terms and conditions apply. Offer valid for new members only, from Tuesday 1 May to Thursday 31 May.

To find out how you can get more for your money, visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/leisure or call 5422 0333.



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ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL LANCEFIELD
BUSY TERM AHEAD!

As I write this, everyone is hopefully enjoying a relaxing Easter break, storing their reserves for the very busy term ahead!

YEAR 1/2 ART SHOW

The Art theme during Term One, for the Year 1/2 students was Sculpture. Each week the students were given a different medium to work with, creating a sculpture of their own design. They looked at examples on various sites and commented on what they saw in relation to ideas, techniques and designs. The materials they worked with included packaging noodles, coloured card and paper, wire and clay. At the end of the term the students displayed their art to our school community. The students proudly discussed their artwork with the many parents and grandparents who attended. They all did an amazing job, well done!

WALKATHON

On Friday 16th March all students at St Mary's headed up to Lancefield Park to participate in a Walkathon to raise funds for the school. Prior to the day students had been busy gathering sponsors for their big walk. We were blessed with perfect weather and students were very keen to get moving.



For an hour and a half they ran, walked, skipped, laughed and enjoyed the great outdoors as they did lap after lap of the oval. The walk was followed by a BBQ which disappeared very quickly from the very hungry mob! A great day was had by all and congratulations to the students for raising over \$5500! Thank you to Mrs Giles for organising the event and all our parent helpers for their assistance on the day.

CARITAS PROJECT COMPASSION

Term One ended with a Gold Coin Day to raise money for Caritas Australia Project Compassion. Project Compassion is the annual Lenten appeal of Caritas Australia, with the focus in 2018 to empower young people to lead their communities



to a better, just future. Students were able to wear casual clothes and as well as donate a gold coin they had also been topping up their Project Compassion boxes throughout the term with their loose change. This loose change was used to make a coin line which stretched over 32 metres! Congratulations to all students for their fundraising efforts - the coins are still to be counted, so the amount raised is yet to be confirmed so watch this space..... Thanks to the Mini Vinnies for promoting the event and assisting on the day!

COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION (CWA)

During Term Two, the CWA will be coming in each Friday afternoon to teach the Year 3/4 students how to crochet.

The aim is that we can make as many crochet squares as possible in order to join them together to make a number of blankets. We hope to donate these blankets to one of the nursing homes in Kilmore upon completion. A big thanks in anticipation to Lyn & Agnes from the CWA who are generously giving their time to teach the students this wonderful skill.

FAMILY MONTH

During the month of May, Catholic Care run Family Week each year. This year we have decided to run 'Family Month' during the month of May. The theme for 2018 is Building Connections; Growing Together. With this theme in mind, we will be running the following activities during May -

Friday 4th May - Mass: welcoming all to Family Month 9.30am. Friday 11th May - Mother's Day Breakfast 7.30am - 9.00am. Tuesday 15th May - Prep / Buddy Family Lunch 1.30pm. Wednesday 23rd May - Grandparents Day 10am - 1.00pm. We look forward to sharing these wonderful events with our school and local community.

There will be much to report on in next month's Mercury with many activities taking place during Term Two. We have Anzac Day and the planting of our Gallipoli Oak, the Year 5/6 camp to Phillip Island, Sacred Heart College Junior Chef Competition and our Environmental Group beginning their River Detectives Program to name just a few. Have a great term!

Jo Shannon

SUNDAY 13TH MAY 2018
 YOU ARE INVITED TO JOIN US FOR

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ALL WELCOME

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 All welcome
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 Secretary: Pat 0417 103 064
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AND JUST LIKE THAT - LITTLE ATHLETICS IS FINISHED FOR ANOTHER SEASON!



It has been wonderful watching our athletes grow over the last few months, developing new friendships and displaying fantastic sportsmanship. Thank you to everyone for a fantastic season - bring on 2018/2019!

