

MAYBELLE TAKES THE **PLUNGE**

It might have taken 67 years, but long-standing Lancefield resident Maybelle Briggs is – finally – officially an Aussie. After pulling up roots in Scotland aged 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ with her parents and family and moving to a new land, Maybelle Muir became an Australian in every sense of the word – except the piece of paper officially stating it.

Maybelle grew up, married Keith Briggs, had a family and a teaching career, settled in Lancefield 36 years ago – but never got around to relinquishing her British citizen status.

She received her Australian citizenship at an Australia Day ceremony at Kyneton, finally acting on the urging of daughter Meredith.

To mark the occasion she was presented with a native seedling from Cr Henry Bleeck, who had attended a naturalisation ceremony at Romsey Shire Offices 47 years earlier, when his German-born parents and two older siblings received their citizenship.

But why the late move by Maybelle, particularly when her parents took the oath in 1989?

"I just didn't fuss with it," she said.

"My daughter Meredith pushed it. She said at the start of last year, 'Mum, you're not getting any younger. Why don't you become an Australian citizen'?"

Another prompt was the regular visits to their son, David, his Swedish wife Kristina and Maybelle's grandson Edward, now living in Sweden, and the different visa processes between Maybelle's British passport and Keith's Australian one.

"You line up and I go through with all the Europeans, whereas Keith has to go through with all the other foreigners," she said.

In terms of Aussie traditions, Maybelle's football allegiance rests with Hawthorn, where she lived for a



period growing up. It's an interesting time in the household whenever the Hawks play bitter rivals Essendon, the team of choice of Keith and the kids.

Maybelle's primary teaching career took her around the State before she settled on schools in the northern suburbs, still close enough to escape each night to her family and 30 acres of heaven.

She retired from teaching in 2007, but life is still just as busy on her own little patch of Australia out behind Mount William.



VOL. 27 NO 2 MARCH 2017

LANCEFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

HAPPY AND EXCITED TO BE







School leaders: Back L to R,Oscar Choate, Blair Huggins, Jackson Shennan. Front L to R, Gabby-Ann Bubb, Corey Taylor, Clair Mustey.

Everyone has returned to school this year happy and excited to be back at LPS. We would particularly like to welcome our lovely new Prep students and their families and other new students and new staff across the school. Everyone is doing a great job of helping our new school members feel safe, comfortable and welcome in their new school.

GARDEN TO TABLE LAUNCH

During the first week back to school we launched our fabulous new Garden to Table Program with many parents, grandparents and friends stopping by for a cuppa and a homemade cookie to meet Sue Nolan. Sue is coordinating the program and will be working with teachers and students each Tuesday. Sue has put in hours of work over the holidays to transform our canteen into a beautiful welcoming country kitchen. The students will be learning about making healthy food choices, how to cook safely, cooking with locally produced and seasonal produce, creating garden art, learning about seeds and plants, recycling, reusing and composting and much more. All of this will complement our ResourceSmart program.

Throughout the year, all classes in the school will participate in this exciting and engaging program.

This wonderful opportunity for our students is only possible through the generous support of the Lancefield Neighbourhood House and the fabulous fundraising efforts of the Lancefield Op Shop.

EQUINE LEADERSHIP PROGRAM YEAR 6S

This term our year six students have been invited to participate in a unique program through Equine Assisted Learning to promote leadership, resilience, persistence and building teamwork skills. This program does not involve horse riding, and no previous experience with horses is necessary. Powerful learning opportunities are provided for students to learn about themselves and each other. Horses respond with non-judgmental, instant and honest feedback. What is learned from the horses can be transferred and used in their everyday life and can produce long lasting positive



impacts on students' self-esteem and self-awareness.

This project is supported by donations to the John Wallis Foundation Small Grants Program, an approved project of the Foundation for Rural and Regional Renewal (FRRR). FRRR is a government philanthropy partnership, supporting projects that benefit rural, regional and remote communities.

We are very grateful to Helen Shaw of the Equine Insight program for devising and conducting this program for our Year six students.

STUDENT LEADERS OF 2017

Congratulation to our Student Leaders of 2017. Oscar Choate, Blair Huggins, Jackson Shennan, Gabby-Ann Bubb, Corey Taylor, Clair Mustey

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NUMEROUS LAWN MOWER FIRES

Burn off notification: 1800 668 511, Bushfire Information Line: 1800 240 667

Fire Restrictions Are In Force Zero Tolerance to anyone who lights a fire without a permit.

It is no secret that the brigade and surrounding brigades have responded to numerous fires in the last month that have all been caused by lawn mowers. Some of these fires have been relative small with one or two being quite large and requiring up to 30 CFA appliances to bring them under control, with the loss of property. The brigade asks that when mowing you do it in the cool of the morning or evening, before 10am or after 5pm.

Check that there is no dry grass or debris caught up under or on top of the mower deck. Use the mower as intended by the manufacture and do not use it to cut grass that is too long or dry grass that has been previously cut by a slasher and left in rows on the ground.

There are some simple rules around using *Lawn Mowers*, *Plant Or Grass Trimmers Or Chainsaws* during the Fire Danger Period and On Total Fire Ban Days



TOTAL FIRE BAN

Can I use a chainsaw, plant or grass trimmer or lawn mower?
This should be avoided wherever possible on Total Fire
Ban days because the risk of starting fires is extremely high
and the impact of fire on these days may be much greater. If
the work is essential, follow the guidelines in the bottom row
for the Fire Danger Period.

Note that the spark arrester, the knapsack spray pump and the water fire extinguisher referred to above must comply with the applicable Australian Standards.

FIRE DANGER PERIOD

Can I use a chainsaw, plant or grass trimmer or lawn mower? NO unless:

- The chainsaw, plant or grass trimmer or lawn mower complies with the following when used in vegetation that is not green (that is dry vegetation):
- Free from faults and mechanical defects that could cause an outbreak of fire
- Fitted with an efficient spark arrester

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- Have an area of at least 3 metres around the machine cleared of flammable material.
- Also, a person must be in attendance at all times the machine is being used, and must carry at least one of the following fire suppression equipment items:
- one knapsack spray pump, in working order, fully charged with water, with a capacity of not less than 9 litres, or
- One water (stored pressure) fire extinguisher, in working order, fully charged with water and maintained at the correct

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pressure, with a capacity of not less than 9 litres.

Work undertaken in *green* vegetation is permitted, however CFA suggests maintaining equipment and carrying fire suppression equipment as described above.

This information is taken from the Can I Can't I brochure which is found at the following link -

http://www.cfa.vic.gov.au/warnings-restrictions/can/

Lancefield Fire Brigade Community Safety Coordinator Jenny Davis

NOTICE OF BIENNIAL MEETING AND ELECTION

Will be held at the Lancefield Fire Station 2b The Crescent Lancefield Tuesday 4th April 2017 at 8pm All Welcome

LANCEFIELD MERCURY INC.

A0045845D

Items for publication should be sent to editor3435@gmail.com

Advertising should be sent to advertising3435@gmail.com

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



Editorial Committee:

Andy Moore Craig Longmuir Meryl Green Robert Green Karen Barr Murk Schoen Fay Woodhouse Ken Allender

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial committee.

Editorial Enquiries to Andy Moore 0430 448 120

Advertising Enquiries to Ken Allender 0404 886 580.

The Lancefield Mercury should be delivered to every dwelling which receives a mail delivery from the Lancefield Post Office. The

Mercury committee would be keen to make sure that no-one misses out on their monthly copy of the paper. If you have missed

out on a copy, either regularly or occasionally, or know someone who has, can you let the editor know at editor3435@gmail.com

If you want a copy of the Lancefield Mercury emailed to you, on a regular or one-off basis, send an email to the editor. Thank you.

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 – I I editions (no edition in January)

Annual I/8 page \$280 Annual I/4 page \$360 Annual ½ page \$650 Annual full page \$1000

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Inside back page: Full page \$240 or ½ page \$160. Back page: ¼ page strip \$90.

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LOTS ON

THIS MONTH'S ACTIVITIES IN OUR PATCH

Saturday 4 March Free pest rabbit workshop in Romsey (MRSC) 10am-12pm Romsey Community Hub, 96 Main

Do you have a rabbit problem? In this free workshop, join expert Tim Bloomfield to learn about the release of the new strain of the Calicivirus (RHDV1 K5) in Victoria and how to successfully undertake rabbit control on your property.

Wednesday 8 March Living with Wildlife workshop (MRSC) 6.30pm-8pm Norma Richardson Hall, 15 Buckland Street, Woodend. Have you ever wondered what to do when you are swooped by a magpie or when a blue-tonged lizard suddenly appears in your backyard? Join Wildlife Victoria for this free discussion on living with wildlife.

Saturday 11 March Free worm farm workshop (MRSC) 10am-11.30am Woodend Neighbourhood House, 47 Forest

Are you interested in buying a worm farm but don't know how to get it started? This workshop is aimed at equipping you with the knowledge and skills to have a successful worm

Monday 20 March 8 pm Monthly Meeting

Lancefield Mechanics Hall Annexe - The Crescent Lancefield All welcome

BREAKING NEWS -

Cobaw Wildlife Research Program - a change for young and old to participate

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has partnered with Deep Creek Landcare and the Victorian Government to undertake a series of wildlife surveys in the Cobaw State Forest. These surveys will help us understand the natural values of this unique location. Surveys will include the use of remote cameras, wildlife traps, spotlights and bird counts. Come along and see if you can spot the elusive Phascogale!

Cobaw wildlife night spotlight Saturday 25 March 8.00pm-9.30pm

Cobaw bird count Sunday 9 April 8.30am-10.30am More information and meeting location are on the Council website. Bookings required.

To book, please visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/cobawfauna Contact details

President Hayley Goodman 0409 936 814 Secretary Pat Danko 0417 103 364 p.danko1@bigpond.com

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Romsey and Lancefield Medical welcomes: Dr David BEAINI

Dr David Beaini has commenced at Romsey Medical Centre and is currently in his second year in the Australian General Practice Training Program. Last year he worked in a busy regional General Practice in Ballarat and comes to us to complete his General Practice Specialist Training. He is a qualified Doctor and has committed to spending the next 12 months working in Romsey and Lancefield. Having spent the past 3 years working in Ballarat, David is excited about joining our team in February 2017. He is passionate about general family practice and in particular travel medicine. Outside of work David is an avid sports fan, particularly when it comes to AFL.

Romsey and Lancefield Medical Centre's are fully accredited training practices' and take pride in providing Doctors who are new to General Practice with the opportunity to live and work in a rural community. Dr Beaini will be working Monday to Friday (9 day fortnight) and 1 Saturday per month

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FOR OUR SAKE

We have now entered into the season of Lent, following in the steps of Jesus into the desert where He fasted forty days and forty nights to be tempted by the Devil, Satan, on the eve of His earthly ministry to gain our salvation for which He had been born.

The Collect of the First Sunday in Lent (BCP) reminds us that "it was for our sake" He was led by the Spirit to undergo this bitter experience of testing. The first man, Adam, was tempted in the garden and failed, the second man, Jesus, was tempted in the wilderness and overcame.

As Jesus was tempted by Satan so are we in many subtle ways - by our thoughts, words and deeds, and the things we do and should not do and the things we leave undone which we ought to have done. All these break our our relationship with God and we need someone to mend that break - Jesus is that Someone who does just that when we put our faith and trust in Him.

Lent is a good time to take stock of just where we stand before Him and take Jesus as our model for its forty days. He spent those forty days fasting, praying and meditating on the words of Scripture by which He was able to meet all the temptations Satan threw at Him.

Let us all during this time, open our hearts to God and ask Him to reveal to us our spiritual needs, so guiding us during these forty days as to what path we should take in fasting - denial of physical needs and interests -, prayer and meditating on His word. Temptations are real and Satan is ever ready to separate us from our Heavenly Father but Jesus overcame by the power of the Holy Spirit and by the authority of the Word of God, so may we.

"Forty days and forty nights, You were fasting in the

Forty days and forty nights, Tempted and yet undefiled. G. Symttan & F. Pott

2017 is now well on its way and so are our Church activities - the Op. Shop has been busy now looking like a mini-emporium with its new carpet. AMS has drawn up their programme for the months ahead, the needs of

Anglicare are always pressing as are the prayer needs and support of members on our sick list.

MARCH 2017 DIARY.

Wed. 1st Mar. Ash Wednesday.

9am. Holy Communion & Imposition of Ashes. St.Paul's Romsey

7pm. Christ Church. Lancefield

Fri. 3rd Mar.11am. The World Day Of Prayer. Focus On The Philippines

At The Uniting Church Pohlman St., Romsey. Please bring a small plate to share.

Tues.7th Mar. Lenten Reflections begin. "Giving Up - Taking Up.".Rev B. Carroll. 10am. Christ Church Vicarage. 7pm - St.Paul's Romsey. Continuing throughout Lent. Thurs.9th.Mar. 8pm. AMS (Anglican Men's Society)meets

Parish Hall Lancefield. Eng. Tom 5429-6060.

Wed. 16th Mar. 7.30pm. Parish Council meets. Parish Hall Lancefield.

Sun. 19th Mar. 10am. Combined Service . Christ Church Lancefield

Pastoral Visit by Bishop Philip Huggins. Bishop Of Our Region.

6Pm. Healing Service. Christ Church Lancefield. Rev. W. Carroll

Sun. 26th. Mar. 4th Sunday in Lent. Mothering Sunday. With Simnel Cake

Sun. 2nd. April. Harvest Thanksgiving. for Anglicare. Fresh vegs.etc welcome

SPECIAL DATES FOR APRIL -

Thurs.13th April. 7pm. Holy Communion. Maundy Thursday. St. Paul's Romsey

(Maundy Thursday -Traditional foot washing & giving of alms to the poor)

Fri.14th Apr. Good Friday. 9Am. Good Friday Liturgy. Christ Church Lancefield

Sun.16Th Apr.easter Day. 9am. Holy Communion. St.Paul's Romsey

10.30am. Christ Church.

SUNDAY WORSHIP TIMES -

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

Minister Rev. W. Carroll. Doreen Morgan Office. 5429-1380. MOB. 0427-918-607. Correspondent

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AUDITIONS BEING HELD!

Our first production "Little Gem" an Irish play is now underway but there are still performances up till 11th March so don't miss out! To book your tickets go to www.themountplayers.com or call our box office on 5426 1892

Auditions were held on 27 & 28 Feb for our 2nd production "True West" and will swing into rehearsal mode shortly. There will be an information night at the theatre for our 3rd production, The Full Monty on Monday 10th April at 7.00pm. We invite you to come along to find out about the characters' requirements and hear all about this wonderful musical comedy set in Buffalo, New York. Auditions will be held on Mon 1 May, Wed 3 May with call backs on Sat 6 May.

For all enquiries or to book a time please call Leo on 0458 582 838.

By Karen Hunt



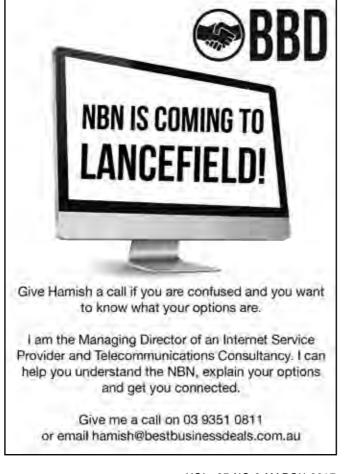
FOR PEOPLE 55 YEARS OR OVER.

The Romsey/Lancefield Probus club is a small one. At the beginning of 2016 we had 34 members and then during the year 8 people joined our group which brought our numbers up to 42. All our members are active and aged between 58-90+ years. We enjoy each other's company and have made good friendships along the way. Always plenty of chat and laughter whenever we are together. Monthly meetings are at 10am, on the 4th Thursday of the month in St.Mary's Church Hall Main Street, Romsey. Our next meeting is the Annual General Meeting at 10am Thursday 23rd March, 2017. Guest Speaker: Peter Milburn, Rotary District Probus Chairman, speaking about Ambassadors and Clusters. Check out our website for information 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. For Active Retirees.

President: Greg Buist 5429 1116 Secretary: Jenifer Clampit 5429 5480





LANCEFIELD PARK

ALMOST ON TOP OF THE GRASS IN THE PARK



We are almost on top of all the grass in the Park.
Unfortunately in the growth a lot of big woody weeds (elm suckers) have reappeared, they will take a bit of removing as they are now too big for the brush cutter or mower and along the drain at the back. Hopefully we can focus on these in upcoming working bees.

Some big events are happening in the Park in the next few months. We will have just finished the weekend of the Truck Show and The Relay for Life will be held on the weekend of 4 and 5 March. Saturday 1 April from 12-2 is the Macedon Ranges Grand Tour car rally.

The cars can be viewed in the equestrian area at the back of the Park. The very next day is the hugely successful Swap Meet run by the Lancefield Football Netball Club. We are lucky to have such a large Park which can accommodate and attract these events.

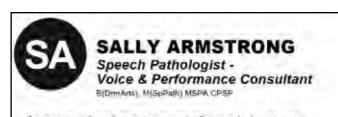
If you would like to help keep are lovely Park maintained either in your own time or as part of the working bees email us at lancefieldpark@hotmail.com or phone 0409 386 875.

At a meeting chaired by DELWP's Simone Day on February 20, 11 interested locals were elected to the Lancefield Park Recreation Reserves committee of management for the next three years.

Syd Green was re-elected unopposed as president as was secretary Judy Stammers and treasurer Vivienne Philpotts.

The other eight committee members are Daniel Huggins, Kate Christie, Doug Kindred, Adam Talbot, John McCarthy, Stephen "Fred" King, Mark Morgan, and Roger Lavelle.





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MASS TIMES

Saturday: 6.00 p.m. Lancefield 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month: 8.00 a.m. Lancefield and 10.00 a.m. Romsey 2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month: 8.00 a.m. Romsey and 10.00 a.m. Lancefield

ROSARY

Saturdays 9:45am Romsey

RECONCILIATION

By arrangement.

BAPTISMS

By request For more information, please phone 5429 2130.

REGULAR EVENTS

Christian Meditation Group: Each Monday evening. 6:00 p.m. Romsey Church – all welcome. Enquiries: Barry 5429 3311

SACRAMENTS

Parents with children not attending St. Mary's School who are scheduled to receive Sacraments in 2017 are requested to

contact the secretary by phone: 5429 2130 or by email at lancefield@cam.org.au to register your child.

Eucharist program begins Saturday 29th of April – Registration cut-off is Friday 14th of April.

Confirmation program begins Wednesday 21st of June – Registration cut-off is Friday 2nd of June.

Keep up to date with parish activities - St. Mary's Parish Lancefield-Romsey

PARISH NEWS

The parish is delighted to have Fr. Martin Fleming, Parish Priest of St. Ambrose in Woodend, appointed as Administrator of St. Mary's Parish Lancefield-Romsey. Working alongside Fr. Martin will be Fr. Vinoth Santiago who will continue to celebrate weekend Masses with us.

Fr. Martin was appointed to St. Ambrose five years ago so many parishioners will already be acquainted. Fr. Vinoth has of course been providing service to our parish since December and it has been a pleasure getting to know him. Fr. Vinoth will continue his Chaplaincy work at The Royal Melbourne Hospital and Peter McCallum Cancer Hospital as well as provide service to our parish.

Parishioners may opt to receive our weekly bulletin via email to keep up to date with Mass times by sending a request to – lancefield@cam.org.au or like our Facebook page for regular updates.



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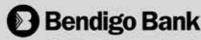
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BECOMING AN ANIMAL-FRIENDLY SHIRE

When it comes to pets, do you know the difference between registration and microchipping?

Do you have issues with wandering dogs or cats in your neighbourhood? Council is currently working towards the development of a new Macedon Ranges Domestic Animal Management Plan, which supports animal management and pet ownership in our community, and sets out how we can become an animal-friendly shire.

The plan will consider a range of issues, including:

- dog on and off lead areas
- cat curfews
- minimising the number of dogs and cats being euthanised
- reducing the harmful effect of domestic pets on our native birds, mammals and reptiles
- dealing with nuisances caused by domestic pets such as trespassing, attacks and barking.

HOW CAN YOU HELP SHAPE THIS **NEW PLAN?**

We want to hear your comments and ideas about how we can develop and improve responsible pet ownership in the shire. Share your thoughts and complete our survey, available

online at mrsc.vic.gov.au/yoursay from Wednesday 1 March or pick up a copy from a Council customer service centre.

Submissions close Monday 10 April.

For more information, contact our Local Laws unit on 5422 0333 or mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au

BE A RESPONSIBLE PET OWNER

Don't forget to renew your pet's registration by Monday 10 April 2017.

There are a number of benefits of renewing the registration of your pet with Council, such as improving the chances of a missing pet being returned quickly if they become lost. Registration fees also help provide important pet-related services within the shire such as animal control, dog attack prevention programs and other community education that encourages responsible pet ownership. There are a number of ways you can renew your pet registration. These include:

Online, via Council's website, mrsc.vic.gov.au/payments BPAY, Mail or in person at one of Council's service

For more information, contact our Local Laws unit on 5422 0333.





John Webb & Emma Stevens

34 High Street, Lancefield 3435 (03) 54292566 fax(03) 5429 2577 reddoorbooks@bigpond.com





CONGRATULATIONS!

Congratulations! To all Macedon Ranges Communities for being part of electing a progressive council and reinvigorating democracy and community in the Macedon

Now that we have a great foundation: Let's Build! With that thought we, Alice Aird, John Brookes and Barbara Crlien, inspired by the engagement of and feedback from communities across the Shire through the series of workshops run by A Forum for Democratic Renewal in 2016, began looking at what could support us all to maintain momentum in the community and build on ALL our successes.

We are running a series of workshops with regular informal meet-ups in between.

THEME OF THE SERIES:

Boosting Community Campaigning and Collaboration in and around Macedon Ranges

Our first workshop was "Power" Tools to Effect Change on Saturday, February at the Woodend Neighbourhood

House. This workshop covered Introducction of the Drama Triangle, to get your message clear and powerful, getting you excited about the Spectrum of Allies, opening your eyes to new ways of seeing your projects and ideas and illuminating new possibilities and steps towards your goals

MEET-UP

On Sunday Sunday March 5th, 3-5pm, Venue: to be

The meet-up will be a social environment, where we can informally share our experience with the tools and learn from each other's experience.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

Barbara Crljen, bcrljen@bigpond.net.au, 0413 774 677 Alice Aird, airda@bigpond.com, 0400 068 551 John Brookes, john.brookes30@gmx.com, 0448 194 052

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20 YEARS OF VINES AND WINES

The Macedon Ranges' Boucher-Russell family is celebrating 20 years of winemaking at Kyneton Ridge Estate on Sunday 2 April and everyone's invited to share the love.

"We are calling all wine and cheese lovers to come and help us celebrate. We have been rewarded for our hard work and so this day is dedicated to the good things in life. We think that is symbolised by delicious wine and cheese pairings," says owner Pauline Russell.

A special Love Among the Barrels wine and cheese degustation, at 11am, will celebrate the passion that goes in to making high-quality wines and artisanal cheeses and will demonstrate why these are a match made in heaven. In an intimate workshop in the barrel room, Winemaker John Boucher and Cheesemaker Nardia Keene will guide you through perfect pairings.

"Guests can then enjoy a complimentary glass of their choice of wine on our deck and take in our extraordinary views over Black Hill Reserve and Mount Alexander. Places are limited for this intimate event, so make sure you let us



know you are coming," says Pauline.

There will also be tapas available at the cellar door, cool acoustic tunes by Chris Morley. People can spend the day drinking up the fruits of the winemaker's labours.

Over the next few months, a curated list of events will celebrate 20 years of Kyneton Ridge Estate.

Love Among the Barrels Wine and Cheese Pairing 11am, Sunday 2 April. \$60 per person. \$55 earlybird rate. Bookings essential 03 5422 7377

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WORKING TOGETHER TO UNDERSTAND AND PLAN FOR HEALTH AND WELLBEING

Local organisations focused on health are working together to create a healthier, happier community.

Cobaw Community Health, Kyneton District Health, Macedon Ranges Health, Macedon Ranges Shire Council and Windarring are inviting community members to identify health priorities via a short online survey, with the support of the Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership. Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership's Executive Officer, Shelly Lavery said each organisation plays different roles but together they work to promote health and wellbeing of community members "from the cradle to the grave".

"It is great to see collaboration on health planning start with organisations asking community members what is important to them in relation to health and wellbeing" she

Survey responses will help guide planning for community health and wellbeing in the Macedon Ranges Shire. The online survey found at https://www. surveymonkey.com/r/MRsurvey2017 will close on 10 March 2017. Paper copies are available from each organisation.

People who complete the survey can also go into the draw for a chance to win one of 5 family swim passes and a family ticket to a Macedon Ranges Arts and Culture show.

FURTHER QUERIES

If you have any further queries about the survey please feel free to contact:

Emma Shannon, Central Victorian Primary Care Partnership, 5472 5333

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ENCOURAGE CHURCH

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Today, many oppressed people risk their lives, braving open seas or paying a fortune to flee their tyrannical or war oppressed country of birth. They will risk everything for a chance of becoming citizens in another nation rich with opportunity, freedom and prosperity.

The greatest nation of all time is the Kingdom of Heaven – sadly none of us are born citizens.

Mankind, through bad choice (sin), sought independence from God and is now imprisoned in the tyranny of a corrupt and fallen world. Because of those choices, there is now a barrier (called judgement) between mankind and God. This barrier separates us from ever being citizens in the Heavenly Kingdom. We can't do anything ourselves to gain citizenship - we can't bribe a church or do any number of good deeds to become an acceptable candidate. The truth is that only God can pay the necessary price on our behalf - and the astounding news is the price for our citizenship has been completely paid. God so loved the world that He gave His uniquely born Son (Jesus Christ) that whosoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life (John 3:16). Through the willing sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross, a way was made through the barrier. Heaven awaits any who accept Christ's gift (sacrifice) on their behalf.

God never intended this corrupt planet to be our eternal home. He desires all to be citizens of His Heavenly Kingdom

and gain the magnificent eternal privileges of peace and abundant life that it offers even now. Right now the border is open, the walls are knocked down and all we need do is accept Jesus Christ's gift to become citizens of the most splendid Kingdom ever to exist. The choice is ours.

If you haven't crossed the border (by believing in Christ) - do it now.

Citizenship will not be offered after life on Earth – do not miss the greatest opportunity of eternity. (Romans 5:8. Ephesians 2:8-9)

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.

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NEWS FROM NEWHAM

NEWHAM MECHANICS INSTITUTE IS THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE A NEW SHOW

Following the huge success of last November's sold out Robert Forster show, the Newham Mechanics Institute is thrilled to announce a new show for 2017 - renowned UK folk songstress Martha Tilston. Throughout March and April, English singer-songwriter Martha Tilston is taking her new album *Nomad* on the road around Australia, kicking off the tour at the Port Fairy Folk Festival in Victoria, going on to play shows around Melbourne and Sydney before finishing up at the National Folk Festival in Canberra.

In the middle of all that, she is bringing her multiinstrumentalist band to the Macedon Ranges for one night only, performing in the acoustic intimacy of the Newham Mechanics Institute. With a beautiful crystal clear voice, Martha has earned a nomination from the BBC for best newcomer and released six highly acclaimed albums, building up a large audience worldwide. Her performances take you from stripped down folk arrangements to textural electronica and sparkling melodies, often stepping off stage to sing un-accompanied amongst the audience.

Martha Tilston plays Newham Friday 24th March.

Tickets available at the Newham General Store or online www.trvbooking.com/ONGI or via www. newhamhall.com

PILATES AT THE HALL

Mondays at 9.15am, Tuesdays at 7.30pm Book with Jess 040790039 Performance Pilates Tuesdays at 8am and at 9.10am book with Kirsty 0419296555 Equilibrium Pilates

NEWHAM WALKING GROUP

Every Tuesday, all year. 9am start. Car pool from Newham Mechanics Hall. Walkers advised by email. Dogs on leads welcome. Contact Fran Spain - 54270661

NEWHAM WEBSITE

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THE LANCEFIELD **COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION**

The Lancefield Country Women's Association began 2017 with an informal luncheon at the Lancefield Hotel. This year we are hoping to enhance our meetings with learning opportunities from guest speakers and social outings for members.

We would like to remind the community that we are an organisation for all women – there is no need to be crafty or good at making scones! Throughout 2016 we were able to raise funds for our community - a total of \$1600 has been contributed to: The Lancefield CFA, Girl Guides, St Mary's Primary School, Lancefield Primary School and Kindergarten, Junior Netball/Football/Tennis clubs and the Mechanics Institute. The Lancefield CWA also provides an annual scholarship fund to a Grade 6 student from both primary schools.

As an association we are always looking for new members - women of all ages are very welcome. Meetings are at 10am (for a 10.30 start) on the Fourth Friday of the Month in the annexe of the Mechanics Institute. Contact us at: lancefieldcwa@gmail.com or check out our Facebook page!



SATURDAY 18TH MARCH

9.30am till 4.30pm Antiques, Vintage & Collectibles Fair.

SUNDAY 19TH MARCH 10AM - 3.30PM

Antiques Appraisal Day run by an Antiques Guild member. Verbal appraisal only, \$5 per piece or \$12 for 3. Free entry.

ALSO

Also includes Garden Sale - Plants and goods on sale from 10am. Refreshments available

Romsey Mechanics Institute, 122 Main Street, Romsey This is a partnership event run by Romsey Mechanics Institute and Romsey Neighbourhood House

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THROUGH ROSE COLOURED GLASSES

My earliest memories are from 1931. I can still remember my mother washing with on a ribbed washboard. My wife used a washing machine. Early in life I was intrigued why my mother was pounding dough. It was to make bread. The bakers were in the cities. Now I have a bread machine, which supplies me with fresh bread or I can buy any sort of bread from our local baker. As kids we had to wash the dishes during which we had intimate discussions. Now they have a dishwasher and send SMSs via their iphone. In those early days a newspapers were expensive and hard to come by, unless you lived in the city. There was no television, news was gathered from the weekly local market (no super markets) or from gossip with neighbours.

Why is there such pessimism in our future? We live in an exciting time. Nowadays people are bombarded with bad news. "Unemployment is rising, banks rip people off, the climate is going to destroy us, we cannot afford our medical services, or drive a car, or use electricity, we die early, because we eat the wrong food or, too much of it, we sell our land to foreigners etc. etc.".

In 1931 my father saved his cash (banks were only in the big cities), to buy the first motor car, in our village. The noise of its engine scared the horses. Boat, bicycle, horse and cart were the only modes of transport. We don't have to walk anymore, nearly everybody has 2 or 4 wheels to move about and we hop in our car, to buy a carton of milk.

When I learned to read my mother taught me (no

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preschool), by kerosene light, before going to bed. Nowadays one flicks a switch and there is light. My son got even a lamp that switches on when he claps his hands. When we got hurt my mother bandaged us, with torn off cloth (no bandaids).

Of course there are always people worse off, but in general we are now living in better times then 90 years ago. We have access to better food, additional energy, easier transport, more medical knowledge. We even start to think of our environment. Our houses have running water, electricity (even solar electricity if we want) and sewerage. We talk into our mobile telephone to keep in touch with our loved ones. We have more general knowledge and if we haven't, we can get it from Mr. Google. If we are still unhealthy we can visit a gym or have a free massage to help our aching bodies.

We do prosper as the price of goods decreases, compared to the amount of work, we do. It was something Henry Ford understood. His T model car was in 1908, a great improvement on the horse and buggy and it was cheap. Some 5 years later he cut the price by \$ 250 and became a wealthy man. A McDonald Cheese burger today is many times cheaper than in 1950. Machines do nowadays a lot of our hard work while we go to the footy, cricket or theatre.

I would not like to go back to the time, when I milked 30 cows by hand for little reward. No I like to look at a future, through rose coloured glasses.

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centrallandclearing@gmail.com www.centrallandclearing.com.au MACEDON RANGES SHIRE COUNCIL

GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

HELP YOUR GROUP ACCESS FUNDING

A free Macedon Ranges Shire Council workshop in March will help not-for-profit community groups and organisations improve their grant writing skills . The workshop will provide participants with tips and techniques on writing applications which may improve their chances of receiving grants. It will also cover how to find grants and how to develop a grants plan. Mayor, Cr Jennifer Anderson said the workshop was a must-do for community groups and organisations hoping to realise a great idea.

"Each year Council receives a high level of funding applications through our grants program", she said. "Our workshop presenters will walk through the grant application process step-by-step and explain what we're looking for, giving participants a much better chance of being able to interpret grant criteria and fine tune their applications".

The free workshop will be held on Monday 20 March at 2pm and 6.3opm at the Woodend Community Centre, on the corner of Forest and High streets in Woodend.

Places are limited. To register or for more information, contact Trudy on 5422 0320 or email grants@mrsc.vic.gov.au

COME AND SAY HELLO

Bike Safe Macedon Ranges will be at the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Festival on Saturday 4th March. It's held behind the Woodend Neighbourhood House and this year it is running in conjunction with the farmer's market.

We will be amongst the many excellent and interesting exhibitors for the day. It's a chance for us to continue to connect with our local community and coincides with our "Pass with Care" campaign that is currently running throughout the Shire. This year, entry to the festival is free.

Come and say hello. We will be on the stand from 9am through to the close at 3pm. We will have some information on who we are and why we believe that the Macedon Ranges is an excellent place to be a cyclist. We love to promote our local area as a place for visitors to come and enjoy, preferably with their bikes!

Why not take the chance to sign up as a member? We will also have our "Pass with Care" vests for sale. They are a great way to spread our message whilst helping to be safe out on the road by wearing visible clothing.

Jem Richards Bike Safe Macedon Ranges

Tai Chi Classes

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WATER SUPPLY UPDATE

Lancefield's drinking water is now being topped up with local bore water, with low rainfall in December and January causing a drop in local reservoir levels. Up to 30% bore water has been added to the town's water supply since early February, to help preserve reservoir levels and ensure there is enough water for the town over the coming months. Western Water has added bore water to Lancefield's water supply during dry times for many years. It is a standard approach designed to make the most of local water supplies. Customers are not likely to notice a change in the taste or smell of their water, as the percentage of bore water will be relatively low. All drinking water is filtered and treated at the Lancefield water filtration plant to meet Australian Drinking Water Guidelines before it is piped to customers.

If the dry weather continues, water can also be made available to the town from Western Water's broader supply network through the Romsey-Lancefield pipeline. Western Water will continue to monitor reservoir levels and water usage in Lancefield, and adjust the supply system as needed.

HAVE YOU BEEN BEREAVED BY SUICIDE?

Support After Suicide Macedon Ranges is offering peer support for those bereaved by suicide. In 2017 our support meetings will be held at Newham Mechanics Institute, 1292 Rochford Road, Newham

Our Regular Monthly meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month from 7-8.30pm.

These meetings will be hosted by volunteers who have themselves been bereaved by the suicide of a loved one.

For any questions or to RSVP please email: macedonrangesspag@gmail.com

Further information is available at www. macedonrangesspag.com.au

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NEW YEAR RESOLUTIONS

- AND THE MANY FACES OF PHYSICAL ACTIVITY

We are just past the time where we make resolutions or promises that we then feel guilty about if we don't continue them. A few thoughts on New Year's Resolutions.

My resolutions were based initially on what I believed from the media, canny marketers, health professionals, friends, and relatives. I tried hard to fit into the expectations of outside influences.

Now don't get me wrong I really think appropriate physical activity is important, I do it and it is my job. What is important is there is no one recipe for all people and what suits me may not suit another.

To start though I think about how physical activity/ exercise can improve my satisfaction with life. I overlay this with self caring and body acceptance and I have found I have a better chance of keeping going?

Below is a list of some of the faces or reasons I have used to increase my physical activity/exercise over the years. Some of these faces I hopefully have said goodbye to forever and others I embrace whole heartedly. What are thoughts around this?

So...my warts and all

THE:

Amuser-walking in gum boots through mud, walking with a friend and doggie and wondering who is walking who? Balancer- The way I live leaves me with tight, stretched, weak muscles, thank goodness for Pilates

Big spender- gym fees, active wear, expensive runners Obsessed - I have to go for a run every day, my shins are killing me and I am irritable

Eco supporter- when I walk or ride its kinder on the environment and wildlife (cheaper too)

Guide- when I walk regularly my headaches/back pain lessens, when I over do it my back pain and headaches worsen

Humbler- at uni the majority of my peer group were sport and exercise comfortable, I felt old and clumsy

Number cruncher- oohh my weight has gone down, oops my weight has gone up

Nurturer-supports my body confidence and resilience Prompter- my back is hurting, time to get up and move Punisher – I was fat/overweight so I had to exercise more Redeemer- I ate cake, I had to walk

Rewarder-well done you have lost some weight, everyone says I look great

Ruler- I had to walk 10,000 steps per day

Sage- physical activity helps me be present. It is hard to do Tai Chi and think of what am I cooking for dinner

Soother- I cope better with stress when I regularly move Teacher- maybe if you want to walk 15 km. on holidays a little training will help?

Team player – plays nicely with other self care goals Thwarter- slows the ageing process I hope

Torturer- it hurts

Tranquilizer- when I am all antsy a stroll outside can help calm and clear thoughts

What reasons have you used, do you use, will you use to do or not to do physical activity?

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SUPPORTING OUR LOCAL HEROES

Following on from last months list of businesses who support our community I'd like to start with Emma and John of Red Door Books, With their generosity and community spirit the Neighbourhood House was able to start up both the Op Shop and the Town House—a true contribution to the town.

More fabulous tradies who are making the new toilets and changerooms at the Park possible are Mick Bombadier of Heritage Hardscapes and Chris of CMC Plumbing. Mick has an excellent reputation for his concrete work and is responsible for many slabs around the town. Chris is a sportsperson who often contributes his time and skills to support Lancefield clubs.

Check the business directory on the Lancefield website www.lancefield.org.au to get contact details for these local heroes. By supporting our local businesses we strengthen the local economy and help provide jobs for our kids in the future.

OPPORTUNITY KNOCKS-OP SHOP

Can you help? - we need recycled bags as the Op Shop is running short.

A big thank you to everyone who has made donations to the shop, we really appreciate all the wonderful things, but please make sure what you donate is in good order and sellable as unfortunately we have to dispose of unsellable items at a cost to the shop.

The money generated has gone to many worthwhile projects in the community including 17 Defibrillator units around town. Hopefully they never need to be used but if they do they have possibly saved a life. A list of things the Op Shop funds have been used for, up till 2013, is on the window—we will have to update soon.

ESSENTIAL LIFE SKILLS FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT

Hi my name is Alison. I run Art Smarties art classes for children at the Neighborhood House.

Did you know that art plays an essential role in a child's development? Research shows that art is an opportunity to develop children's skills. Check out these awesome ways in which art can benefit your child;

Creativity: imaginations run wild as children express

themselves visually.

Self-awareness and expression: children express in words, pictures and models how they feel about their world around them.

Cognitive skills: children tap into their thinking brain as they make decisions about when and how to use materials and techniques.

Physical skills: fine motor skills are switched on every time a child uses scissors, moulds clay or glues sequins to their masterpiece!

Language skills: talking about ideas and artworks opens up a world of new vocabulary.

Social skills: art encourages children to explore, invent, create and share with others. It can help build confidence and self-esteem.Art Smarties creates an environment where all children can feel confident, relaxed and challenged to engage and achieve in the arts and to learn these essential life skills.

Your child does not need to be a budding artist to enjoy the class, they will bring home a 'masterpiece' to be proud of

Art Smarties classes for children aged 3-5 yrs.-Mondays 10.50 am. 45 minutes Cost \$15 per session

A free trial class allows you and your child to find out if classes are for you without any obligation.

For more details, please visit www.artsmarties.com.au or call Alison on 0481453857

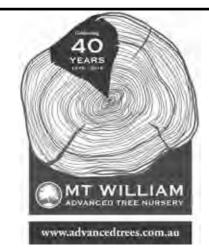
DROMKEEN

Dromkeen homestead in Riddell's Creek was built in 1889 and was the country residence of High Court Judge Arthur Chomley and his very large family. For over 50 years it has been known as a national centre displaying original Australian children's picture book illustration. Open weekly for public viewing, every year Dromkeen Gallery is visited by thousands of people of all ages and backgrounds. Currently there is a wonderful retrospective exhibition by award winning Castlemaine writer and illustrator, Rachel Tonkin, whose work spans over 50 years. The exhibition includes a beautiful drawing of a cat and dog, framed by Rachel's grandmother and placed on a wall in her kitchen, when Rachel was only 4 years old. Last year Dromkeen hosted the inaugural Dromkeen Literary Festival, which will be held again on Saturday March 18th and kindly sponsored by the Macedon Ranges Shire Council. The theme of the festival is "Books Can Take Us Anywhere" and some of the writers and illustrators presenting on the day will be Mark Wilson, Marc McBride, Claire Saxby, Gabrielle Wang, Glenda Millard and Brett Cardwell. Further details about the event are on the Dromkeen website and Facebook page.

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LANCEFIELD GOLF REPORT

GONE FROM STRENGTH TO STRENGTH

The North Western Real Estate 4P Ambrose Event held in December has gone from strength to strength, in just 3 years entries for the first year have grown from a meagre 32 to 64. Owner, Nick Walsh thanked everyone for organising such a well-run event, all those who played, and the ladies who continue to provide excellent meals. It was therefore fitting in a way, with Jenny Parks being such an integral part of North Western Real Estate, the winning team comprised of her husband and son Bert & Hugh, brother-in-law Theo and Simon Choate. It was great to see Theo, who now lives out of the area, back at the Club.

As mentioned in the last issue – the "Jackpots" concept has taken off and over the 8 "Jackpots" we have seen no fewer than 45 different players. Even with it being so hot on January 8, there were 22 players and 4 for lunch. Denis 'Jacko' Linehan absolutely loves this concept and has been lucky to win the daily "Jackpots" 3 times with the most recent daily "Jackpot" at \$165. Other winners have been Chris Lingard, twice, Helen Dennett and Steve Climas. There are 3 more "Jackpots" left with the final Big "Jackpot" draw on 19th March.

The "Twilight" competition sponsored by Romsey Mowers on Wednesday night is another that has gone from strength to strength with average numbers at around 20 with 28 players on Wednesday 24th January and 35 with those who came for the BBQ. It is a close fought competition between

Chris Lingard, Brett Lockens, Mark Finegan, Jodie Kefford all being well in contention to take out the end of season trophy although the odds have shortened somewhat as Brett will not be competing in the final weeks.

February Monthly Medal winners were: Men: Dale Schmitt, Ladies: Di Brennan.

With the course in magnificent condition the Club has enticed new members in January. We welcome Steve Ryan, Dave Thomas, Luke Schembri, and Jos & Jacqueline de Jong who have recently moved into the area from Albury. With the regular monthly working bees planned not only will the course continue to improve but the general upkeep of gardens and clubhouse surrounds will enhance the overall appearance.

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:

The Club would like to thank all those in the area who supported our Christmas Raffle and the Winners were: Ticket 232 – Nea Fletcher, Portland c/- Russell Barclay, Lancefield: Whole Lamb

Ticket 039 – Dave Johnston, Lancefield: Trailer of Wood Ticket 045 – Mick Waldron, Lancefield: 3 Turkey Easy Carves

Ticket 249 - Declan Cook, Lancefield: Twin Wine Pack

LATEST EVENT DETAILS:

The rescheduled Men's Championships is underway and at the time of writing there are a number of contenders. As too the Ladies Dorothy Hayes Match play knockout competition the final of which will be played on 1st March which is a good lead in for players in the Bendigo Bank sponsored Ladies Mt William Cup on Thursday 30 March.

VOUCHER SYSTEM:

In thinking about how the Club can be more beneficial to the local businesses, we have embarked on a \$20 Voucher which is awarded to our weekly winners to be spent at participating businesses in Lancefield. Our first voucher winner was Dale Schmitt and the Club wishes to thank all the local traders who have come on board with this new concept.

Clubrooms for Hire: If you are planning a special birthday celebration or wedding anniversary then you might consider hiring the Clubrooms at a very reasonable rate. The rooms with a wonderful outlook seats 70 comfortably and all crockery and cutlery is included in the hire charge. Being a fully licensed premises bar service is provided by the Club with drinks at no more than local hotel prices.

Big 10 Gift Packs: Interested in playing golf, but not necessarily becoming a member, then these are the best value available a Big 10 Gift Pack gives you 10 games for \$100 which is 50% off the normal green fee price of \$20. Contact the Club to arrange a booklet on 5429 1922 or Alan on 0435 998 014.

LANCEFIELD GOLF CLUB LEARN HOW TO PACK YOUR TRAVEL WARDROBE

Take the stress out of last minute packing and learn how to pack your entire travel wardrobe into a carry on bag. Be prepared for four seasons in one day and mixing and matching pieces to take you anywhere. Whether travelling for a weekend or a four week overseas trip, it's easy to pack light with some clever planning.

Friday 31st March 11am Lancefield Golf Club 34 Heddle Road

\$30 per head including buffet lunch.
Bookings Kaylene Cruise 0447364497 crybeck@
bigpond.com

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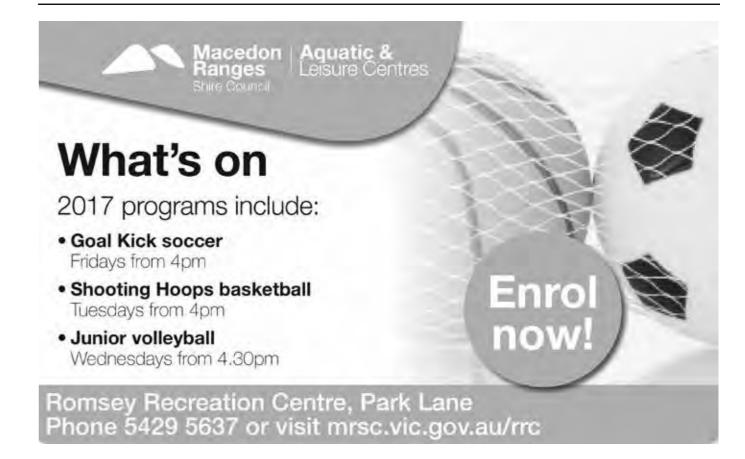
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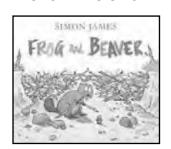






BOOK REVIEWS

CHILDREN'S PICTURE BOOKS



Frog and Beaver by Simon James. RRP \$24.99

A charming ecological fable of community and friendship from awardwinning author-illustrator Simon James. Frog and his friends all live happily together on the river. At least they do until Beaver comes along. Beaver is determined to build the biggest and best dam that anyone has ever seen, but it's so big that it stops all

the water and Frog and his friends are forced to move. Frog tries to warn Beaver that his dam is too big, but inconsiderate Beaver just won't listen...A charming picture book with an environmental message from the acclaimed and award-winning Simon James.



Road Trip by Danny Parker. RRP \$24.99

The only thing worse than a long and boring road trip is driving with someone who loves long and boring road trips. Even when that someone is your dad. A hilarious story about a child who becomes increasingly exasperated

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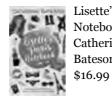
by his father's inclination to take it slow. But when will we get there? It's just a disaster ...couldn't we go just a little bit faster?

YOUNG ADULT **FICTION**



The Cruelty by Scott Bergstrom. RRP \$18.99

A groundbreaking YA thriller following a diplomat's daughter from New York to Europe's criminal underworld in search of her kidnapped father. The Cruelty is the first book from a groundbreaking new YA voice: an utterly compelling thriller. When Gwendolyn Bloom realizes that her father has been kidnapped, she has to take matters into her own hands. She traces him from New York City across the dark underbelly of Europe, taking on a new identity to survive in a world of brutal criminal masterminds. As she slowly leaves behind her schoolgirl self, she realizes that she must learn the terrifying truth about herself. To overcome the cruelty she encounters, she must also embrace it.



Lisette's Paris Notebook by Catherine Bateson. RRP

Eighteen-year-old Lisette has just arrived in Paris (France!) - the city of haute

couture and all things stylish - to practise her French and see great works of art. Her clairvoyant landlady Madame Christophe forces her to attend language lessons with a bunch of international students but soon Lise discovers she's more interested in studying boys than art or verbs... When the undeniably hot Anders jogs into her life it feels too good to be true.

Things get even more complicated when she is pursued by Hugo, a charming English antiques dealer...Can she take a chance and follow her own dreams? How far into the future can Madame Christophe see? And could Lise really be falling in love - in Paris?

ADULT FICTION

The Shifting Light by Alice Campion. RRP \$32.99

Nina Larkin should be happy. She's transformed her rundown outback

property, The Springs, into a successful artists' retreat; she's won a distinguished art prize, and she's living with her soulmate, trailblazing grazier Heath Blackett. But the chance discovery of a portrait of her father, renowned artist Jim Larkin, makes her question everything. How could it have been drawn just weeks ago when Jim has been dead for years? Could her father still be alive? Can she track down the man in the picture? And is this connected to the missing gold buried by her ancestor over a century ago? Her search for answers will draw Nina into a maze of family secrets - just as the

man who stepped out of a portrait arrives at her door ... Alice Campion is the pseudonym for four members of a Sydney book club. Their first novel, The Painted Sky, also features Nina, Heath and the



Dead Girls Dancing by Graham Masterton. RRP \$29.99

In the middle of Cork, in the middle of the day, a fire blazes in a local dance studio. Thirteen women, all promising stars, die in the flames.

captivating landscape of

outback Wangalla.

Their young lives cut short by a tragic accident. But where others see tragedy, DCI Katie Maguire sees murder.

This is not the first

fire to sweep through Cork. And in one previous case, the victims were dead before the fire was started. As Katie Maguire investigates the strange, obsessive world of competitive Irish folk dancing, she must face her most chilling killer vet... Graham Masterton was a bestselling horror writer who has now turned his talent to crime writing. He lived in Cork for five years, an experience that inspired the Katie Maguire series.

NON FICTION



Line of Fire by Ian Townsend. RRP \$29.99

The little known and intriguing WWII story of an eleven-year-old

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BOOK REVIEWS

Australian schoolboy who was shot by the Japanese in Rabaul in 1942 as a suspected spy - a compelling story of spies, volcanoes, history and war. In May 1942, in the town of Rabaul in the Australian territory of New Guinea, five Australian civilians were taken by Japanese soldiers to a pit at the base of a volcano and executed as spies. A mother, her brother, her husband and her friend. And her 11-year-old son. Who were these people and what had led them to this terrible end, under the shadow of a volcano? Australian Government, unable to reinforce its small garrison, abandoned more than 1500 Australian soldiers and civilians as 'hostages to fortune' in the face of the irresistible Japanese

advance. Set against the romantic, dramatic and ultimately tragic backdrop of Rabaul in WWII, this is a wholly intriguing narrative of Australian history, military conflict and volcanology, woven together with the story of one ordinary but doomed Australian family.

Road No Good by Bridget Isichei. RRP \$29.99

Bridget Isichei wanted to make a difference in the world; she wanted to help people. However, she didn't know what she was in for when she accepted a two-year volunteer humanitarian post to set up preschools and train women to be teachers in the popular tourist destination of Vanuatu. Instead of cocktails by



the sea in a luxury resort, Bridget found herself in Luganville, a shanty town whose inhabitants were still practising black magic and wearing the same fashions bought in by missionary women in the 1800s. Worse was to come. Bridget soon discovered that in Vanuatu's hierarchy, women were ranked lower than pigs, and the elevated status of men was seen as God-given. After numerous botched attempts at fulfilling her brief, Bridget decided to enrol the women she was working with in a correspondence teaching course. She hoped

the knowledge they gained would help them improve their low status, as well as guarantee their children a better education. She could never have predicted the fierce opposition her plan would face from every corner of the community. Road No Good is a groundlevel account of the journey of a group of the world's least fortunate women to become the first educated women on their island and thereby control their own destinies. It is also Bridget's story, as she learns from these women the true art of gratitude, faith and contentment even in the face of unimaginable adversity and loss. This is a true story of hope and heart, and of the resilience and capacity of the human spirit to achieve greatness



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WHAT'S ON- visit www.lancefield.org.au and have a look at events for the latest news of activities in Lancefield as well as electronic copies of the Lancefield Mercury.

'LIKE THE TIGERS OF OLD'

Lancefield Football Netball Club warmly invites the Lancefield community to the: 2017 Jumper and Dress Presentation and Pie Night on Thursday 23rd March at 6:30pm at the Laurie Green Pavilion (Lancefield Park)

Special Guest: Geoff 'Joffa' Corfe (Leader of the Collingwood Football Club Cheer Squad, author and charity worker)

Cost: \$20 per person. \$10 12 years & under. Drinks at bar prices

Enquiries & Ticket Sales: Leanne Backwell-0407351149 Leighanne Smith-0400602750 Lancefieldfnc.com

MUSIC IN THE **RANGES**

It's time to get out and about!

We are about to make it much easier to locate the places to be to hear some great music in the Macedon Ranges. No excuses! Go and have some fun!

Many venues offer excellent live music at the weekends. There are probably far more gigs going on than what you expected! Coming up in March are some outstanding shows, including a major music festival in Gisborne, so take a look and get yourselves out and about! For more details about what's on in the Macedon Ranges, visit

http://www.visitmacedonranges.com/

PLAYGROUP

Playgroup in Lancefield has returned after our school holiday break. We are currently running our sessions on Tuesday morning's again this year at 9.30am - 11.30am at the Guide Hall (next to Neighbourhood House) in High street, Lancefield. In December, at our Christmas break up, a special visit from Santa and the Lancefield Fire Brigade Truck and members was a wonderful day for the children, Thank you to Jenny and Lancefield CFA for escorting Santa during his busy schedule. Our first session commenced on Tuesday 7 February 2017 we have a lovely outdoor play area where the children can play outdoors in the sandpit on the slide or with the many toys and paints that are available at playgroup. Parents can relax, meet new families and have a coffee or tea and chat, while the children play.

New members are welcome if you are interested in coming along you may wish to like us on Facebook or contact Shannon on 0418 594 988 for more details.

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Minister for Roads Luke Donnellan and Member for Macedon Mary-Anne Thomas visited Melbourne-Lancefield Road in early February to see what works will need to be undertaken to improve road safety.

Last year, local residents were invited to share their ideas on how to improve the road's safety. More than 800 comments were received, with a number of residents stating they'd like to see flexible safety barriers installed to help shield motorists from roadside hazards during run-off road crashes and permanent improvements to the road's surface.

"Locals know best. We want the local community to help us reach our goal of zero deaths and serious injuries." Ms

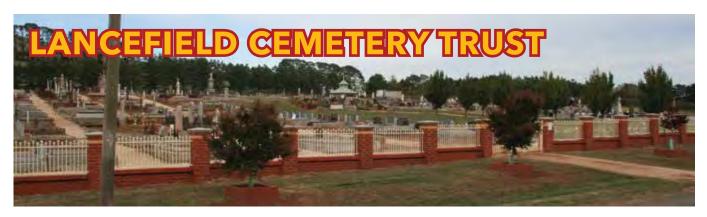
Melbourne-Lancefield Road from Sunbury to Lancefield

has been identified as one of Victoria's top 20 highest risk rural roads in the Government's Towards Zero 2016-2020 Road Safety Strategy and Action Plan. Between June 2010 and June 2015 there were 159 crashes along Melbourne-Lancefield Road, resulting in 153 people injured and six lives lost. Future improvements will reduce the number of deaths and serious injuries occurring, by preventing loss of control and run-off road crashes.

"This is one of Melbourne's busiest regional routes, connecting freight, tourism, industry and the growing urban centres of Lancefield, Romsey and Sunbury to Melbourne. It's important that we get this safety upgrade right." Ms Thomas said, she added "Six people have already lost their lives along this road – and we're going to fix it."







The Lancefield cemetery is a significant feature of our beautiful historic town and services the wider area including Romsey and has been managed over the years by dedicated volunteer trustees. Fees for burials are set by government and it is the trust's responsibility to manage the cemetery with the income it receives from the burial of members of the community. This often means that the general maintenance of the cemetery is also undertaken by volunteers and trust members without payment. From time to time weather conditions are not favourable for the safety of volunteers and the work has to be completed at a later time. We appreciate the community's patience when this occurs.

Over the past 15 years there has been considerable upgrades to the facilities mainly due to the work of volunteers, funding from community grants and the support of local businesses. The trust also is required to look to the future and plan for the changing needs of the community. The

introduction of a better watering system is high on the list but with that comes increased growth of vegetation and upkeep of the lawn section and rose garden. The trustees are working hard to keep up with the work but we need help and so we are seeking expressions of interest to establish a "Friends of the Cemetery" to assist with some of the maintenance. Activities such pruning, clearing of vegetation, cleaning of toilets, planting garden beds and other maintenance projects are just some of the things that would greatly assist the trust with keeping our cemetery looking its best.

Please contact the Secretary by email or written letter outlining what you can assist with.

Secretary Lancefield Cemetery Trust PO Box 632 Lancefield 3435

Ph 0477 092 946 email: lancefieldcemeterytrust@gmail.com

