

Spring Show Time

The districts finest preserves, blooms, knitting, cooking and other art and craft will be on show at this year's annual Lancefield Spring Show and Handicraft Exhibition.

The dedicated ladies from the Lancefield CWA branch are once again busy organising the show that will be held at the Lancefield Mechanics Institute on Friday 7th and Saturday 8th September.

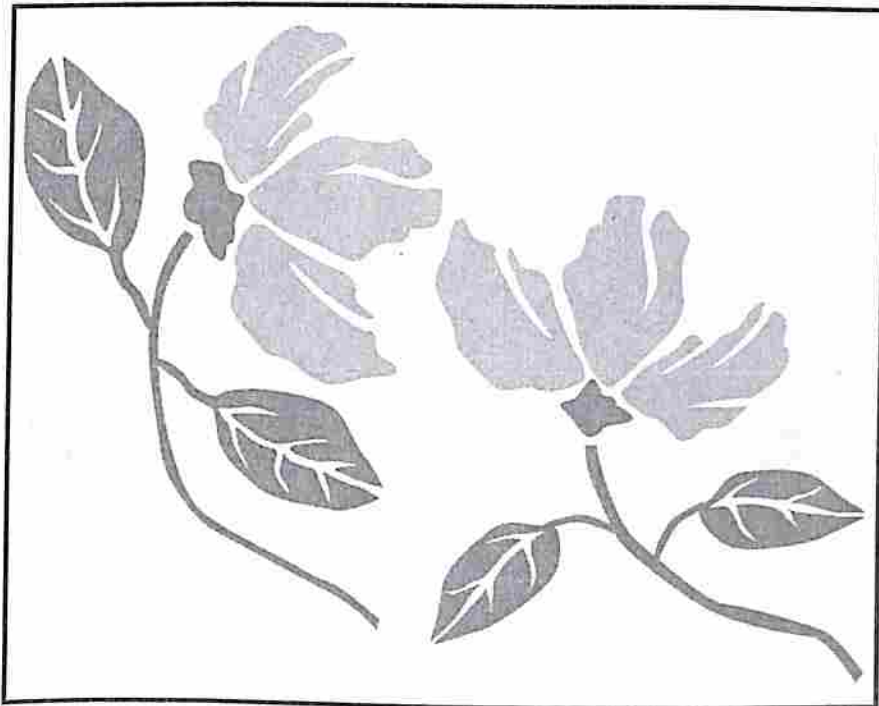
The show has been a long held tradition for our town and the CWA are hoping the resurgence of homemade, home grown and home cooked produce and craft will inspire people to participate.

CWA president Betty Bucknell said, "We get the feeling that because it is C.W.A. people think the work has to be professional standard, this is wrong. Our judges are not C.W.A. and are very fair. Our aim is to encourage people to try - to learn from judges remarks that are only available from the show secretary. Our stewards will help with presentation and which category is most suitable."

She added, "It's great to come and see something you have made on show - a prize card on it is an extra bonus!"

Popular categories include the daffodil sections that are always well supported by daffodil enthusiasts, and the baby knitting sections attract some very skilled entries.

The CWA members are especially encouraging our local children to participate. Children can enter



individual categories or participate through their schools.

"The children love to show you their entry, Mum's and Dad's please encourage them," said Betty.

"Men are also welcome; we have had oil paintings, tapestry, cakes and flowers taking off first prizes in the past."

Morning and afternoon

tea will be available and there is sure to be a delicious selection of homemade cakes, scones, sandwiches and slices as well as tea and coffee.

There will also be a stall with items for sale made by the CWA members.

Without your support and participation the show will struggle to survive and it would be a great shame to lose the skills and traditions that have been so important to our country way of life.

With over 200 categories to enter there is sure to be something of interest for everyone. The cost is .50c per entry.

So get busy folks, schedules are available in the IGA Supermarket and the Milk Bar.

We need your entries to help make the show a success for everyone.

The Show will be open Friday 7th September 2.00pm - 4.00pm

Saturday 8th September 10.00am - 3.00pm

Admission: Adults \$2.00

Morning tea / Afternoon tea \$5.00

Presentation of Awards: 2.00pm Saturday 8th September.

Lancefield C.W.A. Report

We were delighted to welcome two new members at our last meeting, along with Eve and Maggie who stole our hearts. After lunch we had an interesting talk on "old collectables" and their value.

Monday saw two car loads off to Tooborac C.W.A. for an interesting talk on "CAMBODIA" which is our country of study this year. This young man had been there on a "working mission" and we realised how lucky we are to live in Australia.

We meet at the MAD Gallery on the 2nd Friday of each month at 10.30 am. This is a social day, bring some knitting or call in for a chat and coffee. Spring Show schedules are now in the shops.

Betty Bucknell, 54 291 568
 Betty Bucknell
 54 291 568

Lancefield Spring Show And Handicraft Exhibition

Organised By Lancefield Branch Of Country Womens Association Of Victoria Inc.

Friday 7th And Saturday 8th September, 2012
 Lancefield Mechanics Institute

Friday 7th September 2.00pm - 4.00pm
 Saturday 8th September 10.00am - 3.00pm
 Admission: Adults \$2.00
 Morning tea / Afternoon tea \$5.00
 Presentation of Awards: 2.00pm Saturday 8th September.

Entries to be lodged with Mrs. B. Bucknell Ph. 54 291 568
 By Wednesday 5th September, 2012. Cost: .50c Per Entry
 Entries will be staged by 9.30am on Friday 7th Sept.
 And Collected Between 3.00Pm - 4.00Pm on Saturday 8th Sept.
 Rules as printed on back page of schedule booklet must be adhered to.

Lancefield Mercury Inc.

A0045845D

Items for publication should be mailed or can be emailed to
 editor@lancefieldmercury.org.au

Advertising should be sent to
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Mail address:
 PO Box 61 Lancefield 3435

All articles should reach The Mercury by the fifteenth of the month to be sure of inclusion.

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.

Editorial Committee:

Andy Moore
 Craig Longmuir
 Karen Barr
 Meryl Green
 Robert Green
 Kellie Wilson
 Murk Schoen
 Marjorie Dobbs

Views expressed are not necessarily those of the editorial committee.

Advertising Rates:
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Editorial Enquiries to Andy Moore 0430 448 120

Advertising Enquiries to Kellie Wilson 0438 501 258



www.lancefieldmercury.org.au

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 editor@lancefieldmercury.org.au? Thank you.

Deep Creek Landcare Group

25th Anniversary of Landcare



The opening of the garden to celebrate the 25th Anniversary of Landcare was held on the 15th of June at the Lancefield Park. We would like to thank everyone who attended the luncheon, it was a fantastic day with representatives from many different groups within our community. In the coming years the garden will grow and bloom, so please stop by the next time you are at the Lancefield Park.

The Shechan's Crossing Project has finished up for the winter; we would like to thank the Romsey/Lancefield Lions club for their assistance in planting in less-than-ideal weather. This project will continue later in the year

and there is still much to do at the site.

The group has also secured an environmental grant from Western Water for the planting of two endangered species of Flax-lily in the area. This project will commence later in the year at the Doggett's bridge site. If you would like to learn more about the exciting upcoming projects your local Landcare group is involved in, then please feel free to email us at deepcreeklandcare@gmail.com or come along to one of our monthly meetings, every 2nd Monday of the month at the Lancefield Hall Annexe, or visit us at www.deepcreeklandcare.org.au.

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Weather Comment 14-7-12

No El Nino!

It seems I got carried away last month with the prediction in the rural press of an El Nino effect for the coming Spring. My article would have hardly reached the Editor before it began to rain with about 60mm during the next week and this has been followed by 50mm two weeks later and with some minor falls in between giving a total for the month of 125mm.

The paddocks are now showing some soft patches and it is time to watch where I drive on parts of the farm. The springs are flowing and this too is a good sign for the coming season. Another indicator

appeared when I had the fence replaced here at home – the old post holes were filling with water when the posts were removed and most of the new posts were able to be driven without the need for digging pilot holes for them.

The mention of El Nino has not entirely gone away with the report of some of the signs still showing up on the wider scale weather patterns so at this stage the situation is inconclusive.

In the future my remarks about stock will be based on my observations of other people's stock as we have leased the farm

and will have only a small number of cattle and the sheep to report on and there will not be anything this month.

The report from the garden is much the same as last month, the vegie patch has been forked over and some gypsum added to hopefully make the soil less sticky, however it will not be long before planting can start. The rose pruning has been finished and there is an occasional flowering shrub in flower around the town. Spring is coming.

Robert Green



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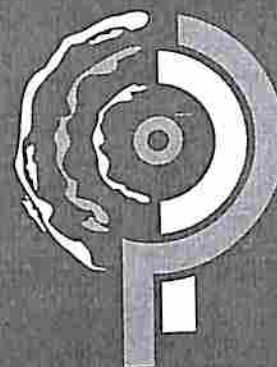
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Romsey-Lancefield & District Ambulance Auxiliary News

The ambulance auxiliary would like to thank everybody who supported our Antique Roadshow day in April. Ray Dalton proved to be a hit with those who brought their items to the station to be valued. He was very informative and knowledgeable. On this day we also had a visit from representatives from the Bendigo Bank who presented us with a grant of \$2,000. What wonderful support they give the community and we thank them very much. Team Leader and MICA paramedic David Newman is pleased to announce that the money will be used to purchase a syringe pump and a Whisper flow device. These items will greatly assist in patient treatment.

As usual our paramedics have been very busy, travelling many kilometres over a huge area to assist people in need. As with all our essential service personnel we wish our paramedics well as they perform their day to day tasks.

Our auxiliary is always looking for new members to assist in fundraising activities. Our work is not time consuming and we only meet every two months. Our next meeting is on August 17th which is also our AGM and interested people are most welcome to attend the Romsey Ambulance station, 7.30pm

Please contact President Helen Richardson for any enquiries
Ph 54296369

Parkinson Unity Walk Sunday August 26th 2012

Sunday the 26th August is a date to put in your diaries. Come along and have some fun while supporting a good cause by participating in the annual Parkinson Unity walk.

The walk is either 2 or 4 km along the Yarra beginning at 8.30am from Federation Square. There are activities and entertainment before the walk and goodie bags supplied after the walk. The walk begins and ends at Federation Square. Lucy Brown and her team "The Movers and the Shakers" are hoping to run a bus from Lancefield to Melbourne and return if there is enough interest.

To register or for more information go to www.parkinsonswalk.com.au
Or for any help or enquiries ring Lucy Brown 0407 807 458.

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And that's the benefit of everyone in the community having their bank accounts with our Romsey and Lancefield branches – your business means profits for the branches, and the more the profit, it's more money back into our local clubs and groups.

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Lancefield Equestrian Group Celebrates 100th Member at the Lancefield Hotel

On the 13th May, Mother's Day, LEG signed up its 100th Member for 2011/2012. This was a very exciting day for LEG as at the end of the HRCAV year 2011 we got close and reached 97 members. It was even more exciting as it was Marcus Ryan, a well known Lancefield local. It was just lucky that the Bendigo Community Bank EFTPS machine was loaned to us for the day. The Bendigo Bank gives this machine for Clubs to use at no cost which is unbelievably generous

of the Bank.

Marcus had been calling in and having a look at us for about two years. Very often in his ute with sheep in the back. I was told by some of our members, Marcus is going to join, but he never did.

On Mother's Day Rally, once again I had a word with Marcus and asked when he was going to join. I will, he said, but had no money on him. I pointed to the EFTPOS machine and had membership forms on the back wall

which I very quickly got him to fill it in and very quickly got his card and EFTPOS machine did the rest. Marcus is now a member of LEG.

It was said many times that it was time for a social occasion and we decided that if and when the 100th member was signed up this would be a good excuse. The date was set and the invite went out to all members for dinner at the Lancefield Hotel.

It was a fabulous night, good food, good company, and Melissa



Riley and July Colbert decorated the tables in Black and Gold. Stuart Thege ran an Irish Raffle, which was just so Irish and I am sure many of our members that attended the night are still reflecting on who ended up with the lead rope, who got the chocolate sardines and who was hiding the lead rope. This created a great deal of laughter.

Next time you see Stu, ask him about it.

At the next Sunday, Marcus turned up and I asked him if he would like to have a lesson, he had a little think, disappeared and came back with the float attached and had a great lesson. Thanks to Jenny Crowley who was so obliging and staying for the extra time. Marcus

was then glancing over to Robbie Allen who was the Instructor Showjumping.

LEG might have 100 members but it still has a great country friendly atmosphere, and fabulous grounds receives great support from the local community.

Annie Lavelle

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Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club

President: Mrs. Jean Buist 5429 1116
Secretary: Mrs. Jeni Clampit 5429 5480

Probus Meetings are held at St. Mary's Hall, Main Street, Romsey at 10am on the fourth Thursday in each month.

Probus is a mixed club for men and women There is a guest speaker at each meeting.

We have an outing on the third Wednesday of the month. (Either a trip or luncheon)



Friday Morning Coffee



Musical Afternoons each month.



Ten Pin Bowling each fortnight.

Persons interested in this club and wish to have more information please contact the President or Secretary at the above phone numbers.

On Wednesday July 18th, we are traveling to Trentham and Daylesford.

Our July meeting will be on Thursday 26th July.

It is with much regret that we farewell Alice & Geoff Long from our club. They are moving away from the area. Both have served on the committee and we will miss their contribution to our activities. Go with our best wishes.

JOANNE DUNCAN MP

MEMBER FOR MACEDON

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As your local Member of Parliament I am keen to listen to any concerns or ideas you may have.

Please don't hesitate to contact me for assistance on any State Government matter.

Warm regards,
Joanne Duncan

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Authorised by J. Duncan, Shop 14/9 Goode St, Gisborne

Letter to the Editor

Dear Editor
 In the most recent edition of the Lancefield Mercury, a letter was published that referred to a survey conducted by the Lowy Institute. The central issue identified by the survey was that only a minority of younger Australians believe democratic government is the best form of government. This information, if true, is a rather disturbing and it unfortunately belittles the sacrifice of the many Australians that have served their nation in war and it undermines the supreme sacrifice of those that have paid the ultimate price whilst defending our freedoms and democratic way of life.
 So how did this happen? How can a majority of young, educated, healthy and free Australians apparently disregard the benefits that previous generations know as an inalienable truth, that democracy whilst far from perfect is the most effective and fairest form of government? Who do we blame?

Is it the education system, which has apparently not effectively demonstrated to our youth through an accurate study of history, how the various alternatives to democratic government have been proven to be far less desirable for a nation's citizens, the main beneficiaries usually only being the active ruling class? Or is it the poor performance of politicians both in Australia and abroad that usually place party politics and self interest ahead of the common good that has jaded their view so much that they wish for any alternative to the status quo?
 Even a cursory examination of human political systems of both ancient and modern history, demonstrates that the actions and behaviours of the various alternatives such as civilian and military dictatorships, oligarchies, cabals, feudal states, and the numerous historical sovereigns include many brutal kings, queens, emperors, sheiks, and chiefs have generally proven to be not very benign to the masses nor has the wealth of

these nations/regimes generally been shared below the ruling classes in these various alternatives to modern democratic government.
 It is no coincidence that the wealth, living standards, health, education and opportunity of the average citizen has been raised in direct relationship to the worldwide trend to democratic government. Ironically, democratic government is itself a mere youth in human history, but it is a fragile institution that must be constantly protected and nurtured. I suppose most of today's younger Australian's have never known anything other than peace, freedom, comfort and political stability and this has meant they have had to never really experience the alternatives.
 To borrow from the US President Abe Lincoln; Democracy is government of the people, by the people, for the people.
 Yours Sincerely
 David Kemp
 High St Lancefield

Women on boards: breaking the glass ceiling with a board

There was a time when corporate Australia thought that working women would be the end of civilisation as we know it and women were asked to leave work if they married or reached the ripe old age of 35. Thankfully we have come a long way from those times and I hear some say, we have a woman Prime Minister, a woman Governor General and a woman Premier and numerous women in parliament, what else do women want? Yet the number of women on the top 200 Australian corporate boards is just 14 per cent. Do we really believe that more than 50 per cent of the population representing 70 per

cent of the buying power can be ignored by companies?
 It is hard to ignore the evidence that putting women on boards makes good business sense and makes them more relevant to the community, reflecting the population and its customers, providing fresh perspectives and new ideas. So if it makes "good business sense" why are there still so few women directors? Many women simply don't know how to go about becoming a board member. They often have to start building networks, putting themselves out there and raising their own profile, sometimes a foreign and difficult concept for

many women.
 A good place to start is the not for profit local community boards. While board positions for major companies and large organizations are difficult to attain, small companies and local not for profits usually welcome those that want to assist them. Women make a significant contribution to our communities and they often need encouragement and a push to join local boards.
 So ladies get out there, do your research, put yourself forward and break that glass ceiling.
 Warm regards
 Joanne Duncan MP
 State Member for Macedon

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Vanessa's Garden

As we are in a cooler region, August could be a great time of year to get going if you want to make a rock garden. Big or small, they are very versatile and, when built well, go a long way towards creating a helpfully low-maintenance area of the garden. If you like the idea of looking out at rocks, gravel and specimen plants, and you have a relatively small garden, you could even consider making the whole space into a rock garden.

The only qualifications with rock gardens are that they need full sun and good drainage. This makes them ideal for a sloping area of the garden that you might otherwise just leave to grass. If the drainage is not ideal in your garden, or your patch is flat, generally this can be overcome by building a mound. The core of this can be strengthened with rubble, if you have or can get hold of some.

In planning a rockery you'll need rocks of various sizes. The biggest should not overwhelm the space, unless you are going for something dramatic, such as a standing stone effect, which will draw the eye and be something of a focal point. Also of course, if you have a really big boulder, you are likely to need mechanical aid or at least 3 strong backs to manoeuvre it into place.

Generally therefore, it may be easier to stick to rocks of a size you can handle yourself. This also makes it much simpler to try out various groups and placements until you get the effect that feels right to you. The idea is for your rockery to look reasonably like a natural outcropping. If you're stuck for ideas, a drive out to Tooborac or Pyalong will show you something of the granite bones of the area and give you an idea how Mother Nature goes about things. Of course, these boulders are on a very large scale! But shrink the clusters a bit in your mind and you'll get a general feel for what looks natural and what doesn't. That said, in the end it's your garden and you're the one who is going to live with it, and look at it on a daily basis, so if you want to put rocks in tight groups or lines, it's up to you.

Rockeries also look more natural when a fair proportion of the rocky bones are softened by growth. It might be that you can source older rocks that are already weathered, but if you have to buy stone from somewhere, the chunks can look quite raw. While time will take care of that, you can speed up the process by covering the exposed surfaces with a coat of starchy water. This will give lichens a foothold.

In placing rocks, make sure you leave large enough spaces to create planting areas and pockets. You'll also need to use a particular soil mix. Rather than the type of fertile humus-rich soil you might expect to use in ordinary garden beds or the veggie garden, you need a very well drained mix, with plenty of fine gravel. You can start off with ordinary garden soil (as little clay as possible) but for best results you should add up to 50% fine gravel and quite a bit of decayed plant material. Garden compost may do the job or you can buy something like a peat moss. The idea is that this well-drained mix simulates the environment that rockery plants would thrive in naturally.

You should not mulch a rock garden with organic material, as the typical alpine plants don't like it. You'll typically get a much better result with fine gravel, spread to about 3-5 cm thick.

Choice and mix of plants is of course down to your taste, but rockeries tend to show off best plants such as dwarf conifers and small alpiners. There is a great variety to choose from, depending on your height and spread requirements and whether you want your plants to creep, tumble or grow in mounds and tufts.

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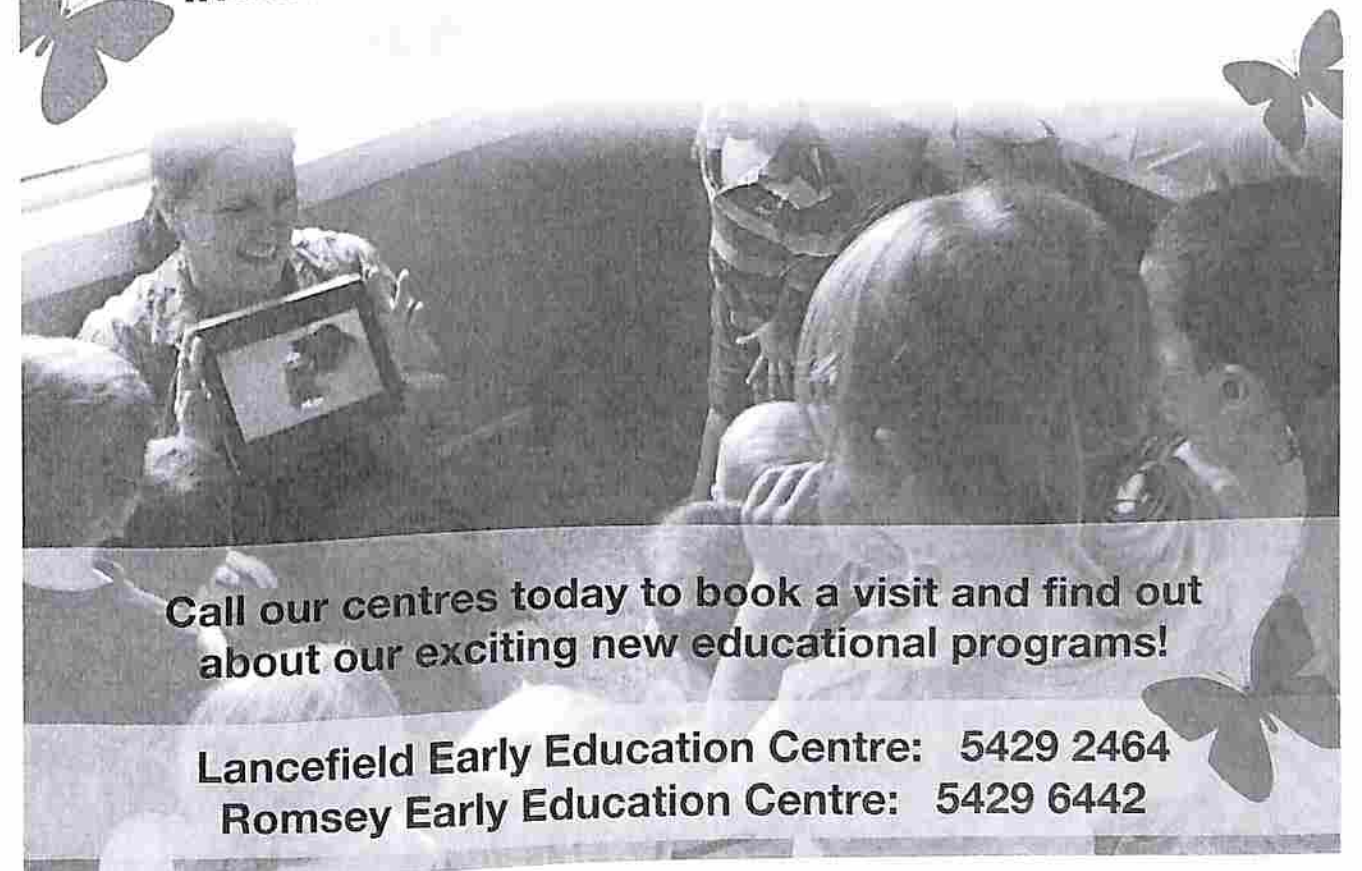
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Pastor's Parables

A wealthy businessman in a small town had signs printed and placed all over the town. They stated that if any person in the town who owed debts, would come to his office on a certain day between 9:00am and 12 noon in the morning, he would pay those debts.

Naturally, that promise was the talk of the town. But very few believed it. They thought there was a catch somewhere. The day came. The business man sat in his office at 9:00am. By 10:00am, no one had come. At 11:00am, a man was seen walking up and down outside, occasionally looking up at the office door. Finally he seemed to take courage and open it. He put his head in and asked, "Is it true that you will pay any person's debt?"

That's right," the rich man replied. "Are you in debt?"

"I certainly am," the caller answered.

"Do you have the bills and statements to prove it?"

The visitor produced the documents and the business man wrote out a cheque covering all of them. Just before 12 noon, two other men came and had their debts paid.

People outside could not believe it. But by now,

there was no time left to have their bills paid.

Today via the internet we are offered so many things for FREE! - Only to find that when we have downloaded them there is a catch!

Today's technology is slowly programming us that we cannot get ANYTHING for FREE!

Yet God offers forgiveness from ALL our mistakes and wrong doings in Life.

NO more guilt; no more shame. . . "IF" we will only believe that Jesus Christ has already paid the price for our debts and secured our forgiveness on the Cross.

Will you dare to believe whilst there is still time . . . that you too may receive??

If you would like to learn more about the Christian Faith you are invited to join us at one of our Sunday Services; one of our fortnightly Life Groups; or simply contact us at our Church office on 5429 6327. We would be happy to be of assistance to you.

Pastor Marilyn Hunter - "ENCOURAGE CHURCH"
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Postal: PO Box 164 Romsey Victoria 3434
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Romsey Districts

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All welcome

Contact:

Robin 0428 315846

Hayley 0409 936814

www.deepcreeklandcare.org.au

Water Plan taking shape for Lancefield

Lancefield residents have had their say about the future of the town's water management, with consultation now closed for Western Water's Water Plan 2013-18. Western Water received more than 300 submissions on the draft plan from across its service region. This feedback will be incorporated into the final Water Plan. Western Water's Managing Director, Neil Brennan, said it was great to see the

community getting involved with planning for the future of water in the region.

"We asked people to consider things like our tiered price structure for water use, which means high water users pay a higher rate per litre," he said. People were also asked for their thoughts on how we cope with population growth to ensure high quality water and sewage services for all our residents

into the future.

"For Lancefield, this includes planned upgrades for the town's water filtration plant."

This month Western Water will hold forums to get more in-depth feedback from customers.

A final Water Plan will be submitted to the Essential Services Commission around the end of September.

Tai Chi Classes

Saturdays at 11am.
Beginners are most welcome at any time. Passive exercise & meditation for all ages that offer balance of mind & body for health, vitality and wellbeing.

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COMING EVENTS

10th & 11th November 2012

Alex Kostic from Serbia teaching ancient Russian fighting Systema.

24th & 25th November

Karate Camp presented by James Sumarac. Underlying philosophy of the Martial and Healing Arts.

11th - 13th January 2013

We Proudly present Grand Master Chen Yun Ching from Taiwan. Workshop will include Tai Chi Chuan and Walking Stick self defence.

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54292010



Lancefield Neighbourhood House

78 High Street, PO Box 171 Lancefield 3435
 Phone: 5429 1214 Fax: 5429 2337
 Email: lancefieldhouse@tpg.com.au Web: www.macedoncommunity.org

Neighbourhood House Report

Hope everyone has been able to keep warm over the cold days recently. Don't forget to visit the warmest place in Lancefield!! The wonderful wood heater at Opportunity Knocks is always burning bright and able to warm the coldest hand, feet and body. Take time to call in and have a browse - you never know what treasure you may find, we can't guarantee anything other than you will be very warm and cosy while you are looking.

Some disappointing news from the shop - has anyone seen our Dyson vacuum cleaner that we used in the shop. It went missing from the shop sometime in mid-June. If you have any information please let us know at the House. There is a photo of a similar machine in the window of the shop. Other than that - the shop goes from strength to strength. We are always looking for more volunteers so if you can help please call Rae on 54291602.

Our next project for funds raised is to provide blinds in the Youth Space of the Lancefield Mechanics Hall. This will enable the Hall Committee to attract more users to the space and in turn improve their ability to raise more funds for planned improvements.

Exciting news

The new shop next to Opportunity Knocks is going to be an extension of the Neighbourhood House. We are looking at how the format and use of this wonderful area will be utilised to its best advantage and we are looking for an appropriate name for the area. It has been suggested we call it "Downtown", "House on High", "The Hub" and "House in Town". Do you have any suggestions?

We will run our photocopying, laminating and printing facilities there and also have some computers with internet access. We hope to showcase local arts and crafts and have local business and community group information within the shop,

so if you are interested please call the House on 54291214 or Rhonda on 0418544939.

Of course, to do this well we need more volunteers, so please seriously have a think about it! You will need to have some basic computer skills and training will be given. It is absolutely, totally separate to the Op Shop. We believe that exciting things can happen in this lovely space and we thank Emma and John for their ongoing support of the Lancefield Neighbourhood House and in turn the Lancefield community.

To celebrate the opening of our wonderful new space in Lancefield we are holding a Photographic Competition using the subject: Lancefield People & Places Prizes to be announced Prizes for the following categories: Open Age, 12 - 18 years and under 12 years

Entry fee \$1 per photo for first 5 photos (then subsequent photos no fee)

Entry forms available at

Neighbourhood House and Op Shop or by phoning 5429 1214 or email request to lancefieldhouse@tpg.com.au. Competition winners will be announced at exhibition launch in September (date to be confirmed)

What's happening at the House

Chainsaw Maintenance Workshop
 Sunday 29 July 2012
 @ 10am - 12pm

Cost: \$10 or \$5 concession
 Issues covered include:
 Chain sharpening and tensioning, general care of your chainsaw and basic safety

Bookings essential by 23 July on 5429 1214

Our regular Bus Trip is going to Broadmeadows Shopping Centre on Friday, 10th August. Bus will leave the House at 9.30am and returns at 3pm. Cost is \$10 per adult. Bookings essential.

Our new Boxing Classes have proved very popular and will continue on Monday evenings. Please call the House to confirm times. Our new timeslot is Monday Morning at 9.15 until 10.15; perfect for the mums after the school or kinder drop off. Commences on Monday 6th August and will continue for 5 weeks at a total cost

of \$60. Bookings necessary.

The ever popular Cheese Making is back again. Saturday 15th September. All day with lunch, morning and afternoon tea provided. This workshop is filling up fast, so make sure you book early. Cost is \$125 per person.

Farmers Market is on 25th August. Don't miss it! If you get a moment, stick your head into the kiosk on the plantation and check out the great renovations. Thanks to Streetscape Committee for working with Council in this and other great improvements on the plantation - please note that they were not responsible for the transformer!

Keep an eye out on our local notice boards for more information on what is happening and don't forget to check out our weekly "What's On" for lots of information and reminders.

Lancefield Community Gym

The Lancefield Youth Action Plan developed in 2010 and the Community Action Plan both listed having a gym in Lancefield. Some people think a gym would be fantastic - in fact there hasn't been anyone yet who doesn't think it would be a good idea, just people who say they personally wouldn't

use it.

We need more people to give their opinion on this project - would a gym be viable, would you pay a membership to support starting one? Would you become a member and use the gym? What sort of equipment would you like? If there is enough support for the idea we could get a basic gym happening very soon - we have had several generous offers for donating equipment already.

A survey is being distributed so that we can find out if the idea is worth pursuing.

Please: 1. keep an eye out for the survey in your letterbox

2. spend a few minutes completing the survey

3. drop the survey off at the places listed.

To make this easier you can email or phone the Neighbourhood House for an electronic version or complete the survey on-line at <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/VCM96TH>

If you are interested in being part of the committee to start and run a gym, particularly if you are under 25, contact the Neighbourhood House.

Phone: 5429 1214
 email: lancefieldhouse@tpg.com.au

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News from St Mary's Primary School



St Mary's football team

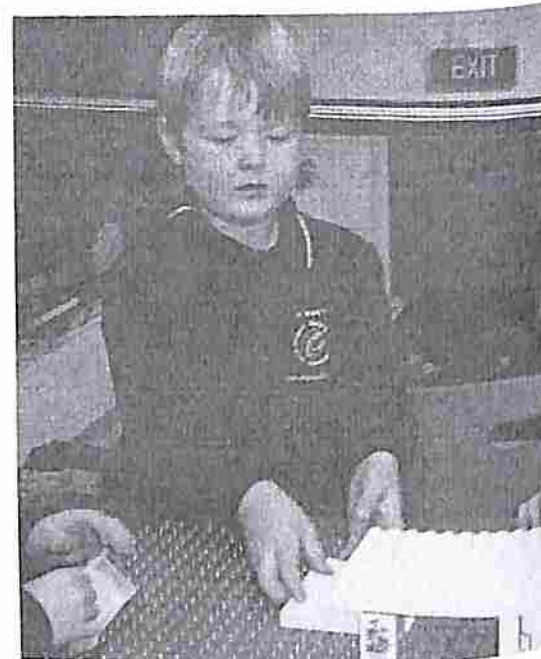
COBAW Winter interschool sports

All the children showed great sportsmanship and were very well behaved. Football finished 4th overall, Netball 1 finished 2nd overall. Netball 2 and Tee ball were very competitive all day. They both won a couple of games. Thank you to the following people for assistance with umpiring and scoring with the different sports: Tracey Newnham, Kim Babicka, Paul Rix, Pam and Gary Choate, Martina Choate and Linda O'Sullivan.

St Mary's Prep Lego excursion

On Friday June 22nd the Prep class visited the Lego Education Centre.

We learnt about our Inquiry Unit: Toys. We made a reader using our sentences and pictures during literacy time. Here is some of our work:



Summa, Vincent and Emily are building their Three Little Pigs house.



Ned, Scheldon and Samara are starting the hospital.



We are building with Lego.

St Mary's Catholic Parish

Lancefield and Romsey
Parish Priest: Fr. George O'Connor
Pastoral Associate: Mrs. Joanne Reuther
School Principal: Mr. Anthony Falls

MASS TIMES

Saturday:
6pm Lancefield
1st & 3rd Sunday of the month:
8am Lancefield and 10am Romsey
2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of the month:
8am Romsey and 10am Lancefield

RECONCILIATION

After weekday Mass or by arrangement.

BAPTISMS

February, April, June, August, October, December.
For more information, please phone 5429 2130.

REGULAR EVENTS

SVDP Drop-In: First Thursday of each month,
10.30am to 4pm, St. Mary's Church Hall, Romsey.
All welcome to come for a game of cards/chat and free lunch.

Spiritual Guidance:

Last Tuesday/Wednesday of each month
at the Presbytery, 27 Chauncey Street, Lancefield.
John Stuart, Counsellor and Guide. Appointment
necessary. Tel: 5429 2130 for more information.
Welcome to Fr. Sebastian who will be temporarily
in the parish until Fr. Arnold arrives at the end of
September.

BINGO!! BINGO!! BINGO!!

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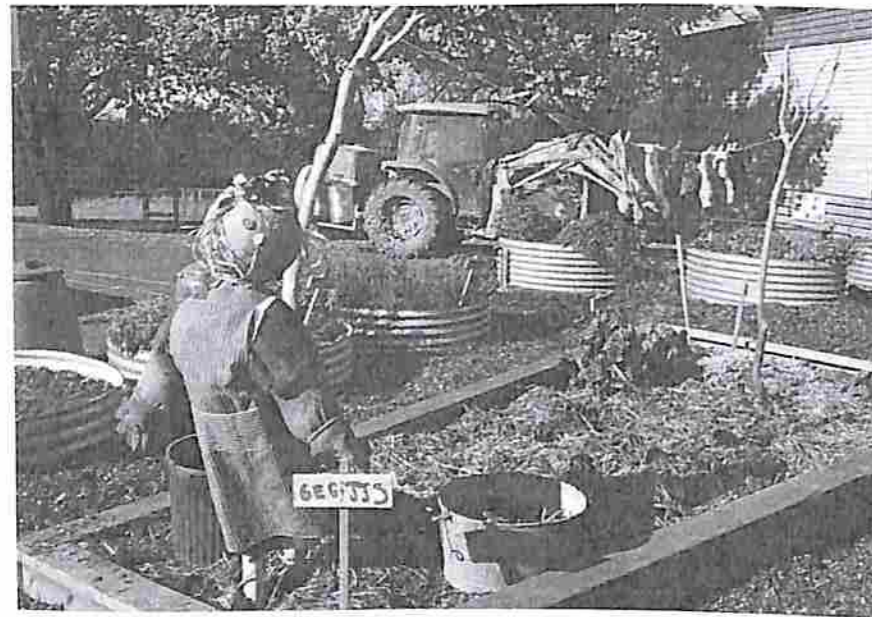
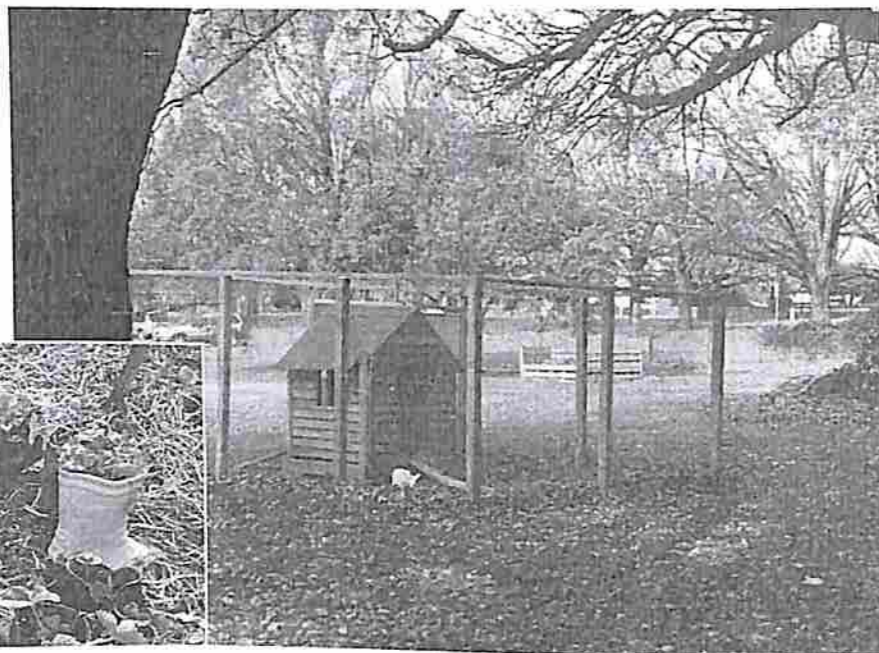
19 High Street, Lancefield Tel: 5429 1432

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Lancefield Primary School News

School Gardens

This year our school is again entering the Victorian Schools Garden Awards. Our parent representatives for each class have been busy working with students to improve our gardens, with some very creative outcomes.



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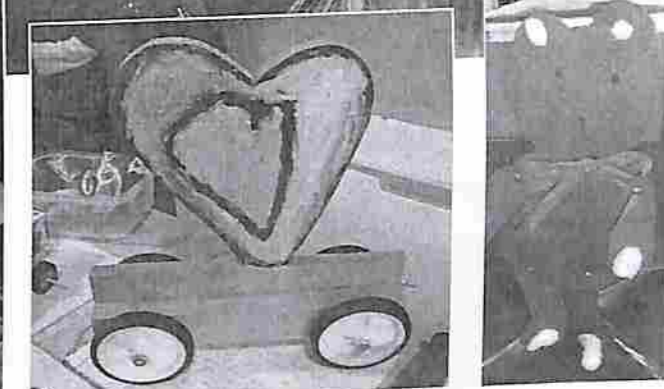
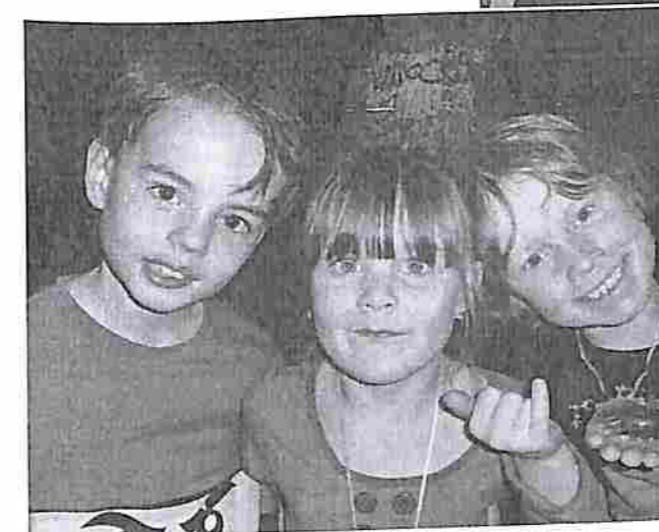
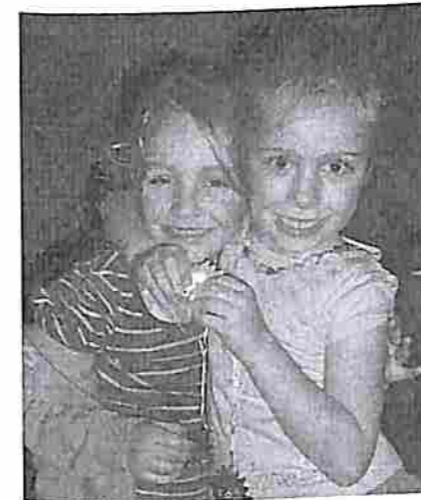
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After Hours: Andy 0418 296 695 -

Other activities

At L.P.S we finished off the term with some exciting events including a disco, Bollywood, a Toy Expo in the junior school and a Disasters Expo in the senior school. Our audition choir also visited a number of aged care facilities in the district and entertained the elderly.



Lancefield Outside School Hours Care

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Macedon Ranges and Sunbury schools sign up to fight bullying

Donna Petrovich congratulates schools throughout the Macedon Ranges and Sunbury for registering for and/or starting the eSmart anti-bullying program. Mrs Petrovich said the eSmart program was part of a Victorian Government program to tackle cyberbullying.

"I am pleased that schools in the Macedon electorate are taking a pro-active approach to combating cyberbullying," said Mrs Petrovich.

"Social media is an increasing part of everyday life for young people and it is very important that they learn to interact in this medium safely and appropriately."

"The effects of bullying can be devastating on children and young people and when social media is used inappropriately this bullying can extend beyond school into the home."

Local schools which have registered and/or started the eSmart program are: Sunbury and Macedon Ranges Specialist School, Sunbury Downs Secondary

College and Sunbury Heights, Killara, Bolinda, Lancefield, Gisborne and Romsey Primary Schools.

Mrs Petrovich said the eSmart program teaches students about protecting themselves from risks including cyberbullying and sexting, and also about the importance of protecting their own privacy.

"The eSmart program is a partnership between the Victorian Government and the Alannah and Madeleine Foundation and is being rolled out to every government school across the state and 300 selected Catholic and independent schools over the next three years," said Mrs Petrovich.

Victorian Education Minister Martin Dixon said, "The huge interest from schools wanting to be part of the initiative shows just how serious they are about stamping out bullying and creating safe places where students can learn and achieve together."

To register to participate in eSmart, or for more information, visit www.esmart.org.au

The Macedon Ranges Film Society Shows a Broad Range of Films

A film about the collapse of the Berlin Wall was June's choice for the M.R.F.S.

The film, "Goodbye Lenin" may not seem on many levels a topic for hilarity, but there was much laughter. The story centres around a politically motivated woman from West Germany who goes into a coma and does not wake up until the Wall is well and truly down. When her well-meaning son sets out to keep the truth from her, comic situations follow.

The Macedon Ranges Film Society meets on the second Wednesday of every month at 7pm in the Woodend Community Centre. Film notes are supplied and for those who wish to stay a while following the screening, there is discussion with supper, kindly supplied by the members.

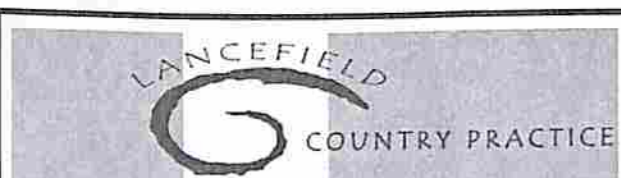
For more details, email mrfilmsociety@gmail.com or call Vicki on 5427 2323 or Christine on 5429 5452.

Local Poet Rod Smith

ENDLESS CHAIN is now available

Re-edited version of ENDLESS CHAIN 2012 AD is now available through the publisher www.xlibris.com.au. See information on website and for book orders www.wix.com/dozmonzoo/rod

Rod Smith



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Dr Marina Kefford

Dr Dan Kaplan

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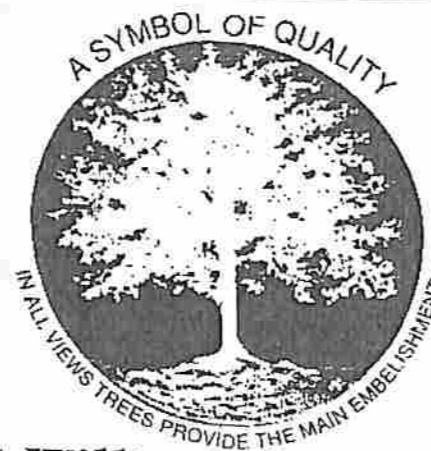
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LANCEFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Trivia Night

Due to another community event on August 18 the Trivia Night will now be held on Saturday September 8.

Tickets \$10 each (or book a table of 10)

We are seeking businesses that would like to sponsor this event or could donate prizes or vouchers for the Silent Auction. Sponsors will have a team named in their honour and will be able to promote their business through an advertising package in the school newsletter and the local paper.

Best of all you will be supporting our fantastic school by providing our students with the best education and opportunities we can give them.

For further information contact:

Principal Diana Ellis 54 292 307 or
Belinda Cattlin 0407 310 108

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Romsey Region Women's Network

Women Gathering to Share and Celebrate Friendship

The RRWN started with three women talking over a glass of wine about how difficult it can be to meet new and like-minded people in our rural community. After putting some feelers out it was found that many women in our region feel in some part socially isolated, and surprisingly it is not just the new comers to the Macedon Ranges. And so our group was born! Since forming officially in August 2011 we now have 8 committee members and 54 general members who represent a number of rural towns/areas in the Macedon Ranges district.

Our mission is to bring women together to share ideas, connect people with common interests and support women in our rural community to pursue their dreams. We want to create a new and healthier society through the spirit of friendship and celebrate the natural networks between women. Whether you need to connect with local women to network in a business/professional sense or just need a social outlet, please come and join one of our monthly meetings. The intent is to provide a safe environment for women to gather together, exchange ideas, share about their lives and have some laughs.

We meet on the 3rd Thursday of each month to give women an opportunity to take some time out from their busy lives of an evening and stay connected. Our next meeting will be on Thursday 16th August at The Aspy Café @ 7pm (32 High St, Lancefield). The Aspy is fully licensed and Michelle will be providing a two-course meal for the terrific price of \$25 per head (main & desert - selection of three of each). If you wish to eat dinner please let us know as we will need to confirm numbers prior to the evening. Otherwise, please come along to join us for a glass of wine and a chat.

If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact us.

Enquiries: - Annual membership: - \$20
Romsey Region Women's Network Inc.
111 Main Street
Romsey VIC 3434
Email: info@rrwn.com.au

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Macedon Ranges receives \$30,000 boost to bushfire resilience

Minister for Planning, Matthew Guy has approved funding for Macedon Ranges Shire to ensure planning, training and appropriate mitigation measures are in place to better protect the Shire from bushfire threat, Donna Petrovich said today.

In February the Victorian Coalition Government invited councils to share in \$800,000 to support the new bushfire planning provisions introduced last year to increase the protection of communities from bushfires. Macedon Ranges Shire Council is one of 16 councils across Victoria to have received funding through an expression of interest process.

The Coalition Government recognises that the Macedon Ranges region in one of the State's most bushfire-prone areas, said Mrs Petrovich. This funding will

complement the range of Coalition Government programs and initiatives to minimise the risk of bushfire to the communities in the Macedon Ranges.

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has received \$30,000 to help communities better understand the need for bushfire planning provisions and the role they play in making communities more fire resilient. The project will ensure landowners are familiar with the requirements of building in bushfire areas.

Mrs Petrovich said the funding will also facilitate property inspections to verify whether landholders are maintaining their properties in a fire-ready condition. Property maintenance and vegetation management are important factors in reducing the risk of bushfire and planning permits issued in a Bushfire

Management Overlay include a condition that bushfire mitigation measures must be maintained on a continuing basis.

Mrs Petrovich said that the Macedon Ranges community would also reap the benefits of other funded bushfire projects including CFA funding to assist landowners with planning permit applications, work towards a national standard for construction of community fire refuges, and training for council officers and industry practitioners in bushfire building, planning and design.

A collaborative approach between the State Government, the Macedon Range Shire Council and the community will greatly improve the effectiveness of bushfire mitigation programs in the Macedon Ranges region, said Mrs Petrovich.

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Red Door Books: August reviews and upcoming book signing

Celebrating the National Year of Reading!

During term 2, Red Door Books of Lancefield invited students in grades 3, 4, 5 & 6 from Lancefield Primary and St Mary's Primary schools to tell us about their favourite book. The students were encouraged to be as creative as they liked in telling us about what books they enjoyed the most. We would like to thank all the students who participated in this activity. We were delighted with the entries we received, which included; written book reviews, story-boards, comic strips, models and posters! Some examples were displayed in the shop's front window during the July school holidays (sorry there were too many to be able to display all of them!). The winners will be notified at the beginning of term 3. Many thanks to our guest judges Dianne Gale & Don Gray - they had their work cut out for them. Here is a sample of some of the entries we received:

Specky Magee

by F. Arena & G. Lyon

Specky Magee has a lot of things to do with mascots and lots and lots of footy! I like how it is Specky Magee and the Season of Champions and that their jumpers look like Power. I recommend it for boys aged 8 to 10. I give it a rating of 9 out of 10!

Reviewed by Callum Sankey - Grade 3

Judy Moody

by Megan McDonald

I'm just reading the Judy Moody series about a girl that has a lot of adventures and moods! I would recommend that kids from 8-12 read this series. I would give this story 100 out of 100!

Reviewed by Isabella - Grade 3

Tomorrow when the War Began

by John Marsden

Have you been in the middle of a

war? Well, seven teenagers take a trip to hell and come back in the middle of a war. When the War Began is a really awesome book for young Australians that love action, war and adventure. This book is about seven teenagers named Robyn, Homer, Chris, Corrie, Ellie, Fi, Lee and Kevin. The group go camping in a beautiful paradise in the middle of nowhere, which is named Hell. Suddenly a war is going on and they are the only ones who can save their country. They face hunger, capture, being shot at and lots more. Encounter an amazing adventure with John Marsden in Tomorrow When the War Began!

Reviewed by Cooper Rowe - Grade 4

The Bombing of Darwin: A Diary of Tom Taylor

by Alan Tucker

I have recently read this fantastic book. I loved this book but it is

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quite sad. It is about a boy called Tom and his parents. They move from Adelaide by boat to Darwin so Tom's father could work at the wharf. But when the war starts what will happen to their family? I rate this book a 10 out of 10 and recommend it to ages 10 and older.

Reviewed by Kate O'Sullivan - 4

The 13-Storey Treehouse

by Andy Griffiths

Andy and Terry live in a sick as tree house, not just any old tree house it has 13 storeys - yeah you heard me - 13, that's a lot! It has a game room, a lemonade fountain, a bubble gum dispenser and a marshmallow machine. Together they get up to some wild adventures, including adventures with sea monkeys, flying cats, mermaids, a gorilla and a giant banana. No joke! It is soooooo funny you may wet your pants. I rate it a 10 out of 10. Ages from 2 - 2021!

Reviewed by Alexander Shennan - Grade 4

Mission Impossible

by Bruce Gela

My favourite part of this book is when they are on the train, on a mission. This is where Ethan's old mission leader tries to escape by climbing on the top of speeding bullet train. Before getting knocked out Ethan quickly recovers and follows him. I didn't like it when Ethan's team gets killed in many different ways and Ethan has to team up with other people. I would rate this book 5 stars. You will like this book if you're into action, violence and difficult missions. Because after all this isn't mission difficult this is Mission Impossible!

Reviewed by James Phillips - Grade 5

Black Beauty

by Anne Sewell

Black Beauty by Anne Sewell is a story about a beautiful black horse's life. I think it is a touching tale that is like real life. My favourite character would be Black Beauty.

I wish she could be my horse! I recommend Black Beauty to anyone who loves horses, but if you get upset about horses and people dying or getting hurt don't read this book. I would rate it four and a half out of five stars!

Reviewed by Emily Phillips - Grade 5

Red Dirt Diary

by Katrina Nannasted

I think that Katrina Nannasted is a fabulous author and should keep writing children's novels. The book takes you into different places and excites you. I love the way that she creates outback books because most author's settings are in the city or other places. Blue is a normal girl.... well apart from her brothers Wez and Fez and the drought they are going through. She lives on a farm but has to rescue at least 10 sheep a day. Blue's school would be a delight because it only has 19 people that go there. Her older brother Peter and sister Sophie have to go to

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Sunday: CLOSED

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boarding school and Blue is dreading it because just maybe next year she may have to go there as well! The story isn't just a good book to enjoy it's also got facts woven into it about life in the outback.

Reviewed by Tori Fisher - Grade 5

Just Disgusting

by Andy Griffiths

Do you hate Brussel sprouts? If you do, imagine your mum making you eat five brussel sprouts - Yuk! Or making you go to bed at 8:30 when you're over those stages. The book is about lots of disgusting things well ...dur....it's called "Just Disgusting" for a reason, right? Are you interested in disgusting things? If you are then this book is one for you. You will never put this book down. This book will be your favourite for a lifetime!

Reviewed by Molly Larkin - Grade 6

Maximum Security

by Robert Murchamore

The Cherub Series is great. But the book I love the most is "Maximum Security". This book is the third book out of the twelve book series. There is also another series which only came out in 2011. I recommend this book for 11 years and over because it has some violent scenes. I think this book would be for kids or adults who like a lot of action.

This book is about James Adams, who is the main character, he has to escape from prison with this boy called Curtis. Curtis is a criminal who has been in prison for years. When the boys escape, Lauren who is James' sister comes with a car and they have to run away from the police.

I like this book because it has a lot of action and it has a lot of adventure as well. Also watch out for these books because you can become very addicted as I could hardly put the books down. I will guarantee that you will love every single book in the series. The author

of this book is Robert Murchamore who is a great author

Reviewed by Alan Sinclair - Grade 6

Book Signing by Author Courtney Collins

Red Door Books is pleased to announce that author Courtney Collins will be at the book shop at 34 High Street, Lancefield on Saturday 8th September from 10am - 12pm to sign her current crime novel "The Burial". So come along and meet the author, get your book signed and have a chat with one of Australia's most exciting authors.

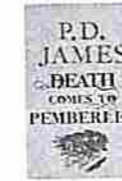
In addition to this event, Courtney will be meeting with local book clubs for a special combined book club event in the afternoon at the Romsey Hub to discuss her book. Any local book clubs wanting information about this invitation only event please contact the Macedon Ranges Readers Book Club on Facebook, or call Donna on 0427 135 271.

Macedon Ranges Book Club Review

Death Comes to Pemberley

by PD James

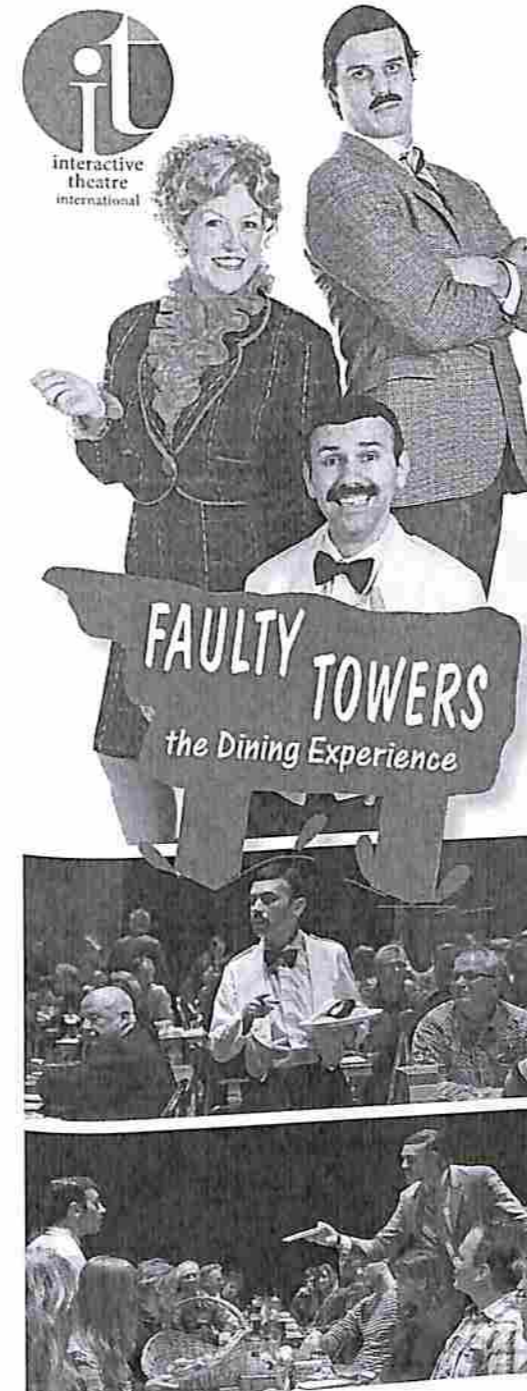
PD James was brave to tackle the infamous and much loved world of Austen's Pride and Prejudice with the result being she has successfully



traversed both worlds. Death comes to Pemberley is a detective story about the guests, both invited and not, to the Darcy's annual Autumn Ball. When a man is discovered murdered, a sinister story unravels, which shakes the polite society of the times and could bring disrepute to Pemberley.

Verdict: 2 and 1/2 stars, the story lacks the passion and feistiness of Austen's characters in their true setting; however the book is easy to read and takes you into the rich world of Pemberley.
ISBN: 9780571283606
Published: Faber and Faber (2001)

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Faulty Towers Dinner and Show: \$125pp
Saturday 27th October 2012,
Friday 23rd November 2012 or
Saturday 15th December 2012

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Romsey & Lancefield Probus Club

President: Mrs. Jean Buist 5429 1116 Secretary: Mrs. Jeni Clampit 5429 5480

Probus Meetings are held at St. Mary's Hall, Main Street, Romsey at 10am on the fourth Thursday in each month.

Probus is a mixed club for men and women

There is a guest speaker at each meeting.

We have an outing on the third Wednesday of the month. (Either a trip or luncheon)

- Friday Morning Coffee
- Musical Afternoons each month.
- Ten Pin Bowling each fortnight.

Persons interested in this club and wish to have more information

please contact the President or Secretary at the above phone numbers.

On Wednesday August 15th we are traveling to Kilmore for lunch at the Pancake Restaurant.

Our August meeting will be on Thursday 23rd.

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Competition winners will be announced at exhibition launch on September 7



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Macedon Ranges students encouraged to enter Spirit of Anzac Prize

Donna Petrovich encourages all Year 9 and 10 students in the Macedon Ranges to enter this year's Premier's Spirit of Anzac Prize. Mrs Petrovich said the Premier's Spirit of ANZAC Prize inspires young people to explore the values displayed by the ANZACs at Gallipoli and the Western Front and reflect on how those values apply in Victorian communities today.

Ten students from across Victoria – one student from each education region plus one other – and two teacher chaperones will be chosen to visit Gallipoli or the Western Front, as well as another destination of historical or cultural significance. Secondary school

teachers who encourage their students to enter are also invited to lodge expressions of interest to accompany the students on the study tour which will take place during the Term 1 school holidays in 2013.

In addition, 17 regional finalists win a study tour within Australia.

"This important initiative provides a unique and valuable opportunity for secondary students to learn more about the history and legacy of Victoria's veterans," said Mrs Petrovich.

"It provides students with the opportunity to see first hand those places where Australian men and women gave their all for future

generations."

Students entering the 2012-13 competition are required to answer: To what extent is the ANZAC spirit relevant to life in Australia today? What can it teach us about the Australia we want for the future?

Mrs Petrovich said students can enter research essays, artworks, musical compositions or audio, video or web-based presentations.

For more information about the Premier's Spirit of ANZAC Prize please visit: www.veterans.vic.gov.au or email: veterans@dpcd.vic.gov.au

Competition entries close on Friday 19 October 2012.



Macedon Ranges students encouraged to enter Spirit of Anzac Prize

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Awards to Celebrate Macedon Ranges Youth

Macedon Ranges Shire Council is calling for nominations for its annual Youth Awards, which celebrate and recognise the achievements of young people in the shire. These awards encourage young people to do their best, and recognise their talents and contributions to their community. All young people in the Macedon Ranges, along with their families, friends, teachers, neighbours, employers or colleagues, are encouraged to put forward a nomination.

Nominations are now open for any young person (or group of young people) aged 12-25 years. Award categories include Sports, Arts, Environment, Community Involvement, Business and Academic. This year's awards will also include a special category for raising mental health awareness as part of the Live4Life initiative.

Nominations close at 5pm on Friday 17 August and the winners will be announced and celebrated at a special event on Tuesday 18 September, in the newly renovated Kyneton Mechanics Institute. All are welcome to this special event to help support the great achievements of young people in the Macedon Ranges. Further details about the event will be announced in late August.

Nomination Packs can be downloaded from the Macedon Ranges Shire Council website at www.mrsc.vic.gov.au (follow the links to Youth,) and at www.live4life.org.au, or can be collected from Council Offices in Kyneton, Woodend, Gisborne and Romsey.

For more information, contact Luke Matricardi, Events Management School Based Apprentice, Macedon Ranges Shire Council on (03) 5422 0333.

Sunday 26 August - Friday 31 August
Melbourne Writers Festival takes to the road!

WANGARATTA KYNETON ECHUCA MILDURA

As part of this year's Melbourne Writers Festival, acclaimed young adult authors Cath Crowley, Tim Pegler, Brian Falkner and Davina Bell will be travelling across Victoria participating in a series of talks and workshops for school groups, young people and adults.

Join them to find out what makes a good story and how to write one!

MEET THE WRITERS EVENING SESSIONS

We are pleased to be able to offer an opportunity for local writers and the general public to meet the authors to discuss writing and the creative process. These will be informal sessions and questions from the audience will be encouraged.

For more information about dates and how to book please see local venue details below.
(note that there may be a nominal fee for these sessions)

WANGARATTA
Sunday 26 August
Time and Venue tba

ECHUCA
Tuesday 28 August at 6pm
Campaspe Regional Library
310 Hare Street
Bookings 03 5482 1997
inelson@campaspe.vic.gov.au

KYNETON
Monday 27 August at 6pm
Kyneton Mechanics Institute
81 Mollison Street
Bookings 1300 88 88 02
ktickets@mrsc.vic.gov.au

MILDURA
Thursday 30 August at 7.30 pm
Mildura Library
Alfred Deakin Centre
180-190 Deakin Avenue
Bookings 03 5018 8350
<http://mrclibraryservice.eventbrite.com.au/>



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Lancefield Tennis Club

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PO Box 62, Lancefield, Vic, 3435
President Roger Barr 5429 2174
Secretary Rebecca Kraus 0417 397193
Treasurer Peter Liersch 5429 1339

What does it cost to play tennis?

Lancefield Tennis Club has just set its fees for 2012-13 and guess what, there is no change. The club is very conscious of the cost of a family playing sport these days and of course we would love to see more people playing tennis. After reducing our fees 12 months ago the decision to keep them at the same rate was a very positive step towards making tennis one of the most affordable family sports. So what are the fees?

A Family Membership will cost a maximum of \$215 for twelve months. This includes your insurance and registration. So two adults and it doesn't matter if your family has three kids or a dozen, the maximum you will pay is \$215. This is great value.

A Single Adult Membership will cost only \$130 which includes insurance.

A Junior Membership will cost only \$80 which includes insurance.

A Social Membership for those that just want to come and have a hit whenever they feel like it but not play any competition will cost you only \$55 and also includes your insurance.

We have also introduced a "new" Affiliated Membership - If you are already a member at another club (have paid Tennis Vic Registration and Insurance) but also wish to be a member at Lancefield you pay only \$25.

As a club we have been working very hard at fundraising for the new courts over the past 12 months. In the coming year we are concentrating

on making tennis more fun and providing more opportunities for people of all ages and abilities to play tennis. There will be more social evenings to enjoy over summer. There will also be more tournaments and coaching for the juniors and opportunities for the seniors to play competition tennis. More information and membership forms are available on our web site at www.lancefieldtennisclub.com.au

Community Funding Scheme Grant

The Tennis Club is very pleased to announce that it received a \$3,600 Grant from the Macedon Ranges Shire Community Funding Scheme. We thank the shire for supporting local sporting clubs, it is greatly appreciated. The funds will be put to very good use to build a storage shed. This will get rid of a lot of clutter in the club rooms and allow us to better utilize the space we have.

AGM

As flagged in last month's Mercury, our AGM is being held at the Aspey Restaurant on Monday the 13th of August. There will be a delicious three course meal for only \$25 and a complimentary drink upon arrival. If you would like to become involved in the club we would love to see you there. There is a \$10 deposit for bookings, refundable on the night. Contact us at info@lancefieldtennisclub.com.au or contact one of our committee members.

*Roger Barr
President: Lancefield Tennis Club.*



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