

# Lancefield Mercury



LANCIEFIELD MENS SHED:SHED TALK

## THE INTERESTING PEOPLE YOU MEET



One of the many great aspects of being part of a Men's Shed is the interesting people you meet. Personally, I get a lot of satisfaction fixing people's chairs, making planter boxes, fixing all sorts of bits and pieces for our local community. At the next bench over from me in the Lancefield shed stands Jim - working away at some of the most interesting nest boxes and cutting boards I have ever seen.

Not for Jim the plain old nest boxes; he constructs these amazing little houses that have all sorts of interesting features, and best of all, besides the satisfaction he gets from constructing them, they sell like hot cakes at our monthly market in Lancefield.

I enjoy walking past Jim and asking him if the bit of scrap timber I am about to put in the fire is any use to him. He gets a bit of a gleam in his eye, and I can see his mind is ticking over with the possibilities. Jim is a pretty interesting character. Up until a few years back he never had much time for a hammer and chisel, but after his last

bout with a brain surgeon, I think it was his wife Helen who suggested that he might like to give the Men's Shed a go. I am pretty sure he thinks it's the best suggestion she ever made.

Jim was a movie projectionist for over 30 years and did a stint as a landscaper before he gave work away. He hasn't had the best of health over the years, but he is a classic example of a man who, in spite of some setbacks, is still very keen to contribute in a very creative way to his community. Our Men's Shed is a very welcoming place and chaps who just want to come along and socialize seem to really enjoy their time there. I am sure there are some men who avoid the place because they think they need some sort of skill. That couldn't be further from the truth.

On the other hand, if a chap would like to learn some skills, a bit like my friend Jim, there are plenty of blokes to give them a helping hand.

The Shed Bloke








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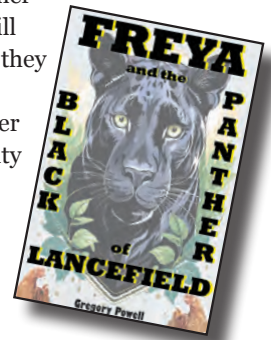
# FREYA AND THE BLACK PANTHER OF LANCEFIELD

The author of the book, Gregory Powell, was formerly a schoolteacher for thirty-five years, teaching throughout the northern and western suburbs of Melbourne. He taught at Lancefield Primary School for five years and later became a university lecturer across two universities after completing his master's and PhD degrees. Over a ten-year period, Greg was president of West Bourke Books, and his committee wrote many of the local histories of the Romsey Shire and surrounding townships including: 'An Introduction to the Aboriginal Stone Quarry of Mt William, Lancefield' - Authors - Carole Moore and Robyn Poletti.

Greg is a collector of Japanese art, sculpture, furniture and books and is a fifth degree Blackbelt in Shotokan Karate. He has built a Japanese garden around his home. Greg's other interests include human evolution and archaeology of ancient Japan, Africa, South America and Australia. He is a former President of the Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club, and he continues to serve his local community. Now fully retired he has gone back to his first love of writing and illustrating children's and teenage fiction. He has lived with his family in the Macedon Ranges for 36 years where this historical/fantasy adventure novel is set.

In his book, Freya and *The Black Panther of Lancefield*, Gregory Powell talks to the reader of local folklore that has

long spoken of elusive sightings of black panthers roaming the state of Victoria. Some even believe that these creatures roam the Macedon Ranges. On a not-so typical farmer's market day in the historic township of Lancefield, Freya and her besties are fascinated by the mysterious appearance of a black steel panther sculpture. However, Freya, and her besties cannot anticipate what is about to unfold when the Black Panther of Lancefield comes to life and enters their dreamlike states. The creature leads them to sites of environmental and cultural significance where nothing is the same. They enter what appear to be different dimensions with sometimes quite frightening consequences. On each journey ancient clues and realities of human actions are laid bare - but only when Freya and her besties' hearts and minds are true will they begin to really understand how they can take charge of their tomorrows. Come on a journey with Freya and her besties where the lines between reality and imagination are blurred and where a mysterious creature and its architect can influence who they are and how they choose to be. Available on Amazon.



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## HALL HAPPENINGS

Lancefield Mechanics' Institute

# CLASSIC FILMS

The Lancefield Mechanics' Institute continues to play a major role in our community with many regular and varied bookings.

On Saturday 23 August 2025 by popular demand *The Sounds of Silent* will return for a vibrant and entertaining musical and movie event for the whole family. If you missed the October show last year, they recreate the silent movie experience from the 1920s and 1930s with improvised performances featuring fun, familiar and popular music in the style of the period to accompany the movie. *The General* is the classic featured film starring Buster Keaton. The 1926 silent comedy was inspired by *the Great Locomotive Chase*, which happened in America in 1862. This action-adventure comedy was made towards the end of the silent era. Laurel and Hardy shorts will also be part of the program.

Admission is \$10 per person, and children 15 and under are free. Doors will open at 6pm with movie starting at 7. BYO drinks and nibbles. Go to <https://www.trybooking.com/DDODF> for tickets. Don't miss out on this terrific community event. Book your tickets early.

Rock & Roll Line Dancing workshop/lessons returns for a 10-week program  
(Monday evenings starting 22-Sep through to 24-Nov).

## REGULAR BOOKINGS:

(\*are School Term based event)

- **LINE DANCING** on Monday and Wednesday mornings.
- **PILATES** on Tuesday mornings and evenings.\*  
**OLD TIME DANCE** lessons and practice on Tuesdays (and an evening dance on the fourth Friday of the month).  
**PATCHWORK** group on Thursday mornings.
- **KARATE** on Tuesday and Thursday evenings.\*

## NEW ACTIVITIES

We welcome two new LMI 'regular' activities:

### *Sarah P*

**REFLEXOLOGY** - practice sessions on Monday afternoons in the Annex (minimal cost).

**KINESIOLOGY** - volunteers required for Practice sessions on Monday (or Friday) afternoons in the Annex

### *Sarah C*

**AYURVEDIC** treatment sessions on Monday afternoons in the Supper Room.



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## HALL HAPPENINGS

Get along and support these two ladies making new activities available in our community.

For contact details please call the LMI Booking Officer.

Coming events and activities include:

### AUGUST

6 Wednesday (evening) No Lights No Lycra - NLNL DISCO  
11 Monday (evening) Deep Creek LANDCARE Group meeting  
15 Friday (evening) PARANORMAL Investigation (Kyneton Paranormal)  
22 Friday CWA meeting  
22 Friday Lancefield OLD TIME DANCE group – monthly dance  
23 Saturday LITTLE TREASURES MARKET  
23 Saturday SILENT MOVIE evening  
24 Sunday Lancefield WITCHES Fair  
26 Tuesday Kitchen Preparation (for Community Luncheon in Romsey)  
29 Friday Private Event  
30 Saturday Private Event

### FOR BOOKINGS:

Contact John Severson, President and Booking Officer,  
Lancefield Mechanics' Institute Committee of  
Management  
Email: lancefieldhall@gmail.com or ring 0437 313 564



**COMBINED PROBUS  
CLUB OF ROMSEY AND  
LANCEFIELD INC.**

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

## FUN TIMES

The Romsey/Lancefield Probus Club is for outgoing retirees or semi-retired people to meet, relax and enjoy the welcoming company of those at the same stage of life. There is a regular monthly meeting with guest speakers, morning tea and time to socialise with the other members. Each month there is an outing for lunch held at different venues around the region as well as short and longer trips throughout the year. There is a coffee morning at 10 am every Friday at the Lost Watering Hole where members meet for a chat and a bit of fun.

The club has continued to attract new members, and our numbers are now at 48. It's comforting to know over the cold winter months you have planned outings with friends to enjoy a hearty meal and good company. The club recently tried the Trentham Hotel with many club members attending and enjoying the other activities the town has to offer.

We are a friendly, welcoming group from diverse backgrounds with a variety of interests and we'd love to meet you! Feel free to attend a meeting as a visitor.

President: Ken 0409359048

Secretary: Betty 0409359048 [www.rlprobus.org.au](http://www.rlprobus.org.au)

### LANCEFIELD MERCURY INC.

A0045845D



Deadline for articles and advertisements is the 15th of the month. The Mercury is distributed by post and volunteer deliverers to all premises with a letter box in the Lancefield postal area at the start of the month. Copies of the paper can also be found at the Romsey Library.

The Lancefield Mercury is produced by volunteers as a service to the people of Lancefield.

The editorial committee reserves the right to edit articles for length and clarity.

Items for publication should be sent to [editor3435@gmail.com](mailto:editor3435@gmail.com) – enquiries Andy Moore 0430 448 120

Enquiries about advertising: [advertising3435@gmail.com](mailto:advertising3435@gmail.com) – Ken Allender 0404 886 580

Check [lancefieldmercury.org.au](http://lancefieldmercury.org.au) for general information about advertising and how to contribute articles, as well to see digital back copies.

#### Editorial Committee:

Andy Moore

Craig Longmuir

Karen Barr

Fay Woodhouse

Ken Allender

Julianne Graham

Beth Child

Editorial Enquiries to

Andy Moore 0430 448 120

Advertising Enquiries to

Ken Allender 0404 886 580.



#### Casual advertising -

*Black and White* - single ad:  
One eighth page \$ 4 2.00 per issue  
One quarter page \$ 6 3.00 per issue  
Half page \$ 1 15.00 per issue  
Full page \$ 1 90.00 per issue

#### Casual advertising -

*Colour* - single ad:  
One quarter page \$ 9 5.00 per issue  
Half page \$ 1 70.00 per issue  
Full page \$ 2 80.00 per issue

#### Annual Subscriptions -

*Black and White* - yearly advertising packages (11 editions):  
Annual 1/8 page \$ 3 15.00  
Annual 1/4 page \$ 4 15.00  
Annual 1/2 page \$ 7 45.00  
Annual full page \$ 1 160.00

#### Annual Subscriptions -

*Colour* - yearly advertising packages (11 editions):  
Annual 1/4 page \$ 7 80.00  
Annual 1/2 page \$ 1,375.00  
Annual full page \$ 2,080.00

The Lancefield Mercury acknowledges the people of the Wurundjeri Woi Wurrung as the Traditional Custodians of the Country that includes Lancefield and Wil-im-ee Moor-ring. We pay our respects to Elders past and present, and extend that respect to all people of the First Nations. We recognise their continuing connection to the land and waters, and thank them for protecting this country since time immemorial.

# NEW SERVICE TO RESOLVE RENTAL DISPUTES

## FAST, FAIR AND FREE

The Victorian Government is helping renters and landlords across Macedon resolve simple disputes – fast, fair and free. Premier Jacinta Allan and Minister for Consumer Affairs Nick Staikos have announced that Rental Dispute Resolution Victoria (RDRV) is live. RDRV will help renters and rental providers settle disputes over bonds, compensation, repairs and rent increases in a more informal setting, freeing up VCAT to deal with other cases.

The free service – announced as part of the Government's nation-leading housing and renting fairness reforms – will give renters a fairer go without the barrier of expensive legal fees or an intimidating VCAT hearing.

Anyone involved in a residential tenancy dispute can access the free service by calling 1300 01 7378, jumping online, or attending RDRV in person. At RDRV, highly skilled resolution experts will work to bring parties together to resolve rental disputes quickly and avoid a formal hearing.

They will oversee each case from start to finish. A new

team of around 40 resolution coordinators have been recruited and trained to handle cases, and an additional 10 staff will soon join as intake officers to support the RDRV call centre. RDRV will be headquartered on King Street in the CBD with four community locations at Oakleigh, Bundoora, Frankston and Bendigo.

It's also a digital-friendly service that can be easily accessed and used online. More than 60 per cent of disputes are expected to be able to be resolved through RDRV. It's all about guiding parties to the fastest and best result, reducing time, stress and cost, and reducing the need for lawyers. Consumer Affairs Victoria will still be accessible to people seeking information to better understand their rights. RDRV is the first of its kind in Australia.

Victoria is leading the nation on renters' rights with more than 100 reforms already implemented and more to come including portable bonds, tougher penalties for dodgy landlords and more powers to stop excessive rent increases.

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A PATCH OF LANCEFIELD

# AND ANOTHER DEVOTEE IS BORN

When someone is inspired to begin quilting, it's often for a specific person, or reason. A family member or friend is expecting a baby, a coming birthday, a wedding, a celebration of a beloved partner or parent, using scraps of their garments to memorialise their lives.

Quite frequently, soon after that initial experience, the maker discovers the joys of playing with fabrics, patterns and colours, looks forward to talking with fellow quilters encountered along the way...and another devotee is born!

Quilt tops made by our members are sent to one of several groups, and then completed (backing, quilting and binding) for distribution to people who need beauty, warmth and comfort. Nursing homes, women's shelters, children's hospitals, and palliative care organisations are some of the destinations of these works of art.

A Patch of Lancefield, our local quilting group, has many such stories and variations. I was living in the US, unable – well, not permitted – to work, and had access to a treasure trove of fabrics in the Washington Opera wardrobe department where a friend was employed.

Having found the spectacular designs of Kaffe Fassett just before that, and with time on my hands, I raided the

Opera's stash, and off I went. If you have a drawerful – or a boxful or a roomful – of left over or never used or *One Day I'll Do It* fabrics – consider beginning the wonderful, friendly, potentially slightly obsessive life of quilting.

Our group has people of the most extraordinary range, level and assortment of handcraft skills – so being able to sew isn't really even a prerequisite – your interest is enough to get you started. The rest is practice. We have knitters, embroiderers, quilters, beaders and more, with tons of advice and encouragement and cuppas as you go.

We had our AGM on Thursday July 10; Jo Marsh continues as President, and we now have a new Secretary, Marjolein Meyer, and a new Treasurer, Susanna Jarman. Thanks so much to our outgoing Secretary Lesley Vincett, and Treasurer Jenny Rowe who have been splendid in their roles.

A Patch of Lancefield meets each Thursday in the Mechanics' Institute Annex from 10am – 3pm (first and third Thursdays of the month) and 10am – 1pm (second and fourth Thursdays of the month). FB page – A Patch of Lancefield Patchwork Group.

Beth Child

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5429 2130 Parish Priest: Fr. John Healy C/- Woodend Presbytery 5427 2690

# CURRENT MASS TIMES

Vigil Mass will be celebrated each Saturday evening at 6:30pm in the Lancefield Church.

Sunday Mass will be celebrated at 9am and will alternate between Lancefield and Romsey -

first and third Sunday of the month in Romsey, and the second, fourth and fifth Sunday of the month in Lancefield.

The Healing Mass will be celebrated at 10:30am in Romsey on the first Saturday of each month.

Weekday Mass on Thursday 9:30am at Romsey Church and Friday 9:30am at Lancefield Church

## BAPTISMS

Baptisms are held on the first Sunday of the month at 2:30pm. Please contact the office for the next available dates.

## SACRAMENTS

Bookings are open for parish children to register for Confirmation - available to Yr 6 and over. Please contact the office if you would like to register your child.

## RECONCILIATION

Reconciliation is held on the second Saturday of the month at 10am in St. Ambrose Church in Woodend and on the fourth Saturday of the month at 10am in St. Mary's Church in Lancefield.

Should a parishioner want private Reconciliation, please contact Fr. John directly to make the arrangement.

Please direct enquiries to the parish office email lancefield@cam.org.au or on 5429 2130.

For funeral arrangements, please contact Fr. John by email woodend@cam.org.au or on 5427 2690.

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# SUPPORTING WAR WIDOWS

The Macedon Ranges Legacy Group is dedicated to supporting the well-being of 65 veterans' widows, ensuring that they receive the care and attention they deserve. This compassionate initiative encompasses veterans' widows residing in aged care facilities as well as those living independently, providing them with various well-being events and regular personal contact. The Group covers a wide area of the Macedon Ranges that include Lancefield, Romsey, Woodend, Gisborne, Mt Macedon, Bullengarook, Kyneton, Trentham, and Malmsbury.

The Group organizes quarterly morning teas and light luncheons, along with major luncheons mid-year and at the end of the year. These events are designed to foster a sense of community and provide a platform for social interaction among these widows. The Victorian Government's ANZAC Day Proceeds Grant administered by the Department of Families, Fairness and Housing generously supports these well-being events, ensuring that they can continue to offer these valuable gatherings.

Each month, widows are contacted through face-to-face meetings or phone calls. This consistent communication aims to identify any immediate support needs they may have. For many veterans' widows, Legacy is their primary source of close contact, as they may not have family support nearby or at all.

The Macedon Ranges Legacy Group is powered by ten dedicated Legatees, who are all volunteers. However, several of these Legatees are themselves aged or experiencing health issues that limit their ability to visit the widows. Consequently, the Group is actively seeking volunteers, particularly retired ADF veterans, who are willing to dedicate a few hours each month to support the Group's mission. Their involvement would be invaluable in ensuring that veterans' widows receive the ongoing care and companionship they need.

The Macedon Ranges Legacy Group's work is a testament to the enduring gratitude and respect for the sacrifices made by the servicemen and women, and their families. By providing regular well-being events and personal contact, the Group helps to enrich the lives of veterans' widows, ensuring that they are not forgotten and continue to receive the support they need.

Persons interested in becoming a Legatee or providing other forms of support are encouraged to contact Carl Schiller, Chair of the Macedon Ranges Legacy Group, on 0412 814 212 or email [chairmrlegacy@gmail.com](mailto:chairmrlegacy@gmail.com). Also, if you are in a family of a former serving veteran in need of support you are encouraged to contact Macedon Ranges Legacy.

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# BURN YOUR WOOD HEATER BRIGHTER THIS WINTER



As the weather cools down, domestic wood heaters can be a great source of warmth in our homes. However, they can be a major contributor to air pollution in our towns if not operated correctly. Smoke from wood heaters can affect

the air we breathe and the health of our community.

## TIPS FOR SUCCESSFUL BURNING:

- Have your wood heater and flue serviced each year by a professional.
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- Only use small or medium pieces of wood and avoid overloading your heater, as this will starve the fire of oxygen and cause it to smoulder.
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## WINTER NEWS

Winter is definitely here, but of course that doesn't stop us from meeting on Sunday mornings (we make sure we are rugged up in our winter woolies). Regular attendance is the best way to get your dog into a routine, socialise (dogs and humans) and help produce a well-behaved furry family member. This July we had 7 new members join us - welcome aboard! If you have been thinking about joining, we would love to see you. Don't let the cold weather deter you.

In May, we had our Mock Trial Fun Day. Awards were given for each grade – first to fourth, as well as some Highly Commended awards. This was a great chance for members to get some personal feedback on their progress. Well done to everyone who attended. Whilst we may have forgotten the nice warm nights that we experienced for our Twilight Classes over the summer months, we haven't forgotten that we were able to raise money and donate to some charity organisations that do great work to support animals in their local communities. Thank you to our instructors who donate their time to make this happen.

If you are interested in joining us, we look forward to seeing you. Details can be found on the website at [www.macedonrangesdogclub.org.au](http://www.macedonrangesdogclub.org.au) or contact us via our Facebook page or email [info@macedonrangesdogclub.org.au](mailto:info@macedonrangesdogclub.org.au) and a representative from the club will contact you.

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### Mary-Anne Thomas MP

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# HAVE YOUR SAY ON UPCOMING COUNCIL CONSULTATIONS

Council's Your Say online engagement hub is your go-to source for information and feedback on all Council-led consultations, in addition to other external consultations Council may support. Due to newsletters' editorial deadlines and the need for some consultations to be tabled and considered at Council Meetings, we may not always be able to provide firm consultation dates through newsletters. However, the following matters are expected to be consulted on soon, if not already live:

- Drafts of revised key strategic Council documents, such as the Council Plan, following earlier consultation in late 2024 and throughout 2025
- A pedestrian and cyclist survey for Romsey, to gain insights into local issues and needs
- Kyneton Airfield leases, following earlier consultation directly with tenants throughout 2025
- Draft Domestic Animal Management Plan, following earlier consultation in April 2025

- Any adjustments to dog off-leash and prohibited areas (also known as Council's Dog and Cat Order 2019), following earlier consultation in July-August 2024
  - Draft Woodend Racecourse Reserve Master Plan, following earlier consultation in August-September 2024
  - A review of Council's Affordable Housing Policy and strategy
  - An update to Council's Biodiversity Strategy
- Visit [yoursay.mrsc.vic.gov.au](https://yoursay.mrsc.vic.gov.au) to view current consultations, provide feedback and sign up to receive tailored alerts about future consultations as they are listed.

We also understand that not everyone is able to readily access digital platforms or simply prefer hard copies – we welcome enquiries on any of our consultations and can endeavour to provide hard-copy information and survey questions on request.

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# CHANGE OVER DINNER

On Saturday 21 June at Glen Erin Lancefield, members of the Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club and community members, celebrated the induction of Shane Pettingill as the new President of the Rotary Club, as well honouring the achievements of the outgoing President Dr Diane Powell (2023-2025). Emcee for the evening was Rotarian Peter O'Rourke who managed to keep everyone in line with his humorous retrospectives.

Current Rotary members were joined by guests including MRSC East Ward Councillor Cassy Borthwick, EMRBATA representative Dr Jenny Stillman, Lancefield Romsey Lions Club members Ged and Wendie McLaughlin, Red Cross member Karen Hermann, Romsey Fire brigade

representative Ralph Hermann, and Paul Garbett representing our new Romsey Aged Care. Other guests and Rotary friends who attended were Teresa Ness, Margaret Mitchell, Wendy Shepherdley and Sue Moran. Past Rotarians who also joined us on the night were PP Craig Jamieson, PP Dennis Ness, and PP Florence Meyer. The Rotary club thanks everyone for their attendance.

The outgoing President Dr Diane Powell highlighted the Rotary Club's achievements over the past two years and the importance of volunteering in our community. Diane also said, "We wanted the opportunity to acknowledge as many community members as possible whose efforts either in the past or currently in their capacity as volunteers, local











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councillors, or interested parties along with Rotary, work tirelessly for the betterment of the people we serve and support through our community projects.”

Rotary’s major projects include the ongoing development of the Avenue of Honour between Romsey and Lancefield. More plaques have been unveiled, and support from the Bendigo Community Bank via a major Grant has enabled the club to revegetate the Avenue by planting five new disease resistant Elms (Advanced Tree Nursery and Tree Tactics). The club is also excited about plans for the construction of a Commemorative Gazebo (under Shane Pettingill’s Presidency) halfway along the walking track commemorating all those Australian men and women who served in wars and peace keeping missions.

President Dr Diane Powell presented gifts and thanked all members of the Rotary Club for their ongoing commitment and service - Anne Collins (Secretary), Peter O’Rourke, Brendan Meyer (Treasurer), Mark Shepherdley, Jo Porch, Shane and Vicki Pettingill and Dr Greg Powell.

The Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club Inc. meets every fortnight on Thursdays (7 pm – 9 pm) at one of the following establishments - Soltan Pepper Restaurant, the Lancefield Hotel, the 1860 Hotel and the Lodge (Lancefield). Community members interested in becoming Rotarians are very welcome to join us.

Please contact our Club Secretary - Anne Collins via email [anne.collins@outlook.com.au](mailto:anne.collins@outlook.com.au) for further information.

Dr Greg Powell

(Past President-Community Liaison Officer)

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## ELECTRIFY MACEDON RANGES

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This Federal Government program provides an upfront discount on the cost of installing home batteries.

### KEY FEATURES:

- Around a 30% discount on the upfront cost of a solar battery, capped in practice at ~\$344 per usable kWh of storage.
- Available for households, small businesses, and community organizations with a new or existing solar PV system.
- The battery must be capable of being part of a Virtual Power Plant (VPP) but joining a VPP is optional.
- Installation must be done by a Clean Energy Council accredited installer
- The rebate will conclude on December 31, 2030, with the incentive amount decreasing each year.
- The federal rebate can be combined with eligible state and territory battery incentives.
- Savings: A typical 13.5 kWh battery could be reduced by up to \$4,000 with the rebate.
- The rebate is delivered through the Small-scale

Renewable Energy Scheme (SRES), similar to the way rooftop solar subsidies are handled.

- You can only claim once per property, so getting the right-size battery from the get-go will save money.
- Victorian residents could also benefit from a solar panel rebate (see <https://www.solar.vic.gov.au/solar-panel-rebate>) up to \$1,400 and an interest-free loan equivalent to the rebate amount.

Note that free one-on-one consultations on all aspects of electrification, including installing solar panels and home batteries, are available from carefully selected Trusted Partners via GREG (Go Renewable Energy Group). Visit <https://mrsg.org.au/greg> to book your free consult.

Such a consult can make sure that any proposed installation is tailored to your home and lifestyle, and not just the rebate. As always, we're here to help you find the right long-term setup, not a one-size-fits-all system.

From Electrify Macedon Ranges, a local volunteer-run community project that is part of the Macedon Ranges Sustainability Group.



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# EMPOWER YOUR HOME WEBINARS

We've had great success with the Empower Your Home 'lunch and learn' sessions, with almost 500 people register for our eight webinars so far.

Join our upcoming August sessions. These events are brought to you by the Central Victorian Greenhouse Alliance Councils including City of Greater Bendigo, Central Goldfields Shire, Macedon Ranges Shire and Pyrenees Shire.

Visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/environment-events) to register for any of the below sessions.

## SOLAR AND BATTERIES 101

4 August, 12.30-1.30pm

This session will help you understand whether a solar and or battery system is the right choice for you, how best to proceed and then optimise savings.

Learn how solar and battery systems work, how to determine what's right for your property/context, reviewing quotes and the latest government incentives. Led by Frank Forster from EnviroShop Newstead, a leading expert and local advocate for home electrification.



## ELECTRIFY YOUR RIDE

Market Updates & Novated Leasing – 1 September, 12:30-1:15pm

The electric vehicle market is moving fast, with new electric SUVs and utes now added. Hear the latest from the market for all vehicle and bike ranges, as well as salary and financial options available. Hear from experts Rohan Martin, CEO of National Automotive Leasing and Salary Packaging Association (NALSPA), and Thijs van der Heijden, Founder of Sparque - eBike experts and eBike Novated Leasing.

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The Romsey Lancefield Girl Guides is looking for new members to join us and share in the fun we have on Monday evenings. The Girl Guides are dedicated to empowering girls aged 5-17 through engaging and quality programs that foster personal growth and community involvement.

Our community involvement in term 2 involved a visit to the Men's Shed where the girls each built a bird nesting box with the help of the enthusiastic men. Each girl completed her box and was able to take it home to put it up in a suitable tree.

Later in the term we had a visit from the Librarian from the Romsey Hub who shared lots of toys, hobbies and popular activities for children 60 to 70 years ago. Oranges and Lemons was a popular game that the Guides learnt, including the tug-of-war at the end, then Pop Goes the Weasel also had them laughing at their effort to grab a chair. The game of 2 Up was an eye-opener for all the girls. They had some fun guessing which way the pennies would fall by putting two hands on their head, two hands on their bum, or

one hand on each.

The girls spent some time achieving the Emergency badge by learning about the CFA, Police, SES, MFB/FRV and Ambulance. They learnt to recognise the different style of uniforms and vehicles they use to support the type of activities that involves them in an emergency. And in particular they found that women are involved in all these emergency services, and there are also members who are not Australian and who are welcome in each service.

Cooking is always a favourite activity and during the term the girls cooked "Martians-in Spaceships" on an open fire. They were beautifully cooked and delicious to eat.

If you are interested in coming along to try Guides, please contact [ritavandervalk@outlook.com](mailto:ritavandervalk@outlook.com) and I will give you more details regarding our Monday night meetings in Term 3.

Rita Vander Valk



# WHY DO WE TEACH AUSLAN?

Incorporating Auslan into our school curriculum has many benefits for all our children. Sign language enhances children's educational and personal development, increases memory retention and motion processing, stimulates brain development and mental flexibility and increases enjoyment in communicating for both hearing and children with a hearing deficit (of whom we have many at LPS). It is also hugely beneficial for neurodiverse students who find that Auslan communication can be an easier and clearer way for them to communicate emotions and needs for learning without having to rely on verbal communication. We are proud of the way we incorporate Auslan into all we do at LPS.

On our Professional Practice Day for staff (Friday 6 June) our focus was the Victorian Model for Teaching and Learning 2.0, and we enjoyed a very practical and helpful session led by guest facilitator Gary Perrot (Northwest Region EIL – Education Improvement Leader). Gary often works with us at LPS, and it is always a pleasure to welcome him back and share his knowledge. We also participated in a session regarding trauma and how this presents differently in different people/children and began our eLearning module of de-escalation understanding and strategies. A great day of learning for our staff.

## VIKINGS ARRIVE AT LPS

During Term 2, the Year 2/3 students took a step back in time to explore the fascinating world of Vikings. Through

this integrated unit, students investigated Viking life, travel, customs, and the many gods and goddesses that played an important role in their beliefs. To showcase their learning, students were challenged to complete a take-home project, where they created their own Viking-themed models. We were blown away by the creativity on display—everything from shields and dioramas to rune stones, slide shows and some very imaginative designs that truly captured the Viking spirit.

Each student presented their project to the class with pride, before we opened the gym for a gallery walk, inviting families and other classes to celebrate their hard work. It was a wonderful and successful term of learning, creativity, and community. Well done to all students for their efforts and enthusiasm!













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## FROM OUR WELLBEING LEADER... WHAT IS THE HIDDEN DISABILITIES SUNFLOWER?

Some disabilities, conditions or chronic illnesses are not immediately obvious to others. For some people, this can make it hard to understand and believe that someone, with a “non-visible” condition genuinely needs support. Some people question whether you have a disability because you don’t look ‘like you have a disability’.

That is why the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower was created- to encourage inclusivity, acceptance and understanding. It is a simple tool for you to share that you have a hidden disability voluntarily. Simply by wearing the Sunflower, you’re just letting everyone know that you might need extra help, understanding, or just more time.

### WHY A SUNFLOWER?

Without a visual cue, it can be difficult for others to identify, acknowledge, or understand the daily barriers faced by people living with an invisible disability. The team searched for a discreet sign that is visible from a distance as well as being distinctive, joyful, and dynamic.

A sunflower was chosen as it suggests happiness, positivity, strength as well as growth and confidence and is universally known. Hidden Sunflower lanyards and wrist bands can be picked up from MET stations such as Flinders St or you can order from the online shop Hidden Disabilities Sunflower



Finally ...on some of the sunnier winter days we have been looking out and listening for laughter, kindness, people having fun and cooperating out in the school yard.

We hope you enjoy these beautiful happy faces.

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# LET'S GET SERIOUS ABOUT REDUCING LANDFILL

At our July working bee we removed hundreds of guards and stakes from many of the trees and shrubs that we have planted at Forbes Crossing over the years. The plan is to reuse as many of the guards and stakes on future plantings as possible.

In most cases we use 1200 mm stakes and 900 mm plastic guards to protect the plants from rabbits and kangaroos. We generally leave them on for up to five years. The stakes and guards are costly so it is worth reusing what we can, from financial and environmental viewpoints.

We like to practice what we preach! Some guards had to be cut in many pieces to remove but usually we can pull them off or cut down the side to remove them. A couple of cable ties and they are ready to go again! Overall, we will reuse at least 70% of the guards and 95% of the stakes.

A subsequent trip to the Romsey Resource Recovery Facility reminded me of Keep Australia Beautiful's 6 R's. Refuse single use plastics. Rot your organic waste by mastering your FOGO bin or composting organics yourself. Reduce paper usage and waste. Reuse, repurpose or repair. Recycle your tricky items and limit landfill by

taking advantage of the many opportunities provided by the Romsey Resource Recovery Facility (tip), our 4-bin system, our Neighbourhood Houses and the Container Deposit Scheme (CDS) depot in Romsey. We couldn't recycle the mangled guards but the metal and soft plastics we also had in the trailer will be. On the way we dropped off a couple of bags of drink containers at the CDS facility in Mitchell Ct Romsey which added \$15.90 to Deep Creek Landcare's coffers.

It is great to see that our government and council are serious about reducing what goes into landfill. The 4-bin system helps but only works if we do our bit. It is also up to us to acquaint ourselves with what the tip and our Neighbourhood Houses offer. Many tips in metropolitan areas are filling up.

New tips further away are on the cards, as well as incinerators to burn our rubbish; both options have a downside. The onus is on us to follow the 6 R's, sort our rubbish and take advantage of the services available to us.

The Lancefield Neighbourhood House Recycling Centre enables us to recycle some of the small items that don't belong in our FOGO bins. Items such as plastic bread bag



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## DEEP CREEK LANDCARE GROUP

closures, writing instruments, oral care products, contact lenses, batteries, Nescafe Dolce Gusto and Espresso aluminium capsules and plastic detergent bottles. The Riddells Creek NH, in collaboration with the MRSC, has an even more extensive recycling facility. Our Post Office takes mobile phones and printer cartridges. Our council has provided orange plastic bags to facilitate the recycling of soft plastics. The bags can be collected from the Romsey Library. When full, we simply sit them in our yellow lidded bin for collection.

This year, Keep Australia Beautiful Week is from August 4 to August 10. We would love to be involved again this year, but August and September will be a busy time planting after postponing most of our autumn plantings due to very dry conditions. Nevertheless, we will be doing our bit at our working bee on Sunday, July 20.

Our Landcare group has been involved in KAB's Adopt-A-Roadside program for over a decade. Twice a year we pick up litter along the Lancefield-Kilmore Road. We are hoping to expand our clean-up to include other roads and other parts of Lancefield and Romsey. We would love your help.

Deep Creek Landcare has nesting boxes for bats, birds, possums and phascogales for sale from \$30. We also have Myna bird traps to lend out. Annual Landcare membership is \$20 per family. You can follow us on Facebook, go to our new website, contact our President, Phil Severs (0476 324 000) or attend our monthly meetings in the Lancefield Mechanics Hall.

## ROMSEY LIBRARY

### TRY A CLUB



#### FILM CLUB

Film Club is on as always. Wednesday 13 August 10:30 – 12:30. Please see staff at the desk to find out which movie will be shown.

#### CURIOUS CIRCLE:

Tuesday 12 August, 5.30 – 7.30pm

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## WHAT'S ON FOR THE KIDS?

Join us for an exciting series of STEM Club activities designed to spark curiosity and inspire young minds. Perfect for enthusiastic tinkerers. Saturdays in August 10:30 – 11:30 ages 7+. Bookings required for all four sessions.

### Saturday Storytime

August 16, 10am – 10:45. Ages 2+

Join us for songs, rhymes, stories and a craft activity. A great way to pass a Macedon Ranges Saturday indoors.

### Book Week Storytimes

Come along dressed in your favourite costume for Storytime - August 18, 19 and 21 at 11am

School kids - if you're dressing up for school any day, make sure you drop in after school to show us your amazing book characters.

Of course, our regular story times are also on during term times:

- Mondays and Tuesdays 11 – 11:45 (ages 2 – 5)
- Thursday 11 – 11:30 (ages 0 – 2)

## DYSLEXIA FRIENDLY COLLECTION

As well as an extensive range of information books that assist parents to support readers with a diagnosis of

Dyslexia, Goldfields Library also have a collection of Dyslexia Friendly Early Reader texts designed to support children throughout their reading journey. Please speak to a librarian for further information.

## A SENSORY SPACE FOR CHILDREN AT THE ROMSEY LIBRARY.

Tuesday, 2.30 – 4.30pm during the School Term.

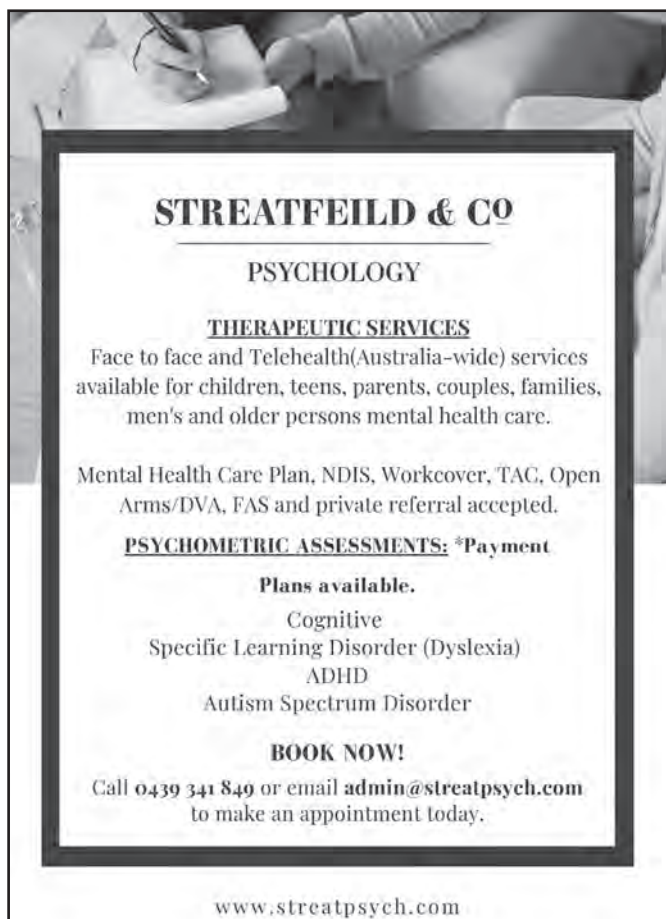
Did you know that your whole sensory system collects and organises a huge volume of information every day. It helps you unconsciously calibrate the degree to which you're affected by sensory inputs like sights, sounds and smells.

It can sometimes be overwhelming though. Loud noises and glaring lights – we've all felt the need to sit somewhere quiet and shut out the world for a time.

On Tuesday afternoons, between 2.30 and 4.30pm, the Romsey library is switching off the lights in the children's area and asking all patrons to minimise noise

We have comfortable couches and soft cushions to help you relax. There are fidget toys available to borrow if you need to keep your hands busy while you read or listen to a story.

Phone 5429 3086 Email [romsey@ncgrl.vic.gov.au](mailto:romsey@ncgrl.vic.gov.au)  
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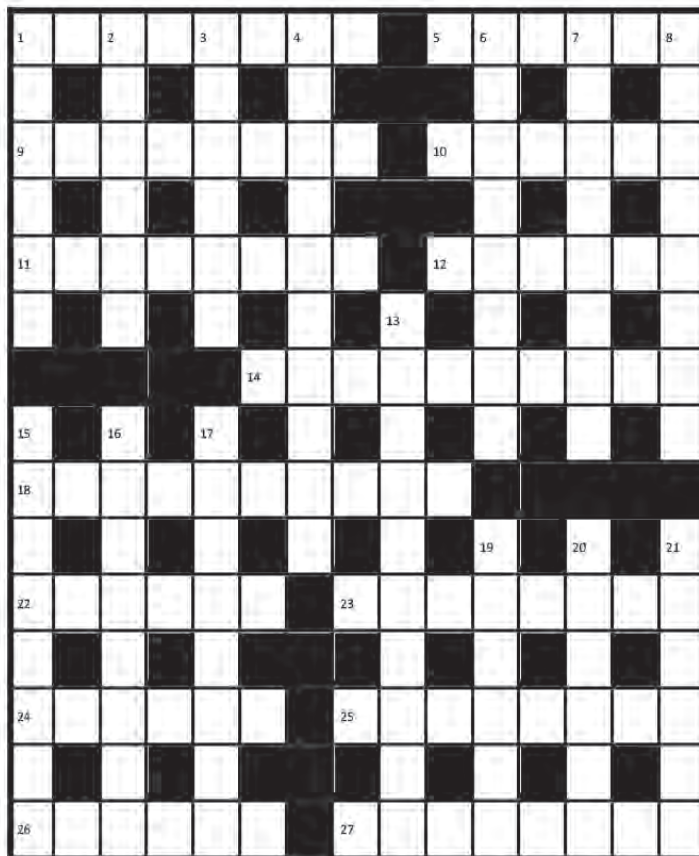


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# CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

NUMBER 24

By Kevin Moysey



## ACROSS

- 1 Ray toils alone (8)
- 5 Coarse fire centre back and hairless (6)
- 9 Think about corn side (8)
- 10 Sloops can reverse winds (6)
- 11 Scatter and cry - centre order withdraws (8)
- 12 Layers start a sequence (6)
- 14 Latin creed could be a qualification (10)
- 18 Gluey comes from a tag in louse situation (10)
- 22 Corner you endlessly makes you bad-tempered (6)
- 23 Containing tin that can join twice (8)
- 24 Start ironing - but not the middle (6)
- 25 Publicly put down an ounce with an end (8)
- 26 Trug you minus you could be a dessert (6)
- 27 A dead tent was there (8)

## DOWN

- 1 Tie down to be safe (6)
- 2 A nut and ale were arranged to be crescent shaped (6)
- 3 What a group might be trial mix (6)
- 4 Astronauts nearly home and typing in again (10)
- 6 Powerless although I'm strong (8)
- 7 Automatic rut one in and two three out smells nice (8)
- 8 A sally dim scenario is gloomy-ly (8)
- 13 A bit of fine tuning from just ad meant cored (10)
- 15 Scientific farming involves an organ o' my (8)
- 16 Sounds like sewing but its for growing (8)
- 17 Sure dirt can make something stronger (8)
- 19 Demand more once bare without degree arrangement (6)
- 20 Complained about nomad end start (6)
- 21 As end came start in to go up (6)

Answers page 32

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# BACKING GIGS AND MUSICIANS IN MACEDON

The Victorian Government is backing local musicians, venues and festivals and keeping jobs and the economy pumping in the live music capital of Australia.

Member for Macedon, Mary-Anne Thomas today announced the local musicians, bands, venues and festivals that will benefit from a \$3 million boost designed to strengthen the industry and the jobs and communities it supports.

The latest round of 10,000 Gigs: The Victorian Gig Fund will fund 136 venues across the state to stage paid gigs by local artists.

Recipients include the iconic pubs, clubs and band rooms that make Macedon great – Newham Mechanics Institute, the Lancefield Hotel and the 1860 Hotel (Evans Bar) in Romsey

The Live Music Festivals Fund will support 11 festivals across the state with grants of up to \$50,000 to help put on new or existing events.

Music Works will also provide more than \$940,000 worth of grants, backing the careers of emerging and established artists, supporting them to create new music,



tour and reach new audiences.

This latest package will support not only the musicians on stage, but the crews behind them, as well as venue owners, hospitality staff and local businesses.

The grants are part of a \$35.4 million package announced in the Victorian Budget 2023/24 to support Victoria's music industry at all levels, and in all parts of the state. Visit [creative.vic.gov.au](http://creative.vic.gov.au) for the full list.

From the office of Mary-Anne Thomas



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## DOING BUSINESS WITH COUNCIL

### FREE TENDERING & PROCUREMENT INFORMATION SESSION

Wednesday, 13 August 2025 | 1:30 to 3pm

Gisborne Administration and Service Centre | 40 Robertson Street

Learn how to apply for Council procurement and tendering contract opportunities. Meet and hear from a panel of Council representatives sharing information and guidance to help businesses better understand the tendering and procurement process and information about Council's capital works program.

Afternoon tea will be provided followed by presentations from relevant Council departments plus a guest presentation by Industry Capability Network (ICN), the supply chain and procurement network specialists.

To book or for more information visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/business-events](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/business-events), email [ecodevadmin@mrsc.vic.gov.au](mailto:ecodevadmin@mrsc.vic.gov.au) or call (03) 5421 9674.

## LANDCARE WEEK 2025: EVERYONE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Landcare Week 2025 runs from 4-10 August, celebrating everyday people who are restoring bushland, protecting native species, improving soil and water health, and passing on knowledge to the next generation. These are people who see a problem and roll up their sleeves to do something about it.

The ongoing message behind the campaign is simple, but powerful: L.I.F.E – Landcare Is For Everyone. You don't need to be a conservationist or a landholder to make a difference. Whether you're planting native plants in your garden, looking after a patch of remnant bush, or simply choosing to live more sustainably, you are part of the Landcare movement.

If you've ever thought about getting involved, now is the perfect time to join your local group. Visit [mrsc.vic.gov.au/Live-Work/Environment/Environment-Groups](http://mrsc.vic.gov.au/Live-Work/Environment/Environment-Groups) to find a group near you.

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ANGLICAN PARISH OF LANCEFIELD WITH ROMSEY

Rev Michael Kicevski 0432 443 199

## REFLECTION ON ADVENTURE

I once heard that what makes up an adventure is 99% boredom and 1% absolute terror. If you've been on any sort of adventure, you'd likely agree with this definition. After all, the parts we remember most about our adventures are often the moments of absolute terror.

A hiking trip where you got lost for a short time. A time travelling overseas when you misplaced your passport. A moment when things truly went off track—and now, in hindsight, you can laugh about it. That's adventure.

Many people, upon entering a church building, aren't expecting to find adventure. In fact, it's probably the last place they'd think to look for such an experience. But the truth is church ought to be the very beginning of adventure. The beginning of a journey with God—the Creator of the universe and the Redeemer of our souls.

The Bible is full of stories about God leading people on incredible adventures. And even though these are very old stories, God is still in the business of calling people into adventure—yes, even you.

So, are you looking for an adventure that begins in this life and continues into eternity? Then why not join us this Sunday?

I can assure you: walking with God on this adventure of faith is anything but boring.

Blessings, Rev. Mike.

### REGULAR WEEKLY CHURCH SERVICES

**Romsey Church Service:** 9am each Sunday, Lancefield  
10:30am each Sunday

**Prayer Meeting:** Christ Church Hall Lancefield  
Thursday 10am

**Bible Study:** Christ Church Lancefield Hall Thursday  
10:30am - 12noon

Thursday evening 6:30pm. Rolling weekly venue

Come and enjoy a cuppa while spending time  
pondering the Bible.

### MONTHLY PARISH COMMUNITY LUNCH

The free Parish community Lunch is held each second  
Saturday of the month at Christ Church Hall, next lunch  
is Saturday 12 July. All most welcome to join in on a

Enjoy a wine whilst soaking up intimate views of the Lyons Will vineyards  
along with the breath-taking backdrop of the ranges.

**OPEN EVERY WEEKEND: FRIDAY – SUNDAY 11AM TO 5PM.**  
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Head to the website for more information  
[LYONSWILLESTATE.COM.AU](http://LYONSWILLESTATE.COM.AU)

## ANGLICAN PARISH OF LANCEFIELD WITH ROMSEY

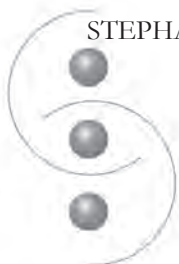
delicious home-made lunch and some great company.

### ST PAUL'S OP SHOP - INTRODUCING CARD PAYMENT AVAILABILITY.

The Op Shop is stocked with a wide variety of new items for the family interest. Open Friday 12:30am - 4pm (Friday winter times) and Saturday 10am to 1pm. We look forward to seeing everyone in our out standing new look Op Shop which is now on the Parish Web site for viewing

the week's specials. Your valued donations can again be left with us on Friday and Saturday during opening hours, unfortunately some donations were left outside of the OpShop open times. These items are either wet or damage owing to the weather conditions and unfortunately as a result, consequently, need to be sent to the tip. Please note that owing to regulations we cannot accept electrical goods, prams, baby cots, furniture or mattresses. Your ongoing support and donations are much valued and appreciated.

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# LANCEFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE



phone: 5429 1214 email: admin@lancefieldhouse.org.au  
website: lancefield.neighbourhoodhouse.org.au



If you earn \$70,000 or less you can book in for help to complete your tax return through the ATO Tax Help at the Neighbourhood House. Sorry this does not apply if you run a business, have a trust or have an investment property.

## Food Share is for everyone

The Food Share, located at The Townhouse, 5 The Crescent, is supplied through Food Bank, Bendigo Food Share, Coles Second Bite (Woodend and Gisborne) and through donations from generous individuals. Making a donation for goods at the Food Share supports the project running for people in need. Visit us to find out more and see the great space which has been created.

## CARDS, GAMES OR JUST SOCIAL TIME

The new Townhouse is a warm and inviting space. We have a large table which is ideal for playing cards, board games or sitting around and having a cuppa and a chat. If you would be interested in being a part of a group for any of these activities phone the house on 5429 1214 and leave your name and number and whether you are interested in a daytime or evening group.



## WEDNESDAY EVENINGS AT THE TOWNHOUSE

Every 'recycle bin' Wednesday, take the bin out at 5pm then head to 5 The Crescent. Use the computers, find a quite, warm space to read a book or sit around the table and chat with others. Make your own tea or coffee and there may be a pot of soup on the stove to share. 5pm - 8pm.

## OUR REGULAR ACTIVITIES

**Postural Alignment** - Posture function and flow to improve mobility, posture and joint alignment.

**Mon, Tues, Thurs 11.30am - 1 hour - \$15**

**Yoga** - Reconnect with your spirit within; gentle and suitable for everyone of all abilities.

**Wednesdays 4.30pm & 7pm with Pina**

Slow Flow restorative yoga

**Saturdays 10am with John**

**Boomerang Bags** - Help create re-usable bags for Lancefield, Sewers & Non Sewers welcome.

**Wednesdays 10am - 12pm**

## COMMUNITY LUNCH

12.30pm

August

27th

Romsey Neighbourhood House

\$5



Bookings essential: phone 5429 1214 or 5429 6724





**Celebrating 20 Years of Local Banking in Romsey**

This August marks 20 years since Community Bank Romsey first opened its doors. It's a proud milestone, and one that wouldn't have been possible without the trust and support of our customers and community.

Over the past two decades, together with our Lancefield branch, we've reinvested more than \$3.5 million into the local area through grants, sponsorships, scholarships and donations. That means every time you bank with us, you're helping to build a stronger, more vibrant community - from supporting schools, playgroups and sporting clubs, to funding emergency services, local events and community infrastructure.



To celebrate this special anniversary, we invite you to join us for a morning tea at the Romsey branch on Monday 11 August at 10am. Whether you've banked with us since the beginning or have recently joined the community, we'd love to see you.

Here's to 20 years of local banking in Romsey, and many more to come!

**A Big Year of Giving**

With the 2024–25 financial year closed off, we are proud to announce Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey invested \$679,144 back into our community. This included funding for local sporting facilities, community events, youth leadership programs, scholarships and more. We're proud to see our profits making a real difference, right here in Lancefield and Romsey.

Our next Community Investment Program round is now open, and we're inviting local not-for-profits and community organisations to apply. Whether you need support for a new initiative or have a project in mind that will benefit our local community, we encourage you to visit our website and apply before 31 August. Contact [cip@lrcfsl.com.au](mailto:cip@lrcfsl.com.au) or Visit [communitybanklancefieldromsey.smartygrants.com.au](http://communitybanklancefieldromsey.smartygrants.com.au) for details.

**We're Here to Stay**

You may have seen recent media coverage about regional bank closures within the Bendigo Bank network. But rest assured, Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey is not impacted.

We're proudly open for business in both towns and remain just as committed to supporting our customers and local community as we were when we first opened. With a local team you can speak to face-to-face, and the flexibility to also connect by phone or video, we're here for you, however you like to bank.

Pop into one of our two branches and experience the difference for yourself. You'll find us at:  
Community Bank Lancefield • 20A High Street, Lancefield • 5429 1977  
Community Bank Romsey • 105 Main Street, Romsey • 5429 5526

Community Bank · Lancefield and Romsey  
20A High Street Lancefield VIC 3435  
p 5429 1977 e [lancefieldmailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au](mailto:lancefieldmailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au)

[bendigobank.com.au/lancefield](http://bendigobank.com.au/lancefield)





**APPLY  
NOW**

Community Bank · Lancefield and Romsey

# Lancefield and Romsey Community Investment Program



A Community Grant can support your organisation when it needs it the most.

**Applications open Monday 21 July to Sunday 31 August.**

<https://communitybanklancefieldromsey.smartygrants.com.au>



Community Enterprise Foundation™

The Lancefield and Romsey Community Investment Program is a management account of the Community Enterprise Charitable Fund ABN 12 102 649 968 (the Fund), The Bendigo Centre, Bendigo VIC 3550. Sandhurst Trustees Limited ABN 16 004 030 737 AFSL 237906, a subsidiary of Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited ABN 11 068 049 178, AFSL 237879, is the trustee of the Fund. 1409006-1409008 OUT\_46073886

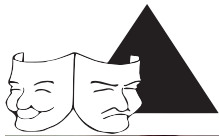


Photo by Karlana Santamaria

The Mount Players next production, *A Skull in Connemara* by Martin McDonagh, runs from 15 – 31 August. If you're lucky you may still get a ticket. Synopsis: Featuring dark deeds and daft locals, this razor-sharp dark comedy is set in a quiet Irish village where the dead don't always stay buried — and neither do the secrets. Each year, gravedigger Mick Dowd is tasked with clearing out old graves to make space for the newly departed. But this year, something — or

someone — hits a little too close to home. With biting wit and a mounting sense of unease, the play spirals into a hilariously macabre investigation of small-town gossip, suspicion, and the skeletons we all try to keep buried. A comedy 6 feet deep!

To book tickets go to [www.themountplayers.com](http://www.themountplayers.com) or call 5426 1892 for assistance. See you at the theatre!

Karen Hunt



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