

Lancefield Mercury

DIRTY DOCKER BACK BIGGER AND BOLDER



SATURDAY 11
AND SUNDAY 12
OCTOBER

We're back! Last year, the Dirty Docker was just an idea, a vision from Lancefield local and former professional cyclist Mitch Docker. To see it come to life with over 600 participants and more than 1,000 people rolling through the event village was beyond anything he could have imagined.

Mitch's dream was simple: combine the thrill of cycling and running with the atmosphere of a country festival. After 13 years racing on the roads of Europe, he wanted to bring something new to his hometown, a weekend of off-road adventure and community spirit. The Dirty Docker is about more than sport; it's about connection, fun, and showing off the very best of Lancefield.

"Last year showed me just how special this town is," Mitch said. "I wanted to create something that mixes the buzz of racing and physical exercise with the relaxed vibe of

a festival. Where people can ride, run, camp, and then just sit around a fire together. That's what the Dirty Docker is all about."

Saturday kicks off with a cross-country run and a cheeky cyclo-cross course (both weaving through the bar!), before rolling straight into a festival evening of live music including local bands, and food trucks. Pitch a tent, roll up in the camper, or even glamp in style — the Dirty Docker is as much about fire pits, good company and raising a beer as it is about muddy legs.

On Sunday, it's time to see the Cobaw Forest and Tooborac region by bike. From family-friendly 15km rides to the big 135km challenge, the routes wind across private farmland, forest tracks, and gravel backroads. With pop-up food, DJs, and surprises out there along the way, it's less

DIRTY DOCKER

about racing and more about riding with mates.

So, it doesn't matter if you are a runner, rider, or just someone who loves good food, music, and a cold beer, come down and be part of the Dirty Docker. It's a weekend for everyone, a chance to shake off winter, stretch the legs, and soak up everything our backyard has to offer.

Dirty Docker





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A PATCH OF LANCEFIELD

HANDOVER AT MORNING TEA

This month we welcomed St Mary's school leaders – Charlotte, Lara, Ben and Blake - and vice-principal Shelley Thrum, to a quilt handover morning tea. Over 130 individual patches, using fabric donated by Robyn Koster from Sew Together, were made and signed by St Mary's students. Then the patches were sewn into a large quilt which our members Kathy Hansen, Vicky Smith, Christine Treseder and Trish Stuart completed and quilted, ready for dedication to the Virgin Mary on September 8 at the School. Members of our talented group have also proved their exceptional skills by winning several prizes at the Victorian Quilters Showcase in Melbourne earlier in September: Christine Treseder won in two categories: Appliqué and Piecing (Amateur), winning First Prize with her quilt Joan's Joy. She also won a Bernina sewing machine in the Bernina Amateur Encouragement Award.

Maxine West won a Highly Commended in the Pictorial

Quilts Category with her Floribunda quilt.

Trish Stuart, as a First Time Entrant, won with Scryptacular Stars.

Congratulations to all those winners.

Our group is very productive, and everyone is always interested in learning new techniques. We have workshops coming up in Blackwork (for those of you who watch such TV series as Wolf Hall, whose costume designs feature this style of needlework); sashiko, a lovely Japanese decorative method; and Veronique is coming back for another Needle Turn and Embroidery workshop.

We will share our show and tell finished pieces in future newsletters, and you can find us on Facebook and Instagram.

Lara, Ben, Charlotte and Blake point to their signed patches in the Quilt completed by our group for St Mary's School



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Matt Peet

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Matt holds a bachelors in sport science (clinical practice) and a Masters of Physiotherapy. With a strong interest in sports injuries and rehabilitation, Matt is passionate about helping patients recover from musculoskeletal conditions and improving their quality of life.

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DEEP CREEK LANDCARE GROUP

Covering Lancefield – Romsey and Monegeeta Districts

SPRING -TIME TO GET GOING!

Spring is usually a busy time for Deep Creek Landcare, but this year is particularly busy. A dry start to the year meant that we postponed some plantings until spring, in the hope of some good winter rain. However, we did conduct two plantings on Mount William as part of the Mount William Biolink project. Ammie Jackson is playing a key role in the project. Ammie is the Landcare Facilitator for the Upper Deep Creek Landcare Network, of which we are a member. The current project is supported by Melbourne Water and involves nine properties.

Fortunately, winter did bring much needed rain; 277 mm at our place just out of Lancefield. Rain and cold wind at the end of August forced us to postpone plantings at Lancefield Park with our local primary schools and the Girl Guides. Our Junior Landcare Facilitator, Emma Stevens, liaises with us to plan the events. To participate our members are required to hold a current Working with Children Card.

This year we received a Biolink Boost Grant from the Macedon Ranges Shire Council and the Community Bank to conduct plantings and giveaways of indigenous plants with the aim of raising our profile in Romsey. At the two autumn giveaways in Romsey we gave away a total of 823 trees, shrubs and grasses.

As part of the grant, at our working bee in early August, we planted a 50-metre section of Five Mile Creek in Romsey. Twelve of our members were joined by East Ward Councillor, Andrew Scanlon, at the site. We put down three rolls of jute matting to suppress weeds and then planted and fitted guards for the 33 indigenous trees and shrubs and a further 236 small shrubs and grasses. We will add some wildflowers in October to add a splash of colour from spring to autumn! The task was completed by 10:15 followed by morning tea and a giveaway of 54 plants to participants. We liaised with our council and Melbourne Water to design the planting which will add to the amenity and biodiversity of the important wildlife corridor.

The next and final stage of the project is to carry out a planting on the northern side on Deep Creek at Doggetts Bridge. We will plant some trees, but mainly grasses and shrubs as the primary aim is to increase the understorey at the site to further enhance the original planting done by Deep Creek Landcare back in 1995. We have worked with Parks Victoria, and will conduct the working bee on Sunday, September 28.

In September we will also be working with Emma and the local Girl Guides to add to the plantings on the eastern ►



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DEEP CREEK LANDCARE GROUP

boundary of Lancefield Park. Further work will be carried at the site with Lancefield PS and St Mary's PS in late October. During October we will also participate in a planting at Bolinda PS.

In mid-September we will conduct a Saturday morning planting at a private property in Dowie Court. The landholders have worked with Melbourne Water to access grants to remove willows on Five Mile Creek and replace them with indigenous trees, shrubs and grasses. It is a large backyard and the project has been staged over the last three years. We have been more than happy to assist the project and at the same time gain valuable income.

Once again, we will be at the Lancefield Show on Sunday, October 19. You can find us on the left as you walk in. We will have some indigenous tube stock to give away, booklets and nesting boxes for sale and we will be on hand to give advice or just have a chat.

Our 2025 AGM will take place in the annex of the Lancefield Mechanics Hall before our members meeting on Monday, October 13. The AGM will start at 7:30 pm. We are looking for some new faces to join our committee.

Our Landcare Facilitator and I have recently worked on a new website which is now up and running. Take a look! The site will enable members of the public to see what we have done, what we are working on, and upcoming events.

Deep Creek Landcare has nesting boxes for bats, birds, possums and phascogales for sale from \$25. We also have Myna bird traps to lend out. Annual Landcare membership is



\$20 per family. You can follow us on Facebook, our website, contact our President, Phil Severs (0476 324 000), attend our monthly meetings in the Lancefield Mechanics Hall or pop along to the Lancefield Farmers Market.

FARMERS MARKET: FREE ADVICE TO LANDHOLDERS

Cameron O'Mara from the Biolinks Alliance will be with us at the Lancefield Farmers Market on Saturday, October 25. He will be there to talk with landholders about ways to improve biodiversity on their property without reducing productivity and in many cases enhancing it. We will be at the market now until autumn. We would love to see you!

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 – enquiries Andy Moore 0430 448 120

Enquiries about advertising: advertising3435@gmail.com – Ken Allender 0404 886 580

Check 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

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Editorial Enquiries to

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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.

SHOWTIME

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

Preparations for this year's Lancefield Show are well underway, and we are looking forward to good weather, a great crowd, and an even greater atmosphere throughout the day.

Every year we try to introduce new and different activities/entertainment as well as keeping all our favourites. New activities this year include a Roving Entertainer who will be doing various circus activities around the park, and on the oval we will be showcasing the Barry Hunt Spud Toss, with a big potato shaped target made by the Men's Shed.

Favourite activities including Farmer Darryl, Snake Safe, Camel and pony rides from Billabong Ranch, Proactivity, Dog High Jump and terrier races, Dog novelty competitions, shearing demos, Tractor Pull, Woodchop, dog trials, rides and jumping castles will all be happening during the day. Near the tractor pull we will be showcasing a display of vehicles and machinery which are all over 100 years old and in working order.

A good showing of sheep, wool and poultry will be displayed undercover on the East side of the oval and in that area you can also watch the dog trials.

The Laurie Green Pavilion houses the Homecraft competition and craft market stalls where you can watch as

stallholders ply their craft. Some stall holders offer hands on opportunities to learn. The CWA will be there again as well as cake decorating demonstrators who offer the chance to do some decorating of your own.

Don't forget our Op Shop Challenge and our Farm Challenge to make something out material/item found on a farm.

Community groups at this year's Show include CFA, SES Kilmore, MRSC free health check, Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society, Western Water, Landcare, Project Hope Horses, Lancefield Junior Football Netball Club, St Mary's School BBQ near the Cricket Rooms, Lancefield Football Netball Club Canteen and afternoon teas, Lancefield Primary School activity centre on the oval, local wineries, Lancefield Romsey Early Education activities under the verandah of the Laurie Green Pavilion. Food, show bags and much more will be available around the Park, so check it all out and have a great day. Keep an ear out for announcements over the PA detailing when competitions/ activities are happening so that you don't miss out. There may even be something on that is not listed here or we are still working on it!

Looking forward to seeing you all at this year's Lancefield Agricultural Show.



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NEWHAM HALL

PLACES - PHYSICAL AND CULTURAL LANDSCAPES

Newham & District Landcare Group invites you to, On Country Interculturally: Thinking about places as cultural as well as physical landscapes, with guest speaker, Dr Angela Foley, from the Merri Creek Management Committee.

This discussion aims to strengthen ethical understandings for conservationists and land managers, touch on aspects of Wurundjeri Cultural revival; being a non-Indigenous ally and engaging with Traditional Owners in a meaningful way.

We will explore what happens when landscapes are continuously altered over time (pre- and post-contact): and how we all continue to connect to place.

Dr Angela Foley's main interest is enjoying and acknowledging Country as a non-Indigenous ally. Angela's career in education and advocacy has been mainly in the tertiary sector (UNSW, WSU, RMIT, Monash and Melbourne Universities) and in the not-for profit sector (for community and schools). On the Merri Creek Management Committee for over 20 years, she now leads Biodiversity & Waterway Education (Caring for Country) by developing and delivering innovative programs to several thousand people every year. Angela has an honours degree in Geography from University of New South Wales and completed her PhD thesis The art of place-making in Wurundjeri Country today (2020)



Wurundjeri Elder Uncle David Wandin and Dr Angela Foley

ON COUNTRY INTERCULTURALLY:

Thinking about places as cultural as well as physical landscapes. Friday 17 October. 7pm – 9pm
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DONALD PATERSON, OAM

With a family history in the Nulla Vale area dating back to the 1860s, Don Paterson and his family have lived through drought, Depressions, World Wars and rabbit infestations, as they have continued to farm their 1,600 ha property.

Don's great-grandfather, John Paterson, first came to Victoria in 1865 before settling in Lancefield. Like thousands of others, he first tried his hand at gold mining at Beechworth. He then decided to try his luck with a horse and dray, and began carting supplies from Melbourne to the goldfields – a much more reliable way to earn a living than panning for gold. John then selected 320 acres, 'down the road a bit' from Bendigo, in Nulla Vale where he turned his hand to dairying on his selection. The resulting cheese was then carted to Melbourne or Bendigo for sale. He had seven children from two marriages; three boys stayed on the farm, only John's son Keith Paterson married and had children. Keith married Mavis Kilroy in 1936 and bought her home to the farm.

Keith and Mavis's son Donald George Paterson was born in 1948 and educated at Scotch College.

After decades of community service, Don was awarded the Order of Australia Medal (OAM) 'For service to the community of the Mitchell Shire' at the King's Birthday Honours in June 2025.

Like his father before him, Don participated from an early age as a member of many local community organisations. In the CFA, he was a member of the Nulla Vale Brigade (1963-2025), a Group Officer, Division 12 (1989-95) and was made a Life Member in 2016.

His commitment to his local community extended to his membership of the Shire of Pyalong where he was a Councillor from 1980-97 and Shire President 1981-82 and 1990-91. He then became a member of the Mitchell Shire in 1997 and was Mayor in 2000-01. He was Founding Member in 1996 of the Nulla Vale Pyalong West Landcare Group. He has held the position of President (1996-2001) and Treasurer (2017-19). In 2002 he was made an Honorary Life Member.

The range of local offices he has held is extensive. Yet it is the words used to describe Don's contribution to the community that perhaps best sum up the man: 'Donald comes from both an age and a lineage where it is simply accepted that you volunteer your services to the betterment of the local community.'

Importantly, Donald is known to be an upstanding member of the local community and an outstanding role model. As the Order of Australia nomination pointed



out: 'Donald is frequently called upon for assistance from neighbours, in a wide range of areas, including general farming advice, specialist information, local suppliers, vehicle recoveries, animal husbandry and so on. Donald is known throughout the district as a trustworthy source of reliable and helpful information and is known for always being available to help another person in need.' These character traits, and the community's overwhelming faith in his integrity, are what prompted his nomination for this award.

We congratulate you, and salute you Don, for your continuing work for our community.

Fay Woodhouse

NEWEST MEMBER

Members of the Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club celebrated the induction of its newest member Debbie Daks by President Shane Pettingill and Secretary Anne Collins. Ms Daks is well known in the Romsey community as well as Australia wide as an artist and she recently visited Ukraine again to support children in need. Check out her Facebook pages for further details as to how you may be able to help with this effort. Debbie unveiled the Ukrainian flag after the ceremony and Rotary President Shane is keen to set up a 'Sister Club' with the Ukraine Rotary Club to also provide ongoing support.

The meeting also announced that the Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club has generously donated a free copy to all local schools in our catchment area of Dr Gregory Powell's teenage historical, fantasy fiction novel set in Lancefield and the Macedon Ranges (Freya and the Black Panther of Lancefield) available on Amazon.com.au.

Rotary's major projects include the ongoing development

of The Avenue of Honour between Romsey and Lancefield with Romsey Lancefield RSL. This has been supported by the Bendigo Community Bank via a major Grant. The club recently revegetated the Avenue by planting five new disease-resistant Elms (Advanced Tree Nursery and Tree Tactics) as well as removing two huge tree stumps. Future plans include the construction of a Commemorative Gazebo halfway along the walking track, commemorating all those Australian men and women who served in wars and peace-keeping missions. Currently the Rotary club is working with Romsey Aged Care for a memorial stone and plaque to be unveiled in November this year.

Thank you to all local homeowners along the Avenue of Honour walking track who keep the grass mown and assist with removal of litter.

Special thanks to the Lancefield Hotel for their community raffle project supporting local community groups like our Club and those who generously donated on the night.



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The Romsey Lancefield Rotary Club Inc. meets every fortnight on Thursdays (7 pm – 9 pm) at one of the following: 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 anne.collins@outlook.com.au for further information.

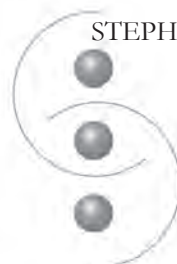
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LANCEFIELD COUNTRY WOMEN'S ASSOCIATION

President: Angela Turner, Secretary: Maybelle Briggs, Treasurer: Sandra Stevens, lancefieldcwa@gmail.com

SHOW TIME

Spring is here so hopefully we all will be able to enjoy the pleasures of Spring in our region: sunny days and handy rain. No doubt you will be going to the Lancefield Agricultural Show on Sunday October 19. We will be selling recipe books, tea towels and of course lots of homemade goodies such as jams and marmalade. Drop by our stall and meet some of our wonderful members.

MORE ABOUT OUR 'COUNTRY OF STUDY', SRI LANKA

The CWA Community and International Chairman visited Sri Lanka with her husband. Her highlight was seeing the elephants; the Sri Lankan subspecies is the largest and darkest of the Asian elephants. She thought that they were a pretty elephant with their pink ears, face trunk and tummy. As 10% of the land area of Sri Lanka is designated as National Parks, elephants often emerged from the jungle and walked alongside the road.

She thought that the baby calves were fluffy and adorable.

Our Sri Lankan dish for this month is Rotis. It is similar to the Indian flat breads, but this Sri Lankan version contains fresh grated coconut or, in its absence, desiccated coconut. Serve with curries and sambols.

The mixing can be done by little helpers (if available).

Serves. 6-8

Ingredients:

2 cups roti flour, self-raising or rice flour

1/2 cup desiccated coconut

1 teaspoon salt

Scant 1 cup of water

Ghee or oil for cooking

Method: Mix flour, coconut and salt in a mixing bowl. Add just enough water to form a soft dough. Knead dough until it forms a ball and does not stick to the sides of the bowl. Rest dough for approximately 30 minutes. Shape dough into balls, approximately the size of a golf ball. Pat each one out to the size of a saucer. Cook on a hot griddle or in a heavy frying pan very lightly greased with ghee or oil. Serve hot.

CWA Central body in conjunction with the State Government is providing financial support, during the ongoing drought, to eligible farming families who are suffering hardships. Unfortunately, our local government area is not included in the designated list.

The Lancefield CWA meets on the fourth Friday of the month in the annex of the Mechanics Institute at 10:30 am. Come along and say 'Hello', or hopefully we will see you at the Show.

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MACEDON RANGES JOINS IN THE SENIORS FESTIVAL FUN

Council is excited to announce its participation in the state-wide Victorian Seniors Festival, running from 1–31 October. To celebrate this year's theme of 'Connect. Create. Celebrate.', Council is providing activities that focus on social connection and encourage older residents to embrace community, creativity and wellbeing. Four activities over the month of October will bring seniors together from across the shire to enjoy social meetups with an aim to foster connection, creativity and celebration.

The planned activities are free, with lunch at your own cost: • Bendigo Talking Tram and Art Gallery tour – Wednesday 1 October

- Castlemaine Concert – Thursday 9 October
- Dromkeen Gallery High Tea – Friday 17 October
- MCG Tour and Sports Museum - Monday 27 October

Most activities offer pick-up and drop-off services available across the shire. The Dromkeen Gallery High Tea does not offer a pick-up and drop-off service - guests will need to make their own way to the venue. Mayor Dom Bonanno said the festival is a wonderful way to recognise the invaluable contributions of our elderly residents. "Seniors play such a vital role in our communities and have most likely volunteered or contributed to our community over the years.

This festival is a wonderful opportunity to recognise and celebrate them. It's a great opportunity to get out and meet new people or enjoy a day out with friends," he said. In addition to local events, Victorian Seniors Card holders will also be able to enjoy eight days of free public transport across Victoria, from 5-12 October, making it easier to join in both local and metropolitan activities.

Bookings are essential – email VillageConnect@mrsc.vic.gov.au or call 5422 0333. Go to www.mrsc.vic.gov.au/seniors-festival-2025 to view the full program.



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REGULAR WEEKLY EVENTS

Romsey Church Service 9:00am and Lancefield Church Service 10:30am each Sunday.

Combined Parish Service 10am on the fifth Sunday of the month.

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.

The monthly community meal format is in the process of being restructured. Please watch this space for further information.

ST PAUL'S OP SHOP - INTRODUCING EFTPOS AVAILABILITY.

The Op Shop is stocked with a wide variety of new items for the family interest.

Please note the summer closing times are different from winter times.

The Op Shop is now open on Friday 2:30am - 4:30pm (Friday Summer Times) and Saturday 10am to 1pm.

We look forward to seeing everyone in our outstanding 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 if donations are left outside of the OpShop open times they may either get wet or damage owing to the weather conditions and the donation consequently need to be sent to the tip.

Please note that owing to regulations we cannot accept electrical goods, prams, and baby cots, furniture or mattresses. Your ongoing support of donations is valued and appreciated.

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HALL HAPPENINGS

Lancefield Mechanics' Institute

PLAYING A MAJOR ROLE IN OUR COMMUNITY

The Lancefield Mechanics' Institute continues to play a major role in our community with many regular and varied bookings. Most recently The Sounds of Silent presented the Buster Keaton silent movie, The General. A big crowd enjoyed the night, and thanks must go to all those who attended. This community event was made possible by a Small Change Grant from the Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey. We would also like to thank Anthony Stevens Real Estate for their sponsorship of the advertising board, BNJ Events for decorating the foyer and Tina Powell for running the refreshment bar, supplying ice-cream, drinks and popcorn. This event will be running again next year so look out for details in The Mercury.

A much-needed new laptop has recently been purchased for the Treasurer, thanks to a Small Change Grant last year from the Macedon Ranges Shire Council.

August and September were very busy months at your Community Hall with a wide range of events and celebrations including the Silent Movie night, Little Treasures Market, the Lancefield Witches Fair, several milestone life celebrations, presentation nights by the Lancefield Senior Football/Netball Club as well as the Romsey and Lancefield United Basketball Club, the MRSC Grant Celebration Event, and dance nights - Rock and Roll, Old-Time dance and No Lights No Lycra disco.

Hope you got along and enjoyed some of these. When you are thinking of running an event, contact us at the Lancefield Mechanics' Institute to see how we can help make your event a great success.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS TO NOTE:

- Saturday, October 18 - OKTOBERFEST
- Sunday, November 9 -SAVOY OPERA returns to Lancefield. Presenting The Elixir of Love by Donizetti,

come along to enjoy and support these performers for a pleasant Sunday afternoon entertainment.

Regular Bookings: (* are School Term based activities)

- 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.*
- Ayurvedic spa therapies - Sarah Coates (by appointment)
- Main Kitchen private usage on Monday evenings

We also welcome back Aileen and her Rock'n'roll Line Dancing sessions on Monday evenings for a 10-week block (until November 24). I recommend giving this one a try!

COMING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES IN OCTOBER INCLUDE:

- Monday 6 (afternoon) LMI Committee of Management meeting
- Monday 13 (evening) Deep Creek LANDCARE Group - Meeting
- Tuesday 21 Kitchen Preparation only (for Community Luncheon)
- Wednesday 22 Community Luncheon
- Friday 24 Lancefield CWA meeting
- Friday 24 (evening) Lancefield OLD TIME DANCE group - monthly dance
- Saturday 25 Little Treasures Market
- Sunday 26 Lancefield Witches Fair

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

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ANOTHER TERM DONE AND DUSTED

Another term done and dusted - lookout, it will be Christmas in a minute! What a full on but fabulous term we've had. We're all definitely due a rest in order to take on the final term of 2025.

Are you interested in enrolling your child at St Mary's? We currently have vacancies for all levels in 2026, so please feel free to contact the office (5429 1359) if you'd like a tour or an enrolment pack.

MINI VINNIES - ROMSEY AGED CARE

We've had another two visits to Romsey Community Aged Care this term. On Monday August 18, Mollie, Bridie, Arthur and Ella attended to play balloon tennis with the residents.

A net was put up and the residents and students were given pool noodles to hit the balloon with. There weren't quite enough noodles to go around, so some residents had fly swatters and others just had to use their hands, heads, feet or whatever worked! It was great fun, with some residents nearly knocking others out with their pool noodles, so determined were they to win!

On Monday September 1, we took all the Mini Vinnies to Romsey Community Aged Care. We normally take the students in small groups of 5 but we did a special visit with the whole group to celebrate Book Week with the residents. All the students dressed in their Book Week costumes and did a little parade for the residents on arrival. They were delighted! After that, choosing from picture books we had taken with us, the students chose a book and read it to small groups of residents. It was lovely to see the interactions between students and the residents and all thoroughly enjoyed the experience. We look forward to visiting again in Term 4.

BOOK WEEK CELEBRATIONS

Book week kicked off with our Playgroup @ St Mary's enjoying a Teddy Bears' Picnic. Our preschoolers enjoyed a fun session with our school leaders as special guest readers, and they also joined in a fairy bread making station! It was great to see so many come along with their favourite teddy's and enjoy the session.

On Friday August 22, we celebrated Book Week with a dress-up and activity day. This year's efforts by both staff and students absolutely topped the charts! So many magnificent costumes that included well-known book characters, superheroes, adventurers, princesses and so much more. There was creativity, colour and flair as students paraded around the hall, bopping to their chosen class song. We

appreciate the great support of families for this event, it gets bigger and better every year, and this year was the first year where all students and staff dressed up! Truly momentous (we even had a spare B2 hanging out in the office.) This day brings many laughs and is great fun for all. There was even a flash mob to 'Nutbush' during the proceedings. Great to see the staff and Yr 6s get on board. The remainder of the day saw students immersed in a variety of activities all based around fabulous books. To complete our Book Week celebrations, on Friday August 29, we had Books to Life perform General Waste by Michel Streich, a hilarious tale about how to find joy in the simple things in life! This one-man show was performed by Tony Bones, a seasoned performer who is also a high school teacher, specialising in performing arts. Being able to give the students this opportunity to experience a live performance is priceless. Tony puts on a great show, there's music, laughter, audience participation and always an important message behind the story.

It was great to see the wonder and excitement from students and their eagerness to take part in all aspects of the show. A truly fantastic way to finish up our Book Week celebrations and experience the wonders of literature.

FEAST DAY/FATHER'S DAY CELEBRATIONS

On Friday September 5, we celebrated our Feast Day and Father's Day together. We began the day with a beautiful liturgy honouring our St Mary. As part of this we unveiled the magnificent family quilt that had been created by families on Grandparents Day and then carefully put together by the ladies from A Patch of Lancefield. We are truly grateful for all their hard work as the quilt looks beautiful, and will be hung with pride as a centrepiece in our Learning Street. Students then had time in their classrooms to make something for dad for Father's Day before enjoying a BBQ lunch and icy pole.

After lunch it was time for the dads to arrive and start the fun with Kaboom Kids Sports. We had almost 150 dads come along on the day, it was just amazing to have so many be a part of this special day to spend quality time with their children. There was music, some crazy dance moves and dance offs, there were vibrant colours and many fun activities to dive into with dad. We were lucky to have a sunny afternoon, and the atmosphere was one of great fun and excitement. A huge thanks to all our dads for coming along, we hope they enjoyed the experience, even though they were a bit tentative at the start. Another great event creating many memorable moments with dad. ►



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GARDENING WITH MRS OLIVER

It's been a busy month of gardening with many lovely sunny days. We're very happy to have so many keen gardeners amongst our students; we have planted apple, pear, cherry and a mix plum/apricot bare rooted tree, followed detailed instructions to set up a mushroom kit, checked in on our seedlings growth and filled our final garden bed. There's been worm hunts, experiments with bok choy, and maintenance cleaning of our garden tools.

We are now seeing growth across all garden beds and we're very excited to see that our mushrooms have popped out of the soil after we changed their climate. We've had discussions about perennial plants and the students decided they wanted to plant a berry garden. Students have planted raspberry canes and strawberry runners, and they can't wait for summer when they will hopefully get to enjoy eating some fruit.

SHC JUNIOR CHEF 2025

Our Junior Chef's also competed in the final at SHC Kyneton, although they were not the overall winners, they should be extremely proud of their accomplishments. The judges were particularly impressed with the way they worked together in the kitchen. Their organisational skills, teamwork, and time management stood out, and it was clear they were having fun while learning. A great achievement for our students and we commend them for their efforts.

Jo Shannon (Community & Student Engagement)



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On Thursday 18 September, the Macedon Ranges Shire Community Grants Event saw the celebration of the recipients of the latest round of community grants. Allocations were issued through the Community Funding Scheme, Events and Festivals Grants Program, Environment Group Support Grants and the Climate Action Grants.

The CEO, Bernie Sullivan, and Mayor of the Shire, Dom Cr Bonanno, both welcomed the audience to the event which was held at the Lancefield Mechanics' Institute Hall.

On this occasion, the proceedings began with a panel discussion featuring Jenny Stillman (Eastern Macedon Ranges Business & Tourism Association), John Severson (President, Lancefield Mechanics' Institute) and Ammie Jackson (Deep Creek Landcare/Mt William Biolink Project).

Jenny Stillman discussed the Christmas in Romsey event which began ten years ago. Funding for this event promoted collaboration with the MRSC. Community engagement and the social impact of the event were just two of the benefits from the project. With the MRSC as an important stakeholder in the event, Jenny emphasised that collaboration was key. In terms of measuring the success of the event, the obvious result was the annual increase in the number of attendees. Community involvement in the working bees needed to prepare for the event has also saw an increase in numbers of resident involvement in the event, another great measure of success for EMRBATA.

As President of the LMI, John Severson has been an active instigator of change and renewal for the Hall. While

it was clear the Supper Room needed refurbishment, as well as better heating, rather than doing something 'sexy' such as a wood fire, they chose to install an electric fire that is a great imitation of the real thing. Hard work from the committee as well as community involvement have enabled the LMI to enjoy great achievements. Their success is measured by the increased number of bookings per year that it now receives – a statistic of 18,000 feet through the doors was rather staggering to hear, but it makes sense when considering the number of events that now take place. John believes that working with the MRSC benefits this organisation and the Hall itself – there is little support from the State.

Ammie Jackson is part of the Deep Creek Landcare Group and her involvement focuses on the Biolink project. This re-vegetation project on Mt William which has involved landholders in the area. She sees many community benefits – such as the planting events – that are held regularly by Landcare. These events certainly enhance social cohesion in the area. One of the learnings she takes from the process is 'not to waste funding' and to work with the landholders.

Following the panel session, the recipients of the three levels of grants were photographed before the audience enjoyed convivial conversation and refreshments in the Supper Room.

Fay Woodhouse

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WEIRD AND WONDERFUL SCIENCE AND MATHS EXPERIENCES

Our recent Science and Maths evening for our families was great success with a majority of our families in attendance. We had a fabulous range of activities including the amazing Van De Graaf machine, kindly loaned to us from Kyneton High School. Thanks to Alicia for coming along to run this activity for everyone.

Our 2/3s also had a great time at the Bendigo Discovery Centre exploring a range of science experiences including a visit to the planetarium.

This term in our weekly STEM lessons the senior students have been working away in their classroom economies, with businesses being created and the realities of budgeting in everyday expenses like food, transport and rent has given some students a monetary wakeup call! It has been so great to see the entrepreneurship of many of these students, taking responsibility for earning their own income.

The Preps and Year 1s have been looking at all the different ways we can measure things, using Unifix blocks, links and this week using some more formal units in the way of rulers, both 30cm and metre rulers. Our 2/3 classes have been cracking out their calculators and planning celebrations using a budget - some harsh realities were discovered when 'shopping' for their desired party supplies with a limited budget.

Before the end of term the Prep-3 classes we will be looking at angles and mazes as we make some marble runs. Our senior students will continue on using the Banquer program and at the conclusion of the term, we will hold a class raffle with the money they have been contributing into their superannuation accounts.







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A GENEROUS GIFT DRIVING COMMUNITY CONNECTION

We're thrilled that the signage is now on the latest car to join the fleet of the Lancefield and Romsey Community Driven Project. Very generously donated to the project from the Lancefield Romsey Commuter Bus Co-op, the white KIA Carnival 7-seater vehicle will help keep our community moving.

This vehicle will be used to transport community members, who are unable to drive themselves, to medical appointments, shopping, and enjoyable social outings. It is a vital service that brings independence and connection to those who need it most and can also be available for everyone through our Share Ride outings.

Volunteer drivers are the heart of this initiative. They give their time to support others, and in return, they help build a stronger, more caring community. A small fee is

charged to those who can afford it, helping cover fuel and maintenance costs.

Visit the website communitydriven.org.au or phone one of the Neighbourhood Houses for more information or bookings - 54295 724 Romsey or 5429 1214 Lancefield.

Let us know if you would like to be informed when we have Share Ride outings. These include a weekly Sunbury shopping trip, trips to interesting places or events and youth-based trips in the school holidays.

We need more volunteer drivers!

Being a Community Driven volunteer driver is very rewarding, no commitment or roster (unless you would like to do the regular shopping trip) just accept the transport requests that work for you. Phone Vivien or Michelle at the Neighbourhood Houses for more information.



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FORBES MOTORS ROMSEY

EDGAR'S MISSION GETS A GRANT

Lancefield's Edgar's Mission was the recipient of a Federal Government Stronger Communities Grant recently, which will enhance the visitor experience to the popular sanctuary. Edgar's Mission is tourist drawcard for our community. Federal Member for McEwen, Rob Mitchell, recently enjoyed a visit to the Mission to congratulate the team on the successful grant application. "This funding will pay for a refresh and a rebuild of some of the sanctuary's well known rainbow chicken houses. They serve as both essential shelters for the rescued chickens and a vibrant centrepiece of the visitor experience," he said.

These brightly painted coops provide safe, secure, and comfortable housing for the feathered residents while also



delighting visitors, creating an uplifting and memorable first impression. By replacing and enhancing these structures, Edgar's Mission will ensure their chickens have well-built, predator-proof homes while maintaining the welcoming, joyful atmosphere that draws visitors to the sanctuary.

Edgar's Mission attracts visitors from all across Australia to Lancefield and it has over one million followers worldwide. Stronger Communities Grants program provides funding of between \$2,500 and \$20,000 to community organisations and local governments for infrastructure projects that deliver social benefits for local communities. This funding program has committed funding to over 17,400 community-based projects across Australia.



New Real Estate Agency Open in Romsey

Big news for Romsey & Lancefield! Mussared Estate Agents opened its doors on Monday, 1st September, bringing a fresh and friendly approach to Real Estate right to our Main Street.

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EMRBATA

RISK, RESILIENCE AND REGIONAL SUCCESS

It was cold, and it was raining as a couple of hundred people – local residents and those from all over the Macedon Ranges – arrived at 7am to participate in the Eastern Macedon Ranges Business and Tourism Association's annual Breakfast.

On arrival we were treated to Raf's fine tea or coffee, While we waited in line outside for our beverage it was very blustery weather, but once we entered the Watering Hole building, the atmosphere inside was warm and friendly.

The EMRBATA committee once again did a fine job of selecting speakers – Madelaine Scott (Madelaine's Eggs), Renata Morello (Lyon's Will Estate), Geordie Taylor (Riddells Creek Nursery) and Peter Chiller (Lost Watering Hole/Lancefield Guesthouse). The Master of Ceremonies for the occasion was the inimitable Col Cameron whose light touch combined with probing questions of the panel ensured a stimulating session.

The title for the event – Risk, Resilience and Regional Success - was apt. Each speaker told their own story – what a revelation to find that three of the four panelists started in business at a very young age – they were children!

Focusing on their impetus for starting their business (as children), they were then challenged to disclose the hardest things they had to encounter – a common theme was the combining business, marriage and children – quite a challenge in itself. The other challenge was to find finance for their ventures. But, although their responses were similar, their genuine heartfelt ambition for their business, with grueling years of writing business plans and applying for funding, they all found their way, followed through and where appropriate changed tack (or their thinking) where necessary. Their individual commitment to their business, and here I emphasise their business in the Macedon Ranges, was evident. Commitment, emotional attachment and perseverance – my words, not theirs – were, to me, the themes of the day.

I felt privileged to attend this event and thank EMRBATA for continuing to bring our local businesses and the Macedon Ranges Shire Council together for these occasions. Well done!

Fay Woodhouse



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SUMMER FUN AT LANCEFIELD TENNIS CLUB

*The sun is out
The courts look great,
Daylight savings is coming
It's time for tennis*

MONDAY NIGHT SOCIAL TENNIS

Sunday October 5 is the start of Daylight Saving, and with that comes the perfect time to get out and enjoy the evenings with a hit of social tennis.

As of Monday October 6, the tennis club will be running a Monday Night Social program from 6 pm onwards. This program is open to players of all ages and ability, and balls will be provided. If numbers are sufficient, it will include a sausage sizzle, and if you would like a chat and a cool drink afterwards feel free to byo. Playing under lights in the evening is a lovely way to relax and enjoy some time with friends and to meet new friends.

The first night will be free and after that a fee of \$5 will be charged to cover balls, lights and if we have sufficient numbers, the sausage sizzle.

A single Adult Social Membership of the tennis club is only \$75 for 12 months, that's right 12 months!! It gives you unlimited access to the club courts so you can play at a time convenient to you. Just Google "Lancefield Tennis Club" and select the membership that suits you.

WEDNESDAY NIGHT LADIES

Ladies, did you play Tennis in the past, is there a racquet gathering dust in the cupboard or are you looking for a fun way to become fitter and get back into sport?

Following on from the successful Thursday Night Open Competition the Tennis Club is looking to run a Team in the MRTA Wednesday Night Ladies program. We are not able to put a team into the current season but are looking to build towards next season.

The suggestion at this time is that we could run some coaching sessions followed by some in house competition sets to fine tune what you have learnt. This would also allow everyone get to know each other in a social and inviting atmosphere. We would also love to see more ladies at our



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Monday night social hits, it's a great way to get your tennis motor skills working again. If you are interested in being a part of the Wednesday Night Tennis program, please give Kris Riley a call on 0417 505 395.

CARDIO TENNIS

On a Thursday morning 9.45 to 10.45 am, Andrew Peake from Club Sparke Top Tennis Coaching has been running a Cardio Tennis Program. Cardio Tennis is a Tennis Workout Program catering to all fitness levels, bringing together a variety of cardio workouts, a range of fun tennis drills, all to a high-energy soundtrack. This program is about fun, fitness and a healthy lifestyle. The best thing about Cardio Tennis is that no previous Tennis experience is required. It is a great way to get fit and shed a few of those winter kilos.

The current program has just finished, but we are hoping to expand the program, so, if you are interested in Cardio Tennis, please contact lancefieldtennisclub@outlook.com Top of Form and we will keep you in the loop.

UPCOMING ENVIRONMENT EVENTS

Flora Walk – The importance of roadside vegetation

Tuesday 7 October | 5:30-6:30pm | Hobbs Road, Bullengarook

Did you know that native vegetation along roadsides provides a vital connection for wildlife? Join Josh Gomez, Roadside Conservation Officer for a walk along Hobbs Road, Bullengarook to explore the beauty of roadsides. We'll identify native wildflowers and do a bit of bird spotting along the way.

Become a Bird Nerd – an identification walk using the Aussie Bird Count App

Tuesday 14 October | 9:30 -10:30am | Meet at Council's Gisborne Administration Centre car park, near Jacksons Creek, Gisborne

Get ready for the Aussie Bird Count with an identification walk along Jacksons Creek in Gisborne. Learn how to use the app while enjoying the bird life along the creek and Gisborne Botanic Gardens. The Aussie Bird Count runs from 20-26 October 2025.

Visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/Environment-Events for more information and to register for either event.



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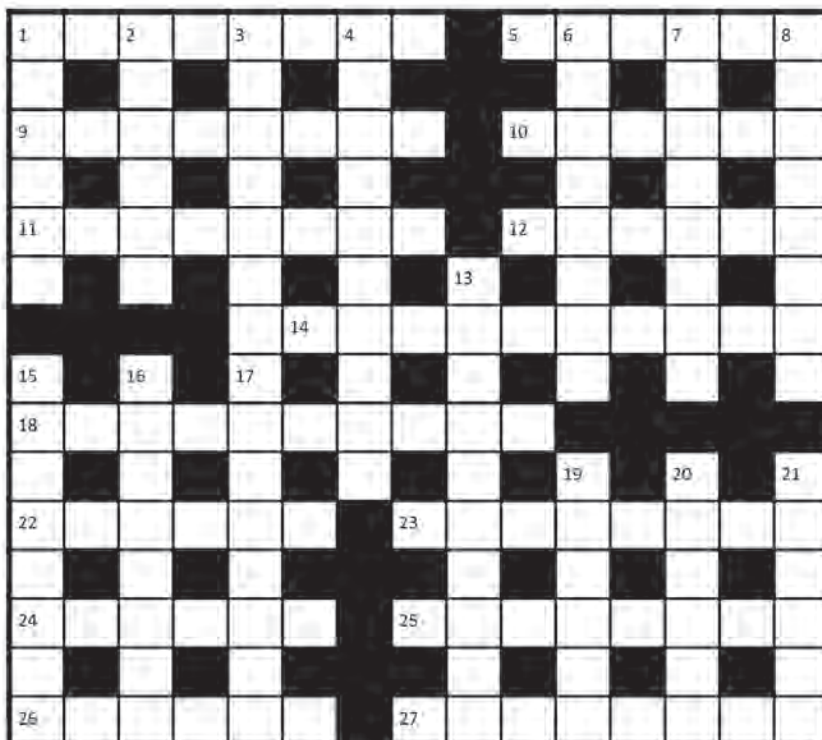


☎ 0477 297 389

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

NUMBER 26

By Kevin Moysey



ACROSS

- 1 Omit name but register it for award (8)
- 5 Old top worker is a woodlouse (6)
- 9 Real dime used for action to improve (8)
- 10 What Moses says contains persuasive words (6)
- 11 Declared invalid from lead annual minus Ax2 (8)
- 12 Colourless and could be on bail (6)
- 14 Do they get votes or perhaps make tents? (10)
- 18 Filling shelves by tidying up (10)
- 22 To slam it can be special care for artificial opening (6)
- 23 Non-imperial poetic arrangement? (10)
- 24 Is about the stars or perhaps a non-physical realm of existence (6)
- 25 DIY around little synonym causes a depressed manner (10)
- 26 Sounds like unhappiest, but not when hurting others (6)
- 27 Sidereal became aware (8)

DOWN

- 1 It is usual and orthogonal (6)
- 2 Second also the product of a distance and physical quantity (6)
- 3 Abnormal growth sounds like no fight between two (6)
- 4 Brands and says swap scars (10)
- 6 Apathetic cause of a shorter tabulation (8)
- 7 Rear mint could be a type of grape (8)
- 8 Reaction to answer (8)
- 13 Convince to believe it is a sieve around angel (10)
- 15 Clear gemstones could be girl's names (8)
- 16 Miscellaneous - like liquorice lollies? (8)
- 17 Camels on the silk road may be towed (8)
- 19 Basically animalistic (6)
- 20 Climbs a protective layer (6)
- 21 Used an instrument or only pretended to (6)

Answers page 34

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ST. MARY'S PARISH LANCEFIELD & ROMSEY

27-29 Chauncey Street Lancefield & 85 Main Road Romsey Presbytery office hours: Wednesday & Friday 8am-5pm - lancefield@cam.org.au 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; 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.

Thursday 9:30am at Romsey Church

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.

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 at Woodend to make arrangement.

NEW APPOINTMENT

In addition to his current appointment of Parish Priest to St. Mary's Lancefield & Romsey and St. Ambrose Woodend, effective September 19, Fr. John Healy has been appointed Parish Priest of St. Brigid's in Gisborne which incorporates St. Patrick's Macedon and St. Ambrose, Riddells Creek. Fr. Wahid Riad has been appointed as Assistant Priest and will reside in the Gisborne Presbytery. Fr. John and Fr. Wahid will alternate weekends within the parishes.

Please direct enquiries to the parish office by email at lancefield@cam.org.au or on 5429 2130. Contact Fr. John on 5427 2690 or by email at woodend@cam.org.au for funeral arrangements.



THE MOUNT PLAYERS HAPPENINGS

FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY

The Mount Players presents its final show for 2025... Puffs, or Seven Increasingly Eventful Years at a Certain School of Magic and Magic, is a fast-paced, hilarious play that reimagines the story of a famous boy wizard—from the perspective of the overlooked and underdog students in the 'Puffs' house. Across seven chaotic years, this heartwarming comedy follows Wayne and his misfit friends as they navigate spells, dangers, and growing up, proving that being third place isn't so bad after all. Perfect

for wizards and non-wizards alike, Puffs is a magical and charming celebration of friendship, bravery, and finding where you belong.

The season runs from 7 – 23 November. Go to www.themountplayers.com for full details & bookings

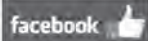
See you at the theatre.

Karen Hunt



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Lancefield

PREPARING YOUR PROPERTY FOR THE FIRE SEASON

Roadside Slashing

Each year, Council carries out roadside slashing to help reduce the risk of fires caused by hot vehicle exhausts, mechanical failures, or collisions. About 1,000 kilometres of roadside are slashed annually, with a focus on main roads, bus routes, and critical evacuation routes.

Property Inspections & Fire Prevention Notices

In the coming weeks, Council's Fire Management Officers will begin inspecting properties across the municipality for fire hazards and may issue you with a fire prevention notice, outlining the works that are required.

If you receive a notice, don't ignore it as heavy penalties can apply to owners who fail to comply. Properties are expected to be maintained to the required standard throughout the Fire Danger Period.

If you are planning to bale and require more time, please complete the extension application found on the back of the notice. For properties where stock grazing is being used for fuel reduction, you must be able to demonstrate that stocking levels are sufficient to effectively reduce vegetation. If not, further fuel reduction measures may be required.

Visit mrsc.vic.gov.au/Fire-Plan for further information.



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

HAVING FUN

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 a regular 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.

At our October meeting our guest speaker was another local, Bronwyn Wilson, is a local who conducts walking tours of the city of Melbourne. She spoke to us about her history and the tours she runs. Our October outing was to the Social Foundry Kyneton. They are a not for profit, social enterprise lead by a passionate team of hospitality professionals. Each day, SOFO staff deliver standout food, coffee and service, whilst also delivering hands-on training for local youth facing barriers to employment.

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.

Phone 0409359048 President Ken and Secretary Betty
www.rlprobus.org.au

ADVERTISEMENT

Mary-Anne Thomas MP LABOR MEMBER FOR MACEDON

As your local Member of Parliament I am keen to hear from the community and assist with any State Government matter.

Mary-Anne Thomas



A: Shop 14, Nexus Centre, 9 Goode Street, Gisborne, VIC 3437

P: 5428 2138 E: mary-anne.thomas@parliament.vic.gov.au

W: www.mary-annethomas.com.au

MaryAnneMacedon [maryannethomasmp](https://www.instagram.com/maryannethomasmp)

Authorised by MA Thomas, Shop 14, Nexus Centre, 9 Goode Street, Gisborne

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CONSULTATION UPDATES

Thank you to everyone who took the time to provide feedback during Council's consultations for the draft Domestic Animal Management Plan (DAMP) and dog off-leash and prohibited areas review. The next steps for each project are outlined below.

DRAFT DOMESTIC ANIMAL MANAGEMENT PLAN (DAMP) 2026-2029

Feedback received will assist Council to further refine the draft DAMP 2026 – 2029.

The final draft DAMP 2026 – 2029, along with the consultation findings, is expected to be presented to Council to consider for adoption at its November 2025 Council Meeting.

The new plan is then scheduled to be submitted to the

Victorian Government in December 2025.

Proposed changes to dog off-leash and prohibited areas (for both dogs and cats)

Feedback received regarding Council's proposed changes to dog off-leash and prohibited areas – otherwise known as Schedule 1 (dog off leash areas) and Schedule 2 (prohibited areas for dogs and cats) of Council's Dog and Cat Order 2019, will be considered during early-mid 2026, as a first-year action of Council's Domestic Animal Management Plan 2026 – 2029.

Final amendments to Council's dog off-leash and prohibited areas (Schedules 1 and 2 of Council's Dog and Cat Order 2019) are anticipated to be presented to Council in mid-2026.

To receive email updates about either project visit yoursay.mrsc.vic.gov.au/furry-friends

FEEL **GOOD** CLOTHES

The latest business to arrive in Lancefield is Jo Hagan Studio, at 6 High Street.

Jo's Studio windows display beautiful clothes: simple, timeless cardigans, pants, crop jackets, windbreakers, and more unique pieces. Jo describes herself as a wardrobe builder – you can see what she has on offer, and also bring in your own garments that you are wanting to use as a basis for a new outfit, then relax whilst you mix and match from Jo's collection, with things you already own. Or just enjoy looking – and feeling – fine, unique designs.

Jo's mantra is: Buy less, buy well, buy local. It's so much fun to drop in, have a coffee and enjoy being surrounded by lovely, simple, wearable, beautifully made clothes. This is no fast fashion. You can come in, as I did, just for the pleasure of trying on a beautiful knitted wrap, say, with no obligation to buy – just for a few minutes of pleasure in wearing fine quality. And a coffee or tea, and a chat.

As a gal born and bred in Tooborac, Jo's first inspiration to open her Studio was to share her passion for

knitted pieces made from Victorian-grown merino wool, and cashmere blends; pairing these with Italian leather pants, or easy wear and easy maintenance separates ideal for travelling – wear 'em, wash 'em, bingo! Ready for the next day's adventures, here or...anywhere.

All clothes in the Studio are designed by an internationally recognised Melbourne-based designer, and made in Australia. There are limited numbers in each design, so you won't see yourself coming in the street! Wednesdays are "Bring Your Own" day when you can play with what might go with what you already have in your wardrobe. Sundays are "Try On" days – come along, try things on, just for the fun and enjoyment. But, really, any day that the Studio is open you can bring your own, try on, look, chat and enjoy.

Studio opening times: Wednesday - Sunday from 11am
Instagram: @Jo_HaganStudio

Beth Child



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THE TIME TO PLAN ISN'T DURING A FIRE - IT'S NOW

JOIN A CFA OPEN DAY

Did you know that 40% of people in bushfire-prone areas don't yet have a fire plan? Making one is simpler than you think, and your CFA Open Day is the perfect place to start.

Drop in, meet your local CFA volunteers, check out the trucks and equipment, and take home a free Grab and Go bag for your fire plan.

It's a chance to chat about what your household can do and get your questions answered.

All the local CFA are holding open days (or evenings) starting from Saturday October 4 with Benloch stretching through the whole month until the last weekend. Lancefield's open day is at 9am on October 25.

Bring the family and tell your friends, it's local, and it's an easy first step to keeping your loved ones safe.

For up-to-date information, please refer to the respective CFA Facebook page.

Start simple. Grab a bag. Make a plan. Be ready.

SLITHERING INTO SNAKE SEASON

As temperatures rise, snakes become more active, emerging from a period of reduced activity to seek food and mates.

While they may be more visible, snakes generally pose little danger to people when left alone.

REMEMBER:

- Keep your yard tidy, clear away clutter like timber piles and rocks.
- Supervise pets, keep dogs on a lead and watch pets closely in high-risk areas. If you suspect a bite, seek immediate veterinary care.
- Dress for the occasion, when out walking, wear long pants and proper shoes.
- Don't try to catch or harm a snake. Call a licensed snake catcher instead.
- In the case of a bite, call 000 immediately.

Snakes are protected under the Wildlife Act 1975, and capturing, harming, or killing them is illegal. You can report wildlife crime to Crime Stoppers Victoria on 1800 333 000.

For more information contact DEECA on 136 186.

Visit www.stjohnvic.com.au/news/snake-bite-first-aid-tips/ for essential snake bite first aid information.

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD NUMBER 25



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OPEN GARDEN WITH **TRUE SCOTTISH** FLAIR

On Sunday 2 November, the historic Eden Park, Romsey (2133 Romsey Road, Romsey) will be open for an Open Garden event with true Scottish Flair!

From Highland Cattle to a Scottish Pipe Band and live Fiddle music, come and embrace Eden Park's Scottish roots! Eden Park, established in 1858 by enterprising Scottish immigrant Peter Mitchell, remains a working farm. The complex comprises a magnificent nineteenth century bluestone Homestead surrounded by acres of splendid gardens including remnants of the old orchard, flowers and vegetables. Children and adults alike will fall in love with the herd of Highland Cattle and Blue Rock Suffolk sheep.

Eden Park has not been open to the public for ten years, so this occasion is your chance to visit this magnificent and historic property. You will be enthralled with the charm of yesteryear, combined with all the practicality of the twenty-first century this property offers.

As well as embracing its true Scottish roots, as you

wander around the extensive Homestead block and visit the magnificent Wool Shed, Stables and 'Men's Hut', you will also meet other local community groups. You can pick up a sausage at the Lions Club BBQ, indulge in Local Legend Lorraine's home-made cakes and sandwiches, enjoy a coffee from Raf's Coffee Van and enjoy a glass of wine from Midhill Wines. Highland merchandise will be available for sale, and you may be able to taste something from the local Scottish butcher!

All funds raised at the Eden Park Open Day will be donated to the Romsey & Lancefield Districts Historical Society as a Fundraiser for Romsey's Historic Sidney Seymour Cottage. Sidney Seymour Cottage, which was built in 1855 and requires restoration; the funds raised at the Open Day will be donated to the Society for work at the Cottage.

Entry is \$15 per adult, children under 16 free. Enquiries: lancefieldcourthouse@gmail.com

Fay Woodhouse

JOIN THE AUSSIE BIRD COUNT

The Aussie Bird Count is back from 20-26 October 2025. This national citizen science project invites everyone to spend just 20 minutes outdoors counting the birds around them. It's fun, easy and makes a real difference for conservation.

Taking part is simple: Spend 20 minutes in any outdoor space. Count the birds you see. Use the free Bird Finder tool for identification. Submit your count - do it as often as you like! Download the free app today at aussiebirdcount.org.au



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

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60 WHALANS TRACK, LANCEFIELD. 0403 725 826.

Head to the website for more information
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ENCOURAGE CHURCH

Worship Service Sunday 10am, 7 Mitchell Court Romsey.
Ph 5429 6327 E: office@encouragechurch.com.au
W: encouragechurch.com.au

THE TRUTH

What is the Truth? According to the Oxford Dictionary, truth is that which is true, real, or actual. One of the dangers we have as a society is that we let society define what truth is. It then becomes a majority rule, or the most powerful deciding the truth (remind anyone of the 'Ministry of Truth' in George Orwell's novel '1984'?).

When society's values and truth change over time, it means that the 'truth' of today, will not be the 'truth' of tomorrow, therefore the 'truth' of today is not 'truth'. Hmmm, so what can we rely on to be the truth?

To be truth, it must be unchanging. If you want the best example of unchanging, that is God. "For I am the Lord, I do not change" (Malachi 3:6). That includes Jesus: "Jesus Christ is the same yesterday and today and forever" (Hebrews 13:8). It was Jesus who said about himself: "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me" (John 14:6).

If you want to discuss The Truth join us for one of our services at 10am each Sunday at 7 Mitchell Court in Romsey.

VALE JOHN PATRICK (JACK) NICHOLLS

Arguably Lancefield's oldest resident, born in 1929, John Patrick (Jack) Nicholls passed away peacefully on 11 September 2025 at the John Fawkner Hospital aged 96. Prior to a month in respite care, Jack lived independently at the family home in Lancefield. His wife of 67 years, Lurleen Nicholls (née Mills) passed away on 4 November 2023.

Jack is survived by his sister Amelia (Milly), his children John, Peter and Pauline, his three daughters-in-law and one son-in-law, his eleven grandchildren and four great-grandchildren. His son Gavan pre-deceased him.

Jack and Lurleen enjoyed bringing up their children in Lancefield and loved going to the old-time dances and attending Church on the weekends at St Mary's. During retirement Jack spent a lot of time volunteering at the Lancefield Golf Club and as well as playing golf himself. He was a modest man, but with an incredible memory; he held wonderful historical knowledge of the town.

The requiem mass for Jack was held at St Mary's on Thursday 18 September, and his body was interned at the Lancefield cemetery with Lurleen. He will be sadly missed by the Lancefield community.

The Nicholls Family.

The Wood Bloke

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LANCEFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE



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

LANCEFIELD NEIGHBOURHOOD HOUSE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Thursday 16 October 7pm 78 High Street

Consider joining the Committee of this dynamic community organisation. Membership and nomination forms available at Neighbourhood House and The Townhouse.

FRENCH CONVERSATION

French conversaton, for all levels,
Thursdays 6pm at the Townhouse. Gold Coin

POSTURAL ALIGNMENT

Posture function and flow to improve mobility,
posture and joint alignment.
Mon, Tues, Thurs 11.30am - 1 hour - \$15

BOOMERANG BAGS

Help create re-usable bags for Lancefield,
Sewers & Non Sewers welcome.
Wednesdays 10am - 12pm

SOCIAL SOUP

Join others on recycle bin Wednesdays at the
Townhouse drop in between 5pm - 8pm

POWER SAVER BONUS

The next round of refunds on power bills is now
open. Phone the House to organise applying for
your \$100 bonus. 5429 1214

YOGA

Reconnect with your spirit within; gentle and
suitable for everyone of all abilities.
Wednesdays 7pm with Pina
Slow Flow restorative yoga Sat 10am with John

TAX HELP

Phone the House on 5429 1214 for help with
your tax return submission

LANCEFIELD JAM

Any instrument, any level, or just come to listen.
Thursdays 6-8 pm Gold coin donation

LANCEFIELD.ORG.AU OUR VERY OWN COMMUNITY WEB SITE

Developed from a need to have a central communication hub, the Lancefield web site is a go-to place for information about the town and its history, a calendar of events, community group and business directory. Support local and visit the community directory first

DUNGEONS & DRAGONS

New Macedon Ranges Society meeting for tabletop role playing games every second Sunday 1- 5 pm at the Neighbourhood House. First convening Sunday 21 September

VOLUNTEER DRIVERS

Support local people to get to appointments or to go on outings. No roster just, take jobs that suit you. Can use own car and have fuel reimbursed or us one of the Community Driven vehicles. Call the House for more information on 5429 1214

Get your free Home Loan Health Check

Whether you're looking to refinance, invest in a new property, or lower your repayments, a home loan health check could be just what you need to get ahead and realise your goals.

Let us give your loan a full check-up to make sure it's still right for you and your current needs.



Everyone's welcome. Whether you're an existing customer or new to Bendigo Bank, you're welcome to a free, no-obligation Home Loan Health Check.

To find out more, speak to the team at our Lancefield or Romsey branch (Lancefield • 5429 1977 | Romsey • 5429 5526), or scan the QR code to book a time online with our local Home Loan Specialist, Jodie Peacock.

Banking safely online

With the ever-increasing number of scams people are facing, we're always wanting to raise awareness and empower our local community to engage in digital banking safely.

Did you know that we offer free 'Banking Safely Online' educational sessions? If your community group would like us to run a free educational session for members, please reach out to our branch team to organise a session.

We also have free copies of the ACCC's Little Black Book of Scams available in both our Romsey and Lancefield branch. Pop in and grab a copy for yourself or to pass onto friends and family.

Spring events we're proud to sponsor

After a busy September, we're looking forward to supporting a number of events in October and November:

- Friday 10 – Sunday 12 October: **Life in the Peloton Dirty Docker**
- Sunday 19 October: **Lancefield Agricultural Show**
- Sunday 26 October: **Lancefield Romsey Lions Club Swapmeet**
- Saturday 8 November: **Lancefield / Macedon Ranges Relay for Life**
- Saturday 15 November: **Community Bank Lancefield Gift & Highland Games**
- Sunday 16 November: **Romsey Golf Club 2025 Romsey Open Tournament**

If you're attending any of these events, keep an eye out for our team and say hello!

2025 Annual General Meeting

The Annual General Meeting of Lancefield & Romsey Community Financial Services Limited (the local company that owns our Community Bank Lancefield and Romsey) will be held at 5.00 pm on Wednesday, November 12th 2025 at The Romsey Cricket/Football Club Rooms. Shareholders will have received formal notice of the AGM along with supporting documents early October.

Community Bank - Lancefield and Romsey
20A High Street Lancefield VIC 3435
p 5429 1977 e lancefieldmailbox@bendigoadelaide.com.au

bendigobank.com.au/lancefield



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PUB TO PUB 2025

There was a wonderful air of excitement around the Lancefield Hotel at 9.15 am on Sunday 21 September when I arrived to take part in the 2025 Pub-to-Pub! Hundreds of participants, men, women and children, registered, pinned on their numbers, got their instructions and off they went – either to the bus to Romsey or to their own transport to Romsey. That is, those who had not already begun the Pub-to-Pub-to-Pub a littler earlier.

As we travelled to Romsey on the bus, we saw the stream of runners already on the Federation Trail. The path wasn't crowded, and runners were looking relaxed. Of course, some of them were way ahead of the pack, while others were simply enjoying the run or walk.

Before the Pub-to-Pub began and people prepared to make their way to the starting line, Alex Gorman (proprietor of Romsey's 1860 pub and the Lancefield Hotel) welcomed participants and off we went! It was relaxed and orderly and everyone was very enthusiastic. It will be no surprise to read that some ran, some walked, and some wandered along at their own pace. We walked against a strong wind, but it didn't really matter. Many of us took advantage of a glass of water (to hydrate) and a snake (for a quick sugar hit) at the halfway mark! The presence of a port-loo at this point would have made a difference to some of us – perhaps for next year!

And then we made it to the finish line, collected our glass and tokens for a drink and a sausage and off we went to



check the QR code for our time! As we stood in line for either a drink or a sausage, we all congratulated each other!

While the morning was a little overcast and windy, the rain only started after the short round of speeches. Mitch Docker (Life in the Peloton) congratulated us all, announced all the winners and their amazing times and distributed the awards. We all cheered.

The Pub-to-Pub and Pub-to-Pub-to-Pub was a great occasion, and a true community event with funding from the Bendig Bank and Macedon Ranges Shire. I hope it will continue well into the future and look forward to the 2026 event. Well done to all!

Fay Woodhouse

A promotional poster for the Budburst Macedon Ranges Wine Festival. The image shows a group of people enjoying wine in a vineyard setting. The text 'Budburst' is prominently displayed in a large, white, serif font. Below it, 'MACEDON RANGES WINE FESTIVAL' is written in a smaller, white, sans-serif font. At the bottom left, the phrase 'Get Lost to Discover' is written in a large, white, serif font. At the bottom right, the dates 'NOVEMBER 15 - 16' and the website 'TICKETS AT BUDBURST.COM' are displayed in a white, sans-serif font. The background features a large tree on the left and a vineyard with rows of grapevines in the distance. The overall tone is warm and inviting, with a focus on the social and scenic aspects of the festival.

Budburst
MACEDON RANGES
WINE FESTIVAL

Get Lost
to Discover

NOVEMBER 15 - 16
TICKETS AT
BUDBURST.COM

BUDBURST.COM
@MACEDONRANGESWINE

Macedon Ranges
Shire Council

Macedon Ranges
Wine



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- X-Rays
- Teeth Whitening
- Dentures
- Orthodontics - Braces & Clear Aligners
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FRIENDS OF REFUGEES

TURNING COMPASSION INTO ACTION

Kyneton is once again showing the power of community, as we prepare to welcome a refugee family from overseas.

Friends of Refugees Kyneton (FORK) is a dedicated volunteer group partnering with Community Refugee Sponsorship Australia (CRSA) to support this family as they begin a new chapter — one of safety, dignity, and hope — right here in Australia.

These families have already been processed by the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and the Australian Government. They will arrive with permanent residency visas, ready to contribute and rebuild their lives.

FORK is here to ensure a soft landing. That means more than just help with transport, housing, and essential services — it means friendship, connection, and the support that truly makes a place feel like home.

GET INVOLVED

Currently, FORK is run by a small team of 6 passionate volunteers — and we welcome anyone interested in joining us to get in touch.

Whether you can offer:

- Your time as a volunteer



- Goods to help set up a home
 - A financial contribution to help cover essentials
- Your support makes a real and lasting difference.

We've set up a tax-deductible donation page if you'd like to contribute <https://shoutforgood.com/fundraisers/friends-of-refugees-kyneton>

To offer help or learn more, please contact Friends of Refugees Kyneton at forkyneton@gmail.com and follow Friends of Refugees Kyneton on Facebook.



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