

Lancefield Mercury



OUR TOWN PANTHER IS BACK ON THE PROWL!

On Saturday 4 April, an unidentified person driving a four-wheel drive – it would appear purposefully – crashed into the town's black panther sculpture, knocking it off its plinth and causing considerable damage. The township was shocked and saddened by this senseless act of violence!

However, the good news is that the panther has been repaired. On Tuesday 14 April it was returned to its place

on the Plantation, although for reasons unknown, our panther is now facing in the opposite direction to its previous location. Nevertheless, we are delighted to see our panther once again on the prowl! Shortly after its reappearance the panther was adorned with a flower.

Fay Woodhouse

COMMUNITY HELP IN OUR COMMUNITY

LANCEFIELD ROMSEY COMMUNITY SUPPORT

In response to the Corona Virus pandemic the Lancefield and Romsey Neighbourhood Houses have worked together to set up a support network for people and businesses in our communities. Three areas of support have been identified:

- 1 helping self isolated and vulnerable people stay at home.
- 2 supporting people who are struggling financially, physically or mentally, and
- 3 long term support and strengthening of our local networks and economy.

HELP TO STAY AT HOME

Get in touch for a list of local business you can get deliveries from, ideas for keeping safe and sane, phone chats and a list of services available if you need help.

FINDING IT HARD TO SURVIVE?

Get in touch for food parcels and meals, links to support services, domestic violence support, links to counsellors, a

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place to let people know what you need, and for support for a friend or neighbour you are concerned about.

LONG TERM SUPPORT

We are looking at re-establishing links to Macedon Ranges Community Exchange

To find out more or to contact us (Lancefield Romsey Community Support) on our dedicated phone number 0491 243 996 - manned 9-5 weekdays and Saturdays or leave a message. Visit the web site www.lancefield.org.au/lrsc - this has a list of businesses, support services and how to volunteer. Join the Facebook page (search for Lancefield Romsey Community Support) - local relevant information and boredom busting ideas - message us for help or with suggestions.

WHO TO CONTACT

Respect 1800 737 732 Domestic, family violence and sexual assault counselling and referral service

Centre for non-violence 1800 884 292 Family violence with a focus on virus pandemic.

Safe Steps 1800 015 188 The 24-hour safe steps family violence crisis response line

Kids Helpline 1800 55 180 5- 25 year olds

Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636



The Mercury is looking for the best Coronvid 19 face mask! Send a photo of your homemade mask to editor3435@gmail.com and the best one will get a \$20 prize courtesy of Darryl Wanless. Winners and also rans will appear in the June edition of the Mercury. Closing date May 10.

Lifeline 13 11 14 Lifeline has a national number who can help put you in contact with a crisis service in your State. Anyone across Australia experiencing a personal crisis or thinking about suicide can call.

Mensline Australia 1300 789 978 Supports men and boys who are dealing with family and relationship difficulties. 24/7 telephone and online support an information service for Australian men.

Men's Referral Service 1300 766 491 This service from No to Violence offers assistance, information and counselling to help men who use family violence. Call 1300 766 491 if you would like help with male behavioural and relationship concerns.

National Debt Hotline 1800 007 007

National Coronavirus Helpline 1800 020 080

My Aged Care 1800 422 737 Available for 65+ (50+ 1st nation people & people in risk of homelessness) can provide emergency relief dependent on circumstances

Kyneton Caring Community 5422 1163 Foodbank

Freedom Care Kilmore 0422 599 735 Food parcels

Cobaw Community Health 1300 026 229 Counselling, mental health, housing, youth, NDIS, drug and alcohol support

Local counsellors - (fees apply) Helen Shaw 0400 224 174 Bronwyn Lodge 0414 685 755 Amanda Starkic (grief) 0412 557 466

ROMSEY LANCEFIELD SENIOR CITIZENS

UNFORTUNATELY...

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, the Romsey/Lancefield Seniors Citizens' Club will be closed until further notice. As soon as we are able to reconvene our regular lunches and our monthly bus trips we will let you know. We look forward to seeing you all in the future. Take care of yourselves, stay at home and stay safe. Remember if you need assistance you can contact Lancefield/Romsey Community Support on 0491 243 996.

For further information please contact Helen on 0409 064 303 or Rae on 0408 338 759.

FOR THE FUTURE

What will happen post covid 19? Do you want to make some predictions for life as we get back to 'normal'. Also, the Mercury is keen to look back at the last few months through the medium of a daily diary. Has anyone been writing more or less daily about the rapid changes our society has gone through since early February?

Please get in touch with the editor (editor3435@gmail.com) if you are interested in sharing your thoughts.

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INTHISTOGETHER

Macedon Ranges Shire Council has launched InThisTogether – a campaign to support residents and businesses during the current coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. Chief Executive Officer, Margot Stork said the new financial support measures would take effect immediately and would assist the community, residents, businesses, staff and sporting clubs. “These are unprecedented times for Council, our community and businesses,” Ms Stork said. “We are all in this together, supporting each other at this very challenging time.” New support measures by Council include: Debt collection activities on 2019/20 unpaid rates and outstanding amounts ceased on 17 March and will remain ceased until 30 September 2020. Interest will not be charged for overdue rates or other payments through to September 30 2020. Penalties for late payment of 2020/21 animal registrations due 10 April 2020 will not be applied until 30 September 2020.

Other existing measures to help residents, businesses, staff and sporting clubs include: a process to allow suppliers to request earlier payment than Council’s 30-day standard terms to assist cashflow. Requests can be made by emailing mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au Groups which hold facility leases with Council are able to request a

waiver of their lease fee/rent as a result of the pandemic impacting their sporting, community and hospitality venue operations.

Ms Stork said COVID-19 was having a far-reaching impact on the community and Council staff and Councillors were committed to supporting the community through this time of uncertainty. “We have been working on ways to reduce the pressure on our community, businesses and sporting clubs. Please contact us so we can help,” Ms Stork said. “There are a range of options available for those facing financial hardship, and this includes the ability to enable flexible payments and defer payments. “We know many businesses are facing cash flow challenges. We have the option to pay our suppliers invoices promptly to support the businesses that assist us deliver services to the community. “We will also review our current budget to redirect funding to assist small business and our community groups in recovery,” she said. “This will be an ongoing project – we are in this together, and for as long as necessary.” Ms Stork encouraged any residents experiencing financial difficulties to reach out and contact Council by calling 5422 0333 or emailing mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au

LANCEFIELD MERCURY INC.
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Items for publication should be sent to editor3435@gmail.com enquiries Andy Moore 0430 448 120

Advertising should be sent to advertising3435@gmail.com enquiries Ken Allender 0404 886 580

All articles should reach The Mercury by the fifteenth of the month.

Each edition will be distributed by mail in the first week of the month. The Lancefield Mercury is produced by the volunteer committee as a service to the people of Lancefield and surrounding districts.

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

Feedback? Let us know your thoughts: editor3435@gmail.com

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Advertising Rates

One eighth page \$35
One quarter page \$55
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Annual 1/8 page \$280
Annual 1/4 page \$360
Annual 1/2 page \$650
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1/2 page \$145 per edition
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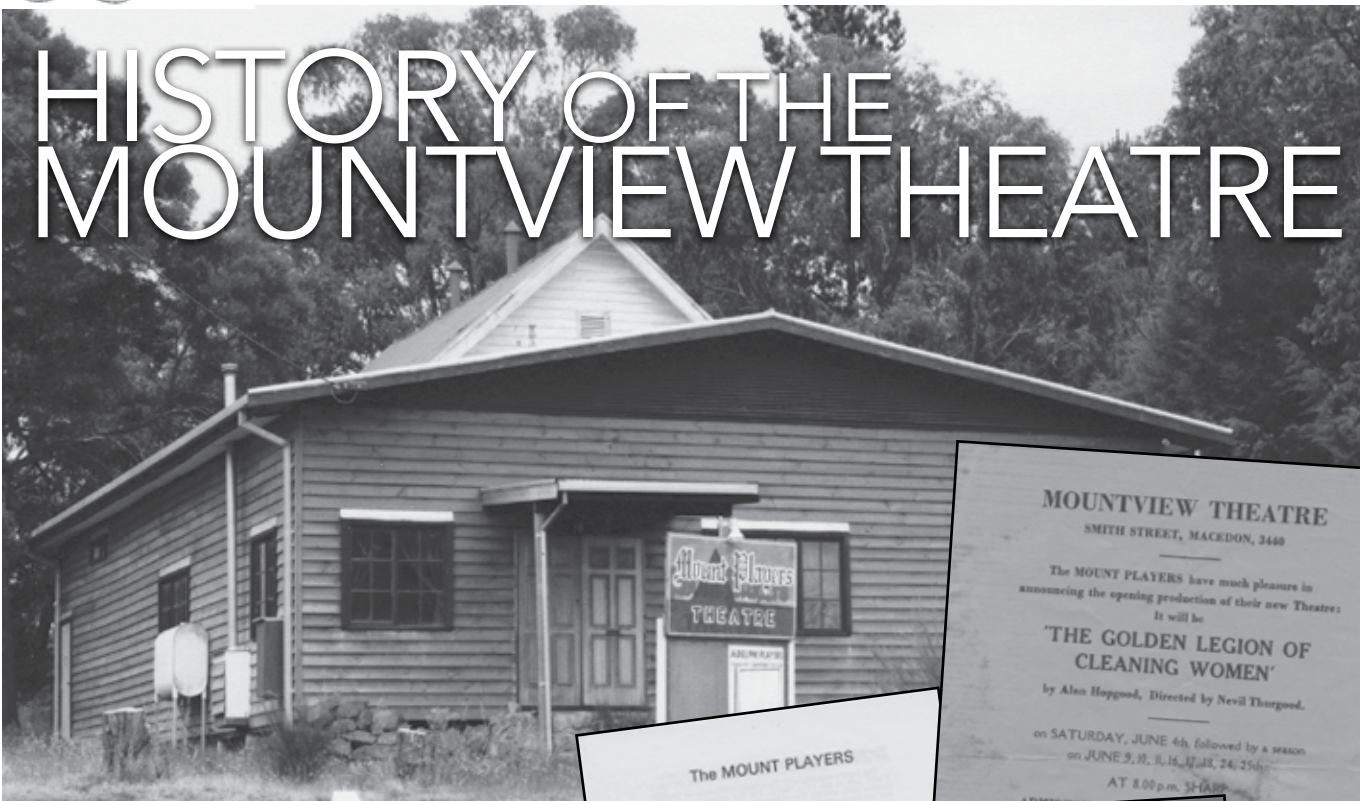
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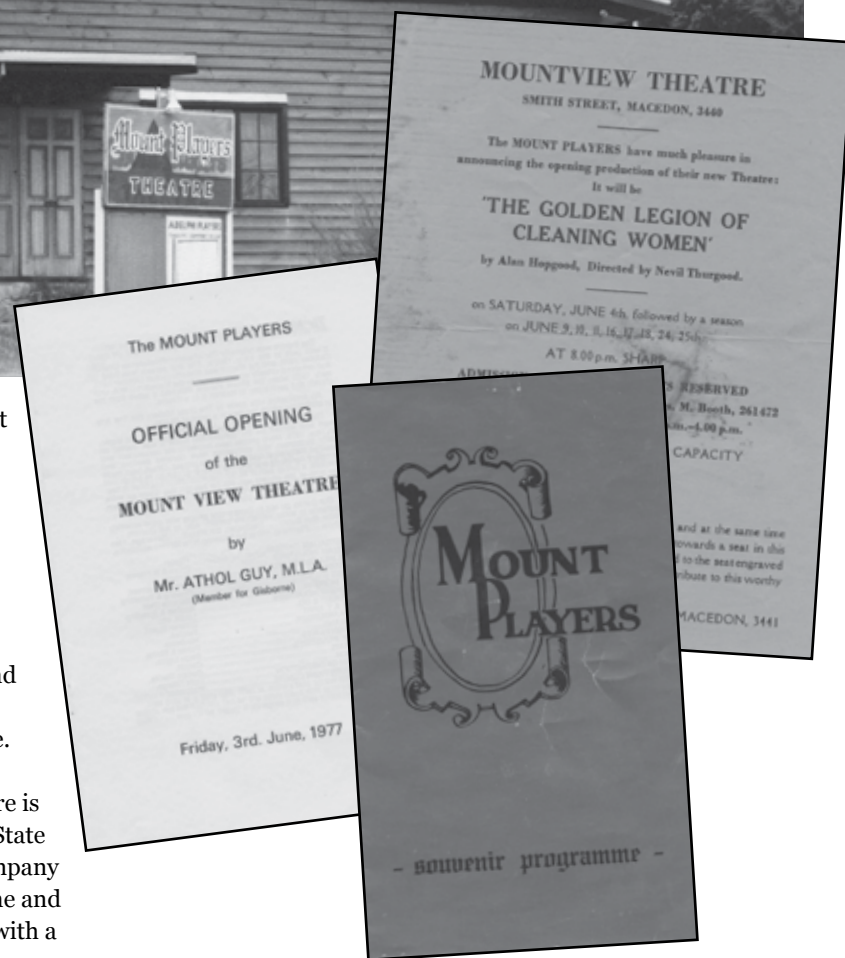
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As the stage is currently empty and waiting with great anticipation for the next show to start rehearsing, I thought readers would like to know more about the history of The Mountview Theatre in Macedon.

In 1972 local resident, Neville Thurgood gathered together a group of locals to form The Mount Players with the intention of entering a one act play in the Kyneton Daffodil Festival. This began what is now a vibrant, active community drawing talent from far and wide. The newly formed theatre company continued to perform one act plays but had no permanent home. In 1975 they obtained a lease for the old Macedon Presbyterian Church located where the current theatre is today. Between 1975 and 1977 with a grant from the State Ministry for the Arts for \$8,000, members of the company together with local business groups donated their time and goods to convert the church into a tiny, cosy theatre with a



seating capacity of 50. The theatre officially opened in 1977 with *The Golden Legion of Cleaning Woman*.

Between 1978 and 1982 the company went on to produce a wider range of performances including murder mysteries, comedies, musicals and pantomimes.

In February 1983 on Ash Wednesday, tragedy struck when the theatre along with many members' homes were destroyed. Original memoirs, photographs and programmes were also lost. So began another period of being homeless which saw the company perform in venues such as The Mechanics Hall Gisborne, Wooling Hill in New Gisborne, The Arts Centre in Kyneton, Gisborne Secondary College and The Macedon Family Hotel.

In 1985, the now vacant land was now transferred to the ownership of the Shire of Gisborne and TMP entered into a 2 year lease as tenants of the land and any said buildings.

In 1986 following an intensive period of fundraising, building of the new theatre began. A local, professional builder took on the building part time with members helping with the more mundane jobs to help complete the project.

In 1987 the company was greatly saddened by the sudden loss of their then-President, Margaret Woods and former secretary and Life Member, Fred Blake.

As work continued it became clear that there weren't going to be enough funds to complete the theatre so, in 1989 an agreement was entered into with the Shire of Gisborne whereby the Shire owned the building and The Mount Players were given exclusive occupancy of the theatre and were to manage and maintain the building from thereon.

In November 1990 the new Mountview Theatre officially opened with the performance of *Scrooge*. The rest, as they say "is history".

The Mount Players have continued to produce 4 quality productions a year, an annual one act play festival and with the introduction of a Youth Theatre in 2007 its future is rosy. How lucky are we to have this incredible theatre on our door step?

All we need now is to clear this virus so we can return to doing what we love the most, bringing live theatre to our audiences.

If you would like to read about the history in more detail and see photographs of past productions we invite you to our website www.themountplayers.com

See you at the theatre.....soon I hope!

Karen Hunt.

PASS THE HONEY!

On her first foray into the Lancefield Farmers' Market on Saturday 28 March, director and Queen breeder of Wondermazing Honeybees, Natalie Doran-Browne quickly embraced the new venue and the restrictions imposed by the Coronavirus social distancing rules. Dr Doran-Browne is an agricultural scientist and a Research Fellow at the University of Melbourne focusing on climate change and the agricultural sector.

At her home on the foothills of Mount Macedon, she writes that 'springtime is filled with the buzzing of bees' and she and her husband thought it was the perfect location to have a beehive. After they caught their first swarm and completed their first beehive, rescuing and relocating a beehive from where it was not wanted in the wall of a house, they discovered they just loved working with the bees! Their website conveys their story: 'By the end of our first season we had over 40 beehives.

With our services in demand we started to specialise in difficult beehive relocations and a business, Bee Removals Victoria, was born'.

With all their busy bees came ample honey, and the Wondermazing Honeybees brand was created. They sell premium, 100% Australian honey, mead and beeswax. They are proud to be a local business in the Macedon Ranges. While we hope to see them at the next Farmers' Market, it is possible to order from their website wondermazinghoneybees.com.au.

Fay Woodhouse


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TROUBLED TIMES BRING OUT THE BEST

The global coronavirus pandemic has taken us into new territory, and life will probably never be quite the same when we get through to the other side. It's led to some strange scenes, such as the panic buying of toilet paper and the stripping of supermarket shelves of all manner of necessities. There were the segments on TV news, with people fighting over a packet of toilet roll, and greed and selfishness. We all saw it.

But I'm far more heartened by some of the caring and sharing things we've seen at the same time. I much prefer to focus on the acts of kindness we've seen, rather than the selfishness.

People have lost their jobs, their livelihoods and are unsure of the future, and a significant proportion of the community is cooped up at home as part of the vital need for self-isolation to flatten the curve and beat the virus.

Yet from this adversity, we've seen some wonderful acts of kindness at our local level – neighbors helping neighbors with shopping and other tasks, and checking on their health and wellbeing. That's not easy when we're complying with the Government directives to minimise

contact and to exercise physical distancing.

We've heard the complaints on radio about the bans and restrictions on activities such as golf, fishing, visiting cemeteries, funerals, weddings and organised sports. While it's inconvenient, we all have to do our bit to beat the coronavirus. I'm proud of the way the Lancefield community and the wider Macedon Ranges have risen to the challenge.

In the last couple of weeks I've noticed signs tacked on trees out in the Cobaw Ranges advising that the State forest is closed to bushwalking and other activities. I enjoy spending a lot of time in the Cobaws, but will be doing my bit and complying with the directive to keep out of the State forest. When this is all over and life gets back to something approaching normal, there will be a number of things which we'll take out of the dark months.

But for me, it will be the acts of kindness, community and togetherness that got us through – not the hoo-ha over toilet rolls.

Cr Henry Bleack.
Your East Ward councillor



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Supply Priest: Fr. Daryl Montecillo, Parish Secretary Mrs.
Tammie Dalgleish, C/- Woodend Presbytery 5427 2690,
Presbytery 5429 2130

MASS TIMES

As per instructions by the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne and the relevant health authorities, all public liturgies have ceased until further notice. This includes all Masses and Communion Services usually celebrated at St. Mary's in Lancefield and Romsey.

FUNERAL ARRANGEMENTS

If you need the services of Fr. Martin to arrange a funeral, please phone him directly on 0400 439 918.

WORSHIP FROM HOME -

How to participate in mass online

- St. Patrick's Cathedral Melbourne, daily Mass at 1pm, Sunday Mass 11am.
Watch this at <https://melbournecatholic.org.au/> Mass
- Via facebook <https://www.facebook.com/CatholicArchdioceseofMelbourne>
- The Archdiocese youtube channel at www.youtube.com/archmelb
- Channel 31 daily Mass – check guide for times
- Mass for you at home is broadcast on network Ten on Sundays and Aurora Channel on Foxtel every day. <https://10play.com.au/mass-for-you-at-home>
- Fr. Vinoth streaming live on Sundays via <https://www.facebook.com/St-Brigids-Parish>

A weekly email is being sent to parishioners with updates and news regarding our parish. If you would like to be included on the mailing list, please send a message to lancefield@cam.org.au

SHIRE'S NEW RECYCLING SYSTEM

The new waste and recycling service has seen a significant reduction in the amount of material sent to landfill. In February there was a 32 per cent reduction in material sent to landfill, which was higher than anticipated for the first month of the new system. Council expects to see this continue to improve as residents adjust to the new system.

In February more than 600,000kg of organic material was collected through the new FOGO service, which was sent to Biomix (in Stanhope) to be composted. So far there has been a very low contamination rate in the FOGO material, with the contractor reporting only 0.5% contamination, which is below the state average of 1 per cent.

There has also been great participation in the new glass-only service and more than 100,000kg of glass collected in February through the new kerbside service.

Recycling quality has greatly improved since the introduction of the service, but there have been some cases in which loads have been rejected due to glass. It is very important that all residents ensure that no glass is placed into the comingled recycling (the bin with the yellow lid). This will ensure that the recycling can be recovered and re-used domestically.

The Material Recovery Facility (MRF) for Australian Paper Recovery has been successfully processing the non-contaminated recycling collected from residents within the Macedon Ranges. This material has been processed and will be used domestically.

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THE ASCENSION

This great event in the Christian calendar falls on a week day, Thursday, so is often overlooked. We are now drawing near to the completion of Jesus's mission for our salvation which began at Christmas, leading on to the Cross of Good Friday and then his Resurrection on that first Easter Day. Then for the next forty days he met with his followers and many others encouraging them and teaching them. He gave them several commands and promises.

'All authority has been given to me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptising them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit and teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you.'

He promised he would be with them always until the end of the age." (Matthew 28:18ff). This was his directive to his infant Church to go out and tell others the glorious good news of the Gospel - that belief in him brings forgiveness of our sins and the power to resist sin in our day to day lives, so becoming changed persons in Christ.

Another command was, "Do not leave Jerusalem but wait for the gift my Father has promised, which you have heard me speak about." {Acts 1:4}

Then time was up and it was time to say goodbye - as he rose from the earth, until covered by a cloud, he returned to the glory of Heaven.

He had come from heaven as the eternal word and returned to heaven as the incarnate word, taking his humanity with him into the God head, pure and undefiled.

To the watchers, there appeared a man in white, saying, "This same Jesus, who has been taken from you into heaven, will come back in the same way you have seen him go into Heaven." {Acts 1:11b.}

We still await that great day!

Jesus is now seated at the right hand of God, in glory with the Father, where he reigns and rules over us.

As the knights of old knelt before their liege lords on their swords and avowed their allegiance, so we kneel and pledge our love and loyalty to our Lord Jesus Christ, who reigns

supreme, who loves us and gave himself for us.

"See him, who has gone before us, heavenly mansions to prepare,

See him, who is ever pleading for us with prevailing prayer,

See him with sound of trumpet and with angelic train

Summoning the world to judgment, on the clouds will come again."

Bishop C. Wordsworth.

We are pleased to report that Ken Cormick is home from hospital following his disastrous fall. We are thinking of you, Ken, and all our ailing members. Over \$300 was forwarded to Bush Church Aid from the Box openings. Thank you all.

We are in isolation because of this insidious virus yet we are adapting to the changes in our life styles and benefiting from them. God works in mysterious ways, his wonders to perform, the poet wrote and although church doors were closed over this Easter season, His Church still met in Christian fellowship together around His Throne of Grace, thanks to modern technology and broadcast throughout the world.

We are meeting via a 'phone hook-up, ably led by our vicar, Rev. Judi Pollard.

St. Paul wrote when he was chained and in prison in Rome,

"Remember Jesus Christ raised from the dead. This is my Gospel for which I am suffering in chains like a criminal.

But God's Word is not chained." [2nd Timothy 2:8-9]

Ascension Day - Thurs. 21st May.

Whitsunday/Pentecost.. Sun. 31st May

May God watch over us all and keep us safe during this testing time as we put our faith and trust in Him.

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FOCUS ON HISTORIC FAMILY HOMES – PARKSIDE

The beautiful and historic double fronted brick home named Parkside, set in stylish gardens within the 158-acre property in Parks Road, Lancefield, remains a significant legacy of the Parks family who settled on the property in 1860.

The land was originally purchased by Cornelius Sharpe Haley in the land sales that took place in 1856. Known as ‘Big Haley’ (perhaps in the style of the landholder ‘Big Clarke’?), he eventually purchased most of the land between Romsey, Lancefield and Rochford. The 1,600 acre lot was then selected by the two brothers Frank and George Haley, very likely the sons of ‘Big Haley’. As Douglas L Parks, author of The History of “Parkside” from 1860-1978 writes, ‘earlier selectors had chosen land near the Deep Creek – to be near water; but the Haley brothers decided to take the red country, which was heavily timbered, and this had all to be cleared’.

The Parks, Robert and Eliza, were both born in Somersetshire, England. Robert was born at Cannington on 21 March 1836 and his wife Eliza (née Hunt) was born at Combwick on 31 March 1840. They were married at Otterhampton Church, Somerset on 23 August 1860 and then travelled to London. They had booked a berth on the Morning Star bound for Melbourne and Auckland, departing on 30 August. The Parks must have changed their mind about travelling on to Auckland because they disembarked at Melbourne instead. Douglas Parks writes that they travelled to the property by dray or wagonette soon after their arrival.

Eliza Parks was born Eliza Hunt, and some of her relatives from Gloucestershire (the county next to Somersetshire), England were the Hunt family who had arrived in Melbourne in 1856 and later settled in Lancefield where five of their children were born. They were Samuel Hunt and his family who owned and ran the Drovers & Carriers Arms, as well as Alfred and Emma (née Butcher) Hunt, who were well known in the area as potato farmers. Family records compiled in 1987 note that Eliza’s mother, brothers and sisters also came to Victoria although details are not yet known.

A hut had probably been constructed on the property soon

after it was purchase by Big Haley or his sons. The family, which quickly grew in size, added additional rooms to the original hut. In the meantime, the land had to be cleared and all the trees had to be grubbed out. It is said that at one stage there were 52 men working on the property, clearing the land using bullock drays to collect the trees into heaps and burn them. The work took several years to complete. In the interim, potatoes were planted.

Using timber from the farm, the property was fenced, barns and stables were built. Two of the original buildings still stand at Parkside – the grain barn and Clydesdale barn. Parkside became one of the most productive and well known farms in the region over generations growing potatoes, peas, oats, wheat and breeding champion Clydesdale horses.

While the original hut had been added to from 1860, in 1890 additional brick rooms were added to the house. The local builders Charles Colliver and Rupert Butter of Lancefield were engaged to construct a new residence. The house includes entrance hall, large lounge, two bedrooms, kitchen/meals area, bathroom, laundry and WC. It features marble fireplaces, delicate stained glass, and ornate lattice work on a wraparound verandah. The bricks were made locally. An orchard of one acre was laid out and planted with a large variety of apples, pears, plums, quinces, mulberry and cherry trees; a bowling green was included in the garden landscaping. When Douglas Parks wrote his history in the late 1970s, some of the trees were still bearing fruit.

The house, Parkside, is still the main residence on the property today.

Robert and Eliza Parks had a large family of thirteen children. In a period when infant mortality was all too common, all but one Parks child survived infancy. William Henry Parks (born 10 June 1863) became a leading farmer in Lancefield. As R Parks & Son, he and his father became maltsters. William took a keen interest in local politics and was elected to the Lancefield Shire Council from 1896-1904. He was also a member of the local Rifle Club, Anglers Club, Farmers’ and Gardeners’ Society and of the Royal



Agricultural Society of Victoria. He was honorary secretary of the Board of Guardians of the Church of England, Chairman of the Lancefield Water Trust; a Past Master of the Romsey Lodge of Freemasons and a Justice of the Peace.

One of their daughters, May (born 20 April 1876), married Frederick A White, son of the storekeepers Cornelius Octavius and Sarah White of Romsey; together they ran the store until 1948. When they moved into their new home in William Street, Romsey in 1912, they named it Cannington after the birthplace of May’s father, Robert Parks. The children of Robert and Eliza Parks, and their children, have married into many local Lancefield and Romsey families.

In the late twentieth century, when the homestead Parkside was offered for sale, the advertising emphasised the ‘red soil in a magnificent unspoilt truly rural landscape with outstanding future potential’.

Parkside opened as a ‘Country Cottage’ Bed and Breakfast in 1998. It was praised by the Herald Sun travel writer, Glenn Mitchell, for its focus on hospitality and relaxation. He also described it as a mansion, rather than a cottage. Then owners, Noeline and Barry Johnston, were keen to encourage relaxation ‘in the shadows of Hanging Rock’ and some of the state’s most beautiful countryside.

In 2008, Darryl and Jenny Ward became the proud custodians of this historic property where they now operate Parkside Winery Estate. The homestead has been restored and the original barns and stables are being returned to their former glory. Could the now 130-year old home last another 130 years?

Fay Woodhouse
Romsey Lancefield & Districts Historical Society

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COMMUNITY HELPS

The Neighbourhood House and its connected enterprises, The Mens Shed, Op Shop, Costume Shop and The Townhouse, have all been closed to the public due to the virus pandemic.

However behind the scenes we have been working very hard to put the Lancefield and Romsey Community Support Project together to help people stay at home and to not have to struggle through these unprecedented times.

WHAT WE CAN DO

We can help you have shopping you need delivered to your home so you don't have to go out. We can help if you are finding it hard to make ends meet by providing grocery parcels and pre-cooked meals. We can link you into support services. We can organise for people to ring you, or others you may be worried about, to check if you need anything or just to have a chat with someone.

You can find out more about the Community Support on other pages of the Mercury or by phoning: 0491 243 996, emailing: communitysupplanrom@outlook.com, web

site: www.lancefield.org.au/lres Facebook: Lancefield and Romsey Community Support.

OP SHOP STILL PROVIDING

Thanks to our wonderful Twins, a cart of books, magazines, puzzles and board games is outside the shop for people to help themselves too. Please if you are making donations either sanitize them first or leave in a bag so the Twins can do it before placing on the cart.

Please do not leave any general donations in front of the shop whilst we are not open.

With winter coming if you find yourself in need of some warm clothing or blankets please contact the House on 5429 1214 or the Community Support dedicated number 0491 243 996 to see if we can help with these.

While on the subject of winter, the State Government is discussing ways of supporting people with the extra cost of heating with more hours being spent at home which will be a relief for many of us.

DONATIONS NEEDED

We have been distributing Food Bank parcels and pre-cooked meals to a number of people over the last few weeks. Donations of any non-perishable goods or fresh produce can be left in the bins at the front of the Neighbourhood House and the Townhouse to support us with supplies.

A huge thank you to the team who have helped cook over 300 meals and to the two ladies who have packaged all the dry goods and mown the grass!

Please note that with donations of food or for the Op Shop table you can contact us to collect or deliver for you so you can stay at home.

MOVING FORWARD

We are working on relaunching the Macedon Ranges Community Exchange as a way of strengthening the local economy and particularly for supporting people who are unemployed, retired or have a reduced income due to the pandemic.

The Community Exchange is an alternative currency system—trading in 'Favours' for your time and skills. Most of us will not be able to offer anything on the Exchange

until after the isolation measures have been lifted but you can learn more about it by visiting www.mrce.net.au

COMMUNITY IN CRISIS

For some people the pandemic crisis might be a dreadful time due to social isolation, mental health or domestic violence and we ask that you contact our Community Support hotline or other services to seek help if you are struggling.

For others this has been a time of slowing down and catching up and it's great to see so many people out exercising and so many gardens looking amazing with the extra care they have been given.

A huge thank you to so many of our business owners who have worked hard to adapt and find ways to support the community. Thank you to the ones which have stayed open for us and thank you to the ones which have closed to help keep us safe, let's remember how important 'local' is and continue to support them in the future.

It is however the overwhelming support that people are showing for each other that that we hope will be the legacy of this crisis time. Please keep looking out for each other, let people you are worried about know that there is support available and keep healthy and safe. We have never been so reliant on each other as we are now.

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MOTHER'S DAY

Often, the reason we don't have excellent relationships in life is because we have taken our loved ones for granted in pursuit of other things. We have forgotten what is important. The Covid19 isolation rules are beginning to expose this fact in many lives.

Mothers/wives are often the prime example of neglect. Subtly, the things in our worlds intrude and mums are taken for granted. We understand the value of our wives when we first fall in love, and mums when a baby comes along. Yet as time passes, they are often taken for granted. Bit by bit, dads and children, particularly when they grow up, become far too busy pursuing personal ambitions than desiring to be in the company of their mothers who will always love and hold a special place for them in her heart.

A good ambition for life is to spend as much time as possible in the company of loved ones.

Regarding God, if we say we love him, we should naturally desire to spend as much time in his company as possible. This does not mean we hang around a church 24/7. God is omnipresent (everywhere simultaneously), so wherever we go – there he is. We can include God in everything we think and do. When we are excited about the wonder of life – we can praise him. When we are sad or worried – we can confide

in him. When we are stressed or fearful – we can confidently hand our problems to him.

As we get to know God, our prayer life should lose its religious-ritual and become a long conversation with a loved one that never ends. This is the relationship our heavenly Father wants with us. If we keep God as our first love, it will result in a better relationship with our wives and mums. We will start seeing them through God's eyes. We will have peace; we will be more caring, tolerant and interested in their lives and not just ours.

This Mother's Day in particular, there is no excuse not to lavish our mums with our love – even from a distance. Why not let this time of isolation from the many things that 'used to' be a great priority in our lives, be a time to think of creative ideas to give our wives and mums something they have missed out on in the past. . . . our time!

With social media, facetime etc. we could even check in with her more than once on her special day!!

Our aim is to encourage one another to be all we can be, in life and in God.

If you would like to know more about faith in Jesus

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#InThisTogether



We are here for you

Have you seen our new #InThisTogether campaign online? It's our way of supporting the wellbeing of the community at this challenging time. Please join the conversation by using #InThisTogether on social media and helping us to spread positive stories of residents, groups and businesses doing great things.

How we can support you

Our new support package will assist residents, businesses and community groups feeling the impact of the coronavirus COVID-19 pandemic. The new financial support measures include:

- ✓ Debt collection activities on 2019/20 unpaid rates and outstanding amounts ceased on 17 March and will remain halted until 30 September 2020
- ✓ Through to 30 September 2020, interest will not be charged for overdue rates or other payments
- ✓ Penalties for late payment of 2020/21 animal registrations that are due by 10 April will not be applied until 30 September 2020.

For more information, call 5422 0333 or email mrsc@mrsc.vic.gov.au

mrsc.vic.gov.au/coronavirus



HEALTHY NEW VENUE FOR THE FARMERS MARKET

On Saturday 28 March, the term 'social distancing' was something we were all trying to grapple with. However, it was not a huge problem at the monthly Farmers' Market, held for the first time at the Recreation Ground instead of on the Plantation in Lancefield. Social distancing is something we are all still getting used to and by all accounts, it will be with us for a while.

While we are all being restricted in our movements, this did not seem to deter most of the regular stall-holders from selling their goods at the Market. Flags at the entrance indicated where the entry was located. Before we entered, we were required to wash our hands with soap or sanitiser. This is more than we have to do at the local IGAs. And who could go wrong when the stalls were set up with at least three metres between them? Signs on the ground clearly indicated the regulated 1.5 metre distance for customers approaching the stall. Many of the stall-holders were taking EFTPOS payments only. However, where this was not possible, it did seem strange to hand over cash and receive washed notes in return!

Nevertheless, I believe everyone abided by the rules. It was nice to see that our regular entertainer, Jarrad Shaw, was there to entertain the crowd. The event was a healthy alternative to shopping in supermarkets, and I admire the Neighbourhood House for re-locating the monthly market to the Recreation Ground so that producers were still able to sell their goods and locals could still purchase them.

Fay Woodhouse

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WHAT'S NEW AT THE ASPY?

You may have seen the renovations taking place over the past few weeks – yes, things are afoot at the Aspy. On 30 March 2020, Shelley Watson, long-time chef at the Aspy, and her brother Mark Oram, took over the running of the well-known and popular Lancefield coffee shop. Having recently returned from Perth, when Mark saw the opportunity to purchase the business, he encouraged his sister in the venture. As he is pleased to admit, he 'backed her all the way'.

Shelley has worked at the Aspy for over ten years and is as familiar with the local clientele as they are with her cooking. While she has continued cooking for the now take-away only trade, her brother Mark has set about revamping the look of the Aspy.

On the day they took over the coffee shop the renovations commenced; Mark began by installing a commercial kitchen for his sister's pleasure. The kitchen was gutted and all new machinery, fridges and cooking equipment fitted. Mark is a butcher by trade so knows his way around this equipment.

When I asked how the Aspy hoped to distinguish itself from other coffee shops in the area, Mark pointed out that part of the kitchen renovation was to provide space for two fridges in the kitchen: one to cater for Vegan and the other for non-Vegan food. By emphasising Vegan food, the Aspy hopes to differentiate itself from other local and Melbourne cafes. Everything is made on the premises and Shelley and Mark hope to attract Melbourne clients to Lancefield through their food and coffee. They have chosen a new range of coffee – Palaza Doro – to be enjoyed with their regular and Vegan options.

Once the Coronavirus restrictions have been lifted, Mark is keen to renovate the garden area at the rear of the premises as well and to install decking and tables and chairs. In the future they also hope to offer meals 'by appointment' in the evening. It seems the sky is the limit for the Aspy!

Fay Woodhouse

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LANCEFIELD WOMEN WHO MADE THEIR MARK SUPPORTING THE UNDER-PRIVILEGED

In February this year, the Macedon Ranges Shire Council approached local historical societies asking them to illuminate the careers of women they could promote for International Women's Day. After a brief search in the Australian Dictionary of Biography I identified two Lancefield-born women, Eleanor Moore and Edith Onians, whose work may not be known to the Lancefield community. Both women came from privileged backgrounds and gave their time and energy to important issues of the day, advocating women's rights, the peace movement during the First World War, and supporting under-privileged children.

Born in Lancefield on 10 March 1875, Eleanor May Moore was a pacifist and an advocate for women's rights from the 1920s to the 1940s. Eleanor trained as a stenographer and court reporter but was barred from this work because of her sex. She was actively involved in the City Newsboys' Try Society and the City Newsboys' Society in Melbourne. In 1915 she became the international secretary of the Sisterhood of International Peace (later the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom) and was an executive member of the Australian Peace Alliance. A pacifist from the First World War, she campaigned against conscription in 1916 and 1917. Because of her stand against conscription she was expelled from the National Council of Women of Victoria. This did not deter her. In May 1919 she represented the Sisterhood of International Peace at the International Women's Congress in Zurich, Switzerland.

Eleanor was the Women's International League for Peace and Freedom secretary and its driving force from 1928 until her death in 1949. She was also an active member of the Movement Against War and Fascism and spoke on this theme around the country both before and after the Second World War.

Eleanor Moore was much admired for her uncompromising work as a pacifist; old age and ill-health did not diminish her activism. She died at Toorak on 1 October 1949. She is remembered for her calm, self-effacing manner. Only months before her death she completed a semi-autobiographical work, *The Quest for Peace*.

It was inevitable that the paths of Eleanor Moore and Edith Onians would have crossed due to their shared interest in the



Newsboys' Society.

Edith Onians was the daughter of Richard Onians, Lancefield storekeeper, auctioneer and grain merchant and his English-born wife Charlotte. She was born in Lancefield on 2 February 1866. Her parents were influential in the nineteenth century Sunday School Movement. Edith began a lifetime's devotion to the underprivileged, and became known for her work with the City Newsboys' Try Society, founded in 1895. From 1897 she transformed the organisation into the Melbourne Newsboys' Club and remained its Honorary Secretary and major organiser – a role she held for 58 years until her death in 1955.

The Society provided news boys with free elementary education and later expanded to include the provision of daily hot meals, second-hand clothing, trade training classes and even Sunday school classes. The Society aimed to improve the social, moral and spiritual condition of the underprivileged boys and to redirect their energies into worthwhile directions. Miss Onians' classes in the basement of the Cyclorama Building, were in literacy and the elementary 'Three Rs'. On Sundays she taught her



Edith Onians

often reluctant and sceptical boys at Sunday School. But, increasingly, there was much more on offer: daily hot meals for a penny, second-hand clothing, trade skills and what the old report called 'innocent games and other amusements'. The Street Boys' Song in the Try Excelsior News says it well:

Down in the haunts of the city,
Mid the darkness of squalor and sin,
We find the poor lads we are seeking,
And tenderly gather them in.

By 1907, membership numbers had climbed to 700 and there were waiting lists for trade classes such as carpentry and, particularly, boot repair.

Edith also involved herself in other social-welfare activities related to the Melbourne newsboys, visiting their families and providing them with practical welfare help. For many years she agitated to the establishment of a licensing board for street-traders; the Street Trading Act was passed by the Victorian government in 1928 and when it was established became the only woman appointed to the Board. She was also appointed as a probation officer of the Melbourne's Children's Court. In 1933 she was appointed OBE. She died at Heidelberg on 16 August 1955.

It is clear that both Eleanor Moore and Edith Onians were influential women whose devotion to the causes they embraced was newsworthy. Unfortunately, the Shire chose an alternative story for publication to highlight International Women's Day.

Fay Woodhouse
Romsey Lancefield & Districts Historical Society

If this has sparked your interest have a look at <https://newsboysfoundation.org.au/gary-tippets-history-of-the-newsboys/> for a look into a vanished world.



Eleanor Moore

ONLINE COURSE OF KINDNESS FOR KIDS

It's not too late to join our next online course of kindness for kids. It starts Sunday 24 May. This course is for young people aged 8-15 who want to connect with and contribute to their local and global community and participate in a youth community leadership program online. Because kindness, leadership and community matter now more than ever.

The Field Trip, based in the Macedon Ranges, sees a world where all young people embrace their unique powers to lead our communities. The Field Trip will achieve this vision by turning learners into leaders, providing young people with extraordinary adventures and empowering them to use their unique extraordinary powers to lead their communities. Because the world will be a better place if they do.

HOW DO WE DO THIS ONLINE?

What is your child passionate about? Singing, dancing, writing, cooking, drama, Leggo, gardening, sustainability, learning languages, culture, computing or coding? Something else? Let us know. We invite your child to undertake a ten week course of kindness which aligns with their interests or passions, to contribute to, connect with and lead their community in a range of ways. The program is interactive with participants and provokes ideas to be kind to our communities over a ten week period (one school term). We offer weekly 'inspirations', exercises, communication, suggestions and provocations, tips, templates and resources, ideas for partnerships, skill development ideas, introductions to community leaders, as well as government and community organisations which exist to help you with your learning and community connection. It is something parents can have fun doing with their kids. Some participants may wish to develop a community project as part of this process but either way, the focus is on learning about, connect with and being kind to the community around us.

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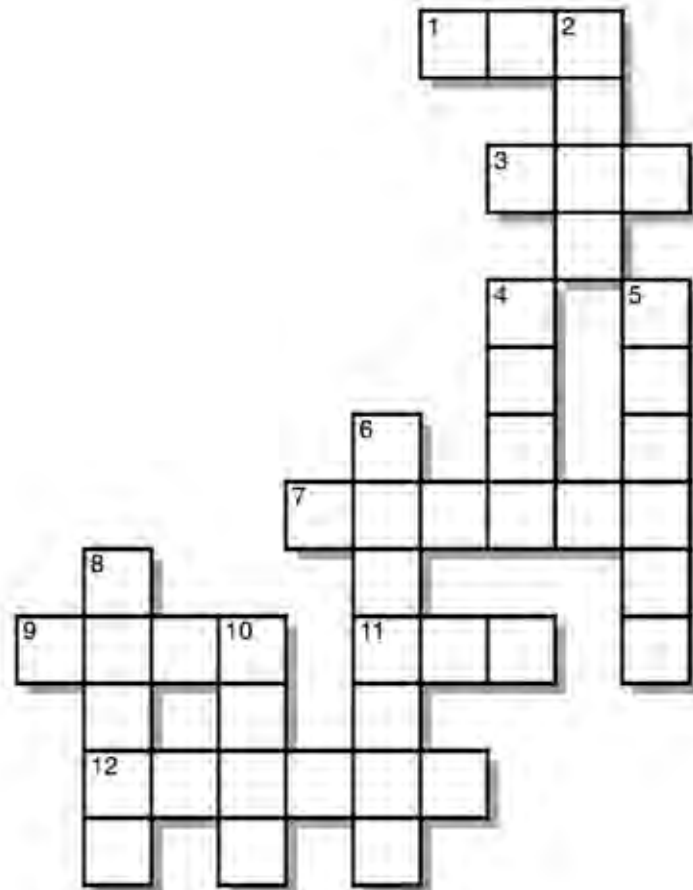
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QUIZZLE

- How many symphonies did Beethoven write?
- If a woman was born on February 29, 1948, and was 51 on Jan 1, 2000, how many birthdays has she celebrated?
- Name one of the two countries that have an X in their name.
- At the start of a horse race, there are 168 legs- counting the horses' legs and the jockeys' legs. How many competitors were there in the race altogether?
- What is the modern name of Constantinople?
- In which country is UK's highest mountain Ben Nevis?
- Which European country shares its border with the most neighbours-nine?
- What number does Roman Numeral XLIX represent ?
- Choose the correct spelling- a. increadible, b. incredable, c. incredible
- If I buy one dozen buns @\$\$.63c each, how much do I need to pay in total?



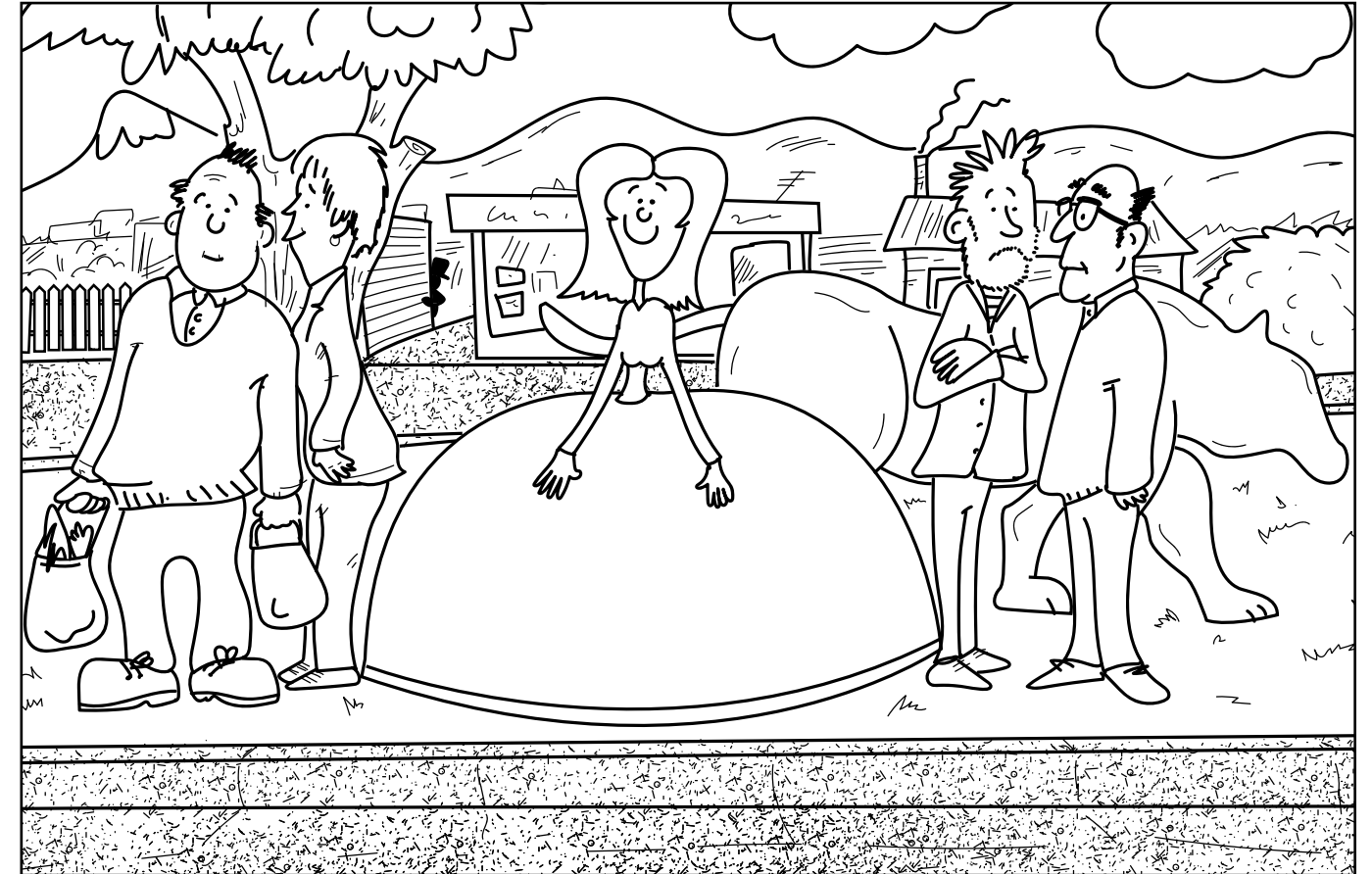
ACROSS

- A hat with a front peak
- A pup grows into this
- Another name for sweater
- something to read
- not a girl
- A baby cat

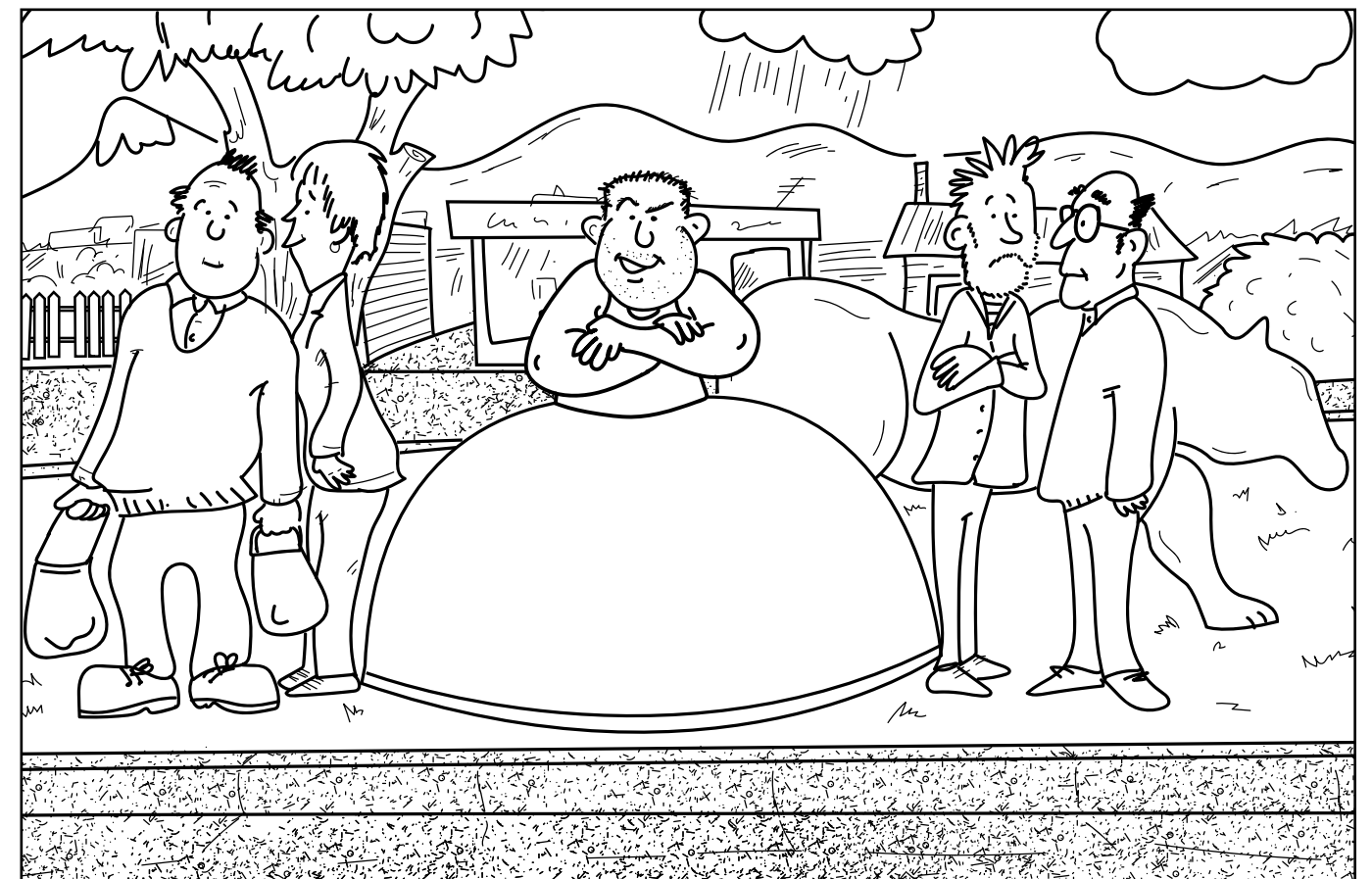
DOWN

- A place to swim
- when both feet leave the ground
- trousers which are above the knee
- soap, water and air makes these
- put these on before your shoes
- lets go fly a

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE FIND ALL 10 IF YOU CAN



The fashion answer to Conavirus. Bring back the hoop skirt



The fashion answer to Conavirus. Bring back the hoop skirt

- Woman/Man in skirt
- Figure behind building
- Cloud
- Shopping in bags
- Posters in shop
- Man on right Glasses
- Fence picket
- Chimney smoke
- Man on left Shirt
- button
- Tigers leg missing

SPOT THE DIFFERENCE ANSWERS

- Nine
- Twelve
- Mexico and
- Luxembourg
- Twenty eight
- Istanbul
- Scotland
- Germany
- Forty nine
- c.
- \$.75

QUIZZLE ANSWERS

TRAVEL IN THE TIME OF PANDEMIC



Last year, the day after my birthday, I decided to go to Paris. Haven't been there since I was much, much younger, some time last century.

I love travelling; I had a small nestegg; the plan was hatched.

The best deal by far was with Vietnam Airlines, flying via Ho Chi Minh City (HCMC -Saigon in old terminology, for we who remember the Baby Boomers' War) to Paris. Then, since I'd travelled so far, and was a hop skip and a jump from my relatives, friends, exes (and theatre) in the UK, might as well go there, too.

And since I was there, why not visit Spain, long on my bucket list, home of flamenco, gorgeous Moorish architecture and Don Quixote? Then a friend from Staying Strong at Romsey Rec Centre suggested I meet her and her husband in Florence for Easter, as they were going back for another visit around then...well, why not? A dream trip.

Having investigated the weather in Europe early in the year, I opened my 2020 diary and put my finger on March 3rd to fly away. Perfect timing.

Almost perfectly imperfect, it turned out.

I sent away for language lessons in the three languages I had a hope of grasping or brushing up on, practiced saying "thank you" in Vietnamese, which I figured would probably be useful in any situation, and read up on my destinations.

There was a flurry of action in Asia, as a new flu reared its head but it seemed to be far away and unlikely to affect life very much. And probably short-lived.

By the time I was boarding the plane, the world had begun to change. Mostly in Asia, at first. The airline personnel wore masks and offered extra towels and sanitizers at regular intervals in between the plentiful food and bevvie service. In HCMC the reception staff and a few people in the streets wore masks, but let's face it, the traffic there is more dangerous than anything else. A new friend, networked to me, took me to dinner on the first night and showed me how to cross the roads – spy a lull, no matter how brief, step off the kerb, flap your traffic-side hand in a vaguely warning way, walk steadily, and trust! The barrage of mostly motor bikes coming at you will miraculously weave around each other, and you, and you live to cross the street another day.

Everywhere I went, men with electronic temperature guns pointed them at each forehead that tried to enter the building, be it shopping centre – cool, bliss! – or Opera House, where I saw the sensational Bamboo Circus; or the War Remnants Museum - not for the faint-hearted.

In Paris, far fewer masks. Parisians are soo cool, it occurred to me that a mask would ruin the slim, dark-neutrals-clad, smoking routine that seemed to prevail wherever I went. And smoking and masks are by definition

hard to negotiate. Having said that, it was early days in the spread.

By the time I was heading to London, eight days later, my plan for Italy had fallen through.

Spain still looked hopeful, though. Not for long.

A day in London and I rethought again: stay there, seeing the relatives, friends, exes (and theatre), and head back home in ten days or so. Another day and the theatres and cafes – good for meeting the aforementioned list of people – had closed. The ex who bought theatre tickets for me and had been handed a fat wad of sterling, had to return it.

Time to get outta Dodge.

I flew home via Amsterdam, the airport already almost closed and dark and weirdly deserted, like a post-apocalyptic movie.

Now I am out in the world after my 14-day iso (the great Australian tendency to abbreviate lives!) during which generous friends fed me, shopped for me, and stayed in contact – as we all are doing now.

I still have the wad of sterling and no chance in the immediate future of exchanging it for AUD, but the weather is good, and I'm lucky to be home.

Beth Child



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BOOK REVIEWS FROM RED DOOR BOOKS

ADULT FICTION:



The Mercies
By Kiran Millwood
Hargrave RRP \$29.99

On Christmas Eve, 1617, the sea around the remote Norwegian island of Vardo is thrown into a reckless storm. As Maren Magnusdatter watches, forty fishermen, including her father and brother, are lost to the waves, the menfolk of Vardo wiped out in an instant. Now the women must fend for themselves.

Eighteen months later, a sinister figure arrives. Summoned from Scotland to take control of a place at the edge of the civilized world, Absalom Cornet knows what he needs to do to bring the women of Vardo to heel. With him travels his young wife, Ursa. In Vardo, and in Maren, Ursa finds something she has never

seen before: independent women. But Absalom sees only a place untouched by God and flooded with a mighty and terrible evil, one he must root out at all costs. Inspired by the real events of the Vardo storm and the 1621 witch trials, Kiran Millwood Hargrave's The Mercies is a story about how suspicion can twist its way through a community, and a love that may prove as dangerous as it is powerful.



The Mirror & the Light
By Hilary
Mantel RRP
\$45.00

The long-awaited sequel to Wolf Hall and Bring Up the Bodies, the stunning conclusion to Hilary Mantel's Man Booker Prize-winning Wolf Hall trilogy.

England, May 1536. Anne Boleyn is dead, decapitated in the space of a heartbeat by a hired French executioner. As her remains are bundled into oblivion, Thomas Cromwell breakfasts with the victors. The blacksmith's son from Putney emerges from the spring's bloodbath to continue his climb to power

and wealth, while his formidable master, Henry VIII, settles to short-lived happiness with his third queen, Jane Seymour.

Cromwell is a man with only his wits to rely on; he has no great family to back him, no private army. Despite rebellion at home, traitors plotting abroad and the threat of invasion testing Henry's regime to breaking point; Cromwell's robust imagination sees a new country in the mirror of the future. But can a nation, or a person, shed the past like a skin? Do the dead continually unbury themselves? What will you do, the Spanish ambassador asks Cromwell, when the king turns on you, as sooner or later he turns on everyone close to him?

With The Mirror and the Light, Hilary Mantel brings to a triumphant close the trilogy she began with Wolf Hall and Bring Up the Bodies. She traces the final years of Thomas Cromwell, the boy from nowhere who climbs to the heights of power, offering a defining portrait of predator and prey, of a ferocious contest between present and past, between royal will and a common man's vision: of

a modern nation making itself through conflict, passion and courage.

The Last
Smile in
Sunder City
By Luke
Arnold RRP
\$22.99



"I'm Fetch Phillips, just like it says on the window. There are a few things you should know before you hire me:

1. Sobriety costs extra.
2. My services are confidential - the cops can never make me talk.
3. I don't work for humans.

It's nothing personal - I'm human myself. But after what happened, Humans don't need my help. Not like every other creature who had the magic ripped out of them when the Coda came...

I just want one real case. One chance to do something good.

Because it's my fault the magic is never coming back."

The Last Smile in Sunder City, is a brilliantly voiced fantasy for fans of Ben Aaronovitch, Rotherweird or Terry Pratchett's Discworld, and

the debut novel from actor Luke Arnold - known for his lead role in Black Sails!

NON FICTION:

Australian
Code Breakers
By James
Phelps RRP
\$34.99



The extraordinary story of a headmaster turned cryptographer, and our top-secret war with the Kaiser's Reich.

On 11 August 1914, just days after war had been declared; Australian Captain J.T. Richardson boarded a German merchant vessel fleeing Melbourne's Port Phillip and audaciously seized a top-secret naval codebook. The fledgling Australian Navy had an opportunity to immediately change the course of the war. But what exactly had

they found? Enter the Australian code breakers...

Recruited by savvy top brass, maths whizz and German speaker Frederick Wheatley worked night and day to fathom the basic principles of the code and start tracking the German Navy's powerful East Asia Squadron, led by the brilliant Maximilian von Spee. Soon Melbourne was a hub of international Allied intelligence.

This is the untold story of how a former Australian headmaster and his mostly female team cracked one of Germany's most complex codes, paving the way for the greatest Allied naval victory of World War I.



The Precipice;
Existential Risk
and the Future
of Humanity
By Toby Ord
RRP \$29.99

The Precipice is a landmark book that provides a new way of thinking about our time. 'Humanity has never been more vulnerable - there's now a one-in-six chance that civilisation won't make it to the end of the century', argues a highly influential philosopher . . .

Ord's analysis of the science is exemplary . . . We live during the most important era of human history. In the twentieth century, we developed the means to destroy ourselves - without developing the moral framework to ensure we won't.

This is the Precipice, and how we respond to it will be the most crucial decision of our time. Oxford moral philosopher Toby Ord explores the risks to humanity's future, from the familiar man-made threats of climate change

and nuclear war, to the potentially greater, more unfamiliar threats from engineered pandemics and advanced artificial intelligence. With clear and rigorous thinking, Ord calculates the various risk levels, and shows how our own time fits within the larger story of human history.

Can we protect the legacy of the hundred billion who have come before us, and secure a future for the trillions that could follow? What can we do, in our present moment, to face the risks head on? A major work that brings together the disciplines of physics, biology, earth and computer science, history, anthropology, statistics, international relations, political science and moral philosophy.

The Precipice is a call for a new understanding



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BOOK REVIEWS

of our age: a major reorientation in the way we see the world, our history, and the role we play in it. 'Many people have recently found that they want to read books offering the grandest perspectives possible on human existence, such as Sapiens . . .

The Precipice is a powerful book, written with a philosopher's eye . . . Ord's love for humanity and hope for its future is infectious' Spectator

A Guardian Pick for 2020

TEENS:

Coming soon!
(Reviewed by our friends at Pan Macmillan)

Sin Eater

By Megan Capisi



I have to admit I felt this was a YA book from the first few pages (I am not a big YA reader) but the quote from Emma Donoghue on the cover of the proof made me persevere. I am so glad I did.

Where do I start? This is a mixture of historical fiction, dystopia, and a great mystery at the heart of it. The language is poetic, full of imagery, and extremely visual. I couldn't put the damn thing down....

May is a 14 year old girl in a're-imagined' medieval England, called Angland. Her adored father has recently died leaving her

alone. She steals bread to eat and is caught and ends up on trial for stealing. Unlike the other young women in her cell, she is not sentenced to hang, or burn, instead, for reasons unknown to her at the time; she has a metal collar attached and an S tattooed on her tongue. She is now a 'sin-eater' and shunned by normal folk. Her world now becomes the shadows. She cannot talk except for when she takes a 'recitation'. As a sin-eater she is summoned to the bedside of dying people, high and low, to listen to their sins. For each specific sin, she allocates a food which is to be prepared by the family, which she then eats from the top of the coffin after the person dies. In essence, she has eaten their sins so they may move on to the next sphere innocent as they were when

they were born. While hearing these sins, she learns of witchcraft and the death of a royal child which leads her to try and solve the mystery to revenge the death of the previous sin eater she was unwillingly apprenticed to.

This is an extremely clever novel in the way things like religion and history have been slightly twisted to make you think how human history may have evolved had the interpretation of the Bible taken other roads. This is a mixture of The Wonder, The Good People, The Handmaid's Tale, and Children of Blood and Bone. It is definitely a crossover to a YA market but the older end of teens as the younger ones may possibly find some of the language and scenes a little disturbing. Easily 5 stars from me!

The Glass Hotel
By Emily St John Mandel



One word of warning, if you are expecting anything like the storyline in her best-selling Station Eleven, then don't! The only thing this new book and that have in common is Emily's brilliant talent for language and weaving an almost hypnotic story that plays with your mind and imagination. The Glass Hotel is a slow burn. It is not quite a mystery and not quite a thriller. I found it more a study in human nature and what makes us make the choices we do in life and where it ultimately leads us. The characters often indulge in pondering their 'shadowlife' or the life they might have led if they had made different choices.

The old adage "People in glass houses..." came to mind often while reading this as well as feeling the characters are always looking out from their own very fragile inner world, so the title is perfect in its imagery.

I can't tell you a lot about the storyline as it will give away much of what happens, but it is set in a time zone of 1994 to 2029 and at the heart of the story is a Ponzi scheme. The story circles around those involved who either know what is going on or those unknowingly involved. For the most part, the book follows individual stories that cross back and forth in time, as the full background is gradually revealed. There are a lot of levels to this book, so if you like a book that makes you think, then this is definitely for you!

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The wine producers of Lancefield have teamed up to bring you the Lancefield Locals Producers' Pack!

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FLUSHED RAGS CAUSING DAMAGE

Western Water is reminding customers to only flush the three Ps - pee, poo and (toilet) paper – down the toilet, after experiencing major network issues across the region caused by some residents flushing rags.

At one site, the Western Water network was so badly damaged that two pumps needed replacing.

Western Water's Acting Chief Operating Officer, Paul Clark, said despite increased advertising there still some people flushing unsuitable items down the loo. "We're grateful for the many people who are doing the right thing, but unfortunately there are still a few who are flushing the wrong items", said Mr Clark. "Wipes, tissues, paper towels rags and newspapers should never be flushed down the toilet." Residents could face expensive plumbing bills if their pipes were to get blocked.

"If you need to use something other than toilet paper, then throw it in the bin instead," Mr Clark said. "If you have already flushed the wrong items, we recommend that you consult a qualified plumber."

"What we flush down the toilet impacts everyone and flushing the wrong items can cause sewer spills in our homes, our neighbourhood or public spaces, like parks".

"We are asking our customers, to please think before you flush. It's vital for the liveability of our region."

MEN'S SHED

First and foremost the Lancefield Men's Shed exists for the mental health of men. This venue gives them somewhere to gather, and observing the happy conversations that follow is a joy to see.

For some it is a highlight of their week. Our Shed has an additional benefit of giving those that enjoy making things the opportunity to do this. We have machinery and tools available and we are able to make and repair things, for example minor furniture repairs and so on.

We are not here to compete with professional trades as we are all volunteers, therefore there isn't the pressure to push through projects. However, we can offer schools, community organisations, similar organisations and the aged care with 'in house' minor repairs and projects - especially when they can't get anyone else to help. In some cases a quick 'over the counter' repair can be done for free. Other repairs or projects are quoted for the cost of materials, plus a nominal charge or donation. This helps the shed to remain financially viable.

For more information call Russell 0418 665 344 or Joe 0425 700 692.



ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL LANCEFIELD

A DIFFERENT WAY OF TEACHING

As I write this we are starting Term 2 with remote learning. It's going to be a very different looking term to what we have always been used to. But we have amazing staff at St Mary's and I know that they will be giving 110% to everything they do for our students and the school community as a whole.

We as adults are finding this strange new world hard to comprehend and navigate so what do our children think? We decided to ask our students some questions relating to what is going on in our world at the moment and here are their answers.

How do you feel about what is going on in the world at the moment?

What is going on in the world at the moment is not really affecting me, it is out of my control though, but I know that it can't last forever. Chelsea - Yr 6

I'm not very worried about the coronavirus because it's very unlikely I will get it because I'm only young plus we have been doing what we are supposed to be doing like staying home and social distancing. Chloe - Yr 4

I don't like not being able to see my friends and cousins but I have enjoyed having family time at home. I also like Houseparty and Snapchat. Tighe - Yr 5

Sad. Remi - Prep

I feel sad because I can't see friends and family. Chloe - Yr 1

I'm not sure, I'm bored & tired of hearing about Coronavirus every time we turn on the tv, and sad about hearing that people are dying. Molly - Yr 3

Scared because someone in my family could catch the corona virus and that wouldn't be

Very good. Isla - Yr 2

Not very good because I don't get to see anyone. Harry - Yr 4

It feels weird. It feels weird because everything is different. Sophie - Yr 2

I feel frightened that I'm going to get it. Josh - Prep

I feel fine about everything because I am feeling safe at home and I think they will find a cure soon. Evan - Yr 6

I am a little bit annoyed that I can't see family or friends during Easter holidays or for my birthday. Sophie - Yr 6

What are you missing the most?

Because when I am writing this it is during the holidays, so it feels normal and I am not missing too much. Not seeing family and friends in person is something that I am missing though. I am also missing the specials at IGA because all the prices have gone up. Having face to face teacher support with school will be a big thing that I will miss (I think).

Chelsea - Yr 6

I am missing my friends so much, we have been trying to stay in touch with each other. We have been writing letters to each other and putting them in each other's mailboxes!

Chloe - Yr 4

I am missing seeing my friends the most. Tighe - Yr 5

Playing with all of my friends. Remi - Prep

I really miss going to school and seeing people in person.

Chloe - Yr 1

Friends. Molly - Yr 3

My cousins and friends. Isla - Yr 2

Playing with my friends and having fun with them at school. Harry - Yr 4

My friends & my teachers. Sophie - Yr 2

Playing with my cousins & friends. Josh - Prep

I am missing my friends and family such as my cousins and grandparents because I like to see them often and couldn't see them these holidays. Evan - Yr 6

The thing I'm missing the most is my family and friends especially since it's the Easter holidays. Sophie - Yr 6

What are you grateful for?

I am grateful that I don't have COVID-19, no one in my community has COVID-19 and no one that I know has COVID-19. I am also grateful for the fact that Australia does not have the most people with COVID-19 in their country and that Australia is taking as much action as they can right now. I also like having both parents always working from home. I am grateful that my parents both still have jobs.

Chelsea - Yr 6

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ST MARY'S PRIMARY SCHOOL

I am grateful that I can still have fun with my family!
Chloe - Yr 4

I am grateful for the time I am able to spend with my mum. Tighe - Yr 5

That I get to do school at home. Remi - Prep
I'm grateful for the time with my family. Chloe - Yr 1
That I've still got my family with me & that I don't have the Coronavirus. Molly - Yr 3

My family is well and we're all together. Isla - Yr 2
No one in my family has the coronavirus. That I have a big yard to play in. Harry - Yr 4

That I still have a home and I don't know anyone that has COVID-19. Sophie - Yr 2

My family. Josh - Prep

I am grateful for being safe and healthy at home with my mum, dad and brother. Evan - Yr 6

How do you feel about school @ home during Term 2?

I don't really know how I feel about doing school at home during Term 2 because I am limited because I have not started homeschooling when I am writing this piece. I think I would rather go to school because there is more of an education at school and it will be much harder at home because of the independence that I would need to build. I also see some good outcomes because at some stage in your life you will need independence and it is better to learn early and there will be a lot of independence being built through the crises. Chelsea - Yr 6

I'm excited for Term 2 being at home. My friends and I might face time with each other while we are doing work so we can help each other out. I think I might get a bit sick of school at home by the time Term 2 finishes. Chloe - Yr 4

I am feeling a little worried about not being able to ask my teachers questions about my schoolwork. Tighe - Yr 5

I'm looking forward to doing some fun maths. Remi - Prep

I feel very excited. Chloe - Yr 1

I don't really mind...

But, I don't really know because I haven't done school

from home yet. Molly - Yr 3

Excited. Isla - Yr 2

It will be kind of weird. Harry - Yr 4

I feel upset that I can't go to school in Term 2. I think it will just take time for me to adjust to it all. Sophie - Yr 2

I don't know. Josh - Prep

I am feeling great about learning from home, I think it will be lots of fun to do school from home on the computer. Evan - Yr 6

I am fine with having school at home but I am disappointed that I won't get to run assembly or see friends. Sophie - Yr 6

What are you most looking forward to when this is all over?

When COVID-19 is all over I think that I will look forward to seeing people face to face and in person. I will also look forward to playing Netball again. I look forward to going back to school. Because a lot of things have not affected me yet, I have not lost a lot. If I do lose anything that really matters to me I will look forward to having that back after the crises. Chelsea - Yr 6

I am looking forward to seeing my friends and having my 10th birthday party, because I can't have it yet because of coronavirus. Chloe - Yr 4

I am most looking forward to seeing Grandma and Grandpa and other relatives again. Tighe - Yr 5

Spending time with all of my friends. Remi - Prep

Seeing all my friends. Chloe - Yr 1

Playing with friends. Molly - Yr 3

Seeing my friends. Isla - Yr 2

Playing with my friends. Harry - Yr 4

Seeing my friends. Sophie - Yr 2

Doing our boats at school. Josh - Prep

I am looking forward to getting to see my friends and family and play with them. I can't wait to play soccer. Evan - Yr 6

The thing I am most looking forward to is seeing my friends and family. Sophie - Yr 6

One thing we can all agree on is that we'll all enjoy seeing our family and friends again when this is all over.

CRICKET VICTORIA 2019-20 - A SPORT FOR ALL AWARDS By Chelsea McCarthy

On the 7th of February 2020 I received an email from Cricket Victoria to say that I had been nominated for the award of 'Young Leader of the Year' in A Sport for All Awards - Victoria 2019/20. This is the 3rd year that Cricket Victoria have had the awards and the 1st year that they have had an award for 'Young Leader of the Year.' The awards are to recognise people in the community that have contributed to making Cricket a sport for all Victorians. The Young Leader of the Year award is for a young person, under the age of 25 who positively impacts those around them through their off-field leadership in volunteering. I've always watched my Dad play cricket and have wanted to play for Romsey but didn't want to play in the boys competition. When I found out that there was an all girls competition in our area I really wanted to make it all happen.

With the help of my Dad, local grants and the Romsey Cricket Club, we fielded our first all girls team in Romsey for the 2019 season in the Under 13 Girls competition with the GDCA (Gisborne & District Cricket Association) league. I was really fortunate to be selected by Cricket Australia to be featured in a short film in their ABC Grassroots Greats videos at the end of 2019. I really loved playing my first season of cricket.

On the 25th of February I received an email to say that I was one of the two finalists for the Young Leader of the Year. I was invited to the Awards Night on Wednesday 18th February where the winners of the awards would be announced. Unfortunately the awards event was cancelled 2 days prior to the event due to COVID-19. On Tuesday 24th March I received an email with the details of all of the winners & runners up in each category. I was so excited when I read that I was the winner of the award!

(Chelsea is currently in Year 6 at St Mary's and we are all very proud of her. We would like to congratulate her on this amazing achievement. An excellent result for all her hard work.)

Jo Shannon (Community Liaison Leader)



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