

MT ROUSE News & Views



Community Newsletter

History in Penshurst Commemoration in 2000 of the Rail Tragedy 1890



Continued from last fortnight

Story page 3

This colour page sponsored by Florence Collins. Thank you!

Caramut & District Garden Club

Our first meeting for 2026 was held at the Penshurst Senior Citizens Club on the 10th February.

- | | | | |
|---------------------|----------|-----|---------------|
| Competition winners | Special. | 1st | June Clancey |
| | | 2nd | Jan Madden |
| | Bloom. | 1st | Joan Taggert |
| | | 2nd | Anne Walters |
| | Produce. | 1st | Marg Humphrys |
| | | 2nd | Vikki Allison |



No minutes were read as the last meeting was our Christmas Lunch.



The next meeting is at the home of Kylie Rentsch at Mailors Flat on the 10th March.

New members welcome ring Gail 0419510364

It's time to get your Sweet Peas ready to plant on St Patrick's day for a great display, It's also time to get your garden beds ready to plant Daffodils, Tulips, Hyacinths & a variety of bulbs for Spring.

HAPPY GARDENING 😊



Penshurst Monthly Pot-Luck Dinners

At the Senior Citizens Hall at 6pm for a 6.30pm start on the 3rd Friday of each month.

Next Dinner 20th March

Confirmed dates for the following few months are –
17 Apr & 15 May 26.

BYO a main dish to serve 4-6 people, a dessert and your drinks.
Tea, coffee, milk, sugar will be provided.

Come along, bring a neighbour and share a laugh or two.

GOLD COIN donation for the Senior Citizens Club.

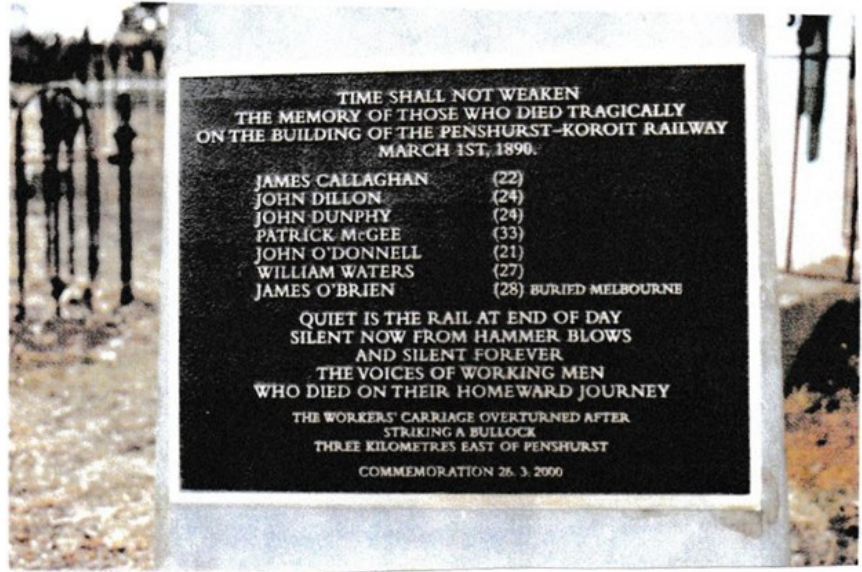
Everyone welcome – no bookings required!

From last fortnight - **Seven tragic deaths honoured in cemetery**

Lack of space in the last newsletter prevented the publication of a photo of the memorial to seven men who were tragically killed just three kilometres east of Penshurst in 1890, building the Penshurst - Koroit railway line.

A headstone was erected at the Boram Boram cemetery to honour the men at a special ceremony at the cemetery on March 26, 2000.

The cemetery tributed followed another ceremony that day at the actual site of the tragedy, about 100 metres from the Blackwood Rd intersection with the Hamilton Highway. Penshurst book shop owner, Ruth Pihl, created a poem for the headstone.



Quiet is the rail at the end of the day

Silent now from hammer blows

And silent forever

The voices of working men

Who died on their homeward journey

Emma KEALY MP

NATIONALS MEMBER FOR LOWAN



“If you have an issue you need a hand to resolve, or a great idea on how we can make our region a better place to live, work, study, and do business, I would love to hear from you.”



34 Firebrace St, Horsham



5571 9800



emma.kealy@parliament.vic.gov.au

The Penshurst Men's Shed in action



Table & Bench Seats x 2 \$85

Chairs for the verandah \$90 each



Two seater stained \$90



Below: Sold as a set, with table \$160



2 Seater \$80



Penshurst Shed
Open Saturday & Tuesday
10am - 4pm
Enjoying community in 2026.
Contact
Thomas Cooke 0488 557 345
Visitors welcome



The two faces of 'What if?'

They came to me with a bewildering tale of how they were lining up for a lifetime of ongoing tests. Each one seemingly innocuous in and of itself, but any one could be life changing. It wasn't an easy way for this person to live, but that was their lot. In the end we agreed that we were fortunate to live at this point in history and in this culture where we had such attentive medicos and access to such great medicine.

It took my friend a while to get into this way of thinking but most of the time that's how they came to reason and live. Most of the time... But... with each looming appointment and icky test the inevitable question would raise its hoary head and roar... "What if?" That was a long time ago and the last time I heard they had gone on to live a rich, long fulfilling life.

But the question 'What if?' also has a flip side.

What if we made an honest and long lasting attempt to be quieter for longer. What if we wrote that 'Thinking of you card'? What if I didn't look at a screen for 24 hours?

You see the two faces of the question 'What if'.

When my fearful friend asked this question it was an understandable inward looking, at self inciting doubt and fear. For a few days it would cripple their potential and joy.

The other way of asking the question looks outward to others and how we might enhance someone else's life.

Both have their place, but the former will frivolously waste our time pondering unknowables, whereas the other face can inspire us to actually do something positive and enriching.

I know which face I would rather gaze upon.

So this is what it's all about!

I found some words the other day that were helpful for me. For some they might be too churchy, for others the style will be familiar. For others... just go gently with it and see where it might lead you. I use the words to conclude this little reflection and hope that you might find them useful.

The words begin with....

*Compassionate God,
as you know each star you have created,
so you know the secrets of every heart;*

And here I could not help but think of a wise old adoring couple who, knowing each other's every wrinkle and flaw, still chose to wake up together. Over the years they found out not only the fun bits, but all the other uncomfortable, pongy grungy bits. The way he kicked his slippers off at night ... and left them there. Or that annoying little idiosyncrasy that made the hypertension flair up.

To be found out, known, forgiven and loved even when everyone knows the cost, pain, privilege and joy of the relationship and still wants to sign on for an eternal amount of time has to be good news right.



So this is what it's all about! (continued)

The truth I have come to realise too late in my little life, is that this is exactly the relationship that The Master chooses to have with me.

When I understand this and mirror this compassion to the others in my life, then all may be citizens in his city of peace.

*Compassionate God,
as you know each star you have created,
so you know the secrets of every heart;
in your loving mercy bring to your table
all who are fearful and broken,
all who are wounded and needy,
that our hungers may be satisfied
in the city of your peace;
through Christ who is our peace.*

<https://hamiltonanglican.org.au/>

Fr David Oulton p. 0435 867 040 droulton72@gmail.com



5576 5270

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Penshurst's News Agency

MEDIA RELEASE

SOUTHERN GRAMPPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL

**Your Council
Your Community**

A WOMAN'S HEALTH JOURNEY: NURTURING EVERY STEP FROM PRECONCEPTION TO EARLY MOTHERHOOD

Southern Grampians Shire Council, in collaboration with Western District Health Service, Australian Breastfeeding Association and Gen Health, is excited to announce the return of "A Woman's Health Journey" for its third year.

This free community session offers practical, evidence-based information and connects attendees with local services that support the early stages of the parenthood journey. The panel-style event will be held in the Melville Oval Function Room on Sunday, 15 March 2026 from 10:00am – 12:00pm.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin said the event is a great opportunity for any parents of newborns or expecting parents to see what specialty services are available within the region. "Whether you're thinking about starting a family, expecting a baby, or adjusting to life with a newborn, this event will offer insights for everyone," said Cr Heslin. "Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in interactive discussions with the panellists both before and after the session."

Discussions will feature local women's healthcare professionals who will share their expertise and insights, covering topics such as preconception health, prenatal care, childbirth and postnatal support.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to access further Information via expo-styled stalls following the event, offering an additional chance to connect with facilitators and collect take-home resources.

"From planning a family to early parenthood and beyond, attendees can meet local health experts, connect with others in similar situations, and learn practical tips to care for themselves, their babies, and their families," said Cr Heslin. "Partners and support people are also encouraged to come along and be part of the conversation," concluded Cr Heslin.

Attendance is free, with RSVPs required. For registration and more information, please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/a-woman-s-health-journey-from-preconception-to-early-motherhood-7yz5wjdd>

COUNCIL BRINGS SERVICES CLOSER TO HOME WITH CUSTOMER SERVICE ON TOUR

The friendly faces behind our customer service desk are stepping beyond the counter and into the community with the launch of Customer Service on Tour, an initiative designed to make accessing everyday council services easier for residents across the Shire.

Travelling to townships throughout the Southern Grampians, the team will provide face-to-face support closer to home, helping residents access information, lodge requests, make payments and receive assistance without the need to travel into Hamilton.

Delivered alongside the Greater Hamilton Mobile Library's regular

Continued on page

MEDIA RELEASE

SOUTHERN GRAMPAINS SHIRE COUNCIL

**Your Council
Your Community**

visits, Customer Service on Tour will be based out of the mobile library at their usual stops.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin is encouraging community members to take advantage of the opportunity.

“At each stop, residents will be able to speak directly with customer service staff, lodge requests, make payments, ask questions and receive guidance on a wide range of council services, making it easier to connect with Council support.” said Cr Heslin.

“By bringing services directly into townships, the Customer Services team want to reduce barriers to access, particularly for older residents and those with limited transport options,” Cr Heslin concluded.

Residents will be able to chat with Customer Service:

Friday 6 March 2026 2.00pm to 4.30pm - Coleraine

Thursday 12 March 10.30am to 11.30am - Cavendish

Friday 20 March 2.00pm to 4.30pm - Coleraine

Thursday 26 March 12.30pm to 1.30pm - Dunkeld

Thursday 2 April – 1.00 to 2.00pm Glenthompson / 3.00 to 4.00pm Mirranatwa

Friday 17 April 2.00pm to 4.30pm - Coleraine

Thursday 7 May 3.00pm to 4.00pm - Penshurst

Friday 22 May – 10.00 to 12.00 Balmoral / 2.00pm to 4.30pm Coleraine

Additional dates may be added throughout the year.

For a full list of dates, times and locations, visit Council’s website or better yet, contact the friendly customer service team themselves on 03 5573 0444.

WORKS TO RESUME ON COX STREET SOLAR LIGHTS

Preparation works are set to resume on Cox Street from Tuesday 10 March 2026, with crews continuing footing installation for new solar street lighting.

Works will take place along the section of Cox Street between Gray and Lonsdale Streets, after completing footings on the Gray Street to Ballarat Road section earlier this year.

Once preparation works are completed, poured concrete will require a minimum curing period of 14 days before further works can continue. Please be aware that adverse weather conditions can affect the duration of the curing process.

Following this, installation of lighting poles will commence. Further updates on impacts caused by the installation will be provided in the coming weeks.

During periods of activity, short-term traffic management will be in place and signposted while contractors carry out these works. This will include brief detours and reduced speed limits.

Vehicles are advised to observe changes and to take care driving in the area.

Council thanks the community for their patience and looks forward to seeing progress continue in the coming weeks.

A PAGE TO SHARE RECIPES

Microwaved Corn on the Cob

Prep Time 2 mins Cook 4 mins Serves 1 ear corn

INGREDIENTSwww.taste.com.auAs many ears of corn as you need
ButterSalt
Spice it up - cayenne or chilli powder**Method**

These instructions are for 1 ear of corn. If you want to microwave more than 1 ear at a time, increase the cooking time by 2 minutes for every additional ear of corn, depending on the power of your microwave and the size of your ears of corn. You may need to experiment to find the right time for your microwave.



1. Place the corn in the microwave, do not remove the husk. Microwave the corn on the high setting for 4 minutes.

Note that every microwave is different. If this timing over-cooks the corn in your microwave, reduce it to 2 to 3 minutes the next time.

2. Use a kitchen towel or pot holder to remove corn from the microwave (it's hot!) Cut off the bottom of the corn, stem end, about one row of corn in from the stem.

3. Remove the husk: Slip off the husk and silk.

Quick Rice Pudding

Prep Time 5 mins Cook 5 mins Serves 4

450g pkt microwavable white rice
2 tbsp caster sugar
1 tsp vanilla extract
300ml thickened cream1/3 cup (80g) Coles Raspberry Jam or Coles
Strawberry Jam
1 tbsp coarsely chopped pistachios**Step 1**

Heat the rice following packet directions. Transfer to a heat-proof bowl. Sprinkle with the sugar. Add vanilla and 3/4 cup (185ml) of the cream and stir to combine.

Step 2

Divide rice mixture evenly among four 1-cup (250ml) microwave-safe bowls. Cook in the microwave on high for 2 minutes or until heated through.

Step 3

Top the rice mixture with a dollop of jam and use a spoon to gently marble. Drizzle with the remaining cream and sprinkle with pistachio.





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31 Martin Street

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Pop into the store and try some of our delicious pies, pasties and sausage rolls. Freshly baked bread, cakes and slices.

Treat yourself to an Amanti coffee or Hot Chocolate and browse our everchanging giftware and local produce.

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Monday - CLOSED

Tuesday to Friday - 7.30am - 2.00pm

Saturday - 8.00am - 2.00pm

Sunday - CLOSED

Café/Bakery

110 Bell Street, Penshurst

penshurststore@gmail.com

COUNCIL NOTICEBOARD



BUCKLEY SWAMP RECREATION RESERVE COMMITTEE INCORPORATED

At the request of the Department of Energy, Environment, and Climate Action, a public meeting will be held at the Buckley Swamp Hall on Wednesday 18 March 2026 at 7.30pm.

The purpose of this meeting is to receive nominations from not less than three or more than nine persons for appointment of a Committee of Management for the Buckley Swamp Recreation Reserve Committee Incorporated for the next three year period.

www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au
fb.com/southerngrampiansshirecouncil
 Phone: (03) 5573 0444

TONY DOYLE
 CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Let's try some really old puns

- “What is the difference between a beehive and a diseased potato? None at all; as one is a beeholder [beholder], the other a speck’d tatur [spectator].”
- “What is the best way to kill ants? Hit your uncle’s wife on the head with a hammer!”
- “What is the best way of making a coat last? Make the trousers and waistcoat first.”
- “What grows bigger the more you contract it? Debt!”
- “When is the soup most likely to run out of the saucepan? When there’s a leak in it.”
- “Why is the letter D like a hoop of gold? Because we can’t be wed without it!”
- “What’s the difference between cake and wine? One is sometimes tipsy, but the other is always drunk!”



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Jordy Anthony 0407 649 925

Dillon Dawson 0438 054 593

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The whole world is upside-down
 Starting a new chapter can bring about anxiety
 and worry about the unknown.
 However, instead of worrying about what
 could go wrong, try thinking about what could
 go right instead!
 Julia Fryer

DAN TEHAN

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WANNON



My office can assist you with information about Federal Government services including:

- ✔ Centrelink
- ✔ National Disability Insurance Scheme (NDIS)
- ✔ Pensions and My Aged Care
- ✔ Medicare
- ✔ Australian Taxation Office (ATO)
- ✔ Veterans' Affairs
- ✔ Immigration, citizenship and passports
- ✔ Australia Post
- ✔ Telecommunications (broadband and mobile coverage)



Please fill out my 30 second survey

Dan Listens, Dan Cares, Dan Delivers!

Hamilton: 190 Gray Street, Hamilton VIC 3300
 Warrnambool: 158 Koroit Street, Warrnambool VIC 3280
 ☎ 1300 131 692 ✉ dan.tehan.mp@aph.gov.au
 🌐 dantehan.com.au 📘 DanTehanWannon 📷 dantehan
 Authorised by Dan Tehan MP, Liberal, 190 Gray St, Hamilton VIC 3300.



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If you feel something calling you to dance, write, paint or sing, please refuse to worry about whether you're good enough. Just do it!

Glennon Doyle

Coastal PEST MANAGEMENT

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TREVOR HIRST 0439 375 445
 trevor.hirst@outlook.com

Coastal PEST MANAGEMENT

TREVOR HIRST 0439 375 445
 trevor.hirst@outlook.com

Community Calendar & Contacts**Boram Boram Cemetery Trust**

- Contact Jeff Jellie 0407 781 407 or Sue 0418 141 301

Caramut & District Garden Club

- 2nd Tuesday monthly at 10 am. See Garden Notes for venue or contact Marita 0439 669 839

Penshurst Hospital

- Combined Churches service 3rd Tuesday every month in W.J. Lewis wing at 11 am.
- Residents, Relatives & Carers group, bi-monthly, 1:30 pm.

Penshurst Social Support Group

- WDHS meets every Thursday; for Exercise, Activities, Outings and General chit chat. Join us for lots of fun & laughter, Sheppard Centre, - Penshurst Hospital. Please contact the Social Support Group Coordinator on 5551 8381 Or @ WDHS on 55518683

Mount Rouse & District Historical Society

- Meetings - 4th Sunday in January, March, May, July, September and November, 2pm at the Court House. New members are most welcome. Contact the Secretary 0418 141 301. The Court House open for Visitors 1st Saturday each month 9.30 am to 12.30 pm.

Friends Yatmerone Reserve

- 7.30 pm Community Room behind the Volcano Discovery Centre
2026 Meeting Dates: Bi-monthly 2nd Tuesday commencing: 10 March, 12 May, 14 July, 8 September, 10 November and 8 December.
- New members welcome.

Lions Club of Penshurst & District

- 1st Friday dinner meeting. 3rd Tuesday business meeting, each month at 8 pm. Venue TBA penshurst.vic@lions.org.au

Penshurst Book Club - meets 3rd Tuesday each month at 2pm. Contact Ruth Pihl on 0490418313



AmbulanceVictoria

The Penshurst Branch is staffed by local Ambulance Community Officers (ACOs).

Ambulance Victoria is looking for people to join the Penshurst team. If you are interested in becoming an ACO or would like further information, please follow the link below.

<https://www.ambulance.vic.gov.au/careers/become-a-first-responder/>

If you would like to chat to a local ACO, please email penshurst.teamleader@ambulance.vic.gov.au

Penshurst Bowls Club

- Pennant Season (October - February) meets 1st Thursday at 7.30pm
Alaister 0427 555 973
- Off Season 1st Tuesday at 7.30pm.

Penshurst Pony Club Rally

- 1st Sunday each month.
Contact Jenni 0409 962 969
- **Rouse Roundup Stockmans Challenge**
Sunday 22nd March -
Racecourse Reserve

PPA (Penshurst Progress Association)

4th Wednesday of every second month at 7pm (Jul, Sep, Nov, Jan, Mar, May) –
Community meeting at the Memorial Hall
Committee meetings – as required

COMMUNITY MARKETS

Sunday 3 May, 11 October & 13 December

- **CWA**
4th Tuesday of the month at 7pm.
In the senior citizen Clubrooms.
No meeting in December
- **SENIOR CITIZENS CLUB**
Meets at the Club rooms in Bell Street.
Bingo last Tuesday each month. 1.45pm.
- **UKULELE GROUP**
Meets every Sunday at the Senior Citizens from 2pm until 3pm - Contact Paul 0402 902 013 for more Information

Penshurst Church Services on the back page

What's On Around Mt Rouse - MARCH 2026

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
23	24	25	26	27	28	01
	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm BINGO! @Senior Citizens Club 1:45pm CWA 7pm		WDHS Social Support Activity Group 10am Mobile Library 3-4pm		Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm Ukulele Class	Lutheran Church Tabor 10am Pensurst Pony Club Rally Ukulele Rehearsal 2pm
02	03	04	05	06	07	08
	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm Total Lunar Eclipse 10:33pm		WDHS Social Support Activity Group 10am	Lions Club Dinner 6pm	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm <i>Historical Society @ CourtHouse Open Day</i> 9:30am-12:30pm	Lutheran Church Tabor 10am Uniting Church Service 11am Catholic Church Mass 5pm Penshurst Market 9am-
09	10	11	12	13	14	15
	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm Caramut & District Garden Club 10am <i>Friends of Yatmerone 7:30pm</i>		WDHS Social Support Activity Group 10am Mobile Library 3-4pm		Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm	Lutheran Church Tabor 10am Catholic Church Lay Service 8:30am Ukulele Rehearsal 2pm
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm Penshurst Hospital Combined Church Service 11am <i>Penshurst Book Club 2pm</i> Lions Club Meeting 7:30pm		WDHS Social Support Activity Group 10am	Community Pot Luck Dinner 6:15pm - All Welcome	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm 22nd March Rouse Roundup Stockmans Challenge Racecourse Reserve	Lutheran Church Tabor 10am Uniting Church Service 11am Anglican Church Mass 5pm Penshurst Bowls Club Presentation 1-8pm Historical Society 2pm Ukulele Rehearsal 2pm
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm CWA 7pm	(PPA) Penshurst Progress Association Meeting 7pm	WDHS Social Support Activity Group 10am Mobile Library 3-4pm		Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm	Lutheran Church Tabor 10am Ukulele Rehearsal 2pm
30	31	01	02	03	04	05
	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm BINGO! @Senior Citizens Club 1:45pm		WDHS Social Support Activity Group 10am	GOOD FRIDAY	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm <i>Historical Society @ CourtHouse Open Day</i> 9:30am-12:30pm	EASTER SUNDAY Lutheran Church Tabor 10am Pensurst Pony Club Rally

For the young and young at heart

4 Letters

- beef
- eggs
- fish
- lamb
- milk

7 Letters

- cabbage
- chicken
- lettuce
- oranges
- risotto

Word Fit - fit
the word on
the left into
the puzzle.

5 Letters

- beans
- pasta
- salad
- sweet
- toast

sausage

9 Letters

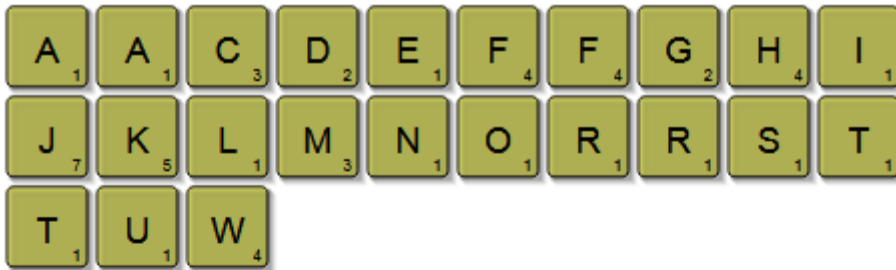
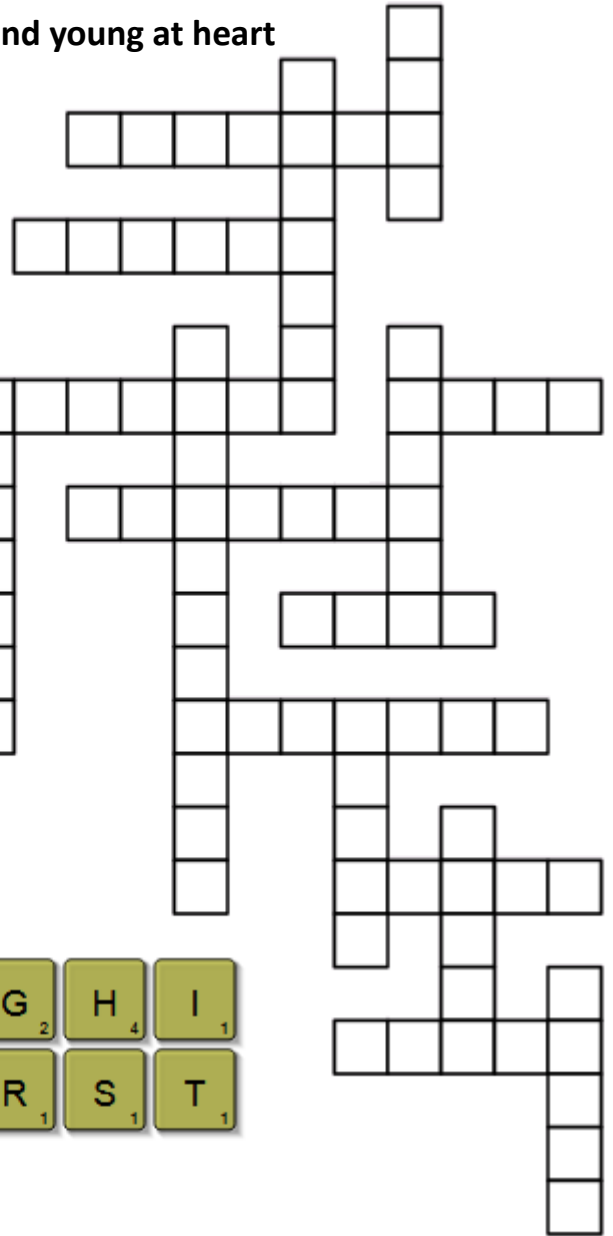
chocolate

11 Letter

marshmallow

6 Letters

- apples
- lemons



Write your words here:

Words	Points	Words	Points	Words	Points
.....	—	—	—
.....	—	—	—
.....	—	—	—
.....	—	—	—
.....	—	—	—
.....	—	—	—
.....	—	—	—
.....	—	—	—
.....	—	—	—
.....	—	—	—
.....	—	—	—
.....	—	—	—

Create as many words with the letters on the tiles. You can use all the tiles for each word.

You are not allowed to use any extra letters. If you have 2 tiles with the letter 'A', your word can not have more than

2 A's Good Luck!

Mt Rouse News & Views
Community Newsletter

Published by
Mt Rouse Community Newsletter Inc

ABN 95 801 619 635

Registered Address: 103 Cobb Street,
Penshurst 3289

Submissions: 46 Watton Street.

**DEADLINE FOR CURRENT SUBMISSIONS -
Saturday 21st March 2026**

The newsletter will be published on
Wednesday fortnightly and we would
appreciate submissions at the earliest
possible time within the fortnight but
no later than the Saturday immediately
prior to the Wednesday of publishing.

Editor : Ama Cooke

0402 870 738

All correspondence to:
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Also available in colour online at
[https://mtrousenewsletter.org.au/
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continuing support of our
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Penshurst Church Services

Bethlehem Lutheran Church Tabor

Service every Sunday 10.00am

Penshurst Anglican Church

5pm Mass 4th Sunday each month

For further details contact
Fr. David Oulton 0435867040

St Andrew's Uniting Church Penshurst

2nd & 4th Sunday

11am Service

St Joseph's Catholic Church Penshurst

1st Sunday No Service

2nd Sunday Mass 5pm

3rd Sunday Lay Service 8.30am

4th Sunday Mass 5pm

5th Sunday No Service

"Dare to courageous in life.
You have nothing to lose."

— Lailah Gifty Akita



Mobile Library

Will be visiting Penshurst
every Thursday fortnight

3.00 - 4.00pm

Outside the Hall in Martin St

12 & 26 March

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