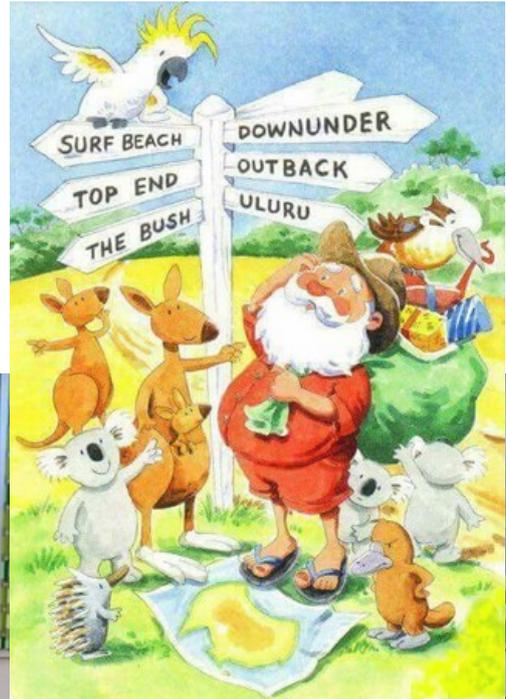


# MT ROUSE News & Views



## Community Newsletter

*There's no place like home at Christmas*



Penshurst  
Combined Churches  
Christmas Carols  
2025



***Wishing everyone a wonderful Christmas & New Year***

*This colour front page sponsored by Brian O'Brien. Thank you.*

Senior citizens celebrate Christmas with the Ukelele group



More page 4

Emma **KEALY MP**

NATIONALS MEMBER  
FOR LOWAN



**Wishing everyone  
a very safe and  
happy festive  
season.**

*Merry Christmas!*

 34 Firebrace St, Horsham

 5382 0097

 [emma.kealy@parliament.vic.gov.au](mailto:emma.kealy@parliament.vic.gov.au)

### Mount Rouse Historical Society Advances with New Tech Upgrade

Funding through the Southern Grampians Shire Council's Community Partnership Program has enabled the Mt Rouse & District Historical Society to upgrade its technology with a new computer, software and CD/DVD reader - critical tools for digitising and managing its growing collection of historical materials.

The upgrade addresses an urgent need to replace outdated equipment that has limited the Society's ability to respond to increasing public interest and online enquiries. The Historical Society operates as a not-for-profit organisation and relies on grants and community support to update and maintain its collection.



"This grant is transforming how we preserve and share our local history, making it more accessible to everyone, everywhere" said Historical Society President Robert Collins. "We extend our thanks to the Southern Grampians Shire for the grant and their ongoing support"

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor and local Penshurst resident Dennis Heslin visited the History Centre last Saturday, on the Open Day, to view the new equipment and chat with researchers about the archives and collection. "It's fantastic to see how this grant is helping preserve our region's history. By making the archives easier to access, we're ensuring that future generations can learn from and celebrate the stories that shaped our region" Mayor Heslin said.

The Southern Grampians Shire Council Community Partnership Grants Round Two 2025/2026 application will open Monday 12 January 2026 and close Monday 16 February 2026.



From the left: Mt Rouse Historic Society 's Phil Doherty, Mary Johnson, Val Heffernan, Rob Collins and Mayor Dennis Heslin, SGSC.

.. From page 2 ..

The music was wonderful as the Seniors celebrated Christmas in comfort thanks to a grant from the Southern Grampians Shire Council for new chairs.



Who is this masked man? Catch him on page 6

# Penshurst Post Office

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas



Postal Services

Stationery

2026 Diaries

Bank @ Post

Cards and Gifts

Collectables

Gift Wrapping

Tech Accessories

New range of Craft Supplies

Books

Post Office Boxes



Peace on Earth and Good Will to all people.



The crowd enjoyed taking parts in many traditional carols

Above: Tabor Mens Choir

Right: Penshurst Ukelele group

Below: MC: Ray Allan  
Keyboard: Jill Walkenhorst



Celebrating Penshurst's 58th year of Christmas Carols, coming together in Peace and Reconciliation.

From the editor -

Well, it's certainly been a very quick year. It seems like only yesterday when January dashed around the corner, jumped on the band wagon and headed into outer space. Now, with our usual unpredictable December, we are contemplating the changes we want to make next year, while cleaning up the ones that challenged us this year. The newsletter has prospered, been colourful and useful, and is recognised as a communication tool by the town. We thank you all for the helpful and kind feedback, your generosity that allows us the many colour-filled pages, and the sharing of your experiences and beliefs, that has added to the variety of the contents. The ads have also continued to increase and change. They are what allows us to bring each edition to you all for free. Long may it be so!



**Sewing Group**

**Wednesday**  
**10am - 12noon**  
**Penshurst Store**  
**Bell Street**

**Grab a snack and join**  
**the conversation**  
**Starts 3 December**

**From all of us on the newsletter team - we wish you a Happy Christmas and a peaceful and prosperous New Year. See you Jan 14.**

**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



Community generosity raised around \$400 for the hospital.

The children's choirs were wonderful. Thank you Tarrington Primary School, St Joseph's and Penshurst Public Schools.

Oh come  
all ye  
faithful



And Santa had quite a stash of lollies .. Even the grownups benefited





# Christmas LIGHTS

There isn't a competition this year - just community Christmas cheer. So hang your lights and decorations and let's make our homes look beautiful for people to enjoy.

Please find the 'Christmas Lights' post on the [Penshurst3289 Facebook page](#) to add your address for people to find your display.

If you don't have Facebook, feel free to text 0451 545 721 to add your address and receive the list of the displays.

Happy to Christmas to you all!



Penshurst Progress Association Inc

## THE PUB COLLECTIVE MONTHLY

Edition No. 1 – December 2025



Welcome to your new and regular pub news update.

As many of you may have noticed, the pub has been ‘closed until further notice’ sparking some confusion around town. We have since been advised by our solicitors that for the duration of winding up Rebecca’s estate, there is a requirement for her bank accounts and businesses to be closed. Unfortunately, the pub cannot operate again until we finalise the purchase. Rest assured, however, that while we may be experiencing some delays in providing a settlement date, we are still very much on track to buy the pub as a community. Never a dull moment, we will use this format to update you all on the events and progress as it happens.

- The vendors are still in agreement with our purchase price and the community buying the pub.
- We are patiently waiting for Rebecca’s estate to be finalised where final contracts will be signed. With the holiday season approaching, we are not expecting updated contracts from solicitors until sometime into the new year.
- Upon the agreement of a settlement date, we can then officially apply for the transfer of the liquor licence; however, we will not be able to serve alcohol until the liquor licence transfer is completed and we have RSA qualified staff available, or a new leaseholder in effect.
- We will, after signing new contracts and achieving settlement, be able to access the building so everyone can see our beautiful community asset and what needs to be done to reinstate the kitchen, open the bistro etc – we MAY be able to have a BBQ on the back deck with BYO to celebrate the settlement.
- The Peshurst Progress Association in collaboration with nine charitable organisations across town, is running a raffle to give away two shares in the Pub Unit Trust – a 1 in 200 chance of winning! Please note, we wouldn’t be proceeding with this initiative unless we were 100% confident of buying the hotel. Pub raffle tickets are available from the Post Office and other clubs or by contacting Ray on 0451 545 721.
- Raising funds for the total costs of purchase continues to be our No. 1 priority. Total funds are now at \$450k in the bank and accruing interest! \$500k will be needed to settle, still a short way to go. Maybe a share or raffle ticket would make a lovely Christmas gift for a loved one...?

Monthly updates will be posted in the newsletter, on Facebook, emailed to everyone on our contact lists and posted on the noticeboard at the supermarket. Please watch for these updates or come directly to any of us with questions.

Warm Regards,  
Interim Directors of Peshurst Hotel 1861 Pty Ltd  
(Jacqui, Eileen, Ray & Dave).

“Be yourself; everyone else  
is already taken.”

— Oscar Wilde

### Pony Club News

The pony club had a very successful BBQ fundraiser last Saturday at the Peshurst Cup day race meeting.



Winner of the hamper was Annie Mullins.

Thanks to everyone who supported our fundraiser.

5576 5270

Friendly faces & helpful staff ...

**Penshurst Liquor & Grocery Store**



**Open 7 days**

Monday – Friday

6.00am - 8.00pm

Saturday

8.00am - 7.00pm

Sunday

8.00am - 6.00pm

**Christmas Day Trading Hours**

9.00am - 2.00pm



**80 Bell Street, Penshurst**

Sandwiches and lunch packs available  
Order your meat, fresh fruit and vegetables  
by phone for collection at your convenience

**Groceries - Bread - Frozen Food**

**Beer - Wine - Spirits**

*Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas  
& a Happy New Year*

**Penshurst's News Agency**



*Wishing everyone a  
Merry Christmas  
and a Happy New Year.*



**Our Xmas trading hours**

**Normal trading hours apply until Sat 21<sup>st</sup> Dec**

**Open Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> Dec 7.30am-2.00pm**

**Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> Dec 7.30am-2.00pm**

**Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> Dec Xmas Eve  
7.30am-1.00pm**

**Closed from Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> December  
to Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026**

**Re-opening Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> Jan 2026**



**Amanda & Cam Wilson**  
0439 941 942



**Penshurst Store**

Café/Bakery

110 Bell Street, Penshurst

penshurststore@gmail.com



### The question I fear most.

I often find myself asking the Almighty lots of questions. Understandable, inquisitive things like ... What were you thinking when you created tarantulas? How come we seem to be biased towards doing naughty things even though we know that there are fearsome consequences. Why is it so much easier to start a war than it is to finish it? I discover no clear cut, well reasoned answers, which arrive with thunder and lightning, but rather in my dotage I find myself just sitting gently trying to find the answer from within. Like reliable tradies, outside external messenger, angel, seraphim and posties are a rare commodity.

But often it occurs to me that perhaps The Master might have some questions of me, particularly at the end of my life when I know I must give an account of my good things as well as my villainous acts. I don't think The Almighty will ask me for references from 3 reliable witnesses, preferably one from my bishop. No, I think this will be a direct line of questioning just Him and me.

Is it not possible that he might ask me 'What in my name were you thinking when you....*here insert one of my many disappointments....?*'

But it is not this particular line of questioning that I fear the most, excruciating and understandable as it might be.

The question that will make me squirm and writhe is this.

'What did you contribute?' We are given so much and so many chances to share our wealth, energy, talents, compassion, understanding and nourishment with others and to our collective community as a whole. On a daily basis the opportunities are there for the celebrating. I know that I have been given so very much by so many, now it's my turn to do the giving.

### Actually ... it's complicated

We tend to think of Christmass as straightforward, easy and uncomplicated. Baby in the manger, Peace on earth and good will to all. But by the time you scratch away the manky, pooey straw, shush the braying animals, make the bewildered Carpenter a cuppa and mop Mother Mary's brow, you realise actually... Christmass is complicated.

God consciously chose to be born into the murky complexity of our grubbiness. Thank Goodness, for we always find ourselves being biased and tempted towards the dark side. The wrong things always look sparkling and glamorous. Thankfully The Master is born into our yuk, and there he loves us, rejoices with us, rejoices in us.

And in more good news he chooses you and I, that are not at all spectacular or ritzy. He will even use an old gnarly carpenter and a teenage peasant lass to knock on the door of our hardened hearts. He is a God that comes in the unexpected, who surprises us, makes us feel embarrassed and flusters us. We are boggled because he comes and wants to live with us.

"Jesus Master carpenter, when you knock upon the woodenness of our indifference and sloth, give us the will to open the door and greet your arrival with joy. Grant us the strength to open our souls, our lives and our hearts to you. Step across the threshold of our complacency and lodge within us. Weep, dance and laugh with us. Make us uncomfortable, surprise us, disturb us, disquiet us and challenge us. Replenish us when our cup has run dry and when we are famished nourish us with the bread of life. And finally, when our earthly temple collapses in death, bring us to the home you have prepared for us where your eternal banquet goes on forever and ever Amen."

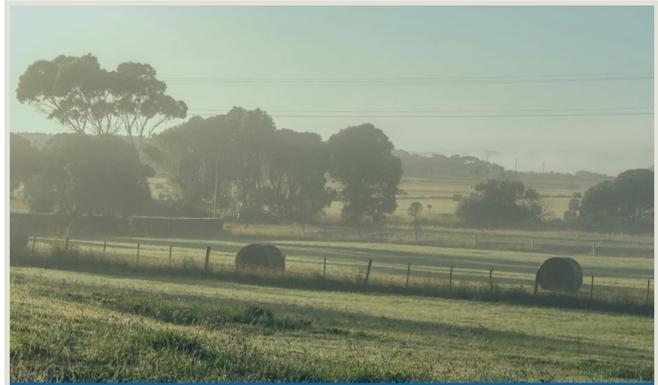
**From the AGM -  
PPA for 2026**

President - Ray Allan - 0451 545 721  
 Vice-President - Kate Orchard - 0408 484 432  
 Secretary - Rob Coates - 0424 900 413  
 Treasurer - Shirley Allan - 0455 288 095

Meetings - 4<sup>th</sup> Wednesday of every second month at 7pm (Jan, Mar, May, Jul, Sep & AGM in Nov).

PPA Markets will be held in March, May, October & December 2026 - dates to be confirmed.

Next Community Connection Event - Australia Day and MonDay FunDay in the Park on 26 Jan 2026 from 10.30am.



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**Stay safe this fire season**

Prepare now to ensure you and your loved ones are ready in an emergency situation.

We have plans in place to protect our water supplies during a bushfire, but these emergencies can put the system under extreme loads. If our facilities or equipment is damaged, we can't guarantee regular water pressure or a continual water supply.

**Help reduce the impact by preparing a fire plan that includes:**



Have an independent water supply, so you don't need to rely on mains water.



Turn off any sprinklers or taps that are connected to town water if leaving your property.

Find out more at [wannonwater.com.au/preparing-for-bushfires/](http://wannonwater.com.au/preparing-for-bushfires/)



**Pub Raffle**

The Penshurst Progress Association raffle to giveaway two shares in the Penshurst Hotel 1861 Pty Ltd Unit Trust, worth \$5,000 each and to raise funds for 10 community groups, has kicked off really well with over half of the tickets already sold.

An anonymous significantly generous person has purchased 100 tickets which will be given away to our community volunteers and over 50 tickets were sold at the Penshurst Cup. The lucky 100 volunteers to get a donated ticket will be drawn on Australia Day. A special thanks goes to this amazing person, whoever you may be, and to Brendan Kelly for organising our marque space at the Cup.

Tickets are still available for \$50 each at the Post Office and you can also text Ray on 0451 545 721 for details and buy one via bank transfer. If you want a ticket get in quick before they are all gone.

To everyone who buys a ticket thank you for your support of both the Penshurst Pub purchase project and the Penshurst community groups and GOOD LUCK in the draw on the 9 Feb 2026.



**Penshurst PUB RAFFLE**

Your chance to win a share of the historic Penshurst Pub!  
Win 1 of 2 First Prizes of a Share in the ownership of the Penshurst Pub worth \$5,000 each!

Only 400 Tickets – so a 1 in 200 chance to WIN!

Fundraising proceeds will be donated equally to 10 Penshurst Community Groups:  
PPA, CWA, CFA, Lions, Seniors Citizens, History Society, VDC, Pony Club, Friends of Yattermore & Memorial Hall

**\$50 a ticket – drawn 9 Feb 26**



Raffle run by the Penshurst Progress Association - Declared Community & Charitable Organisation No. 62851



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David Whyte 0407 347 203

**State Wool Manager**

Lachie Brown 0409 645 915

**LIVESTOCK**

Aaron Malseed 0407 782 286  
Jordy Anthony 0407 649 925  
Dillon Dawson 0438 054 593

**STUD STOCK**

Ross Milne 0408 057 558

**MERINO STUD STOCK & WOOL**

Kevin Beaton 0455 119 711

**FARM SUPPLIES**

Ryan Gerring 0439 699 110  
Damon Hiscock 0439 671 046  
Rob Browne 0427 315 793  
Rod Evans 0498 750 125  
James Whyte 0458 322 094

**AGRONOMY**

Mark Rouse 0473 444 288  
Gabby Redpath 0438 903 123  
Damien Goodman 0438 028 985

**SALES SUPPORT**

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Wendy Kerr 5551 5700  
Annaleace Dohle 5551 5700  
Maggie Craig 0427 976 179

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# DAN TEHAN

FEDERAL MEMBER FOR WANNON



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- ✔ Veterans' Affairs
- ✔ Immigration, citizenship and passports
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Please fill out my 30 second survey

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📞 1300 131 692 📧 dan.tehan.mp@aph.gov.au  
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Authorised by Dan Tehan MP, Liberal, 190 Gray St, Hamilton VIC 3300.

## CHRISTOPHER COOK CONSTRUCTIONS

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**Fax: 5576 5267**



**HIA Reg CB-U 6214**

**DB-U 5109**

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 Penshurst Vic 3289**

## Penshurst Hair Design

Thank you Community of Penshurst and surrounds for having me as your hairdresser for 28 years!!

I'm finishing here on the 18<sup>th</sup> December!!

Will be working from my house in Hamilton as of 6<sup>th</sup> January.

Can't wait to see you there to continue working and catching up

with all of you again. Mandy.

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

SOUTHERN GRAMPPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL

**YOUR COUNCIL,  
YOUR COMMUNITY**

### **DATE SET FOR DEMOLITION WORKS ON LONSDALE STREET**

Demolition at 90-92 Lonsdale Street Hamilton will move ahead with works set to commence 27 January 2026. This marks a major milestone in the ongoing revitalisation of the Hamilton CBD. Warrnambool-based contractor Murrhiy Demolitions will complete demolition works, which will prepare the site for the new Hamilton Library, Digital Hub and Government offices.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin acknowledged the patience shown by the community throughout delays to the site.

“Thank you to everyone for your understanding while we have worked through the necessary planning and legal processes in readying the Lonsdale Street site for demolition,” Cr Heslin said.

“Projects of this scale take careful planning and coordination, and we want the community to feel confident that every stage has been, and will continue to be, completed with community front of mind.

“These buildings have been a part of Hamilton for a long time, and now they will make way for a completely reimagined CBD precinct. The new library, digital hub and government offices will transform the look and feel of the area and modernise the space. We’re really excited to show everyone what’s to come.”

The project will involve the complete demolition of existing structures including the former Toyworld and Mitre 10 buildings, as well as EPA approved asbestos removal, waste management and the eventual levelling of the site. Materials will be disposed of safely, with all relevant certificates provided to Council.

To protect nearby properties, demolition along shared boundaries will be completed by hand, with contractors to carry out roof protection works where needed. Neighbouring businesses will be kept informed ahead of any temporary service interruptions.

The demolition will be broken down into six carefully planned stages over approximately six weeks. This is designed to minimise disruptions as much as possible.

Fencing will be erected at the site from Friday 5 December 2025, with the demolition beginning on Tuesday 27 January 2026.

Council and Murrhiy Demolitions will work closely with those in neighbouring properties to accommodate deliveries and access needs during demolition periods.

Community safety remains the highest priority. The site will be fully fenced and signed, with traffic management in place during short closure periods. Dust suppression, noise minimisation and continuous waste removal will ensure the project is completed with care for both the environment and the surrounding precinct.

“We understand that demolition works can be inconvenient, and we appreciate the patience of those who work nearby,” said Cr Heslin

“This project is a very important investment in the future of our town, and your cooperation will help us to manage that as smoothly and safely as possible.”

If you would like to read more about this project and the future of the Hamilton CBD, check out all the details on our website. To stay up to date with Council plans, consider signing up to our newsletter.

Penshurst Shed



Open Saturday & Tuesday  
10am - 4pm

Wishing everyone a Happy Christmas  
and a prosperous New Year

Contact

Tom Cooke 0488 557 345

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**Coastal**  
PEST MANAGEMENT

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

If 2025 was a maths problem

If you're walking on the icecream, at 150 mgs per toaster and your bicycle loses a sock, how much gravy will you need to repaint your koala?



(Me thinks the editor needs a holiday)

**Answers from last fortnight:**  
**Across:** 2 trunk, 3 trap, 5 product, 8 dramatic, 10 justify, 12 full, 14 revive, 15 throat, 18 demonstrate, 20 sail, 21 theme, 23 girlfriend, 24 overwhelmed, 25 excess. **Down:** 1 dull, 2 timber, 4 revive, 6 complication, 7 palace, 9 sail, 11 tidy, 12 federation, 13 cooperative, 16 virtual, 17 advertise, 19 obscure, 22 earwax.



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 Ben Gay (Merchandise & Logistics) 03 5579 5900  
 Glenn Grey (Willaura) 0439 541 036

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL

**YOUR COUNCIL,  
YOUR COMMUNITY**
**MAKE A REAL DIFFERENCE IN 2026: BECOME AN L2P VOLUNTEER MENTOR**

Volunteering runs deep in the Southern Grampians Shire, where people give their time and energy at rates higher than state or national averages. Looking out for one another has long been part of the character of this region.

The TAC L2P Program is a community-based, learner driver mentor program for eligible young drivers who don't have access to a supervising driver or vehicle, to complete the 120 hours of driving experience required to gain their probationary licence.

Funded by the TAC (Transport Accident Commission) and coordinated locally by Southern Grampians Shire Council, the TAC L2P Program pairs learners with trained volunteer mentors who guide, support and encourage them as they gain confidence and experience on the road.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin praised the program and the volunteers who make it possible.

"Our mentors make a huge difference in the lives of our young people," Cr Heslin said. "The work they do has a lasting impact on the confidence, skills and independence of these young people.

"We're proud to see Mentors coming from across the Shire, from every industry and every walk of life.

"The role of a mentor is so important to the development of these promising young people, helping them to develop skills that they can take with them for life."

All L2P mentors are provided with free, comprehensive training and ongoing support to ensure they are empowered to provide a high level of assistance and encouragement.

To become a L2P volunteer mentor, you must hold a full Victorian driver's licence, have a satisfactory driving history and a current Working with Children's Check. You must also complete a short mentor training session, paid for by the program.

An ideal candidate for a mentorship role will be patient, reliable, and enjoy supporting young people to learn, grow and succeed.

If you're searching for a New Years resolution that really counts, consider becoming a L2P mentor today and support young people in our community to become safe drivers.

Eligible community members can apply online through their MyVicRoads account, or by contacting Council if you would like support with your application. For more information, visit our website and to stay on top of all things Council, sign up to our monthly newsletter.

**Corny Christmas Jokes**

What do you get if you cross a snowman and a dog? Frost-bite.

What's an elf's favourite musical genre? Wrap music.

Why are Christmas trees bad at knitting? They always drop their needles.

What do you give a snowman with a fever? A chill pill.

What do you call Santa when he takes a break? Santa Pause.

Why did the Elf go to school? To improve his elf-abet

What did Frosty's girlfriend give him when she was mad at him? The cold shoulder.

What do gingerbread men use when they break their legs? Candy canes.

Why is everyone thirsty at the North Pole? No well.



Community Partnership Grants

# TOWNS ROADSHOW

ROUND TWO 2025/26

Applications open: 9:00am 12 January 2026

Applications Close: 4:00pm 16 February 2026

|   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <p><b>TUESDAY 3 FEB</b><br/>10:00am - 12:00pm<br/>The Catching Pen,<br/>Coleraine</p> <p><b>TUESDAY 3 FEB</b><br/>1:00pm - 3:00pm<br/>Balmoral Hall</p> | <p><b>WEDNESDAY 4 FEB</b><br/>10:00am - 12:00pm<br/>Cavendish Hall</p> <p><b>WEDNESDAY 4 FEB</b><br/>1:00pm - 3:00pm<br/>Dunkeld Visitor<br/>Information Centre</p> | <p><b>THURSDAY 5 FEB</b><br/>10:00am-12:00pm<br/>Penshurst Hall</p> <p><b>THURSDAY 5 FEB</b><br/>1:00pm-3:00pm<br/>Glenthompson Hall</p> |
| <p><b>FRIDAY 6 FEB</b><br/>10:00am - 11:00am<br/>Tarrington Rec Reserve</p>   | <p><b>FRIDAY 6 FEB</b><br/>12:00pm - 1:00pm<br/>Byaduk Hall</p>   | <p><b>FRIDAY 6 FEB</b><br/>2:00pm - 3:00pm<br/>Braxholme Hall</p>  |

Please contact Council if you would like to book a session time outside these hours.  
Apply online: [www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/grants](http://www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/grants)



Further Information:  
Ph: (03) 5573 0444  
Email: [communitygrants@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au](mailto:communitygrants@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au)

## A PAGE TO SHARE RECIPES

*Christmas Trifle Pavlova*

Prep Time 40 mins    Cook 10 mins    Serves 12

## INGREDIENTS

[www.taste.com.au](http://www.taste.com.au)

2 cups (500ml) thickened cream, whipped to soft peaks

100g Vanilla Meringue Kisses

100g Flavoured Meringue Kisses

## Custard

1½ cups (375ml) full cream milk

1½ cups (375ml) thickened cream

5 extra-large Free Range Egg yolks

½ cup (110g) caster sugar

2 tbsp cornflour

30g unsalted butter, cubed, softened

1 tsp vanilla bean paste or pure vanilla extract

## Macerated fruit

250g cherries, halved, pitted

1 white peach, pitted, cut into 2cm wedges

1 yellow peach, pitted, cut into 2cm wedges

1 white nectarine, pitted, cut into 2cm wedges

1 yellow nectarine, pitted, cut into 2cm wedges

1/4 cup (60ml) lemon juice

1/4 cup (55g) caster sugar

250g raspberries

## Method

Step 1 - To make the custard, place milk and cream in a medium heavy saucepan. Stirring occasionally, bring to a simmer over medium heat.

Step 2 - Meanwhile, in a large heatproof bowl, vigorously whisk egg yolks, sugar and ½ tsp sea salt flakes for 3 mins or until very pale and light. Whisk the cornflour into the egg mixture, then gradually whisk in the hot milk mixture.

Step 3 - Return mixture to a clean saucepan. Cook, whisking constantly, over medium heat for 3 mins or until a few bubbles burst on the surface and custard is thick and glossy. Remove from heat and whisk in the butter and vanilla. Strain the custard through a fine mesh sieve into a shallow container. Quickly cover with plastic wrap, pressing directly onto surface of custard. Chill for 2 hours or until cold and thickened.

Step 4 - To make the macerated fruit, in a bowl, toss the cherries, peaches, nectarines, lemon juice and sugar to coat. Stand at room temperature, tossing occasionally, for 30 mins or until juices form. Gently fold in the raspberries.

Step 5 - Spoon one-third of the cherry mixture into a 12-cup (3L) glass serving dish. Top with one-third of the custard, one-third of the whipped cream and one-quarter of the meringues. Repeat with remaining cherry mixture, custard, whipped cream and two-thirds of the remaining meringues. Chill for 30 mins.

Step 6 - Decorate the trifle with remaining meringues to serve.



What do you call an old snowman? Water.

Why did the scarecrow get a big Christmas bonus? Because he was outstanding in his field.

**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, Tuesday 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 Progress Association (PPA)**

- See back page

**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](mailto:penshurst.teamleader@ambulance.vic.gov.au)

**Penshurst Senior Citizens**

- See back page

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

**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

**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

For the young and young at heart

Complete the puzzle by filling the empty squares.

The rules are:

1. The numbers you can use are from 1 to 9.
2. In each row and in each column each number can appear only once just like in a normal Sudoku.
3. In a region (an area of 3x3 fields see the bold lines) each number can only appear once.
4. The numbers that are printed around the sudoku puzzle in the bold lines are the sum of the first 3 fields next to the sum. The sums in the corners are the sum of the 3 diagonal fields in the region.

|           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |           |
|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| <b>10</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>20</b> | <b>10</b> | <b>15</b> | <b>17</b> |
| <b>17</b> |           |           |           |           |           |           | 5         | 2         | 4         | <b>11</b> |
| <b>16</b> |           | 6         | 2         |           | 4         |           | 9         |           |           | <b>19</b> |
| <b>12</b> |           | 5         | 3         | 7         |           |           |           |           | 8         | <b>15</b> |
| <b>16</b> | 3         | 8         |           |           | 7         |           | 1         |           |           | <b>9</b>  |
| <b>7</b>  | 2         |           |           | 8         | 5         |           |           |           | 7         | <b>19</b> |
| <b>22</b> |           | 7         | 9         | 2         |           |           | 8         |           |           | <b>17</b> |
| <b>16</b> |           | 3         | 6         |           |           |           |           | 8         | 9         | <b>21</b> |
| <b>14</b> |           |           |           | 4         |           | 7         |           | 3         | 6         | <b>11</b> |
| <b>15</b> | 9         |           |           | 3         |           |           | 7         |           | 1         | <b>13</b> |
| <b>16</b> | <b>21</b> | <b>6</b>  | <b>18</b> | <b>12</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>17</b> | <b>13</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>16</b> | <b>8</b>  |



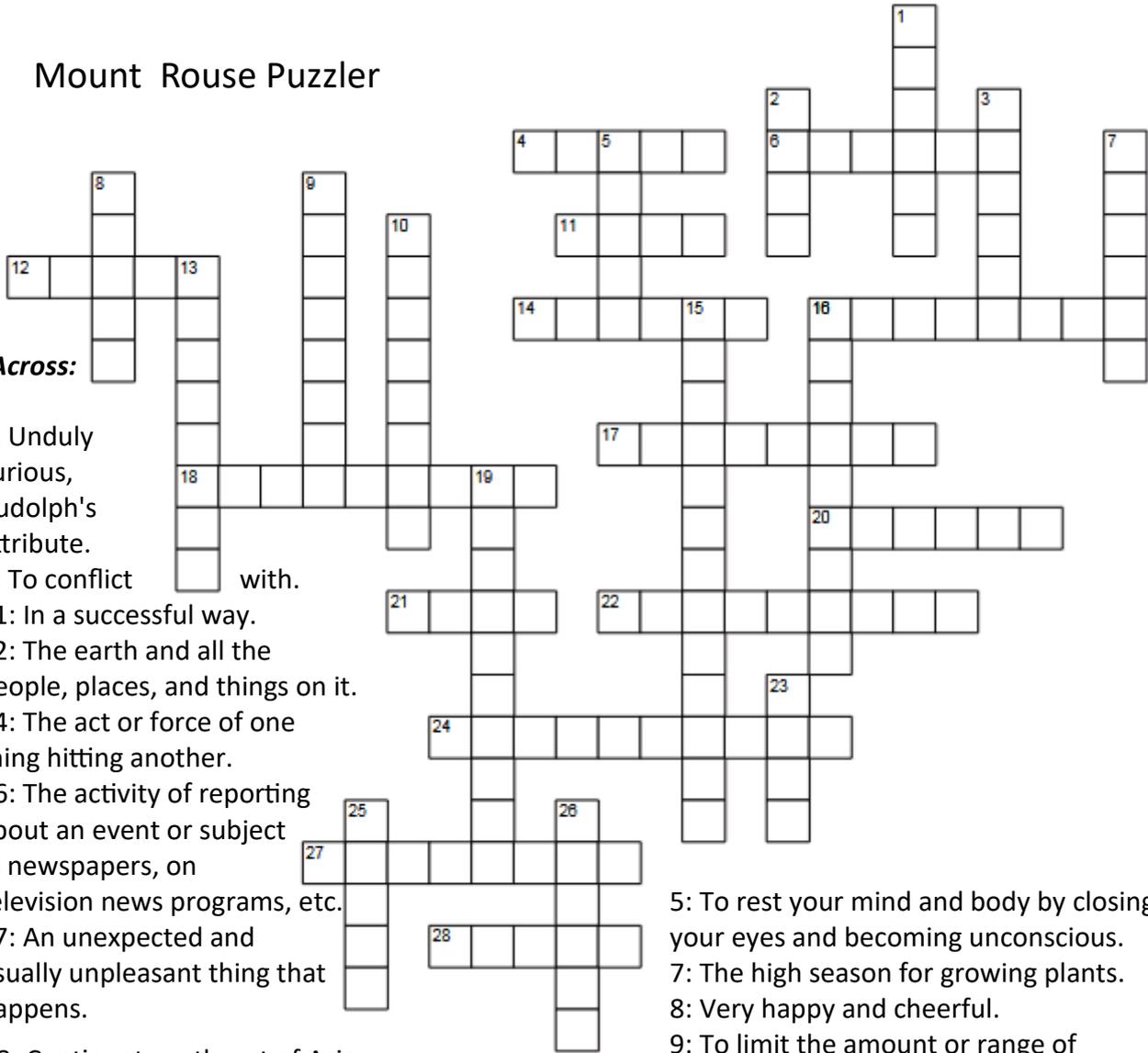
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| k | n | h | g | s | a |
| a | l | c | e | i | h |
| p | w | h | d | d | j |

f p t l f i g a m x  
 c h r i s t m a s o  
 a z e e n s n n s l  
 r s e m s g e n e y  
 o w d a e e o s v d  
 l s n r e b n c o n  
 s t i g b i g t l a  
 a a e i t a i q s c  
 m r r u d o l p h i  
 s s n a m w o n s t

Can you find the 15 Christmas words hidden above?

Left: Imagine you're a knight in chess. Knights move in a special way; first two steps in one direction (up, down, left, or right) and then one step in a different direction. Just like a L-shape. Your mission is to find the word(s) in the puzzle. Choose a square in the puzzle, then you 'jump as a knight' to the next tile to find the next letter of the word. You can step only 1 time on a square. If you can't make a word, choose another square as starting point.

Mount Rouse Puzzler



**Across:**

- 4: Unduly curious, Rudolph's attribute.
- 6: To conflict with.
- 11: In a successful way.
- 12: The earth and all the people, places, and things on it.
- 14: The act or force of one thing hitting another.
- 16: The activity of reporting about an event or subject in newspapers, on television news programs, etc.
- 17: An unexpected and usually unpleasant thing that happens.
- 18: Continent southeast of Asia.
- 20: A story that gives information about something.
- 21: Pieces of ice that fall from clouds like rain.
- 22: A Christian holiday in honour of the birth of Jesus Christ or the period of time that comes before and after this holiday.
- 24: Done by using a careful and organized procedure.
- 27: Expressing gratitude.
- 28: Located below another or others of the same kind.

**Down:**

- 1: Red, blue, green, yellow, etc.
- 2: A large room containing many beds, for example in a boarding school.
- 3: Red, grey or white spicy ingredient in many forms.

- 5: To rest your mind and body by closing your eyes and becoming unconscious.
- 7: The high season for growing plants.
- 8: Very happy and cheerful.
- 9: To limit the amount or range of something.
- 10: A physical or mental condition that may limit what a person can do.
- 13: More important, powerful, or successful than most or all others.
- 15: Clear focus for a measure of time.
- 16: To take part in special enjoyable activities in order to show that a particular occasion.
- 19: The act of demanding something or saying something in a way that does not allow disagreement.
- 23: The planet that is fourth in order from the sun.
- 25: An arrangement of hair made by weaving three sections together.
- 26: A building where artwork is kept and the public are able to come and see it.

Mt Rouse News & Views  
Community Newsletter

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Penshurst 3289

Submissions: 46 Watton Street.

**DEADLINE FOR CURRENT SUBMISSIONS -  
Saturday 10th January 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**

All correspondence to:  
mtrousenewsletter@gmail.com

Also available in colour online at  
[www.penshurstvictoria.com.au/  
Penshurst%20Newsletter.html](http://www.penshurstvictoria.com.au/Penshurst%20Newsletter.html)

**Newsletter Advertising Rates**

Per Issue from Jan 2025

**Full page B&W** \$22

**Full page colour** \$52

**1/2 page** \$15

**1/3 page** \$9.50 (base only)

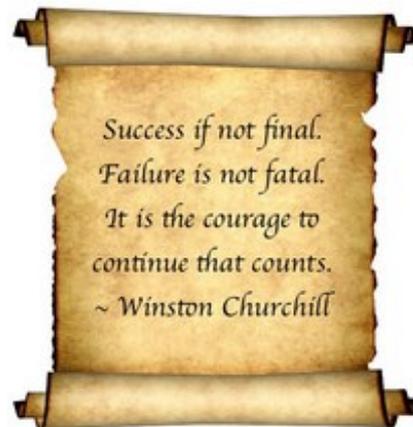
**1/4 page** \$7.50

**Business Card** \$5

Our newsletter is free due to the  
continuing support of our  
advertisers. Thank you.

**Community Calendar Dates**

- **PPA**  
4th Wednesday of every second month at  
7pm (Jul, Sep, Nov, Jan, Mar, May) –  
Community meeting at the Memorial Hall  
Committee meetings – as required
- **CWA**  
4th Tuesday of the month at 7pm.  
In the senior citizen Clubrooms.  
No meeting in December



**Mobile Library**

Will be visiting Penshurst  
every Thursday fortnight  
3.00 - 4.00pm

**Outside the Hall in Martin St**

4th & 19th December

**Phone: 5573 0470**

[www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/library](http://www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/library)

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK  
GREATER HAMILTON LIBRARY**



# Australia Day

## *Penshurst Citizen of the Year 2025*

An important part of our Australia Day celebration is the recognition of our

### **Penshurst Citizen of the Year**

Who do you consider deserves to be recognised for their hard work and dedication to the town and its residents?

Fill in this nomination form and drop it to the Penshurst Post Office or in the letterbox at the Memorial Hall, 21 Martin Street by the 9 January 2026.

Name of Nominee: .....

Reason for Nomination: .....

.....

.....

.....

Your name: .....

Contact details: .....

(All information is kept strictly confidential)

# PENSHURST CELEBRATES



**Australia Day**

**MONDAY 26<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY**

**10.30 AM**

**PENSHURST BOTANIC GARDENS**

**EVERYONE WELCOME!**

**FLAG RAISING CEREMONY**

**GUEST SPEAKER -**

**LIVE MUSIC**

**PENSHURST CITIZEN OF THE YEAR AWARD**

**FREE LION'S CLUB COMMUNITY LUNCH**

**FOLLOWED BY GAMES IN THE PARK – CRICKET ETC**



Organised by the Peshurst Progress Association  
with assistance from the  
Southern Grampians Shire Council





# Monday FunDay & BBQ in the Park

Monday 26 Jan 2026 - 12 noon to 4pm

in the Botanical Gardens

(after the Australia Day Service at 10.30am)

**Everyone Welcome – Please Come Along!**

Come along to our fourth Community Connection Event and catch up with old friends, make new friends, listen to some live music, sing some karaoke, have a dance, face painting for the kids (gold coin), have a chat and some fun.

Hopefully the temperature will be over 23 degrees, so the pool is open!

Games for the kids (& adults) – Big Chess, Checkers, Connect 4, Jenga, Tug-O-War, Skittles, Quoits, Corn Hole, Cricket, Soccer and lots more.



**FREE BBQ lunch by the Penshurst Lions Club**

BYO a bottle of wine or a beer or two, and chairs.

**Please have a Designated Driver – if drinking – NO DRINK DRIVING!**

See you there to connect, share and have some fun!

Supported by two Southern Grampians Shire Council Partnership Grants  
'Community Connection Events & Kid's Fun Activities'.





## Penshurst Progress Association – Event Games Rental Form

The PPA has the following list of large games for kids (and adults) available for rent for **\$2 per game per 24 hours** (to a max of \$50 for all) for other community group events, birthdays, local school & kindergarten events, etc.

*100% of all proceeds will go towards repairs/upgrades to the Penshurst Memorial Hall.*

Games available are Chess, Tic-Tac-Toe, Naughts & Crosses, Checkers, Jenga x 2, Dominoes, Quoits, Skittles, Potato Sack race, Egg & Spoon Race, Bocce, Number Toss, Rope Toss, Corn Hole, Connect4 & Tug-O-War. Also, as box of Board Games. Full list on next page.



---

### Rental Request Details

Dates: From: \_\_\_\_\_ to: \_\_\_\_\_ Total No of Game: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Days: \_\_\_\_\_

Renter: Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Location of Event: \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Event: \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Cost:** \$\_\_\_\_\_ Total cost to be paid to PPA account minimum of two days prior to the event – Acct Name: PProgress Association – BSB: 633 000 – Acct No: 212997936

Your reference for payment will be: **Your name + PPA GAMES + Hire Dates**

---

*Once this form is completed, scan and email to Ray Allan – PPA President at [RRAllan1962@hotmail.com](mailto:RRAllan1962@hotmail.com)*

*An email with confirmation of the dates requested being available (or not due to being used for a PPA market, community event or already pre-booked by someone else) will be sent for confirmation of your booking, and where and when to collect the games.*

*All games are packed into labelled carry bags and roller boxes and must be cleaned (if required) and repacked into the correct bag or box as per list on back of this form.*

*Upon return of games to the PPA the cost to replace any missing or damaged pieces will be charged to the renter at cost price (including shipping costs as required).*

Supported by a Southern Grampians Shire Council kid's activities grant.



## Big Games List

Large outdoor Connect 4  
Cricket Set, Soccer Ball &  
Paddle Ball Game

### Bags 1 & 2

Large outdoor Chess/  
Checkers set & fold up  
board

### Box 1

Tug-O-War  
Egg & Spoon  
Sack Race  
Naughts & Crosses  
Skittles  
Quits

### Box 2

2 x Jenga

### Box 3

Checkers  
Connect4 Pieces  
Dominos  
Bocce  
Rope Toss  
Number Toss

### Box 4

Board Games  
Line Up 4  
Twister  
Snakes & Ladders  
Mastermind  
Dominoes  
Headbands  
Giant UNO  
Jenga  
Who Is It  
Pictionary  
Chess & Checkers