

MT ROUSE News & Views



Community Newsletter

Yatmerone Community Evening



What's living in Penshurst's waterways?

What can a simple bottle of water reveal about the fish and other creatures living in our local creeks, rivers and wetlands? Penshurst residents can find out at Penshurst's Living Waterways, a free community evening at the Penshurst Volcanoes Discovery Centre on Tuesday, October 13.

What's living in Penshurst's waterways? (continued from front page)

Scientist Josh Griffiths will explain the fascinating science of environmental DNA, or eDNA – a monitoring technique that can detect aquatic species from tiny traces of DNA they leave behind in the water.

But Friends of Yatmerone is also interested in what locals know. The group is beginning a project to collect local history, stories and memories of the waterways around Penshurst and their plants and animals. During the evening, there will be an opportunity for people to share what they remember – whether it is fish and frogs, birdlife, swimming holes, springs, floods or changes they have noticed over the years.

The community talk forms part of a broader project investigating aquatic life in waterways around Penshurst. The project combines eDNA sampling with macroinvertebrate monitoring – studying the tiny waterbugs and other creatures whose presence can provide important clues about waterway health.

Local primary school students will also become creek scientists for a morning at Penshurst Botanical Gardens, working alongside Josh Griffiths and macroinvertebrate scientist Kylie Waller to discover what lives in their local waterways and what these species can tell us about their health.

By combining scientific monitoring, education and local knowledge, Friends of Yatmerone hopes to build a richer picture of Penshurst's waterways – what lives there now, what lived there in the past, and how they have changed over time.

Penshurst's Living Waterways begins at 7pm, Tuesday, October 13, in the Eccles Room at the Penshurst Volcanoes Discovery Centre. RSVP by October 9 to Mary Johnson 0403 530 808, friendsofyatmerone@gmail.com.

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

SEWERAGE FOR PENShurst

OUR TOWN CANNOT GROW WITHOUT ESSENTIAL WASTEWATER
INFRASTRUCTURE

WHY THIS CAMPAIGN EXISTS

While efforts to raise awareness have come from many within the township, residents as a whole did not know Council had released the draft or invited feedback. This campaign was established by residents David Bull and Jacqueline Norris to inform the community that the plan exists, provide a simpler way to understand and respond to the issue, and demonstrate support for a sewerage solution.

THIS IS NOT ABOUT WHO STARTED THE PETITION

It is about what Council is proposing for Penshurst and whether residents are willing to have a say before decisions are made. It is not a political organisation, commercial service or Council initiative. It is a community campaign about the future of Penshurst.

PENShurst NEEDS VISIBLE LEADERSHIP

This issue also requires visible leadership from our elected Council representatives. Residents deserve to hear clearly how their representatives understand the draft, what protections they expect for Penshurst, and what action they will support toward a long-term sewerage solution.

BUSINESSES NEED YOUR SUPPORT

Our shops and services must be able to operate properly within the limited footprints they currently occupy. Without suitable wastewater infrastructure, their ability to improve, expand and meet the community's needs remains constrained. Some businesses have been unable to reopen because of this very issue. Businesses need residents, visitors and investment - and that growth requires appropriate infrastructure.

WHAT WE ARE ASKING FOR

- Recognise that maintenance and compliance cannot overcome constrained lot sizes.
- Investigate practical sewerage options, costs and long-term benefits transparently.
- Protect practical pathways for existing homes and businesses to repair, rebuild and operate.
- Pursue a coordinated solution and funding across Council, Wannon Water and the Victorian and Federal governments before any proposal is put to the community.
- Any future proposal must be affordable, transparent and developed with the community.

Signing does not commit residents to a particular sewerage design, provider or household charge. Every signature strengthens the evidence that Penshurst wants investigation, government funding and a long-term solution.



PETITION

MAKE YOUR OWN DECISION

Sign the petition: sewerage.penshurst.au
Then, if possible, also give feedback directly to Council
by 27 September 2026.



COUNCIL FEEDBACK

SILENCE IS STILL A CHOICE

DOING NOTHING WILL NOT PRESERVE THE STATUS QUO

If the plan is adopted, it will guide Council's future decisions whether you participated in the consultation or not. Statewide environmental requirements for onsite wastewater management have strengthened. Council must therefore plan for tighter standards and risk controls. Penshurst's lot sizes and site constraints make those requirements difficult to meet through onsite systems alone.

You do not have to agree with this campaign or sign the petition, but please do not remain silent because you believe this issue does not affect you, your own septic system is working or your land size is not affected. The outcome of this plan will affect the entire town, including friends, businesses and neighbours alike.

Read the information. Ask questions. Decide for yourself.

REASONS PEOPLE MAY HESITATE

"My septic works." Council's draft identifies widespread wastewater problems across Penshurst. A system that still drains is not necessarily operating safely or meeting current requirements. Under strengthened EPA standards, many systems may require assessment, upgrading or replacement. Assuming yours works does not mean Council will agree.	"I don't want to pay more." Rejecting sewerage does not make the cost disappear. Without a coordinated solution, individual owners may carry the cost of assessments, upgrades, replacement systems or ongoing offsite wastewater removal themselves.
"My property is not affected." You do not live in isolation from the town around you. Constraints on housing, rebuilding and business premises affect Penshurst's services, customers, investment and long-term viability - including the value of remaining here.	"We have been through this before." The problem remains because it was never resolved. Previous studies should shorten the path to a funded solution, not justify another delay. If the community remains silent, the issue can be deferred again.

THIS DECISION IS ALREADY MOVING FORWARD

Council must decide how wastewater risks will be managed in Penshurst. The plan may guide future decisions whether residents participate or remain silent.

A well-maintained septic system cannot create more land.

Signing takes only a few minutes. If you do not support the petition, please provide your own feedback directly to Council.

Every signature strengthens the evidence for government investment in Penshurst.

Source: Southern Grampians Shire Council, Draft Onsite Wastewater Management Plan 2026-2031: Penshurst OCR Risk Map, lot-size guidance and township-prioritisation assessment.



PETITION

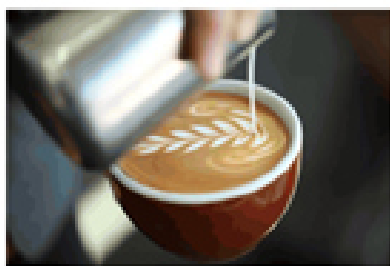
MAKE YOUR OWN DECISION

Sign the petition: sewerage.penshurst.au
Then, if possible, also give feedback directly to Council
by 27 September 2026.



COUNCIL FEEDBACK

SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER PENSHURST COMMUNITY SPRING MARKET



**9am until 1pm at the
Penshurst
Community Hall**

**Local fresh produce,
plants, arts and
crafts, artisan
products, Lions BBQ
and great coffee.**

**CWA Devonshire
teas in the Hall
dining room**

**Live music from
Peter Cook and
Peter Milburn and
the Penshurst
Ukulele Group**

If you are interested in a
vendors stall please see
our Penshurst 3289
Market facebook page



PENSHURST LIONS CLUB

PARK WALK

A relaxed Sunday walk for our community

NEXT SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER - 10AM

Then the first Sunday of every month at Penshurst Botanic Gardens

GET ACTIVE. MEET PEOPLE. ENJOY THE PARK.

Bring your dog, bring a friend - or simply come along and say hello.

Easy-going, social and open to everyone.

FIRST SUNDAY

10AM

Monthly social park walk

**FREE CUPPA
& MORNING TEA**

EVERYONE

WELCOME

Walk at your own pace

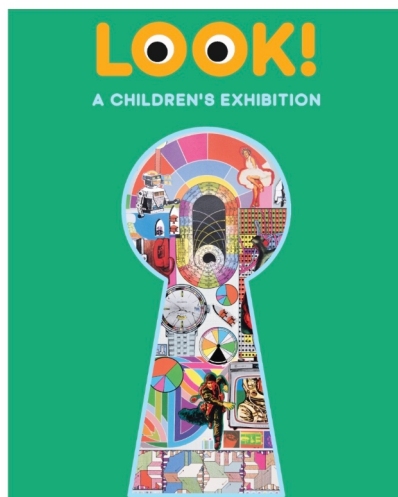


PROUDLY SUPPORTING
Lions Assistance Dogs
lionsassistedogs.com.au

HG HAMILTON
GALLERY

SHOP 71

MENU



LOOK! A Children's Exhibition invites young visitors to explore all the different ways we can see the world. Every day we look at hundreds of things, but do we all see the same things? There are no right or wrong answers. What you see might be different from what someone else sees - and that is what makes looking so interesting. *LOOK!* explores colour, art and new ways of seeing the world around us.

One thing we all have to agree on,
Penshurst is windy.

"I can't change the direction of the wind, but I can
adjust my sails to always reach my destination."

Jimmy Dean

"Kites rise highest against the wind - not with it."

Winston Churchill

"If you reveal your secrets to the wind, you should not
blame the wind for revealing them to the trees."

Khalil Gibran

"The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist
expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails."

William Arthur Ward

"Anger is a wind which blows out
the lamp of the mind."

Robert Green Ingersoll

A great wind is blowing, and that gives you either
imagination or a headache.

Catherine the Great



BACK-TO-BACK PREMIERS! ❤️🖤

They've done it AGAIN! In another tough battle against great rivals Caramut, our C Grade girls stepped up when it mattered most. It was intense. It was tough. It was everything a Grand Final should be. And when the final siren sounded...

Penshurst 29 Caramut 23

THE 2026 PREMIERSHIP CUP IS OURS! 🏆



Then came the 2026 PFNC U17 PREMIERS!

What. A. Final.

It was hard fought, intense and edge-of-your-seat stuff from the first siren to the last. At the end of regular time...

WE HAD A DRAW.

So into overtime we went — 5 minutes each end — and our boys dug bloody deep.

When the final siren sounded, the drums were silenced and the scoreboard read:

Penshurst 51 Glen-Dunkeld 40

And just like that... PREMIERS!

Penshurst Mens Shed



103 Cobb Street

A great place for basking in the lovely Spring weather.

Open Tuesday & Saturday

10am - 4pm

For more information talk to Tom Cooke 0488 557 345 or drop in.

Dad Jokes (continued)

1. What kind of shoes do frogs wear? Open-toad sandals.
2. I just built an ATM that only gives out coins. I don't know why no one's thought of it before: it just makes cents!
3. Did I ever tell you about the time I went mushroom foraging? It's a story with a morel at the end.
4. What happened when two slices of bread went on a date? It was loaf at first sight.
5. I had a quiet game of tennis today. There was no racket.
6. What's a shark's favorite saying? "Man overboard!"
7. What did one slice of bread say to the other before the race? You're toast!
8. Why do melons have weddings? They cantelope.
9. I'm so good at fixing things, my motto is, "If it is broke, I'll still fix it."
10. I got a new pen that can write under water. It can write other words too.

Share your thoughts. Shape our future.



We're headed to a town near you! Come and chat about all things Wannon Water including prices, our services, water quality, and the environment.

Join us:

Derrinallum - 3 Sep
Casterton - 10 Sep
Peterborough - 6 Oct
Camperdown Show - 10 Oct
Merino & Dartmoor - 14 Oct

Timboon - 22 Oct
Mortlake - 27 Oct
Portland's Upwelling Festival - 31 Oct
Warrnambool's Multicultural Festival - 7 Nov
Noorat Show - 21 Nov

Can't make an event?

Complete our survey for your chance to win one of five **\$100 gift vouchers!**

Find out more at engage.
[wannonwater.com.au/
community-roadshow](http://wannonwater.com.au/community-roadshow)





When this one thing finishes ... then everything else can begin.

Over the decades I have had the humbling privilege of walking alongside folk as they have transitioned from one 'place' to another and perhaps this is a daily process.

Some are subtle like grey hair, a wrinkle and a common cold. Others are monstrous and uninvited. Sometimes the development is welcome, like the transit from heavily uncomfortable and pregnant, to the birth of a child.

Sometimes it is a traumatic upheaval from life to death. I have not sought these companionable opportunities and the most fruitful occasions are when they have found me.

On these fraught occasions I come back to the line

"When this one thing finishes ... then everything else can begin." This sounds easy, exciting and something to look forward to; but it isn't always. The 'everything else' isn't always clear, is often painful and frequently is not looked for or looked forward to.

It takes months, sometimes years to know what the strange bumpy terrain feels like. I suspect the trick is to be exceptionally gentle with yourself. To be patient and to listen to others who have traversed this country before you. Where are the boulders and the pitfalls?

Now I find myself looking to my own transition. Sometimes straining ahead, eager and enchanted. Sometimes poignantly not really ready to relinquish the treasures I know I must surrender. If it were anyone else I would know exactly what to say and how to listen, but when you're in the centre of the maelstrom yourself, it's almost impossible to be objective. The eye of the cyclone is supposed to be still and calm but when everything else is swirling frenetically around you... So I cling to my mantra "When this one thing finishes,... then everything else can begin."

Anything which must be remembered, must be said / shown.

I am re-reading the book 'I heard the owl call my name' by Margaret Craven. It's about a young priest sent to a scenic but remote part of British Columbia. He has much to learn but is blessed to have a 'local' who is wise and patient.

At one point the 'local' says to Fr. Mark 'Anything which must be remembered, must be said.' Within the context of the book it applies to the village's old language Kwakwaka which is not written down and so is only spoken.

But when I read this line just the other day I saw something different. I interpreted it as a firm reminder that if you want someone to remember something and never forget it, you actually have to tell them... frequently. It may be a boy thing or maybe in my dotage I am more forgetful; or it might be my familiarity with sister death, but the pressing need to let your loved ones know that they are ... well... loved, is all the more urgent with each passing hour. Say it earnestly, say it tenderly and say it often. You can't get family back. You can't get friends back.

Another thought after I read my quote. There are a whole lot of marvellous things that can't be written down. Ask anyone who has ever fallen in love to adequately describe the experience in the English language. They will almost certainly begin with ...It was like....admitting that words just don't cut it. Words diminish the experience because of their inadequacy. Falling in love is to enter into a new dimension, a different world where things are 'shown' not spoken or written. Can I change my quote to

'Where there is no written language ...anything which must be remembered, must be shown?'



Mandy's Hair Design

Hamilton

*Bookings by
appointment
only*



Phone 0417 511 177

Penshurst Post Office

31 Martin Street

Post Services

Gifts & Cards

Stationery & Office Supplies

Collectables & Books

Craft Supplies

Tech Accessories

Bank @ Post



Post Office Boxes Available

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

**Treat yourself to a Second Wind by
Evolve North coffee and Snug As A Bug
Hot Chocolate and browse our
everchanging giftware and
local produce.**

**Phone orders and payments
are welcome.**

Monday & Tuesday - CLOSED

Wednesday to Friday - 7.30am - 2.00pm

Saturday - 8.00am - 2.00pm

Sunday - CLOSED



Penshurst Store



**Amanda & Cam Wilson
0439 941 942**

Café/Bakery

110 Bell Street, Penshurst

penshurststore@gmail.com

September 2026

Council Under 12s

School Holiday Program

Week One

All Holidays

Scavenger Hunt - Looney tunes themed in the Hamilton Botanic Gardens. All ages. Free. Collect your hunt sheet from the Library, VIC or Brown Street Customer Service.

Visit Southern Grampians Pause & Play - Design a Tourism Postcard or Sticker. All ages. Free. Drop in to Hamilton VIC 9:00am - 5:00pm. Hamilton Visitor Information Centre

School Holiday Passport @ HILAC - Try something new, get active, have fun and tick off your passport. Ages 13+. \$20. Drop in to HILAC.

Look A Kid's Party - 10:00am - 2:00pm, arrive and leave as you please. All ages. Free. Bookings required through Eventbrite. Hamilton Gallery

Hamilton Gallery Holidays - Make Your Own Sunglasses. 10:00am - 11:00am. Ages 4-8. \$10 per person. Bookings required through Eventbrite. Creator Lab

Movie Craft - Shaun the Sheep - The Best of Mossy. 11:15am - craft, 12:00pm - movie. Ages 5-12. \$9.00 per person. Bookings required through the PAC. Hamilton PAC/Library

*** All children under 12 must be supervised by an adult**

For more information on all our programs and to book please visit:
www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/Our-Services/School-Holiday-Programs
Follow the QR code for bookings.




September 2026

Council Under 12s

School Holiday Program

Week Two

SEP 28

NAB AFL Clinic - 9:00am - 3:00pm. Ages 5-7 and 7-12. \$55 per child. Held at Pedrina Park.

SEP 29

Hamilton Gallery Holidays - Make Your Own Sunglasses. 10:00am - 11:00am. Ages 4-8. \$10 per person. Bookings required through Eventbrite. Creator Lab

SEP 29

Progressive Lego Challenge - 10:30am - 11:15am and 2:00pm - 2:45pm. Ages 5-12. Free. Get ready for this Lego building showdown. Bookings required through PAC. Hamilton Library

SEP 30

Hamilton Gallery Holidays - Make a Kaleidoscope. 10:00am - 11:00am and 11:30am - 12:30pm. Ages 4-10. \$10 per person. Bookings required through Eventbrite. Creator Lab

OCT 1

Hamilton Gallery Holidays - Make a Kaleidoscope. 10:00am - 11:00am. Ages 4-10. \$10 per person. Bookings required through Eventbrite. Creator Lab

OCT 2

Museum Victoria - Dinosaur Flora and Fauna. 10:30am - 11:30am. Ages 3+. Free - bookings required through the PAC. Hamilton Library

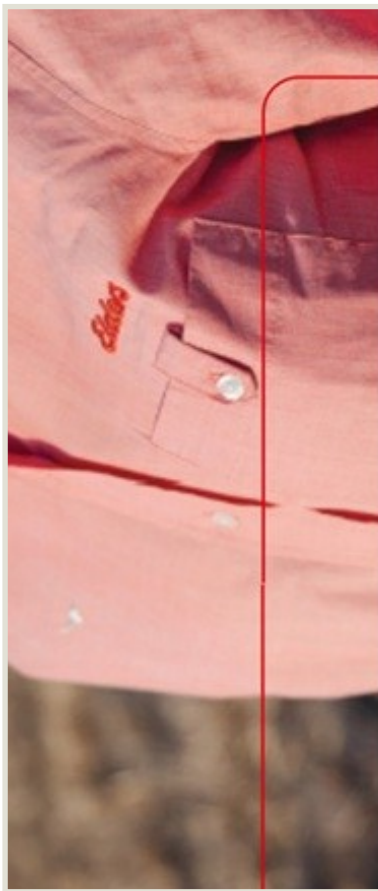
OCT 2

Stories Bring Us Together - Intergeneration reading and craft afternoon. Free. Ages 2-12. 2:30pm - 3:30pm. Bookings required through Humanotix. Hamilton Library

*** All children under 12 must be supervised by an adult**

For more information on all our programs and to book please visit:
www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/Our-Services/School-Holiday-Programs
Follow the QR code for bookings.



ELDERS HAMILTON

Proud to be a supporter of local communities

BRANCH MANAGER & RURAL

REAL ESTATE

Lachy Patterson 0407 704 684

WOOL

Andrew Howells 0418 846 291

Kate Methven 0488 415 883

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

Ann Hiscock 5551 5700

Wendy Kerr 5551 5700

Annaleace Dohle 5551 5700

Maggie Craig 0427 976 179

100 Portland Road,

Hamilton P. 03 5551 5700

E. hamilton@elders.com.au
elders.com.au



Council Teens+ School Holiday Program



Scavenger Hunt - Looney tunes themed in the Hamilton Botanic Gardens. All ages. Free. Collect your hunt sheet from the Library, VIC or Brown Street Customer Service.

School Holiday Passport @ HILAC - Try something new, get active, have fun and tick off your passport. All ages. \$20. Drop in to HILAC.

Box-her Session. Dunkeld 10:30am and Penhurst 12:30pm. Free. Join us for these inspiring boxing workshops with Imogen McDonnell. Bookings required through PAC.

Golf Course Build - Project Putt. 11:00am - 1:00pm. We are looking for young people aged 15-25 to help build our very own portable mini golf course! Free. Hamilton PAC

Hamilton Gallery Holidays. Magiclay Canvas Workshop. 2:00pm - 3:00pm. Ages 12-17. \$10 per person. Bookings required through Eventbrite. Creator Lab

Youth RSA Course. 9:30am - 4:00pm. Ages 17-25. Free RSA course for young people. Pre-reading required before the day. Bookings required through the PAC. Hamilton district Skills Centre

Hamilton Gallery Holidays. Magiclay Canvas Workshop. 2:00pm - 3:00pm. Ages 12-17. \$10 per person. Bookings required through Eventbrite. Creator Lab

Writing Workshop. Writing Settings and Dialogue - Keeping it Real. 1:30pm - 3:30pm. Ages 12-18. Bookings required through the PAC. Hamilton Library

Nathan Cavaleri - Growing Pains. A raw solo show filled with storytelling and music. 7:30pm. Ages 12+. Bookings required through the PAC. Hamilton PAC



For more information on all our programs and to book please visit:
www.sthgramplans.vic.gov.au/Our-Services/School-Holiday-Programs

Follow the QR code for bookings.



MEDIA RELEASE

SOUTHERN GRAMPPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL

**Your Council
Your Community****COUNCIL INVESTS MORE THAN \$35,000 IN LOCAL BUSINESS FACADE IMPROVEMENTS**

Fifteen businesses across Southern Grampians Shire will share more than \$35,000 in funding through Council's 2026/27 Business Facade Improvement Program (BFIP), helping to enhance the appearance, accessibility and vibrancy of local shopping precincts.

Now in its third year, the program supports business and property owners to undertake improvements that contribute to more attractive and welcoming town centres across the Shire.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin said the continued success of the program demonstrated the strong commitment of local businesses to investing in their towns and communities.

"The Business Facade Improvement Program continues to deliver positive outcomes across our Shire, helping business owners improve their premises while contributing to the overall presentation of our town centres," Cr Heslin said. "These projects help enhance individual businesses by creating more inviting and vibrant streetscapes for residents, visitors and customers."

The program operates on a dollar-for-dollar funding model, with Council contributing up to \$3,000 per project. This year's grants will leverage more than \$100,000 worth of improvement works across the municipality.

The 2026/27 funding round attracted applications from businesses in Hamilton, Coleraine, Dunkeld and Penshurst, with successful projects including building repairs, landscaping, painting, lighting upgrades, accessibility improvements and new signage.

Among the successful recipients are Hamilton Vetcare, Dog on George, The Pitstop Cafe, Hamilton Gymnastics, Grangeburn Office and IT, Dunkeld Artisan Bakery, Glenelg Fine Confectionery, Cambos Milk Bar and Takeaway, McClure Plumbing, Cottrill Plumbing and several other local businesses.

Cr Heslin said the program complements other Council initiatives aimed at strengthening township centres and supporting local economic development.

"Well-presented and attractive business areas encourage people to shop locally, spend time in our town centres and take pride in their communities," he said. "Council is pleased to be working alongside local businesses to deliver improvements that will have lasting benefits for our towns and contribute to the ongoing growth and appeal of Southern Grampians Shire."

Successful applicants have until May 2027 to complete their projects.

To read more on the Business Facade Improvement Program, head to the Business Facade Improvement Program | Southern Grampians Shire Council website.

COUNCIL ADOPTS KERBSIDE WASTE CONTAMINATION POLICY

Southern Grampians Shire Council has established clear guidelines for enforcement of kerbside bin contamination, adopting the Kerbside Waste Contamination Policy at the Council meeting on 8th September.

Contamination in kerbside waste streams continues to affect waste management across the municipality and is resulting in significantly increased disposal and processing costs for Council.

Additionally, as Council transitions to a Food Organics and Garden Organics (FOGO) service, maintaining low contamination levels is essential to ensure the organic material collected can be successfully processed into high-quality commercial compost.

Continued page 14

MEDIA RELEASE

SOUTHERN GRAMPPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL

**Your Council
Your Community**

From page 13

To protect the integrity of the FOGO program, reduce avoidable costs, and promote responsible waste disposal practices, Council is introducing a new contamination education and infringement process.

The policy is designed to balance positive behavioural change and compliance by prioritising education, ensuring residents are supported to dispose of waste correctly and understand the overall implications of contaminated bins.

The policy allows for a three-strike approach with the first occurrence resulting in a sticker on bins, highlighting which incorrect materials caused the contamination. A second occurrence will see a second sticker on the bin, again outlining contaminants, accompanied by direct communication from Council. The third occurrence will result in a penalty notice being issued in accordance with Council's Community Local Law.

For those who continue to contaminate their bins, Council may suspend normal kerbside services. Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Dennis Heslin said understanding how to appropriately separate household waste is key in reducing contamination.

"Council has been working to educate residents on appropriate waste separation since the introduction of the FOGO bin in 2020," said Cr Heslin. "While most residents are doing the right thing – there are still a number of households not complying which is really disappointing. This policy has been introduced to better support the enforcement surrounding repeat kerbside bin contaminators and to help change community behaviour when thinking about waste.

"Incorrectly sorted waste can contaminate an entire truckload, affecting residents who are carefully sorting their bins. Because waste services are paid for by ratepayers, contamination drives up costs and means everyone pays the price for a few doing the wrong thing. We want to reduce as much contamination as possible so that 100 per cent of our green waste can be repurposed into useable compost and put back into the ground to grow again," concluded Cr Heslin.

A six-month grace period will apply before the policy is enforced, allowing time for further community education on correct bin use.

Residents are encouraged to reach out to Council if you are unsure about what goes in which bin. Alternatively, there are a number of handy resources also available on the Council website at www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/Our-Services/Waste-Recycling. A copy of the policy is now available on Council's website.

COUNCIL BACKS COMMUNITY-LED PROJECTS THROUGH ROUND ONE GRANTS

Southern Grampians Shire Council continues to invest in community-led initiatives, with more than \$142,000 allocated through Round One of the 2026/27 Community Partnership Grants Program. A total of 48 applications were received from community groups, organisations and volunteers, highlighting the strong commitment of local communities to improving facilities, enhancing events and creating opportunities within the region. Following assessment, \$142,881 was recommended to support projects with a combined value of more than \$273,000.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Cr Dennis Heslin said the program continues to play an important role in helping community groups bring valuable local projects to life.

Continued page 15

MEDIA RELEASE

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL

**Your Council****Your Community**

Continued from page 14

"These grants are about supporting the people and organisations that help make our communities strong and our towns better places to live," Cr Heslin said. "We continue to see a diverse range of applications from across the Shire, demonstrating the passion, creativity and dedication of our local volunteers and community groups."

Successful projects funded through this round include resurfacing the multipurpose courts at the Cavendish Recreation Reserve, upgrading cricket practice facilities at Pigeon Ponds, refurbishing the bathroom at the Dunkeld Bowling Club, and installing horse yards at Yulecart Hall for the Hamilton Pony Club.

The program is also supporting community connection initiatives such as the Dunkeld Lions Clubs Driver Information Day, computer and signage for the Penshurst Country Women's Association of Victoria, public art projects including a new mural at Byaduk Recreation Reserve, and major community events such as the 50th Rural Women's Day celebrations.

Council's Community Partnership Grants Program provides funding across a range of categories, including Community Infrastructure, Community Strengthening, Tourism and Events, Heritage, Arts and Cultural Development, and Environmental Sustainability.

Together, these projects reflect the variety of ideas being driven by local volunteers and community groups across the Southern Grampians.

Cr Heslin said Council was pleased to see strong engagement throughout the application period, with community members taking advantage of information sessions, township roadshows and one-on-one support opportunities offered by Council staff.

"We know that great ideas come directly from our communities. Through these grants, we're proud to partner with local groups to help turn those ideas into projects that deliver lasting benefits for our region."

Applicants will be advised of their funding outcomes following the September Council Meeting, with Council looking forward to seeing the successful projects delivered across the Shire over the coming year. To read more on the Community Partnership Grants Program visit [Grants | Southern Grampians Shire Council website](#).

HAMILTON'S ORGANIC WASTE FACILITY DRAWS STRONG INDUSTRY INTEREST

Farmers, business leaders, agricultural experts and waste industry professionals have helped shape the next chapter of Southern Grampians Shire Council's organics processing facility, which is edging closer to operation.

Guests who attended the recent Sustainability Business Breakfast heard from technology partner Gaia Envirotech Dr Lachlan Speirs and Council representatives before touring the developing facility at the Hamilton Transfer Station, gaining a firsthand look at how the project is set to transform organic waste.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Cr Dennis Heslin said the quality of the discussion was just as valuable as the attendance.

"The strong turnout reflects the excitement and genuine interest surrounding what this project could mean for the future of our region," Cr Heslin said. "Hearing from people who are passionate about sustainability and invested in our community's future is incredibly valuable. Their feedback,

Continued page 16

MEDIA RELEASE

SOUTHERN GRAMPAINS SHIRE COUNCIL



Your Council
Your Community

Continued from page 15

thoughtful questions and insights will help us shape a project to deliver lasting benefits for generations to come and importantly is able to deliver practical solutions to waste problems.” When it starts production this year, the Hamilton Organics Processing Facility will initially process more than 5,000 tonnes of organic material each year, with EPA approval allowing capacity to eventually increase to 15,000 tonnes.

Around 2,500 tonnes of household FOGO is collected in the Southern Grampians each year, with a further 2,500 tonnes of organic material expected from the Hamilton Regional Livestock Exchange (HRLX).

Rather than sending that material out of the Shire, the facility will use controlled composting processes to transform it into compost and soil products, creating an opportunity to recover value from material that would ordinarily head outside the Shire. This also means cost savings for Council in transporting green waste out of our Shire.

For a region built around agriculture, the potential applications go well beyond Council’s own waste stream.

Most neighbouring councils currently transport their organic waste to processing facilities further afield, with some even driving through our Shire to get there. A larger Hamilton facility could provide a local or regional alternative, reducing the need to transport organic material long distances while creating a locally produced resource.

“We believe we can become a regional solution. We can take their waste and then we sell the by-product once the facility has finished processing it,” he said. “We could also have the capability to process materials like seaweed, which presents challenges for coastal councils.

Southern Grampians Shire Council Manager Waste and Sustainability Juan Donis said the opportunity to bring people together early was an important part of the project.

“The questions and conversations we had today showed there is a real appetite to understand what this facility can do and how industry might work with it,” Mr Donis said.

The Hamilton Organics Processing Facility is expected to commence production in late 2026.

More details about this project can be found on Council’s website.

Would you like to add your group,
club, or meetings etc to our
Community Information page?
Do the details there need updating?
Contact the Editor.

Hatches, Matches and Dispatches,
Anniversaries and Birthdays too
Email or phone the editor with your
free Community Notices.

A PAGE TO SHARE RECIPES

Cheese and bacon cob loaf recipe

Prep Time 15 mins

Cook 55 mins

Serves 8

www.taste.com.au**INGREDIENTS**

500g cob loaf
1 tbsp Coles classic olive oil
1 small onion, finely chopped
200g shortcut bacon rashers,
diced
2 tbsp chopped chives

250g block cream cheese,
softened
2/3 cup (160ml) cooking cream
2/3 cup light sour cream
1 1/2 cups grated cheddar cheese
1 French stick or baguette, sliced
chives, extra, to serve

Method**Step 1**

Preheat oven to 180C/160C fan-forced. Line a large baking tray with baking paper.

Step 2

Cut 4cm off top of cob loaf to form lid. Scoop bread from centre of loaf, leaving 1.5cm edge. Tear or roughly chop bread pieces.

**Step 3**

Heat oil in a large frying pan over medium heat. Add onion and bacon.

Cook, stirring, for 5 minutes or until bacon is browned and onion has softened. Remove from heat.

Step 4

Add chives to bacon mixture. Stir in cream cheese. Mix until combined. Add cream, sour cream and grated cheese. Season with salt and pepper.

Step 5

Spoon mixture into loaf. Arrange lid, bread pieces and sliced baguette in a single layer around loaf.

Bake for 20 minutes or until lightly toasted.

Step 6

Sprinkle top of dip with extra chives. Serve warm.



“The only thing that will make a soufflé fall is if it knows you're afraid of it.”

— James Beard



Are you 65+?

Labor's changes to private health insurance could cost you an additional **\$807 a year.**

SIGN OUR PETITION AND SAY NO
liberal.org.au/HandsOffHealth

1300 131692
 dan.tehan.mp@aph.gov.au
 dantehan.com.au

*Dan cares. Dan listens.
 Dan delivers*

Authorised by Dan Tehan MP, Liberal Party of Australia, 190 Gray St, Hamilton VIC 3300.



Services Provided:

- Excavation
- Earth and rock moving
- Landscaping
- Post hole drilling
- All aspects of garden maintenance including lawn mowing.

Contact Andrew to discuss your next project or schedule garden care.

Ph: 0419 875 119

email: ar.earthworx@gmail.com



- Agronomy Services
- Farm Production & Planning Management
- Seed & Fertiliser Supply
- Crop & Pasture Protection Products
- Animal Health & Nutrition
- General Merchandise
- On Farm Deliveries

Western AG's core objective is to provide high quality production advice and to supply competitively priced inputs to assist clients to grow the business profitably.

Western AG Hamilton - T: 03 5579 5900

Tim Wilson (Branch Manager) 0429 168 020

Matt Barber (Senior Agronomist) 0488 298 170

Megan Clothier (Animal Health) 0498 226 730

Ben Gay (Merchandise & Logistics) 03 5579 5900

Glenn Grey (Willaura) 0439 541 036

ADDRESS—236 COLERAINE ROAD HAMILTON



Coastal PEST MANAGEMENT

Pest Control Domestic or Commercial
 Servicing the South West:

- Cockroaches
- Spiders
- Rodents
- Termites
- Bedbugs / Fleas / Ants
- Bees
- Rodent proofing
- Termite inspections
- Termite treatments
- Pre-purchase inspections
- After lease treatments
- Wasps

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

Coastal PEST MANAGEMENT

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

Mount Rouse Puzzler

1: To spread like a tree branch.

3: To increase in size, range, or amount.

5: The act or process of dividing something into parts.

9: Any of various plants with a large, bell-shaped flower on a long stem.

10: A secret word or phrase that a person must know before being given permission to enter a place.

11: To move or climb over something quickly especially while also using your hands.

13: A shallow container that you cook or serve food in.

14: A food made by cooking vegetables, meat, or fish in a large amount of liquid.

15: Typical of a person, thing, or group.

17: A structure with a roof and walls that is used as a place for

people to live, work, do activities, store things etc.

18: The order in which things happen.

20: An official who is elected to be the head of the government of a city or town.

21: A small piece that has been broken off from something larger.

22: Something that is difficult to deal with.

23: To or at a more distant place or time or a more advanced point.

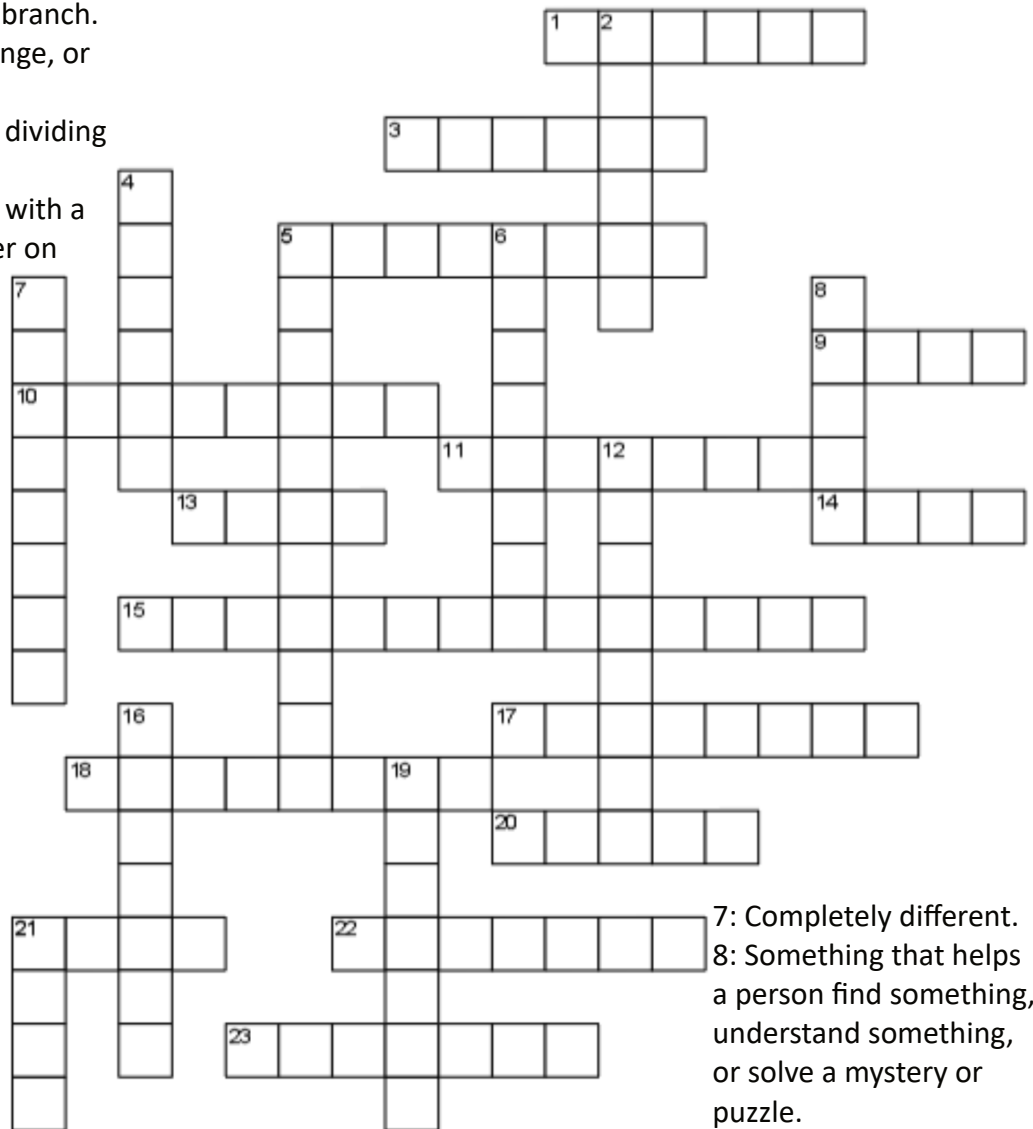
Down:

2: Chosen, done, etc., without a particular plan or pattern.

4: To push forcibly.

5: To prove something by showing examples of it.

6: A large case that you use to carry your clothing and belongings when you are travelling.



7: Completely different.

8: Something that helps a person find something, understand something, or solve a mystery or puzzle.

12: The state of being active.

16: A gathering of people for a particular purpose.

19: A system of giving money, food, or help free to those who are in need because they are ill, poor, or have no home.

21: A plant or plant product that is grown by farmers.

Answers to last fortnight's crossword.
Across: 6 entrance, 7 splurge, 10 relinquish, 11 complain, 13 detective, 15 stubborn, 16 excess, 18 underline, 20 concentration, 22 leaf, 24 overall, 25 tower.
Down: 1 skeleton, 2 smart, 3 referral, 4 art, 5 risky, 8 transaction, 9 direction, 12 passion, 14 level, 17 cinema, 19 economy, 21 twin, 23 barrel.



Serving the greater Hamilton area
Preventative, repairs & renewals
Heat pump rebate specialist
Hot water upgrades
General plumbing
Gas servicing

Call Dan:
0409 852 887

www.thehappyplumber.com.au

REC. NO. D15302

LIC. NO. 101019

CHRISTOPHER COOK CONSTRUCTIONS

Ph: 0417 100 243

Fax: 5576 5267



HIA Reg CB-U 6214
DB-U 5109

112 Bell Street
Penshurst Vic 3289

MKS

FIREARMS

We buy / sell new and used firearms & ammunition.

Sell / Dispose of unwanted firearms parts and ammunition.

We also can do fast online transfers & purchases and ship locally or interstate.

By appointment only please contact :
Matt - mksfirearms@bigpond.com

Lic :475-841-60F

Firearm spare parts & repairs available.





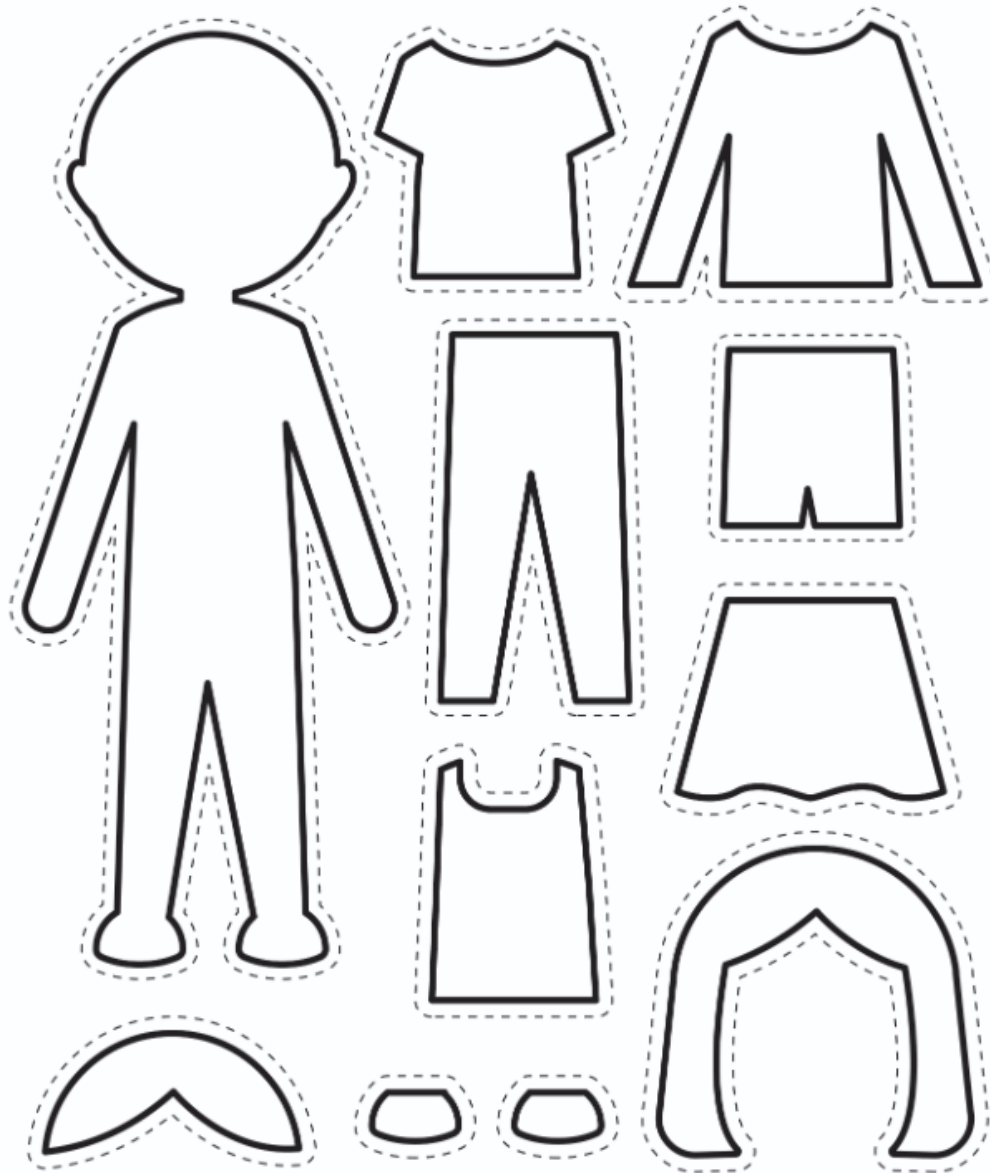
- Drainage
- Driveways
- Demolition
- Tree Removal
- Rural Fencing
- Site Preparation
- Quarry Products
- Dam Construction



Office: (03) 5571 2687
Email: ikearth@bigpond.com
Michael Kenny: 0409 811 736
Craig Kenny: 0409 811 737

Servicing Hamilton & Surrounds

And now for something completely different



PAPER DOLL COLORING PAGE

Color in the body, hair and clothing of your choice.
Then cut and glue everything together to make your very own paper doll.

PJSANDPAINT.COM

Now here's a chance to use your imagination and colouring skills. With these patterns you can create a whole family of paper dolls and use them for all sorts of storytelling.

When you look at them who do you see? Is one you? Is one me? Is one the lady (or man) down the street, a neighbour, a friend, a new person to meet?

Community Information**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 Gail 0419 510 364

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.
- **Healthy Limbs Club - Wednesday 9.30 - 11.30am each week. No appointment necessary commencing 2nd September**

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 VDC
2026 Meeting Dates: Bi-monthly 2nd Tuesday commencing: 10 March, 12 May, 14 July, 8 September, 10 November and 8 December.
- New members welcome.

Ukulele Group

Meets every Sunday at the Senior Citizens from 2pm until 3pm - Contact Paul 0402 902 013 for more Information

Volcanoes Discovery Centre

- Open every Friday 11 - 3pm, Weekends & School Holidays 10 - 4pm.
New volunteers always welcome. Contact President Jo Vigliaturo 0408 544 670.

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

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 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.

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

Lions Club of Penshurst & District

- Social dinner 1st Friday, and business meetings 3rd Tuesday each month.
Welcoming new members.
penshurst.vic@lions.org.au
- Weekly Sunday Park Walk 10am @ Penshurst Botanic Gardens, with monthly Morning Tea on the 1st Sunday.

What's On Around Mt Rouse - SEPT/OCT 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
School Holidays	School Holidays	School Holidays	School Holidays	School Holidays	GRAND FINAL HOLIDAY	School Holidays
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
Catholic Church Lay 8:30am Lutheran Church - Tabor 10am <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i> Ukulele Group 2-3pm	<i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-3pm</i>	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-3pm</i> Country Womens Association(CWA) 7pm	<i>Newsletter Year 9 Edition 4</i> <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-3pm</i> Healthy Limbs Club - Penshurst Hospital 11:30am (PPA) Penshurst Progress Association Meeting 7pm	WDHS - Penshurst Social & Activity Group 10am <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-3pm</i> Mobile Library 3-4pm	<i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i> <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i>	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i>
27	28	29	30	01	02	03
School Holidays Catholic Church Mass 8:30am Lutheran Church - Tabor 10am Uniting Church Service 11am Anglican Church Mass 5pm <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i> Ukulele Group 2-3pm HISTORICAL SOCIETY 2PM	School Holidays <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-3pm</i>	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-3pm</i> BINGO! @ Senior Citizens Club 1:45pm	<i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-3pm</i> Healthy Limbs Club - Penshurst Hospital 11:30am	WDHS - Penshurst Social & Activity Group 10am <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-3pm</i> BOWLS CLUB MEETING 7:30PM	<i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i> Lions Club Social Dinner	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i> BOWLS PENNANT SEASON BEGINS
04	05	06	07	08	09	10
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS Pony Club Rally PARK WALK @ PENSHERST BOTANIC GARDENS 10AM Lutheran Church - Tabor 10am <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i> Ukulele Group 2-3pm	<i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i>	MID-WEEK PENNANT BOWLS Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm	<i>Newsletter Year 9 Edition 5</i> Healthy Limbs Club - Penshurst Hospital 11:30am	WDHS - Penshurst Social & Activity Group 10am Mobile Library 3-4pm	<i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i>	SATURDAY PENNANT BOWLS Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i>
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
PENSHERST COMMUNITY MARKET 9am-1pm Catholic Church Mass 8:30am Lutheran Church - Tabor 10am Uniting Church Service 11am <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i> Ukulele Group 2-3pm	<i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i>	MID-WEEK PENNANT BOWLS Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm Caramut & District Garden Club 10am Lions Club Meeting 7:30pm	Healthy Limbs Club - Penshurst Hospital 11:30am	WDHS - Penshurst Social & Activity Group 10am	<i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i>	Penshurst Shed 10am-4pm <i>Volcana Discovery Centre 10am-4pm</i>

**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 3rd October 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:
mtrousenewsletter@gmail.com

Also available in colour online at
mtrousenewsletter.org.au

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

***Sponsor our colour front page, or any
other page in colour. \$30 per page.***

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

Thank you.

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 8.30 am
3rd Sunday Lay Service 8.30 am
4th Sunday Mass 8.30 am
5th Sunday No Service



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



Mobile Library

**Will be visiting Penshurst
every Thursday fortnight
3.00 - 4.00pm**

**Outside the Hall in Martin St
24 September, 8 & 22 October**

Phone: 5573 0470

www.sthgramplans.vic.gov.au/library

**LIKE US ON FACEBOOK
GREATER HAMILTON LIBRARY**