Year 2 Edition 22 1st July 2020

MT ROUSE NEWS & VIEWS



A Project of the Penshurst Mens Shed Inc

Penshurst Pony Club Annual Camp



Alex Kinnealy, Rajah and Rachel Cameron riding thru the pines



Ava Kinnealy and Rajah at the big tree

Penshurst Pony Club held their annual camp at Dergholm State Forest recently. The weather was ideal and riders enjoyed some lovely scenery, great sandy tracks and a visit to Bilston's Big Tree, an 800 year old river red gum. Also rode to the ruins of Bilston's hut which unfortunately is now surrounded by a blue gum plantation. Thank you to the Astbury family for allowing us to camp amongst the pines on their property. Our guest for the weekend was Rajah, she has been staying with the Kinnealy family since February and due to return to Germany early August.



SGSC Community Engagement Meeting Wednesday 1st July 6.30 - 7.30pm

Supper Room, Penshurst Memorial Hall

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Thank you Penshurst Community

Dear Penshurst Community

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the Penshurst Community for welcoming our family. It has been an absolute pleasure serving you for the past two years.

The first thing we noticed when we moved in is what a supportive community Penshurst is, and in these uncertain times, this is something you should all be very proud of. This sense of community is a drawcard and will enable Penshurst to prosper for years to come.



We still plan on being proud supporters of the Bombers and look forward to making regular visits to Penshurst. We have come to realise what a hidden gem Penshurst is and, although we are sad to leave, we have some wonderful memories of the time we spent in this friendly community.

Please look after each other, don't drink and drive, buckle up and don't text and drive, it can wait.

All the best Shaun and family

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80 Bell Street, Penshurst 5576 5270

MT ROUSE NEWS & VIEWS

Penshurst Progress Association

ABN 35 622 662 815

Committee of Management:

Ama Cooke – President 0402 870 738

Mark Dalla Costa – Secretary Mary Stewart
Tom Cooke - Vice President Nigel Pyne

Josh Hewitt - Treasurer Don Adamson

Next Meeting: <u>Wednesday 22nd July</u>, 7.30pm in the Supper Room, Penshurst Hall.

Community Engagement Meeting

Delayed from March

Wednesday 1st July 6.30 - 7.30pm

Supper Room, Penshurst Memorial Hall

Under the current COVID-19 Restrictions there can be 20 people in the Hall at the same time, so everyone can attend in small groups.

Good evening everyone,

As promised, here is the list that has been created to discuss with the Council at the upcoming Engagement meeting.

From the Draft Budget -

- 1) Page 15 there is a figure of \$285,000 for the Botanic Gardens. With Penshurst shown in brackets, we are wondering what percentage of the figure will actually be spent in Penshurst and how? a) We were first led to believe that part of the expenditure from the 19/20 budget was going to be used to replace the covered barbecue area, which is rotting off at the bottom. Will it be a priority for the Council in the 20/21 financial year? And b) Will all the uncovered garbage bins in the Gardens be replaced by covered ones, with the sensors in them to indicate when they need emptying?
- 2) Page 16 when does the Council see the

'community visioning for the 2041 Project' commencing? What does having the Council 'working with the town to develop our capacity to deliver the community plan' entail?

- 3) Page 17 Does the expenditure allocated to caravan parks include installing more powered sites in Penshurst? They have been promised over the years, do we have a timeline for their installation, and how many? ('Theme 2 develop our regional economy and businesses'.)
- 4) Page 19 a) While we understand that the Penshurst Memorial Hall is owned by DELWP, the building requires some serious maintenance and upgrades. Will the Council assist the Hall Committee of Management, and the Progress Association, which is now located in the Hall, to find funding to achieve this?
- b) What is adequate maintenance of the Penshurst Hall? When is the review of the yearly Management Grant going to happen?

and then ..

5) Footpaths - do you have a list of the those to be repaired in Penshurst? Does this include the walking track up the side of Mt Rouse, and the walking track from Bell Street, down French Street, to the Caravan Park entrance? There are a number of footpaths that need to be checked and repaired in town, but as the Council is not returning phone calls on the

Continued page 5

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Grab your Takeaway and extras from Josh & Tracy Hewitt at the Penshurst Newsagency & Takeaway

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7. a doorbell.

6. because it is often tolled (told),

3. a pelican, 4. in a dictionary, 5. feathers,

Answers to Riddles: 1. a glove, 2. silence,

MT ROUSE NEWS & VIEWS

Penshurst Progress Association

Continued from page 3

subject, nor giving feedback if anything has been done, how do we check on progress?

- 6) There is a discussion in town about putting covering over all, or part of, the Children's Playground in the Gardens. This is not in the Master Plan. How do we get them for at least the summer months?
- 7) How do we get the needed repairs and replacement of equipment in the outside public toilets at the Hall? The women's toilets are a disgrace with loose toilets and seat coverings so old they are actually flaking and cracking, when last checked the doors did not close properly, nor latch. The Council has been advised of the needed maintenance at various times over the last two years. When will something be done? Those toilets are used constantly by passing traffic.
- 8) Are there any results from the feedback that the town provided about the choice of signage for the Botanic Gardens? As a part of the Walking Tour of Historical Penshurst, we would like to discuss continuing the colour theme and style of the information signs into the town itself with replacement of the 19 historical signs and the adding in of the other 11 described by the Mt Rouse & District Historical Society in their booklet 'Exploring Penshurst'.
- 9) Changes to Penshurst Transfer Station opening hours whom in the community did the Council discuss this matter with before changing the openings times? Saturday morning is usually taken up with grocery shopping, family activities or organised sports, and if anyone uses the Hall on Saturday night,

they will probably have to wait until the following week before being able to dump their rubbish at the local tip. While there are many people in town who are retired, there are also many who work full time, and play sports, during those opening times. Can we at least change back to Sunday, morning or afternoon?

10) We would like to remind the Council to leave messages on people's phones so that we can return their calls as we no longer know who is ringing us with your new phone system.

What else needs to be addressed? What would you like to see in your town?

Be safe, Ama Cooke, President 0402 870 738



Mobile Library

Will be visiting <u>Penshurst</u> every Thursday fortnight

YES THE SERVICE IS BACK

3.00 - 4.00pm Outside the Hall in Martin St

Dates for July are: 9th, 23rd

Phone: 5573 0470 www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/library

Like Us On Facebook: Greater Hamilton Library

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MEDIA RELEASE Emma KEALY MEMBER FOR LOWAN

June 23, 2020

Rethink needed for COVID-19 restrictions in rural communities

Member for Lowan Emma Kealy has urged the Andrews Labor Government to apply fairness and common sense to its COVID-19 restrictions to ensure rural and regional communities do not pay the price for people in metropolitan areas flouting the rules.

Ms Kealy said she was disappointed and frustrated that while the communities in Lowan remained COVID-free, Premier Daniel Andrews had forced all Victorians to return to a heightened level of restrictions with very little notice.

She said the announcement on Saturday that hospitality businesses, among others, would not be allowed to increase their patronage to 50 people as planned had caused significant hardship.

"I have received numerous enquiries from business owners, frustrated that people in rural areas who are doing the right thing are being penalised for outbreaks in Melbourne. This is killing local jobs and prosperity," she said.

"There are local government areas in our region that have never recorded a positive case of COVID-19, yet are subject to the same restrictions as areas with several cases.

"We recognise that social distancing and density requirements will help ensure our communities continue to remain COVID-free, but we can ease restrictions and safely open our communities while still adhering to these requirements.

"Nobody wants to see a second wave that sets us back, however regional areas are proving that they are responsible and careful and should have restrictions eased. Our local communities are ready to keep taking safe steps back towards normality."

Ms Kealy said last-minute changes to planned easing of restrictions had blindsided businesses, many of whom had rostered on extra staff and bought supplies in anticipation of patronage numbers increasing.

"The government has been quick to consider lockdowns in high-risk suburbs in Melbourne, but this should go both ways," she said.

"The government needs to allow regional businesses in communities where there are no active cases to safely return to business as normal, so that our communities and economies can get back on track."

"There is something mighty suspicious about declaring an emergency for something that has yet to show itself to be a grand pandemic."

Billy Corgan

Have you got a story to share in 100 words or less? We'd love to publish it.

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In My Garden with Janet Shalders

Tree Dahlia Dahlia imperialis

My Tree Dahlias are flowering at present, coming out in May. They will grow up to 6m and will have a very large clump after a few years which is very hard to dig out. Mine grow along a fence facing north. They do need some sort of protection from the wind. One lot grows between the fence and water tanks and tower above them both. The blooms are large pendulous lavender-pink flowers held up by huge bamboo like canes. There is also a white form.

Frost can cut it back, but mine are still flowering even after a number of light frosts. They are not fussy about the soil but need to be well-drained. My plants receive little or no water over the summer months.

Cut back to ground level in mid-winter to early spring when the foliage has died back. New canes grow from the clump each season. While the tubers can be divided, the easiest way to propagate is by taking cuttings of the canes while they are still fresh. These can be planted horizontally or vertically. Cut canes with 3 or five nodes. When cuttings are placed vertically, only one or two shoots appear but if placed horizontally more shoots will



come up. Plant directly where you wish them to grow. Only lightly cover the horizontal canes with soil.

I find them a very easy care plant. One friend often cut the growing canes back so that they wouldn't grow too tall and they still flowered well. I noticed that the plants growing near an overhead pipe, were eaten off by the possums. Otherwise I have never had any pest problems.

New roses can be planted now. Either potted up or bare rooted. Bare rooted plants would best be soaked in water first to give them a good drink before plant as soon as possible after purchasing.

It is still not too late to plant peas, onions or garlic.

"How deeply seated in the human heart is the liking for gardens and gardening. "

Alexander Smith

"Flowers have spoken to me more than I can tell in written words. They are the hieroglyphics of angels, loved by all men for the beauty of the character, though few can decipher even fragments of their meaning."

Lydia M Child

MT ROUSE NEWS & VIEWS





Amanda & Cam Wilson 0439 941 942

New Hours:

Monday to Friday 7.30am to 5.00pm Saturday 8.00am to 2.00pm Sunday CLOSED

Family Pies now available to order or pick up in store

Plain, Pepper, Cheese & Bacon, Mushroom, or Curry, Chicken Kiev or Butter Chicken, Lamb Rosemary & Garlic, Potato.

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penshurststore@gmail.com



NEWS

The Volcanoes Discovery Centre (VDC) will remained closed in June due to the COVID-19 outbreak.

The VDC management committee will make a decision on when it will re-open at the end of June. The VDC has been closed since March 16 because of the virus.

The Victorian Government restrictions on gatherings are gradually easing, with a gathering of 20 people allowed from June 1. This is expected to increase to 50 people from June 22.

CHRISTOPHER COOK CONSTRUCTIONS

Ph: 0417 100 243

Fax: 5576 5267



HIA Reg CB-U 6214 DB-U 5109

112 Bell Street Penshurst Vic 3289

MT ROUSE NEWS & VIEWS

Exploring Penshurst

Mount Rouse & District Historical Society



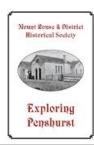
- **8. Penshurst Free Press** was published as a regular weekly newspaper from 1898. It was printed from this building from the 1930s until it ceased publication on 9th January 1980. Printing was suspended during the war years, from 1941 to 1945. The paper was distributed to Caramut, Dunkeld, Gazette, Glenthompson, Minhamite, Penshurst and Tabor districts and at the time it ceased publication sold for 15 cents a copy.
- 9. National Bank The bank first opened in a portion of the premises of Crammond & Dickson on the corner of Bell and Martin Streets (Madigan's corner) on 1st September 1872. This building, with attached residence, was built in 1875. Some alterations were carried out in 1955 with major structural alterations taking place in 1964. The stables which had been built in 1882 were demolished, for safety reasons, in 1972. The bank closed on February 27th 1998. The building is now a private residence.





10. Wesleyan Church On February 1st 1859 Reverend William Cox Curry purchased the land for this church. The foundation stone was laid on the 21st December the same year. On the 16th December 1860 the church was opened by the Reverend E. B. Burns. The total cost, including the land, was €399/7/-. Worship continued here until the merging of denominations in 1977. The building is now a private residence.

Thanks to the Mt Rouse and District Historical Society for providing this booklet. We hope the many new residents to Penshurst enjoy learning about their adopted town's history. Copies of the booklet are available for \$5 from historical society member, Brian O'Brien (0437844586).



Penshurst Post Office

31 Martin Street, Penshurst. 3289 Telephone: 5576 5220



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Have you seen something in the latest catalogue you would like Most items can be ordered if we do not have it in stock

A new range of games in store for the family to enjoy, and learning posters to help with home schooling



We look forward to seeing you Stay Safe

John, Judy & Nicole

PAGE 11 MT ROUSE NEWS & VIEWS A PAGE TO SHARE RECIPES

This is a warm and flavour-filled Indian twist on lamb meatballs

Rogan Josh Lamb Meatballs

Prep time 20 mins - Cooking Time 20 mins

INGREDIENTS - 4 Servings

500 g lamb mince

1/4 cup Patak's rogan josh curry

paste

1/4 cup chopped fresh coriander

leaves

1/2 cup fresh breadcrumbs

1 egg, lightly beaten

1 tablespoon vegetable oil

1 medium brown onion, halved,

thinly sliced

2 garlic cloves, crushed

400g can diced tomatoes

1/2 cup chicken style liquid stock

1/3 cup Greek style yoghurt

Steamed Basmati rice, to serve

Pappadums, to serve

Coriander leaves, to serve

METHOD

Step 1 Combine mince, paste, 2 tablespoons coriander, breadcrumbs and egg in a bowl. Season with pepper. Roll level tablespoons mixture into balls. Place on a plate. Cover with plastic wrap. Refrigerate for 20 minutes, if time permits.

Step 2 Heat oil in a large frying pan over mediumhigh heat. Cook meatballs, turning, for 5 minutes or until browned. Transfer to a large plate. Cover to keep warm. Add onion and garlic to pan. Cook, stirring, for 5 minutes or until softened. Add tomato and stock. Bring to the boil. Return meatballs to pan. Reduce heat to low. Cook for 10 minutes or until meatballs are cooked through.

Step 3 Combine yoghurt and remaining coriander in a bowl. Season with salt and pepper. Serve meatball mixture with rice, yoghurt mixture and pappadums.



"One can hardly be Indian and not know that almost every accent, which hand you eat your food with, has some deeper symbolic truth, reality. "

Anish Kapoor

"Although there is a great deal of controversy among scientists about the effects of ingested food on the brain, no one denies that you can change your cognition and mood by what you eat. "

Arthur Winter

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Penshurst Hair Design



The Salon is Open

Tuesday, Thursday & Fridays 9am - 5pm

Every Second Saturday 10am - 3pm

Bookings required As appointments fill quickly! Phone Mandy

Mobile: 0417 511 177



Thank you

PLACES OF INTEREST IN PENSHURST

Volcanoes Discovery Centre

www.volcanoesdiscoverycentre.com.au

Yatmerone Wildlife Reserve

Ritchie Street, Penshurst

Botanic Gardens

Chesswas Street, Penshurst

Penshurst Caravan Park

Cox Street, Penshurst For Bookings phone (03) 5576 5220

24 Hr Fuel

91A Bell Street Penshurst

Mount Rouse Lookout

Waller Road, Penshurst

Monthly Meetings

As we update the monthly meetings we are looking for a contact person's details for each group. Could someone please contact Mark or Ama with your details.

- Book Club, 2nd Tuesday each month at Senior Citizen club rooms. 2.00pm
- Caramut & District Garden Club, 2nd Tuesday monthly at 10 am. See Garden Notes for venue.
- Combined Churches service 3rd Tuesday every month in W.J. Lewis wing at 11 am.
- Courthouse open 1st Saturday each month 9.30 am to 1230 pm.
- Friends Yatmerone Reserve, 2nd
 Tuesday each month at Volcano Centre
 7.30 pm. New members welcome.
- Indoor bowls 2 pm every Monday at Senior Citizens. All Welcome.
- Lions, 1st & 3rd Tuesday each month at 8 pm.
- Mt Rouse & District Historical Society, 4th Sunday in January, March, May, July, September and November, 2pm at Court House. Phone 557 12145.
- Penshurst Bowls Club, 1st Tuesday each month at 7.30 pm.

- Penshurst Hospital Ladies Auxiliary, 3rd Tuesday each month, Sheppard Room, Penshurst Hospital at 1.30 pm.
- Penshurst Playgroup meets every Monday morning 9.10 am—11.30 am at the pre-school in Watton street. Everyone most welcome. (No playgroup in School holidays)
- Penshurst Pony Club rally, 1st Sunday each month.
- Penshurst Senior Citizens meet last Tuesday monthly, 4 pm at club rooms in Bell Street. Novelty Bingo, last Tuesday of month Feb—Nov at 2.15 pm. Cards & social afternoon, 2nd Wednesday monthly at 2pm
- Penshurst Urban Fire Brigade, 2nd Monday monthly at fire station.
- Residents, Relatives & Carers group, Tuesday bi-monthly, 1:30 pm at Hospital.
- RSL meets 1st Thursday of February, April, July & October at 6.30 pm at RSL Hall, Ritchie Street.

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Riddles

- 1. When I am filled I can point the way, When I am empty nothing moves me, I have two skins, one without and one within. What am I?
 - 2. What is so fragile that when you say its name you break it?
 - 3. What kind of can never needs a can-opener?
- 4. Here on Earth it's always true, that a day follows a day. But there is a place where yesterday always follows today!
- 5. They can trickle down, They can tickle too. Or make you sneeze, Or comfort you. Their rustling sound, you've rarely heard, Unless you're a pillow or a bird! What are they?
 - 6. Why is a parish bell like a good story?
- 7. My voice rises above the din, Sometimes catching all unaware. I never ask questions, yet get many answers. What am I?

A Thought from Sammy Scribe

TODAY

What kind of day shall I choose today?
Today I can complain about my health,
Or I can celebrate being alive.
Today I can moan that it is raining,
Or be joyful at all that grows from the rain.
Today I can regret all I don't have,
Or rejoice in everything I do.
Today I can mourn everything I have lost,
Or eagerly anticipate what's to come.
Today I can complain that I have to work,
Or celebrate having a job to go to.
Today I can resent the mess the kids make,
Or give thanks that I have a family.
Today I can whine about the housework.

HAPPY because I can!

Today I ckoose to be

Or celebrate having a home.

Today I can cry over people who don't care for me,

Or be happy loving and being loved by those who do.

I choose to have a good day today!

Just A Thought

Love means to love that which is unlovable, or it's no virtue at all; forgiving means to pardon that which is unpardonable, or it is no virtue at all;

And to hope means hoping when things are hopeless, or it's not virtue at all.

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Penshurst's Website

Have you visited the Penshurst website yet?

Not only is the site full of valuable information, but there are links to many of the important organisations within our town.

Would you like to add a link to your website? Email president@penshurstprogress.org.au

Visit our site

www.penshurstvictoria.com.au and let us know if you have any comments.

Editor

PENSHURST MENS SHED

The Men's Shed is closed as we await the arrival of our Shed Kit and the new build.

We intend to continue to bring you the fortnightly newsletter available from Penshurst's Newsagent & Takeaway, Supermarket & Liquor store & Café.

If you have any stories you would like to share, please contact Mark or Ama by phone or email.

Mark Dalla Costa

mtrousenewsletter@gmail.com

Ama Cooke 0402 870 738

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DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS — 11th July 2020

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: Mark Dalla Costa

All correspondence to: mtrousenewsletter@gmail.com

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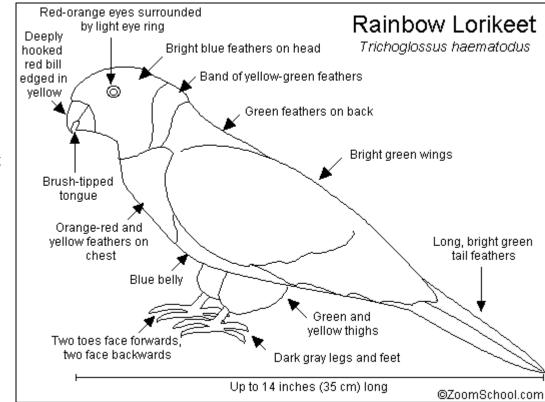
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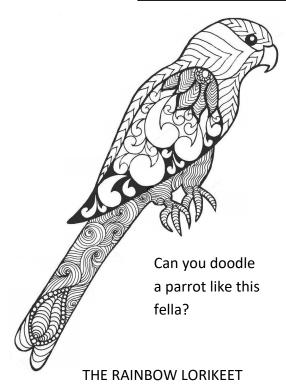
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A Page for the Children to colour and enjoy

The Rainbow Lorikeet

(Trichoglossus moluccanus) is a species of parrot found in Australia. It is common along the eastern seaboard, from northern Queensland to South Australia. Its habitat is rainforest, coastal bush and woodland areas.





There's no prettier bird that you could ever meet, Than a Rainbow Lorikeet.

Green, red, orange, yellow and blue Their striking colours come in many different hues. They often fly into our grapevine.

To feast on the grapes I thought were mine. So cheeky and tame they are never scared To eat the fruit whilst I am there. These birds usually fly in pairs,

But they will join a flock and fly here and there. The male stands guard while the female feeds.

A real characteristic of this particular breed. Sometimes they nest in the hollow of a tree High off the ground for their safety.

The female sits on the eggs alone.

While the male stands guard over their little home.

They defend their feeding and nesting grounds And are aggressive to any other birds around. They are not afraid to rule the skies Against Mynah birds and big Magpies. Lorikeets feed on nectar and fruit And pollen from flowers when it suits. Some are people-friendly and become so tame They can be hand-fed if you are game!

Bill Charlton c2017 (Bill Charlton - Australiana Songwriter/Poet) on Facebook.

MT ROUSE News & VIEWS PAGE 16 Mt Rouse Puzzler Across: 1. Having a good or equal amount of all the necessary parts of something. 2. Kind, nice. Down: 7. The fact of being in a particular place. 1. the day when someone J was born. 10. A special or individual possession; an allotted 3. The fact or condition of being affect by portion. something or experiencing something.

- 13. something that a person wants very much to
- achieve.
- 14. A system of communication by speaking, writing or making signs that can understood.
- 15. The quality or state of being physical strong.
- 17. Something that is formed by combining two or more parts.
- 18. A careful study of something to learn about its parts, what they do and how they are related to each other.
- 19. Purpose or planning that exists behind an action, fact or object.

- 4. To cause (someone or something) to turn, move, or point in a particular way.
- 5. Localized.
- 6. A feeling of liking and caring for someone or something.
- 8. Help or advise that tells you what to do.
- 9. Something that makes someone, or gives someone an idea about, what to create or do.
- 11. Who someone is.
- 12. The power or process of remembering what has been learned.
- 13. Who you are writing, acting, for.



WDHS Helping Hands

A community based program for people requiring support during the Coronavirus outbreak.

The program is available to anyone living in the Southern Grampians Shire who:

- is over 70 or
- has a disability or serious health condition or
 - · is required to self-isolate



Simply contact our WDHS Helping Hands Hotline on **1800 943 131** between the hours of 9am and 4pm, or email **helpinghands@wdhs.net** and we will try to help you.

Assistance might be as simple as keeping in contact with you if you feel isolated, picking up groceries, or helping with your daily living tasks.

WDHS may not be able to help with every request, however someone close to you, such as a neighbour, may be able to assist.

We know our community is strong and in times of need will step up to lend a helping hand.



Call 1800 943 131 or Email helpinghands@wdhs.net



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Tail End Tales

Early Settlement in Victoria

The Englishman Lieutenant David Collins first arrived in Australia with the First Fleet in 1788. The First Fleet was made up of 11 ships carrying British convicts and their officers. After returning to England for a time, Lieutenant Collins ventured to the Port Phillip district (present-day Victoria) in 1803, where he attempted to settle a new penal colony. The free settlers and the marines were not happy with this location, so Victoria was abandoned and Lieutenant Collins moved on. Eventually, in 1804, he settled instead in Hobart, Tasmania (then known as Van Diemen's Land).

Members of the Henty family were the first European settlers to settle in Victoria, arriving in Portland Bay in 1834. They had previously settled in Western Australia and Tasmania, but after unsuccessful attempts at farming they moved to Victoria.

Although the Henty family were certainly the first settlers in the Victorian countryside, it is arguable whether it was John Batman or John Pascoe Fawkner who settled Melbourne. John Batman arrived in Port Phillip in 1835 and sought out the local Indigenous leaders in an attempt to buy their land. John Fawkner's ship arrived in Port Phillip three days before his rival, although he himself was held up in Launceston. Fawkner eventually established Melbourne's first pub, hotel and newspaper.

The first immigrant ship arrived in Port Phillip in 1839; and in 1851 Victoria separated from New South Wales. During the 1850s gold was discovered in Victoria creating a gold frenzy. The Gold Rush brought large numbers of settlers to Victoria hoping to make their fortune. Instead they were met by the often horrible conditions in the goldfields where, for most, gold and wealth were more myth than reality.

Victoria by numbers (2016 Census)

- The total population of Victoria is 6,244,200.
- Melbourne (the capital city of Victoria) has an estimated population of about 4.67 million people.
- 49.2 percent of Victorians are male and 50.8 percent are female.
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders account for 0.8 percent of the Victorian population.
- The top five ancestries for people in Victoria are: English, Australian, Irish, Scottish and Chinese.
- The top five languages (other than English) spoken in Victoria are: Mandarin, Italian, Greek, Vietnamese and Arabic.
- The top five countries of birth *(other than Australia)* for people in Victoria are: England, India, China, New Zealand, and Vietnam.
- Victoria has a total area of 227,416 km² which accounts for 3 percent of Australia's total land mass, and makes it the smallest mainland state.
- Victoria's coastline is 1800 km long and borders Bass Strait, the body of water that separates the mainland from Tasmania.