

# MT ROUSE NEWS & VIEWS



*Market Stalls*

Craft, Jewellery,  
Knickknacks, Quilts,  
Pottery & Art and  
much more



**Santa arrives  
at 7pm**

## Penshurst

*Kid's Treasure  
Hunt*

*Facepainting*



*Christmas Carols  
from our schools  
and others*

*Best Decorated  
Bike Competition*

## Christmas Party

*Lions Club Barbecue,  
South African Food,  
Coffee Bee, and more*

**Friday 8th December  
5pm - 8pm**

**In the  
Botanic Gardens**

*PPA*

Penshurst Progress  
Association

# **Penshurst Progress Association**

ABN 35 622 662 815

president@penshurstprogress.org.au

Committee of Management:

Ama Cooke – Chairperson 0402 870 738

Brian O'Brien - Secretary

Don Adamson - Treasurer

Tom Cooke, Sue Jellie & Jeff Jellie

***Next Meeting - Wednesday 24th January 7.30pm Penshurst Memorial Hall***

Good afternoon everyone,

The small Town Strategy meeting was well attended and the information provided by the Council has been added to this newsletter on pages 7 - 9. There was a lot of discussion and some serious opinions were exchanged. I know the Council appreciates the feedback. We will be watching what they do with it. The Strategy is something we all need to think about, and comment on, as quickly as possible, before it gets lost in the busi-ness of Christmas.

The AGM was also well attended and a great many people expressed their interest in the Progress Association to the delight of all of the Committee of Management. We have been returned to our accustomed places and will continue on the many projects we have on the boil and in discussion. Our next Community meeting is in January as the December one would be two days after Christmas and we can all use a bit of a break.

As I wrote last newsletter, the **last newsletter** for this year will be on the 13th December (Christmas edition), recommencing on the 10th January. If you have anything you would like to add to it please send it me by Saturday 9th December. Christmas Greetings and good wishes are free. This is, after all, a community newsletter.

The **Christmas Market & Party** is coming on **Friday 8th December at 5pm in the Gardens**. Santa is expected about 7pm. We still have sites available if you wish to participate in the market. (Please contact me on 0402 870 738, text or phone, or email 'president@penshurstprogress.org.au for a registration form. The cost is \$15 per site. We have advertised it on MixxFM Community page,

Facebook and will have an ad in the Spec. There will be a letterbox drop for the town and district.

The **Penshurst Citizen of the Year** is a way to acknowledge someone that you feel deserves to be recognised for their service to others and our community. Have you been thinking about who to nominate? It is also open for an award to any of the volunteer groups in the town. There are so many good hearted people here who deserve the thanks. The form is attached to the back of this newsletter. The box to drop it in is at the Post Office. The closing date is the end of December.

And then there is the **Christmas Lights**. Jacqui is creating a street map to pinpoint the location of all the houses so that we don't miss any on the nights they are available. You don't have to enter the competition, but we would love to be able to view your creative Christmas displays. The entry box for the form here on page 3 is at the Post Office. Please add your decorated home to our 'mud map' so that our residents can enjoy a Christmas Lights tour around the town. They help to add to the joy of Christmas after another busy year.

Wishing everyone a great fortnight,  
Ama Cooke, PPA.



When everything is moving and shifting,  
the only way to counteract chaos is stillness.  
When things feel extraordinary, strive for  
ordinary. When the surface is wavy,  
dive deeper for quieter waters.

Kristin Armstrong



Driving around looking at Christmas lights is such a lovely thing to do but finding them can be really difficult. There were some fantastic displays last year that lots of people missed out on seeing because people didn't know where they were.

So, this year we're making a map to show where all the displays are.

**Simply drop this form in the Christmas Lights Map box at the post office by Dec 1st.**

**\*\*\* Please ensure you have your lights up by Dec 8 \*\*\***

## Penshurst Christmas Lights Map

### Entry Form

Fill in your details below to have your address included on the Penshurst Christmas Light map! Your address will be included on the map and address list for people to use to view all the displays. This map and list will be available at the Penshurst Post Office and printed in the Mt. Rouse News & Views newsletter and displayed in shop windows around town. No names will be printed. You might even win a prize!

Your name:

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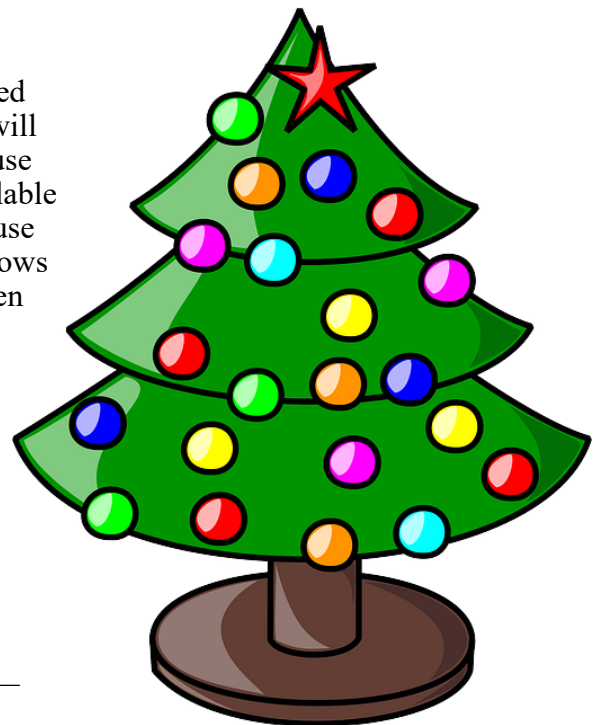
Address:

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Signed: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_ / \_\_\_\_ / 2023







**PENSHURST,**  
YOU CAN'T CONTROL  
FIRE.  
YOU CAN CONTROL HOW  
YOU PLAN FOR FIRE.  
CFA is running  
**FREE information  
and planning  
sessions**

Fire Safety Information  
**2 Dec 2023 9am to 11am**  
outside the Penshurst Bakery

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Fire Safety Planning Assistance  
(free BBQ from 11:30)  
**9 Dec 2023 12 to 2pm**  
at the Penshurst Memorial Hall

### Tiny Towns Fund

Right across rural and regional Victoria, our tiny towns are great places to live and visit.

The new Tiny Towns Fund will support local communities to deliver quality tourism and community facility projects, such as splash parks and bike trails, playgrounds, community hall and library upgrades, public art and more.

Towns with a population of up to 5,000 people in the 48 local government areas of regional Victoria are eligible to apply. **The grant is open now.** Find out more at -

<https://www.rdv.vic.gov.au/grants-and-programs/tiny-towns-fund>

**Infrastructure and Sustainability Update** Wednesday 22nd November 2023

**WORKS UPDATE**

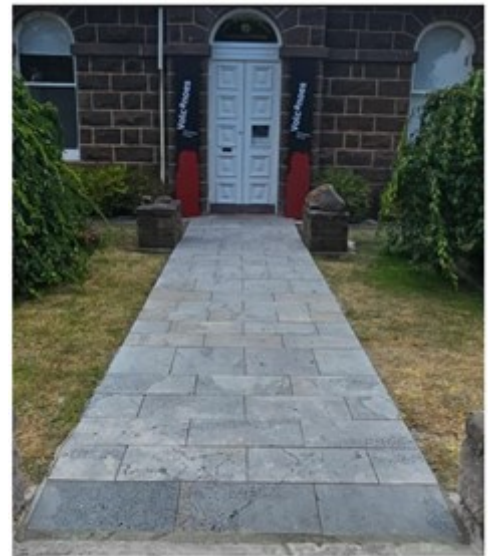
**Penshurst Volcanoes Discovery Centre:**

The front door banners at the entrance of Penshurst Volcanoes Discovery Centre were installed by the contractor last week. This week, several works were completed at the centre, including installation of entry pavers, painting of the front door, installation of LED lights for the shelter and volcano sign, and completion of the roof sheeting. The works at the centre is almost finished and the internal team will finish planting by the end of December 2023.



**Penshurst Public Toilets (Memorial Hall):**

An inspection has been carried out on the public toilets, and a scope of work is being developed for the renewal of various elements within the building. This will involve internal repairs and upgrades, such as plastering, painting, and the replacement of leaking fittings. The expected completion date for the works is by the end of April 2024.



**Footpath Program:**

Ritchie Street in Penhurst, specifically the south side that connects Martin Street to the entrance of Penhurst Primary School, is scheduled to undergo renewal works. The council is currently working on confirming the dates for each footpath work, and the program is set to begin in January 2024.

**Drainage Works:**

Currently civil design work is ongoing to address drainage issues on Cox Street in Penshurst. The flood modelling has been completed and the design is being reviewed.

**General Maintenance and Works:**

Next week, the Parks & Gardens team will be removing weeds from the roundabout and medians. On Wednesday 29th November, the works will be carried out in Penshurst to clean and maintain the garden beds off the parking areas. Additionally, the street sweeper will also be there on the same day to assist in keeping the streets clean. The replacement of signage and cleaning has been completed.



The best preparation for tomorrow is doing your best today. H. Jackson Brown, Jr.





# PENSHURST Post Office

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31 Martin Street

Someone is sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago.  
Warren Buffett

**5576 5270**

Friendly faces and helpful staff ...

**Penshurst Liquor &  
Grocery Store**

**Open 7 days**

**Opening Hours:**

**Monday - Friday**

7am - 7pm

**Saturday**

8am - 6pm

**Sunday**

8am - 5pm

**80 Bell Street, Penshurst**



Sandwiches & lunch packs available

Order your meat, fresh fruit & vegetables  
by phone for collection at your convenience

**Groceries - Bread - Frozen Foods**

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**Penshurst's News Agency**

## **Southern Grampians Shire Small Town Strategy**

### **WHAT IS THE SMALL TOWNS STRATEGY?**

Over the last two decades Council has conducted extensive strategic planning work to guide the future growth and character of the region responding to the variety in size, infrastructure provision, history and community needs of each of the local towns surrounding Hamilton.

Accordingly, the specific strategic direction for each town, outlining a vision, existing assets, challenges, and a future plan for service and infrastructure delivery needs to be reviewed and updated.

The limitations in funding and resources available to Council means that creative approaches to service and infrastructure delivery are required.

Strategic thinking is necessary to determine how to best balance investment across the towns with projected growth and those experiencing population decline, while ensuring communities have fair access to the facilities and services necessary for liveability.

To do this, it is important to understand how each community uses the facilities in their town, what they need and value, and how/where they access services not available locally.

The vision for each town outlined in this Small Towns Strategy will enable each of our towns to complement and support one another to provide the services, infrastructure and opportunities necessary to ensure the wellbeing of the Shire's residents for years to come.

### **NEXT STEPS?**

The project team is now pleased to exhibit this draft Small Towns Strategy to the community for a final engagement period.

Feedback on the document and on township priorities can be sent through to planning @sthgrampains.vic.gov.au.

All feedback received will be considered by Council prior to adoption of the Strategy early next year.

### **Key items in Strategy**

#### **CONSIDERATIONS**

##### **Community Infrastructure and Services**

- \* The swimming pool in Penshurst is in poor condition, has low visitation and high operating costs.
- \* Penshurst lacks community space.
- \* The caravan park which adjoins the Recreation Reserve is of a low standard, with limited infrastructure and no on-site supervision.

##### **Lifestyle and character**

- \* A high proportion of activity space in the town centre is apparently vacant.
- \* The amenity of the streetscape requires improvement, especially Bell and Martin Streets.
- \* The built form of the township better reflects historical uses and is poorly equipped to meet current needs.

**Small Town Strategy (continued)****Access, Connection and Transport**

- \* The Botanic Gardens lack shared paths infrastructure.
- \* Broad an ongoing road renewal is needed – roads are not fit for purpose as they are based on decades old traffic and freight patterns.
- \* Public transport access is limited.

**Infrastructure (servicing)**

- \* The most densely populated settlement without reticulated sewerage. This poses significant risk to human and environmental health.

**Natural Values and Open Space**

- \* FFG are located around the township boundary within a kilometre of the town, including Bandicoots, Readers Daisy, Australasian Shoveler, and Magpie Geese, among others.
- \* The lack of sewerage infrastructure has resulted in high levels of blue-green algae in the spring located within the Botanic Gardens, and poses a high risk of contamination of local rivers, wetlands and waterways.
- \* Some facilities in the Botanic Gardens require upgrades.
- \* The groundwater aquifers underlying the town are currently undervalued.

**OPPORTUNITIES**

The following list of opportunities was developed to reflect previous strategic work and community engagement results.

**Community Infrastructure and Services**

- \* Investigate repurposing of swimming pool into a splash park or neighbourhood hub.
- \* Investigate value or delivering a neighbourhood hub to Penshurst.
- \* Provide support to schools and kindergarten.

**Lifestyle and character**

- \* Better leverage Penshurst's location on the Great Southern Touring Route.
- \* Maximise increased tourism opportunities generated by delivery of Penshurst Volcanoes Discovery Centre.
- \* Seek funding to undertake a streetscape revitalisation project, involving improvements to building facades and street tree plantings. Investigate how to better utilise vacant heritage buildings.

**Access, Connection and Transport**

- \* Advocate to Department of Transport for broad and ongoing road renewal.
- \* Continue to advocate to Department of Transport to improve bus service.
- \* Explore potential to purchase a community bus and local school bus.
- \* Improve shared paths and active transport connectivity. Create a walking and cycling loop that connects the Botanic Gardens.
- \* Improve the walking track to Mount Rouse and Yatmerone Wildlife Reserve.
- \* Deliver signage and bicycle parking facilities in Botanic Gardens.

**Infrastructure (servicing)**

- \* Finalise funding model for Penshurst adaptive wastewater scheme, to be delivered with Wannon Water.

Continued page 9



## Small Town Strategy (continued)

## Natural Values and Open Space

- \* Investigate the groundwater aquifers underlying Penshurst and surrounds and identify environmental, indigenous and cultural significance and the interconnection with the Mt Rouse volcano and nearby Wetlands include Yatmerone.

**Key Aspects to be Updated in Strategic Planning Documentation**

- \* Require land owners to provide own infrastructure to provide water access in less concentrated urban areas as part of building permit, e.g. 10000L water tank with fitting for fire truck. Triggers in planning system needed.
- \* Penshurst is a good candidate town for consideration of rural living, especially with its support services (schools, local retail, quality open space, WDHS health centre etc).
- \* Vision of community infrastructure needs.
- \* Investigation areas for rural living/residential development and logical zone changes around existing townships in map form.

**The parable of the lunch box.**

I remember with nostalgic affection the lunches that mother used to pack me. There was the traditional sandwich, a piece of fruit, a treat and if practical, a little something left over from last night's dinner. It was simple enough but served this growing boy well. It wasn't glamorous, but then that wasn't the point. It was supposed to get me through the arduous school day. It wasn't sparse nor was it squishy.

This wholesome image came to me the other day when I had back to back things carefully programmed for the day. It was always going to be a near run thing as I dashed like a mad priest from one thing to the next. And then, discourteously, the phone rang and...

In my hurly burly I reflected that I was simply not doing this right. My days would be a whole lot better if I just used the parable of the lunch box to plot my time more adroitly.

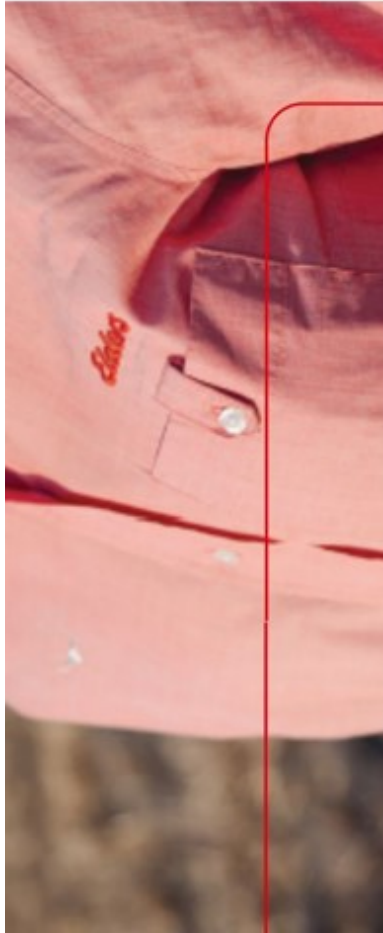
My lunch box was never squished with too much in it. Try to pack too much in and nothing came out as it should. Out of shape, a bit mangled, maybe even a bit manky.

No, we need strategic gaps which allow everything to have the space it needs.

You would think that I would have learnt by now, but apparently not. So I offer these ramblings to you dear reader. For we all lead busy, frenetic lives and few of us have learnt the ways of gentle rest and to pack our lunch box days in simplicity and with care.

I am grateful to my mother, not just for nurturing with physical sustenance but also with a pragmatic lesson that would bubble to the surface 58 years later.

Remember the parable of the lunch box.



## ELDERS HAMILTON

*Proud to be a supporter of the Penshurst community*

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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  
Steve McLeod (Agent) 0419 836 203  
Ashley Crow (Agent) 0419 711 405

#### STUD STOCK

Ross Milne 0408 057 558

100 Portland Road,  
Hamilton P. 03 5551 5700  
E. hamilton@elders.com.au  
elders.com.au



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### LEADERSHIP 2023 CHANGE MAKERS PROGRAM



A huge congratulations to Jack who graduated this week from the 'Leadership 2023 Change Makers Program'. Facilitated by Leading Teams and based in the Wimmera area, Jack described the 10 month initiative as extremely beneficial.

The program allowed Jack to network with Managers in all areas of the workforce, thus enabling him to not only develop as a Manager, but assisted him greatly in developing the leadership skills of his team.

Well done Jack on your commitment to this program, which no doubt will assist you tremendously in your career path.

## Help be prepared for fire season

We think good insurance is insurance you can rely on when things go bad. Insurance that's there for you when you really need it. The sort of insurance you'll receive through Bendigo Bank.

To help protect what matters to you, visit us in branch or at [bendigobank.com.au/insurance](http://bendigobank.com.au/insurance) to get a quote.

Community Bank - Dunkeld & District - 03 5577 2488



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### Caramut and District Garden Club

**Rhododendron** are spectacular plants of around 800 evergreen semi-deciduous and deciduous shrubs and trees. Found in many areas of the world, there is even one found in the northeast of Australia. Azaleas also belong to the rhododendron family. They are grown mainly for their massed display of flowers which vary greatly in size from tiny thimbles to 20cm trumpets. They can be one coloured or be multi coloured. Now is a good time to take a walk around the streets to see them out in all their glory. The photo is of mine which was in the garden when we bought our home in Hamilton nearly 20 years ago.

Rhododendrons need loose, open, well drained, acidic soil with plenty of humus to retain moisture. They thrive with regular mulching that enables their predominantly surface roots to spread and develop. They prefer dappled shade or at least protection from the hottest afternoon sun and strong winds. Mine gets no real attention and only a little watering during prolonged dry periods but does meet the growing conditions.



**The next meeting** of the Garden Club is the Christmas Luncheon at the Kirkstall Hotel for \$30 on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> December. Previous to that at 10.30 am, there will be a visit to Rob Hampton's garden in Winslow. **Visitors are always welcome.** Please ring Marita re the lunch and garden visit on 0407 504 307 for bookings.

### Epsom Salts

I discovered a number of garden uses for Epsom salts. Obviously from America. I haven't tried the hints. Over the next few articles, I will include the suggested hints.

**Fancy full ferns.** When ferns are yellow and dull-looking, they don't look great. Epsom salt helps ferns and plants similar to ferns, such as elephant ear, have rich, dark foliage. Add 1 tablespoon (15 ml) of Epsom salt to a gallon (3.8 litres) of water and spray ferns and elephant ears to achieve the look.

**Increase nutrient uptake:** Epsom salts, when added to the soil around plants, helps them absorb other nutrients more efficiently. In fact, most commercial fertilizers have large amounts of magnesium. By adding plain Epsom salts, you won't have to bother with so much fertilizer.

I couldn't resist - Here are some garden puns.

*Ants in your plants*

*All dressed up and nowhere to grow*

*Herb your enthusiasm*

*Don't stop the beetroot*

*Your good seed for the day*

*Eat, drink and be rosemary*

*All things must grass*

*Cutting it vine*

*You parsley the test*

*Get a twiggle on*

*Seed between the lines*





## Penshurst Store



Amanda & Cam Wilson  
0439 941 942

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

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

**Phone orders and payments are welcome.**

**Monday - CLOSED**

**Tuesday to Friday - 7.30am - 2.00pm**

**Saturday - 8.00am - 2.00pm**

**Sunday - CLOSED**

Café/Bakery

110 Bell Street, Penshurst

[penshurststore@gmail.com](mailto:penshurststore@gmail.com)

## CHRISTOPHER COOK CONSTRUCTIONS

**Ph: 0417 100 243**

**Fax: 5576 5267**



**HIA Reg CB-U 6214  
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**112 Bell Street  
Penshurst Vic 3289**



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**MEDIA RELEASE**

SOUTHERN GRAMPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL



14 November 2023

**HELP SHAPE THE 2024-25 COUNCIL BUDGET**

Southern Grampians Shire Council is changing the way it engages with the community in relation to the preparation of the annual budget. This year, Council will shift to a single engagement period prior to the preparation of the budget, seeking submissions from the community beginning in November.

This earlier engagement process will allow Council to be better informed of residents' priorities within the context of the Council Plan 2021-2025, prior to the development of the budget. Residents can participate in the budget engagement process by filling out the online submission form or completing a paper-based form available at our Brown Street customer service centre.

The new engagement process will also allow the 2024/25 Annual Budget to be considered by Council for adoption in May 2024 — a month earlier than in previous years. Southern Grampians Shire Council Mayor Cr David Robertson encouraged community members to get involved in this process to share what they felt was important to them and their families. "Whether you're a ratepayer or a regular user of council services, the budget and how Council prioritises its spending affects everyone," Cr Robertson said. "From children and family services to libraries, roads and footpaths to waste collection, it's important that the budget reflects the priorities of residents. While there are no guarantees that submissions will be included in the budget, all will be considered and assessed against their alignment to our Council Plan 2021-25," Cr Robertson said.

The online submission form is live now and can be accessed here. Submissions close Friday 1 December at 5pm. The form is available on Council's website at [www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay](http://www.sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/haveyoursay) Council is also conducting a short survey about the budget and long-term financial plan, available here.

Hard copy forms and surveys can be obtained from Council's customer service centre at 111 Brown Street, Hamilton. Enquiries can be directed to [council@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au](mailto:council@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au) or 5573 0444.

Media inquiries: Beth Gibson, 0460 321 634, [bgibson@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au](mailto:bgibson@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au)

**More jokes that need planting ...**

Q: What kind of socks does a gardener wear?

A: Garden hose!

Q: Why did the tomato blush?

A: Because he saw the salad dressing!

Q: Which vegetable did Noah leave off the ark?

A: Leeks!

Q: What's the easiest way to stop a dog from digging in the garden?

A: Take away his shovel!

Q: What do trees drink?

A: Root Beer!

Q: What kind of flower looks like it just came back from a fight?

A: A Black-Eyed Susan!

Q: What happened to the plant in math class?

A: It grew square roots!

### Words that Don't Exist but Should...

(continued from last fortnight)

5. FRUST (frust) n. The small line of debris that refuses to be swept onto the dust pan and keeps backing a person across the room until he finally decides to give up and sweep it under the rug.

6. LACTOMANGULATION (lak' to man gyu lay' shun) n. Manhandling the "open here" spout on a milk container so badly that one has to resort to the 'illegal' side.

7. PEPPIER (pehp ee ay') n. The waiter at a fancy restaurant whose sole purpose seems to be walking around asking diners if they want ground pepper.

8. PHONESIA (fo nee' zhuh) n. The affliction of dialling a phone number and forgetting whom you were calling just as they answer.

It's that time of year again.

### Who will you choose to nominate as your Citizen of the Year.

Every year the Progress Association asks the Penshurst community to nominate the person, and group, they think should be recognised for their volunteering work. The form will be attached to the next two newsletters. Return it to the box at the Post Office.

9. PUPKUS (pup' kus) n. The moist residue left on a window after a dog presses its nose to it.

10. TELECRASTINATION (tel e kras tin ay' shun) n. The act of always letting the phone ring at least twice before you pick it up, even when you're only six inches away.

Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap but by the seeds that you plant.  
Robert Louis Stevenson



**DP Pest Control**

Daniel van Someren

Owner/operator

**0458 062 220**

License Number : L010422



**Pregnancy scanning**

Nathan Rentsch • Penshurst

**spotonscanning.com.au**



### Penshurst Shed



*The Shed is Open  
Come and visit  
Saturday &  
Tuesday 10am - 4pm*

*Open to everyone -*

#### Contact

Tom Cooke 0488 557 345

For more information

## A PAGE TO SHARE RECIPES

**French Onion Christmas Tree Dip**

Prep Time 45mins      Serves 12

## INGREDIENTS

- 1kg cream cheese, softened
- 40g sachet French onion soup mix
- 1 cup grated tasty cheese
- 1/3 cup finely grated parmesan
- 1/3 cup chopped sun-dried tomatoes in oil
- 1 bunch fresh flat-leaf parsley leaves, chopped
- 6 x 25g packets mini Ritz crackers
- 1 cup almond kernels
- 150g jar red cocktail onions, drained, halved
- 80g packet pretzel sticks
- 1 slice tasty cheese
- Assorted crackers, to serve
- Vegetables, to serve

## METHOD

## · Step 1

Using an electric mixer, beat cream cheese until light and fluffy. Add soup mix. Beat until well combined. Add grated cheeses and tomato. Season with pepper. Beat until well combined. Cover. Refrigerate for 1 hour or until firm enough to shape.

## · Step 2

Place a large piece of plastic wrap on a flat surface. Turn cheese mixture onto plastic. Using clean hands and plastic wrap, form mixture into a tree shape (base of tree will need to be 15cm in diameter). Place on a serving platter.

## · Step 3

Press parsley all over cheese. Brush excess parsley from platter. Open 4 packets of crackers. Using picture as a guide, decorate tree with almonds, onion, Ritz crackers and 3/4 of the pretzels. Using a 4cm star-shaped cutter, cut a star from cheese slice. Carefully push into top of tree. Serve with remaining pretzel sticks, assorted crackers and vegetables.

From Taste.com.au

**Baked Parmesan Zucchini**

**STEP 1:** Preheat the oven to 450°F (230°C) OR to 400°F (200°C) with a fan setting (convection). Move the rack one shelf above the centre. Wash the zucchini and dry with paper towels. Cut into thick, at least 1/2 inch (1 1/4 cm) slices.

**STEP 2:** Place on a baking sheet (don't line it with parchment paper), drizzle with olive oil and season with salt and pepper. Toss to coat. Spread the slices as much as you can.

**STEP 3:** Sprinkle zucchini with garlic powder and basil.

**STEP 4:** Sprinkle zucchini slices with grated parmesan and pecorino cheese.

**STEP 5:** Bake for 9 minutes then turn on the grill setting and bake for a further 2-3 minutes or until cheese is golden in colour. Keep an eye on the zucchini so it won't burn (easy is such a hot oven). Baking time may vary depending on the thickness of the zucchini slices and on the oven (every oven bakes differently).



## Penshurst Hair Design



### Opening Days

Tuesday,  
Thursday  
Friday &  
every second  
Saturday  
10am - 2pm

By Appointment

For appointments please ring

**Mobile: 0417 511 177**



## Leanne Cottrill

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📍 190 Gray Street Hamilton 3300

✉ [www.dantehan.com.au](http://www.dantehan.com.au)

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## How to build a scarecrow

Kids page

### Tools + Materials

- hammer
- scissors
- old clothes
- boots
- twine
- nails
- straw or dried grass
- Pillowcase
- (2) 1x2 1.8m garden stakes

### 1. Set Up the Scarecrow Frame

Start by buttoning all but the top four buttons of the scarecrow's shirt, and then inserting a 1.8m stake through both of the shirt sleeves, making sure it's centered evenly through the shirt. This stake will act as your horizontal support.

Lay the horizontal stake at a 90-degree angle over the vertical stake that you'll later drive into the ground, and about 30cm from the end of the vertical stake (you'll later use that length to support the scarecrow's head). Drive two nails into the wood and through the shirt where the pieces overlap. This will join the frame members together and clamp the shirt fabric between them.

Making sure the scarecrow's body faces the direction you want, carefully press the vertical stake into the ground. You may need to use a hammer to drive it firmly into place.

### 2. Create the Top Half

Using a small length of twine, tie off the bottom of the shirt at the waistline. Leave the top three or four buttons undone because you'll need access for stuffing. Tie both of the sleeves shut using pieces of garden twine. If you'd like to add gloves to your scarecrow, this is a good time to do that. Using handfuls of straw or dried grass, stuff the chest cavity of your scarecrow. Make sure that you stuff it enough to give it a good solid shape.



### 3. Create the Bottom Half

You'll need to stuff the pants before attaching them. Tie off both pant legs and firmly stuff the pants with whatever material you've chosen. To attach the pants, use twine to create a pair of suspenders for your scarecrow. We used the belt loops to secure the twine and brought it over the shoulders and secured the suspenders to the rear of the scarecrow. You'll want to stuff the legs into a pair of shoes or boots. If they're old boots you won't be reusing, drill a drainage hole in the bottom so they won't fill with water when it rains.



### 4. Add Finishing Touches



Use an old pillowcase to form the head of the scarecrow. Stuff it with filling and then pull it down over the top of the frame. Tie the neck to the vertical stake and begin forming the shape of the head. Add a face, some hair or even a hat to make your scarecrow look menacing enough to ward off any potential garden invaders.

Well, most of them, maybe. In this case (right) the scarecrow's lap became a warm and comfy place to nap.

A bit of fun for the summer holidays.



# Mount Rouse Puzzler

Across:

2: To cause someone to be happy or pleased.

7: Not myself, ....

8: A place where people live that is larger than a village but smaller than a city.

11: Acts of distraction, changing the direction or use of something.

12: Something or someone that produces an effect, result, or condition.

14: Able to be bought or used.

15: To carry with you.

18: Well known, popular.

19: An occasion or situation that makes it possible to do something that you want to do.

23: Lasting only a short time or containing few words.

24: Kind, nice.

25: See and talk to people for the first time.

Down:

1: To separate into different parts.

3: For another time.

4: Old-fashioned term for one who robs a pedestrian.

5: Something that is caused by something else that happened or was done before.

6: The person that someone normally or truly is.

9: Used in questions and structures in which there is a fixed or limited set of answers or which witch fits.

10: Especially, or more than usual.

13: Not easy.

16: To rarely do something; not often.

17: A surprise.

20: With each other.

21: Used to show the place where someone or something starts.

22: Large animals that are used for riding and for carrying and pulling things.



You might have noticed that last fortnight's crossword did something very weird. It had the same clue and answer twice. It was not me (wipes brow). I use a program to create the crosswords, and something didn't come out right. After years of hard work, its entitled to the occasional backflip.

**Last Fortnight's Crossword - Across:** 1 option, 5 echo, 8 complain, 9 genuine, 13 mechanism, 14 weakness, 16 confront, 17 fragrant, 20 bait, 22 billet, 23 jetlag.  
**Down:** 2 pigeon, 3 leant, 4 weakness, 6 linear, 7 confront, 10 forestry, 11 radiation, 12 directory, 15 motif, 18 gorge, 19 analysis, 20 bunch, 21 cellar.

**Community Meetings**

**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.

**Penshurst Hospital**

- Combined Churches service 3rd Tuesday every month in W.J. Lewis wing at 11 am.
- Penshurst Hospital Ladies Auxiliary, 3rd Tuesday each month, Sheppard Room 1.30 pm.
- 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 at Senior Citizens Centre, French Street - **COVID Permitting**. Please contact Fiona Social Support Group Coordinator on 03-5551 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 Joy Doherty 0408 360 801.
- The Court House open for Visitors 1st Saturday each month 9.30 am to 12.30 pm.

**Friends Yatmerone Reserve**

- Meeting 2nd Tuesday every second month, commencing February at Volcanoes Discovery Centre 7.30 pm. New members welcome.

**Lions Club of Penshurst & District**

- 1st Friday dinner meeting. 3rd Tuesday business meeting, each month at 8 pm at Penshurst Memorial Hall, 21 Martin Street. penshurst.vic@lions.org.au

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



**AmbulanceVictoria**

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

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

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

**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. Phone Jenni 0409 962 969

**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 Church Services**

**Bethlehem Lutheran Church Tabor**

Service every Sunday 10.00am

**Penshurst Anglican Church**

5pm Mass 4th Sunday each month

For further details contact Janet Kelly on 0475685946 & 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 8.30am  
3rd Sunday Lay Service 8.30am  
4th Sunday Mass 8.30am  
5th Sunday Mass 8.30am



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

**Outside the Hall in Martin St**

**Date for December 7th**

**Phone: 5573 0470**

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

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## Mt Rouse News & Views

### Community Newsletter



### Sponsor our colour front page

Would you like to sponsor the colour front page of our community newsletter?

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Cost is \$22 per page per issue.

All profits earned by advertising in this newsletter help the Progress Association achieve and support community projects.

For more information  
 contact Ama 0402 878 738

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### DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS — Saturday 9th December 2023

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](mailto:mtrousenewsletter@gmail.com)

**F R E E N E W S L E T T E R F O R T N I G H T**

Also available in colour online at

<http://www.penshurstvictoria.com.au/Penshurst%20Newsletter.html>

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president@penshurstprogress.org.au



Australia Day

## Australia Day Nomination Form

### Penshurst Citizen of the Year 2023

Name of Nominee: .....

Reason why you nominated him or her (or group):

.....

.....

.....

.....

Your name: .....

All Nominee names are kept confidential

Contact no: .....

Thank you for submitting your nomination

Date: .....

Please return by email or drop in the Red box at the Post Office by  
31<sup>st</sup> December 2023. Thank you.