

# *MT ROUSE News & Views*

## *Anzac Day 2024*



Photographer: Tracey Kruger



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## 2024 Penshurst ANZAC Day Dawn Service

The true meaning of community spirit was on show at Penshurst on ANZAC Day when approximately 200 people, including the Mayor, David Robertson, gathered for the Dawn Service.

Former Mayor Marcus Rentsch gave the ANZAC address honouring all those lost at Gallipoli. Brenda Uebergang acknowledged the women who served including the nurses massacred on the beach at Bangla Island.

Brian O'Brien recited Trish Reeves' poem "We Remember Those on ANZAC Day". The requiescat delivered by Greg Linke brought silence upon the crowd



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as they reflected on the sacrifice of so many. Then, perhaps the most poignant moment of the service brought many to tears as two riderless horses made their way past the gathering. "That was my undoing" a local resident was heard to say, "watching those horses with the empty saddles and the boots in backwards and listening to their hooves in the stillness of the morning was something I will always remember. It was very special." he added.

Just when people had dried their eyes, Paul Sutherland and his good friend who represented New Zealand performed "And The Band Played Waltzing Matilda", perhaps one of the most haunting tributes ever written. Reverend Peter Cook's prayers brought comfort before Kate Orchard's ANZAC Day Dedication reminded those gathered of the reason they were there.

The Hamilton & District Pipes and Drums Band marched up Bell St toward the cenotaph playing Amazing Grace before the wreath laying ceremony, the Ode of Remembrance and The Last Post.

Not to be outdone by the horses, a riot of kookaburras, as if on cue, at the end of the minute of silence, burst into laughter and brought smiles to the crowd. "How Australian is that?" one man was heard to say.

Warrant Officer 2 (ret.) Rod Orchard raised the Australian flag as The Reveille rang out and the dawn broke across Penshurst.

The service finished with people, arm in arm, holding their children and loved ones close proudly singing the National Anthem. Robert Coates, who had been the MC for the event, thanked all the sponsors and people who had been involved in assisting with the organising. "And an enormous shout out to our event organiser Jacqui Tribe" he said before the crowd gave a round of applause. A community BBQ breakfast followed the service.

We will remember them. Lest we forget.



With thanks to Brian O'Brien for sponsoring this colour page

## 2024 Penshurst ANZAC Day Dawn Service

### THANK YOU

This event was such a success because of the contributions of every single person, business and organisation involved.

#### Financial Sponsors

Bendigo Community Bank, Dunkeld  
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#### In Kind Contributions

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 Tracey Kruger Photography

#### Assistance provided by:

Victoria Police  
 Ambulance Victoria  
 Southern Grampians Shire Council  
 Penshurst Racing Club  
 Penshurst Pony Club  
 Penshurst Primary School  
 St. Joesph's Primary School

#### Planning Support provided by:

RSL Victoria  
 Mary Johnson  
 Doug Watson

#### Speakers;

Marcus Rentsch  
 Brenda Uebergang  
 Greg Linke  
 Brian O'Brien  
 Rev. Peter Cook  
 Kate Orchard  
 MC Robert Coates

#### Performers;

Paul Sutherland  
 Paul's friend representing New Zealand  
 Hamilton & District Pipes & Drums Band



'Ranger' led by Alex Kinnealy  
 'Mehmet' led by Jenni Kinnealy  
 ...and The Kookaburras!

#### Australian Flag

WO2 (ret.) Rod Orchard

#### Event Day Assistance - Logistics, BBQs, Set Up & Clean Up

Dennis Heslin  
 Andrew Curtis from Penshurst Depot - SGSC  
 Will Gordon  
 Pages Fuel  
 Cottrell's Plumbing  
 Robert Collins  
 Richard Collins  
 Jenny Eccles  
 Bruce Eccles  
 Phil Stallard  
 Marcel Uzice  
 Mt Rouse & District Lions Club  
 Lyn Torbet  
 Anne Hughes

#### Event Coordinator

Jacqui Tribe

And thank you to every person who attended on the day, laid a wreath or floral tribute and paid their respects. Most of all, we express our eternal gratitude to those brave men and women who gave their lives for us.

We remember you. We always will.

# 2024 Peshurst ANZAC Day Dawn Service



“That was the most meaningful and moving ANZAC service I have ever been to. And I’ve been to a few,” Val Rentsch said.

“What a lovely Dawn Service, the horses were a special feature. It was a privilege to be a part of.” Brenda Uebergang.

## Peshurst ANZAC Day 25th April 2025

Planning is already underway for our Peshurst ANZAC Day 25-4-25. Any way you look at it, it’s going to be special! If you would like to be involved - there’s ways everyone can contribute - please contact Jacqui Tribe to have a chat. 0412 99 00 00



All photographs on this page: Thank you Tracey Kruger



### Thank you Jacqui

The Anzac Day service was obviously a magical experience for those who attended it. We want to thank the team for their hard work, and particularly Jacqui Tribe, who went out of her way to bring the Anzac tradition back to Peshurst!