

# *MT ROUSE News & Views*



*Community Newsletter*

**WANTED – have you seen this bird?**



*Latham's Snipe.*

*Photo used with permission from Rob Drummond*

Story page 2

**WANTED – have you seen this bird?**

From the front page

Penshurst and district are renowned for springs, wetlands, creeks, stony rises and open paddocks. All these attributes provide an ideal habitat for the Latham's (Japanese) Snipe.

Latham's Snipe visit southwest Victoria from late Spring and through summer months, flying thousands of kilometres from Siberia and Japan every year.

Wet paddocks provide sanctuary and habitat for these birds and our region is critical to its survival as a species. In a dry year these areas become even more important. The Friends of Yatmerone volunteer group have identified areas within and around Penshurst where the Snipe visit but with help from landowners and managers aim to identify more sites. Mapping these areas can help with their survival as we gain a greater understanding of this remarkable bird.

Recently the Friends were awarded a Victorian Landcare Grant, through the Glenelg Hopkins CMA, to record wetland birds and their habitat (both current and historical) around Penshurst and district. Supported by the Victorian Landcare grant the Friends are planning a series of activities over the next 12 months.

Meanwhile, the Friends group would love to hear from anyone who know of current Snipe habitat sites or remember previous Snipe habitat sites. Other wetland birds are included in the study including Brolga.

Please contact Alison 0436 693 463; Lucy 0403 457 999 or Mary 0408 530 808



*Latham's Snipe.  
Photo used with  
permission from  
Rob Drummond*

**Damian Callinan**  
**DOUBLE FEATURE**

**Sterling Place Community Centre  
Dunkeld**

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## Heslin throws hat in ring for election

By Felicity Handreck, Spectator

This year marks previous property investment business operator, Dennis Heslin's second year living in Penshurst after seeking a country life, having lived in the Mornington Peninsula for 12 years.

When asked by *The Spectator* if he enjoyed living in the Shire, Mr Heslin's response was, "I love it."

"It's a two-way street - to be embraced by a community, you've got to embrace the community as well," he said.

Mr Heslin said he's been lucky enough to be on the Penshurst and District Racing Club committee and a qualified coach at the Penshurst Bowls Club. "It's been great to be able to get involved so quickly," he said.

Mr Heslin said he was motivated to run for Council after he was approached by a number of people who asked if he would be interested in throwing his hat in the ring.

"The motivation (for running) is not only for Penshurst but the outlying areas ... it would be nicer to see them have a greater representation at a Council level.

"Even though we may be an outlying town, we're still impacted by what happens in Hamilton as well."

"If you've got the local representation it just makes it a bit easier to establish that communication channel through someone who's local ... maybe you're a bit more approachable if they know who you are beforehand."

Mr Heslin, who's volunteered with both domestic and international Rotary projects for over 20 years, said, "I've got a deep commitment to want to help people."

He added that he would like to humanise the community's interactions with the Council saying, "Instead of people dealing with Council, (make it) people dealing with people."

"It's in most people's DNA to want to help one another ... anyone approaching Council should be made to feel that they are approachable and that they will be heard.

"Some projects might be bigger than others, but it doesn't mean they're not as important to those that do have an interest in those projects.

Mr Heslin spoke about the community he had seen throughout the Shire saying, "You see the impact a game of football has on a community - it really is a strong bond in the community, but unfortunately, we don't play football every day of the year, so you need something else."

Citing another example, he noted, "that spirit within our small town, Penshurst, kicked off again on ANZAC Day of this year with a great dawn service."

Mr Heslin is confident he has what it takes to be a good councillor. He said his long experience with town planners, councillors, land developers, builders, conveyancers and finance people should hold him in good stead for the role.

"I'd have the skills to be able to communicate and negotiate with people," he said.





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### Of Treasure

The film treasure stars Lena Dunham and Stephen Fry. Based on a true story they play a father (Edek) and daughter (Ruth) going back for a trip to the Death Camp of Auschwitz.

Ruth has never been but her Father Edek has childhood memories. Ruth is keen for them to go, Dad not so much.

When I first glimpsed the plot I thought it would be graphic and confronting. Not so. The vastness of the death camp is glimpsed but all that is left are ruins and an ill-informed guide.

They return to the home from where Edek and his family were forced to leave. In their haste they managed to bury the deeds to the house. When Edek returns with his daughter Ruth they discover the house has been taken over by squatters who are well aware of their flimsy right to occupancy. Edek digs for the buried treasure of the documents and its still all there. Legally he could now claim it and pass it onto Ruth. Whether she accepts it is not clear as they have both become 'New Yorkers' and they return home.

At one level the treasure is the buried bits of paper. But for me at least the real treasure is the relationship that is tested and strengthened, is fraught and funny. In their angst and tears, laughter and fury something quite lovely blossoms. The pair discover their own treasure in each other and in what they are together. It seems that our most enduring and authentic treasure is the people who are given to us, who we share our life with. Those who we rejoice in and delight in. Those who infuriate and frustrate us. These are of immeasurable, priceless and infinite value and they are always our greatest treasure.

### *Your mission today is to be the answer to someone's prayer.*

It was a cutesy poster I saw in a church once. The photo showed someone embracing a raggedy child. While the photo engaged me, it was the caption that stayed with me long after.

*Your mission today is to be the answer to someone's prayer.*

There's at least two ways of 'being the answer to someone's prayer.'

First, when we deliberately plot this. We consciously choose to go and be with old so and so who really needs... to be listened to, some chicken noodle soup, 2 chocolate Tim Tams or a beverage of something fabulous or a combo deal.

This is convivial, enjoyable and fruitful. The mystery is that the less that is said, the more that is accomplished. Further, we often discover that poor old so and so is actually the answer to our prayer. We just didn't realise it when we set out and often we don't realise it until much later.

The other thing that happens more frequently is when a conversation bubbles back up after a long period of hibernation. We didn't set out to do anything much and in fact we had forgotten all about the chat. Not so for the other party. They took our words to themselves and the words are still ringing loudly in that person's heart and lives. This is not something you can contrive or write into your diary with carefully chosen words and phrases. The process happens almost externally to ourselves. Not because of us, but in spite of us.

You can do this. I have watched you do it, especially in those times when you were just being you.

The hard bit is accepting this sublime truth and rejoicing in the undeniable fact that we are all the answer to someone's prayer.

5576 5270

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after you get tired of doing the hard work you already did.” Newt Gingrich USA

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Meg Todd (Animal Health ) 0437 772 861

**Western AG Willaura - T: 03 5354 1585**

Glen Gray - 0439 541 036

Caramut and District Garden Club

By Janet Shalders

Pony Tail *Beaucarnea recurveta*

I originally bought my Pony Tail as an indoor tube size plant over 40 years ago, but soon discovered that it grows very well outside and is very hardy. I brought this plant from the farm into Hamilton and planted it on a South boundary fence where it gets little water and the summer heat and it has really thrived and flowered.

It is a slow growing palm from the semi-desert area of Mexico and will grow up to 4 1/2 – 6 metres tall with the swollen base reaching 3 1/2 metres wide. The downward strap like leaves are up to 3 metres long.

Spring is a very busy time in the garden. Many vegetables can now be planted, either from seed or as seedlings from the nursery. I have noticed punnets in a supermarket which looked wilted and were



watered by spraying from a bottle. It would be better if they were watered well while outside as the punnets would receive a very good soaking. Due to a dryer winter, the soil has not become watered logged and has heated up with the nice sunny days. This has caused


the weeds to really take off. If possible, 15-30 mins a day in the garden will keep the weeds under control. Look out for snails hiding in sheltered spots on

the sides of fences or pots or in thick leaves such as agapanthus.

**The October meeting on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup>, is at the home of Wes Rogers, in Hamilton. Members are to meet at the carpark of the Uniting Church in Hamilton at 10am. We will then follow David Young to the venue.**

*Visitors are always welcome. Phone Marita 0407 504 307 for more information.*

*When gardeners do a winter round,  
On crispy, crunchy frosty ground,  
The sunny sparkling scene enchants,  
Apart from cherished, blackened  
plants.*

  
 Country Women's Association of Victoria Inc.  
 We are holding an Information Night for anyone interested in joining a  
**NEW Branch of CWA**  
**in PENSHURST**  
 Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October 2024 7.30pm  
 St Joseph's School Community Room  
 Supper Provided  
 All Welcome  
 For more information contact:  
 Janette O'Keefe on 0427 677 121  
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**MEDIA RELEASE**

SOUTHERN GRAMPPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL



26 September 2024

**Cardboard Collection Trial coming to Hamilton Transfer Station**

Southern Grampians Shire Council is excited to announce a new initiative aimed at boosting recycling efforts across the Shire. The Hamilton Transfer Station will host a Cardboard Collection Trial during the month of October designed to make responsible disposal of clean cardboard easier for businesses and individuals. The trial provides a cost-effective option, with a fee of \$50 per tonne and a minimum charge of just \$5 for smaller loads.

Southern Grampians Shire Council CEO Tony Doyle shared his enthusiasm for the project, reaffirming Council's commitment to achieving sustainable outcomes across the region. "Council is always looking for innovative ways to serve the community while advancing sustainability," said Mr Doyle. This trial offers a low-cost solution to manage cardboard waste responsibly and is a step toward creating a more circular economy in the Shire.

"For some of our community, the disposal of large quantities of cardboard has posed a challenge. This trial seeks to explore the viability of a long-term service that addresses this need while promoting sustainable practices."

The trial will commence Tuesday 1 October 2024 and will run until Thursday 31 October 2024. Residents and businesses are encouraged to take advantage of this affordable option to recycle their cardboard waste while helping inform Council's decision on the future of the program.

For more information about the trial, please contact Southern Grampians Shire Council on 5573 0444 or visit the Hamilton Transfer Station during the trial period.

**Celebrate the 2024  
Victorian Seniors Festival with the  
Southern Grampians Shire**

Southern Grampians Shire Council is excited to invite our senior community to take part in the 2024 Victorian Seniors Festival.

With the theme *Explore, Engage, Evolve*, this year's festival encourages older Victorians to stay curious, embrace new experiences, and continue growing and thriving within the community.

The festival, taking place annually throughout October, is an important celebration of our seniors, recognising the invaluable contributions of those aged 60 and above.

Southern Grampians Shire Council CEO Tony Doyle said Council is proud to be a

**Penshurst Progress  
Association**

ABN 35 622 662 815

president@penshurstprogresss.org.au

**Next Meeting -****Wednesday 23rd October 2024***Penshurst Memorial Hall, Supper Room**Everyone welcome*

Committee of Management:

Ama Cooke – Chairperson 0402 870 738

Brian O'Brien - Secretary

Don Adamson - Treasurer

Tom Cooke &amp; Jeff Jellie

Continue page 11

**Penshurst Hair Design**



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**Thursday**  
**Friday &**  
**every second**  
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**Monday - CLOSED**

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

**Saturday – 8.00am - 2.00pm**

**Sunday - CLOSED**

**Café/Bakery**

**110 Bell Street, Penshurst**

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**MEDIA RELEASE**

SOUTHERN GRAMPPIANS SHIRE COUNCIL



Celebrate the 2024 Victorian  
Seniors Festival  
with the Southern  
Grampians Shire (continued)

part of the statewide initiative which is supported by the Victorian Government.

“We are once again proud to partner with community groups to support this month-long program which is packed with fantastic events designed to inspire, entertain, and bring people together. “It’s more important than ever for our seniors to stay active and to connect socially in new environments. We’re very excited to be able to offer a fantastic variety of events to celebrate the people who made our community what it is today.”

The festival calendar features something for everyone. From special cinema screenings, luncheons, and trivia nights to standout events like *“What’s Up Pussycat”* at the Hamilton Performing Arts Centre, and an exciting Wild West themed murder mystery evening at the Greater Hamilton Library, the program promises fun and engagement for all interests.

The full calendar of events for October is available via the Council website at [www.Sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/Home/Whats-On/Victorian-Seniors-Festival](http://www.Sthgrampians.vic.gov.au/Home/Whats-On/Victorian-Seniors-Festival)

Most events are **free of charge**, with a few costing between \$10 and \$20. Printed brochures are available at Council’s Brown Street Customer Service Office or the Greater Hamilton Library.

“This is a joyful festival where we can celebrate our fantastic Seniors. We look forward to seeing you at the many wonderful events planned throughout October,” concluded Mr Doyle.

Media enquiries: Jeff Greene, 0460 321 634, [jgreene@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au](mailto:jgreene@sthgrampians.vic.gov.au)


**Share your thoughts. Shape our future**


Your local insights are important to help us plan for the future.

**We’re coming to a town near you**

Camperdown Show - 12 Oct  
Caramut Hotel - 17 Oct  
Dunkeld Three Peaks Festival - 19 Oct  
Warrnambool Show - 26 Oct  
Merino Community Health Centre - 31 Oct  
Dartmoor General Store - 31 Oct  
Coleraine Show - 2 Nov  
Cavendish Fleece and Flower Show - 8 Nov  
Noorat Show - 16 Nov



Call 1300 926 666 or go to [engage.wannonwater.com.au/community-roadshow](http://engage.wannonwater.com.au/community-roadshow) for more info





## ELDERS HAMILTON

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## You Know You Are Old When...

70's

You know you are 70 when you have a hard time locating the keys in your pocket and finding your cell phone when it rings, but you can find the snooze button from four feet away with your eyes closed.

You know you are old when the oxygen masks drop from the ceiling when your birthday candles are lit.

80's

You know you are old when you write a note to yourself reminding you not to take a sleeping pill and a laxative on the same night.

You know you are 80 when your staying power is for the cake.

90's

You know you are old when kidnapers aren't very interested in you.

You know you are old when people no longer view you as a hypochondriac.

100's

You know you are old when there is nothing left to learn the hard way.

You know you are old when you are too old to care.

You know you are 100 years old when you see expensive antiques and you remember one just like it that you threw away.

## A PAGE TO SHARE RECIPES

**Smoked Salmon Fettuccine with creamy Lemon sauce**

Prep Time 10 mins

Cook time 15 mins

Serves 4

From taste.com.au

## INGREDIENTS

375g Coles Australian Fettuccine  
 1 bunch asparagus, woody ends trimmed, thinly sliced diagonally  
 150g snow peas, thinly sliced  
 1 cup (120g) frozen peas  
 2 spring onions, thinly sliced

300ml light thickened cream  
 2 tbsp wholegrain mustard  
 1 tsp horseradish cream  
 1 lemon, zested, juiced  
 185g pkt hot-smoked salmon, flaked  
 1/4 cup coarsely chopped dill

## METHOD

## Step 1

Cook the pasta in a large saucepan of boiling water following packet directions or until just al dente. Add the asparagus, snow peas and peas and cook for a further 1 min or until the vegetables are bright green and just tender. Drain the pasta and vegetables well.

## Step 2

Meanwhile, heat a large frying pan over medium heat. Add the spring onion and cook for 1 min or until spring onion softens. Add the cream and bring to a simmer. Add the mustard, horseradish and lemon juice and cook, stirring occasionally, for 2-3 mins or until sauce thickens slightly.

## Step 3

Add the pasta mixture, salmon and dill to the sauce in the pan and gently toss to combine. Remove from heat. Season. Sprinkle with lemon zest.

**2 ingredient Panna Cotta**

Jelly Crystals  
 Greek Yoghurt



It's as easy as one packet of jelly crystals, 260g of yoghurt and a couple hours of patience (perhaps the hardest part of this recipe). Elisa's 2-ingredient panna cotta cuts the classic ingredient list in half by using Greek yoghurt (instead of milk and cream) and jelly crystals (instead of sugar and gelatine).

To make this 2-ingredient dessert, you simply dissolve the jelly into the boiling water and whisk in the yoghurt. Then, transfer the mixture to serving glasses to set for 3 hours.

Dessert done. It's that easy.

### Penshurst Shed

Open

Saturday & Tuesday  
10am - 4pm

Talk to the crew for more information about the Shed and its activities. We are open for everyone.

**Contact**

Tom Cooke 0488 557 345



### Penshurst Post Office



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Mount Rouse Puzzler

Across:

14: A machine that is used for creating documents, photographs, etc.  
 15: To need to pay or give something to someone because they have lent money to you.

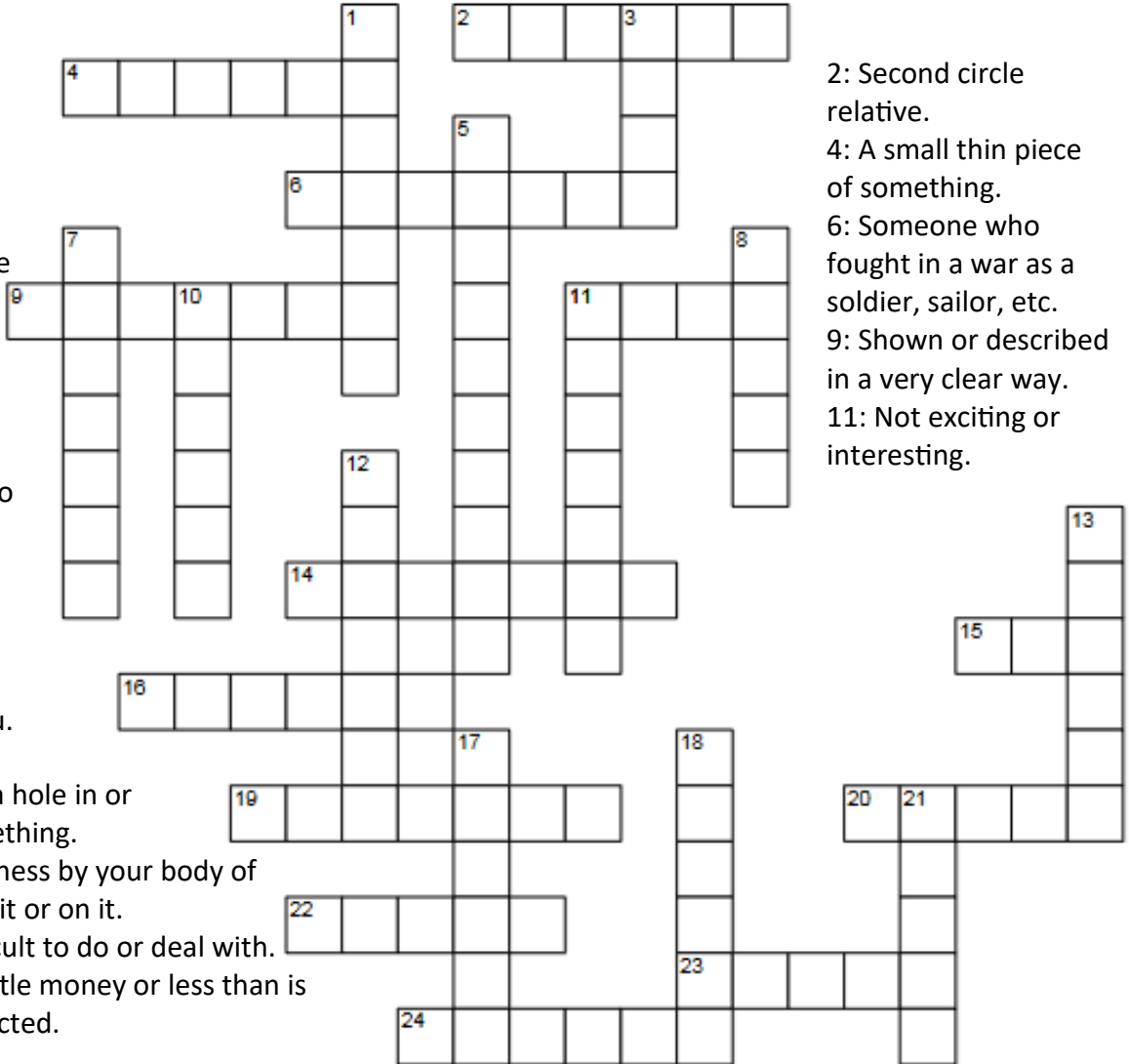
16: To make a hole in or through something.  
 19: An awareness by your body of something in it or on it.  
 20: Very difficult to do or deal with.  
 22: Costing little money or less than is usual or expected.

23: Not tightly fastened, attached, or held.  
 24: To make someone or something strong, healthy, or active again.

Down:

1: Very important and needing immediate attention.  
 3: To examine something briefly.  
 5: A formal agreement or decision that ends an argument or dispute.  
 7: Moving or changing in small amounts.  
 8: To close and then open your eyes very quickly.

2: Second circle relative.  
 4: A small thin piece of something.  
 6: Someone who fought in a war as a soldier, sailor, etc.  
 9: Shown or described in a very clear way.  
 11: Not exciting or interesting.



10: To place in a pouch sewed into a garment. The action is the item.  
 11: Affectionate; care; loyal.  
 12: An unusual or wonderful event that is believed to be caused by the power of God.  
 13: To provide an arrow with feathers for flight.  
 17: Food for farm animals that is stored inside a silo.  
 18: A tiny, round ball of air or gas inside a liquid.  
 21: A request to make, supply, or deliver food or goods.

Crossword answers from last newsletter: **Across:** 1 jumbo, 3 storm, 5 rousing, 7 nature, 10 answers, 12 licorice, 14 love, 15 cement, 17 autocrat, 20 measurement, 23 fortnight, 24 seasoning. **Down:** 1 jigsaw, 2 blister, 4 riddle, 6 snave, 9 twister, 11 spectacular, 13 circular, 16 realm, 18 partridge, 19 wellspring, 21 ruin, 22 kilt.

**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, Sheppard Centre, - Penshurst Hospital. 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 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**

- 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**

- Meets at the club rooms in Bell Street.
- Bingo.

**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 8.30am  
3rd Sunday Lay Service 8.30am  
4th Sunday Mass 8.30am  
5th Sunday Mass 8.30am



## Swans

For the kids

The black swan (*Cygnus atratus*) is a large waterbird, a species of swan which breeds mainly in the southeast and southwest regions of Australia. In Australia, the black swan is nomadic, with erratic migration patterns dependent on climatic conditions. It is a large bird with black plumage and a red bill. It is a monogamous breeder, with both partners sharing incubation and cygnet-rearing duties.



Black swans can be found singly, or in loose companies numbering into the hundreds or even thousands. It is a popular bird in zoological gardens and bird collections, and escapees are sometimes seen outside their natural range. They were first seen by Europeans in 1697, when Willem de Vlamingh's expedition explored the Swan River, Western Australia. It is a regional symbol of Western Australia.

The black swan is common in the wetlands of southwestern and eastern Australia and adjacent coastal islands. In the south west its range encompasses an area between North West Cape, Cape Leeuwin and Eucla; while in the east it covers a large region bounded by the Atherton Tableland, the Eyre Peninsula and Tasmania, with the Murray Darling Basin supporting very large populations of black swans. It is uncommon in central and northern Australia.

The black swan's preferred habitat extends across fresh, brackish and saltwater lakes, swamps and rivers with underwater and emergent vegetation for food and nesting materials. It also favours permanent wetlands, including ornamental lakes, but can also be found in flooded pastures and tidal mudflats, and occasionally on the open sea near islands or the shore.

The black swan was once thought to be sedentary but is now known to be highly nomadic. There is no set migratory pattern, but rather opportunistic responses to either rainfall or drought. In high rainfall years, emigration occurs from the southwest and southeast into the interior, with a reverse migration to these heartlands in drier years. When rain does fall in the arid central regions, black swans will migrate to these areas to nest and raise their young. However, should dry conditions return before the young have been raised, the adult birds will abandon the nests and their eggs or cygnets and return to wetter areas.

The black swan, like many other waterfowl, loses all its flight feathers at once when it moults after breeding and is unable to fly for about a month. During this time it will usually settle on large, open waters for safety.

The species has a large range, with figures between 1 and 10 million km<sup>2</sup> given as the extent of occurrence. The current global population is estimated to be up to 500,000 individuals. No threat of extinction or significant decline in population has been identified with this numerous and widespread bird. They nest all around Penshurst. Have you see them and their children?

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Saturday 12th October 2024**

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**

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