

Glenlyon and District Community Action Plan

June 2010



A community strengthening project supported and facilitated by Hepburn Shire Council.

Development of the Glenlyon and District Community Action Plan

The Glenlyon and District community met in May 2010 to develop a Community Action Plan to identify community priorities and explore opportunities for action and positive change to enhance the well-being of the community.

The Glenlyon and District Community Action Plan is a documentation of all the thoughts and ideas recorded during the consultation process. More than 100 people participated including children and youth.

What is Community Planning?

The Hepburn Shire Council supports communities in the Hepburn Shire who wish to develop their own Community Plans. Community Planning is a process that is 'owned' by the community with Council available to play a facilitation role. Community Plans provided valuable input into Local, State and Federal Government planning. The Glenlyon and District developed a Community Plan to draft stage in 2003, organized by the Glenlyon Progress Association. Many of the projects identified in this Plan have been achieved.

Glenlyon and District has a number of active community groups including the Glenlyon CFA, Glenlyon and Upper Loddon Landcare, Glenlyon Progress Association, Glenlyon and District News, Glenlyon Pony Club, St John's Church, Cemetery Trust and Glenlyon Sports Club, Glenlyon Recreation Reserve Committee of Management and Glenlyon Junior Cricket Club.

As part of the process to develop an updated Community Action Plan in 2010 two community meetings were held at the Glenlyon Hall, on Wednesday May 12 and Sunday May 16.

Residents, permanent and part time and non-resident ratepayers from Glenlyon, Wheatsheaf, Porcupine Ridge, Denver, Drummond and Coomoora were invited to attend. Invitations were mailed to over 1000 households. Nearly 400 invitations were mailed to locations outside of the Shire to capture the non-resident and non-permanent resident ratepayers.

More than 80 residents attended across the two sessions along with six Hepburn Shire Council officers and Ward Councillor Bill McClenaghan. Planning Group members from other areas of the Shire attended as guest speakers to talk about the success of their Community Plans.

Residents broke into groups to record a list of priorities for the town/area and document what they like about Glenlyon and District area. Key aspects identified included the natural environment, the community spirit, the town hall and the recreation reserve.

The Wednesday meeting was attended predominately by permanent residents. The Sunday meeting included a large representation of weekender and part-time residents and this was reflected in the ideas. The permanent residents were particularly concerned about lack of public transport and limited opportunities to commute to school and work. Weekender and part time residents were very keen to become more involved in community activities and link in with the permanent residents. Both groups were concerned about the lack of a community hub/meeting place and opportunity to purchase basic essential items, made prominent since the closure of the Glenlyon General Store.

At the two meetings residents voted on the priorities to decide what they would most like to see implemented, and were asked to volunteer to form focus groups for projects they were interested in becoming involved with. A number of residents volunteered for focus groups. Priorities which received votes and which residents also volunteered to assist, have formed the 12 month Action Plan. Priorities without votes and names are documented along with all ideas arising from the sessions. Similar consultation sessions held at Drummond Primary School and Daylesford Secondary College captured the thoughts of children and young people.

The Glenlyon and District Community Planning Group

Seventeen residents volunteered to form a Community Planning Group to progress the Community Action Plan: Rizwana Karim, Samin Karim, Tim Ferrier, Evan Davis, Margret Lockwood, Tony Briscoomb, Judy Ristrom, John Cable, Gill Trebilcock, Carolyn O'Dwyer, Alex Graham, Charles Ablitt, Sigrid Meies, Denise Dalton, Sharon Nicholson, Brad Morgan and Yvette Reading

The Glenlyon and District **Community Planning Group** will:

Focus on and work on the priority projects that were voted by residents as a priority, working collaboratively with existing community groups.

Pull focus groups together in a cooperative way, and
Provide feedback to the community on the progress.

The Action Plan will be reviewed in 12 to 18 months time. All residents of Glenlyon and District are invited to participate in projects and focus groups throughout this time.

HOW TO BECOME INVOLVED

To enquire about becoming involved in the Glenlyon and District Community Planning Group or any of the projects contact Hepburn Shire Council Community Planning Officer Sue Moses on 5345 8399, 0437 482 309 or smoses@hepburn.vic.gov.au or contact the group members.



PRIORITY PROJECTS...

identified by residents at the May 2010 Community Planning Meetings

Communications

- Improve telecommunications including broadband, mobile phone access etc
- Activities to include the out-of-towners and weekenders and ways to connect with locals and pathways to informing of local activities.
- Develop local identity. Methods to include website, local public arts and preservation of history including ghosts of Glenlyon, community bell and newsletter.
- Communication inc website, keep everyone informed.

Activities/social connection

- Return of a community general store with coffee, petrol/information, central/social meeting place, mail boxes etc
- More activities in the hall eg local film night, Christmas in July, international food festival, sports, exercise, cooking classes and working bees. Improve hall and support what is hap pening there.
- Upgrade sports/recreation facilities. Broader spectrum of sports including tennis, golf, and netball.
- Specific strategies to engage youth.
- Use of existing CFA shed as a community space once the brigade moves to its new loca tion eg space for youth with internet, music, films etc.
- Regular/monthly community events. Encourage participation of locals.
- Annual general dinner as a fundraiser.

Environment/heritage

- Beautification/ tree planting/treescape. More planting around town with work to be done by the community. Trees, maintenance of main road trees, planting on other roads, mainte nance of bicentennial chestnut reserves.
- Sustainable water solutions. Assess the current situation and effect population has on sup ply.
- Overall and well thought out approach to development to preserve the uniqueness of the area.
- Clean up crown land/roadsides of gorse and broome and other weeds.
- Clean up roadside weeds and scrub.
- Clear blackberries from Loddon Falls.

Economic

- More council support for 'real' farms and farming.
- Support/sustain local market.

Infrastructure/services

- Public transport including bus links to Daylesford and beyond, and from Drummond and Denver to Kyneton Station and morning and afternoon link with trains and social outings, a community bus and a creative policy for all of the above.
- Walking and bike trails including well signed maps, trail along Loddon River, separate walking and bike trails, bike track to Daylesford and other communities. Link the reserve to the town via a walking track, upgrade track down the Loddon River.
- Sealing of roads including Springhill/Tylden Road and upgrade the single lane (Mannings Bridge) to dual carriageway.
- Better roads and road maintenance.
- Community building for all, including youth.
- Make Daylesford/Malmsbury road safer, lower speed limit.
- Rubbish as well as recycling collection.
- A cremation wall at the cemetery.
- Protect what we have and build on it. Influence our future.

PRIORITY PROJECTS...

identified by youth at sessions held at Drummond Primary School and Daylesford Secondary School during July and August 2010 (for full detail refer to pages 12—15)

Secondary College aged youth priority projects:

- Transport into Daylesford, Kyneton etc particularly on weekends
- A general store
- A meeting space for youth with games, etc
- Improved roads
- Concern about bushfire

Primary School aged children priority projects:

- A special kids/community day/event with animals, face painting, jumping castle, paintball and other activities and a market.
- A community place/park/common with trees, chooks, native animals, dog friendly, volleyball, basketball and somewhere to search for buried treasure.
- A place where kids can go to play games and use computers. This place needs to be a sustainable energy saving place.

Priority projects showing voting results and names of residents who volunteered to be involved

- **Return of a community general store with coffee, petrol/information, central/social meeting place, mail boxes etc**
44 votes.
Alex Graham, Carolyn O'Dwyer, Rizwana Karim, Mahmud Karim, Tony Briscomb, Brad Morgan, Sharon Nicholson, Gill Trebilcock.
- **Public transport including: bus links to Daylesford and beyond, and from Drummond and Denver to Kyneton Station and morning and afternoon link with trains and social outings, a community bus and a creative policy for all of the above.**
30 votes.
Tony Briscomb, Dee Briscomb, Rizwana Karim, Samin Karim, Mahmud Karim, Gill Trebilcock, Anne Dobbs, Rudi Flink.
- **Beautification. Tree planting. Treescape. More planting around town with work to be done by the community. Trees, maintenance of main road trees, planting on other roads, maintenance of bicentennial chestnut reserves.**
17 votes.
Denise Dalton, Peter Curtin, Belinda Winter, Tony Briscomb, Dee Briscomb, Jenny Corr, Robyn Crossley, Gill Trebilcock, Rosie Ashbolt.
- **Walking and bike trails including well signed maps, trail along Loddon River, separate walking and bike trails, bike track to Daylesford and other communities. Link the reserve to the town via a walking track, upgrade track down the Loddon River.**
15 votes.
Evan Davis, John Cable, Terry Bellair, Dee Briscomb, Charles Ablitt, Andrew Ashbolt, Anthony Schnellbeck, Kryshyna Croft.
- **More activities in the hall eg pictures, Christmas in July, international food festival, sports, exercise, cooking classes, working bees. Improve hall and support what is happening there.**
Twelve votes.
Joan Rattray, Marj Prendergast, Brad Morgan, Peter Curtin.
- **Better broadband, mobile phone access etc.**
11 votes.
Dee Briscombe, Rizwana Karim, Mahmud Karim.
- **More council support for real farms and farming**
Eight votes.
Mary Boddy
- **Specific strategies to engage youth.**
8 votes.
Judy Ristrom, Samin Karim, Gill Trebilcock
- **Sustainable water solutions. Assess the current situation and effect population has on supply.**
7 votes.
Dan Harris, Gill Trebilcock.
- **Upgrade sports/recreation facilities. To include tennis, golf, netball and broader spectrum of sports/activities.**
7 votes.
Tim Ferrier, Pam Morley.
- **Sealing of roads including Springhill/Tylden Road and upgrade the single lane (Mannings Bridge) to dual carriageway.**
6 votes.
No names.

- **Better roads and road maintenance.**
6 votes. No names
- **Overall and well thought out approach to development to preserve the uniqueness of the area.**
Six votes. No names
- **Activities to include the out-of-towners and weekenders and ways for them to connect with locals and pathways to informing new and part time residents.**
Five votes
Rose Ashbolt, Brett Dunlop, Yvette Reading.
- **Developing local identity eg website, local public arts, preserving history inc ghosts of Glenlyon, community bell and newsletter.**
Five votes. No names.
- **Use of existing CFA shed as a community space once the brigade move to their new facility eg space for youth with internet, music, films etc.**
Four votes. No Names.
- **Community building for all, including youth.**
Two votes.
Gill Trebilcock
- **Clean up crown land/roadsides of gorse and broome and other weeds.**
Two votes. No names.
- **Make Daylesford/Malmsbury road safer, lower speed limit.**
Two votes, no names.
- **Regular/monthly community events. Encourage participation by locals.**
I vote,
Sharon Nicholson.
- **Clean up roadside weeds and scrub.**
One vote. No names.
- **Clear blackberries from Loddon Fall.**
One vote. No names.
- **Rubbish as well as recycling collection.**
One vote. No names.
- **Communication inc website, keep everyone informed.**
I vote. No names.
- **A memorial wall at the cemetery (for cremation).**
No votes. No names.
- **Annual general dinner as a fundraiser.**
No votes. No names.
- **Protect what we have and build on it. Influence our future.**
No votes. No names.
- **Support/sustain local market.**
No votes. No Names.

TOTAL LIST OF ALL IDEAS RECORDED PRIOR TO VOTING

Glenlyon Hall:

- Development of hall.
- Greater use of hall by community.
- Maintenance/development of hall including picket fence.
- Link to the CFA shed as community facility for young people with internet.
- Move hall toilets to the rear.
- Café at the hall, papers etc.
- Working bee at the hall.
- Bush dances in hall.
- Exercise classes.
- Craft.
- Walking club.
- A community funded Solar system on hall to help offset the carbon footprint.
- Saturday night dances.
- Yoga/meditation/exercise group/walking group.
- International food festival, Xmas in July, cooking classes.
- Bands, Melbourne Cup Calcutta, Sports People night, guest speakers/international food festival.

Community hub/general store/meeting place:

- Build or open community hub/general store.
- Reopen the (closed) general store.
- Create a village centre.
- Petrol, coffee, papers, coffee shop, local produce.
- Visitor information centre.

Recreation Reserve:

- Improve Recreation Reserve and more activities for children.
- Café at sports ground.
- More sporting facilities including tennis, netball and croquet.
- Pavilion at reserve. Somewhere to gather, have music, buy local produce, beer/wine/ coffee and get-together.
- Improve playground and picnic area.
- Expand on Sports Day.

Public transport:

- A bus several times a day.
- A community bus.
- Transport options for locals and tourists.
- Creative sustainable transport strategy and system.
- Bus from Daylesford to Kyneton.
- Daily morning and afternoon bus link with trains in Kyneton from Daylesford, Glenlyon, Denver and Drummond.
- Transport options including for youth, elderly and those without cars
- Car pooling.
- Create options for transport.
- Social outings.

Telecommunications:

- Improved broadband/wireless/internet access.
- Better mobile phone coverage.

Youth:

- Youth consultation.
- Youth precinct including skate park, café interface, activities for young people.
- Teenage orchestra.
- Develop opportunities for young people, ask them what they would like.
- A youth group.

Trees:

- Bicentenary tree plantings.
- 1988 trees planting.
- Replace missing trees in avenues.
- Sweet chestnut tree program.
- Plant trees in other Glenlyon streets.
- Significant tree register with information available to the community.
- Adopt-a-tree-program.
- Replace gum trees with oak trees to create a fire break.
- Clean up roadsides.
- Supply of free poison for weeds.
- Extend Main Street tree avenue to the bend.

Paths/trails:

- Bike path between Glenlyon and Daylesford and to Drummond
- Walking/bike trails including a trail along the Loddon River, separate walking and bike trails and looped trails.
- Provide a bicycle lane from Glenlyon to Daylesford beside road.
- Bicycle route on back roads to Daylesford.
- Walking trail to Loddon Falls and beyond.
- Bike paths between communities.
- Link Reserve to town via a walking track.

Other projects:

- Old CFA shed to become community facility.
- Local festival.
- Additional community asset.
- Keep it like it is.
- A heritage tour.
- Cohesive community working together to grow.
- Across all generations.
- Community Bell.
- Locally kept preservation of community records.
- Focus on beauty and aesthetics.
- Stronger policy for indigenous trees for flora and fauna diversity – Council policy.
- Film nights.
- New residents kits with information on the district, bushfire information fires etc
- Purchase of local community arts.
- Focus on facilities and community – asset mapping and regeneration program. Schools, reserves, store, falls, springs.
- Road upgrading and tree roadside maintenance eg overhanging branches and dead trees removed.
- Fire guard.
- Focus on wildlife and community interaction.
- Drummond tennis courts.
- Recycling centre.
- Hard rubbish collection.
- Encourage participation of locals in community events. Monthly events.
- Local initiatives for Glenlyon people that are sustainable including events such as movie nights and local dances.
- Increased knowledge of local community including details of how many families, statistics on young people etc.
- Community fire shelter.
- Retain heritage.
- Seal the Spring Hill Road and upgrade single lane Manning Bridge to dual carriageway.
- Better promotion of the market.
- Local tourism brochure and heritage map.
- Ensure local newsletter continues to be supported.
- Better/more use of noticeboard.
- Communications – website, Facebook etc.

- Plan for sustainable growth including local enterprise.
- Speed restriction particularly for dirt roads and for wildlife protection.
- Better road maintenance.
- Tennis courts with club and lights.
- Better signage.
- Access to Glenlyon News mailing list.
- Maintain identity and diversity including farming.
- Well thought out overall approach to development.
- Council to assist with signage, promotion for tourism to local attractions.
- Memorial wall at cemetery to allow for cremation provisions.
- Clean up Loddon River walking trail and picnic ground above Loddon Falls.
- Ban public access at Loddon Falls.
- Better access to medical/health services.
- More jobs for local people, particularly youth.
- More support for farms.
- Clean up properties.
- Rubbish collection.
- Support group for older people.
- Opportunity shop.
- Rename Daylesford/Malmsbury Road the Jim Crow Road.
- Gardening group/garden advice. Seedsavers group.
- Alternative energy options explored.
- Golf course.
- Sustainable water – assess current water situation. Study on groundwater and river and what effect the population has.
- Retirement village or community care.
- Community safe area for fires.
- Communications including phone trees.
- Protection of flora and fauna.
- Community food bank.
- Annual fundraising dinner.
- Lower speed limit on Daylesford/Malmsbury Road.
- A primary school.
- Preserving history including Ghosts of Glenlyon, Community Bell, historical memorabilia.
- More support for farmers market.
- Mail boxes.
- Beautification – community responsibility to maintain the work done by people before use.
- A website and activities and methods to keep everyone in the loop, particularly out-of-towners and to connect with full time residents.
- Playground and BBQ for Denver.
- Denver to retain its own identify.
- Food co-op.

WHAT I LIKE ABOUT GLENLYON AND DISTRICT.
The following list was compiled when residents and ratepayers were asked this question at the two Community Planning Meetings,

- Community spirit/feel
- Life is great here
- God's own country
- No/few tourists
- Oak trees/tree avenues
- Main street
- No hoons
- Very green
- Animal/birdlife/nature
- The people
- The environment
- Keeping integrity
- Feel comfortable
- Feels like home
- Social aspects
- Events, including market, sports day etc
- Vision for the future
- Landscape
- Country but close to Daylesford and Melbourne
- Cultural history
- Underground water, rainfall and forest
- Very 'horsey'.
- Barkley Street avenue of trees – creates a sense of peace and beauty
- Large blocks/allotments
- Organic local food/wine
- Open country
- Special events including the sports day, fine food fayre, sculpture show and art show
- Mild summers
- Rain – green
- Low crime rate
- The Recreation Reserve – fabulous resource for families, kids and events
- The Loddon River
- Beautiful soil - spud soil
- Glenlyon Dam
- Local clubs/groups
- Glenlyon District News – keeps people informed and connected
- Mayor 'Bob'
- Oak trees at the reserve
- Old Town Hall
- Small enough to know people/big enough to get things done
- Old buildings
- Diversity of community
- Topography
- Close to Ballarat, Castlemaine, Melbourne, Daylesford and Bendigo
- Lack of traffic
- Community energy
- CFA
- Hall and the new kitchen which is coming
- The traditional farmers are welcoming towards the tree-changers
- Volunteering and joining in
- 'Can-do' community
- Environment – reason to move here
- Visual impact of the village – complete sense of the township – distinctive – recognizable
- Picturesque
- Safe place
- Resourceful, innovative, creative
- Events are special – offering a range of activities for the community to come together
- The rive and opportunity to develop walks
- Local wineries
- Forests and farmland
- Wildlife and nature
- Sedate pace of life
- Resilient community
- Bush and natural surrounds
- Proximity to train service to Melbourne
- Local roadside vendors
- Different community groups
- Good safety/security
- Beautiful seasons
- Lots of space between properties
- Friendliness
- Can get to cafes in Daylesford
- The indigenous gum trees
- Scenery
- Good earth for vege garden
- People are close knit and socialise together
- You know who is walking down the street
- Virgin bush
- Enjoy living here
- Farming your own land
- Land is cheap
- History of the area
- Bird life
- Secure water supply (on the property)
- Development at Glenlyon Springs
- The facilities are used
- Pony club – people come from Ballarat to participate
- Physical environment
- Great weather
- Low density
- Small community means people get to know each other and develop support networks
- Not being right in a big town but conveniences etc (theatre) are nearby at Daylesford and Kyneton
- Soil and water is fantastic
- Serentiy – great place to plan for retirement
- General store
- Views
- Spring water
- Beautiful old buildings
- Food/food stalls, produce

- Kids cricket and other sporting teams
- Real country
- Peace and quiet
- Traditional style housing
- Country life
- Growing your own food
- Friendly people
- Tranquil main street
- Balanced tourism
- Amenity
- Commuters
- Good food
- Pace of life – lack of pace
- Opt in – opt out
- Country town
- Remoteness
- Community connectedness
- Noticeboard
- Community leaders
- No pollution
- People get involved
- Clean living
- Healthy
- Low stress/no reason to stress
- Culture/arts community
- Great council
- Encourage and welcome new comers eg encourage to join local fire brigade
- Local producers: goats cheese
- Musicians
- Great local input and help
- Helpful people when you need help
- Giving/generous people

Data and history

The Shire's population is approximately 15,000 (June 2006) and has a healthy growth rate of 0.5% annum. The population is projected to reach 17,000 by 2021.

In the 2006 Census (held on 8th August 2006), there were 171 persons usually resident in Glenlyon, 348 persons usually resident in Wheatsheaf, 313 persons usually resident in Porcupine Ridge, and 415 persons usually resident in Drummond North.

Glenlyon and District is located in the Shire of Hepburn with the Shire's main towns being Clunes, Creswick, Daylesford, Hepburn Springs and Trentham. The Shire covers an area of 1,463 square kilometers and based on 2006 figures has a population of 13,732. It was formed in 1995 from the merger of the Shire of Creswick, Shire of Daylesford and Glenlyon and part of the Shire of Kyneton and Shire of Talbot and Clunes. The Shire of Hepburn takes its name from John Stuart Hepburn who was an early squatter.

The Djadja Wurrung people were the first inhabitants of the region and these people occupied most of central Victoria.

The Shire's economy has become increasingly diversified in recent years. While agriculture, forestry and manufacturing continue to be important, other sectors such as tourism, art, service industries, retailing, education and health and community services are rapidly growing.

Youth consultation Primary School aged children

12 students at Drummond Primary from prep to grade 6 participated in a two hour session with officers from Hepburn Shire Council to provide input into the Glenlyon and District Community Plan.

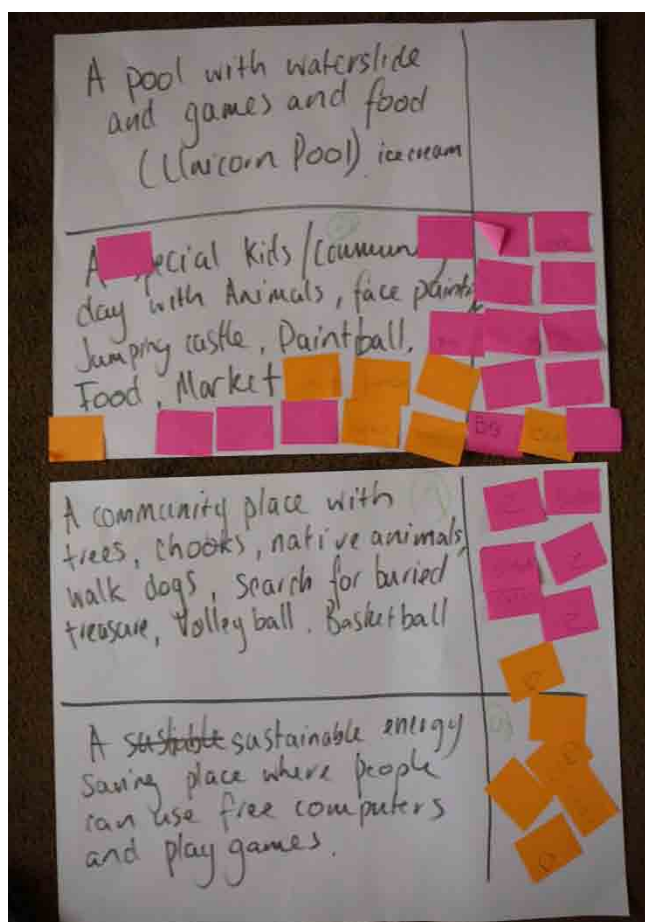
The students used illustrations and discussion to describe what they liked about where they live and what they would like to see in the future.

These thoughts were narrowed down to four projects which were then voted on by all the students. The students were allowed three votes each, the same system used at the two community planning forums held at the Glenlyon Hall.

The projects were:

- **A special kids/community day/event with animals, face painting, jumping castle, paintball and other activities and a market.**
25 votes
- **A community place/park/common with trees, chooks, native animals, dog friendly, volleyball, basketball and somewhere to search for buried treasure.**
7 votes
- **A place where kids can go to play games and use computers. This place needs to be a sustainable energy saving place.**
5 votes
- **A pool with waterslide with games and food.**
No votes.

In general the forum revealed that children are most passionate about opportunities to spend more time with their friends, families and pets and having places/spaces in which to do so.





Illustrations by Drummond Primary School children.



Youth consultation Secondary school age young people

A group of 12 secondary college students from Daylesford Secondary College from year's 7 to 12, met with Hepburn Shire Council officers to provide input into the Glenlyon and District Community Plan.

The students recorded in writing what they lived about where they lived and what they would like to see in the future.

Ideas resulting from a group discussion were also recorded.

LIKES

Solitude
Isolated
Community is quietly supportive
Friendly
The Wombat Forest
Awesome
Peaceful
Simple and peaceful
Nice
Helpful
All together
It's 'cool'
It's just a small town
Not having neighbours
It's an awesome place
Easy going
Family
Helpful

CONCERNS AND IDEAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Better roads
Transport, especially for weekends.
Too much bush creates high fire risk
Need a shop
CFA and DSE don't come to our town if there is a bushfire
Heated pool
Tennis courts
Need a community centre
Weekly market
Games place
Community Hub

COMMON THEMES

The most popular wishes of the secondary students from Glenlyon and District were:

- Transport into Daylesford, Kyneton etc particularly on weekends
- A general store
- A meeting space for youth with games, etc
- Improved roads
- Concern about bushfire



INFORMATION RECORDED FROM GROUP DISCUSSION

“We need a youth space where we can meet every Saturday and the adults could be there too and we could do stuff like cooking with them.”

“I like the solitude because there is open space and everyone’s backyard is a paddock, but it is isolated and there is a lack of connection between communities, especially because there is not transport. There is no store now. Need a community hub.”

“Wheatsheaf is quiet and properties are separate. We need to be driven everywhere, our parents are busy and it gets harder as you get older. A weekend bus to Daylesford would be good and a link to Ballarat. Our biggest threat is bushfire and the roads in Wheatsheaf are bad, not enough verge to walk or ride a bike safely.”

“Drummond is secluded but still close enough to Malmsbury and Kyneton. But we have no resources. A community centre or monthly market (near or in Drummond) would be good. We are too far away from the rest of the (Hepburn) shire and we are not part of the Kyneton (Macedon Ranges) Shire.”

“Our store is closed, we need money to be able to open a store.”

“Drummond is peaceful but the roads are really bad and we need transport on weekends. Bushfire is a threat.”

“Glenlyon is nice and quiet and not cramped. We haven’t got a shop for things like when we run out of milk and there is no transport. A heated pool would be good and a meeting place and games room. In Glenlyon people help each other.”

“We need the school fete back in Drummond.”

“Elderly people are isolated too.”

“A discounted taxi or one run by the community.”

“A hard surface to play ball, basketball, handball. It could be next to the hall.”

“Bike racks.”

“Skate ramps at the Reserve.”