

Snake Valley Town & District

Community Action Plan: Shared Priorities On-going



The Snake Valley Community

Snake Valley sits in the Shire of Pyrenees located 27 kilometres west of Ballarat and 153 kilometres west of Melbourne. The Snake Valley district derives benefits of a quiet rural setting while still accessing the facilities of large city.

The Carringum balug clan of the Wathaurong are the traditional land owners of the Snake Valley/ Carngham district. White settlement began in 1838 at the Aboriginal hunting ground known as Kurnam (later Carngham) and boomed during the gold rush of 1857. Once the district had close to 10,000 white settlers, four hotels and a casino plus numerous shops, trades people and other agricultural enterprises. The Historical Society's

publications give an insightful picture of the lives and activities of the district.

The 2011 census recorded 587 persons in Snake Valley township. The local economy is of an agricultural nature with broad acre farming, grazing and timber industries dominating.

Residents demonstrate an attachment to their area with a diverse number of active community groups providing a range of social activities.

The town is serviced by a general store, the Royal Hotel and the Community Hall. Snake Valley sports clubs include football, netball and cricket teams as well as a 9 hole golf course.

Woody Yaloak Primary School provides the first level of education to the town. There are three churches. The Uniting Church's bluestone structure with its historic pipe organ is a significant asset to the town; with a striking silhouette visible along a key town entrance.

With our clear, dark skies Snake Valley also boasts The Snake Valley Astronomical Association. Their work and Astronomy Camps attract international attention and guests.

Natural assets include Mag Dam and Dawson Dam. Significant patches of native vegetation, including wildflowers, are present on both public and private properties.



Town Demographics

The 2011 Census recorded 587 persons in Snake Valley

Snake Valley's average age is 6 years higher than the Victorian average. It has a high percentage of Australian born persons. The median incomes are comparatively low, however mortgages and rent are also lower and 51.1% of homes are fully owned. Technicians and trade workers and Labourers are the primary occupations.

- 26.6% of people were attending an educational institution. Of these, 28.7% were in primary school, 29.3% in secondary school and 10.8% in a tertiary or technical institution.
- Of people aged 15 years and over, 45.3% were married and 17.8% were either divorced or separated
- Of all households, 69.0% were family households, 25.0% were single person households and 6.0% were group households.
- 31.2% of occupied private dwellings had one registered motor vehicle garaged or parked at their address, 40.3% had two registered motor vehicles and 24.7% had three or more registered motor vehicles.

Population			
	Victoria	Wannon	Snake Valley
Females (%)	50.8	50.4	49.9
Males (%)	49.2	49.6	50.1
Average Age	37	42	43
Age under 20	25.1 %	26.3 %	25.2 %
Age 20 - 64	60.7%	55.6 %	58.9 %
Age 65+	14.2%	18.1%	15.5 %
Couple without child	36.7%	43.3 %	41.7 %
Couple with child	46 %	40.6 %	38.1 %
One parent family	15.5 %	14.8%	17.9 %

Birthplace			
	Victoria	Wannon	Snake Valley
Born in Australia	68.6 %	87.8 %	82.6 %
Born in England	3.2 %	2.1 %	5.6 %
Born - other country	28.2 %	10.1 %	11.8 %
English 1st Language	72.4 %	93.4 %	92.6 %

Employment			
	Victoria	Wannon	Snake Valley
Employed Full Time	59.2 %	56.5 %	54.4 %
Employed Part Time	29.6 %	32.4 %	28.8 %
Unemployed	5.4 %	4.3 %	9.2%

Home Ownership & Income			
	Victoria	Wannon	Snake Valley
Individual Income per week*	\$561	\$493	\$375
Household Income per week*	\$1216	\$928	\$823
Mortgage Repayment per Month*	\$1700	\$1192	\$1120
Rent per Week*	\$277	\$165	\$185
Home Fully Owned	34.2 %	n/a	51.1 %
Being Purchased	35.9%	n/a	39.5%
Home Rented	26.5%	n/a	6.4 %

Occupations		
	Victoria	Snake Valley
Technicians and trade workers	13.9 %	21.3 %
Labourers	9 %	16.9 %
Community and personal service workers	9.3 %	12%
Professionals	22.3 %	11.6 %
Clerical and administration	14.4 %	11.1 %
Machinery operators & drivers	6.1 %	10.7 %
Managers	13.2 %	10.2 %
Sales Workers	9.7 %	4.9 %

*Median

Demographic reference - 2011 census statistics

Key Shared Priorities

PRIORITY No.	PRIORITY PROJECT	CATEGORY
1	<p>THIS IS SEEN AS URGENT BECAUSE CARNGHAM RECREATION RESERVE IS USED AS THE STAGING GROUND IN AN EMERGENCY</p> <p>Adequate lighting at the Carngham Recreation Reserve.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Replace 2 existing light towers and install 2 more light towers around the football oval To AFL 'preferred' standard 	Built
2	<p>Improve the maintenance standards and regularly maintain</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing footpaths and trails [esp. near fire station, up to the Rec. Reserve and up and around Mag Dam] • Traffic islands and beds with trees • Monument Gardens, and • Significant town entry stoneworks all have solar lighting <p>Develop an appropriate signage palette for the town addressing:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear identification of the Carngham Recreation Reserve [big blue signs like in Haddon] • Identify public access to Dawson's Dam with two 'public footpath' [or appropriate wording] signs • Identification of the towns facilities at key lead in points • Implement the signage plan 	Built
3	<p>Establish a Community Park and Art Space</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In consultation with the community • Incorporating a skate ramp/park and other activities for all people of all ages and abilities • Explore opportunities to develop a linear park on the Snake Valley/Carngham Road 	Built
4	<p>Identify Snake Valley as a 'Dark Sky Town'</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protect Snake Valley as a site of Astronomical significance: • Ensuring all public lighting - particularly street lighting is baffled according to regulations • New sub-divisions and developments, and all future planning provisions protect Snake Valley's Dark Sky • Appropriate 'Dark Sky Town' signage is erected 	Social

Snake Valley is privileged to be represented by over 20 existing interest groups and local businesses that contribute to the development of the community, most of which are represented with the Community Action Plan. To simplify listings we have used the following abbreviations for the following groups:

CCC - Carngham Cricket Club
CLFNC - Carngham Linton Football-Netball Club
CRR - Carngham Recreation Reserve
FRSL - Friends of the RSL
LBC - Local Businesses and Contractors
MDR - Mag Dam Reserve
PPLH - Private Properties and Landholders

SBAS - St Brigid's Altar Society
SVAA - Snake Valley Astronomical Association
SVCFA - Snake Valley District Rural CFA
SVCH - Snake Valley Community Hall
SVGC - Snake Valley Golf Club
SVHS - Snake Valley Historical Society
SVLPG - Snake Valley Land Protection Group

SVN - Snake Valley News
SVPN - Snake Valley Progress Network
SVYC - Snake Valley Youth Crew
TRH - The Royal Hotel Snake Valley
WYPS - Woody Yaloak Primary School
UC - Uniting Church
ALL - All or majority of community groups



