

Ancona Community Profile

October 2010

Location and Landscape

Ancona is a predominantly agricultural community located in the rolling foothills of the Strathbogie Ranges in north-east Victoria. Nearby townships include Bonnie Doon, Mansfield and Euroa (*see map*).

Demographics

Ancona's population is estimated at between 100 and 200 people including full-time and part-time residents and a growing number of families. Many part-time residents own properties in Ancona which they visit on weekends and for holidays, some with a view to relocating on a more permanent basis in the future.

Community Facilities, Activities and Events

The Ancona Hall is the hub of the community with regular activities and events held throughout the year. The Ancona Valley Landcare Group is the longest operating Landcare group in the district and is always looking for new members interested in the Ancona environment. Contact details for these groups are:

- Ancona Hall Committee: Dawn Kipping, ph: 5778 9555.
- Ancona Valley Landcare Group: Angela Tough, ph: 5778 9566.



Dawn Kipping at the Hall



The Landcare BBQ

Community Planning

A community BBQ organised by the Ancona Hall Committee and Ancona Valley Landcare Group was held at the hall in June 2010. Over 56 adults and 27 children attended and enjoyed a tasty feast and the warmth of a bonfire.

People also had the opportunity to answer two questions about their community:

1. What do you and your family like about Ancona?

Responses to this question were similar - it's quiet, it's pretty, a lovely environment, lots of trees and creeks, the people are nice, it's fun in both winter and summer, kids love it, there is lots to do - like motorbike riding.

2. What would make Ancona a better place to live?

Responses were more varied - a fence around the hall, fill potholes on the roads and seal the road, a built-in BBQ facility, hall upgrades - like lighting and furniture, a playground for the kids and more community get-togethers.

Following this, a letter and survey were sent out and people prioritised the top projects for Ancona as follows:

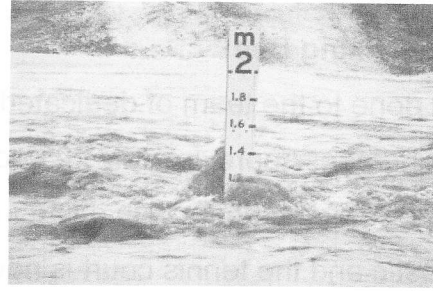
1. Seal Ancona Road.
2. Upgrade the hall e.g. lighting, floor, furniture.
3. Built a permanent BBQ and shelter at the hall.
4. Organise more community get-togethers.

A hall upgrade is already being undertaken by the Hall Committee and this committee and the Landcare group are now working towards building a BBQ and shelter at the hall and organising more community get-togethers. Funding will be sought for the BBQ and shelter and a letter will be sent to the Council advising them of the community support for sealing the road. These actions will be undertaken by committee members from Landcare and the Hall Committee by the end of 2010/early 2011.

Ancona Community Update October 2010

Landcare News!

It never rains, it pours! What a lot of rain we had at the beginning of spring. People were stranded, crossings flooded and our roads turned to bog. Everything is looking lush and green, but it will be nice to see some follow-up rain over the rest of spring.



Jack's Crossing under water

AGM

Landcare held its Annual General Meeting on the 29th of August. Angela Tough was returned as President and Paula Ingpen was returned as Treasurer. With no nominations for Secretary, we will go forward with the role shared between Angela and Paula. Copies of the reports and documents tabled at the AGM can be obtained from Paula or Angela.

Membership Renewal

Memberships for 2010-2011 are due! Please see Paula Ingpen for payment. It is still great value at just \$10.00! New members will need to fill in an application form and existing members will need to update any information that may have changed. If you require a form or have any questions please contact Paula on 57789695. The application form is also available on the Mansfield Shire website just search using the word "Ancona" and follow the links.

Good News: Rabbit Control Grant Approved!

With the help of Melanie Haddow and Tony Kubeil at the CMA we have been allocated money for this project. There will be a meeting for those residents who expressed interest in the rabbit warren ripping grant last year. The meeting will be held on Tuesday the 26th of October at the Hall. It will begin at 7pm and there will be various guest speakers who will provide advice on the process and manner in which the grant will be allocated. Please speak to Angela (57789566) if you are unable to attend and are interested in being part of this project.

Hall News!

The Working Bee

Well done to the team of dedicated Anconians who turned out for the community working bee. Approximately 20 people turned up with their equipment and worked hard for several hours with a BBQ to reward them for their efforts. The Hall is looking fantastic and the tennis court is now ready for use this summer! A great effort from all involved!



Arnold Van Winden enjoying a snag

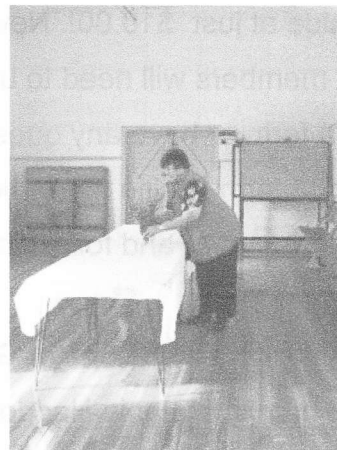
Hall Upgrades

The floor in the Hall has been polished and it looks brilliant! New furniture is being decided upon at the moment.

The heater has been fixed and blinds

have been put up. We are considering adding to the atmosphere with some old photos of Ancona and its residents to be on permanent display around the Hall. Start searching the family archives to see if you can contribute any photos (these will be scanned and returned to you)

to the project. We are also looking at a grant for a permanent BBQ facility to be built at the Hall, so if you would like to be part of the planning and application process please contact Dawn Kipping.



Dawn Kipping-a polished floor!

Ancona Christmas Party

The Ancona Christmas Party will be hosted at the Hall on the Sat November the 28th (correction) and the fun will start at 7.30pm. Bring a festive plate to share for light supper and BYO drinks. Santa may even make an appearance!