



Mount Evelyn
TOWNSHIP GROUP



MT EVELYN COMMUNITY PLAN 2017 - 2020

Cover photograph: Mt Evelyn Street Party scene, 2015. Photo Brian Herlihy.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This Community Plan is the fifth since the first Mt Evelyn Township Plan (Mt Evelyn Community Strategic Plan 2002 – 2005) was published in 2001.

This 2017 Community Plan could not have been made possible without the passion and commitment of the Mt Evelyn Township Group (METG – incorporated as Mt Evelyn Improvement Committee (METIC)), together with the broader Mt Evelyn community.

The Mt Evelyn Township Group (METG) brought the information together and facilitated the annual planning nights leading to this revision.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

A Community plan requires varying levels of participation from across the community. Some members play a larger role in leading the process, and others participate by sharing ideas at our annual public meetings. Others are involved by providing feedback on a draft plan at our 'Have Your Say' table on the main street of Mt Evelyn after the main planning night event. We always welcome new members, encouraging everyone we meet to get involved in a community project.

A Community Plan is not static or dry, but an action-focused document that brings groups and individuals together in order to create positive change in their community.

This Community Plan is a result of the efforts of many dedicated volunteers who have a common aim to see their community thrive. The production of this Community Plan is a credit to all involved. Since our last Community Plan in 2014, Morrisons, who supported us so much, has closed. We have continued with our annual planning sessions, our biennial Street Party, and adopted a new name and a new logo.

As I read over this plan I am proud of all that has been achieved by this talented group of people. They are dedicated to seeing their community continue to prosper.

I commend this plan to you and invite you to join us in its evolution and implementation.

Sue Colverson

President, Mt Evelyn Township Group (2014 – 2017)

At our AGM held 3 August 2017 Peter Stekelenberg became our current President.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mt Evelyn is a diverse, creative and cohesive community. We value our rich history, vibrant community and unique and beautiful, natural environment.

Mt Evelyn is unique in creating Community Plans from 2001 when the concept was in its infancy, and so our Plans are built on nearly two decades of experience.

The Mt Evelyn Township has seen great changes since the formation of the Township Group in 1998 and the creation of the first Mt Evelyn Community Plan in 2001, and a lot of that due to the input of the Township Group carrying out their own projects, or supporting projects brought to them by others. The 2017 Plan will place the Mt Evelyn community in good stead to continue that work. The Mt Evelyn community understands they can change things through community action and participation, as evidenced by the range of projects and activities that have taken place since 2001.

Historically the township group recognised the following portfolios for activity from its restructure in 2001. These themes mirrored those of the Yarra Ranges Council at the time, and enhanced our successful grant applications for projects until 2014. The committee comprised community representatives for these identified themes, plus other interested others and the executive committee, with all positions thrown open at the Annual General Meetings.

- Arts and Culture
- Community Life
- Family
- Growing Business
- Education and Lifelong Learning
- Health and Wellbeing
- Planning
- Safety and Security
- Tourism
- Young People
- Environment

In 2017 the Mt Evelyn Township Group responds to current community priorities as expressed at Planning Nights open to all interested persons, and the views of those who attend our monthly meetings.

The Mt Evelyn Community Plan encourages the entire community to get involved, so if you are interested in making Mt Evelyn a better place to live, please contact us directly on:

WEB: *under construction*

FACEBOOK: <https://www.facebook.com/mtevelyntownshipgroup/>

P/O BOX: Mt Evelyn Township Group PO Box 289 Mt. Evelyn 3796

EMAIL: president@mtevelyntownshipgroup.com

secretary@mtevelyntownshipgroup.com

MEETING: 1ST Thursday of the month 6:30 pm (not Jan), Station House, Wray Crs. Mt Evelyn

Community members are always welcome to attend METG meetings:

Why Are We Planning?

Community planning brings people together to identify opportunities for participation and the issues that affect their community. The plan then outlines ways the community can work together on agreed projects or actions. It unites people within the community so that they can better achieve the things they strive for in partnership, to face challenges and develop opportunities for the future. A community plan helps people take control of the changes they would like to see in their local community.

Community plans and the people that facilitate them provide a dynamic point of reference for Council. They improve the flow of information from the community to Council, helping officers identify priority areas of need and assisting consultation, in order to provide the best outcomes for the community. In some instances, rigorous, detailed research carried out by the community as part of the planning process can directly influence Council policy in response to local issues.

The Mt Evelyn Community Plan endorses the Yarra Ranges Regional Strategy Plan and Localised Planning Statement, with particular reference to their tenets for

- Settlement
- Environment
- Renewable Energy
- Low Carbon Economy
- Landscape Protection
- Local Economic Development
- Strengthening of Local Resilience

This Community Plan can be used as a starting point and reference for anyone wishing to understand the aspirations of the Mt Evelyn community and how to get involved.

This Plan revisits and builds on the 2001, 2004, 2009 and 2014 Mt Evelyn Community Plans and importantly, acknowledges the previous achievements of the community that resulted from those Plans.

This new plan outlines how our community might achieve its vision and objectives, sets priorities for future community action, and suggests roles, responsibilities and opportunities.

Importantly, this plan increases our influence, strengthens our voice and provides a common frame of reference when working with local government and other bodies.

Previous Achievements

The Mt Evelyn community has a tradition of achieving many things through working together to improve the social, environmental, and physical aspects of their town. The Evelyn Progress Association gave their first Annual Report in April 1910 and Progress Associations over the years have worked with other groups in the town to create amenities such as the Recreation Reserve, the Public Hall, the Senior Citizens Clubrooms, the Memorial Kindergarten and the first Infant Welfare Centre. An early Chamber of Commerce ran Spring Fairs in Wray Crescent in the seventies.

Continuing this tradition, since the creation of the Mt Evelyn Township Group in 1998, this group has worked with Council and other groups in the town to make significant advances such as

- Organising Street Parties approximately every second year since 2001 (initially to alternate with Mt Evelyn Primary School Fetes).
- Creating graffiti removal strategies and setting up a graffiti removal program with the Shire through Morrison House
- Construction of the Outlook Community Park with rotunda, BBQ and Community Link building
- Organising a Township Information service from the Community Link and later the Library
- Construction of the YES Shed in Wray Crescent as a facility for youth
- Reinvigorating the Mt Evelyn township (funding the Village Well Village Concept through business grants)
- Supporting Business through Better Business Forums, and creating Business Breakfasts and Business Awards
- Supporting Family Violence Education Network
- Supporting the Puppet Project and the creation of *Flying Home*, a text for Mt Evelyn children through the Yarra Ranges Early Literacy Project
- Supporting creation of RSL Memorial garden (including moving of monument from in front of Public Hall to current position).
- Supporting the creation of the Mt Evelyn & District Financial Services Limited (MEDFSL) aka 'the Bendigo Bank'.
- Supporting the erection of the first security cameras (by grant application) in the main street of Mt Evelyn (some of the first in the Shire)
- Supporting the removal of overhead power lines in Station Street



Please refer to Appendix A for more achievements.

Opening of the Bollard Walk: Andrew Rushton (METIC Family Rep), Paula Herlihy (METIC Environment Rep), Marg Newman (METIC Arts and Culture Rep), Heather McTaggart MP, Steve Bracks MP (Premier), Cr Clive Larkman (YRC and METIC member)

The Mt Evelyn Township Group

The Mt Evelyn Township Group (METG) commenced life in 1998 as the Mt Evelyn Township Improvement Committee (METIC) at a Public Meeting called to address the problems of a stagnant town centre fighting a losing battle with graffiti. The name was chosen to link to the structure of the Yarra Ranges Council at the time. Council officers addressed the meeting and suggested that the way of the future was to establish a Township Improvement group which would create a Plan for the Town to inform Council and support grant applications.

The Council has subsequently encouraged the formation of other township groups and encouraged them to create their Township Plans. The Council supports Township Groups with the Yarra Ranges Township Group Network, of which METG-METIC is a founding member.

From 2014 the group has preferred to be known as Mt Evelyn Township Group in line with other such groups in other townships of the Shire.

The Mission (later Vision) and Values were first developed by the Mount Evelyn Township Improvement Committee in 2001, when the inaugural Mt Evelyn Community Plan was developed. They were revised in 2004-5.

Our Vision

To improve the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of Mt Evelyn.

Our Mission

To improve the economic, environmental and social wellbeing of Mt Evelyn through:

- promoting community connectedness
- promoting cooperation and support between groups to ensure the best use of resources and skills
- encouraging partnerships for mutual benefit
- responding to issues of community concern
- improving the physical environs in Mt Evelyn
- encouraging local solutions to local problems
- providing a link between the community and government
- addressing social inequalities and issues

Our Values

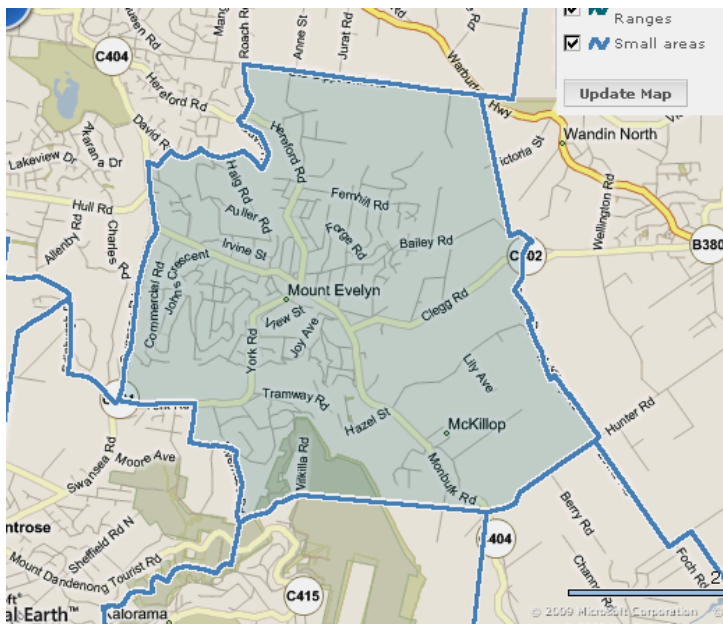
- A connected community
- Community spirit
- Sharing of benefits
- Democratic decision making structures and processes
- Partnerships
- Participation and inclusion
- Communication and consultation
- Application of access and equity principles

MT EVELYN COMMUNITY PROFILE

For the source of this information and more detail, please refer to: <http://profile.id.com.au/yarra-ranges/about/?WebID=230> [Accessed 19 July 2017] At this time there is a disclaimer '2016 Census data has been released and we are busy processing it to update this website.' Also note the following 'These figures all provide the context for the size of the population and growth rate within Yarra Ranges Council area and should be looked at in conjunction with other basic demographic information, such as Age Structure, Dwelling Type and Household Size.'

Location & Physical Features

Mt Evelyn is a residential and rural area located 37km east of Melbourne, in the foothills of the Dandenong Ranges and bordering the Yarra Valley. We are the fourth largest town in Yarra Ranges and we are located on the Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail, one of Victoria's most popular Rail Trails.



Mt Evelyn is bounded by Nicholson Crescent, David Road, Fortune Avenue, and Old Gippsland Road in the north; the locality of Wandin North, Bailey Road, Forest Road, McKillop Road and Hunter Road in the east; the locality of Kalorama, Inverness Road, the eastern boundary of Mount Evelyn Christian School and York Road in the south; and Swansea Road in the west.

The residential area of Mt Evelyn is centred around the intersection of four major roads (York, Monbulk, Hereford and Birmingham) that converge at a roundabout on the hilltop. The Mt Evelyn Village shopping centre has three sections along Wray Crescent and on both sides of York Road.

Major public features of the area include the Dandenong Ranges National Park (Mt Evelyn Forest), Mt Evelyn Shopping Centre, Morrison Reserve, Mt Evelyn Recreation Reserve, Owl Land Reserve, Quinn Nature Reserve, the Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail, the Mt Evelyn Aqueduct Reserve and the Graham Colling Reserve.

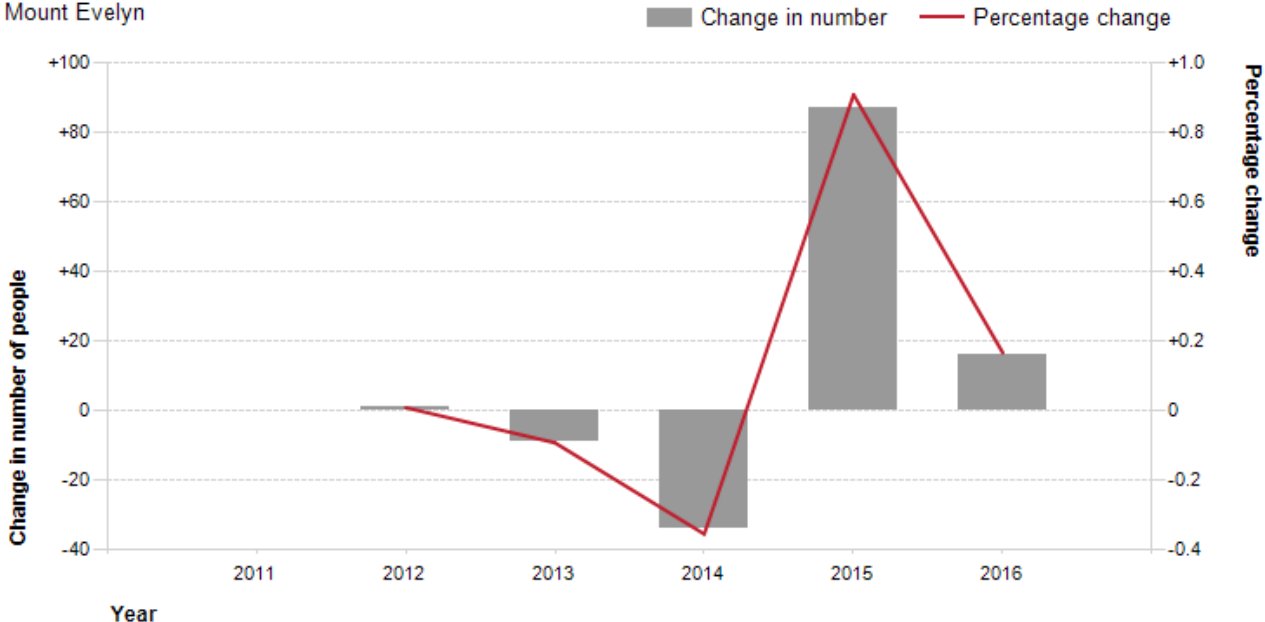
Population

'Yarra Ranges Council area Community Profile provides demographic analysis for the Area and its suburbs based on results from the 2011, 2006, 2001, 1996 and 1991 Censuses of Population and Housing. The profile is updated with population estimates when the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) releases new figures such as the annual Estimated Resident Population (ERP).'

The 2016 Estimated Resident Population for Mount Evelyn is 9,679, with a population density of 5.58 persons per hectare. ‘

Census figures for 2011 showed a population of 9,365 with almost no population growth over the past five years. However the picture has changed significantly in the years from 2014.

Annual change in Estimated Resident Population (ERP)



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics, Regional Population Growth, Australia (3218.0). Compiled and presented by .id the population experts



The previous downward trend has not continued.

The information available to date is still that used for the 2014 Plan, as the 2016 census data is still being accessed and uploaded at the time of writing, and only to the broader Yarra Ranges, not local townships.

Mt Evelyn has a slightly above average household size however its average household size has been gradually declining. Most households in Mt Evelyn consist of couples with or without children, and lone person households have increased over the five years to 2011. The number of households is forecast to increase by 7% (235 houses) between 2011 and 2031.

While the area has a high level of babies and children aged 0-17, and adults aged 35-59, its population is ageing, with most population growth over the past five years occurring amongst 60-84 year olds.

Cultural Diversity

The area has limited cultural diversity, with most residents born in Australia and speaking English only at home. The level of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents is slightly above-average with an increase of 69% over the past five years, from 35 to 59 persons.

Volunteerism

The area has a well above-average level of volunteers and people providing unpaid child care to children who are not their own.

Internet Connectivity and mobile phone coverage

Mt Evelyn has a high and rapidly rising level of households with an internet connection. While improvements have been made, parts of Mt Evelyn lie in the 'Kalorama Black Spots' for mobile and TV reception. NBN is currently unavailable in Mt Evelyn.

Education

Whilst there are relatively low levels of education, the levels are improving in terms of completion of Year 12 and acquisition of a post-school qualification. From the website:

'The largest changes in the qualifications of the population in Mount Evelyn between 2006 and 2011 were in those with:

- Vocational qualifications (+315 persons)
- Advanced Diploma or Diplomas (+151 persons)
- Bachelor or Higher degrees (+146 persons)

Employment and the Local Economy

Mt Evelyn has low unemployment, and incomes similar to the Melbourne average. The income spread has not shifted much since 2006.

Construction, manufacturing and retail trade are the main industries of employment, but the number of workers employed in retail trade and manufacturing is falling. The number of workers employed in health care and social assistance, and in construction, is increasing.

Transport

Most residents drive to work, with most owning two or more vehicles. The level of multi-vehicle ownership is increasing.

Mt Evelyn lies on two bus routes; Chirnside Park to Ringwood and Lilydale to Belgrave, transporting people to Belgrave, Lilydale, Chirnside Park, Croydon, Ringwood and further afield through connecting services.

Housing

Most dwellings are separate houses. Mortgage payments are considerably below the Melbourne average. However, there is a high level of households where mortgage payments are 30% or more of household income, indicating that there is a significant mismatch between mortgage commitments and income levels.

Tourism

Mt Evelyn is starting to attract tourists from all over the world. Its beautiful environment and delightful village setting, plus its ideal position between the Dandenong Ranges and the Yarra Valley and close proximity to Melbourne CBD all offer the tourist a great experience for either a day trip or longer stay. The growth of cafes in the village demonstrates that Mount Evelyn is also experiencing the coffee culture expansion.

The popular Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail and the Mt Evelyn Aqueduct Walk offer visitors adventure and healthy activities and both these trails pass through the centre of Mt. Evelyn. Over 200,000 people use the Lilydale to Warburton Trail alone.

Mt Evelyn must plan for the growth in number of visitors from both local and international visitors. Mt Evelyn has so much to offer that we need to start thinking about it as a tourist destination, not just a thoroughfare. Recent efforts by persons attending the METG meetings to establish Mt Evelyn as an RV friendly town have so far been unsuccessful. Mt Evelyn has few remaining guesthouses or holiday houses of the 1920s, and there is limited visitor accommodation in Mt Evelyn.

Tourism can enhance a town's economic position without having to increase residential development. It can improve the variety of businesses, so much needed at this time and it can help protect the environment by it being such a focus for the visitor.

The Community Plan should take into account this growth aspect for Mount Evelyn and project future needs for the village and its surrounds to service the tourist visitor.

Statistics are available from Yarra Ranges Tourism website:
<http://www.yarrarangestourism.com.au/>



Mt Evelyn Business Awards organised by METIC

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT – WHAT WE DID

Community Involvement

This Plan builds upon the 2001, 2004, 2009 and 2014 Mt Evelyn Community Plans, which involved a range of engagement activities, facilitated by the Mt Evelyn Township Group (METG), to include the broader community in communicating their aspirations for Mt Evelyn. Activities included evenings when people presented photographs of what they valued or did not value in Mt Evelyn, and photos of good things from other towns, interviews, surveys, forums, focus groups and planning events.

For this Plan, engagement activities included the Yarra Ranges supported Peter Kenyon Planning Session held on Sunday April 12 2015, and Chad Foulkes facilitated Planning Nights organised by METG and held on 13 July 2016 and 17 May 2017. All planning events were held at Yarra Hills Secondary School, excellently supported by METG member, Principal Robyn Dew. Members and visitors also bring ideas to the monthly meetings.

The Community Planning Nights have brought as many as 80 people representing a range of community groups, schools and organisations, who identify potential priority areas and projects for the next three-five years.

The Peter Kenyon Workshop www.bankofideas.com.au

Mt Evelyn - Our Community
CONVERSATION & WORKSHOP

The Mt Evelyn Community has a history of dynamic volunteerism, advocacy and action, producing fantastic civic outcomes.

Sunday April 12 **Everyone welcome**

Hosted by the Mt Evelyn Community in partnership with Yarra Ranges Council, this event invites EVERYONE of all ages and abilities, who live, work and play in Mt Evelyn to come along and get involved in being part of Mt Evelyn's future.

The day will be a rare and valuable opportunity to bring the community together, facilitated by Peter Kenyon from the Bank of I.D.E.A.S. - www.bankofideas.com.au

Peter is an inspiring speaker and exceptional facilitator, whose community planning workshops are renowned throughout Australia and New Zealand.

Registrations for this FREE event are essential for catering purposes:

Date: **Sunday April 12**
Time: **10:30 am - 4:30 pm**
Where: **Yarra Hills Secondary College**

Contact: **9294 6836** - or register online:
<https://eventbrite.com.au/event/3884813582/>

Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea provided.

Yarra Ranges Council

In partnership with the Yarra Ranges Council, the Community Conversation and Workshop was facilitated by Peter Kenyon from the Bank of I.D.E.A.S. Peter's community planning workshops are renowned throughout Australia and New Zealand. Peter is an inspiring and entertaining speaker and exceptional facilitator.

This event invited EVERYONE of all ages and abilities, who live, work and play in Mt Evelyn to come along and get involved in being part of Mt Evelyn's future.

The Bank of I.D.E.A.S. is an international community and economic development consultancy based in Kalamunda, Western Australia. Since its creation in 1989, the Bank of I.D.E.A.S. has worked with over 1600 communities throughout Australia and overseas seeking to facilitate fresh and creative ways that stimulate community and local economic

renewal.

Ideas that emerged from the Peter Kenyon Workshop included

- The importance of establishing a unique identity for the town (as illustrated by the town of Bull) – the Lion Seat Project was seen as an integral part of this kind of initiative.
- Creating a central core for the town – an Information Centre, Town Square (as promoted at the 2015 Street Party by Daniel Meadth and others) and this included the Railway Station platform area revamp.
- Holding a Community Meal. The first was held in 2016, organised by Tim Heenan, Greg Carrick and others; the second was run in 2017 organised by the Mt Evelyn Community House.

The Community Planning Night, 13 July 2016

A poster for a community planning event. At the top left is the Mount Evelyn logo. The background is a photograph of a forest with sunlight filtering through the trees. The text on the poster includes: 'Wednesday 13th July', 'HAVE YOUR SAY' in large white letters, 'Community town planning evening', 'Do you want to be a part of shaping Mount Evelyn's future?', 'If you have an idea that will improve or strengthen our community, bring that idea along to share. Come prepared to not only have your say but also join a team to move the idea forward in 2017.', 'Registration at 5 p.m. Concluding at 9 p.m.', 'Yarra Hills Secondary College', 'Burdap Drive, Mount Evelyn', 'Light meal of soup and sandwiches provided', 'RSVP for catering purposes to mtevelynplan@gmail.com or text 0417 566 805 by Monday 11th July at the latest.'

METG led this Community Planning event with the support of the Yarra Ranges Council, and employed Chad Foulkes as facilitator.

From publicity for the event, written by Eva Windisch:

‘A community can be seen as a place, entity, or an idea where people have something in common. It is the relationship between the people and the various social networks of which they are part that is one of the more significant elements of ‘community’. The expectation that people, institutions, and interest groups will act in an honest and appropriate way is essential if a community is to flourish. Social engagement, networks of reciprocity, and trust in other people lets a community nurture co-operation and development.

You are encouraged to come to the Township Planning event. Social capital is generated when individuals make connections with each other for their mutual benefit.’

Chad Foulkes uses Open Space Technology, sometimes called ‘the Meeting Marketplace’.

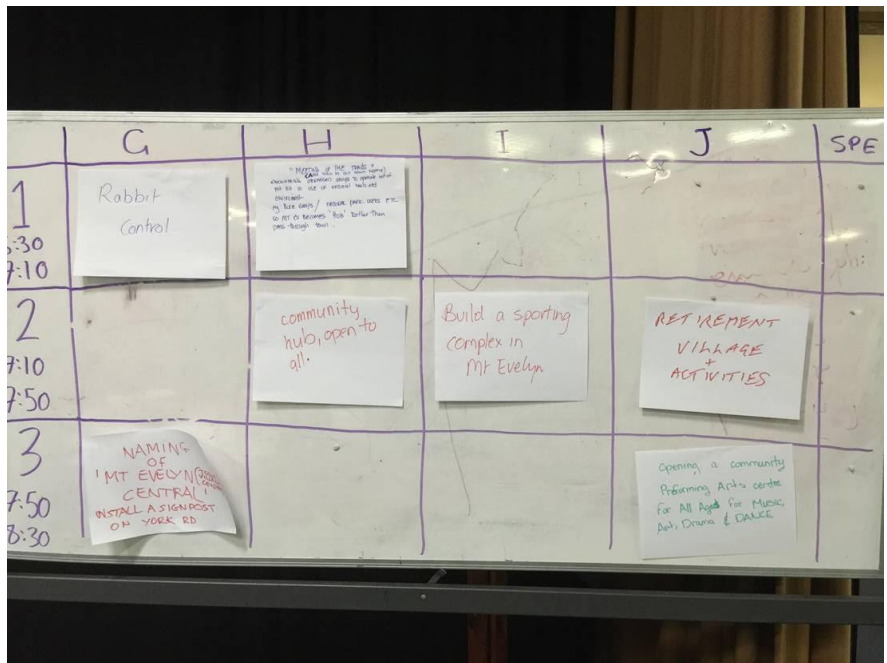
‘Open Space Technology (OST) is an approach to purpose-driven leadership, ... focused on a specific and important purpose or task — but beginning without any formal agenda, beyond the overall purpose or theme.’



Photos from 2016 Planning Night courtesy Santha Press.

This format 'has been used in meetings of 5 to 2,100 people (in self-discovery work for smaller groups or even individuals). The approach is characterized by a few basic mechanisms:

- a broad, open invitation which articulates the purpose of the meeting;
- participants' chairs arranged in a circle;
- a "bulletin board" of issues and opportunities posted by participants;
- a "marketplace" with many break-out spaces that participants move freely between, learning and contributing as they "shop" for information and ideas;
- a "breathing" or "pulsation" pattern of flow, between plenary and small-group breakout sessions.



The approach is most distinctive for its initial lack of an agenda, which sets the stage for the meeting's participants to create the agenda for themselves, in the first 30–90 minutes of the meeting or event.' From Wikipedia [accessed 20 July 2017]

A summary of the evening's discussions was collected at the end of the event and distributed to participants and other interested persons. This is summarised as follows:

Idea	Topic Champion	Key Discussion Points	The First Step
Community Hub open to all	Kerry Kift - 0413 719 474	Where would be suitable Access, where? Scout Halls, Church Halls, St John's Hall Who is the target group? Who will be accountable?	Start to contact local halls
Social Hub Tavern	Brett Daelish	Encourage locals, visitors and tourists into Mt Evelyn Central Development needed	
Food Sustainability Community Garden	Jacques Frich – 0414 562 586 Jacquesfrich@y mail.com	Land has been identified next to the school on a former community garden 11 acres of land exists outside town (next to Discovery Church)	Investigate locations The garden name is 'The Purple Patch'
Naming of Mt Evelyn Central - Install a signpost on York Rd	Shirley Landon	As per country towns	2 signs needed to cover both ways
Pedestrian Crossing sign upgrade at/near Heart and Soul	Brett Daelish	Wray Cres pedestrian crossing should have new standard fluoro sign Humps in Wray Cres to slow down drivers Safety crossing Station St No right turns at Birmingham Rd Cars driving across open area outside Community Hall on Birmingham Rd	Look at signs on Wray Cres crossings
Rabbit Control		Impacting on Morrison Reserve, Yarra Ranges SDS & Yarra Hills SC Eliminating the warren Silvan Growers group are WAGS – contact Alison Brinson 0417 447 984 Fractured limbs due to trips in rabbit holes Constant replacement of phone/digital communications cables required (bunnies eat them!) Huge costs in plants Damage will occur to new athletics track if issue is not addressed	Yarra Ranges Council to investigate a response to replace the previous 1080 program

Influence of outside economic conditions	Barry Callanan sunsies@gmail.com	<p>We do not come to grips with the economic forces which control us</p> <p>We cosmeticize – so whatever we do, it can not ‘have legs to run on into the future’</p> <p>We should become aware of the madness of growth of size and quality. A con trick?</p> <p>Our incredibly bad behaviour – 90% more consumption than required</p> <p>This is forced on us by a second con that it is necessary for commercial purposes</p> <p>Our misunderstanding of that life would be vastly better without this</p> <p>The answer is to set up productive workshops (in our town) self-contained and resilient</p> <p>Food processing, food growing, bicycle and electrical, bicycle technology energy, tourism and tracks, cultural musicians singing, low cost housing</p>	<p>Search out all possible food growing areas and people to look after them. With TAFE look to what is</p> <p>Tonight for each of the above workshops and how this can support workshops in Mt Evelyn</p>
Increase Christmas spirit in Mt Evelyn	Anne Welsh – 0400 736 326 Email: gkandagwelsh@gmail.com	<p>Form a Christmas Committee – Julia Russell, Nicky Condello, Anne Welsh, Paula Herlihy, Alan Price</p> <p>Christmas Treasure Hunt</p> <p>Christmas Flame Tree – decorated by handmade decorations by The Mens Shed/Children. Bud lights around veranda – Bank – Op Shop</p> <p>Children’s Christmas Carol Event – Mt Evelyn Neighbourhood Watch & Mt Evelyn Community House – already being organised</p>	<p>Convene Committee –</p> <p>Talk to the Chamber of Commerce, Alan Price (Mens Shed), School rep, Richard Schoenmaker (Reformed Church)</p> <p>Find a suitable date and venue for committee</p>
Build a Sporting Complex in Mt Evelyn	Robyn Dew – 0467 721 466 Email: dew.robyn.l@edumail.vic.gov.au	<p>Major sporting facility in Mt Evelyn</p> <p>Roger Bland (Mt Evelyn Meteors) has given Robyn Dew contact details of Kilsyth Basketball Stadium who are very keen for the proposal (meeting planned for tomorrow)</p> <p>Need to get young families in</p> <p>Could be used for national competitions</p> <p>Improve tourism</p> <p>Needs to be comfortable for everyone to use</p> <p>Parking – link up with Mt Evelyn Athletics Club & Soccer Club to develop parking</p> <p>Mt Evelyn has one of the largest demographics of young people in the area</p>	<p>Get letters of support from each of the community groups</p> <p>Include other sporting clubs other than basketball: Volleyball? Netball?</p>

Mulching Truck to visit streets for a clean-up every 6 months	Julie Melbourne - 0487 700 836	Removal of debris and clean-up of weeds etc by residents Residents to retain mulch	Wait for a pilot trial
Clegg Rd Traffic Issues	Andrew Austin – 0409 202 895 Email: Andrew.tracey4@bigpond.com	Issues with traffic congestion in particular around the intersection at St Marys PS. Lots of work has already been done on this topic Council (SYR) has already consulted ward Councillor Maria McCarthy and MP Tony Smith have been spoken to at length A concept plan has been completed with an initial costing estimate	Persist with politicians and speak to Councillor James Melino Put a petition forward and persist with politicians
York Rd traffic congestion	Julie Melbourne – 0487 700 886	Traffic congestion on York Rd is leading to that traffic cutting through local streets (South Ave & Joy Ave) to reach Monbulk Silvan Rd Local streets (unmade) causing damage to the roads, dangerous for residents and wildlife Are there any plans to widen York Rd to ease this congestion?	Wait for the results of our road counter which have been placed on the road on 11 July
Community Performing Arts Centre	Rhys McMillan & Robyn Dew – 0467 721 466 Email: dew.robyn.l@edumail.vic.gov.au	Open it up to the community for Performing Arts groups Studios and groups to use Yarra Hills Secondary College Performing Arts Centre Advertise to groups Vamped up to get better equipment No Performing Arts Centres in Mt Evelyn Branch out to company's into using our centre Regularly used more than now (not used unless school) Teachings in stagecraft for courses. Teaching as well as groups Discovery Church also has a Performing Arts Centre which they are keen to use as a community resource too Less money to use the centre Not just for performing arts Parking and accommodations Making Mt Evelyn a destination not just a road with shops	Find contacts to join and fill the centre

<p>Meeting of the Trails – add logo to our town name</p>	<p>Lois Harper – 0438 371 357 Email: loisharp@bigpond.net.au</p>	<p>What is the target audience? Melbourne Population. How to reach? Via events; Biking events, Mountain bike riding (on trails – Warby & Aqueduct), Indigenous exploration of the trails, local mountains, Park & run, Pokemon Go, BMX events, Orienteering events, Hash House Harriers Regularly / weekly/ annual etc running events Constraints: Parking, ‘family friendly’ toilets, park, meeting place. Cf Launching Place/Seville – easy access pub & train café, ‘quirky’ & friendly meeting spaces Adequate mapping of trails required Historic walks – some no longer visible Need speed limit on trail through actual town Need to tap into local knowledge Need advertising to make Mt Evelyn a destination, use/establish an info spot via Tourism workshopping – begin to develop and define ideas Promote Mt Evelyn as the hub of trails via mapping which puts Mt Evelyn central Trails need labelling – people get lost. Good drawings / maps of all trails, fold out map Some good points – Melb people always pleasantly surprised by Mt Evelyn (little gem)</p>	<p>Idea was put out there – needs to link with greater town plan Became evident that this idea is part of a bigger town plan to workshop a tourism vision which will bring visitors to our town to stay, engage and partake in events; the amazing environment in which we live and utilise and enjoy the facilities</p>
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The Community Planning Night, 17 May 2017

METG once again employed Chad Foulkes following the success of the previous year’s Planning Night. Publicity was not as well carried out as in 2016, and numbers were fewer, but still 31 attended. One of Chad’s instructions at the start of the evening is that ‘everyone who should be here is here, and the people who are here tonight are the right people’.

This, coupled with the ‘permission’ to move about freely and stay if you want to or leave if you want to makes for a very happy evening, where those attending feel welcomed and heard and free to be themselves and enjoy themselves.

The use of the Open Space Technology or Meeting Marketplace places the responsibility for moving forward clearly on the shoulders of the participants, and in their own minds – it is not imposed externally. There is little room for a participant to say ‘They should ...’ or ‘They oughta ...’. It is clear from the way the evening is structured that participants are free to take on projects if they wish, or not take them on if their priorities are elsewhere.

A summary of the evening’s outcomes was again distributed to all who had registered, and this year was sent out to a wider local email audience. One response from one of the wider audience was, ‘I was interested in attending but had a prior commitment. Good to see the outcomes.’

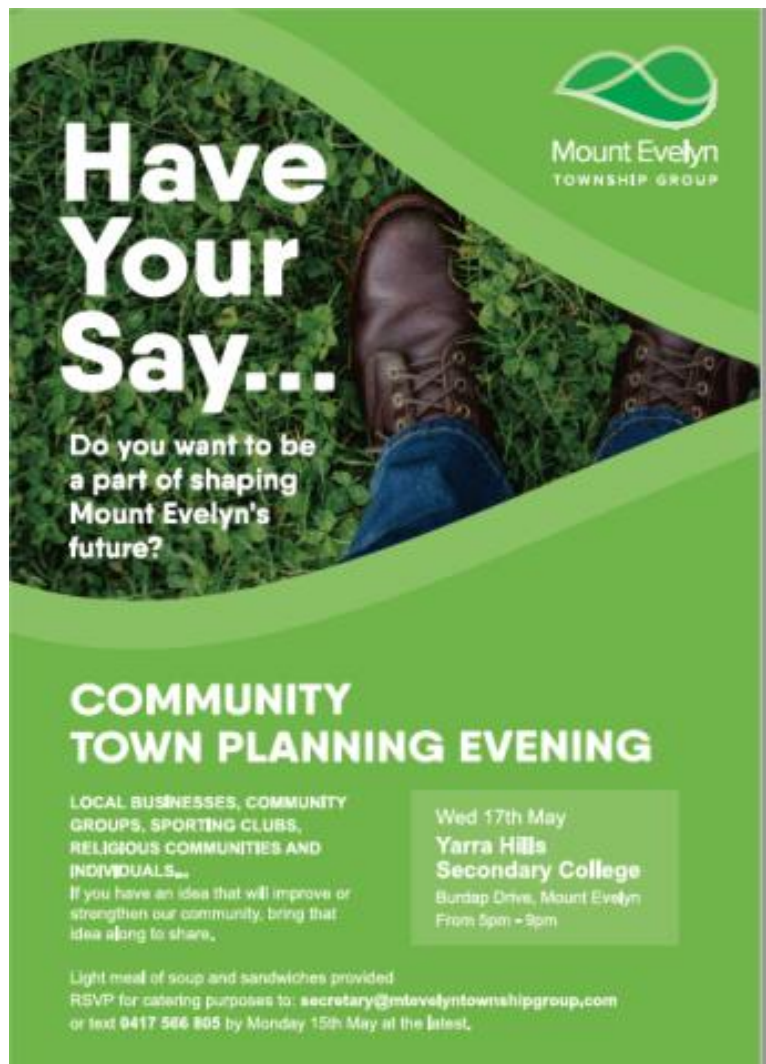
An evaluation sheet was distributed after the event to collect feedback on the evening. Refer to Appendix A for the questionnaire. There were 13 responses from the 31 attendees. Some categories were selected more than once, or missed, as we were concerned with collecting information rather than asking respondents to select ‘the most important’.

Of the sixteen responses to how did you hear about the event, ‘Word of mouth’ scored four, with one each for ‘flyer’, ‘email’ and ‘real estate sponsored sign’. Of the nine who selected ‘Other’, four were METG members and the others were contacted by word of mouth to attend as a representative (4) and one was employed by METG.

Since two respondents commented that they would have liked to have seen more people there, we note that Chad Foulkes said in an email to us, that ‘Eva’s persistence last year, letterbox drops, business visits to boost numbers was a great success as it translated into people who weren’t aware of [the event to attend].’ Eva was an apology for 2017 and her input was missed. The group had voted this year not to spend the money on a letter box drop due to the cost, and the note that ‘only a handful of extra attenders put their hand up on the night’. President Sue suggests that we might get a different vote in 2018.

Of the 21 responses to ‘why did you come to the event’, ‘want to contribute to Mt Evelyn’ scored 6, ‘involved in METG’ and ‘involved professionally’ each scored 4, and ‘curious’ and ‘representing a group’ each scored 3. The final responder said ‘I enjoy the process’.

The question about whether any key idea had inspired the respondent to take action, one person replied ‘no one idea but I was heartened by all the discussion’. Of the 14 responses there were 8 ‘yesses’, 2 ‘maybes’ and 4 ‘nos’.



'What would you have liked more of' elicited one 'great – nothing more needed', the two desires for more attendees mentioned above, two thought 'more contributions, or tables with ideas', one would have liked a greater understanding of the benefits of a personal community future, and one thought a personal greeting would have improved the evening for them.

One person each responded that they could have done with less of 'waiting to start', 'waiting between sessions', 'the analogies and drawings were confusing', and 'there was too long spent in explaining what was to happen'.

Eleven respondents said they would recommend the event to a friend, and none said they would not.

Eight of the nine non-METG members (who it is presumed will be involved in future) responding said they would like to participate in future activities. One left her email address which was forwarded to Jacques running the Purple Patch, one offered marketing assistance and left her contact details, and one offered cultural advice or guidance.

In the extra comments we scored, 'Excellent food; great community event', and 'Great to see young people involved'.

The following summary was created by material supplied to Chad Foulkes and Sue Colverson:

IDEA	CONTACT	KEY POINTS	NEXT STEP
Community Art Show	Katya Barnes & Robert Forbes 9839 9922	Funding MARKETING in local community & further afield Inclusive of primary, secondary and both existing and emerging community artists Love of Art and how it brings people together	Apply for funding Continue with art show marketing and make further community connections Look for more sponsorship
Yarra Hills Secondary College raised stage or revamp drama complex	Yarra Hills Secondary College Presented by Yarra Hills student	Drama complex could be used for amateur theatre groups Do a fund raiser for the stage Ask Men's Shed if they can assist	Go to college principal Possibly apply to council for grant
More sports facilities for girls to encourage more involvement of girls	Presented by Yarra Hills student	Recruit new team players without being judged Street Banners to advertise Get leagues involved	Someone to contact Jancida Erich, inclusion officer in the recreation and active leisure team at Yarra Ranges council Contact Mt Evelyn Junior footy club president- Mel to do
Christmas Decorations	Paula Herlihy 9736 2935 pherlihy3@gmail.com	Lantern art show (Robyn and Katya) Red Ban Tinsel Bayswater light waves Solar powered fairy lights designed by artists that fill shops in main street (Santha) Carols- street party Sign up schools Anna Griffith – Cosco- sparkly mesh-100s weddings use	Challenge is OH&S for council insurance which is why suggested materials are all light Contact Ann Welsh about Neighbourhood Watch Christmas event – perhaps partner

Yarra Hills Students to be involved in Purple Patch	Student	Get year levels to help weed	Apply for funding from the Stephanie Alexander kitchen garden grants
Scarecrow competition	Student	The current scarecrow is very old and battered and would work better if replaced	Run scarecrow competition perhaps at street party with the winner to go into the garden
Yarra Hills sports stadium	Robyn Dew 9736 3650	Stage 2 presented from original idea submitted last year. Has some public and government support. Kilsyth Basketball Stadium, Netball & Volleyball Ass'n on side, still need to meet with the state government. Drawings shown. May include a Show Court. Will provide first class facilities for basketball into the local area. Will also bring \$ in to town with events Suggestion of further funding but size of project limits their involvement	Waiting on meeting with Hon James Merlino, Councillor Tim Heenan has offered assistance. This will need many years and many dollars Architect drawings to present later Lobby local business and community for support letters Use local paper to lobby support
Youth spaces in urban area for youth engagement	Chelsea Beaumont c.beaumont@yarrarange.s.vic.gov.au	Engagement spaces to link in with young people 12-25 years For drop in, referral services and participation in council facilitated programs/ projects	Contact Sue Colverson Discovery Community Care. Add value to their existing services in emergency relief Link with Stephen Duke Wellbeing Officer?? Discuss opportunities with Robyn Dew (Yarra Hills)
Promotional support offered	Contact Darcie Reynolds.	Current Ray White Real Estate management is new to the area and want to be more involved with the community organisations	Request Darcie to provide requirements for promotion i.e. amount of notice required, file size, how to get permission, design tips
How to sustain the Purple Patch	Jacques Frisch	There is a strong need for sustainable organic gardening for healthier communities	Contact Yarra Hills re student involvement Promote via advertising the need for garden volunteers
Renewable energy precinct for Mt Evelyn		Group agreed there is a need for this in Mt Evelyn but unfortunately at this stage no one is available with the time needed to follow up on such a large commitment. We acknowledged that the council are proactive in the sustainability area.	

Projects Summary

We can summarise this recent three years' input, coupled with some projects still ticking over from the 2014 and earlier Plans, as follows. Organisations in brackets after the listing have assumed some championship in this matter):

Projects which are completed

- Link with Cire (Cire)
- Link with Mt Evelyn Community House (Mt Evelyn Community House)
- New Trails brochure (MEEPPA and MECCI)
- Improve parking at the sports centre and martial arts centre on Hereford Road (YRC)
- CCTV cameras (METG, now MECCI)

Projects which are underway

- 2017 Street Party (METG, Mt Evelyn Street Party (MESP) committee)
- Purple Patch (METG, Yarra Hills Secondary College)
- Community Art Show (organisers)
- Christmas Decorations (Neighbourhood Watch)
- Yarra Hills Sports Stadium (Yarra Hills Secondary School)
- Town Signage (METG, MESP, advice to METG is that Mt Evelyn Chamber of Commerce is already pursuing this)
- METG website (METG)
- Protecting and promoting our Reserves and Trails (mainly supporting groups such as MEEPPA, Friends of Water Race and Quinn Reserve, Friends of Mt Evelyn Aqueduct).
- Establish native or indigenous plantings in all unplanted areas in main township (MEEPPA, YRC)
- convene the Family Violence Education Network quarterly (METG)

Projects which are stalled (temporarily we hope)

- Lion Seat – creation of replicas (METG)
- Lion seat – protect original (MEHG)
- Traffic flow and safety: Birmingham Rd -York Rd; Wray Crescent; York Road between Swansea Road and Olinda Creek bridge (early plans)
- Dump point for RV vehicles in Mt Evelyn
- Provide tourism information about Mt Evelyn (a past METG project we could not keep up)
- Encourage wider variety of shops to open in Mt Evelyn, particularly on weekends (a lot has been done in the past by METG, and now by MECCI, but more can be done)

Projects which have been repeatedly identified as important for Mt Evelyn and yet to be started

- Performing Arts Venue for Mt Evelyn
- Improved signage at gateways to the town
- Increase pedestrian linkages throughout the town e.g. footpath or trail from Silvan to Mt Evelyn.
- Explore opportunities to increase safety lighting throughout the township
- Analysis of street furniture including bins, bike racks, seating and signage
- Infrastructure at the skate park: Cracks in bowl; Shade; More art (Young people and Council)
- Establishment of a BMX track (Young people and Council)

Our Challenges and Aspirations (Updated from 2014 Plan)

The opportunities and challenges facing Mt Evelyn result from its position as a fringe-suburban but semi-rural (interface) community. It has the fourth largest township population in Yarra Ranges. The natural environment (indigenous rather than green or native) and the small-town atmosphere give the town a distinctive character. Coupled, until recently, with low real estate prices these features have made it attractive to new residents. The growing population has increased pressure on infrastructure and is changing the character of the town, both visually and socially.

Mt Evelyn is proud of our higher than average level of volunteerism and involvement in community life. Part of this has been linked to organisations such as the former Morrison House, our Special Developmental School and Disability Service providers, the large Discovery Church organization, the Christian Reformed Church Football/Netball Club, RSL, MEEPPA, Scouts and Guides, and many other churches and community groups. We strive to preserve this ethic of caring and volunteerism in the town.

Business The impact of the closure of the community enterprise Morrisons (formerly Morrison House) at the beginning of 2014 represented a setback for the town. Morrisons/Morrison House was one of the major employers in the town, with over 100 equivalent full-time staff. The not-for-profit Morrisons Café ('Holy Grill'), for example, due to its support from other parts of the community enterprise, was able to open seven days a week. It employed a significant number of staff, purchased supplies in the town and encouraged a good food culture which attracted visitors. This in turn encouraged other cafes to open for business such as Billy Goat Hill, Heart & Soul and Happy Trails.

One challenge for business is lack of balance. There are numerous take-away food outlets, cafes and bakeries and hairdressers but an overall lack of variety in the retail area. The Mt Evelyn community has carried out successful action in the face of challenges to commerce in the town. Mt Evelyn & District Financial Services Limited (MEDFSL) was established after two of Mt Evelyn's original three banks closed and it was feared the third would be lost. What could have been a challenge for Mt Evelyn's business community was turned around by community action and resulted in MEDFSL becoming so successful it was the third inductee into the Bendigo and Adelaide Bank Limited's Community Bank Hall of Fame. At one time the Mt Evelyn Post Office was one of the largest in the state.

The Mt Evelyn Chamber of Commerce has ebbed and flowed over the past 15 years with long periods of inactivity. The current Chamber of Commerce is very active and is an important and sustainable stakeholder group.

There is a thriving sector of home businesses and workshops, assisted by the large block sizes in some areas. Many of these businesses are involved in design or other creative activities.

Education We have four primary schools (two state, one Roman Catholic and one non-denominational Christian), a thriving Special Developmental School and two disability service providers, as well as education services offered by the Discovery Church such as workplace training. 1st Mt Evelyn Scouts is the largest non-formal educational provider in the town and was the second largest Scout group in Victoria.

The original Mt Evelyn Technical School became a Years 7-12 Secondary College, which later amalgamated and restructured. Now part of Yarra Hills Secondary College, Mt Evelyn Campus is Years 7-10 only and caters largely for students from outside the Mt Evelyn area. If our students do attend Yarra Hills, they must go out of the town to complete their final two years of secondary schooling and it is hard to link them back to the town. Mt Evelyn Christian School covers Prep to Year 12, and Mt Evelyn students attend Billanook College, and Lilydale and Monbulk High Schools/Secondary Colleges..

Mt Evelyn students' choices in higher education have been limited by the closure of the Lilydale Campus of Swinburne in 2013, which removed an easily accessible tertiary (TAFE and University) education provider. Recently Box Hill Institute has established the Lakeside TAFE Campus at the ex Swinburne site, and students can also travel to Croydon, Wantirna or Box Hill. The closest universities are Monash (Clayton), Deakin (Burwood) and Swinburne (Hawthorn). Morrisons/Morrison House provided educational opportunities for many to return to mainstream study and obtain qualifications, and this education role has been smoothly taken over by Cire for the benefit of staff and students. In particular the restructure of the education facilities previously offered at the Morrisons site means that Cire delivers VCAL and workplace training.

Mt Evelyn has a rich tradition of community education, notably at the former Morrison House/Morrisons. Advocacy and effort by community, Council and other local Neighbourhood Houses has resulted in minimising the impact on Mt Evelyn of Morrisons closure, with the Mt Evelyn Community House providing a range of informal learning for all ages

The Morrisons Child Care services have likewise been seamlessly taken over by other organisations so that the level of quality childcare offered in the town has been retained.

Before and After School Care and Holiday Care is being taken up by other organisations, such as local schools.

Environment and Development The pressure to cater for a large population while retaining our attractive bush and rural features has been obvious since the 1970s and is still with us. Mt Evelyn is served by a number of dedicated environmental groups who undertake significant ongoing work to protect the fragile remnant bush land in and around Mt Evelyn including: the Mount Evelyn Environment Protection and Progress Association, the Friends of the Mount Evelyn Aqueduct Incorporated, and the Friends of the Water Race and Quinn Reserve. While the Warburton Trail passes through Mt Evelyn, the Friends group which used to care for it at a local level has been allied with the Warburton Township and little work beyond that from the Manager (YRC) is done in Mt Evelyn. We pay our respects to Ivor Chalkley, a long standing Mt Evelyn member of the Friends of the Rail Trail, sadly passed on. He was instrumental in much of the later work in the town on this trail, including working on the re-development of the Station site.

Safety Our police station, threatened with closure in the past, is inadequately resourced. We have an active Neighbourhood Watch group which works with local police and emergency services.

Mt Evelyn is a high risk bushfire area. Morrisons Reserve has been designated as a Neighbourhood Safer Place and residents are encouraged to be fire ready but the difficulty of evacuating the township in an emergency has not been adequately addressed. Most people who live here accept the risk posed by the treed environment and reject the calls to denude the area of vegetation and adopt the concrete of suburbia.

Transport Public transport has recently improved after years of neglect but problems remain. Bus routes and timetables are not ideal and there is no obligation for buses to connect with trains. Designated bike lanes on roads are non-existent. The walking and bike trails that are a feature of the town could be developed further. For example, completion of the 'missing link' in the Olinda Creek Trail and creation of a visitor node on the Lilydale to Warburton Rail Trail (both under consideration) would be significant improvements. A path beside York Road would connect all four trails: the Rail Trail, Aqueduct, Water Race and Olinda Creek.

Mount Evelyn Community House The recently established Community House works to create and build on partnerships with all community groups in Mt Evelyn and runs activities on site and at community locations.

Mt Evelyn Township Group METIC formed in 1998 and restructured in 2001 to meet the challenges of creating a sustainable group, one which does not collapse as soon as the original founders are burnt out. This was successful. Fifteen years later, with the loss of the considerable support we enjoyed from Morrisons, we have reverted to a standard meeting format and continue to assess what structure will see us into the future.

Ageing Community Older people in Mt Evelyn want to continue living here but there is limited scope for well-planned smaller, accessible housing on flat land. There is one well-designed retirement community in Clegg Road but it is not within walking distance of the town, necessitating the use of a car. Compact housing in areas closer to the town centre like that constructed on the corner of Snowball Avenue and Station Street would be highly desirable. Older people need to travel outside the town to access many of the services they require. The safety issues of accommodating frail elderly people in a fire-prone area must be addressed in any future development.

At the very time Mt Evelyn's older population is growing, their social outlets, such as churches and the Senior Citizens' group, have declined or are no longer based in the town. The Men's Shed made a substantial contribution to the welfare of men of around retirement age and having been set up under Morrisons, has now established a new governance structure. Mt Evelyn men also access the Montrose Mens' Shed.



Caption: Australia Day Award recipients: METIC members David Monks, Colin Gillam, Tim Heenan, Paula Herlihy, Jan Simmons and Beryl Phillips, outside one of the group's recently completed projects – the Community Link Information Centre. (Unknown local paper 2001)

Appendix A: Previous METIC/METG Achievements

- 1998: Mt Evelyn Township Improvement Committee (METIC) formed from a public meeting
- Construction of the Outlook Community Park including rotunda and BBQ
- Construction of Community Link building to resemble Station building
- A sub committee of METIC created the Gwen Hardy Memorial drinking fountain at Outlook Park.
- Committee of Management of the Mt Evelyn the Learning Town project which attracted Adult, Community and Further Education funding to Mt Evelyn, which contributed to
 - Information Centre at Community Link
 - The Township Development Toolkit
 - Historic mosaic and bollard Township Trails at Mt Evelyn Station site
- Partnered with Morrison House to attract Community Support Fund money (\$300.000) to the Mt Evelyn On Track project to facilitate projects in Mt Evelyn, such as the Street Parties, the METIC structure, the first Township Plan and supporting the RSL, especially creating the RSL Memorial Garden..
- Committee of Management for Community Link.
- Building and Committee of Management for Youth (YES) shed
- Submitting to support removal of overhead wires in Station Street
- 2001 Australia Day Yarra Ranges Community Group Award
- With Peter Sank as Growing Business rep at METIC, contributed as the community arm for
 - Better Business Forums
 - Small Business Awards
 - Township Marketing Plan ('Village Well')
- Supporting the establishment of Bendigo Bank as the fulfilment of an early METIC goal to establish a 'community chest' for the town
- Supported construction of walking trail through the Owl Land
- Exemplar for 'The Township Development Toolkit' – a Learning Towns in Action initiative and supported other towns to create Township Groups
- Member of Yarra Ranges Township Group Network from its inception
- While Morrison House located funds and organised the construction and management of the Interactive Exhibition Space and Café attached to the Library, it was from the desire expressed at METIC to improve business in the town and enliven the town's Café scene.
- METIC was a partner to create the Exhibition Space and the Station House concepts
- A sub-committee of METIC/METG has run all Mt Evelyn Street Parties since 2001.
- Host to overseas visitors including sixty Koreans as Mt Evelyn the Learning Town Committee of Management.
- Boys and Blokes Brekkies
- Family Violence Education Network which generated:
 - Badges of Respect program
 - White Ribbon Day activities
 - Jigsaw resilience program
 - Information kits
 - Baby Makes 3 program
 - Art exhibitions from family violence survivors

- The Early Years Learning Group which sought funding and supported Early Years Literacy Programs such as:
 - Flying Home Book
 - Book Boxes
 - Puppet Festival
- Established Annual Planning Days for strategic planning
- Input in to the Urban Design Framework and planning decisions
- Produced Township Plans from 2001 to present
- Formed Partnerships to create and support projects
- Applied for Funding applications to carry out Township Projects such as those listed here and
 - the Bollard Walk
 - History Timeline Fence.
- Partnered with Police to have the first CCTV security cameras in the town
- Commenced a Safety audit of Mt Evelyn (not completed)
- Protecting the Mount Evelyn Township with C56 planning overlay (we addressed the VCAT hearing and used our Township Plan as supporting evidence)
- Input into planning issues concerning Mt Evelyn such as Skate Park, street furniture, changes in living density, suggesting a revamp of Birmingham Road. the creation of a Town Square, protecting the town's Lion Seat, supporting re-development of the Station area with picnic tables and protection of the platform remains.



Security Camera Launch: Anita Morgan (METIC), Cr Tim Heenan, Lisa Brooks (Police/METIC)

Appendix B: Community Profile

Demographics

The population was 9,365 in 2011, up from 9,195 in 2006, showing minimal growth of 2%, or 170 persons. Mt Evelyn had 3,369 dwellings, with an average household size of 2.88 persons per dwelling (occupied private dwellings). This is higher than the Melbourne average of 2.62 persons per dwelling. The average household size in Mt Evelyn has dropped slightly from 2.93 in 2006.

Mt Evelyn's population structure is dominated by the patterns that go with a high level of households with children. It has an above average level of babies and pre-schoolers aged 0-4 (7.2% compared to 6.5%); primary school children aged 5 to 11 (10.4% compared to 8.4%); and secondary school children aged 12 to 17 (9.8% compared to 7.3%). It also has an above average level of 35 to 49 year olds (23.6% compared to 22%) and 50 to 59 year olds (13.1% compared to 12.1%). However, its main population growth has been amongst older residents aged 60 to 84, up from 9.8% in 2006 to 13.3% in 2011 (although still below the Melbourne average of 16.4%). Mt Evelyn has 59 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander residents, 0.6% of the population compared to 0.5% across Melbourne. This is up from 0.4% in 2006, an increase of 24 persons. Whilst this is a small increase in numbers, within the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander population, it represents growth in number of 69% (from 35 persons to 59 persons).

Most residents (83%) were born in Australia, compared to 63% across Melbourne. This is up considerably from 78.5% in 2006; but the shift is actually due to a drop in the level who did not state their birthplace (from 8% to 2.9%); the other indicators have not shifted much.

Ninety-three percent of residents speak English at home, compared to 71% across Melbourne. The main countries of birth were the United Kingdom, the Netherlands, New Zealand and Germany.

Mt Evelyn had a low level of residents who had completed Year 12, at 42% compared to 55% across Melbourne. However, the level had improved from 36% in 2006. Forty-five percent of residents had no qualifications, compared to 42% across Melbourne. This is down slightly from 46% in 2006. Residents were most likely to have a vocational qualification, at 27% compared to 15% across Melbourne; this is up from 23% in 2006. Twelve percent of residents have a Bachelor or Higher degree, compared to 24% across Melbourne. The level with a degree has risen from 10% in 2006. The level with a diploma also rose, from 8% to 10%.

In 2011, 2.9% of residents needed assistance with core activities of daily living, considerably below the 4.5% Melbourne average. This level is up from 2.1% in 2006. Mt Evelyn has a low unemployment rate, at 3.8% (compared to 4% in 2006). The Melbourne average was 5.5%. The main industries employing Mt Evelyn residents were:

- construction (16%, up from 15%);
- manufacturing (13%, down from 15%);
- health care and social assistance (12%, up from 10%); and
- retail trade (11%, down from 12%).

Mt Evelyn has a higher level than Melbourne of residents employed in manufacturing (the Melbourne average was 11%) and construction (the average was 8%). It has a much lower level employed in professional, scientific and technical services (5.6% compared to 8.9%); and finance and insurance services (1.9% compared to 4.8%).

Most residents drove to work in 2011, at 71% compared to 61% across Melbourne. This level has increased from 68% in 2006. Mt Evelyn has a high level of multi-vehicle ownership, at 70% compared to 51% for Melbourne. The level of households with two or more vehicles has risen from 66% in 2006.

Mt Evelyn has a well above average level of volunteers, at 21% compared to 16% for Melbourne. The area also has a well above average level of people providing unpaid child care, at 35% compared to 27%. This is mostly due to people caring for their own children, at 25% compared to 20% across Melbourne.

Mt Evelyn's income profile is very similar to the Melbourne average, with a slightly below average level of high income households. Twenty-four percent of households are in the lowest quartile, compared to 25% across Melbourne; 52% are in the medium lowest and medium highest groups, compared to 48% across Melbourne; and 24.5% are in the highest group, compared to 24.5% across Melbourne. There have been no noticeable shifts since 2006. Fifteen percent of households had incomes of less than \$600 per week, compared to 19% across Melbourne; 14% of households in Mooroolbark had high incomes of \$2,500 or more per week, compared to 19.5% across Melbourne.

Most households in Mt Evelyn are couples with children (43% compared to 34%) or couples without children (25% compared to 23.5%). It has a low level of lone person households, at 17% compared to 22%. The level of couples without children has increased from 21% to 25%, and the level of lone person households has increased from 15.5% to 17%; the level of couples with children has dropped from 44% to 43% (the main change has actually been a drop in the level of not classifiable households from 7% to 1%).

The main dwelling type in Mt Evelyn is overwhelmingly separate houses, at 96% compared to 71% across Melbourne.

Fifty-seven percent of households have a mortgage, compared to 35% across Melbourne (up from 55% in 2006). Median monthly mortgage repayments are \$1,651, compared to \$1,810 across Melbourne. In 2011, mortgage payments were 30% or more of household income in 16% of households, compared to 10.1% across Victoria and 11% across Melbourne.

Most households are connected to the internet, at 83% compared to 76% for Melbourne. This level has increased significantly since 2006, rising from 66%.

Forecasts

Between 2011 and 2031, the number of residents in Mt Evelyn is forecast to decrease by 190 residents, or 2%. The number of households is forecast to increase by 235, or 7%.

Health indicators

Mt Evelyn's key health issues relate to population ageing and diabetes. Over the coming decades, the area will feel the health impacts of an ageing population, including increased demand for hospital beds and substantial growth in the number of residents with dementia. It has already shown substantial growth in the number of residents with diabetes and this growth shows no signs of abating. The key health issues include:

- A high level of growth in diabetes. In December 2011, 3.5% of Mt Evelyn residents had diabetes. This level is below average, but the area had experienced 39% growth in numbers since 2008. Mt Evelyn ranks 16th out of the 29 Yarra Ranges postcodes for its prevalence of diabetes. As of June 2013, 339 Mt Evelyn residents – 3.6% of the population – had diabetes.
- An increasing number of residents with dementia. By 2050, Yarra Ranges is forecast to be in the top ten Victorian local government areas for its number of residents with dementia. The largest growth in total numbers within Yarra Ranges will be in the statistical area of Lilydale (which covers Lilydale, Chirnside Park, Mt Evelyn, Mooroolbark, Montrose and Kilsyth), with growth of more than 2,500.
- A large increase in hospital demand. The Lilydale is one of the key geographic areas of forecast demand in the East, as identified in the Eastern Health draft Strategic Clinical Service Plan. Whilst the Eastern Health catchment area's population is forecast to grow at a lower rate than Victoria over the period 2006 to 2021, the population aged 70 years or more is forecast to grow at a higher rate. The impact of this population ageing is expected to be that the statistical area of Lilydale (which covers Lilydale, Chirnside Park, Mt Evelyn, Mooroolbark, Montrose and Kilsyth), will have bed days of more than 40,000 per year by 2021/22.
- The postcode for Mt Evelyn ranks 17th for family violence amongst the 27 Yarra Ranges postcodes for which this data is available, with 0.75 incidents reported per 1,000 residents. Whilst this is a relatively low ranking, the number of incidents ranged from seven in 2009/10, to 28 in 2010/11 and 33 in 2011/12.

Appendix C: 2017 Planning Night Evaluation Sheet (next page)



MT EVELYN TOWNSHIP GROUP (METG) COMMUNITY PLANNING EVENING ... HAVE YOUR SAY ...

DATE: Wednesday 17 May 2017, 5pm – 9pm

VENUE: Yarra Hills Secondary College, Burdap Drive, Mt Evelyn

FACILITATOR: Chad Foulkes

What did you think of tonight? The Mount Evelyn Township Group is committed to continuous improvement across all its activities. Your feedback is important.

How did you hear about this event? *(please tick one or more)*

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> word of mouth | <input type="checkbox"/> Mt Evelyn Mail |
| <input type="checkbox"/> flyer | <input type="checkbox"/> Real estate sponsored sign |
| <input type="checkbox"/> email | <input type="checkbox"/> Facebook |
| <input type="checkbox"/> M.E.&You | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Why did you come to this event? *(please tick one or more)*

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> curious | <input type="checkbox"/> Involved professionally (YRC etc) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> had an idea | <input type="checkbox"/> involved in METG |
| <input type="checkbox"/> wanted to raise a concern | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> want to contribute to Mt Evelyn | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

Was there a key idea presented that has inspired you to act? *(there is space for none, or two ideas – please add more if needed)*

- | | |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> no | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> yes | <input type="checkbox"/> yes |
| <input type="checkbox"/> maybe | <input type="checkbox"/> maybe |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Describe:..... | <input type="checkbox"/> Describe:..... |

What would you have liked more of?

What would you have liked less of?

Would you recommend to a friend? yes no

Would you like to participate in future activities? If yes, what skills do you have and in what way would you like to participate? Please give your contact details eg name, phone, email address

.....
.....

Any other comments you would like to make?

.....

Please use the back of the paper sheet or create a second electronic page if you need more space