

PIANGIL

COMMUNITY PLAN 2017 - 2021





WHAT IS COMMUNITY PLANNING?

The Swan Hill Rural City Council supports communities in the Swan Hill Municipality 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 provide invaluable input into Local, State and Federal Government planning.



PERFECT PIANGIL

Major Mitchell and his party in 1836 camped overnight at Piangil as they travelled south. Andrew, Beveridge who was 24 at the time decided to run sheep and formed an outstation at Piangil. Andrew died less than six months after his arrival and was buried at the Tyntynder Homestead. Margaret Beveridge had the run transferred to George Holloway and George Seward in January, 1884.

Hard times for the squatters prompted the Victorian Government to cease licensing large pastoral runs and subdivided the area into large blocks which were leased under the Mallee Pastoral Lease Act of 1883. When the Mallee Pastoral leases expired the blocks were each subdivided into smaller allotments and parishes, thus creating Piangil East and Piangil West. Allotments were leased under Land Acts of 1901, 1911 and 1915. The township of Piangil was first surveyed in 1916 by J. F. Cleeland. Five sections were laid out adjacent to the station ground on the Swan Hill Railway. The Recreation reserve was gazetted in 1918 and State School Reserve in 1923.

The mail coach went up from Swan Hill to Narrung in one day and came back the next, changing horses at Piangil. There is a tree at Tyntynder called "Esson's Tree" where the mail driver Frederick John Esson used to hang the mail bags for Tyntynder station, wool, wheat and hay all went, by paddle steamer until the railways put the line through to Swan Hill. Then it was carted by bullock team and horse drawn dray into Swan Hill. The Piangil to Yungera rail postal motor service commenced on 21 of June 1940, and served the outback community faithfully until the 7 of March 1972,

when it was terminated. In the late 1930's Miss Wales was employed in the Post Office in Piangil. After Mr Hanlons unfortunate death his daughter, Moira, continued as post mistress for a short time. Since then Mrs Hosking was post mistress until 1985. In 1966 the automatic exchange was installed, "greatly to the relief of subscribers and herself", quoted Mrs Hocking. Some senior citizens can still recall the shopping trips into the "Hill".

Reported in the Victoria Police Gazette was the opening of Piangil Police Station on the 31st October 1936. In 1940 Vermin and noxious weed destruction board moved to Piangil from Kooloonong. In 1944 R.A.O.B. Lodge, Piangil, formed and in 1953 the Shire of Swan Hill electricity undertaking came through. Homes were wired first, Government buildings later.

The Silos dominate the town landscape and during the mid 1940 era the first Grain Elevator Board bulk-handling silo was built at Piangil, after a searching inquiry to ascertain there was sufficient wheat grown in the area to warrant bulk handling facilities. This led to a hastily arranged quota system, curtailing farmers deliveries of wheat to an average arrived at, by dividing the wheat grown over the past five years, licensing farmers to deliver this amount against the quota. The shed built at that time had a capacity of 220,000 bushels; it brings the Piangil bulk handling storage capacity to 570,000 bushels.



PERFECT PIANGIL

Artificial channels called flumes were constructed allowing channel water to flow to the northern parts of Mallee. Originally constructed from tin, hardwood tar, the flumes in 1914 evolved, replacing the tar with Concrete. They can be a little tricky to find on the Ouyen highway 2km west of Piangil turn left into Lucas Lane, then head 2km south and the flumes are on the right. Several of our early settlers had blocks some distance from the river, and much valuable time was spent carting water from the river to their blocks.

Early settlers tell of hiring pumps to irrigate their land, digging rough channels from the river to water their pastures. These pumps had to be man stoked day and night, and many the tales has been told by local Mr W. Cumming about the days when he used to maintain the pumps. The State Rivers and Water Supply Commission assumed control in 1906 the of the water supply to the Mallee and in 1910 the Waterworks Trust Districts, with this great area under one control, channel extension was rapid. It wasn't until after the railway came through that the windmill and water built, and from then on things were a little easier for the townspeople.

Several wineries are situated around Piangil and Tooleybuc, most having cellar door Sales.

In 1927 after the fire which destroyed Mr Bliss' store Piangil residents organised its first fire brigade. The fires which followed gave the new fire brigade plenty of work. The Piangil Rural Fire Brigade was formed. On 13 of July 1946 it was registered in Melbourne as "The Piangil Rural Fire Brigade Class A", H. Hoensch being its first

captain and its original unit was in use until 1967 when the Country Fire Authority supplied Piangil with a fire truck. The brigade first started competing in Region Demonstrations in 1962.

The locals would like you to look for the significant public buildings scattered within the township of Piangil, buildings such as the Memorial Hall transferred from Bendigo in recognition of the soldiers of World War I in 1918. In September 1958 the title was transferred to the Shire of Swan Hill.

The Piangil Primary School No.4164 was opened in 1923 after Piangil North State School was relocated to present site. The original body of the school is heritage listed. It wasn't until 1929 that the verandah was given a wooden floor and in that year an English teacher on exchange joined the staff. The Primary School closed in 2015.

The Piangil Memorial Park established as the town grew and became focal point for sporting activities .Tennis began in 1930's with a former bowling club established in 1954.Sport is no longer played at this site but it remains the community hub with social functions and overnight camping by tourists.

Number 1 Station Street is possibly the oldest residence in Piangil .Relocated to present site around 1916. Piangil was home to a number of Churches and constructed in 1926 the R.S.L. Building was formerly a grocers shop.



PIANGIL COMMUNITY GROUP

MANAGEMENT OF THE COMMUNITY PLAN

The Piangil Community Group have been elected by the community to manage the Plan.

It is the responsibility of the focus groups to plan and implement projects as identified by the community. Community Plan reports and updates on each project are to be presented by focus groups at scheduled Piangil Community Group meetings.

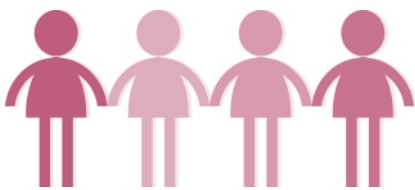
Changes to the plan require information to be provided to the Piangil Community Group in writing 30 days prior to a scheduled meeting.

Community Members are to be notified and given an opportunity to vote on the change at a public meeting.

Furthermore no less than two third of the community are to vote in favour of the change for it to occur.

COMMUNITY PLAN STATEMENTS

1. Community to support youth to identify a couple of youth projects to be included in the Community Plan.
2. Community to support advancements that encourage the community to grow.
3. Although it is a private matter between Council and Church Street land owners, the Piangil community support any beautification and upgrades to Church Street.



259

51

MEDIAN AGE

20.6%



PARTICIPATED IN VOLUNTRY WORK

3%

UNEMPLOYED

ACTION PLAN

2018-2019

Council Support

Project Description	Actions	Responsibility/ Partners	Timeframe	Budget
MEMORIAL PARK UPGRADES - GARDEN MAINTENANCE SCHEDULE - FLUMES PROJECT	Continue to work with SHRCC for regular garden maintenance Investigate historic flumes project	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SHRCC– P&G • PCG 	2018 2019	
DEFIBULATOR	Apply for external funding for defib machine	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCG 	2018	
SCHOOL CAIRN	Investigate location / design of school cairn	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PCG • SHRCC—Eng 	2018	
OLD SCHOOL BUILDING FUTURE	Work with Dept. Edu to determine the future of the building and site	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • DEPART OF EDUCATION • SHRCC • PCG 	ongoing	
VLINE BUS STOP—BOTH SIDES OF THE ROAD	Work with PTV, Vline and SHRCC to come up with a solution	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PTV • SHRCC 		



OTHER PROJECTS & INITIATIVES





COMMUNITY CONTACTS

Mal Valence
Chairman

Wendy Hoensch

Kate Johnson
Post Office