

NUNDLE GOLD RUSH PROGRAM



COMMUNITY STRATEGIC PLAN 2007



First for Business

New South Wales
Department of State and
Regional Development

March 2007

CONTENTS

1.	COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS	3
2.	ROLE OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN	4
3.	SITUATION ANALYSIS	5
3.1	Tamworth Regional Council Area	5
3.2	Barraba	8
3.3	Barraba Unlimited Program	11
4.	COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENTS	13
5.	SWOT	14
6.	COMMUNITY VALUES, VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS	16
7.	KEY RESULT AREAS AND PRIORITISED ISSUES	17
8.	OBJECTIVES AND PROJECTS	18
8.1	Business, Tourism and Marketing Development	18
8.2	Built and Natural Environment	19
8.3	Youth, Events and Social Development	20
8.4	Hanging Rock	21
9.	SUMMARY OF PROJECTS	22

Produced by:

Jenny de Greenlaw
de Greenlaw Consultancy
679 Friday Hut Road
Possum Creek NSW 2479
Phone: (02) 6687 1850
Fax: (02) 66 87 2870
Email: degreenlaw@bigpond.com

1. COMMUNITY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS

The Department of State and Regional Development has two community funding programs to revitalise communities throughout NSW by providing them with assistance and guidance. The Main Street/Small Towns Program (MS/STP) is aimed at larger communities or shires with populations of 1,500 – 15,000 people. The Towns and Villages Futures Program (TVFP) is aimed at small villages and communities with populations less than 2,500.

The Department's community economic development programs provide a framework to pull a diverse range of community stakeholders together under one strategic umbrella. Benefits include cohesive strategic planning on issues affecting the community, wider networking opportunities, greater impact and value to businesses and community groups and added value to Council. The programs build social capital within a community and the local government area by establishing communication channels, trust, relationships and networks.

Economic development is entwined with social development in rural communities, so it is necessary for the planning process to take a holistic approach to all the issues affecting communities.

A community economic development program is achieved by harnessing local skills and resources and planning together to implement practical, achievable community and business projects. The community planning workshops develop a community plan with an agreed vision for the future, a consensus of prioritised issues affecting the community and a series of projects to address the issues. The program includes an organisational structure of community volunteers to implement the projects and methods to run the program to ensure its ongoing success and sustainability. The key elements of the program include:

Organisation – creating an organisation with broad stakeholder representation of retailers, business people, property owners, council, community groups, farmers and residents to unite and work towards a common goal.

Economic Development – developing and strengthening local businesses and developing opportunities for new businesses/industries to provide a sustainable economic base.

Physical Design – addressing all physical aspects of the town or area such as improving traffic, parking, tree planting and landscaping, signage, public facilities and preserving the unique qualities and heritage of the town and surrounding environment.

Events and Marketing – promoting the area and increasing community pride and social activities with events and marketing campaigns to target local residents, tourists and commercial markets.

Social Development - addressing the community's social, cultural, health, youth and elderly issues as a holistic approach to long term economic development.

2. THE ROLE OF THE STRATEGIC PLAN

The role of this document is to:

- Act as a framework to direct the development of the community program
- Facilitate cooperative working relationships between the community, businesses, Council and other external partners
- Formalise the goals and objectives of the community in relation to its economic and social future

The plan is divided into the following three categories:

1. Where are we now?
 - Situation Analysis
 - SWOT (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Threats)
2. Where do we want to go?
 - Vision and Mission Statements
3. How are we going to get there?
 - Key Result Areas
 - Objectives
 - Issues
 - Program of Projects
 - Organisational Structure for the Community Program
 - Methods to Run the Program – for the implementation of projects
 - Reporting Channels of Communication

The Plan contains vision and mission statements and a set of strategic priorities and objectives that have been developed to guide the community program over the next 2-3 years. The status of each current project is reviewed regularly and reported to the 355 Committee and to the community via the local newsletter.

A second document titled 'Summary of Outcomes' details all the information gathered at the workshop. This is an internal working document that can be used as a resource to refer to as projects are finalised and new actions are sought to address the key issues nominated by the community in the plan.



Renowned Nundle Woollen Mill

3. SITUATION ANALYSIS

The following information was gathered from a variety of sources including anecdotal information from the workshops, members of the community, Tamworth Regional Council staff and website, 2001 ABS statistics, Tamworth and Community Profiles 2005, 'Tamworth Regional Council Demographic and Population Information 2005' and the 'Thematic History of Nundle, Manilla and Barraba' February 2007.

3.1 Tamworth Regional Council Area

The Tamworth Regional Council area was proclaimed on 17 March 2004 and was formed by amalgamating the local government areas of Tamworth City, Manilla and Nundle and the majority of the Parry and Barraba shires.



The Tamworth Regional Council area is situated between the Northern Tablelands and the north western slopes and plains of NSW. The area has a population of 54,226 and covers 9,653 square kilometres including the city of Tamworth, the towns of Barraba, Manilla and Nundle and the villages of Attunga, Bendemeer, Dungowan, Duri, Hanging Rock, Kootingal, Moonbi, Somerton, Woolbrook, Woolomin and a range of other small communities including Moore Creek, Weabonga, Watsons Creek & Weabonga.

Tamworth City is situated on the New England Highway inland track from Victoria to Queensland, at the junction of the Oxley Highway, linking west to the Newell Highway. It is 387km northwest of Sydney and 574km south of Brisbane. The area is surrounded by the shires of Armidale-Dumaresq to the north, Walcha to the east, Liverpool Plains to the south, Narrabri, Gunnedah and Gwydir Shires to the west.

The Tamworth Regional Council area covers a range of topographies including rugged mountain ranges, hills, rivers, valleys and plains, including some of the richest agricultural country in the state with good soils and water supply. The area also has productive native and planted forests and remnants of native vegetation preserved as national parks and nature reserves.

The area has temperatures ranging from 16-31 degrees centigrade in summer and 3-16 degrees centigrade in winter. Rainfall is around 650mm (26 inches) a year with low humidity. Tamworth City is 404 metres above sea level.

The Tamworth Regional Council area was originally inhabited by the aboriginal Kamilaroi tribe. Within this broad group there were a large number of 'tribes' or subgroups. The main groups in the Tamworth region were the Goonoo Goonoo, Gunnedah, Manilla (or Manellae) and Moonbi. Aboriginal people in the region called themselves the *murri*.

The first known explorer to discover the area was John Oxley in 1818, entering from the west on his way home from trying to discover the inland sea. By 2 September Oxley and his party reached the present site of Tamworth on the Peel River, naming it after the Right Honourable Robert Peel, then Chief Secretary for Ireland. Peel, who later became Prime Minister, made his home in England at Tamworth Castle.

The explorers crossed the ranges to the east, discovering and naming the Cockburn and MacDonald Rivers. They followed the Hastings River eastwards, finally reaching the coast at a

harbour and estuary which they named Port Macquarie. Oxley's discoveries opened up the north coast of New South Wales for settlement.

In the early 1800's there was a boundary set to discourage settlement over the Great Dividing Range due to difficulties in policing and government control. However, squatters took up runs in the area for pastoral farming of sheep and cattle from the late 1820's onwards.

Wool, beef and minerals constituted the wealth of the colony and were shipped to England. The overland track from the Hunter Valley through the Peel River Valley was a major route for supplying the stations and scattered settlements of north-west New South Wales.

The discovery of gold at Hanging Rock in 1851 and later at Rocky River near Armidale, Bingara and Bundarra, greatly increased road traffic and prompted the Government to extend the Great North Road from the Hunter Valley to the New England Tablelands.

In 1861 the Crown Lands Alienation Act and the Crown Lands Occupation Act permitted selection of land before survey. People who took up the land were called Selectors and could select between 40 and 320 acres in a lease-hold area. The idea was to encourage families to occupy and farm the land and the increased population had a big impact on the area.

The railway opened in Tamworth in 1878 and greatly reduced the cost of produce cartage. The wheat industry in particular owed its expansion to the advent of rail transport, as it depended far more than wool on cheap cartage.

Agriculture has always been the backbone of the local economy. Core activities include beef, sheep, grain, dairy, poultry and lucerne. There has also been a growth of boutique agriculture ventures including olives, vines, nuts, specialised game fowl, fish farming, hydroponics, goats, alpacas, buffalo and berries. There is large-scale, intensive animal production such as cattle feedlots, poultry for egg and meat production and piggeries.

One of the current fastest growing agriculture sectors in the region is the hobby farm market. Hobby farms are generally less than 40 hectares (100 acres) and are often run as small productive farms. There are a wide range of services in the region for the hobby farmer including specialised monthly markets offering small lots of cattle, horses and poultry.

The population in the Tamworth region is growing steadily in some areas, remaining static in some areas and contracting slightly in other areas, depending on the geographic location and distance from Tamworth. Most of the growth is attributed to Tamworth and the immediate surrounding areas due to the "sponge city" affect of drawing population from within the Council area after retirement, sale of farms or lifestyle change to a larger centre with greater employment opportunities. Some growth is also attributed to the "tree change" affect of drawing population from major city areas for a lifestyle change where people can conduct business in a safe, rural lifestyle with a range of schools and affordable housing.

Recent Council dwelling commencement data across the region indicates significant new dwellings in Manilla and Moore Creek, a rural residential development of Tamworth with 5 acre lots. There are also a number of dwelling commencements in Nundle, Hanging Rock, Woolomin and Barraba.

Tamworth has been branded as the Music Capital of Australia as a legacy of the long-running Tamworth Country Music Festival held in January each year. A small festival 'Hats Off to Country' is now run in the middle of the year to provide a second peak accommodation and tourism boost to the area. A large development is currently underway in the main street, providing a small supermarket and cinema with a range of shops and decked parking.

The following tables from the 2001 ABS census outline statistics for the (previous) Tamworth City Council and show a percentage breakdown of the community by age compared with the NSW average. The low figures for Nundle senior citizens reflect the lack of aged care facilities in the village.

Age structure	Tamworth	Nundle	New South Wales
0-4 years (infants)	7.0	6.1	6.7
5-17 years (children)	21.2	17.7	18.3
18-64 years (adults)	57.7	62.9	61.9
65-84 years (mature adults)	12.5	13.2	11.7
Over 85 years (senior citizens)	1.7	.05	1.4

The following table shows a percentage breakdown of the family/household type compared with the NSW average, showing a higher percentage of couples without children in Nundle compared with the state average.

Family/household type	Tamworth	Nundle	New South Wales
Couple without child(ren)	36.2	41.9	34.9
Couple with child(ren)	43.1	42.2	47.8
One parent family	19.2	15.1	15.5
Lone person households	37.6	29.8	31.6

The following table shows a percentage breakdown of weekly household incomes compared with the NSW average in 2001. This table indicates lower earnings in the Tamworth area compared with the state average and even lower earnings in the Nundle area, with very few high income earners.

Weekly household income	Tamworth	Nundle	New South Wales
Less than \$300	14.8	16.9	12.2
\$300 to \$999	47.6	52.5	39.4
\$1,000 and over	27.4	16.0	36.9

The following table shows a percentage breakdown of employment status compared with the NSW average, showing an unemployment rate that is much higher than the rest of the state in the Tamworth area and higher again in the Nundle area.

Employment status	Tamworth	Nundle	New South Wales
Total employed	90.9	89.6	93.1
Total unemployed	9.1	10.4	6.9

3.2 Nundle

Nundle is an old gold mining town located 60 km south of Tamworth on the Fossicker's Way, approximately 400km northwest of Sydney. It is nestled in a beautiful setting between peaks of the Great Dividing Range and the Peel River. North of the town is an old goldfield known as Bowling Alley Point and beyond is Chaffey Dam, covering 542 ha. Hanging Rock is east of Nundle, situated high on the mountain range 1100m above sea level, with a massive treeless rock face overlooking the valley below and the town of Nundle. Just beyond the village of Hanging Rock are the Sheba Dams which were erected by hand in 1888 to serve the sluicing needs of the gold miners. Nundle has a population of approximately 260 people and Hanging Rock has a population of approximately 50.

Nundle is said to derive from an Aboriginal word meaning 'mouth'. Before gold was discovered it was a branching off point for the tracks followed by the bullock teams servicing the area and beyond. Gold was discovered in the area in 1851 which led to a flood of prospectors from around the world who set up camps along the Peel River and up the rugged mountain slopes.

Tensions on the goldfields mounted when hundreds of Chinese arrived. They were derided by the European miners and resented for their great industry. However in reports made by the Gold Commissioner they were described as being 'an industrious, hard working set, very orderly and quiet'.

In 1852 the Government considered the best location for a township to serve the newly discovered Peel River diggings and Nundle was chosen for its central location. Nundle was gazetted as a township on 23 February 1854 and the first auction of town allotments was held in 1855.

Nundle was located in the centre of a rich agricultural district and also acted as a service centre for the nearby gold diggings. It grew rapidly and was a thriving township by 1865 with a population around 500 and approximately 50 businesses in operation. By the early 1870s the population of Nundle was estimated at 800, with a total district population of 2,067. Chinese outnumbered Europeans in Nundle township, a legacy of the gold rushes of the 1850s - there were 500 Chinese and 300 Europeans. While most Chinese came in search of gold, others established market gardens and stores to supply the diggers. When the gold ran out or new fields beckoned, the majority left, but some stayed on to become a permanent part of the history of the Nundle district.

The Peel gold fields were lucrative enough to support hundreds of miners until the mid-1860s when the easily won alluvial gold began to run out, first in one valley, then another. One of the longest surviving mines in the Nundle area is the Black Snake Mine near Hanging Rock, which is still in operation today. It was opened in 1876, with the main 80 metre tunnel built by hand in the 1880s.

The rugged landscape around Nundle contains a wealth of minerals other than gold that may one day be recovered. Scheelite, located in 1907, was worked until the 1980s. Bowling Alley Point has lodes of chrome and iron ore. The ruins of old mine workings and equipment lie scattered about the valley floor and up the mountainsides to this day. Traces of gold are still found, along with a variety of gemstones and people continue to pan on the Peel River or fossick in the Hanging Rock area.

The Nundle district was renowned for its agricultural wealth. The vast Goonoo Goonoo Station owned by the A. A. Company took up most of the land west of the Peel River and on

the east side squatters and selectors made their living raising sheep and cattle. The area was quite isolated, with many large stations in the district.

During the height of the gold rushes small farmers sold fruit and vegetables on the diggings and the sheep and cattle raised on the grazing runs supplied miners with meat. Many miners, who were unsuccessful in making their fortune, stayed in the district and took up farming.

During the 1870s dairies were established along the river flats of the Peel, with pig raising for ham and bacon curing an important supplement to the dairy farmers' income. Ham and bacon production in the Nundle district grew steadily, reaching a peak in the 1920s. Once they were established many dairy farmers were able to improve their properties and expand into raising sheep and fat cattle and growing wheat and lucerne. Maize was also grown along the Peel River.

The dairy industry in New South Wales underwent major changes during the 1950s and 1960s with small factories closing and production centralised in large scale plants. At its peak there were around 80 dairies in the Nundle district; by the 1980s this had declined to less than 20. One of the best known dairies operating in the Nundle district today is Peel Valley Milk at Woolomin, owned by an independent dairy farmer. Peel Valley Milk recently won a grant from the Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to process and market a new range of gourmet dairy products.

Chinese were pioneers growing tobacco and they experimented with tobacco growing on the river flats in the 1880s. Fruit and wheat were also grown in the district. At higher altitudes around Hanging Rock the high rainfall and fertile soil proved ideal for potato growing, although they are not grown in quantity in the district today.

The heavily forested ranges to the east of Hanging Rock contain good reserves of valuable timber and were first exploited in 1874, with much of the production used for railway sleepers and for the railway at Tamworth. The widespread clearing of forests for grazing and settlement accelerated during the 1890s and into the twentieth century, leaving little land for the ongoing production of timber. The Nundle State Forest, covering 14,000 acres, was dedicated in 1917 and in the following year Hanging Rock State Forest of 7,840 acres, was created.

Logging of hardwood forests in the Nundle district continued from the 1930s and increased in the 1940s to meet war time requirements then increased in the 1960s when exotic conifer plantations began to be established. In the late 1970s it was decided that future establishment of *pinus radiata* plantations should be limited to Hanging Rock and Nundle State forests.

Today the Nundle area's main agricultural and pastoral industries are wool, cattle, wheat and timber, together with dairying and poultry, as well as some diversification into farming deer for venison and antler production and breeding goats. Goats have become the backbone of a new industry producing fine mohair and cashmere wool. This in turn has generated new secondary industries in Nundle, such as the successful Nundle Woollen Mill which was opened in 2001 and brought more jobs to the once declining village. Set up primarily as a tourist attraction, it is a working mill using old machinery and equipment and also acts as an educational facility. The Mill has inspired other local business enterprises, such as Minx Handknits and Nutmeg Knits and provides extra income for a team of up to 20 local knitters.

Trout farming is another new industry in the Nundle district, with a successful trout farm at Hanging Rock supplying fresh and smoked trout fillets and smoked trout pate to restaurants

and outlets from Sydney to Brisbane, including the top restaurants of the Hunter Valley Vineyards. They also supply fingerlings for the stocking of farm dams.

As a legacy of its early history, Nundle has a wealth of beautiful old historical buildings and a leafy green environment supported by an active Garden Club. It has a relaxed rural village lifestyle and a charming, almost cosmopolitan atmosphere in the village. A recent trend of people seeking a “tree change” lifestyle to small, friendly rural community has seen an influx of new residents, bringing new skills and expertise into the community.

Every year Nundle celebrates the Chinese contribution to its history at the Nundle Go For Gold Chinese Festival with two days of traditional dance, music and food, with bands performing, market stalls selling food with a Chinese emphasis, local produce and arts and crafts as well as gold panning demonstrations. In Easter 2007, 12,000 people flocked to Nundle for the festival weekend, a hugely successful tourism festival for a town of 250 people.

Today tourism has generated new life and energy in the village. Making the most of its rich gold mining heritage, many of the buildings of the main street have been transformed into galleries, shops, eateries and tourist accommodation. There are second hand book stores, antique shops, craft shops and stores selling hand-made country furniture. Across the road from the pub the Mount Misery Underground Gold Mine and Gold Museum provides a glimpse of what life was like in the heady days of the gold rushes. There are several fossicking sites around town.

Bowling Alley Point has gold panning with finds of zircon, sapphires, green jasper, precious serpentine, crystals or other semi precious stones. Gold panning is also conducted at Woolomin and Chaffey Dam. East of Nundle is an old road known as Two-Mile Walk. On all sides are the relics of an old mining settlement, disused mine shafts, mullock heaps, diggings and mining equipment. At Dead Horse Mine there is a working gold mine, visitors can watch a demonstration of the washing process and try their luck at panning for gold.

At Hanging Rock the Sheba dams provide scenic locations for picnicking, swimming and fishing and bushwalking. Picnic and barbeque facilities are available in a bush setting, abundant with birds and other wildlife including lizards, wallabies and pademelons. The Chaffey Dam on the Peel River is a drawcard for fishing and sailing enthusiasts. Anglers may be rewarded with catfish, yellowbelly and trout. There are picnic and barbeque facilities and opportunities for camping, walking, power-boating, sailing and windsurfing. A wide variety of water birds flock to the dam, including pelicans, plovers, cormorants, ibis and wild duck. The Hanging Rock and Nundle State Forests also provide opportunities for camping and bushwalking.

A major factor in the dramatic turn around in the fortunes of Nundle has been its success in tapping the backpacker tourism market. The town lobbied Oz Experience to travel through Nundle on the Sydney to Cairns route. They developed accommodation and visitor experiences that attracted the backpacker stopover for a number of years. Through hard work, the Nundle community has turned its economy around from near-demise to an annual trade estimated at \$1.8 million.

However, four years ago the community was shocked to learn that their previous Council and Forests NSW had agreed on a route for a new logging contract to drive 28 logging trucks per day – that’s one every 17 minutes in daylight hours – through the heart of Nundle village. The community have worked tirelessly to oppose this route, but despite their efforts they have become disheartened and feel that the government doesn’t care and they don’t matter as a viable community. The impacts of large trucks constantly using their roads, bridge and main street will alter the amenity and lifestyle of the village and degrade the tourism industry they

have worked so hard to build. Many businesses are for sale and community spirit is low, however a band of lobbyists continue to battle, despite the fact that logging is imminent and will commence in May 2007.

3.3 Nundle Gold Rush Program

A community Strategic Planning Workshop was held in March 2007 in Nundle, funded by Tamworth Regional Council and the Department of State and Regional Development through the Main Street/Small Towns Program.

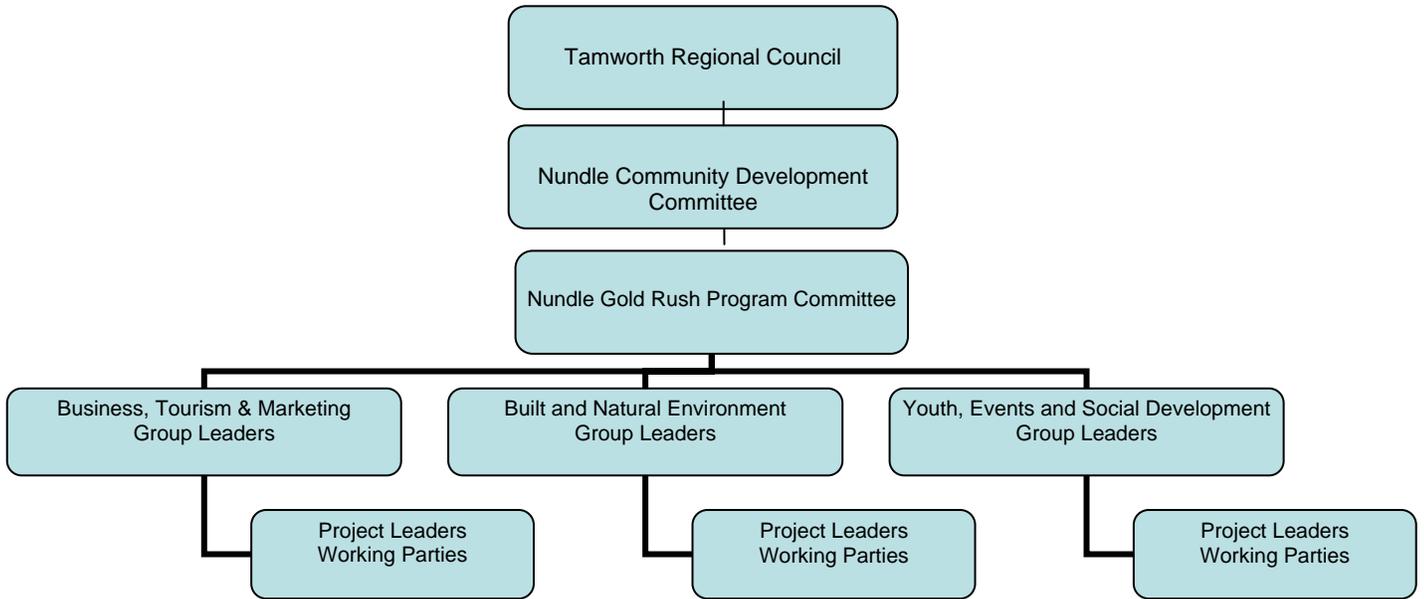
A Photographic Survey was conducted prior to the workshop with a range of community stakeholders taking photos of things they liked and disliked in the village and area. Some submissions were also received from people unable to attend the workshop. Projects and issues were identified from the survey and submissions and were incorporated into the workshop process.

During the workshop the community developed a name for the program, a SWOT (strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats), values and vision statements and the mission statement was devised from the objectives of each group. Current issues were identified, placed under key result area headings and prioritised. Groups were formed for each key result area and participants nominated short, medium and long term projects to address the issues.

Two Group Leaders were nominated for each key result area group and Project Leaders were identified for projects, where possible. The Committee for the program will consist of the six Nundle Group Leaders, with one of the Group Leaders acting as a contact point and spokesperson for the program. The Hanging Rock Group Leader will liaise with the program as appropriate.

Attendees placed the program as a community-owned, 'action oriented' sub-committee of the Nundle Community Development Committee (NCDC), a 355 committee of Council. The community will implement the projects on a project-by-project basis. Groups will meet individually to plan and update their projects and will report regularly to their Group Leaders. The Group Leaders will meet and report regularly to the NCDC Committee, who in turn report to Council. Progress will be reported to the community via the Nundle newsletter.

The following organisational structure is a suggested model to outline the program's lines of communication:



Nundle Gold Rush Program Organisational Structure

- Project Team members report to their Project Leader
- Project Leaders report to their Group Leaders
- Group Leaders report to the Nundle Gold Rush Program Committee
- The Nundle Gold Rush Committee reports to the Nundle Community Development Committee (NCDC)
- The NCDC reports to Council



Heritage buildings in the main street

4. COMMUNITY ACHIEVEMENTS

As a small community, Nundle has always been self sufficient and proactive in implementing community projects that will enhance their quality of life. The Nundle Community Development Committee (NCDC) and a number of organisations have achieved the following in recent years:

- The Old Church Boutique was established 10 years ago selling second hand clothing to raise funds for women in distress and over the years the boutique has strongly supported the community, funding many projects and organisations. The Craft Shop also gives donations to groups and village projects
- The Nundle Garden Club works with Council for on-going street tree planting and maintenance
- The Lions Club supports community projects, including volunteers to open and maintain the Museum
- The CWA rooms house the Nundle Pre-School and a doctor's practice and district nurse – the community maintains and improves the building and grounds
- The Nundle school has improvement and maintenance projects from community labour and funds
- The Nundle Memorial Hall is maintained and improved by community funding eg the hall was recently re-painted internally
- The Nundle Pool is improved by community groups eg shade sails, disabled steps and hoist for pool access
- The Nundle Community House (Naomi House) was built by the community for a local accident victim who is now a paraplegic
- Nundle developed three Retirement Units and are currently working towards establishing more units
- The community coordinates two major annual events – the Go For Gold Festival at Easter to showcase Nundle, promote tourism and boost the local economy and the Great Nundle Dog Race to raise funds for the public school
- Community has completed a beautification project from the caravan park, tennis courts and café into northern end of Captain Cook Park
- Several community stakeholders have worked together to review and select layout plans for the public toilet refurbishment and walkway linkage to the hall - current project
- Planning is currently in progress to define permissible areas and improvement of public access to fossicking sites, survey being completed before installation of perimeter posts and signage
- Refurbishment of the Nundle Recreation Ground Kiosk will be conducted by the Lions Club
- NCDC is asked for input into numerous projects and studies generated externally such as the Nundle Community Based Heritage Study, Gateways Project etc.



Garden Club tree planting in local streets



The Nundle Memorial Hall

5. SWOT

Strengths	Weaknesses
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Essential services • Family-friendly • Good Copper • Sense of identity • Plenty to do • Friendly • People care • Good opportunities • Swimming pool • Wonderful nurse • Community hall • Community transport • Pre-school and school • Health care service • Library • Neighbour-aid • Sporting facilities • Council office and officers • Recreation facilities • Pony Club • Bushwalking Club • Churches • SES • Post Office • Museum • Newsletter • Pub? • Accommodation facilities • Second hand shop community support • Good interaction • Creative people • Recreation club • Garden Club • Tourism • Trees in the main street • River 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Isolation • Cold • Pockets of social poverty • Industrial thoroughfare • Lack of housing, land and rentals • Lack of a pharmacy • Lack of a hairdresser • Need playground equipment • Lack of opportunities for team sports (due to isolation) • Lack of public transport • Shortage of childcare • Lack of police presence • Lack of youth activities (particularly winter) • Lack of communication between committees and people • Lack of mobile phone coverage • Adhoc planning • Access to dental & GP services • Bridge • Limited employment opportunities

Threats	Opportunities
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood • Drought • Bushfires • Retention of students numbers in schools • McVicar project (logging trucks) • Over-development • TRC decision making process • Increasing ageing population • State government 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tourism • Farmers markets • Historical gardens • Balanced development • More aged care accommodation • Expanding the library + hours • Expanding the pool and museum hours • More jobs • Logging project • Expanding business hours – 7 day week trading • Beautifying parks and lands • Identifying and documenting historic objects • Fossicking and Hanging Rock



Participants at the workshop inside the renovated Memorial Hall

6. COMMUNITY VALUES, VISION AND MISSION STATEMENTS

6.1 Values Statement

A Community Values Statement defines the basic core values and beliefs that are honoured by the community. It identifies past and present values that need to be retained in a future vision.

Community Values Statement:

“Nundle values its community spirit and identity, its heritage, beautiful environment and safe, tranquil village lifestyle”

6.2 Vision Statement

A Community Vision Statement is a statement from the heart of how a community wishes their situation will become as an ‘ideal’ situation for the future. It is a simple statement that is easy to remember and is written in the present tense to encourage positive affirmation and motivation to make the vision a reality.

Community Vision Statement:

“Nundle has a sense of space, identity and community and maintains the village integrity, lifestyle and natural environment whilst welcoming visitors and growing sustainable businesses and services”

6.3 Mission Statement

A Community Mission Statement states the community program’s purpose or role. It is an action statement of what needs to be done to reach the vision. The following statement was devised from the Objectives of each group in the program:

Community Mission Statement:

“To develop business, tourism and marketing opportunities, beautify the village, affect town planning and upgrade facilities, services, activities, communication and social cohesion”

7. KEY RESULT AREAS AND PRIORITISED ISSUES

The following key result areas were chosen:

- Business, Tourism and Marketing
- Built and Natural Environment
- Youth, Events and Social Development
- Hanging Rock

The following Nundle community nominated the following issues, presented in prioritised order:

- Heritage areas
- Tourism development
- Community services and infrastructure
- Village communication
- Community activities and events
- Beautify village and upgrade facilities
- Public green space
- Housing and land town planning
- Youth activities and facilities
- Elderly care and activities
- Improve roads
- Business opportunities
- Marketing

The Hanging Rock community identified the following issues, not in prioritised order:

- Develop tourism and marketing
- Upgrade the built and natural environment
- Community development



Park area behind the Museum

8. OBJECTIVES AND PROJECTS

8.1 BUSINESS, TOURISM AND MARKETING

Objective:

“To develop business, tourism and marketing opportunities”

- By December 2007 we will coordinate all tourism maps, develop a tourism brochure and fossicking map, brochure and signage
- By December 2008 we will establish a Visitor Information Centre, highway signage and guided tours to Hanging Rock gold fields

Issues:

- Business opportunities
- Tourism development
- Marketing

Business, Tourism and Marketing Projects:

ISSUE	PROJECTS	TIME
Business development	Research and establish a Work for the Dole program to implement community projects	Short
	Investigate heritage funding opportunities to paint the buildings and/or restore heritage verandahs	Medium
	Establish training workshops for existing businesses such as Customer Service, Shop Presentation, Marketing and Business Management	Medium
	Develop business opportunities to attract creative and artistic people to sell their products	Medium
	Lobby to create more retail/business properties	Long
	Establish an internet café and coffee shop	Long
Tourism development	Establish a Visitor Information Centre	Short
	Establish guided tours of Nundle to Hanging Rock gold fields	Short-med
	Establish a sign-posted Heritage Trail of Nundle village	Short
	Develop signage at historical buildings and sites in town with stories etc	Medium
	Research and establish additional fossicking activities and guided tours	Long
Marketing	Develop a Tourism Marketing Plan	Short
	Coordinate mining maps to identify fossicking areas. Develop a fossicking map, brochure and defined area signage	Short Short
	Establish Gateway Signage at entrance to Nundle village	Short
	Develop a Nundle tourism information brochure	Short
	Develop a Nundle community brochure businesses, services, activities etc	Short
	Promote advertising opportunities to local business houses on the www.visitnundle.com website	Short
	Establish highway signage of Nundle at four targeted highway sites: on the Armidale Road before and after Nemingah; on the New England Highway before and after Wallabadah	Medium

8.2 BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Objective:

“To upgrade the village and heritage areas, public facilities, roads and green spaces and affect town planning”

- **By December 2007 we will review Council’s strategic plan for town planning, lobby and upgrade the town hall public toilets and lobby to upgrade the Nundle bridge**
- **By December 2008 we will upgrade the Captain Cook Park playground and establish a park and BBQ at Hanging Rock**

Issues:

- Heritage areas
- Beautify village and upgrade facilities
- Public green space
- Housing and land town planning
- Improve roads

Built and Natural Environment Projects:

ISSUE	PROJECTS	TIME
Heritage areas	Museum upgrade – clean and modernise the museum	Short
	Heritage list the museum	Short
Beautify village and upgrade facilities	Upgrade the public toilets at the town hall	Short
	Landscape and upgrade the playground in Captain Cook Park	Short
	Beautify the cemetery and eradicate the rabbits	Short
	Establish seating in the main street, audit / identify sites	Short-med
	Establish wheelchair access in the village, audit / identify requirements	Short-med
	Establish a Wisteria Walk along Durbin Street, use the old bridge timber	Medium
	Establish a new purpose-built building for the library	Medium
	Establish covered seating in key positions to allow appreciation of the open tranquil spaces – audit / identify seating areas	Medium
	Restore, repair and refurbish the Community Hall	Long
Public green space	Upgrade the picnic area at Peel Riverside Park, include good signage	Short
	Establish planned tree planting in public spaces, audit / identify areas	Medium
	Beautify the cemetery / plant trees on the road leading to the cemetery	Medium
	Establish historical gardens based on Chinese / Australian gold miners	Long
	Establish individual gardens at the back of the existing aged care units	Long
Housing and land town planning	Review Council’s strategic plan, ensure it meets Nundle community needs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • More housing blocks • More aged housing • Low cost housing • Size of housing blocks to cater for different markets • Future development to be compatible/sympathetic with town character 	Short
	Review Tamworth LEP to ensure it meets Nundle community needs	Medium
Improve roads	Lobby for upgrading or replacement of the Nundle bridge	Short
	Establish a drop off/pick up circle in front of the CWA rooms for people using the health rooms and pre-school	Medium
	Lobby to divert the proposed logging truck route to an alternative route	Short-long

8.3 YOUTH, EVENTS AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Objective:

“To upgrade community services, activities, communication and social cohesion”

Issues:

- Community services and infrastructure
- Village communication
- Community activities and events
- Youth activities and facilities
- Elderly care and activities

Youth, Events and Social Development Projects:

ISSUE	PROJECTS	TIME
Community services and infrastructure	Establish a local Babysitting Club	Short
	Establish Family Day Care in local homes – research the service and provide an Information Package to prospective carers	Short
	Lobby the Local Area Command and State local member to increase the police presence in Nundle	Medium
	Lobby federal government for Long Day Care facilities in Nundle	Long
	Lobby state government for pre-school funding	Long
	Establish regular public transport with a daily worker’s bus to Tamworth	Short
Village communication	Establish a regular community newsletter	Short
	Establish a Business Stream Email Network and quarterly Business Breakfasts or After 5 meetings for businesses information/networking	Short
	Develop a Community Survey to ask locals what community activities/education they would support	Medium-long
Community activities and events	Promote availability and use of the existing seniors computer club and training classes for all community members	Short
	Establish monthly markets – food, produce, arts and crafts etc	Medium
	Form a town community choir	Medium
	Establish regular Movie Nights	Medium
Youth activities and facilities	Conduct a Youth Survey and establish a Youth Committee to implement their own projects - with adult mentors	Short
	Establish regular Youth Discos with entertainment and activities	Short
	Establish a combined BMX and Skate Park with basketball court, water, seating and shade	Medium
	Establish a Youth Club and gym	Medium
	Establish a Youth Calendar of Events for organised activities/sports days	Long
Elderly care and activities	Establish regular monthly morning teas and activities for the elderly	Short
	Establish a Youth/Elderly Mentor Program – meet regularly, teach youth how to make things and sell them locally	Medium
	Develop elderly gentle exercise classes/yoga at the Youth Club gym	Long
	Identify needs and increase aged care facilities	Long

8.4 HANGING ROCK

Objective:

“To increase tourism and marketing opportunities, community social interaction and upgrade the built and natural environment”

Issues:

- Develop tourism and marketing
- Upgrade the built and natural environment
- Community development

Hanging Rock Projects:

ISSUE	PROJECTS	TIME
Tourism development	Develop a park/rest and picnic area at Hanging Rock with BBQ facilities	Short
	Establish a signboard/structure with map of the area including walking trails and fossicking areas	Short
	Develop a Tourism Marketing Plan for Hanging Rock and appropriate marketing materials, including a tourism information brochure	Medium-long
Built and natural environment	Purchase a community-owned lawn mower to mow Community Hall and park grounds, establish a mowing schedule.	Short
	Upgrade the Hanging Rock Sport and Recreation Grounds: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clear undergrowth and debris • Establish a public toilet • Erect a new fence • Establish appropriate signage 	Short-medium
	Establish a public toilet at Hanging Rock Sheba Dams	Medium
	Lobby Council to improve the local road at Hanging Rock	Medium
Community development	Establish a Calendar of Social Events for the community to interact together	Medium



View of Nundle in the valley from Hanging Rock

9. SUMMARY OF PROJECTS

ISSUE	PROJECT	TIME
BUSINESS, TOURISM AND MARKETING DEVELOPMENT		
Business development	Research and establish a Work for the Dole program to implement community projects	Short
	Investigate heritage funding opportunities to paint the buildings and/or restore heritage verandahs.	Medium
	Establish training workshops for existing businesses	Medium
	Develop business opportunities to attract creative and artistic people to sell their products	Medium
	Lobby to create more retail/business properties	Long
	Establish an internet café and coffee shop	Long
Tourism development	Establish a Visitor Information Centre	Short
	Establish guided tours - Nundle to Hanging Rock gold fields	Short-med
	Establish a sign-posted Heritage Trail of Nundle village	Short
	Develop signage at historical buildings and sites in town	Medium
Marketing	Establish additional fossicking activities and guided tours	Long
	Develop a Tourism Marketing Plan	Short
	Coordinate mining maps and develop a fossicking map, brochure and area signage	Short Short
	Establish Gateway Signage at entrance to Nundle village	Short
	Develop a Nundle tourism information brochure	Short
	Develop a Nundle community brochure	Short
	Promote advertising opportunities to local business houses on the www.visitnundle.com website	Short
Establish highway signage of Nundle at four targeted highway sites	Medium	
BUILT AND NATURAL ENVIRONMENT		
Heritage areas	Museum upgrade – clean and modernise the museum	Short
	Heritage list the museum	Short
Beautify village and upgrade facilities	Upgrade the public toilets at the town hall	Short
	Landscape/upgrade the playground in Captain Cook Park	Short
	Beautify the cemetery and eradicate the rabbits	Short
	Establish seating in the main street	Short-med
	Establish wheelchair access in the village	Short-med
	Establish a Wisteria Walk along Durbin Street	Medium
	Establish a new purpose-built building for the library	Medium
	Establish covered seating in key positions	Medium
Restore, repair and refurbish the Community Hall	Long	
Public green space	Upgrade the picnic area at Peel Riverside Park and signage	Short
	Conduct planned tree planting in public spaces	Medium
	Beautify the cemetery / plant trees on the road to cemetery	Medium
	Establish historical gardens in Nundle based on Chinese / Australian gold miners	Long
	Establish individual gardens at the back of aged care units	Long
Housing and land town planning	Review Council's strategic plan to ensure it meets the needs of the Nundle community:	Short
	Review Tamworth LEP to ensure it meets the needs of the Nundle community	Medium
Improve roads	Lobby for upgrading or replacement of the Nundle bridge	Short
	Lobby to divert the proposed logging truck route to an alternative route	Short-long
	Establish a drop off/pick up circle in front of the CWA rooms	Medium

ISSUE	PROJECT	TIME
YOUTH, EVENTS AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT		
Community services and infrastructure	Establish a local Babysitting Club	Short
	Establish Family Day Care in local homes	Short
	Lobby the Local Area Command and State local member to increase the police presence in Nundle	Medium
	Lobby federal government for Long Day Care facilities in Nundle	Long
	Lobby state government for pre-school funding	Long
	Establish regular public transport with a daily worker's bus to Tamworth	Short
Village communication	Establish a regular community newsletter	Short
	Establish a Business Stream Email Network and quarterly Business Breakfasts (or After 5) meetings for better communication between local businesses	Short
	Develop a Community Survey to ask locals what community activities/education they would support eg Book Club, Writers Club, Movie Nights, art/craft studies etc and establish activities	Medium-long
Community activities and events	Promote availability and use of the existing computer club and training classes for all community members - The Hills of Gold Seniors Computer Club	Short
	Establish monthly markets – food, produce, arts and crafts etc	Medium
	Form a town community choir – liaise with other choirs in the regional to establish linked concerts	Medium
	Establish regular Movie Nights (bi-monthly?) – seek funding with Bendemeer, Barraba, Manilla	Medium
Youth activities and facilities	Conduct a Youth Survey and ask the youth what they want, then establish a Youth Committee to implement their own projects (with mentor)	Short
	Regular Youth Discos with entertainment and activities	Short
	Establish BMX and Skate Park with basketball court	Medium
	Establish a Youth Club and gym	Medium
	Establish a Youth Calendar of Events for youth organised activities/sports days	Long
Elderly care and activities	Establish regular morning teas for the elderly with activities	Short
	Establish a Youth/Elderly Mentor Program	Medium
	Develop gentle exercise classes for the elderly	Long
	Identify needs and increase aged care facilities	Long
HANGING ROCK		
Tourism development	Develop a park/rest and picnic area with BBQ facilities	Short
	Establish a signboard/structure with map of the area including walking trails and fossicking areas	Short
	Develop a Tourism Marketing Plan	Med-long
Built and natural environment	Purchase a community-owned lawn mower	Short
	Upgrade the Hanging Rock Sport and Recreation Grounds	Short-med
	Establish a public toilet at Hanging Rock Sheba Dams	Medium
	Lobby Council to improve the local road at Hanging Rock	Medium
Community development	Establish a Calendar of Social Events for the community to interact together	Medium

"Always bear in mind that your own resolution to succeed is more important than any other one thing." --Abraham Lincoln

"Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world. Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." -- Margaret Mead