



Sport and Recreation Plan

LOCKYER VALLEY – *A Growing Lifestyle*



REGIONAL COUNCIL



In putting together the *Lockyer Valley Sport and Recreational Plan*, Council engaged ROSS Planning to perform a detailed report of all sporting and recreational groups and facilities within the Lockyer Valley. ROSS Planning tendered a report which has been used as the background document to the Lockyer Valley Sport and Recreational plan. This is a condensed version of that report. Lockyer Valley Regional Council appreciates the work of ROSS Planning in putting this plan together.



Contents

Introduction	2
Withcott catchment	6
Murphys Creek catchment	12
Helidon catchment	16
Grantham catchment	22
Gatton catchment	26
Forest Hill catchment	36
Laidley catchment	40
Laidley North and Plainland catchments	48
Rural catchments	50



Introduction

The Lockyer Valley Regional Council formed in March 2008 following the amalgamation of the former Gatton and Laidley Shire Councils.

Nestled at the foot of the Great Dividing Range, the Lockyer Valley is about an hour's drive from Brisbane and the Gold Coast and about 30 minutes from Ipswich and Toowoomba.

There were about 36,400 people residing in the Lockyer Valley in 2012 with the region experiencing an average annual growth rate of 2.2 per cent.

Projections of the year 2031 envisage the Lockyer Valley's population is expected to increase by more than 27,000 people or an average rate close to 3 per cent.

The Lockyer Valley Regional Council is putting together the framework to accommodate this growth.



Projected population distribution per parks planning catchment

CATCHMENT	2011	2016	2021
Forest Hill	463	456	446
Gatton Town	10,976	12,341	13,841
Grantham	725	930	1148
Helidon	1825	2030	2220
Helidon Hill and Grantham North	294	290	288
Laidley North and Plainlands	8825	10,352	11,925
Laidley Town	5698	7487	9754
Morton Vale	1660	1600	1540
Murphys Creek and Surrounds	1232	1252	1296
Rural South	2319	2242	2170
Rural West	1547	1508	1477
Withcott	2147	2476	2896
TOTAL	37,711	42,962	49,001

Source: Integran 2011.



Sport and Recreational Plan

The Laidley Shire Council sport and recreational plan was completed in 2002 while the Gatton Shire Council sport and recreational plan was completed in 2006. The new sport and recreational plan has been created for the amalgamated Lockyer Valley Regional Council and will capture data and information throughout the entire region.

PURPOSE OF SPORT AND RECREATIONAL PLAN

The Sport and Recreational Plan has been developed to provide the community with a clear vision of the direction in which Council would like to proceed with sporting and recreational facilities in the coming years.

The purpose of this plan is to:

- Identify the parks and sporting facilities throughout the region.
- Pinpoint the areas of growth in the Lockyer Valley and discuss the infrastructure required to accommodate this growth.
- Identify which sporting activities are likely to become more popular in the coming years.
- Highlight the needs of sporting groups and what facility improvements are most-needed from their perspective.
- To establish the key priorities of each town and ascertain the facilities in need of improvement.

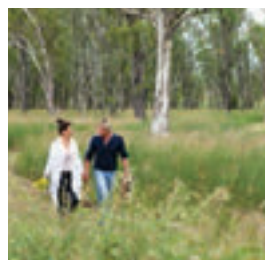
PLANNING CATCHMENTS

Council will work with the community to achieve these outcomes and will support local clubs to attract external funding to improve their facilities and other opportunities which may be available to them.

In conjunction with community groups, Council is investigating options to develop a regional cycle and pedestrian strategy. The cycle network will link towns throughout the region and encourage residents to maintain an active and healthy lifestyle.

There are a number of horse riding and bushwalking tracks in the Lockyer Valley and the water catchments provide residents with a chance to fish, and undertake a number of water sports. Birdwatching and scenic drives add to the charm of the region.

Council understands the changing nature of sport and recreational activities throughout the region and is working with the community to provide more opportunities outside of the more traditional sports.

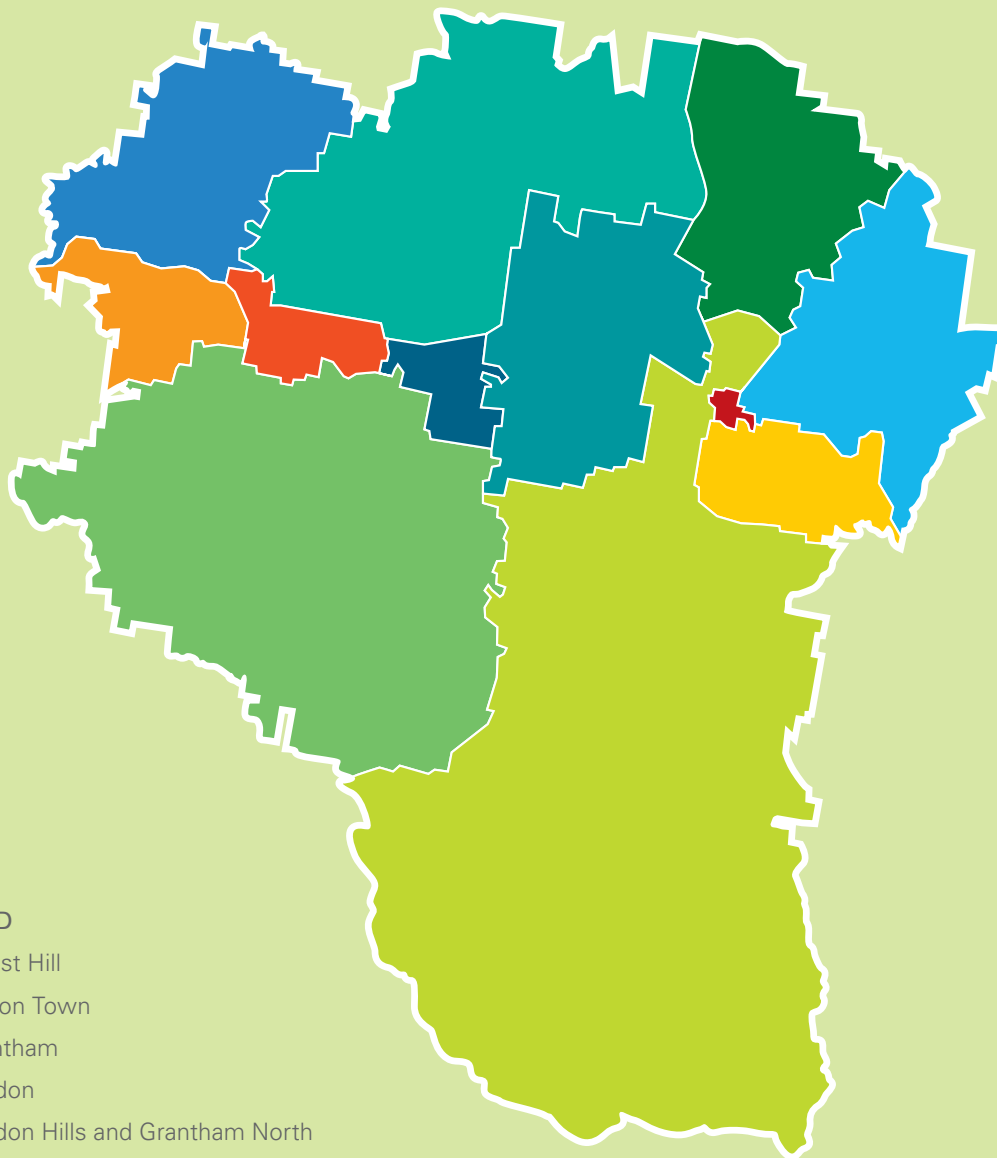


Planning Catchments for the Lockyer Valley

The Lockyer Valley is divided into the following catchment areas.

The Lockyer Valley Sport and Recreation Plan discusses the needs of each catchment area, moving from west to east throughout the document.

Some of the catchment areas have been combined in this document.



LEGEND







- Forest Hill
- Gatton Town
- Grantham
- Helidon
- Helidon Hills and Grantham North
- Laidley North and Plainland
- Laidley Town
- Morton Vale
- Murphys Creek and Surrounds
- Rural South
- Rural West
- Withcott



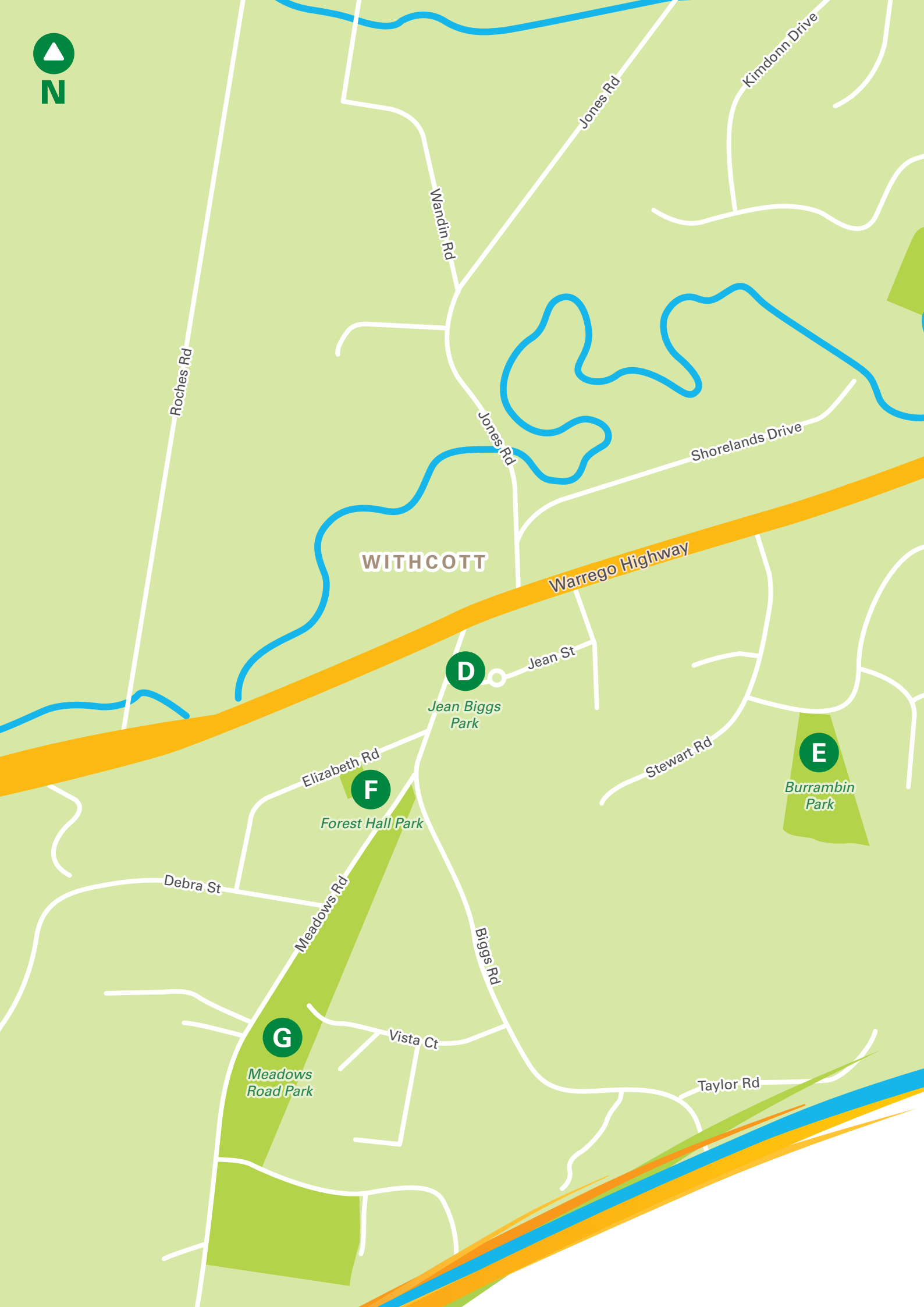
Our Local Government Roles

Local Government have a number of roles that help to guide the services delivered by Council to meet the needs of the community.

These roles are: provider, funder, regulator, partner, facilitator and advocator. This will assist Council to focus our direction appropriately and effectively, to align our diverse roles and responsibilities. The **six roles** that have been used to determine Council's strategic focus are:

	Provider	Delivering services
	Funder	Funding other organisations to deliver services
	Regulator	Regulating some activities through local law or policy
	Partner	Forming partnerships and strategic alliances with other parties in the interests of the community
	Facilitator	Assisting others to be involved in activities by bringing groups and interested parties together
	Advocate	Promoting the interests of the community to other decision makers and influencers

Throughout the Lockyer Valley Sport and Recreation Plan these symbols will be used to indicate Council's role.



Roches Rd

Mandin Rd

Jones Rd

Kimdonn Drive

Jones Rd

Shorelands Drive

WITHCOTT

Warrego Highway

Jean St

D

Jean Biggs Park

Elizabeth Rd

F

Forest Hall Park

Stewart Rd

E

Burrabin Park

Debra St

Meadows Rd

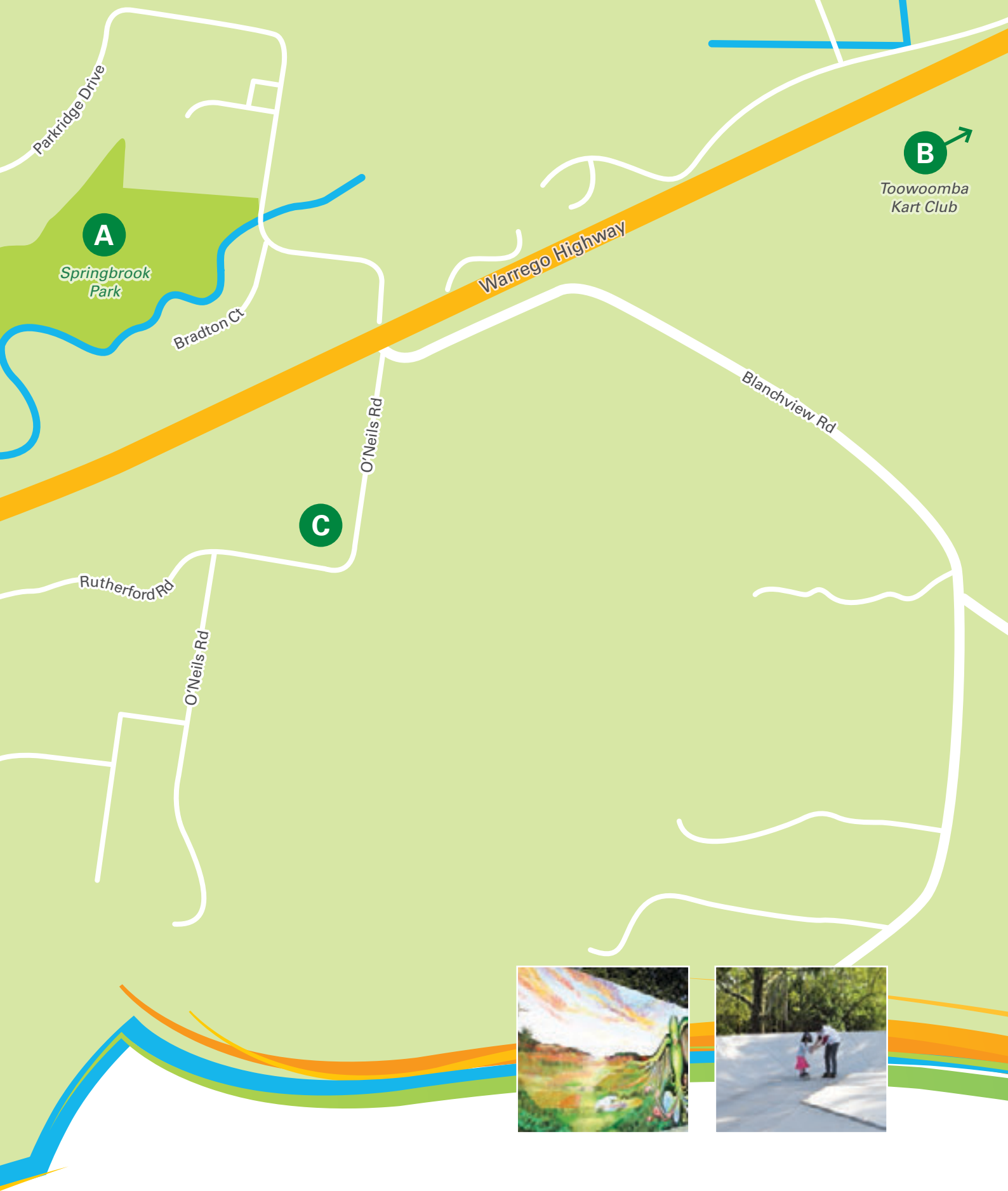
G

Meadows Road Park

Biggs Rd

Vista Ct

Taylor Rd



Withcott catchment

Withcott is one of the fastest growing regions within the Lockyer Valley. Located on the western edge of the region, Withcott has a catchment size of 5240ha. The current population is about 2150, with this figure expected to grow close to 3000 by 2021 and in excess of 4000 by 2041. Nestled at the bottom of the Toowoomba Range, a large portion of the population commute to Toowoomba for work and school.

FACILITIES

Here is a list of the sport and recreation facilities in the Withcott catchment:

Sport facilities

- Springbrook Park
- Toowoomba Kart Club (Greer Park) (private)

Recreation parks

- Jean Biggs Park
- Burrambin Park
- Forest Hall Park
- Meadows Road Park

There is also the opportunity to create more park space or sporting facilities with more than 16ha of Council owned/managed open space.

A1 SPRINGBROOK PARK

Springbrook Park is the central sporting facility in Withcott. Located next to the Withcott Sports Centre and within close distance of the Warrego Highway, Springbrook Park is set in an ideal location in the region.

In 2009 Council completed a master plan for Springbrook Park. Major improvements to the park that were proposed in the master plan included:

- additional sporting fields (consisting mostly of junior and mid-sized fields)
- sports field/track lighting
- second entry point and overflow car parking via Bradton Crescent
- additional recreation (picnic and play) facilities.

Following the release of the master plan, a sporting field was added in addition to car park improvements. Council has indicated additional car parking will be required and further maintenance of the sporting fields.





A2 UPPER LOCKYER (WITHCOTT) LITTLE ATHLETICS CENTRE

Based at Springbrook Park, the facilities are suitable for the centre's purposes. Suggested improvements to the grounds include: spectator shelter on western side near the long jump pits, an enclosed net for the second discus platform and more shade near shot-put.



A3 WITHCOTT SOCCER CLUB

The current facilities allow for an additional three teams. The club uses Springbrook Park up to five times per week. Priorities the club consider important are: field lighting to extend to night competition and training and upgrading the clubhouse and storeroom.



A4 WITHCOTT SPORTS CENTRE

Martial arts disciplines are the major regular users of the Withcott Sports Centre, these being:

- Withcott Muay Thai
- Zen Do Kai Kidz Karate
- Zen Do Kai

Each of the groups are satisfied with the facilities at this location. The clubs have suggested improvements to access and extra signage which could bring further opportunities to the region. Collectively, these groups use the centre five times each week.

There is one multi-purpose concrete floor court at the facility which is not currently being utilised. To make use of this court, future activities include: self-defence classes (Withcott Muay Thai and Zen Do Kai Kidz Karate) and a World Kickboxing Association event.

Improvement priorities to the indoor centre from these clubs' perspectives are: modifying the vents so that they can open and close in summer and winter and improve signage to the centre.

B TOOWOOMBA KART CLUB

The Toowoomba (Lockyer Valley) Kart Club is a privately owned/managed facility. It attracts a broad membership base. The club has about 100 members. The club would like to explore options to extend their hours of use (a court order is in place restricting use to 1-5pm Monday and Fridays, 10am-5pm weekends).

Existing facilities require major upgrades. Priorities for the next five years are:

- resurface the track (\$170,000)
- upgrade shade/shelter on the grid (\$35,000)
- repair/replace the roof on the racing tower and clubhouse buildings
- replace/upgrade the canteen facilities.

The club is due to host the Queensland State Titles in the coming years, with the track surface and user facilities upgrades required by then. The club will host the Open Titles (Australian) in 2019/20 by when the priorities will be required.

The projected growth for the area is such that additional parks are likely to be warranted in the future. The Public Parks Strategy recommends upgrades and new parks in line with projected population growth:

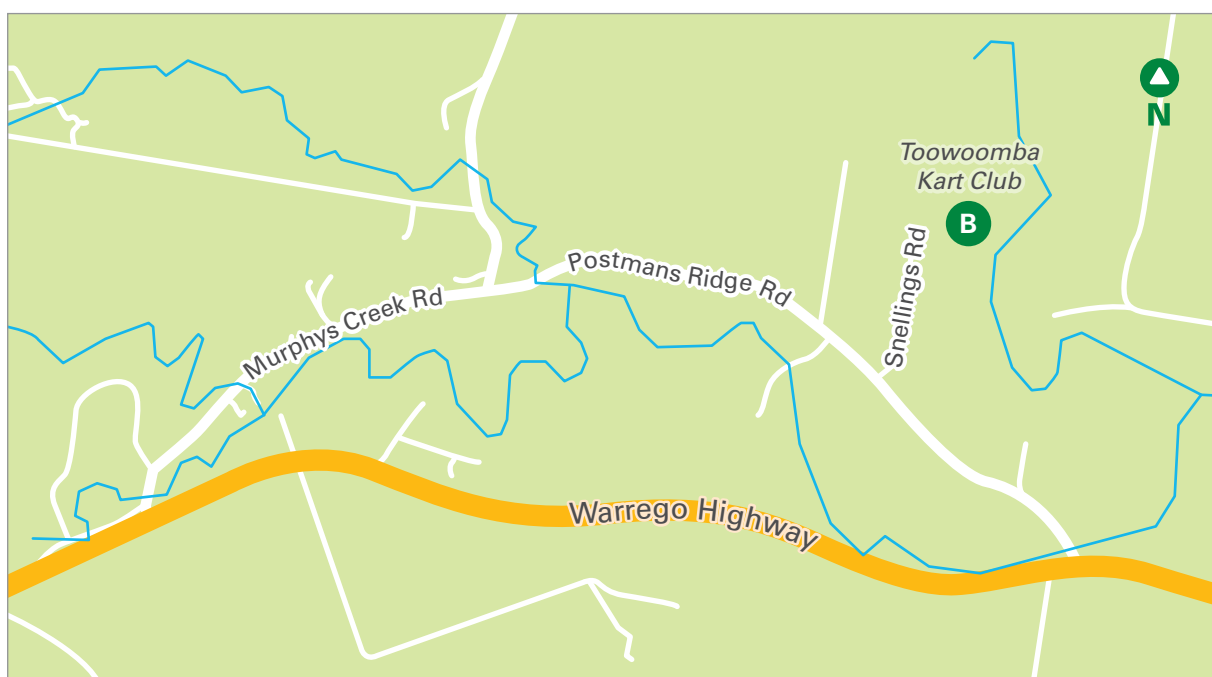
- One new district recreation park by 2016. It is proposed that this will be located on the southern side of the Highway, eastern side of Withcott near O'Neils Road.
- A second district recreation park by 2031/36 on the southern side of the Highway, south of existing Withcott footprint near Taylor Road.

C RECREATION PARKS

The recreation parks in the Withcott catchment, with the exception of the playground (recreation node) at Springbrook Park, are all located on the southern side of the Warrego Highway. The parks are well-developed and offer a range of different play and picnicking opportunities for residents.

D JEAN BIGGS PARK

Jean Biggs Park is the feature park for Withcott. It is within an urban setting surrounded by suburban and retail uses. The site contains good pedestrian and vehicular access and surrounding streets create clear visibility of the park. There is a good range of play and picnic facilities at the park.





E BURRAMBIN PARK

Burrambin Park is an urban set recreation park set on a sloping incline towards the road frontage. Play opportunities are provided for young children.

F FOREST HALL PARK

Forest Hall Park is located near Jean Biggs Park. Forest Hall Park is a similar size to the surrounding house blocks and contains a basic playground designed for young children. With the park in close proximity to Jean Biggs Park further investment may be better served at Jean Biggs Park to increase the range and appeal of the assets.

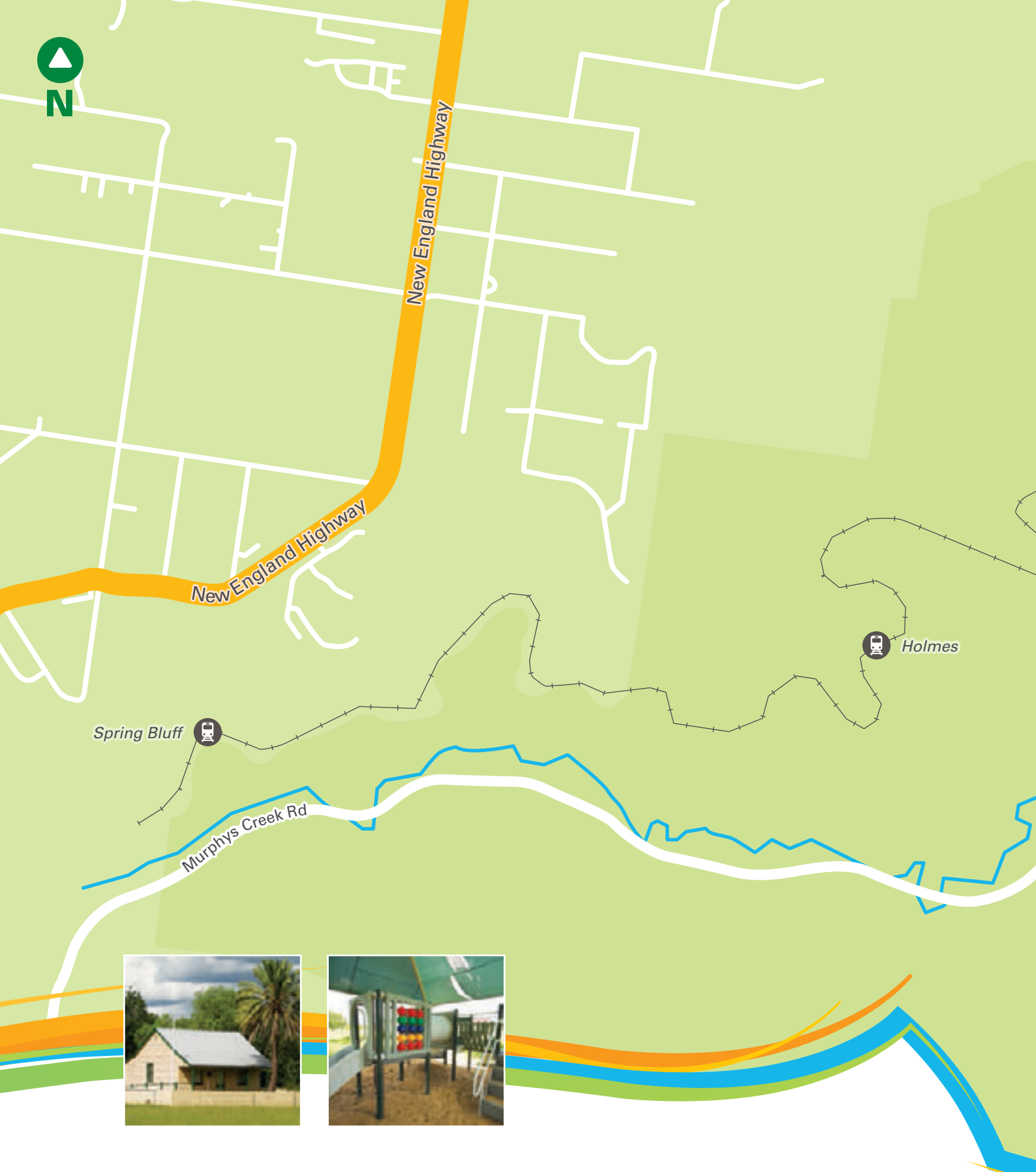
G MEADOWS ROAD PARK

Whilst not a formal recreation park, the Meadows Road Park offers considerable recreational values to local residents. It is often used by local schools for environmental studies and by residents for bush-walking and outdoor recreation activities. The site contains a memorial park and walkways.



Desired outcomes for the Withcott catchment are:

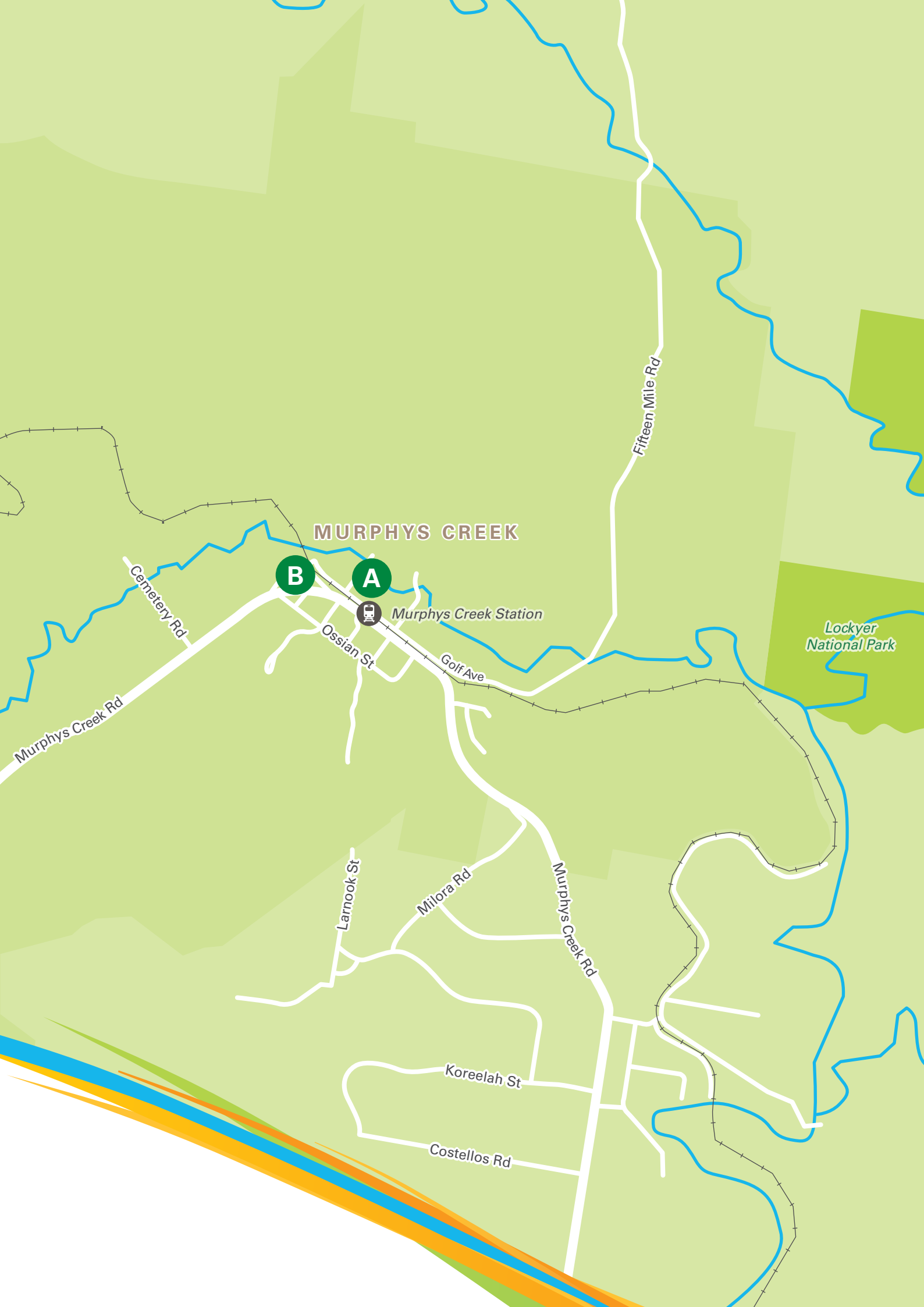
1. Improve signage to help people locate Springbrook Park. 
2. Explore options to install open and closable vents/windows at the Sports Centre. 
3. Support existing and potential new sporting clubs. This should include assisting them access external funding and should not be limited to groups using Council owned/managed facilities. 
4. Support the Toowoomba Kart Club in its pursuit to upgrade the facilities at their site. 
5. Research the history and advise the Toowoomba Kart Club on any options to extend their sporting use hours of operation. 
6. Investigate footpath (walk/cycle) infrastructure including investigating options to cross the Warrego Highway safely. 
7. Continue to develop Springbrook Park in line with the master plan, including extension of car park and an extension to the sporting area in line with the outputs of the Public Parks Strategy. 
8. Investigate land options and develop a new district recreation park near O'Neills Road in line with the Public Parks Strategy. 
9. Improve access and opportunities at Jean Biggs Park to encourage more use. 
10. Engagement needed with the Department of Transport and Main Roads for the provision of toilet facilities on the highway near Jean Biggs Park. 



Murphys Creek catchment

Murphys Creek catchment is the far north-west catchment in the region, bordering the Toowoomba Regional Council local government area. Whilst the precinct size is large (13,400ha) it has a small, dispersed population with all sport and recreation opportunities located in the township of Murphys Creek.

Only small population growth is expected for the Murphys Creek catchment. Current population is about 1200 which is expected to grow to about 1300 in 2021 and to 1500 by 2041.



MURPHYS CREEK

B **A**



Murphys Creek Station

Lockyer National Park

Cemetery Rd

Murphys Creek Rd

Ossian St

Golf Ave

Fifteen Mile Rd

Larnook St

Milora Rd

Murphys Creek Rd

Koreelah St

Costellos Rd

FACILITIES

Here is a list of the sport and recreation facilities in the Murphys Creek catchment:

Sport facilities

- Murphys Creek Recreation Grounds

Recreation parks

- Murphys Creek Community Hall grounds
- Murphys Creek Recreation Ground

Murphys Creek State School, Murphys Creek Progress Association, the Neighbourhood Centre and the Rural Fire Brigade. Notes from the consultation event are:

- the new facility will be managed by the Murphys Creek Progress Association
- there is one social cricket game per year
- a charity rugby league match
- the community would like to introduce new sport and recreation activities including tai chi, meditation, table tennis, dancing, bingo, cards and trivia events.

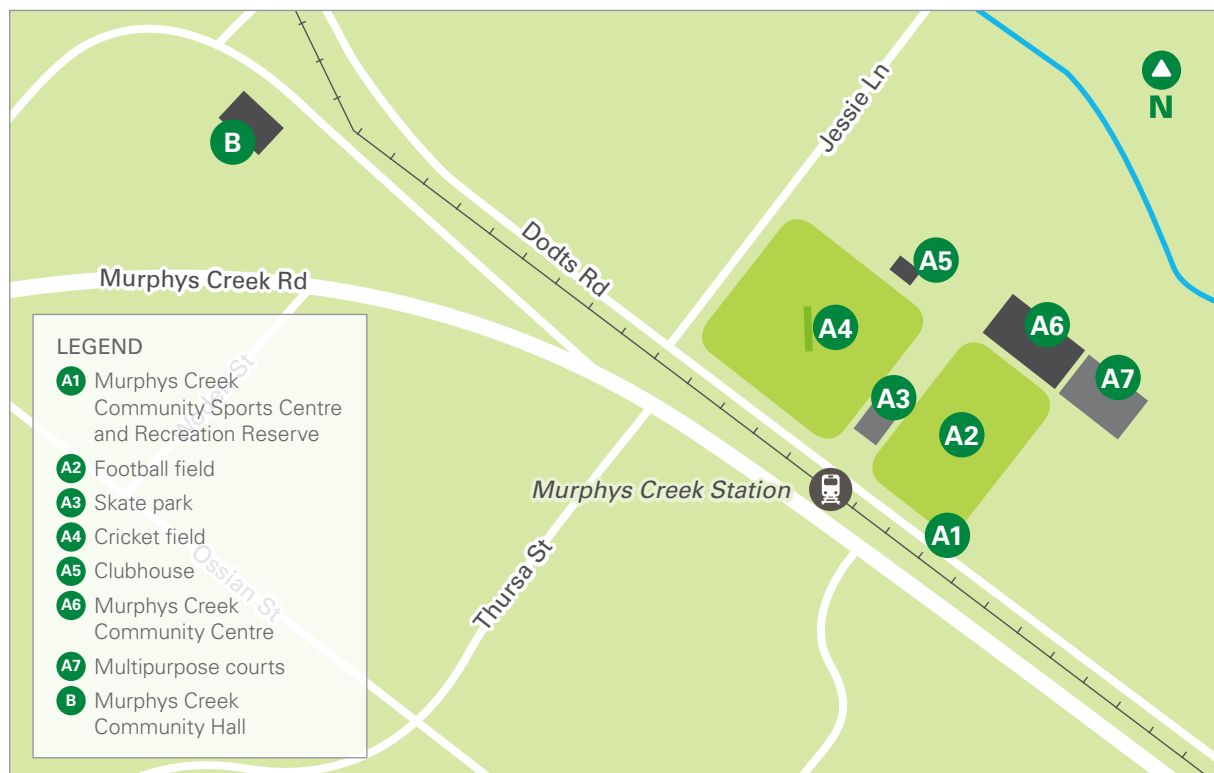
A MURPHYS CREEK COMMUNITY SPORTS CENTRE AND RECREATION RESERVE

The Murphys Creek Recreation Reserve and the newly built community centre is the primary location of all sport and recreation opportunities for the catchment.

With no formal sport played at the grounds, locals use the recreation reserve for informal sporting days and community gatherings. Consultation occurred with representatives from the P&C Association,

Two multipurpose courts have been built at this sports hub for tennis, basketball, netball and other hardcourt sports.

Priorities and improvements for the ground include: encourage sports at the community centre, build two rotundas at the recreation reserve with seats around the edge, develop a learn-to-cycle facility, install bench seats near the fields, develop a BMX track, develop a recreation playground near the creek, extend the skate park, develop a water play area and create a footpath between the railway museum and fire station.





B MURPHYS CREEK COMMUNITY HALL





The Murphys Creek Community Hall offers groups the opportunity to hire the facility for sport and recreation.

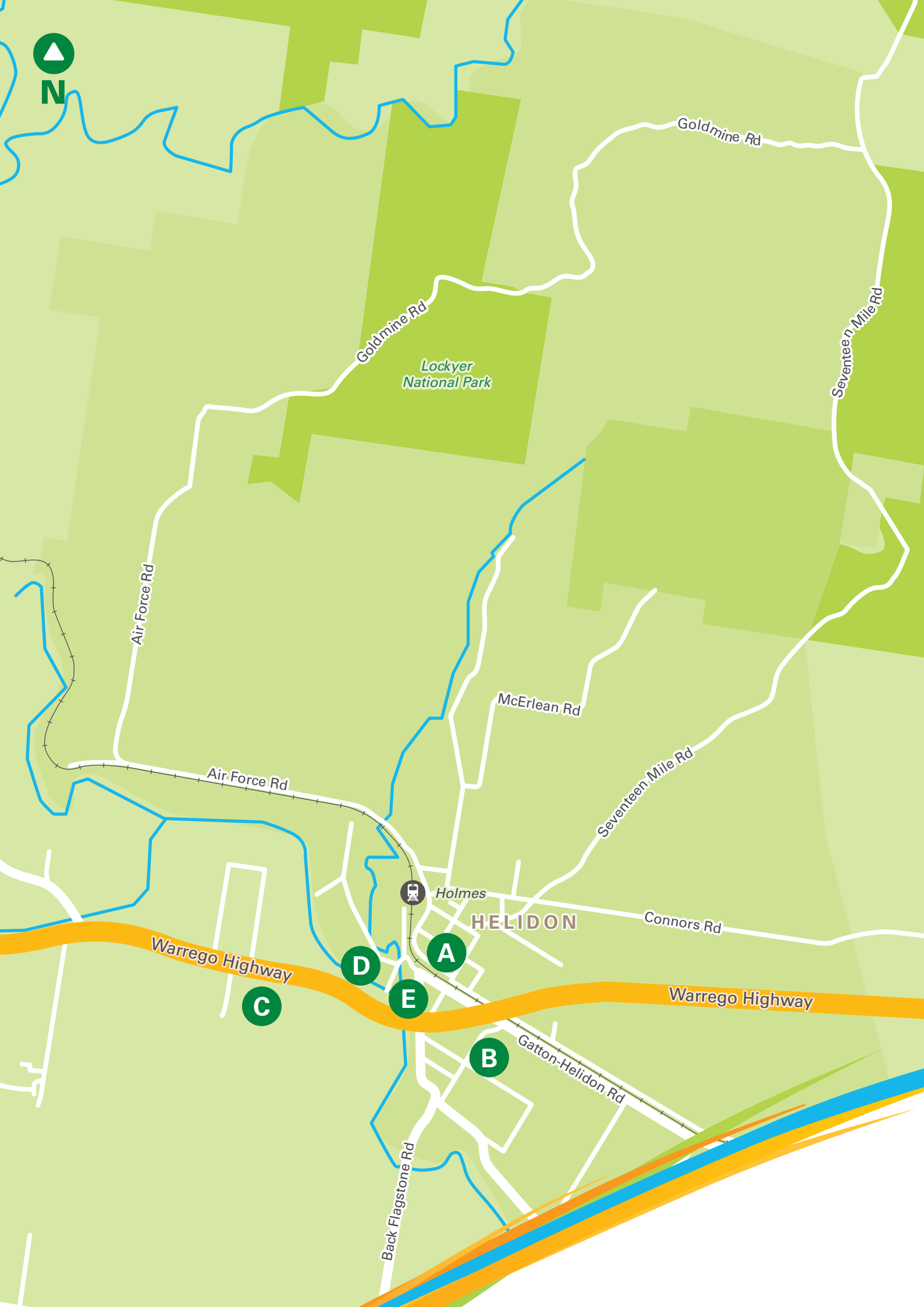
In addition to the sport and recreation parks, there is large natural parkland and open space accessible for public use. Some of this is managed by Council whilst others are managed by the State Government.

Murphys Creek Zen Do Kai is the primary sport user of the hall. The club hires the hall twice a week (1.5 hours per hire). The Zen Do Kai club only has a small membership base. The club is expecting to hire the new hall at the Murphys Creek Recreation Reserve when it is permitted. When the club relocates they plan to ramp up promotion. They would also welcome extending local opportunities to other martial arts disciplines (Muay Thai, Japanese Sword classes, grappling).



Desired outcomes for the Murphys Creek catchment are:

1. Undertake an audit of public halls in the region. The audit should also include an asset condition audit so Council can make rational decisions about their future. 
2. Complete an asset condition audit of Council owned park infrastructure, including sport facilities. 
3. Ensure recreation park assets are maintained and offer a diversity of play and picnicking opportunities for the local community. 
4. Continue to support sport and recreation opportunities to be concentrated at the Murphys Creek Recreation Reserve. 
5. Encourage the Murphys Creek Progress Association, and other local community groups, to offer formal and informal sport activities. 
6. Assist the Murphys Creek Progress Association and local sports providers to outfit the new community centre so sport and recreation opportunities can occur at the centre. This may include rubber matting to minimise injuries caused by the concrete floor. 
7. Encourage more physical activity opportunities. This could be through a rolling program of activities and lessons across the local government area but more importantly focusing on delivery to smaller townships like Murphys Creek. 
8. Perform maintenance on rugby league fields to provide a better facility for the region. 



Goldmine Rd

Goldmine Rd

Lockyer National Park

Seventeen n. Mile Rd

Air Force Rd

McErlean Rd

Air Force Rd

Seventeen Mile Rd

Holmes

HELIDON

Connors Rd

Warrego Highway

Warrego Highway

Gattin-Helidon Rd

Back Flagstone Rd

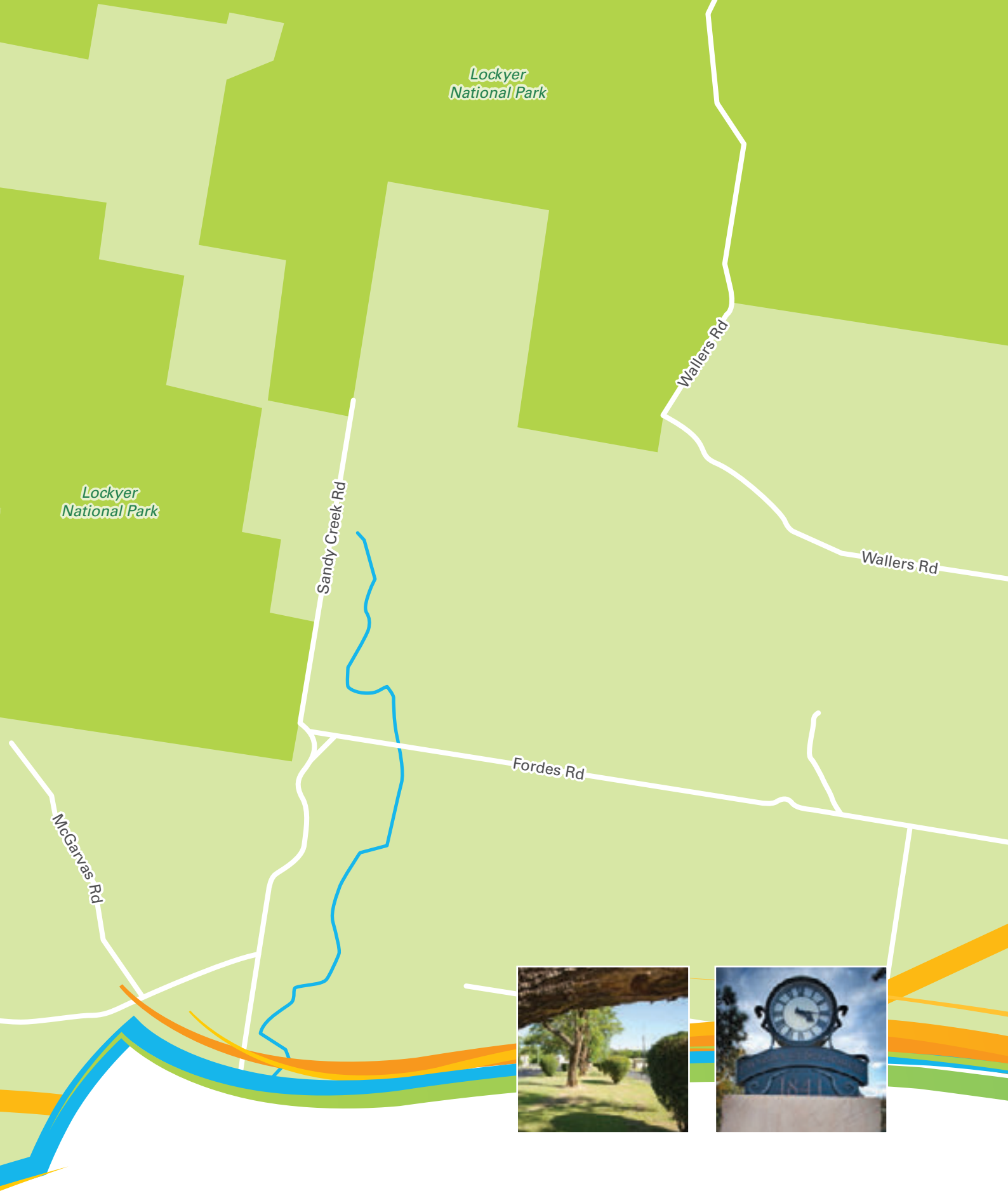
C

D

A

E

B



Helidon catchment

Sport and recreation facilities and opportunities in the Helidon catchment are located in the township of Helidon, with the exception of the Helidon Spa Golf Course which is located on the southern side of the Warrego Highway. The population in the precinct is about 1800 and is expected to grow by about 400 by 2021 and to more than 3000 people by 2041.

FACILITIES

Here is a list of sport and recreation facilities in the Helidon catchment:

Sport facilities

- Progress Park (Helidon Cricket Club and Helidon Tennis Club)
- McGovern Park (part)
- Helidon Spa Golf Course (private)

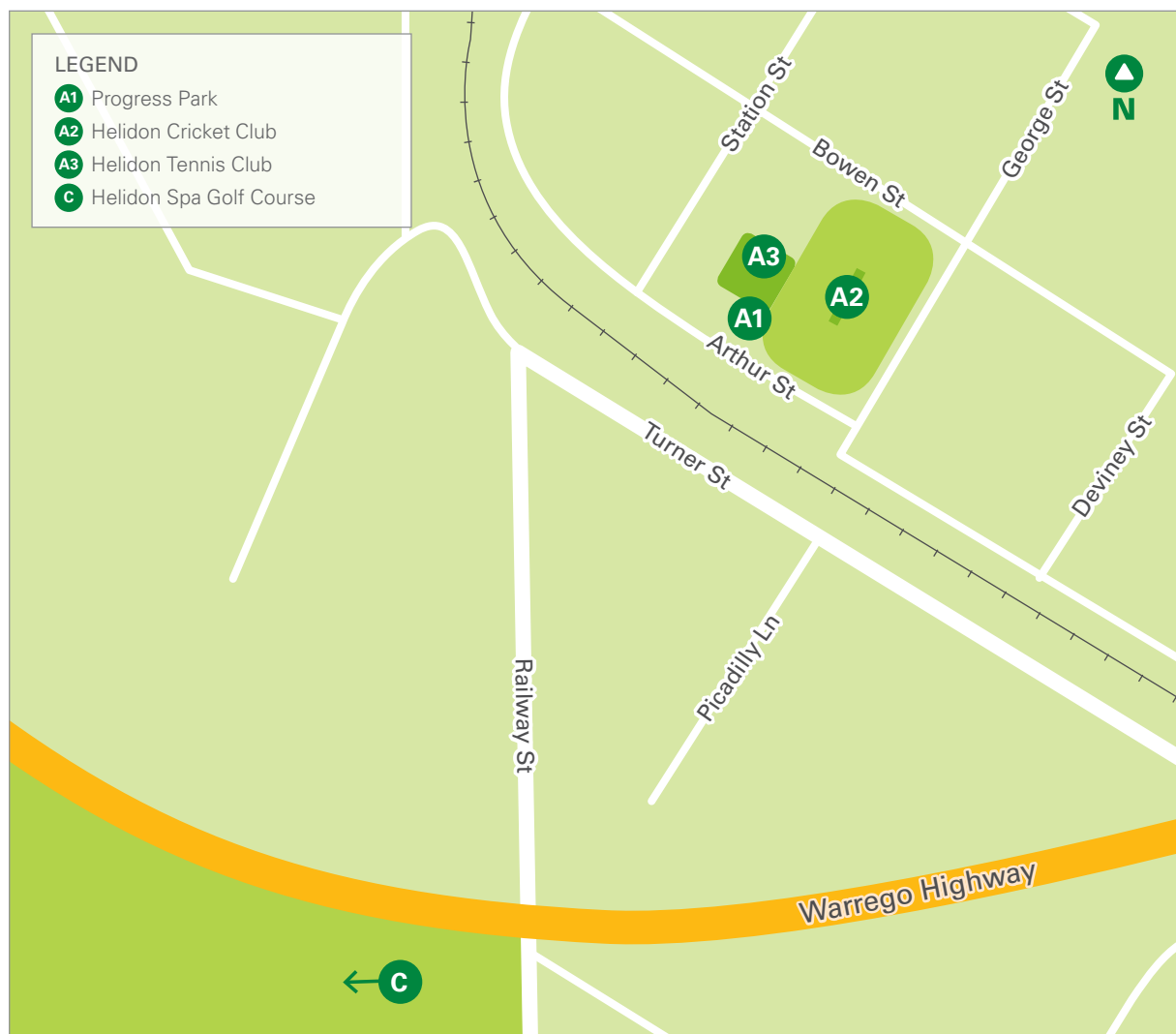
Recreation parks

- McGovern Park (recreation)
- Tyson Park
- Progress Park

In addition to the sport and recreation parks in the Helidon precinct, there is almost 4ha of other Council owned/managed open space. These include:

- Drovers Crossing
- Cunninghams Cairn Park
- Soldiers Memorial Park
- James Norman Hedges Park

Community facilities (such as public halls) also provide the opportunity to facilitate sport and recreation activities. In the Helidon catchment this primarily occurs at the Helidon and District Community Centre, Helidon QCWA or Helidon Girl Guides halls.





A1 PROGRESS PARK

Progress Park is home to the Helidon Cricket Club and the Helidon Tennis Club. A small recreation park co-locates with the sports infrastructure.

Progress Park is a small park, with play opportunities for young children. The park links with surrounding sport groups (tennis and cricket) and the playground is likely to be mostly utilised when these sports are in action, or when there is an event at the community centre across the street from the park. It is generally thought the condition of the playground assets are good, however, more facilities could be obtained to attract a wider-range of age groups.



A2 HELIDON CRICKET CLUB

The Helidon Cricket Club boasts one field with a synthetic wicket, two practice nets, storage facilities and demountable toilet block. The club uses the grounds once a week (all day) during the season for games and train on the facilities during the week. The club is pleased with the facilities, however, is unable to grow due to only having one field. The club is investigating options of relocating to a new site at Grantham. The new site will have two fields (turf and synthetic wicket) to encourage players to stay at the club.

A3 HELIDON TENNIS CLUB

The tennis facilities include two synthetic courts with basic lighting and a small clubhouse. Toilets facilities are shared with the cricket club and other users of Progress Park. Many of the facilities at the tennis club require upgrading.

B McGOVERN PARK

McGovern Park is considered to be a district-level recreation park. The park is moderately sized, located within a semi-rural setting on the south-eastern side of the town. Accessibility is provided by a road through the site and embellishments on the site are, generally, in good condition. There are opportunities to enhance the park with landscaping and further development of play and picnic facilities.

McGovern Park is home to the Withcott Pony Club. In addition to the pony club facilities, the park has a good sized recreation park (playground and picnic facilities) and Girl Guides hut. The facilities at the pony club appear to be in good condition.

The pony club will be invited to be part of the planning for the new showground/equestrian facility for the region. If the pony club relocates, the land could be retained for sport and recreation purposes.

C HELIDON SPA GOLF COURSE

The Helidon Spa Golf Course is a privately owned/managed but fully public (attendance) golf course (without membership). The Spa Golf Course hosts social clubs, organisations and the general public and is open seven days a week. The owners have plans to upgrade the course to a full 18-hole course. Currently it is an 18-hole course with 10 greens with 18-hole placements.

The owners would like to increase the use of the course. They are proposing to run clinics for beginners and experienced golfers. Priorities for the facility include investigating opportunities to increase use/participation and more adequate signage for the course.

D JAMES NORMAN HEDGES PARK

Situated alongside the Warrego Highway, James Norman Hedges Park, is controlled by the Department of Transport and Main Roads (TMR). The park experienced significant damage in the 2011

floods and has since been restored through NDRRA funding. The facilities include toilets, picnic tables, security lighting and car parking. The grounds are maintained by Council. Council is in communication with TMR to discuss further options on the best use for the facility, including using the park as an overnight camp/rest location.






E TYSON PARK

Tyson Park is an urban set local-level recreation park. The park is not easily accessible nor visible from the adjacent street, however, is commonly used by young people (this is where the local skate park is located) and visitors/tourists stopping. It would be beneficial to improve the pedestrian connections to the park and to improve visibility into the park as safety precautions.

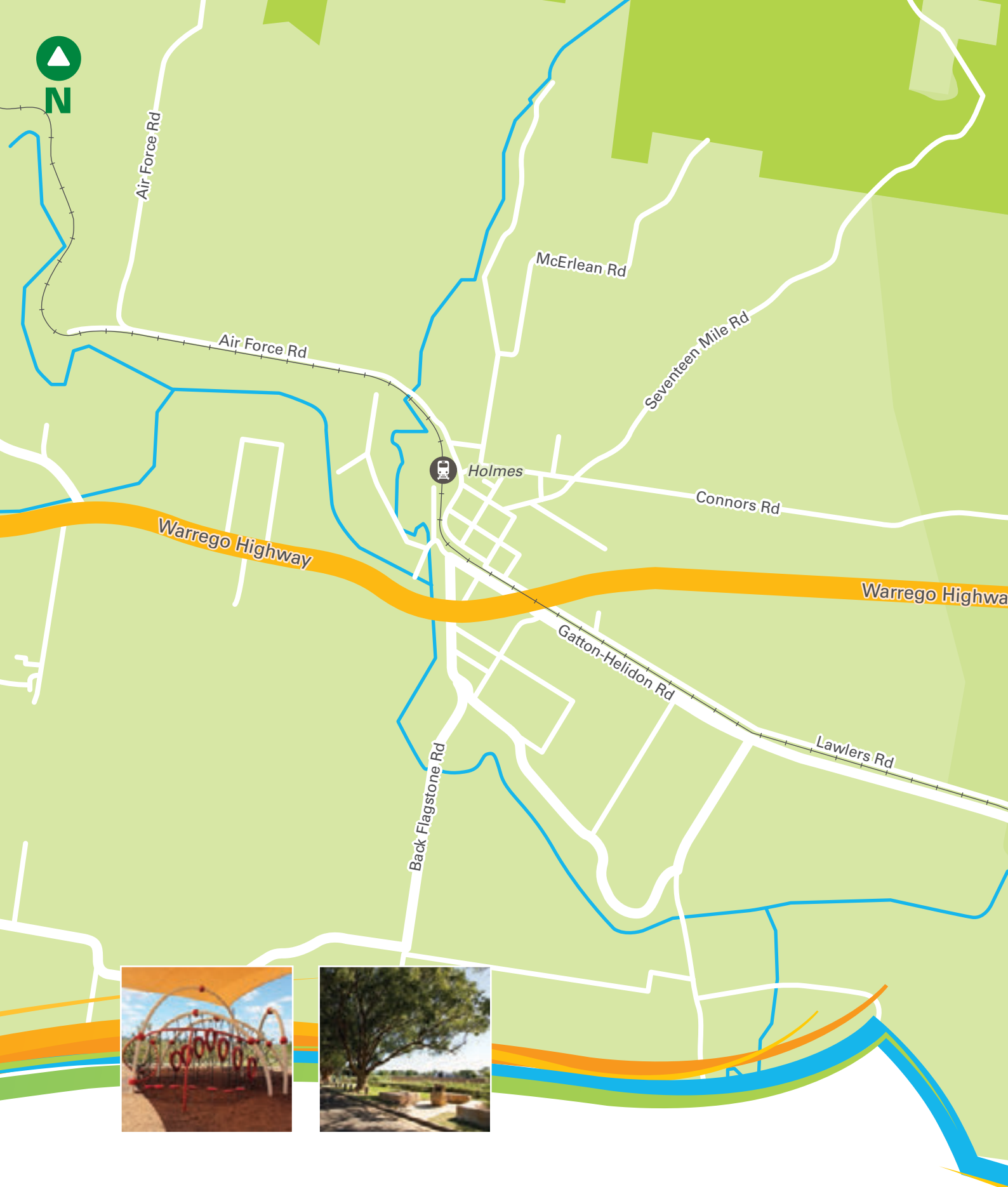




Desired outcomes for the Helidon catchment are:

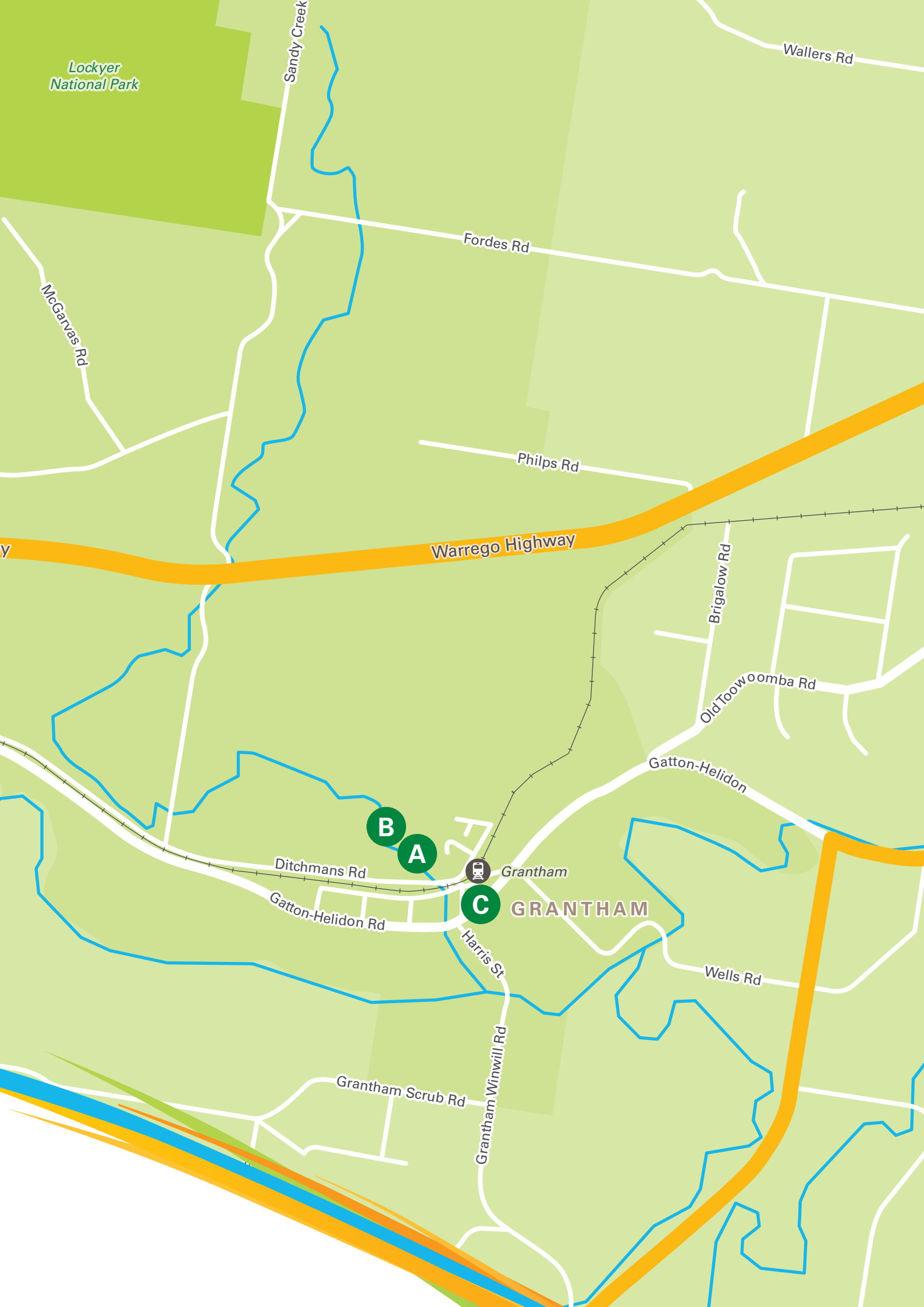
1. Plan with the Withcott Pony Club to be a part of the new showground/equestrian facilities plan for the Lockyer Valley areas. 
2. Complete an asset condition audit of Council owned park infrastructure, including sports facilities. This will assist to develop a park maintenance schedule, ensuring that play and picnic facilities are replaced when needed. 
3. Ensure recreation park assets are maintained and offer a diversity of play and picnicking opportunities for the local community. 
4. Promote all sport and recreation opportunities in the region, irrespective of whether they are related to Council owned/managed facilities. This may include consideration to non-traditional sports. 
5. Encourage more physical activity opportunities, this could be through a rolling program of activities and lessons across the local government area including a focus on delivery to smaller townships like Helidon. 





Grantham catchment

Grantham is a town which has experienced a significant amount of change in services following the major flood event in 2011. The entire community was affected by this event and as a result the majority of the community has since moved residence as part of Australia's first land-swap. The Grantham catchment is about 2800ha in size with a population of about 725. This figure is expected to grow to about 1150 by 2021 and to 1350 by 2041.



Lockyer National Park

Sandy Creek

Walters Rd

McGarvas Rd

Fordes Rd

Philps Rd

Warrego Highway

Brigalow Rd

Old Toowoomba Rd

Gattton-Helidon

B

A

C

Grantham

GRANTHAM

Ditchmans Rd

Gattton-Helidon Rd

Harris St

Grantham Winwill Rd

Grantham Scrub Rd

Wells Rd

FACILITIES

Here is a list of the sport and recreation facilities in the Grantham catchment:

Sport facilities

- Grantham Sports Reserve

Recreation parks

- Bugler Park
- McGarva Park
- Anzac Park

A GRANTHAM SPORTS RESERVE

The Grantham Sports Reserve was formerly home to cricket but is now used by the Gatton Pony Club. This sporting facility features a cricket oval, pony club facilities and club facilities. The sporting field has also been used for soccer in the past.





B GATTON PONY CLUB

Meeting on the first Sunday of the month, the club has about 25-30 members, ranging from under 10-year-olds through to senior members. On top of the monthly meetings the club also hosts three to four events/trials each year. The club maintains the grounds and despite being affected by the 2011 and 2013 flood events, the club believes the grounds are in good condition.



C RECREATION PARKS

Bugler Park, McGarva Park and Anzac Park have all been upgraded following the 2011 flood event.



Desired outcomes for the Grantham catchment are:

1. Continue to protect land in the Grantham precinct for sport and recreation purposes 
2. Work with the community and the State Government to deliver the new proposed parkland including sports fields and recreation areas. 
3. Ensure recreation park assets offer a diversity of play and picnicking opportunities. 
4. Promote all sport and recreation opportunities in the region, irrespective of whether they are related to Council owned/managed facilities. 
5. Encourage more physical activity opportunities. 
6. The Queensland Reconstruction Authority's documentation proposes new open space/parkland in their master plan for the area. The master plan for stage one of the parks rollout (prepared by Cardno) proposes new sport parkland (indicated by two cricket fields) as well as the land for recreation parks. The master plan also indicates a desired path network using these new open spaces to provide off-road pedestrian transport options. 



Fords Rd

Warrego Highway

Smithfield Rd

Burgess Rd

Gatton Racecourse

E

P

C

GATTON

Spe

R

Old Toowoomba Rd

S

Lowes Rd

Western Drive

J

Gatton Helidon Rd

M

Gatton-Helidon Rd

Lake Apex

I

K

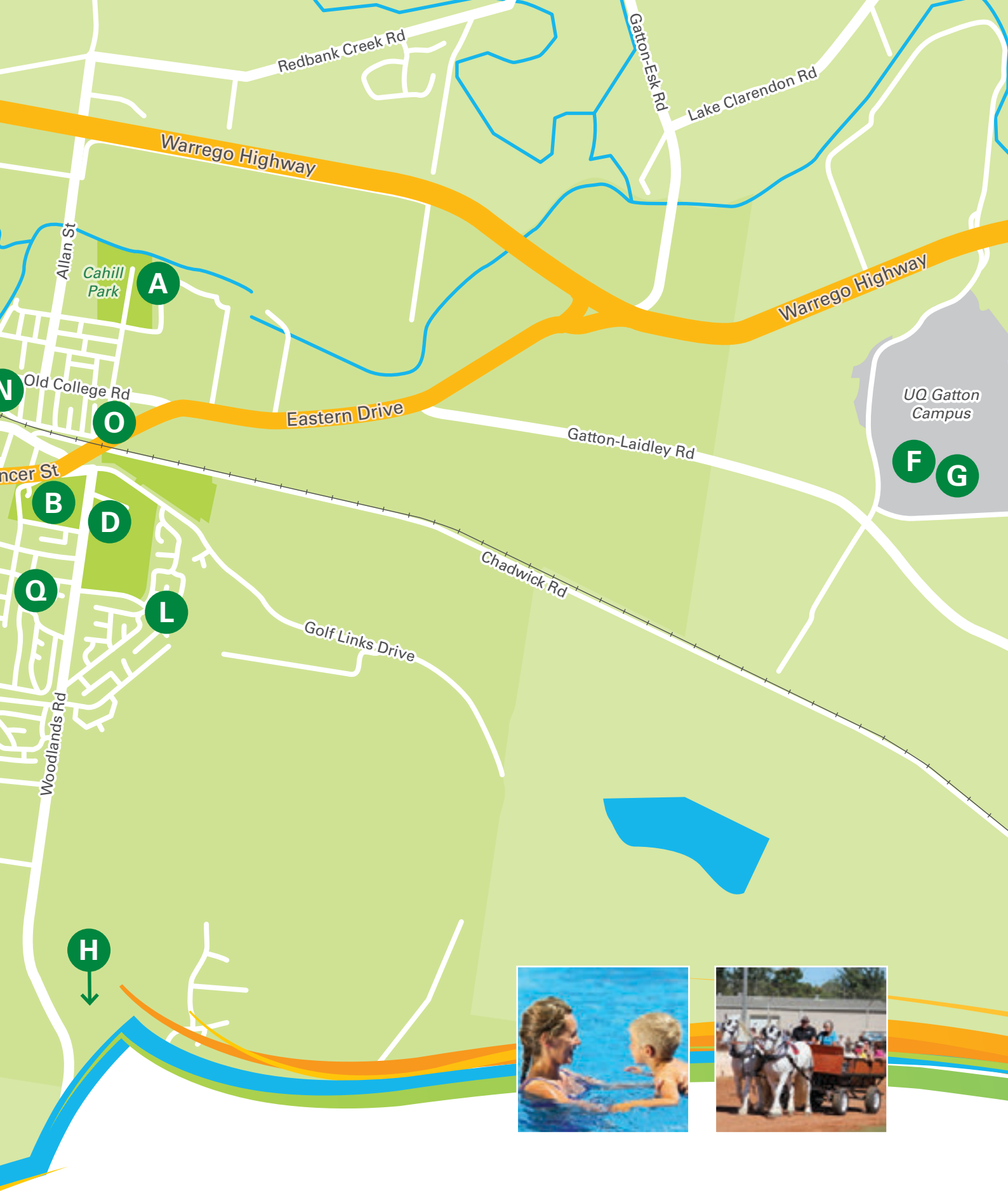
Rangeview Drive

Gatton-Clifton Rd

Lower Tenthill Rd

Tenthill Creek Rd

Tenthill Creek Rd



Gatton catchment

Gatton is the largest town in the Lockyer Valley. The population in this catchment was almost 11,000 in 2011 and is expected to increase to about 14,000 by 2021 and 33,000 by 2041. The significant growth in this area will present many opportunities and constraints in relation to offering sport and recreation activities locally.

FACILITIES

Here is a list of the sport and recreation facilities in the Gatton catchment:

Sport facilities

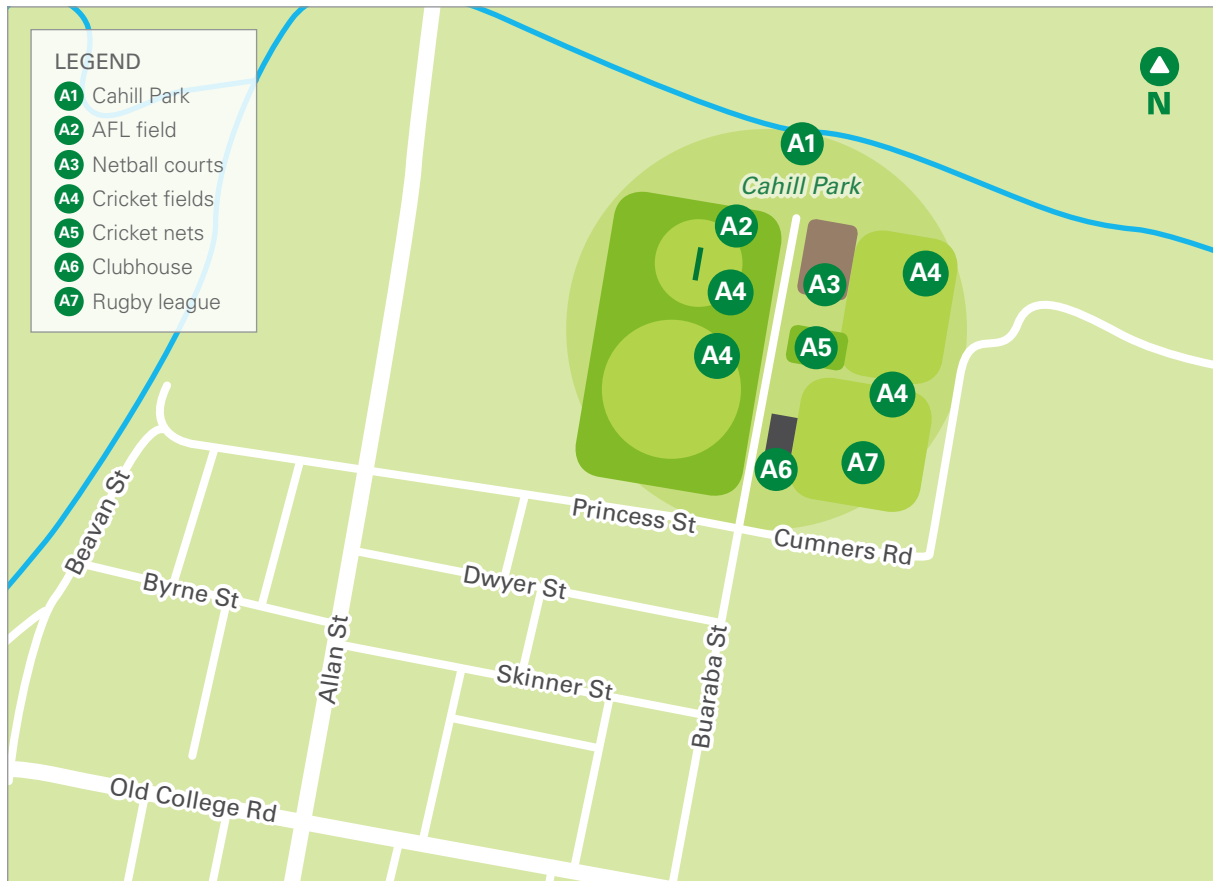
- Cahill Park (part privately owned)
- Gatton Shire War Memorial Pool
- Gatton Sports Centre
- Gatton Soccer Club (lease directly with the state government)
- Gatton Bowls Club
- Gatton Showgrounds
- Gatton Racecourse (private)
- Gatton Golf Course (private)

- Little Apex Park
- Bill Tew Place
- Cleary Park
- Davey Park
- Fred Gillam Park
- Lions Park
- Littleton Park
- Wilks Park
- William Kemp Park
- Dawson Phipps Park

Recreation parks

- Lake Apex Park
- Rowney Park
- Rotary Park

In addition to the sport and recreation parks in the Gatton catchment, there is more than 240ha of other Council owned/managed open space. The areas include: Boer War Memorial Park, Centenary Park, Parklea Estate Park, Gatton Park and Placid Drive Park.





A CAHILL PARK COMPLEX

Cahill Park is the premier sports park in Gatton with a number of clubs and groups calling the grounds home. The park is a mix of Council owned/managed land and the Complex's freehold land. Cahill Park Management Group received State Government funding for a dedicated sport co-ordinator for a three-year period.

Sporting infrastructure at Cahill Park includes: two rugby league fields, eight netball courts (two hard and six grass), four cricket fields (one overlaid on rugby league and one overlaid with AFL) and touch football fields (overlaid on rugby league).



Groups that use the fields include:

- Gatton Fordsdale Cricket Club
- Gatton Rugby League Football Club
- Lockyer Valley Netball Association
- Lockyer Valley Demons Australian Football Club
- Gatton Touch Football

Council would like to see more groups using the grounds, in particular Little Athletics and after-school activities.

B1 GATTON SHOWGROUNDS CATCHMENT

The Gatton Showgrounds is located in the centre of Gatton. It is a 13ha site that is home to the following groups:

- Gatton Show Society
- Gatton Sports Centre (and hirers of the centre)
- Lockyer Valley Equestrian Group (representing a number of equestrian disciplines)
- Gatton Tennis Association
- Gatton Table Tennis Association
- Lockyer Valley Speedway
- Lockyer Valley Sports and Aquatic Centre

The facilities on the site include:

- Show ring and grandstand
- Speedway circuit in the show ring
- Covered and uncovered equestrian arenas

- Horse accommodation
- Show pavilions
- Four tennis courts
- Table tennis hall
- Indoor sports centre
- Community group buildings
- Car parking and other ancillary infrastructure.

Council has been working with existing user groups on the future relocation of the showgrounds.

B2 GATTON SHOW SOCIETY

The annual Gatton show runs in the second last week of June. The Gatton Show Society has been heavily involved in the relocation of the showgrounds.





B3 GATTON SPORTS CENTRE

Activities coordinated or delivered at the centre include:

- Gymnasium work
- Indoor cricket
- Volleyball
- Badminton
- Netball
- Basketball
- Futsal
- Karate
- Boxing
- Maui Thai
- Zen Do Kai
- Auskick
- Gymnastics



B4 LOCKYER INDOOR EQUESTRIAN CENTRE ASSOCIATION

The Lockyer Indoor Equestrian Centre includes representation from the following clubs/organisations:

- Lockyer Equestrian Group
- Gatton Quarter Horse and Performance Association
- South Queensland Reining Horse Association

The existing facilities are considered to be one of the premier indoor equestrian facilities in Queensland, however, it is desired to extend its capacity. The centre has bookings for every day of the year with weekend bookings usually taken 12 months in advance.

Annually, the facility attracts 30-40,000 people and is used by many equestrian groups for different horse-activities.

The priorities for the new facility are considered to include: two covered arenas (each 80 x 40m), two (or three) show ring type ovals, 250-300 stables, equestrian cross-country course, two outside warm-up areas which should be suitable for dressage (approximate size should be 100 x 50m), sealed car parking for trucks/trailers with power, water and sewerage connections, dedicated trotting track (also suitable for dog racing), canteen and club facilities, polo and polocrosse fields, campdraft arena and yards, pony club facilities, retail outlet options, dedicated on-site manager.



B5 LOCKYER VALLEY SPEEDWAY ASSOCIATION

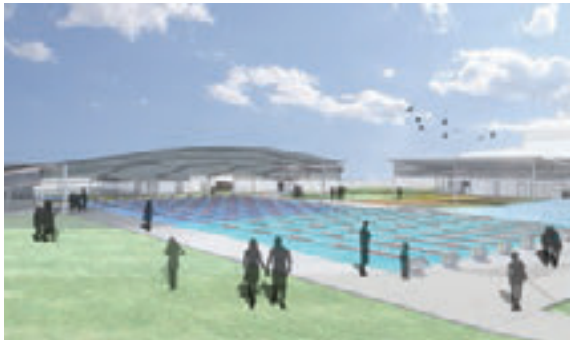
The Speedway has 30 members and hosts eight speedway events per year. The grandstands at the show-ring are full at the events and more seating is required in the future.

Facility improvements the club would like to see include: additional speedway lighting (for safer racing), additional spectator seating, additional showers and toilet facilities to enable competitors to camp on-site, a new control tower and larger pits area.

B6 GATTON TABLE TENNIS

The Gatton Table Tennis Association has about 20 regular players and 12 irregular players. There has been a spike in junior players recently with about 14 juniors at the club. The club uses the hall on Wednesdays (afternoon school sport), Thursday (night club competition), Friday (coaching for developed players at night), Friday (afternoon sport for primary school), Sunday (social table tennis afternoon), Sunday (coaching for beginners) and social hire by community groups for social use.

The existing clubhouse requires repairs/extensions. The club would like to stay at its current location, however, if they have to move they require equal or better facilities.



B7 GATTON TENNIS ASSOCIATION

The Gatton Tennis Association has about 15 members. The association organises weekend fixtures and hires the courts. The association organises Wednesday and Friday women's fixtures. The association uses the courts on average for four hours per week. Court hire to the community accounts for approximately 14 hours of use per week.

The club would like overall maintenance performed to this facility and would like to start a junior master tennis tournament to encourage young people to continue playing.

B8 LOCKYER VALLEY SPORTS AND AQUATIC CENTRE

The existing pool in Gatton is set to be replaced by the Lockyer Valley Sports and Aquatic Centre. Located at the Gatton Showgrounds, highlights of the first stage includes:

- A 10-lane Olympic sized swimming pool (50m)
- A kids learn-to-swim pool
- A clubhouse with kiosk
- Interior refurbishment of the sports centre

Future stages for the centre will include a water play area and spectator seating.

B9 GATTON SWIMMING CLUB

The Gatton Swimming Club's membership remains strong with about 100 current members. The club uses the pool facilities for two hours a week and hosts three major carnivals and two minor carnivals per year.

C GATTON BOWLS CLUB

The Gatton Bowls Club has two bowls greens and three covered beach volleyball courts. The club has about 80 seniors and two juniors. Currently, there are only sufficient members to have a mixed competition on Wednesdays and small ladies competition on Thursdays. Between 60 and 70 people join the 12 week social competition (Wednesday nights). Beach volleyball has about 20 teams.



The facilities at the club require major works. Repairs are needed to the shade cloth around the bowling greens, lights on the greens, shade cloth to the volleyball courts and lighting to the volleyball courts.

D GATTON JUBILEE GOLF CLUB

The Gatton Jubilee Golf Club is an 18-hole golf course that is privately owned and managed. The club has more than 200 members and almost 50 sub-juniors and juniors.

Key golfing activities at the club include: an open competition (Tuesdays), women's competition (Wednesdays), men's competition (Saturdays), corporate days and charity events, school sports (Wednesday afternoons) and social use at other times.

The club keeps facilities up-to-date but is limited by the availability of resources. Plans for future facility development include: upgrading and changing the greens, extending a couple of holes, build/extend verandah on eastern and northern side of the clubhouse and lighting from road to clubhouse.

E LOCKYER RACE CLUB

The Lockyer Race Club holds six race days per year which are well-supported by the community. Priorities for the club include: develop a grass training track inside the existing track (5-10 years), upgrade grandstand and members facilities, construct on-course stabling (medium to long term).

F UQ SPORT (GATTON CAMPUS)

The University of Queensland (UQ) Gatton campus provides a number of sport and recreation opportunities for students and academics.

Many community members also access these facilities. Core sporting infrastructure includes:

- Aquatic centre (heated 25m pool)
- Gymnasium (attached to the aquatic centre)
- Cricket field with turf wicket
- Rugby union field
- Rugby league field
- Six concrete tennis courts
- Indoor sports hall incorporating two squash courts and one multi-purpose court.

F UQ SPORT

UQ Sport co-ordinate the management of all sports on site. They also coordinate the lease/hire arrangements with external users. Activities and facilities that UQ Sport manage internally are:

- Swimfit (social adult squad)
- Aqua fitness classes
- Boot camps
- Pilates
- Seasonal programs including Zumba, Taekwon-do and dancing
- Pool parties with 16m long inflatable bounce course
- Indoor court catering to volleyball, netball and futsal.

Club sports include hockey, rugby union, tennis, touch football and squash.

The new pool opened in June 2011 and is a heated 25m pool, open all year. Many schools use the facilities including Forest Hill, Lake Clarendon, Blenheim State School, Laidley State High School and Faith Lutheran College.

G GATTON SQUASH RACQUETS ASSOCIATION

Gatton Squash Racquets Association hires the two squash courts at UQ Gatton following the closure of the four-court facility in Gatton. The association has about 40 regular players in one division.

The association would like to get a squash facility back in Gatton, with a minimum of four courts required to host regional competitions.

H GATTON GLENORE GROVE RIFLE CLUB

The facility is privately owned/managed by the Gatton Glenore Grove Rifle Club. The club is situated on a 45ha site approximately 13km from Gatton town centre.

I LOCKYER VALLEY BMX CLUB

There is currently no facility for BMX riding (competition) in the region, however a new club is in negotiations with Council to find an appropriate location.

BMX had previously been a popular sport in Gatton before disbanding in 2003. Significant support has been demonstrated with more than 60 riders forming a base membership to get the club reformed. The club is affiliated with South Queensland BMX (and BMX Queensland and BMX Australia).

The club requires sufficient land for a track and ancillary infrastructure, plus room for potential club growth. A one acre or larger piece of land is necessary for a track that has a 5m high start ramp, spectator area, car parking, toilets access and club house/storage area.

I LAKE APEX PARK

Lake Apex Park is the feature park of Gatton. It is one of two regional-level recreation parks in the Lockyer Valley, the other being Narda Lagoon/Lions Park in Laidley. The Lockyer Valley Culture Centre, tourist centre, transport museum and the historical village on site add to its regional appeal.

Birdwatching opportunities are available and Council encourages recreational exercise with walking tracks and exercise equipment located within the park.

A young children's playground is fenced, whilst play opportunities for older kids exist closer to the main road where the BMX jumps and skatepark are located.

Council undertook a master plan for the park in 2011, in conjunction with the Friends of Lake Apex. The

master plan aims to strengthen the environmental, heritage and recreation values of the site. Proposed changes to the site are:

- Installation of a shared bike and pedestrian path around the lake
- Development of a 'village green' including an amphitheatre
- Additional active recreation nodes
- Extension of the youth space (skate facility)
- Infrastructure to support environmental qualities
- Tree planting and landscaping
- Park fencing
- Upgrades to car parking
- Upgrades to the internal road network.

J CLEARY PARK

Cleary Park is a recreation park in an urban setting. Although the park is on steep land, terraced areas with retainer walls provide some flat and playable areas. Play equipment for young children exist in the park. The site is easily accessible and visible from surrounding roads.

K DAVEY PARK

Davey Park contains play equipment for young children. Opportunities exist to improve the site with embellishments and landscaping.

L FRED GILLAM PARK

Fred Gilliam Park is a large recreation park located to the east of the golf course. Pedestrian and vehicular access is available and many mature shading trees exist on the site. Play facilities are provided for young children.

M LIONS PARK

Lions Park is located in Grantham/Lower Tenthill and is set in a rural location. Wear areas exist from vehicular access and play opportunities are provided for young children. The site is easily accessible and visible from Gatton-Helidon Road.

N LITTLETON PARK

Littleton Park is adjacent to the Gatton Bowls Club. It is a large, flat park with play opportunities provided for young children. The playground is fenced to stop children running to the road.



O WILKS PARK

Wilks Park is a small recreation park in an urban setting. Good views into the park exist from the main road heading into Gatton from the east. Play opportunities exist for older children. Visibility of the site is clear, however, accessibility is not. Opportunities exist to improve embellishments on site and make the park more attractive for residents to use.

P WILLIAM KEMP PARK

William Kemp Park is an urban set park situated adjacent to the creek, huddling the existing Gatton Pool. It is a significant open space asset for the CBD and future planning for that part of Gatton. Play opportunities are provided for young children and the park is visible from neighbouring houses.

Q DAWSON PHIPPS PARK








There are two different functions on Dawson Phipps Park. The first is for utility (stormwater management), and the second for its recreation value. The recreation component is concentrated along the western side of the detention basin. Off-road car parking, picnic facilities and play equipment are found in this area.

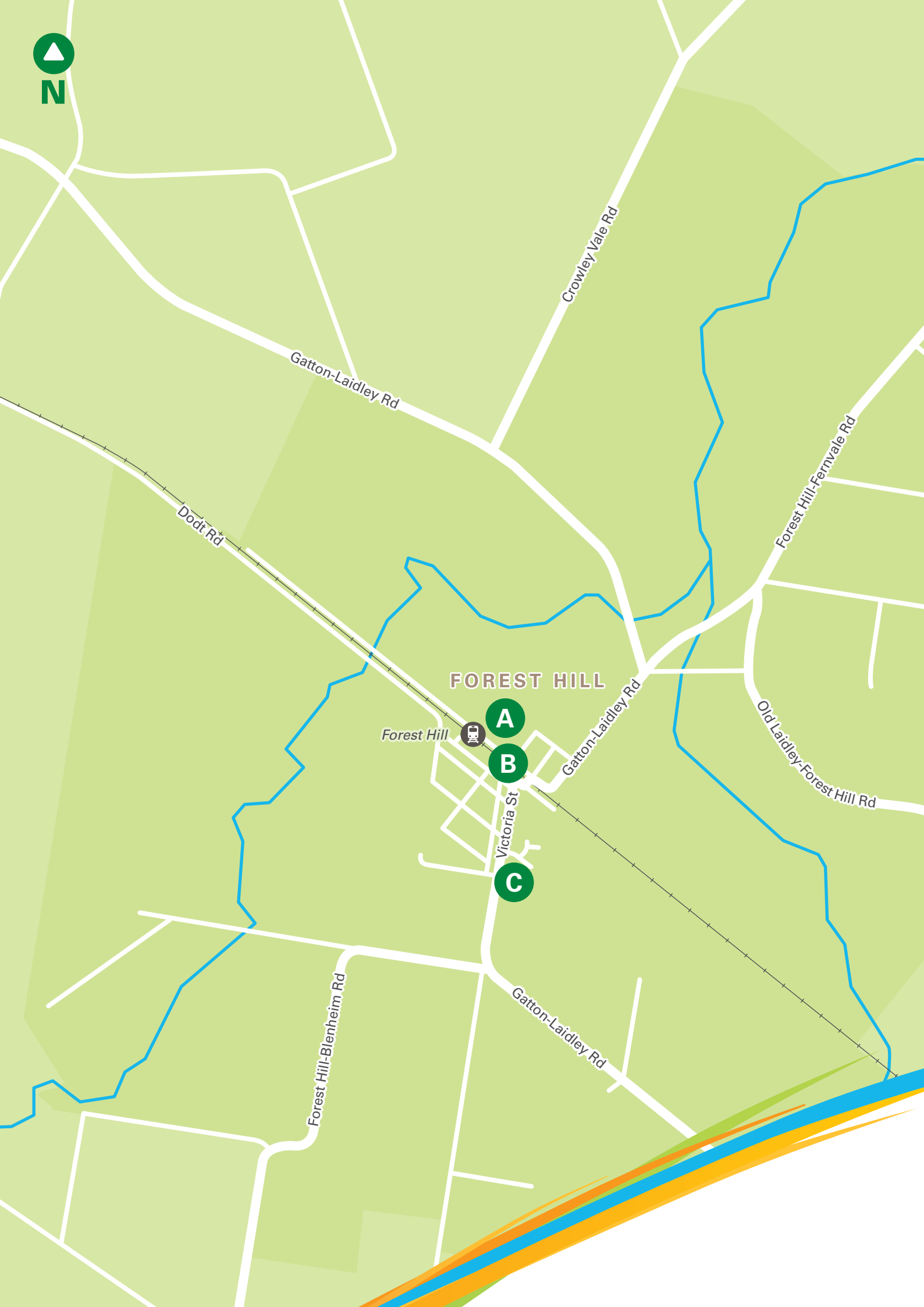
R PLACID DRIVE PARK AND **S** PARKLEA ESTATE PARK

These recreation parks in the Gatton catchment are well developed and offer a range of picknicking opportunities for residents. The projected growth for the area is such that additional parks are likely to be warranted in the future.



Desired outcomes for the Gatton catchment are:

1. Continue to action the development of the Lockyer Valley Sport and Aquatic Centre. 
2. Further the planning in relocating the Gatton Showgrounds, including agreeing on the new site, undertaking a master plan and feasibility study for the site. 
3. Prepare a detailed walk/cycle plan for the town, in particular looking at connections to the Gatton UQ campus. 
4. Liaise with the Gatton BMX Club and agree on a suitable site for their purposes. 
5. Investigate options (including funding) to build a minimum of a four-court squash facility in Gatton. Use of the courts should extend beyond squash, uses like martial arts, dance and fitness classes are also suitable uses for the facilities. 
6. Promote the sport and recreation opportunities available locally (irrespective of whether they are privately or publicly owned). 
7. Support local clubs' pursuits to attract external funding to improve their facilities and opportunities available. 



FOREST HILL

Forest Hill

A

B

C

Crowley Vale Rd

Gatton-Laidley Rd

Dodt Rd

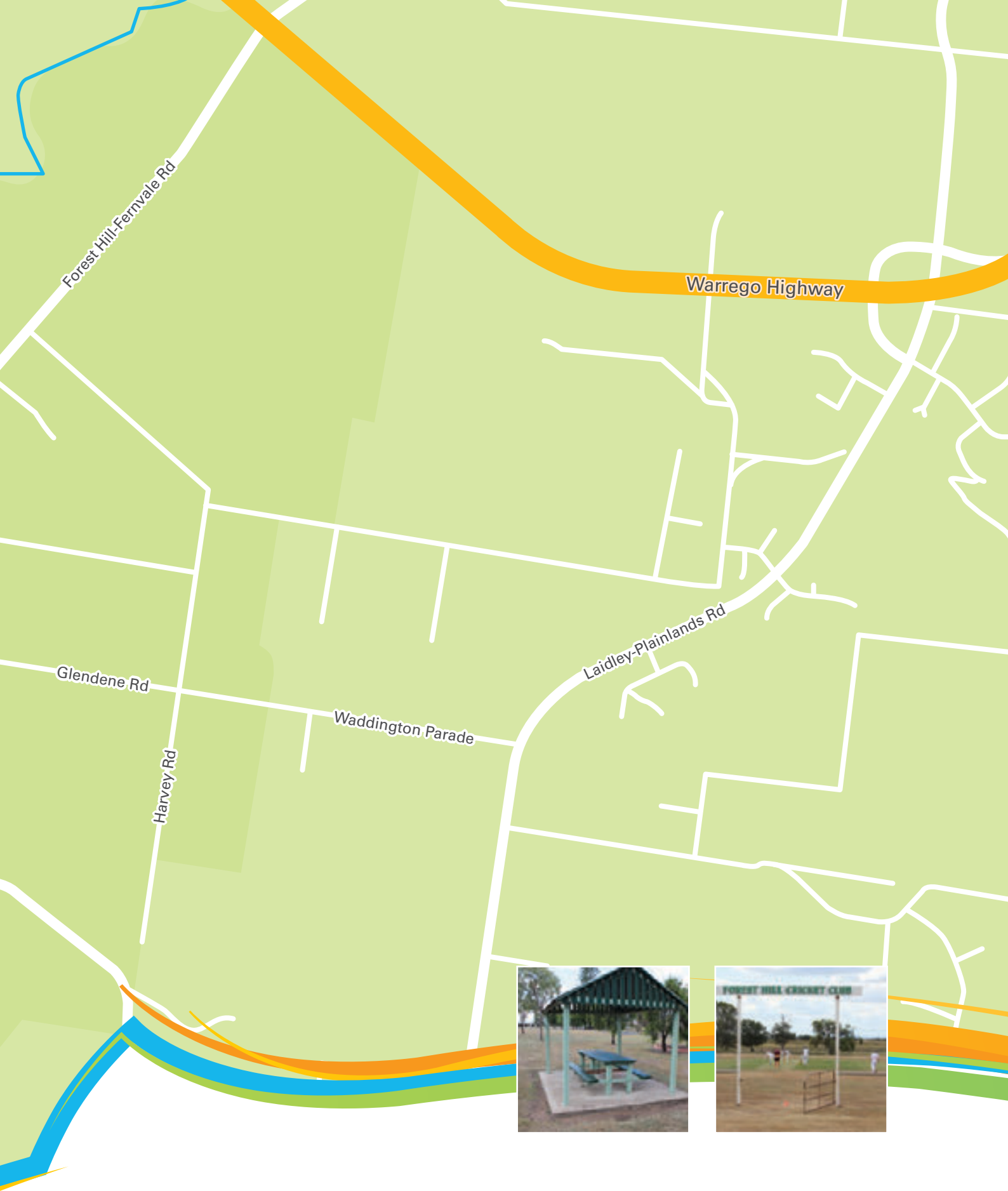
Forest Hill-Fernvale Rd

Old Laidley-Forest Hill Rd

Victoria St

Gatton-Laidley Rd

Forest Hill-Blenheim Rd



Forest Hill catchment

Forest Hill is the smallest catchment in terms of size (367ha) as the catchment huddles the township. The population is about 450 and is expected to slightly decrease by 2021.

Most sport and recreation activities occur at the Morris Muche Gebush Park, however, other open spaces in the town provide scenic amenity and informal recreation value.

FACILITIES

Below is the list of sport and recreation facilities in the Forest Hill catchment:

Sport facilities

- Morris Muche Gebush Park

Recreation parks

- Furley Park
- Morris Muche Gebush Park

In addition to the above core sport and recreation parks are:

- Anzac Park
- Forest Hill Place
- Jeannine Park
- Unnamed Park on Old Laidley-Forest Hill Road
- Unnamed Park on Forest Hill-Fernvale Road

A MORRIS MUCHE PARK AND FURLEY PARK

These parks are the recreation area of the broader sports park, it includes: picnic facilities, skate park and playground equipment designed for younger children.

B ANZAC PARK AND FOREST HILL PLACE

Anzac Park and Forest Hill Place are joined. Anzac Park is a memorial park located within the hub of the town. The adjacent railway acts as a constraint to the accessibility of the park. Together the parks create a nice place to stop.









C JEANNINE PARK

Jeannine Park is a small piece of parkland (396m²) on the road leading into Forest Hill from the south. It boasts a community noticeboard with school events and has a picnic table/shelter.

Desired outcomes for the Forest Hill catchment are:

1. Support existing sport and recreation providers in Forest Hill. 
2. Encourage more physical activity opportunities. 
3. Develop a pedestrian plan for the town which encourages residents to walk and cycle. 
4. Utilise Morris Muche Gebush Park/ Furley Park as the premier sport facility. 





Lake Dyer

LAIDLLEY

E

B

G

H

C

J

A

D

Alexander St

Laidley

Laidley-Plainlands Rd

Gatton-Laidley Rd

Orton St

Thomas St

Alfred St

Edward St

Storr St

Leonard St

Coates St

Old Towwomba Rd

McGregor St

Patrick St

Mary St

Hayes St

Cooper St

Vaux St

Napier St

Lyons St

Jordan St

Blenheim Rd

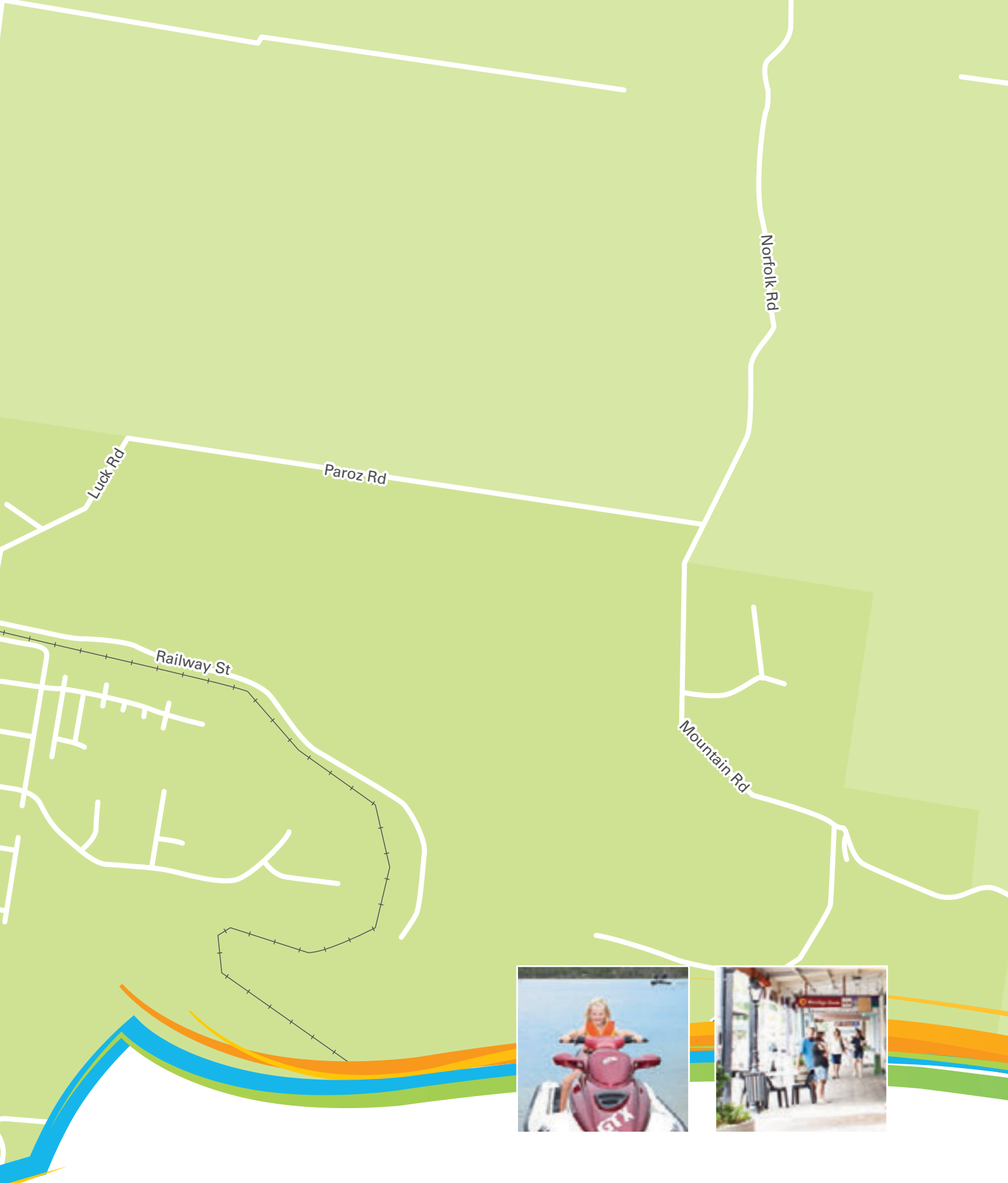
Mulgowie Rd

F

Rosewood Ave

Milne

Mulgowie Rd



Laidley catchment

Laidley is expected to experience considerable population growth. The current population is about 5700 people and expected to increase to about 9700 in 2021 and 13,400 in 2041. Laidley boasts an older population profile, with less 0-4-year-olds and a higher proportion of the population in the 65+ year range.

FACILITIES

Below is the list of sport and recreation facilities in the Laidley catchment:

Sports facilities

- Dal Ryan War Memorial Swimming Pool
- Central Narda Oval (Narda Cricket Oval)
- Bichel Oval
- Laidley Sports and Recreation Reserve
- Laidley Golf Club (private)
- Laidley Showgrounds (private)
- Laidley Bowls Club (private)

Recreation parks

- Narda Lagoon incorporating Lions Park
- Lake Dyer Recreation Area
- Enoch Sempf Park
- McNulty Park
- G.G. Ferrari Park and Anzac Park

In addition to the sport and recreation parks in the Laidley catchment, there is almost 200ha of other Council owned/managed open space. These lands do not have park assets to encourage sport and recreation use, but provide amenity and open space to the town. Lands that have a specific amenity function include Lake Dyer (water body) and Cunninghams Crest Lookout.

Community facilities (such as public halls) also provide the opportunity to facilitate sport and recreation activities. In the Laidley catchment this primarily occurs at Michael O'Keefe Park (youth facility); Laidley Cultural Centre, the buildings at the Laidley Recreation Reserve, QCWA hall, church halls and other community facilities.

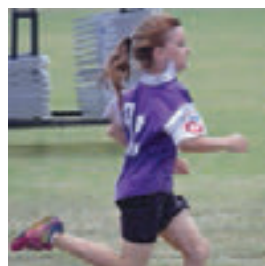




A1 LAIDLEY RECREATION RESERVE

The Laidley Recreation Reserve (LRR) is the main sporting precinct in Laidley. Sports homed at the facility include:

- Softball
- Netball
- Soccer
- Junior rugby league
- Senior rugby league
- Touch football
- Little athletics
- Gymnasium
- Walking



A2 LAIDLEY RUGBY LEAGUE

The Laidley Rugby League is one of the oldest clubs in the region and was the starting block in the career of many players including former State of Origin representative, Peter Ryan.

The club has a large junior base and plays in the Ipswich Rugby League competition.

The club will be increasing its recruitment drive process for future seasons to attract more seniors to the club. The junior teams use the same fields as senior rugby league.

A3 LAIDLEY TOUCH ASSOCIATION

The Laidley Touch Association has about 300 senior members and 50 junior members. The touch association uses the rugby league fields for its competition one night per week. The association notes that more fields and a larger clubhouse will be required for the sport to continue growing long-term. Priorities for the association are: lighting on additional fields for growth of the sport, new toilets and additional car parking.

A4 LAIDLEY SOCCER

The Laidley Wildcats play in the Toowoomba competition that extends from Dalby to Warwick to Chinchilla to Laidley. The club has about 90 members. The club is happy to work with Council to make improvements which include: car parking upgrade, field drainage needs on eastern side needs to be reviewed, field lighting, general park lighting, develop shaded spectator seating areas and permanent goal posts.

A5 LAIDLEY GYM

The Laidley Gym opened in 2007 and is managed by the same manager at the Gatton Sports Centre.

A6 LAIDLEY LITTLE ATHLETICS

Key issues/priorities for athletics in Laidley are: top dressing the soccer field and a club house is required for the club.

A7 LAIDLEY AND DISTRICT NETBALL ASSOCIATION

The Laidley and District Netball Association has approximately 110 seniors and 110 junior members. There are 4-5 representative teams that play in the Toowoomba regional competition. Training occurs most afternoon/evenings. The local competition is on Thursday afternoon/evenings and the inter-district competition takes place on Sundays.

Priorities for the club include: extend club house to allow for a meeting space and additional storage, spectator seating, upgrade the court lighting and have storage closer to the netball facilities that does not flood.



A8 LOCKYER DISTRICT SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

Membership at the Lockyer District Softball Association consists of about 30 senior members (two master teams) and 40 junior members. Whilst Council maintains the grounds, the association supplements this work.

The association works hard to attract members through a variety of promotions and activities, from come and try series, mixed social competitions and direct targeting with ALARA to offer softball to local children with a disability.

A9 G.G. FERRARI PARK AND ANZAC PARK

G.G. Ferrari Park and Anzac Park join to the Laidley Recreation Reserve. Part of the parks acts as stormwater drainage. It is located adjacent to open space in an urban setting.

B1 LAIDLEY CULTURAL CENTRE AND BICHEL OVAL

Sports infrastructure at the Laidley Cultural Centre and Bichel Oval include:

- Cricket field with turf wicket
- Three cricket practice nets
- Two squash courts
- Four unused tennis courts
- Indoor auditorium (no line-marked) (no longer used for indoor sport such as basketball and netball)
- Ancillary infrastructure including lighting, car parking and amenities.



B2 LAIDLEY CRICKET CLUB

The Laidley Cricket Club is the only cricket club in the Lockyer Valley that plays in the Ipswich competition. The club has about 130 members (60 seniors, 70 juniors). Membership growth is accredited to the player development options the club provides by playing in the Ipswich competition, paying for a professional coach and having a dedicated committee.

During cricket season, the club uses Bichel Oval four times a week. The club has invested more than \$200,000 in the grounds and facilities at Bichel Oval. The facility, however, is unlikely to meet future growth with the club anticipating additional fields will be required. Currently, the U10 and U12 teams play at Laidley State School, U14 and U16 always play at Ipswich to leave the facilities at Bichel Oval available for higher divisions.

The club receives support from the Ipswich Sports House as they play in that competition and welcome their input.

Priorities for the cricket club in regard to facility improvements are: improve lighting on field and practice nets as the current lighting is poor, additional

fields will be required for the club to continue to grow, transfer ground maintenance from Council to the club for Bichel Oval, extending the sight screen and upgrading netting on practice wickets.

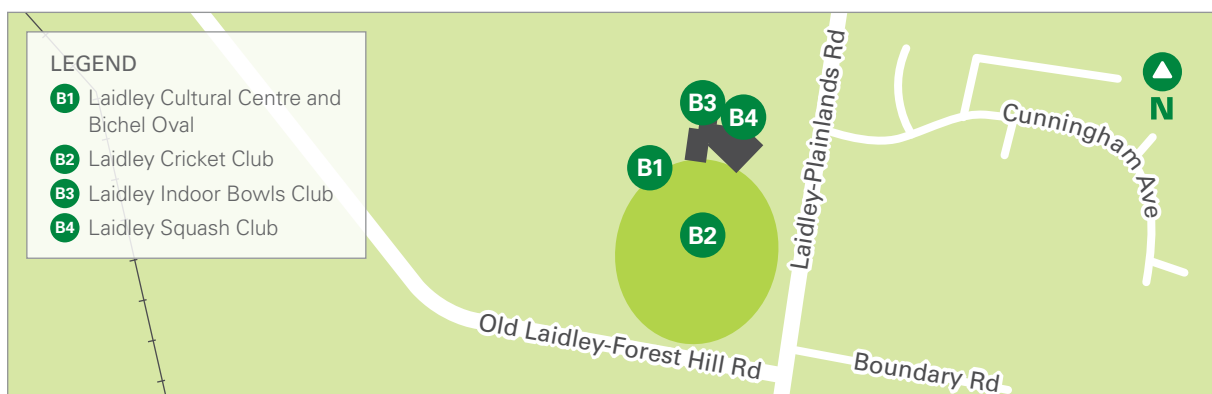
B3 LAIDLEY INDOOR BOWLS CLUB

A number of groups use the Laidley Cultural Centre, including the indoor bowls. The Laidley Indoor Bowls Club uses the main auditorium once a week for its activities.

B4 LAIDLEY SQUASH CLUB

The Laidley Squash Club is the regular user group of the squash courts. No formal lease or licence agreement exists, but rather the club has a set of keys to access the facility for their regular competition. Membership is currently about 40.

The club would like to see the following improvements: number of courts expanded by another two or four courts, major upgrades to the toilets, showers and canteen facilities and to be able to hire the courts for casual use.



C DAL RYAN MEMORIAL POOL

The facilities at the Dal Ryan Memorial Pool include:

- Small hexagon learn-to-swim pool
- Shallow six-lane 25m pool
- Small canteen and amenities block
- Small unused swimming clubhouse
- Unused volleyball court
- Older style picnic tables
- Maintenance buildings and storage areas.

The 25m pool is over 60 years old, and the wading pool over 40 years old. There is no longer an active swimming club at the pool. All pool activities are coordinated by the pool lessees.

D LAIDLEY SHOWGROUNDS

The showgrounds are used for a variety of sport, recreation and community purposes, including:

- Laidley Show (three-day annual event)
- Community Christmas carnival
- Circuses
- Spring Festival carnival
- Darts club
- Pigeon club
- Poultry club
- Dog obedience/dog agility
- Cheerleaders
- Pony club
- Polocrosse
- Other ad-hoc hire of grounds/facilities.

D LAIDLEY A & I SHOW SOCIETY

The Laidley Showgrounds are part-privately owned and part-leased from the State Government. The show is a three day event which is patronised by 6000-7000 people each year.

Facility upgrade priorities for the show society include: connecting toilets to sewer system, connect house on showgrounds and show ring lighting.

D LAIDLEY AND DISTRICT HACK AND PONY CLUB

The Laidley and District Hack and Pony Club are regular hirers of the Laidley Showgrounds. The club has 30-50 members, 25 regular riders and 15 social riders. They meet monthly and host an additional three to four events per year.

The showgrounds are suitable for their purposes. The club uses the arena and has a small shed to house equipment. The club uses some outbuildings for event days and would like their own clubhouse.

E LAIDLEY GOLF COURSE

Laidley Golf Course is a 12-hole course situated adjacent to Lake Dyer. There is also a restaurant and pro-shop on-site. The club has about 170 members. Key activities the club coordinates include: women's golf (Wednesday), open to club members (Tuesday, Saturday and Sunday) and social golf (all other times).

A major barrier to expanding the facilities and opportunities is access to funding. Priorities for the club are: extend golf course to 18 holes, upgrade clubhouse and undertake training and development coaching for juniors.

F RECREATION PARKS NARDA LAGOON AND LIONS PARK

Narda Lagoon and Lions Park is one of two regional-level recreation parks in the Lockyer Valley. A major strength of the parklands is that they incorporate natural areas, key recreation areas and picnicking and play facilities. Paths connect Lions Park to Narda Lagoon. The extensive path network is a major strength.





G LAKE DYER RECREATION AREA

The Lake Dyer Recreation Area connects recreational use to Lake Dyer in a rural setting. Vehicular access is provided for the community. Both young and older play opportunities are provided.

Council is working with Seqwater to provide further recreational opportunities for this facility.

Recommendations made through the Seqwater Recreational Review included: increased signage, walking tracks, camping facilities and a designated swimming area for Lake Dyer.

H ENOCH SEMPF PARK

Enoch Sempf Park is an appealing recreation park adjacent to a school with good visibility, access and a range of play opportunities.

I McNULTY PARK

McNulty Park is a small urban park located within the business centre of Laidley. The site is surrounded by businesses and play opportunities are provided for young children. Pedestrian access links the site.

Desired outcomes for the Laidley catchment are:

1. Upgrade the play and picnic infrastructure at the Laidley Recreation Reserve so that a district-level recreation node is available.
2. Develop a new district-level recreation park on the newly acquired land opposite the Laidley Cultural Centre.
3. Continue to work with the user groups of the Laidley Recreation Reserve through Stage One of the Multipurpose Sports and Recreation Centre and any future stages. Laser-level the sports fields at the Laidley Recreation Reserve with a particular focus on ensuring that water movement from one sport does not negatively impact others.
4. Prepare a detailed walk/cycle plan for Laidley. This will make up part of the region-wide vision of Council to connect communities through a cycle/walk network.
5. Promote the sport and recreation opportunities available locally.
6. Support local clubs' pursuits to attract external funding to improve their facilities and opportunities available.
7. Support Laidley Boxing Club's endeavours to find a long-term venue and continue to offer their sport locally.



Laidley North and Plainland catchments

The Laidley North and Plainland catchments are about 14,446ha in size and abut the local government areas of Ipswich City Council and Somerset Regional Council. The population at 2011 was about 8800 and is expected to increase to about 12,000 by 2021 and about 13,300 by 2041. Future growth is expected to be concentrated around the Plainland retail area.

FACILITIES

Below is the list of sport and recreation facilities in the Laidley North/ Plainland catchments:

Sports facilities

- Glenore Grove Cricket Oval
- Hatton Vale Pony Club
- Glenore Grove Equestrian
- Hatton Vale Golf Course (private)
- Facilities at the Apostolic Church of Queensland (private)

Recreation parks

- Bertrand Avenue Park
- Johnson Drive Park (Lockrose Park)
- Glenore Park

In addition to the sport and recreation parks in the Laidley North/ Plainland catchments, there is almost 100ha of other Council owned/ managed open space. These lands do not have park assets to encourage sport and recreation use, but provide amenity and open space to the town, including the Hatton Vale Memorial Park (Laidley Memorial Park) and Brightview Road Park.

Community facilities (such as public halls) also provide the opportunity to facilitate sport and recreation activities. In the Laidley North/ Plainland catchments this primarily occurs at Glenore Grove Hall and the Brightview QCWA hall, church halls and other community facilities.

GLENORE GROVE RESERVE

The Glenore Grove Reserve is almost 22ha in size. Glenore Grove Reserve is home to the Glenore Grove Cricket Club, Cricket Road Riders Club and the Laidley-Walloon Quarter Horse and Performance Association. On the western side of the reserve are two cricket fields (one with a turf wicket, the other with a synthetic wicket) and on the eastern side are equestrian activities.

The equestrian groups access the site via Swan Road to the south, while the cricket club access their fields via Brightview Road to the west. An unformed road (Cricket Road) exists along the property to the north of the site.

It is likely that additional land for sports infrastructure will be required in this area as the population increases. Council's public parks strategy recommends that the Glenore Grove Reserve be upgraded to a regional sports facility around 2016. In the short-term it is recommended that signage to the facility be improved.

HATTON VALE PONY CLUB

Hatton Vale Pony Club is situated in a semi-natural setting on the southern side of the Warrego Highway (corner of Long Gully Road and Woolshed Creek Road, Hatton Vale). The site is accessible via vehicular access. Equestrian embellishments are of fair condition

HATTON VALE GOLF COURSE (PRIVATE)

The Hatton Vale Golf Course is a nine-hole course (each hole has two tees that provides an 18 hole experience). This golf course is large and suitable for its current use. The site is located within an urban setting.



HATTON VALE CRICKET AND TENNIS (APOSTOLIC CHURCH OF QUEENSLAND)

Whilst privately owned, the sports facilities at the Apostolic Church of Queensland are considered important to the local community. The facilities include one cricket field with synthetic wicket and five tennis courts.

Desired outcomes for Laidley North and Plainland catchments are:

1. Ensure opportunities for community involvement and input occur in regard to the design of new park facilities. 
2. Investigate ways to improve communication with sport and recreation providers, in particular not-for-profit sport clubs. 
3. Improve the range and access to recreation and picnicking parks including: upgrade the play and picnic facilities at Bertrand Avenue Park, upgrade Johnson Drive Park (Lockrose Park) to a district-level recreation park and develop a new district-level recreation park at the unnamed park on Gehrke Road to service the gap in provision in this area (near Rons Road). 
4. Encourage the growth of existing and new sporting clubs in this precinct. The Glenore Grove Reserve should be considered as the key sports hub for this precinct. 



Rural catchments

Rural West

The Rural West catchment spans from south of Withcott and includes the localities of Ma Ma Creek, Upper Flagstone, Preston, Silver Ridge, Rockmount, Forsdale, Haldon and part of Upper Tenthill. The catchment is bordered by Mount Sylvia Road to the east and the Toowoomba Regional Council border to the west.

The catchment is about 44,367ha in size with a population of about 1550 in 2011. The population is expected to decrease slightly by 2021 to 1500.

FACILITIES

Below is the list of sport and recreation facilities in the Rural West catchment:

Sport facilities

- Ropehill Cricket Ground (and Little Athletics)
- Ma Ma Creek Campdraft (private)
- Old Ma Ma Creek Tennis Courts

Recreation park

- Stockyard Creek Hall

Other Council owned/managed open spaces

- Thiess Park (Thiess Memorial)
- Ma Ma Creek Community Centre
- Unnamed park near Preston Peak Wines
- Flagstone Creek Conservation Park
- Dwyers Scrub Conservation Park.

Additionally, the Ma Ma Creek Community Centre provides an indoor space (hall) suitable to run indoor sport and recreation programs.

ROPEHILL SPORTS GROUNDS

These grounds are owned by Council and privately managed by the Ropehill Community Centre. They are used by the Ropehill Little Athletics Centre, Southern Lockyer Cricket Club and several schools in the region.

There are two cricket fields (one with a turf wicket and the second with a synthetic wicket), practice nets and small club facility.

The Ropehill Little Athletics Club has about 55 members. The centre promotes its activities directly to the smaller schools in the district.

The grounds at Ropehill Recreation Reserve are well-maintained. The centre has a shed that is suitable for storing equipment. The tartan for the long jump run-up was destroyed by the 2011 flood events and the centre is looking at funding options to replace it (approximate cost of \$10,000).





Rural South

The Rural South catchment is the largest is the Lockyer Valley spanning 80,353ha. The population in 2011 was about 2300 and is expected to be about 2150 in 2021. Much of the catchment is national parks and agriculture land uses.

The Mulgowie Cricket Grounds are the only known sport facility in the catchment.

Centenary Park at Thornton is the only known recreation (play and picnic) park in the catchment. However, there are a number of other Council owned/managed parks that have a high scenic amenity and/or heritage value, these being; Crosby Park, Norm Goltz Park, Edmund Park and Schultz' Lookout.

Additionally, there is a considerable number of non-sport or recreation focused open spaces in the catchment. Like many other areas of the Lockyer Valley, the role that community facilities (halls) can play in providing space for indoor events and sport and recreation are often important. The Blenheim Public Hall (Blenheim Hall) is one example in this catchment.



MULGOWIE CRICKET GROUNDS

This cricket ground is Mulgowie's main sporting club. The cricket grounds are largely visible from adjacent roads and the site is constrained by the adjacent creek. It is a one-field facility with both turf and synthetic pitches.

CENTENARY PARK

Centenary Park at Thornton offers a scenic area to camp with toilets, picnic and play facilities. This park appears to be popular for tourists.

MORTON VALE

The Morton Vale catchment is primarily a rural area to the northern (and slightly eastern) part of the Lockyer Valley region. It includes the localities of Morton Vale, Lockyer Waters, Spring Creek and Lake Clarendon.

There are no formal sportsgrounds or facilities in this precinct, however, there are two recreation parks, these being Lockyer Waters Park and the recreation area at Lake Clarendon. There are a number of other Council owned/managed open spaces in the area that do not offer any sport or recreation value to the community. The Lake Clarendon Hall offers the community the opportunity to hire it for sport and recreation uses.

Rural catchments

Helidon Hills and Grantham North

The only sport facility in this catchment is the Toowoomba Pistol Club.

TOOWOOMBA PISTOL CLUB

The Toowoomba Pistol Club is privately owned/managed. The grounds are located on Anderson Road, approximately 2.5km north of the township of Helidon.

The club is affiliated with Pistol Shooting Queensland and Pistol Australia. Affiliation allows members to compete in various matches in state, national, international, commonwealth, world and Olympic events including the International Paralympic Committee.

The club facilitates competition matches on Saturday afternoons, Sunday mornings and Wednesday nights. Members are able to use the facilities outside these times.



Desired outcomes for the rural catchments are:

1. Council to investigate opportunities to develop a town feature park in Ma Ma Creek. Considerable community consultation/input should be encouraged.
2. Support existing clubs to attract large regional and state events, such as the three little athletics centres (Ropehill, Withcott and Tarampa).
3. Assist clubs and sport providers to seek funding for facility improvements.
4. Assist clubs and sport providers finalise any unresolved insurance claims for damage caused to facilities as a result of flood and storm events.
5. Continue to develop Centenary Park at Thornton to be a feature park for the area. This should include a review of the play and picnic opportunities to encourage diversity of options.
6. Upgrade the play and picnic facilities at Lockyer Waters Park to a district-level recreation park standard.
7. Upgrade the recreation area at Lake Clarendon to a regional-level recreation park standard. This will service a broader park catchment and much of the demand will come from the Laidley North/Plainland parks catchment.
8. Protect gun sports from urban encroachment.







For more information phone **1300 005 872**
or visit **www.lockyervalley.qld.gov.au**

Lockyer Valley Regional Council, PO Box 82, Gatton Qld 4343
Gatton office: 26 Railway Street, Gatton | Laidley office: 9 Spicer Street, Laidley
© Lockyer Valley Regional Council | 6732BRIO