



Welcome to **GOROKE**

"Southern Gateway to the Little Desert"



Goroke Memorial Square

Lake Ratzcastle

"Welcome to Goroke" Kit
is a joint initiative of the
Victorian Government StreetLife program,
Make It Happen in Provincial Victoria campaign
and West Wimmera Shire Council
with contributions by
Goroke Advancement Committee, Local Traders
and the Wider Community



West Wimmera Shire, Victoria's best kept secret

Enjoy living in Victoria's best-kept secret. The West Wimmera region is renowned for its tranquillity and peacefulness.

With a population of approximately 4,860, the West Wimmera Shire Council spans a large 9,024 sq kms. The main townships are Edenhope and Kaniva with smaller townships of Apsley, Dergholm, Goroke, Harrow and Serviceton.

West Wimmera Shire is centrally located in the South Eastern Australian "Food Bowl" between Melbourne and Adelaide, stretching along the Victorian and South Australian borders.

From	To	Route	Distance
Goroke	Melbourne	Horsham	377 kms
	Adelaide	Bordertown	339 kms
	Portland	Coleraine	291 kms

This is an ideal area to work, bring up a family or retire. Within the major towns of Edenhope and Kaniva, there are social, sporting and recreational facilities, together with a high level of infrastructure.

Noted for its natural attractions and many unique and exciting country events, West Wimmera Shire boasts generous open spaces and low density housing, complemented by significant natural vegetation and a number of wetlands and lakes including Lake Wallace in Edenhope. We offer some of the most envied qualities of rural living in Australia—space, freedom, climate and opportunity with some of the best farmland in the State.

The clean spacious environment, generous open spaces and natural surrounds, clean air and quality environment are the incentives for new residents and visitors to this area. Complementing by significant natural vegetation, our many lakes and wetlands offer a perfect haven for wildlife and bird-life as well as a variety of recreational activities.

West Wimmera Shire has over 230 bird species recorded within our geographic region, including unique and endangered birds—in particular the Red Tailed Black Cockatoo.

Traditionally, cropping has included wheat, oats and barley, however farmers are now diversifying to other crops—for example canola, chickpeas, triticale and white clover to name a few.

The Neuarpuir area is known for producing approximately 20% of the World's and 80% of Australia's white clover seeds. This area of the Shire relies on bores and pivot irrigators for these crops.

Diversification in the industry has also lead farmers to grow olive trees and blue gums as well as potatoes, onions and carrots. Breeding of sheep for wool and meat brings billions of dollars to the Victorian economy. Cattle and sheep feedlot development continues.

Along with the agriculture industry, West Wimmera Shire has manufacturing; retailing and viticulture industries in operation just to name a few. An Industry Survey has been conducted and results show that there are abundant opportunities for prospective businesses and development of existing businesses within the Shire.

Located approximately halfway between Melbourne and Adelaide and stretching from the Big Desert in the north to the Glenelg River in the south, West Wimmera Shire offers much for the traveller to do – the large variety of accommodation makes West Wimmera the ideal base for your full day or half day trips to many parts of Victoria and South Australia.

For the tourist we have natural attractions like Baileys Rocks (500 million year old green granite rocks), homesteads and other buildings built by the Chinese in the early 1880's during the pioneering days; flora and fauna, historic buildings, museums, bric-a-brac and craft stores.

Updated March 2004

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West Wimmera Shire Demographics

The population of the West Wimmera Shire in 1996 was 4,933, which consists of 2,374 females and 2,559 males.

Most residents were Australia-born and speak English.

Approximately 22% or 1,072 people were attending some form of education from Kindergarten to University.

18% of population had a qualification, and that could be in business and administration, health, social and culture, natural and physical services, education, engineering, building fields and agriculture.

Of the population, 31% were employed fulltime and 11% were employed part-time. Less than 1% of the population were looking for employment.

The main industry within the West Wimmera Shire was agri-business (52%). The remaining 48% is made up of trades listed from - health and community services, retail trade (6%), education, manufacturing, government administration, construction, wholesale trade (3%), accommodation and food handling businesses [Cafés or restaurants] (3%), transport and storage, mining, communication services, finance and insurance, and cultural and recreation services. The majority of the businesses within the Shire are home-based and/or small businesses. The majority of businesses within West Wimmera are small (employing less than 10 staff).

1,230 families own their homes and 270 families are renting.

The average age within the Shire was 38 years, the average individual income was \$200-299 per week and the average family income \$300-499 per week with the average household size 2.5 people.

Information was compiled from the 1996 Census

2001 Census night was 7th August.

In Victoria on 7th August 2001 the average age was 32 years and family size was 2.6 people.

The average individual income for people over 15 years was \$300-399 per week (in the 1991 Census the average income was \$200-299 per week).

Of interest in the 2001 Census is the fact that 43% of citizens use computers.





GOROKE

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Goroke & District Facilities

Goroke's retail centre is an attractive country town main street, with all the shops being within easy walking distance of each other. The West Wimmera Shire Council undertook a street enhancement project for the main street of Goroke during 2003.

- Antique / Bric-a-Brac
- Bland's Bus Service & V/Line
- Bank facilities
- Pharmacy Depot (Nhill)
- Café & Take-Away Foods
- Garden Landscape Supplies
- Engineering
- Mechanic
- Gifts
- Fruit and veg
- Hairdresser
- Hardware
- Hotel with accommodation
- Massage Therapist
- Newsagency
- Post Office
- Supermarket - IGA
- Cartage
- Video outlet
- Fuel and tyre outlet
- Electrician
- Stock and Station Agents
- Resident house painter
- Windmill repairs/plumbing/tanks
- Worm farm
- Grain storage
- Garbage collection on Thursdays



Yacca Bush



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Lake Charlegrark Country Music Festival, farm scene near Goroke, Goroke Post Office, fishing at Lake Charlegrark, Tom Mulraney's Clydesdales near Goroke, Goroke Hall and Goroke Hotel

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Health

Goroke Community Health Centre	
Services available	Visiting Professional Services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Primary Nursing Care • District Nursing Service seven (7) days • Hospital in the Home (HITH) • Hospital to Home (H2H) • Post Acute Care • Carer's Respite • Asthma Educator • Living with Cancer Education Program facilitator • Family Planning • Pap Smear Tests by accredited Nurse Practitioner • Daily Pathology collections • ECG • Domiciliary Post Natal care • Registered Midwives offering Ante and Post Natal care <hr style="width: 25%; margin: 10px auto;"/> <p style="text-align: center;">Referrals</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Where to go for more help • Safety Link Personal Alarm System 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 4 General Practitioners visit for 4 sessions per week • Female GP every 4 weeks – convened by Royal Flying Doctor Services • Dietician • Occupational Therapist • Social Worker • Speech Pathology • Optometrist • Diabetic Nurse Educator <div style="text-align: center; margin-top: 20px;">  </div>
<p>Goroke Community Health Centre 54-62 Natimuk Road Goroke 3412</p> <p>Tel: 03/53861104 Fax: 03/53861268</p> <p>Email: gorokechc@wwhs.net.au Monday to Friday 8.30 am to 5.30 pm</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Activity Groups</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tuesday Activity afternoons for older adults • Yak-n-Do Thursday every 4 weeks • Garden Group 3rd Thursday each month • July School Holiday program • Youth program including Youth In Action and FreeZa • Exercise programs : aerobics for beginners and advanced; and gentle exercises for older adults • Yoga

With services such as these, you need look no further.

Sports - Organisations

As can be seen in the following list of sporting facilities, clubs and associations, Goroke has an extensive range of recreational pursuits on offer.

Sporting Facilities

- Football /Cricket oval
- Tennis and netball courts
- Bowling greens
- Swimming pool
- Fishing and boating

Other

- 18 Hole Golf course with licensed clubhouse (excellent facility)
- Football Club with licensed clubrooms

Clubs and Organisations

- Lions / Apex
- Red Cross
- Senior Citizens Club
- Fire Brigade
- SES Unit
- Ambulance
- Scouts
- P & A Society – Goroke Show
- Victorian Ambulance Service
- Tidy Towns
- VFF / Landcare Groups

Churches

- Anglican, Catholic, Lutheran and Uniting

Goroke Bowls Club



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Education / Children

Goroke offers excellent educational facilities within the town as well as access opportunities for facilities further afield.

Playgroup: Contact Michelle Lowe 03/53861082
 In Venue Care: Mondays and Fridays at the Goroke Pre-School contact
 Wimmera Uniting Care 03/55859917 (Thurs/Fri)
 Kindergarten: Goroke Kindergarten (4 year old) 03/53861113 (Tue/Thurs)
 Primary & Secondary: Goroke P-12 College 03/53861024 (fax 03/53861283)

Daily bus services to the school.

Adult Education night classes are held at the Goroke P-12 College, which the community are welcome to attend.

Youth activities are held within the West Wimmera Shire.

Goroke P-12 College



Goroke Sports Day



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Other Points of Interest

Location - Goroke is situated on a main highway between Frances (SA) and Horsham (Vic). Other close regional centres include Hamilton, Mt. Gambier, Naracoorte and coastal resorts such as Robe (approximately ½ to 1½ hr drive).

Clean and Green - Fresh country air - Large areas of natural bush land – plenty of bush walking tracks - Numerous lakes - Beautiful red gum country - Safe streets/environment.

Farming/Industry - Sheep (wool, fat lambs, mutton, live sheep export, feedlot), cropping, cattle including feedlot, forestry (Pine and Blue Gums), grapes for wine, yabbies.

Other Services and Agencies - Meeting Halls

Newspaper - Goroke Free Press (weekly editions)

IT Facilities - Goroke Newsagency has excellent Internet facilities gorokenews@ozisp.com.au. Local Point of Presence enables good and cheap Internet. Medicare facilities.

Television / Radio - Very good standard of television reception for a variety of stations. Wide variety of radio stations to suit all requirements.

Other Regional Sporting Facilities - Hockey, Soccer and Table Tennis (Naracoorte), Fitness Groups and activities. Mt. Arapiles – rock climbing (world class climbs).

Access to Areas of Interest - “Harrow by Night” Sound and Light Show, Lake Wallace at Edenhope, Little Desert, Glenelg River, Rocklands, Mt. Arapiles, Grampians, Mt. Gambier, Coonawarra, Coorong and other coastal areas. Naracoorte Caves.

Employment - Opportunities in West Wimmera Shire may include the following:

- Seasonal Tree Planting
- Farm related employment
- Skilled Farm Employee (machinery/stock management)
- Truck and Transport
- Hairdressing
- Plantation Management Work with Local Contractors
- Vineyards in border area
- Meatworks in border area
- Agricultural/Primary Industry
- Builders
- Plumbers
- Skilled trades people

Annual Activities in Goroke –

- Australia Day activities - 26th January
- Lake Charlegrark Country Music Festival – third weekend in February
- Henley on Lake Wallace, Edenhope – 2nd Sat in February
- Harrow by Night Sound and Light Show at Harrow
- Goroke Show – first Saturday in October
- Goroke Bowling Club functions throughout the year
- Golf activities held every weekend during Autumn and Winter with special tournaments held often during the season
- Various fetes and gala days



Fun at Lake Charlegrark Country Music Festival

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