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**Public Suggestion Number 2**

**Chris J Harkin and Stephen L Hart**

**22 pages**

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**From:**  
**Sent:** Saturday, 20 March 2010 12:57 PM  
**To:** VIC Redistribution  
**Subject:** Submission from Stephen Hart and Chris Harkin of Lavers Hill Vic  
**Attachments:** Review of Vic Federal Boundaries 2010.doc

20/3/10

To: Redistribution Committee for Victoria

Re: Redistribution of Federal election boundaries for Victoria

Please find attached a submission in Word format to the Redistribution Committee for Victoria. We thought it would help to forward an electronic copy.

We will also post a signed paper copy via surface mail with changes noted on the 12 boundary maps for which we have lodged a submission.

Please note we haven't attached the maps to this email but we will mail them.

thank you  
Stephen Hart

Chris Harkin

20 March 2010

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**Redistribution Committee for Victoria**  
**GPO Box 768G**  
**VICTORIA VIC 3001**

[vicredistribution@aec.gov.au](mailto:vicredistribution@aec.gov.au)

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Dear Sir/Madam

**Re: Redistribution of Federal electoral boundaries for Victoria**

Currently our home is in the Federal electoral boundary of Corangamite and the Local Government municipality of Colac Otway Shire. Initially, we were interested in our immediate area.

From the “Enrolment Projections by Division” and other information on the AEC website as at 19/3/’10, we have used the quota estimate as at 17/6/2014 of “101,222” as a reference point.

As there is a population shortfall in the electorates in the far west of the State and a population surplus in the areas in the western metropolitan area this process will require a major realignment of boundaries rather than just minor changes. This presents an opportunity to better align communities of interest that are currently split between different Federal electorates.

**Implications for other electorates**

In making our submission we could see that the boundaries for Corangamite are influenced by the situation in adjoining electorates Wannon, Ballarat and Corio.

As we examined this matter in some detail we could see that the situation in those electorates, particularly Wannon, is in turn influenced by Mallee, Bendigo, Murray, Indi, McEwen, Lalor, Gorton and Maribynong!

Short of commenting on all electorates in the State we decided to make comment on twelve electorates being our current electorate, immediately adjoining electorates and other electorates near those. They are:

- a) Corangamite,
- b) Ballarat, Corio and Wannon, and
- c) Bendigo, Gorton, Indi, Lalor, Mallee, Maribyrnong, McEwen and Murray.

The more detailed comments relate to areas relatively close to our current electorate, Corangamite.

Mallee is about 10,000 under the quota at the relevant date. Wannon is about 5,000 under.

Mallee and Wannon between them already join the south, west and north borders of the State. It is obvious that one or both will need to have their boundary moved significantly to the east. Some parts of the Mallee boundary could also move south into Murray.

20 March 2010

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Murray is already about 9,000 under the quota. Yet increasing the population in the Mallee electorate may involve moving the boundary into the current Murray electorate. This further reduces the current Murray population.

The electorates of Gorton and Lalor are significantly over the relevant quota. In effect, these “surplus” populations need to be used to increase the populations in Mallee, Murray and Wannon. Obviously Gorton and Lalor do not join Mallee, Murray and Wannon which is why this submission suggests a series of changes west from Gorton through various electorates. Ballarat, Bendigo, Corangamite and Murray will all need to participate in a cascading series of boundary realignments to allow for the effective transfer of surplus population in Gorton and Lalor to Mallee, Murray and Wannon which are below the relevant quota.

**1. MARIBYRNONG is about 13,000 under the relevant quota at 17/6/2014.**

**The Maribyrnong electorate boundary should move approximately west into parts of Gorton. The Western Ring Road might be an appropriate new boundary. This would mean that Ardeer and Sunshine West would move from Gorton to Maribyrnong.**

If this is insufficient, Station Road and Taylors Road might be an appropriate new boundary. This would mean that Cairnlea would also move from Gorton to Maribyrnong.

**2. GORTON is about 25,500 over the relevant quota at 17/6/2014.**

Even if the boundaries are changed to the extent that a sufficient number of Gorton is transferred to Maribyrnong, Gorton will still be over the relevant quota.

**The Lalor electorate boundary in the east should move further north and east, such as to the railway line or Western Freeway, into Gorton. This would mean areas like Derrimut and Ravenhall would move from Gorton to Lalor. The objective is to reduce the population in Gorton to the required level.**

Broadly speaking, the areas would be with similar communities of interest whether they were in Gorton or Lalor.

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20 March 2010

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### **3. LALOR is about 28,000 over the relevant quota at 17/6/2014.**

If the boundaries are altered as suggested in point 2, then Lalor will be even further over the relevant quota. Our conclusion from working through this matter is that Lalor is likely to be an electorate that needs major changes to accommodate what is required in relation to its various adjoining electorates.

**a) The north boundary of the current Lalor electorate should be moved south to reduce Lalor to the required population. The Western Freeway or the railway line immediately south of the Western Freeway could be Lalor's new northern boundary. This would mean that areas such as Melton and Toolern Vale would no longer be in Lalor.**

Alternatively, Holden Road could be the new northern boundary in which case Melton would remain in Lalor but Toolern Vale would no longer be in Lalor.

Obviously this depends on which potential northern boundary, the Western Freeway or Holden Road, achieves the required population.

These changes increase the population of the Ballarat electorate.

**b) Lalor's south west boundary with Corio should also be altered to transfer some population from Lalor to Corio. A possible new boundary is Argoona Road heading approximately east to Edgars Road, then along Edgars Road approximately south to Bulban Road, then along Bulban Road approximately east to Cherry Creek, then along Cherry Creek approximately south-east to Princes Freeway, then along Princes Freeway approximately north-east to Werribee River or Duncans Road and then along Werribee River or Duncans Road approximately south to Port Phillip Bay.**

The effect of the above change is to move Little River and some nearby areas from Lalor to Corio. Werribee would remain in Lalor.

The combined effect of the changes outlined in 1, 2, 3a) and 3b) is to adjust Maribyrnong, Gorton and Lalor to the required population.

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20 March 2010

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### **4. CORIO is about 6,000 under the relevant quota at 16/6/2014.**

The changes in 3b) will increase the population in Corio by transferring areas from Lalor to Corio.

a) **If necessary, additional areas could be transferred into Corio by moving its north-west boundary further east into Corangamite to the Midland Highway.**

b) **Due to the common community of interest we believe that all of the Bellarine Peninsula should be in the same electorate, Corangamite.**

The boundary could possibly be along "Moolap Station Road" or "Boundary Road". The "Salt evaporating pans" might form part of a natural boundary. This change would mean, for example, that Moolap and possibly Clifton Springs would change from the Corio electorate to Corangamite.

### **5. CORANGAMITE is about 4,800 over the relevant quota at 16/6/2014.**

The change outlined in 4a) reduces the population of Corangamite. The change outlined in 4b) increases the population of Corangamite. Those changes provide a more consistent alignment of community of interest with Corangamite covering all of the Bellarine Peninsula.

Our assumption is that Corangamite would still be over the quota despite the changes in point 4.

The Gellibrand River forms a natural boundary of the south-west corner of the Corangamite electorate. Most of the Great Ocean Road is in the Corangamite electorate and our area has a common community of interest with the remainder of the Great Ocean Road. Briefly, there are similar industries (eg Tourism) and concerns with the other communities along the Great Ocean Road. The Colac Otway Shire is almost fully located within the Corangamite Federal electorate which means that the local Shire generally only needs to have ongoing contact with one Federal member. Towns such as Carlisle River and Gellibrand in the Colac Otway Shire have a similar community of interest with Colac and should remain the Corangamite electorate for that reason. With the natural boundary of the river in the south-west corner of the Corangamite electorate it make senses to keep that boundary and reflect the community of interest of those towns with Colac. Whilst we appreciate that it isn't always possible for a local government area to be almost fully located in one Federal electorate this advantage shouldn't be jeopardized unnecessarily.

a) **For the reasons outlined in the above paragraph, we believe that all of the Colac Otway Shire local government area that is in the Corangamite Federal electorate should remain in the Corangamite Federal electorate.**

The logical area to remove from Corangamite, if necessary, is the area north of the Colac Otway Shire boundary.

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**5. CORANGAMITE (continued)**

**b) The Hamilton Highway would represent a logical northern boundary for the Corangamite electorate. If this makes the population too low the road to Rokewood, which we understand is route C143, could form the northern boundary of the Corangamite electorate.**

These changes increase the population of the Ballarat electorate.

**6. BALLARAT is almost at the relevant quota at 16/6/2014.**

Despite being virtually at the required quota it is necessary to change the boundaries for the electorate of Ballarat to bring the other electorates into the correct range. This is due to the fact that the electorates significantly in excess of the relevant quota do not join Mallee, Murray and Wannon which are under the quota.

Our submission suggests increases in the population of the Federal electorate of Ballarat from Lalor (point 3a) and Corangamite (point 5b).

Trentham and Woodend have similar communities of interest. Parts of Trentham are in Ballarat whilst parts of Woodend are in McEwen and Bendigo.

**a) The border between Ballarat and McEwen should be moved to the Calder Freeway, which we understand is route M79, with the result that Woodend changes from McEwen to Ballarat. This further increases the population in Ballarat.**

Presumably the objective is to retain the city of Ballarat in the electorate of Ballarat. The city of Ballarat is already relatively close to the western boundary of the electorate of Ballarat. With this in mind it becomes necessary to move the northern Ballarat electorate boundary south.

**b) The northern boundary for the Ballarat electorate could be moved south to correspond with the southern boundary for Hepburn Shire. We understand that Clunes, Creswick and Daylesford would change from the Ballarat electorate to the Bendigo electorate.**

Overall, the changes to the Ballarat electorate detailed in 3a), 5b), 6a) and 6b) need to have a neutral effect to the population of the Ballarat electorate.

The changes in 6b) increase the population in the Bendigo electorate.

20 March 2010

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**7. WANNON is about 5,000 under the relevant quota at 16/6/2014.**

The Little Desert National Park forms a significant natural boundary splitting part of the south of the electorate of Mallee from part of the north. It may be more appropriate for those areas south of the Park to be in Wannon.

**Given that it is necessary to increase the population in the Wannon electorate, our suggestion is that Wannon's north boundary in the west side is moved north to the Little Desert National Park. Where the National Park ends at the Wimmera River the Federal electorate boundary could then follow Horsham Rural City Council's west boundary and south boundary.**

The result of the above change is that towns such as Edenhope would change from the Mallee to Wannon electorate. Horsham would remain in the Mallee electorate. The objective is to increase Wannon's population to the required level.

**8. MALLEE is about 9,500 under the relevant quota at 16/6/2014.**

If the changes outlined in point 7 transfers 5,000 from Mallee to Wannon then the Mallee electorate will need about 14,500 more population.

**The west boundary of the Mallee electorate needs to move east into the existing Murray electorate, and south-east into the Bendigo electorate, near Dunolly, to increase the population to the required level. This may involve using the Loddon Valley Highway, the railway line or the Northern Highway, currently in Murray, as the new east boundary of the Mallee electorate.**

As the Mallee electorate requires a significant population increase this is likely to lead to substantial changes to the Murray electorate and some changes to Bendigo.

**9. Murray is about 8,800 under the relevant quota at 16/6/2014.**

If the changes outlined in point 8 transfers to Mallee a significant part of the 14,500 that Mallee will need then there will have to be a significant change to the Murray electorate. It is likely that Mallee electorate will take over some of the current Bendigo electorate but Murray will still have a substantial shortfall unless its boundaries are changed.

**The east boundaries of the Murray electorate will need to move into Indi, possibly to the Hume Freeway. This would transfer significant population centres from Indi to Murray.**

Murray needs to receive significant population increases as it has, in effect, borne the cumulative effect of the changes in Wannon and Mallee. There is also logic in further extending the Murray electorate, with its significant Murray River boundary, further east along the Murray River into Indi.



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### **10. BENDIGO is about 3,500 over the relevant quota at 16/6/2014.**

Were the suggestions in this submission accepted the following changes would also occur to the Bendigo electorate:

The changes in 6b) moves population from the Ballarat electorate to the Bendigo electorate.

Some changes in point 8 may move some population from the Bendigo electorate to Mallee but this is likely to be modest.

Some changes in point 9 may move some population from the Bendigo electorate to Murray but this is likely to be modest.

**It may be possible to move the east boundary of the Bendigo electorate further west so that population is transferred into Indi or McEwen. However, due to the multiple changes from 6b), 8 and 9 it is not possible for us to estimate the extent of the change needed.**

### **11. INDI is about 5,800 under the relevant quota at 16/6/2014.**

**McEWEN is about 11,600 over the relevant quota at 16/6/2014.**

The changes to Indi and McEwen are closely related so we have dealt with them in one point.

#### INDI

Were the suggestions in this submission accepted the following changes would also occur to the Indi electorate:

The change in 9 moves a significant population from the Indi electorate to the Murray electorate.

The change in 10 may move some population from the Bendigo electorate to the Indi electorate.

Due to Indi electorate starting below the relevant quota and losing a significant population to the Murray electorate its boundaries will need to be altered to increase its population. The slight population increase it may receive from the Bendigo electorate (point 10) won't change the fact that Indi needs more population to meet the relevant quota.

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20 March 2010

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### McEWEN

Were the suggestions in this submission accepted the following changes would also occur to the McEwen electorate:

The change in 6a) moves population to the Ballarat electorate from the McEwen electorate.

The change in 10 may move some population from the Bendigo electorate to the McEwen electorate.

Overall it appears that McEwen would still be over the relevant quota despite the modest move from McEwen to Ballarat from point 6a).

The electorates of Indi and McEwen have a significant common boundary. The Indi electorate has a shortfall of about 5,800. This shortfall is increased due to the changes in point 9 that, in effect, move population from Indi to Murray. McEwen starts with an excess of 11,600 with limited changes from point 6a) and 10. In the absence of precise figures our estimate is that Indi needs to receive most of the excess population contained in McEwen.

**The boundary between Indi and McEwen might be moved approximately south into McEwen. The new boundary could be the Hume Freeway south to the Upper Goulburn Road (route C383), approximately east along the Upper Goulburn Road to the Goulburn Valley Highway (route B340), then approximately south-east along the Upper Goulburn Road to Yea, then approximately north-east along Goulburn Valley Highway, the Maroondah Link Highway and the Maroondah Highway to the current boundary being the Mitchell Shire Local Government area.**

The objective of the above change is to move population from the McEwen electorate into the Indi electorate. The proposal would transfer Seymour from McEwen to Indi. Ideally Yea should be in the same electorate as Seymour due to a similar community of interest. This could be achieved by running the electorate boundary along various minor roads and other roads south-west, south and south-east of Yea. By utilizing various minor roads east of the Maroondah Highway it would be possible to further increase the population of Indi from McEwen if necessary.

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20 March 2010

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**Conclusion**

In making this submission we appreciate that the precise boundaries need to take into account the actual population movements of each change and we don't have that exact information to take into account. However, in broad terms we believe that our submission shows a way that the boundaries can be changed so that the surplus population in the electorates immediately north and west of Melbourne is used to overcome the shortfall in the west, north west and north east.

The concept of "one man one vote" is a very important democratic principle that should be upheld even if this means there are major boundary changes when reviews such as these are conducted.

Yours, sincerely

(Chris J Harkin)

(Stephen L Hart)

MAPS WITH NOTES ATTACHED.



# COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION OF CORIO

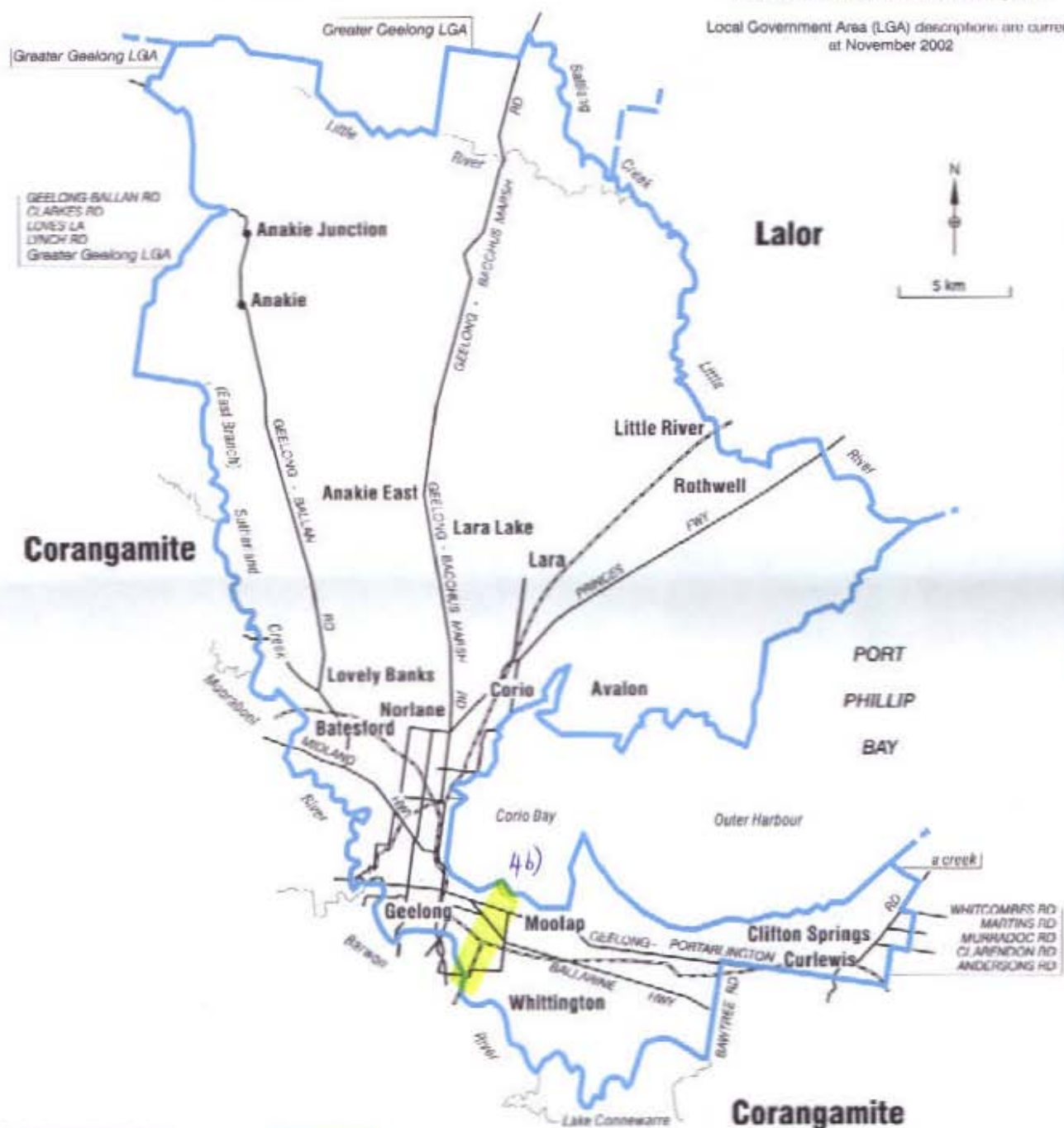


**Ballarat**

**Note:**

Federal redistribution finalised in January 2003.

Local Government Area (LGA) descriptions are current at November 2002



Divisional boundary ———  
 Adjoining Divisional boundary - - -  
 Division area 815 sq km  
 Railway line ———

4 a) SEE CORANGAMITE

4 b) (PAGE 4) ALL OF BELLARINE PENINSULA TO CORANGAMITE.



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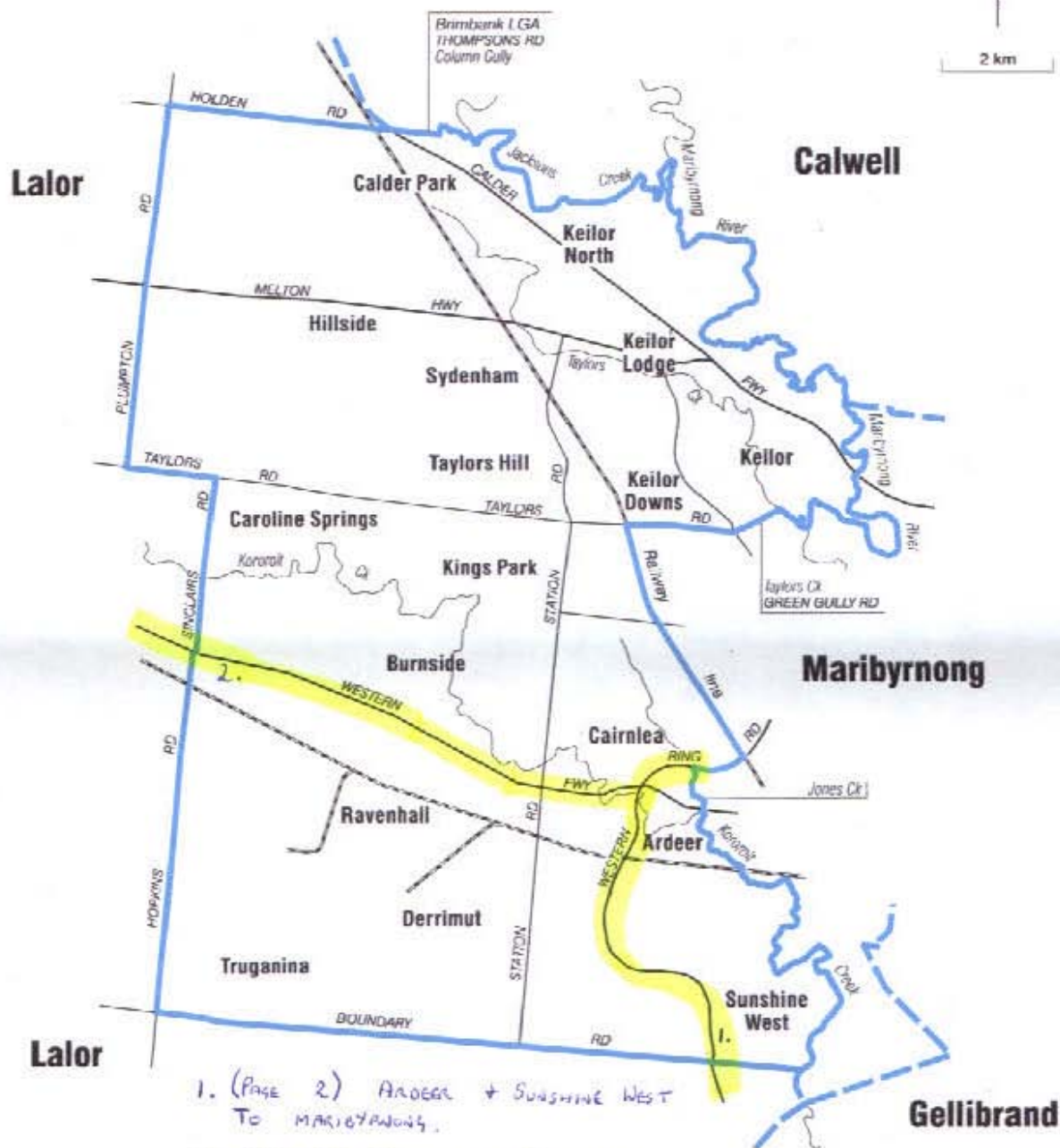
COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION OF

# GORTON



N

2 km



Divisional boundary —————  
Adjoining Divisional boundary - - - - -  
Division area 166 sq km  
Railway line - - - - -

Note:  
Federal redistribution finalised in January 2003.

Local Government Area (LGA) descriptions are current  
at November 2002

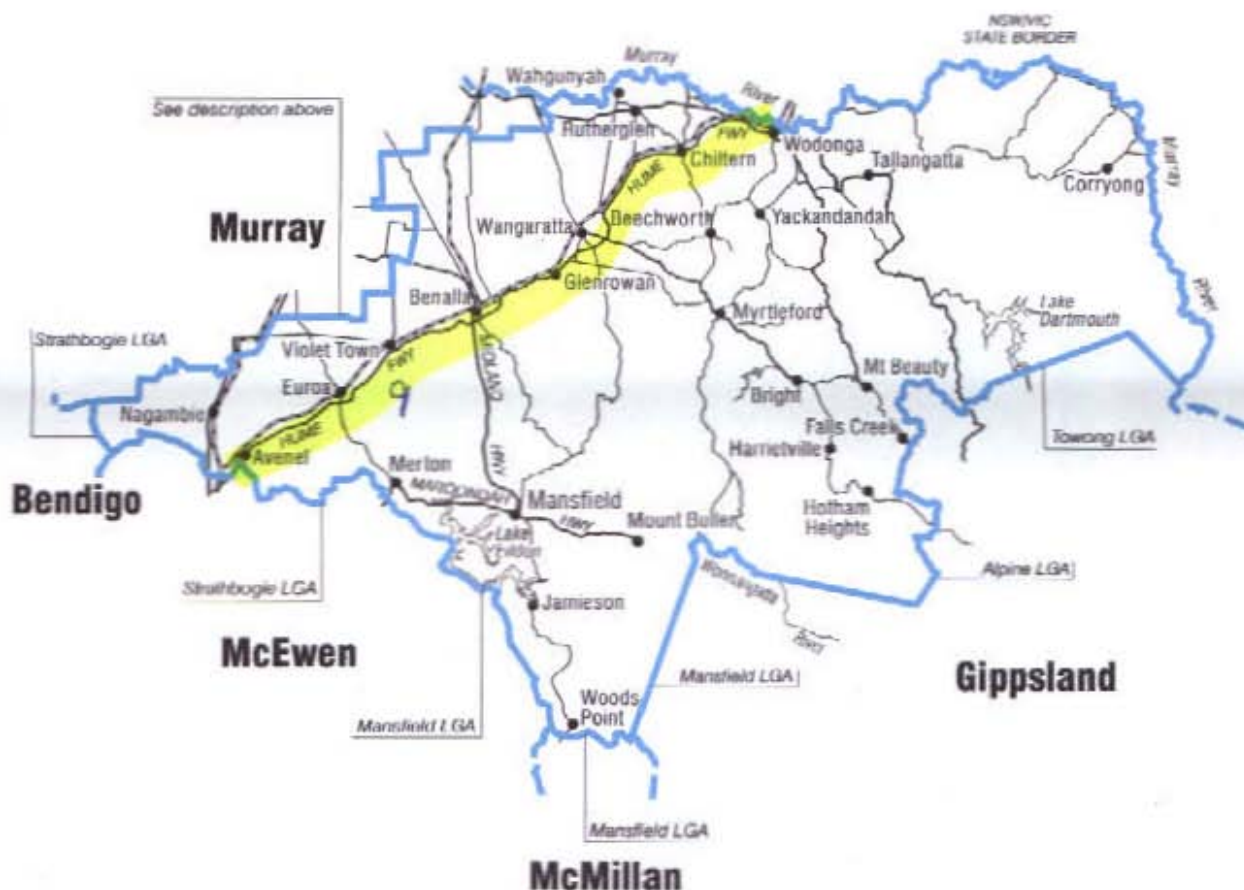


# COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION OF **INDI**



40 km

**Description:** Strathbogie LGA, Goulburn R, Strathbogie LGA, Douglas Rd, Burkes Rd, Pranjip Ck, Murchison-Violet Town Rd, Goulburn Valley Hwy, Strathbogie LGA, Dookie Violet Town Rd, Broken River, Denalla Boundary Rd, Tungamah Boundary Rd, Chateau Rd, McCormack Rd, Dookie Rd, a line, Katamatite Rd, Youanmite Rd, Tungamah Rd, Burramine Rd, O'Kane Rd, Telford -Tungamah Rd, Prescott Rd, Cavanaghs Rd, Hammons Rd, Boomahnoomoonah Rd, Geodetic Rd, Fennell Rd, a line, Ovens R



9. (PAGE 6) BENALLA, EUROA, NAGAMBIE AND  
OTHERS TO MURRAY.

Divisional boundary ———  
Adjoining Divisional boundary - - - - -  
Division area 28,008 sq km  
Railway line - - - - -

**Note:**  
Federal redistribution finalised in January 2003.  
Local Government Area (LGA) descriptions are current  
at November 2002



# COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION OF

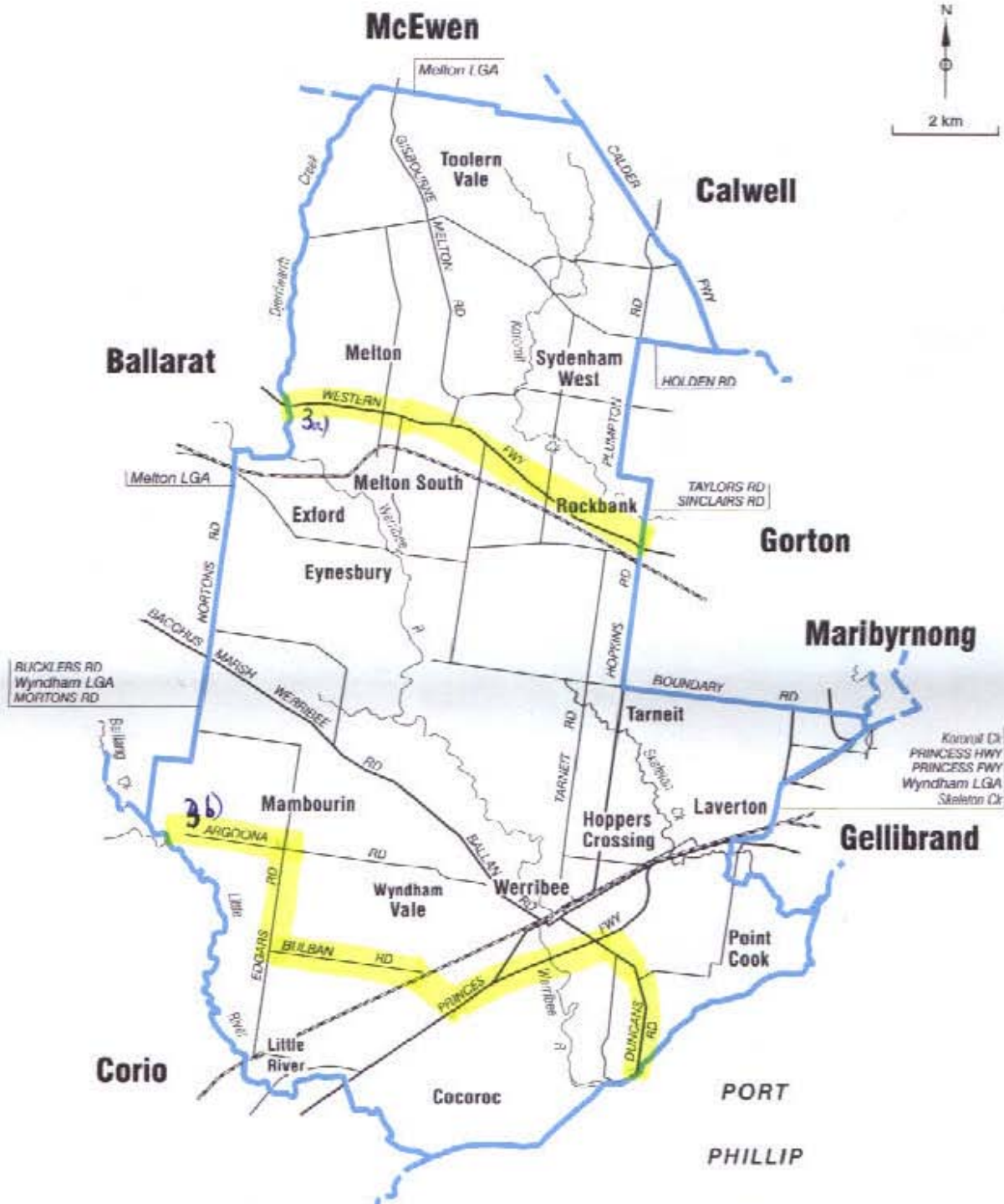
# LALOR



N



2 km



Divisional boundary

Adjoining Divisional boundary

Division area

Railway line

991 sq km

BAY

Note:

Federal redistribution finalised in January 2003.

Local Government Area (LGA) descriptions are current at November 2002

3a) (Page 3) TOOLERN VALE TO BALLARAT

3b) (Page 3) LITTLE RIVER TO CORIO



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# COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION OF MARIBYRNONG



N



2 km



#### Notes:

Federal redistribution finalised in January 2003.

Local Government Area (LGA) descriptions are current at November 2002

- Divisional boundary —————
- Adjoining Divisional boundary - - - - -
- Division area 71 sq km
- Railway line - - - - -



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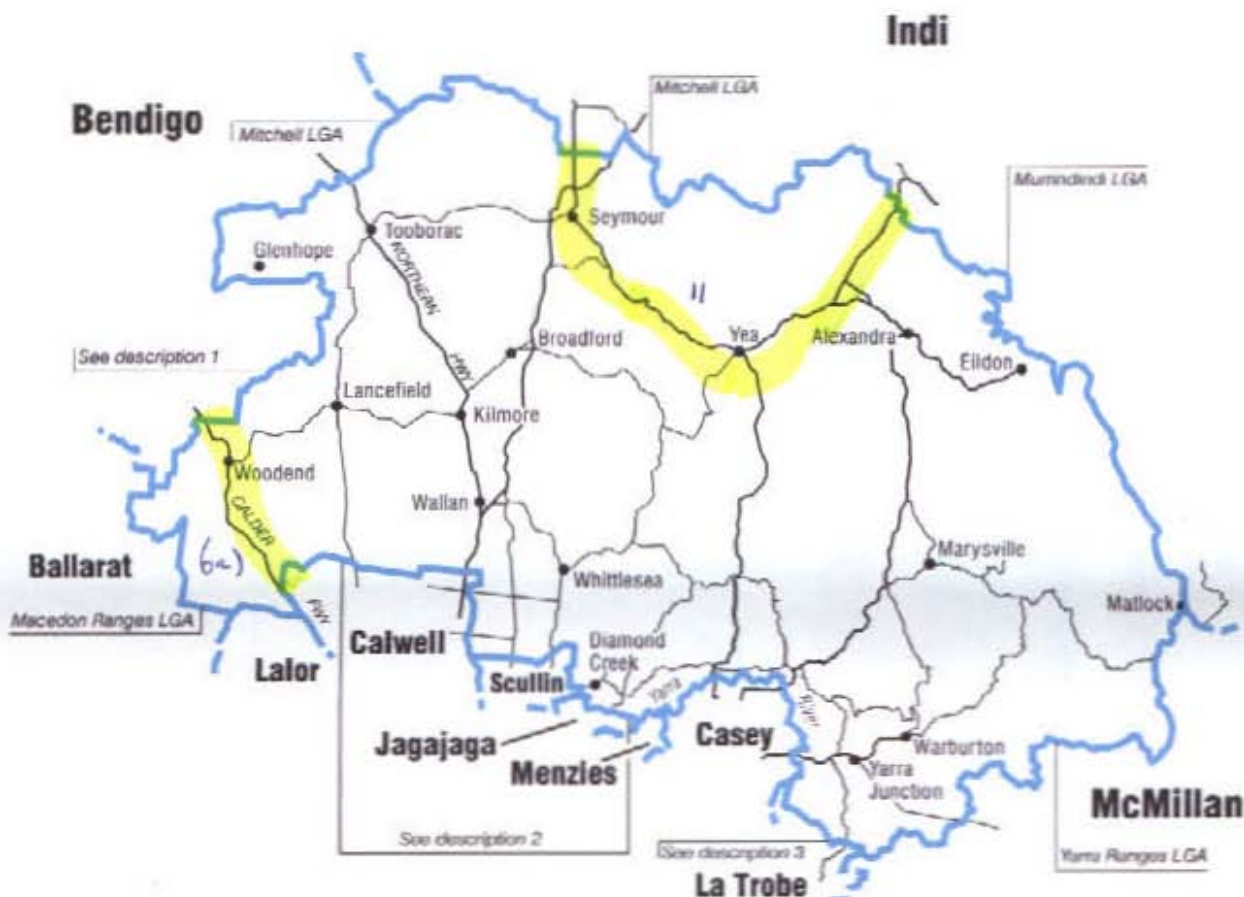
## COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION OF

**McEWEN**

N

25 km

**Description 1:** Mitchell LGA, a line, Westcote La, Bourke & Wilks Trk, a line, Cobaw Range, a line, Pipers Creek Rd, Boundary Rd, Garth Rd, Mowbrays Rd, a line, Cemetery Rd, a line, Campaspe R, Tylden-Woodend Rd, Falloons Rd, Ashbourne Rd



**Description 2:** Macedon Ranges LGA, Mitchell LGA, Gunns Gully Rd, Merri Ck, SEC Transmission Line, Plenty R, a line, Whittlesea LGA, Yan Yean Rd, Sutherland Rd, Diamond Creek Rd, Main St, Ryans Rd, Allendale Rd, Diamond Ck, Wattleree Rd, Main Rd, Research-Warrandyte Rd, Research and Kangaroo Ground locality boundary

**Description 3:** a line, Woolf Yallock Ck, Cockatoo Ck, Shepherd Ck, Yarra Ranges LGA

Divisional boundary —————  
 Adjoining Divisional boundary - - - - -  
 Division area 10,675 sq km  
 Railway line - - - - -

6a) (PAGE 5) WOODEND TO BALLARAT.

6b) SEE BALLARAT.

**Note:**

Federal redistribution finalised in January 2003.

Local Government Area (LGA) descriptions are current at November 2002

11. (PAGE 8)

YEA + SEYMOUR TO INDI.

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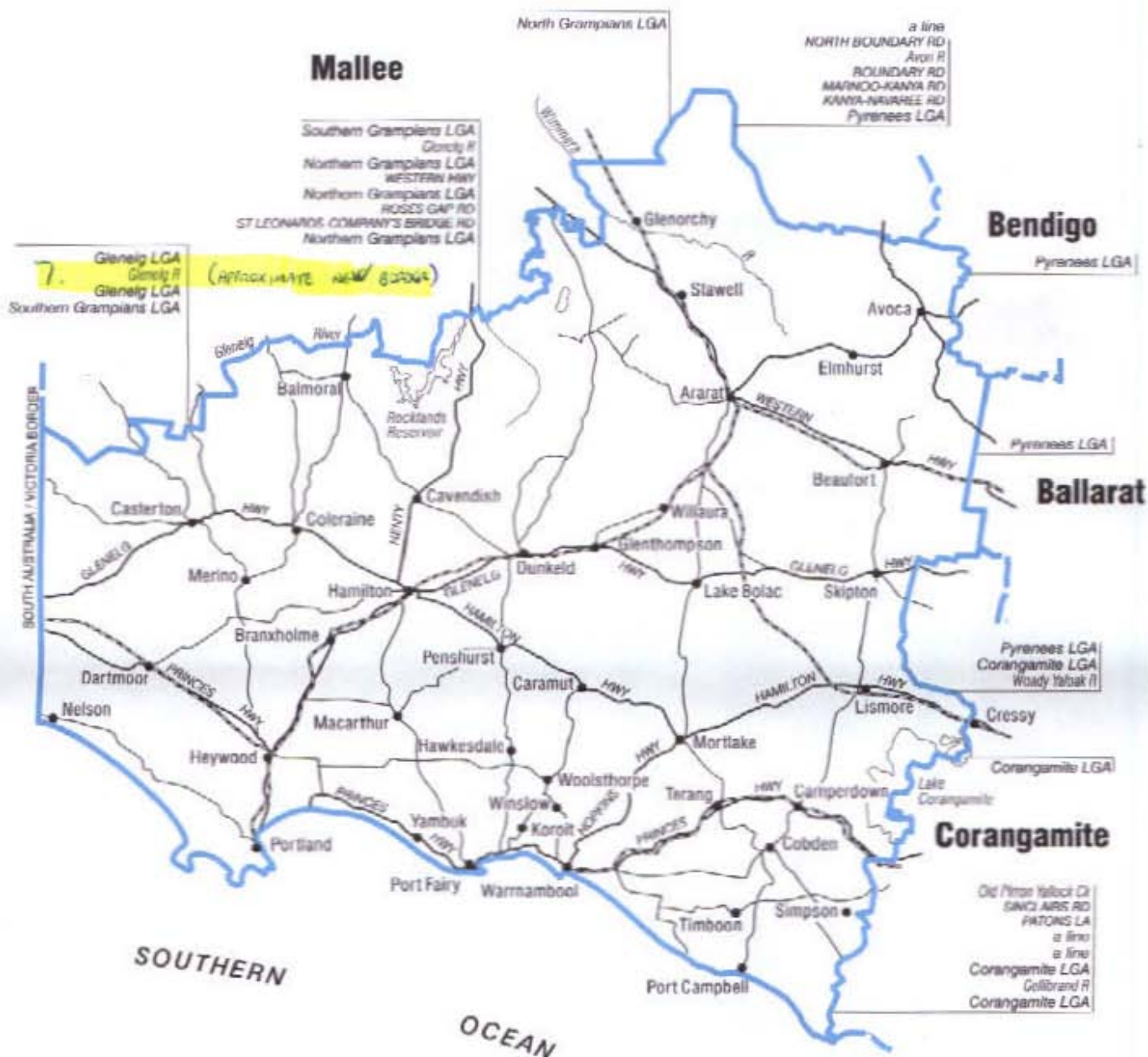
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# COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION OF WANNON



Divisional boundary ————  
Adjoining Divisional boundary - - - -  
Division area 33,854 sq km  
Railway line - - - -

Note:  
Federal redistribution finalised in January 2003.

Local Government Area (LGA) descriptions are current  
at November 2002

7. (PAGE 6) LITTLE DESERT  
NATIONAL PARK AS A BOUNDARY.  
(NOT SHOWN ON THIS MAP.)  
EDGEHOPE TO WANNON FROM MALLEE.



30 km



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**2003**

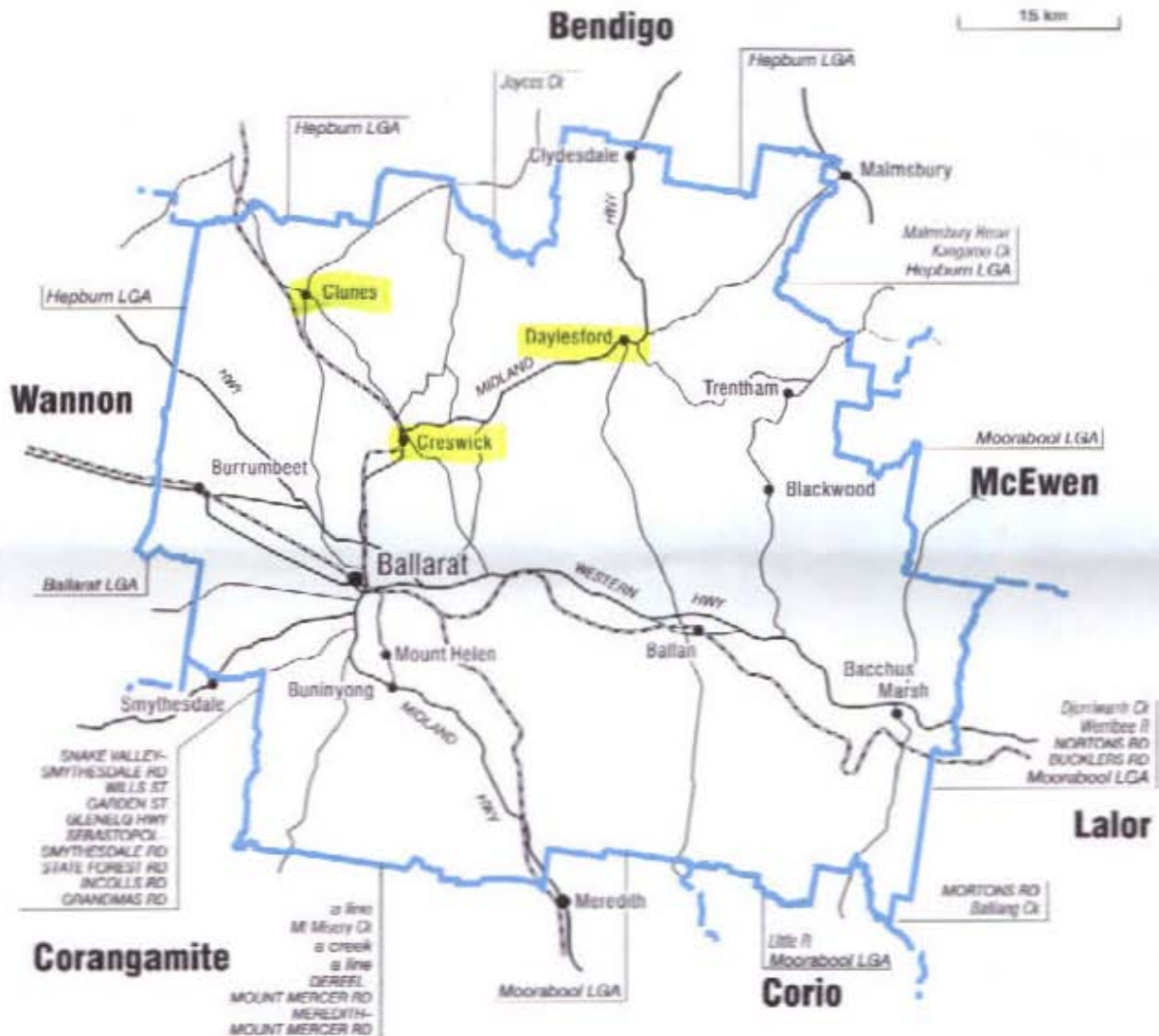
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# COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION OF BALLARAT



15 km



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6a) SEE McEWEN  
6b) (PAGE 5) FOLLOW HEPBURN SHIRE  
SOUTH BOUNDARY, CLUNES, CRESWICK +  
DAYLEFORD TO BENDIGO.



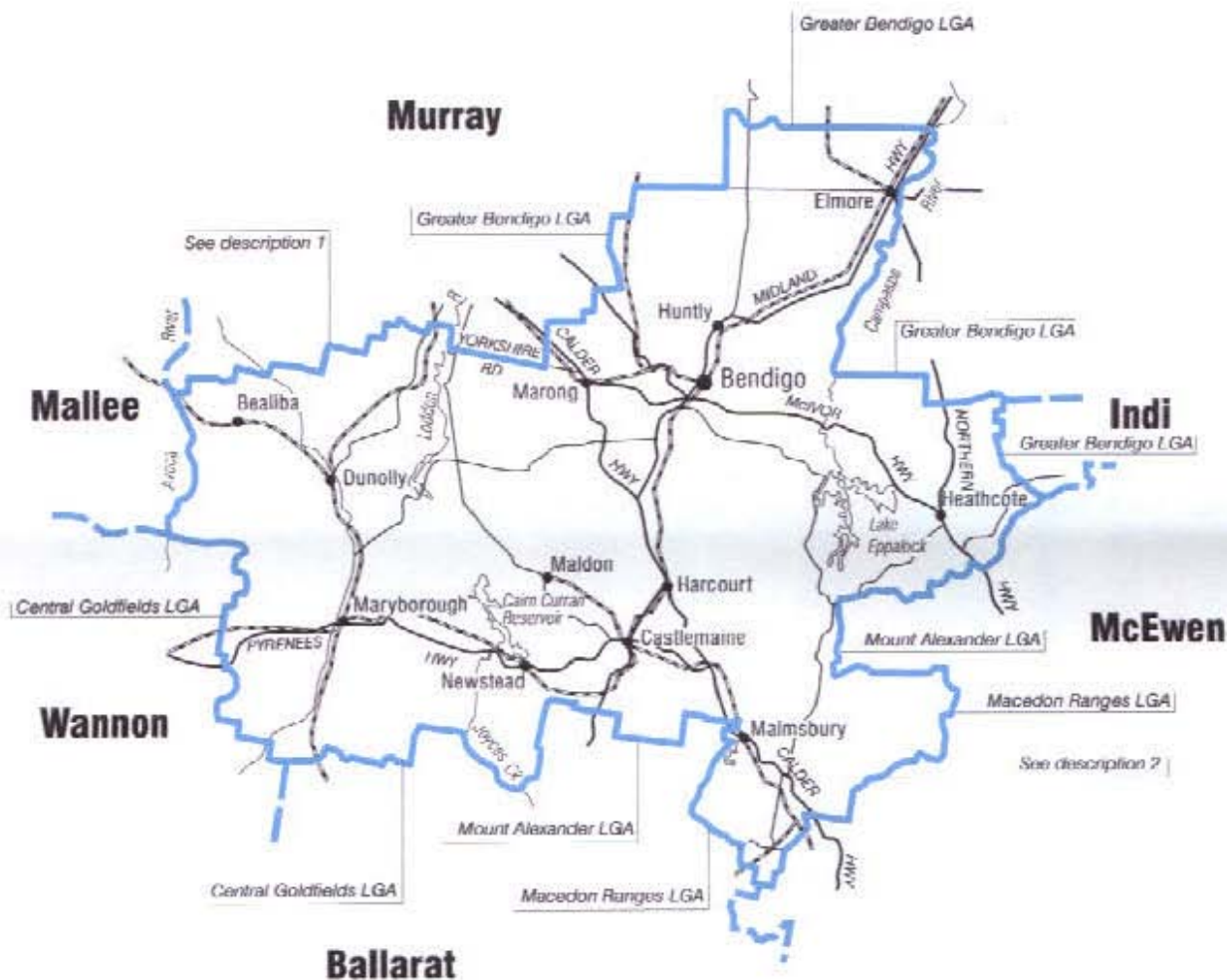


# COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION OF BENDIGO






20 km

**Description 1:** Central Goldfields LGA, line of sight, line of sight, line of sight, Allens Rd, Rheola-Arnold Rd, Llanelly-Arnold West Rd, Arnold West Rd, McKean Rd, Kingower-Arnold Rd, Bridgewater-Dunolly Rd, Higgs La, line of sight, Loddon R, line of sight, Yorkshire Rd, Greater Bendigo LGA



**Description 2:** Campaspe R, Pipers Ck, Macedon Ranges LGA, a line, Westcote La, Bourke & Wills Trk, a line, Reilleys Rd, Cobaw Range, a line, Pipers Creek Rd, Boundary Rd, Garth Rd, Mowbrays Rd, a line, Cemetery Rd, Campaspe R, Tylden Woodend Rd, Falloons Rd, Ashbourne Rd, Macedon Ranges LGA

Divisional boundary   
 Adjoining Divisional boundary   
 Division area 7,286 sq km  
 Railway line 

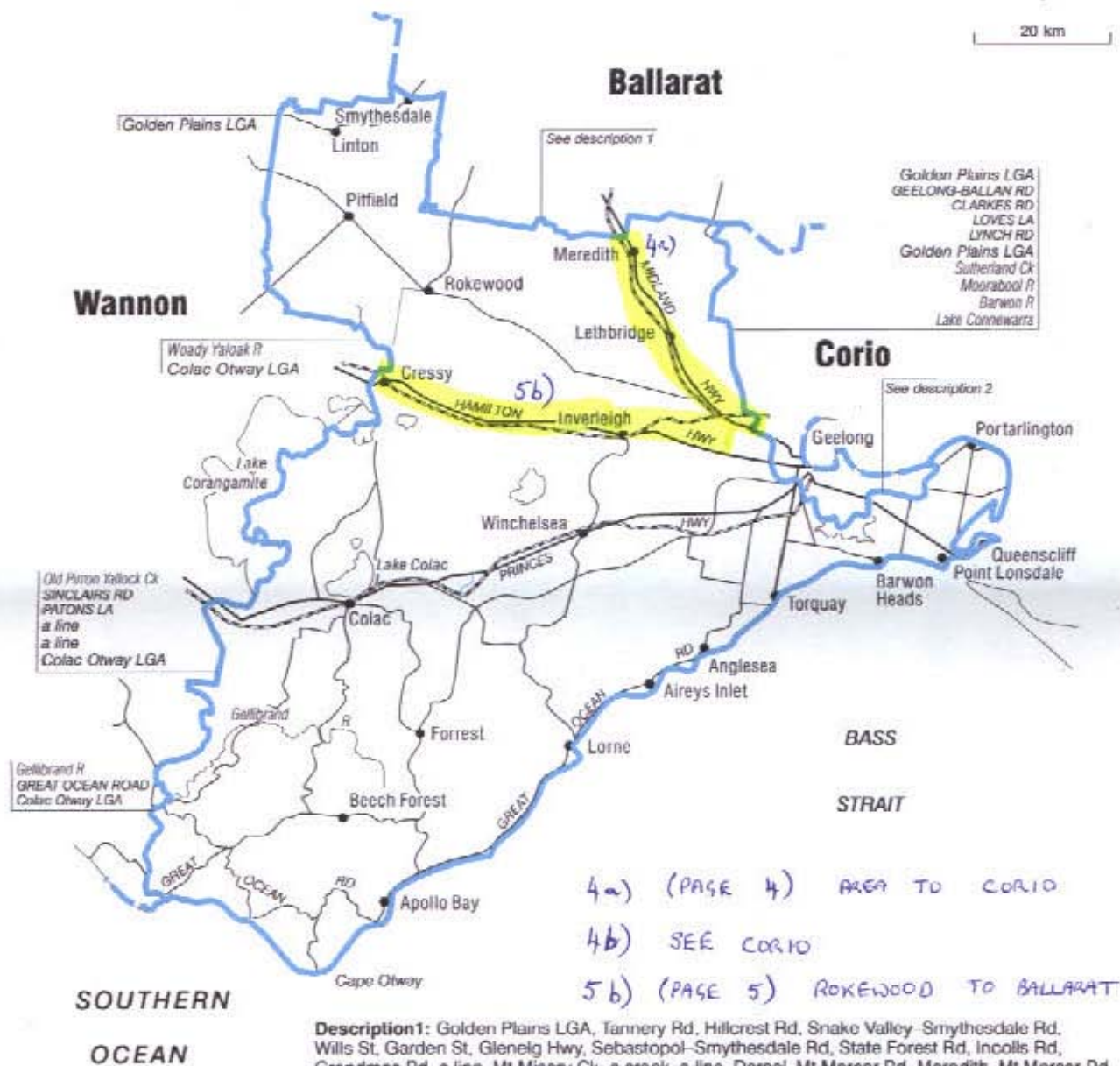
**Note:**  
 Federal redistribution finalised in January 2003.  
 Local Government Area (LGA) descriptions are current  
 at November 2002



# COMMONWEALTH ELECTORAL DIVISION OF CORANGAMITE



20 km



**Description 1:** Golden Plains LGA, Tannery Rd, Hillcrest Rd, Snake Valley-Smythesdale Rd, Wills St, Garden St, Glenelg Hwy, Sebastopol-Smythesdale Rd, State Forest Rd, Incolls Rd, Grandmas Rd, a line, Mt Misery Ck, a creek, a line, Dersel-Mt Mercer Rd, Meredith-Mt Mercer Rd, Golden Plains LGA

**Description 2:** Bawtree Rd, Geelong-Portarlington Rd, Andersons Rd, Clarendon Rd, Murradoc Rd, Martins Rd, Whitcombes Rd, Geelong-Portarlington Rd, a creek

Divisional boundary ————  
Adjoining Divisional boundary ————  
Division area 7,724 sq km  
Railway line - - - - -

## Note:

Federal redistribution finalised in January 2003.

Local Government Area (LGA) descriptions are current at November 2002



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