



GILWELL PARK

MASTER PLAN

Premier Adventure and Learning Centre



Scouts
VICTORIA

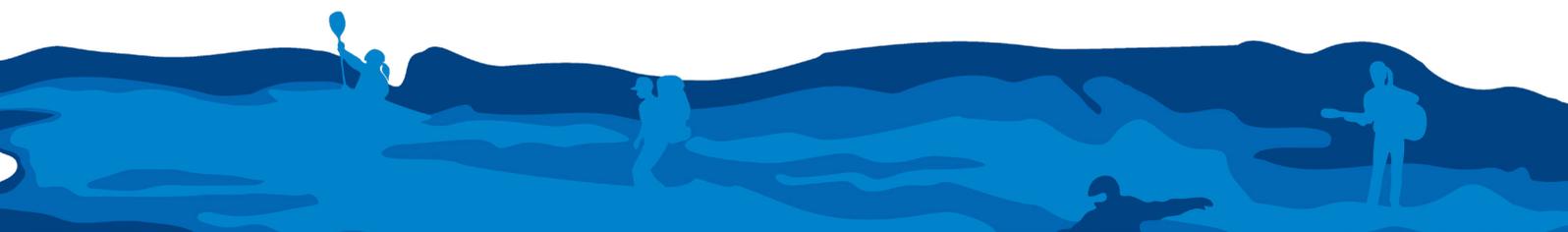




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INTRODUCTION TO GILWELL PARK

Gilwell Park has been the home of Scouting in Victoria for almost 100 years.

Over a million Victorians have participated in Scouting and a Camp at Gilwell continues to be a rite of passage. Tens of thousands of community Leaders have been trained on these grounds, and several million nights have been spent by young people learning to camp, lead, to build-resilience and self-reliance.

This Park is used by an increasing number of School groups eager to get students out of the classroom to have experiences that promote personal growth and leadership in the pristine natural bush setting. Schools are a highly compatible user group with Scouting use concentrated over weekends and School holidays and Schools using the camp during the week.

The Gilwell Master Plan has the dual goals of preserving our rich history and preparing for

the future. It will secure Gilwell Parks place at the forefront of outdoor education and youth development for the next generation.

Victoria's population continues to climb and access to the natural environment is in increasingly short supply. Gilwell Park needs to be prepared to meet the contemporary needs of a modern society, whilst recognising the need for sustainability, the environment and the heritage value of the park. Gilwell Park will be a facility for Scouts, Schools and the whole community!

THIS IS A 'ONCE IN A GENERATION OPPORTUNITY...!'



THE VISION

Our Vision for Gilwell Park Adventure and Learning Centre identifies four key areas for redevelopment with an integrated vision.

Our four key development zones are:



The Environment Centre

A modern “tent shaped” environment friendly facility will be the new face of Gilwell Park!



The Camping Grounds

Improvements to the existing bush camping arrangements will enhance the user experience at Gilwell Park.



The Training and Conference Centre

The centre will comprise of two key training centres, catering and accommodation. Including a refurbishment of the current “tired” accommodation offerings is needed to match contemporary requirements.



The Adventure Skills Hub

We are seeking to upgrade our equipment and facilities to be able to provide a broad range of activities at Gilwell across the domains of Bushcraft, Bush walking and Camping and specialist areas including Vertical, Cycling and Aquatics.



DEVELOPMENT ZONES



Environment Centre



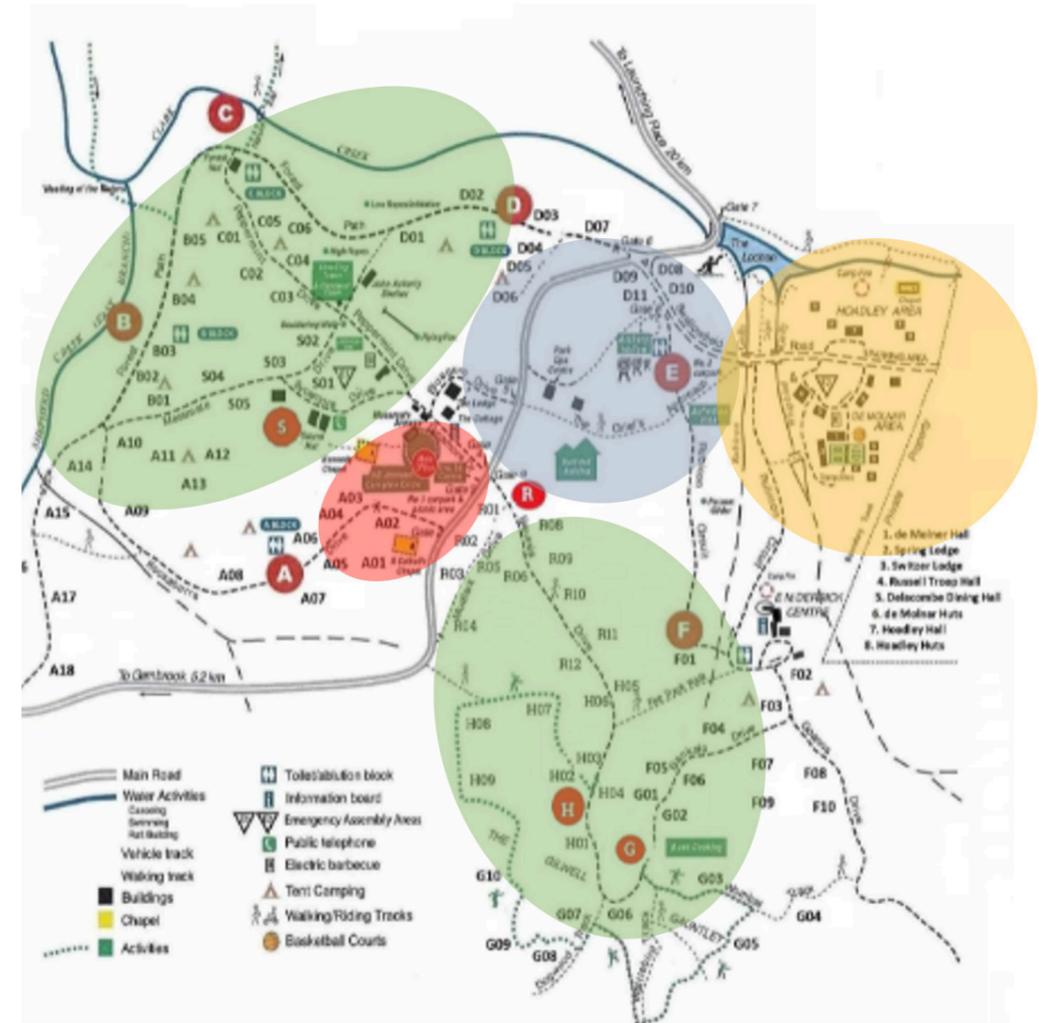
Training and Conference Centre



Outdoor Adventure Skills



The Camping Grounds





THE NEW GILWELL ENVIRONMENT CENTRE

This modern “tent shaped” environment friendly facility will be the new face of Gilwell Park!

The new facility will appeal to a wide range of Community user groups in addition to Scouts. It is envisaged Schools, Universities, Church and Social / Multicultural clubs will be amongst the parties who will be able to book the centre – particularly for weekday opportunities.

The facility will be built incorporating the latest eco-friendly design elements and improvements in energy and fire BAL ratings.

The use of the existing adjacent Environment Learning Centre will be increased by the provision of additional environmental information on local fauna, flora, and educational displays to provide an interesting and educational activities all participants.

This centre will be a multi-purpose facility containing a youth or adult holiday centre with overnight accommodation for 50 people. It will feature a main activity space with a commercial kitchen and a large rear deck overlooking the Gilwell Forest.

Options for inclement weather will include indoor climbing, crate stacking, and other games/activities.

The Gilwell Park Environment Accommodation Centre will be on the western side of Gembrook-Launching Place Road, located close to the Outdoor Adventure Facilities, including high ropes course, abseiling tower and flying fox.

The location in the eastern Dandenong Ranges is ideal for easy access from Melbourne – and to explore for adult guest the wider region and all its tourist opportunities including Puffing Billy, Wineries, West Gippsland, and the Upper Yarra Valley and Warburton Valley.

The building will be fully accessible for corporate, school, the wider community – and of course Scouts!

Estimated Cost - \$4,000,000
Priority - within 3 years



THE GILWELL CAMPING GROUNDS

Improvements to the existing bush camping arrangements will enhance the user experience at Gilwell Park.

The current bush campsites at Gilwell Park will be upgraded with access to three sided shelters and safety fire rings with raised camping bed sites.

These campsites will be available for use by Scouts, Schools and the Community.



Importantly, these upgrades will include the replacement of 5 x end of life toilet and shower blocks for camper use.

The current out-dated facilities do not meet the modern community expectation of safe and secure ablution blocks that most parks and sporting clubs have enjoyed for decades.

These new facilities will be based on the latest municipal examples incorporating child safe use, effluent controls, hot showers and meet contemporary societies expectations.

The new works for the Outdoors Park will also include provision of a number of “Accessible” camp-sites and tracks to ensure we are inclusive and cater for the whole of community.



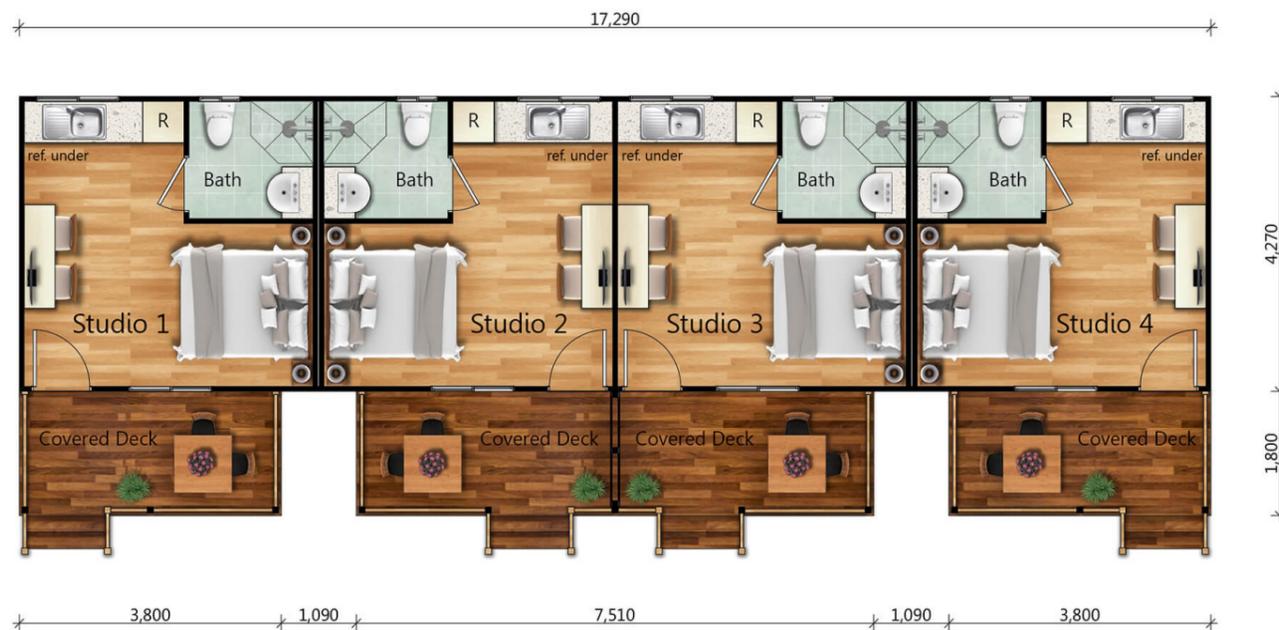
Estimated Cost - \$2,000,000
Priority - within 2 years



THE GILWELL TRAINING AND CONFERENCE CENTRE

This centre comprises two key training centres, catering and accommodation. A refurbishment of the “tired” accommodation offerings is needed to match contemporary requirements.

Total replacement of the 8 x end-of-life De Molnar Huts in the Training Area on the eastern side of Gembrook- Launching Place Road with new five new Studio Accommodation units and septic system for 50 people with self-contained bathrooms under the one roof-line.



• Upgrade and refurbishment to the **8 Historic Hoadley Huts** in the Training Area on the eastern side of Gembrook- Launching Place Road.

• This will include the construction of 8 x add-on ensuite bathrooms and showers that will provide a superior level of comfort to Scouts, Schools or corporate users under the same roof-line.

Currently these bunk rooms do not have toilet facilities with all users required to walk a distance across the park to use the ablutions at night. This does not meet the education department standards for use and severely limits their use.



HERITAGE EDUCATION AND TRAINING CENTRE REFURBISHMENT

Historic Russell Troop Hall (1925)



The existing building was the first to be constructed at Gilwell Park in 1925. An acorn brought from Gilwell Park in England by Lord Baden Powell was planted in front of the Russell Troop Hall in 1931.

The Russell Troop Hall sits in the shade of this same mature oak tree in the Training Area on the eastern side of Gembrook- Launching Place Road. The hall only has external toilets accessed via an external staircase. It is proposed the hall area be expanded to form a rectangular shape, with an accessible toilet and commercial kitchen.

Two break-out rooms or storerooms and a tables and chairs storeroom are to be provided to service the hall. New large bi-fold doors/windows will be installed on the rear wall and overlook a new elevated deck at the rear of the building. Views of the surrounding trees will be enhanced from the hall and proposed deck. The Russell Troop Hall would then provide an excellent training facility, corporate function room or wedding/function venue for the public to hire with new accessible toilet, DDA compliant ramp and car parking space, and refurbishment of existing lower-level toilets and showers.



THE ADVENTURE SKILLS HUB

Skills development is a key component of the Scout Method.

We are seeking to upgrade our equipment and facilities to be able to provide a broad range of activities at Gilwell across the domains of Bushcraft, Bush walking and Camping and specialist areas including Vertical, Cycling and Aquatics.



The Outdoor Adventure Skills framework promotes youth members' exploration of, and progression through key outdoor pursuits. Designed for all ages and abilities, the Outdoor Adventure Skills reinforce what Scouting is well known for, and compliments other personal progression opportunities provided by Scouting. Scouts' have the opportunity to continuously build on these skills throughout their Scouting journey, starting with foundation skills all the way to specialist skills.

Rock Climbing

This development will create beginners and intermediate rock climbing wall to allow us to train and assess to Level 6 of the Vertical Stream of the Outdoor Adventure Skills (OAS) Framework. We will upgrade the area along Gembrook Road with an artificial amphitheatre with increasing challenging grades of climbing.

The wall will be rigged with auto-locking belay devices both for safety and to increase the number of people able to participate concurrently.



 Bushcraft START ACTIVITY	 Bushwalking START ACTIVITY	 Camping START ACTIVITY
Specialist skills		
 Alpine START ACTIVITY	 Cycling START ACTIVITY	 Vertical START ACTIVITY
 Aquatics START ACTIVITY	 Boating START ACTIVITY	 Paddling START ACTIVITY

Abseiling Tower Upgrade

The current Abseiling Tower pictured needs upgrading so that a greater number of young people can move through the activity.

And to remain current there are several additional areas of the modern Scouting Program which need new equipment and activity planning so that young people can more easily select the focus of their adventures at Gilwell Park.





THE ADVENTURE SKILLS HUB

Additional upgrades to our activities

- Three Mountain Bike Trails and bicycles plus storage
- Replacement of the Archery Range
- Repairs and maintenance to the Low Ropes and Gauntlet obstacle course
- Orienteering and Geocaching Courses
- Raft Building and Canoeing on the Gilwell Lochan (lake).
- Hiking Expeditions to Kirth Kiln, Seven Acre Rocks, Lawson Falls, and overnight to Freemans Mill, Tonimbuk Campsite and Gentle Annie Campsite.



Additional upgrades to our activities

Upgrade the existing and historic Norman Johnson Campfire Circle to an outdoor Cinema/multi Arts precinct is high on the list. Capable of holding up to 3000 youth this gathering place is central to the youth outdoor experience.

Be it a concert, an educational presentation utilising multi-media, a movie or a sing-a-long – an event around the campfire am-phi-theatre is one always to be remembered!

This will include improvements to the staging, installation of an inflatable screen, projector, audio equipment control room and landscaping.

This will allow us to connect events digitally and stream to our other 54 million Scouts globally.



CONCLUSION



This Master Plan will confirm Gilwell Parks place as being central to adventure, learning and personal development.

These “have-a-go” experiences allow young and old alike to discover more about themselves than they can often find in the classroom.

The Outdoors Experience activities, complimented by the Accommodation offerings will provide a cross section of stay-over choices, at a range of price settings to cater for the widest possible community use.

TOTAL PROJECT COSTING SUMMARY

Gilwell Environment Centre	\$4M
Gilwell Camp Grounds	\$2M
Adult Training & Conference Centre	\$2M
Russel Troop Hall	\$1M
Adventure and Outdoor Skills Playground	\$1M
TOTAL	\$10M



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