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THE CHANNON COMMUNITY PRECINCT COMMITTEE  
CONFIDENTIAL ATTITUDE AND COMMUNITY PROFILE SURVEY  
JULY 1993

Please place the completed survey in the box at The Channon store or mail it to: The Precinct Committee, The Channon NSW 2480

NOTE: The questions are considered by the Committee to be important but please do not answer any question which does not feel comfortable to you.

**PART A: HOUSEHOLD SURVEY:** (To be completed by just one household member).

(1) Demographics: This question is aimed at finding out a little more about the people in the precinct area

	Males	Females
a. Number of adults in your household aged 54 or more	....	....
b. Number of adults (aged 30 to 54)	....	....
c. Number of adults (aged 18 to 30)	....	....
d. Number of young people (12 up to 18)	....	....
e. Number of children of primary age (age 5 up to 12)	....	....
f. Number of preschool children (age 3 up to 5)	....	....
g. Number of babies (age 0 up to 3)	....	....

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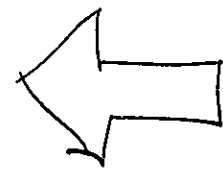
(2) The next question relates to household income. We suspect that we live in a relatively low income area. If so we may be able to argue for more government help in some of the things we try to do.

**HOUSEHOLD INCOME AFTER TAX (July 1992 to June 1993) (Please circle):**

- \$0 to \$8000.....A  
\$8001 to \$15,000.....B  
\$15001 to \$25,000.....C  
\$25,000 to \$50,000.....D  
More than \$50,001.....E

**(3) DWELLINGS:** Please indicate whether you:

- Live on a multiuple occupancy.....A  
Own your own dwelling.....B  
Have a mortgage.....C  
Are part of a tenants in common arrangement.....D  
Rent.....E



**PART B: INDIVIDUAL SURVEY**

To be completed by each member of the household aged 14 years and over.

**COMMUNITY PROFILE:**

(1) What is your: Age: .....yrs; Gender: F / M (circle)

(2) What is the highest level of formal education you have completed:

Primary to year 6.....A

Secondary up to year 10.....B

Secondary to year 12.....C

TAFE or equivalent certificate.....D

University degree.....E

Other tertiary.....F

(3) How long have you lived in this precinct area? (Please circle)

Less than 1 year.....A

1 to 5 years.....B

5 to 10 years.....C

10 to 20 years.....D

More than 20 years.....E

(4) Briefly indicate why you live in this area.....

(5) What do you value most about living in The Channon locality?

(6) What changes at the community level would contribute to improving your experience of living here?

## EMPLOYMENT:

We are interested in finding out what sort of activities people are engaged in and how many people are actively seeking paid employment.

(7) Are you currently actively seeking paid employment? YES / NO

(8) Does any form of disability prevent you from seeking paid employment? YES / NO

(9) Please indicate how many of the following activities you are regularly engaged in (Choose more than one if appropriate):

Parenting/child raising.....A

Unpaid house and garden work.....B

Self-employment.....C

Farmwork.....D

Casual or part time paid employment.....E

Work of an artistic or craft nature.....F

Full-time paid employment.....G

Voluntary community work.....H

Work that contributes to self-sufficiency.....I

Part-time education.....J

Full-time education.....K

Other (please specify).....L

### ATTITUDES:

The following questions aim at finding out more information about your situation and your attitudes about issues that concern the community.

(10) What services (other than roads) do you regularly use that are provided by the Lismore City Council? (please circle)

Water supply .....A

Library/Art Gallery/ City Hall.....B

Swimming Pool .....C

Airport .....D

Garbage .....E

The Channon Oval.....F

Lismore Council parks, gardens and reserves.....G

Other (please specify).....H

### ROADS:

(11) How many vehicles do you own? .....

(12) Please indicate the habitual state of the roads which you regularly use and for which council has responsibility (please tick)

ROAD	GOOD	FAIR	POOR	DANGEROUS
The Channon Road	.....	.....	.....	.....
Keerong Road	.....	.....	.....	.....
Koonorigan Road	.....	.....	.....	.....
Pinchin Lane	.....	.....	.....	.....
Wallace Road	.....	.....	.....	.....
Terania Creek Road	.....	.....	.....	.....
Tuntale Creek Road	.....	.....	.....	.....
Rose Road	.....	.....	.....	.....
Arkinstall Road	.....	.....	.....	.....

(13) Vehicle damage: Complaints to the Precinct Committee indicate that the above-normal wear and tear on vehicles caused by the poor state of many roads is resulting in considerable cost to owners. If you run a vehicle please estimate the extra annual cost involved in keeping a vehicle on the road due to the poor state of the roads.

\$0 .....A

\$1 - 250.....B

\$250 -500.....C

\$500 - 750.....D

\$750 - 1000.....E

\$1000 - \$1500.....F

\$1500 plus.....G

Comments:.....

.....

(14) Action: The Council says it does not have the money to do more work on the roads than it is doing at present. Do you think more should be done? (please circle) YES/ NO

(15) If yes what do you think the community through the Precinct Committee should do about it? Please circle any action you would support:

Accept the situation and wait until Council finances improve? .....A

Organise a community road building day where we repair the roads as best we can by filling potholes etc .....B

Work cooperatively with council by providing labour and using council equipment.....C

Organise a voluntary road contribution from residents so that we can pay for more road mending.....D

Any other action? (Please specify).....E

.....

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**GARBAGE:**

(16) Do you believe that the council could improve its garbage collection process? (Please circle) YES / NO

(17) If yes, what do you think the Precinct Committee should push for (please circle):

A full scale collection (with an increase in rates)?.....A

A collection point where people without a service could put rubbish in a bulk bin?.....B

A community recycling centre with bins for separate items provided at a central point?.....C

No change in present arrangements.....D

Any other suggestions.....E

**CHILD CARE:**

(18) What child care facilities do you currently use?

Family Day Care.....A

Long Day Care Centre.....B

Occasional Day Care Centre.....C

Family/friends.....D

Paid private baby sitting.....E

Other (please specify).....F

Not applicable.....G

(19) Are the facilities for child care sufficient in this area? YES / NO

(20) If not what what sort of arrangements would you like to see in place? (please circle).

Occasional child care centre.....A

Baby Sitting Club.....B

Family Day Care.....C

Other (please specify).....D

(21) If the facilities circled above were provided would you use them regularly? YES/NO

**YOUTH FACILITIES:**

The Precinct Committee is aware that there is a lack of facilities and activities in the area suitable for teenagers.

(22) What do you see as the main issues facing young people in this area?

Inadequate transport to Lismore.....A

Lack of appropriate venues in The Channon area.....B

Lack of organised activities.....C

Other (please specify).....D

(23) What suggestions do you have for local solutions to these issues?

.....  
.....

**PUBLIC TRANSPORT:**

(24) Apart from the school bus on some roads there is little or no public transport in this area. Would you use a regular bus service if it was available?.....YES / NO

Comments.....  
.....

**WATER QUALITY:**

(25) What is your normal source of drinking water?

Town water.....A

Creek Water (please specify)...Terania/ Tuntable.....B

Spring.....C

Rainwater Tank.....D

Other (please specify).....E

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(26) Are you concerned about the quality of your drinking water? YES / NO

(27) If yes what is the nature of your concern?.....  
.....

(28) The Precinct Committee is seeking guidance on what issues it should take up on behalf of the community. Some issues have already been raised with the Committee. Please indicate how important these issues are to you by numbering them in order of priority.:

Walkway from village to Coronation Park.....[ ]

Improvement in road quality.....[ ]

Improved garbage collection.....[ ]

More or better community facilities.....[ ]

Water quality of creeks in the area.....[ ]

Other issues (please specify).....  
.....

(29) The current members of the Committee feel that a one year term for Committee membership is too short. Do you approve an amendment to our constitution that would increase the term to two years..... YES / NO

(30) Any comments on this survey?.....  
.....

**THANK YOU FOR COMPLETING THIS SURVEY**

**PLEASE LODGE AT THE CHANNON SHOP OR POST IT TO THE PRECINCT  
COMMITTEE**



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THE CHANNON COMMUNITY PRECINCT COMMITTEE

ATTITUDE SURVEY RESULTS - Summary

Our local community precinct committee conducted a survey of all residents of The Channon during July, August and September 1993. The results have just been analysed, and some of the main outcomes are summarised below.

We received a return rate of 28 per cent, representing 420 people (including children) covering a wide cross section of the community - we believe it to be a good representation of the views of the majority of residents in our area.

WHO ARE WE?

By far the majority of people living in The Channon area are in the 30 to 54 age group (47%), while young people (aged 5 to 18) make up 28% of the population.

We are a highly educated community, with 51% of the population having some sort of tertiary qualifications; 19% have university degrees.

As we suspected, we are also a low income community, with 58% of the population earning a household income of less than \$15,000 per year. The unemployment rate is 26%, a figure far above the national average of 11%.

We have only 16% of the population engaged in full-time paid employment, while 40% describe themselves as self-employed. We have 27% of our community involved in artistic or craft work.

Nearly a quarter of respondents live on multiple occupancies, while about 60% of people either own their own house outright or have a mortgage.

WHY DO WE LIVE HERE?

The overwhelming response to this question was to appreciate the physical and social environment - the beauty, the climate, the farm life, the clean air, the peace and quiet, the community atmosphere and involvement, the stimulating artistic environment, the proximity to Lismore and the beaches, a great place to raise children. One person said "I live in the best community in the best place in the best part of Australia and in the best country in the world".

HOW COULD IT BE BETTER?

Most people mentioned better roads. A large number of others wanted an end to divisions in the community. Other subjects mentioned several times included: cleaner creek water, a playground at Coronation Park, more places at the pre-school, better youth facilities, less development and more recycling.

## WHAT DO WE THINK ABOUT:

### (A) ROADS?

Not surprisingly, this was the major issue of concern for the majority of respondents. By far the majority of people thought all the roads in the area were either poor or dangerous. More than 60% of people estimated that they spent an extra \$500 or more per year on vehicle maintenance because of the state of the roads we drive on.

As far as action is concerned, 63% responded that they would support some sort of co-operation with Council, such as providing labour to assist in repair and maintenance. Many wanted more pressure placed on Council to justify the rates they charge. Resentment about the amount spent on beautification around Lismore was also expressed, while others suggested a rate strike until things change. Another complaint was the poor quality of Council work, particularly when gutters were ignored.

### (B) GARBAGE?

The overwhelming desire is for a community recycling centre.

### (C) YOUTH FACILITIES?

By far the majority of people expressed concern about the issues facing young people in The Channon and called for a youth or sports club here - many suggested a meeting of young people and the precinct committee to hear their ideas.

### (D) PUBLIC TRANSPORT?

More than half the people responding to the survey said they would use a bus service if it was available, indicating the problem of transport to and from Lismore at night and on weekends and holidays. Some suggested a mini-bus service to run from Nimbin to Lismore via The Channon.

### (E) WATER QUALITY?

One-third of people expressed concern about the quality of their drinking water. The major problems expressed were suspected contamination by agricultural sprays, septic tanks and cattle of spring and creek water, while those on town water were concerned about chlorination and other chemicals.

## WHAT ARE THE PRIORITIES FOR THE PRECINCT COMMITTEE?

Roads, roads, roads! Followed by water quality, community facilities, walkway to the oval and garbage. Other frequently mentioned issues were: looking at dip sites, a playground at the oval and outside the shop, less spraying, formation of more Landcare groups, an end to divisions in the community, a bike track and a swimming pool.

THE PRECINCT COMMITTEE THANKS ALL THOSE WHO TOOK THE TROUBLE TO RESPOND TO OUR SURVEY. WE LOOK FORWARD TO A PRODUCTIVE AND REWARDING RELATIONSHIP WITH COUNCIL AS WE TAKE YOUR CONCERNS AND ISSUES UP WITH THEM. PLEASE FEEL FREE TO CONTACT ANY OF US WITH ANY IMPORTANT ISSUES YOU WANT US TO RAISE. FULL AND DETAILED RESULTS WILL BE PUBLISHED SOON