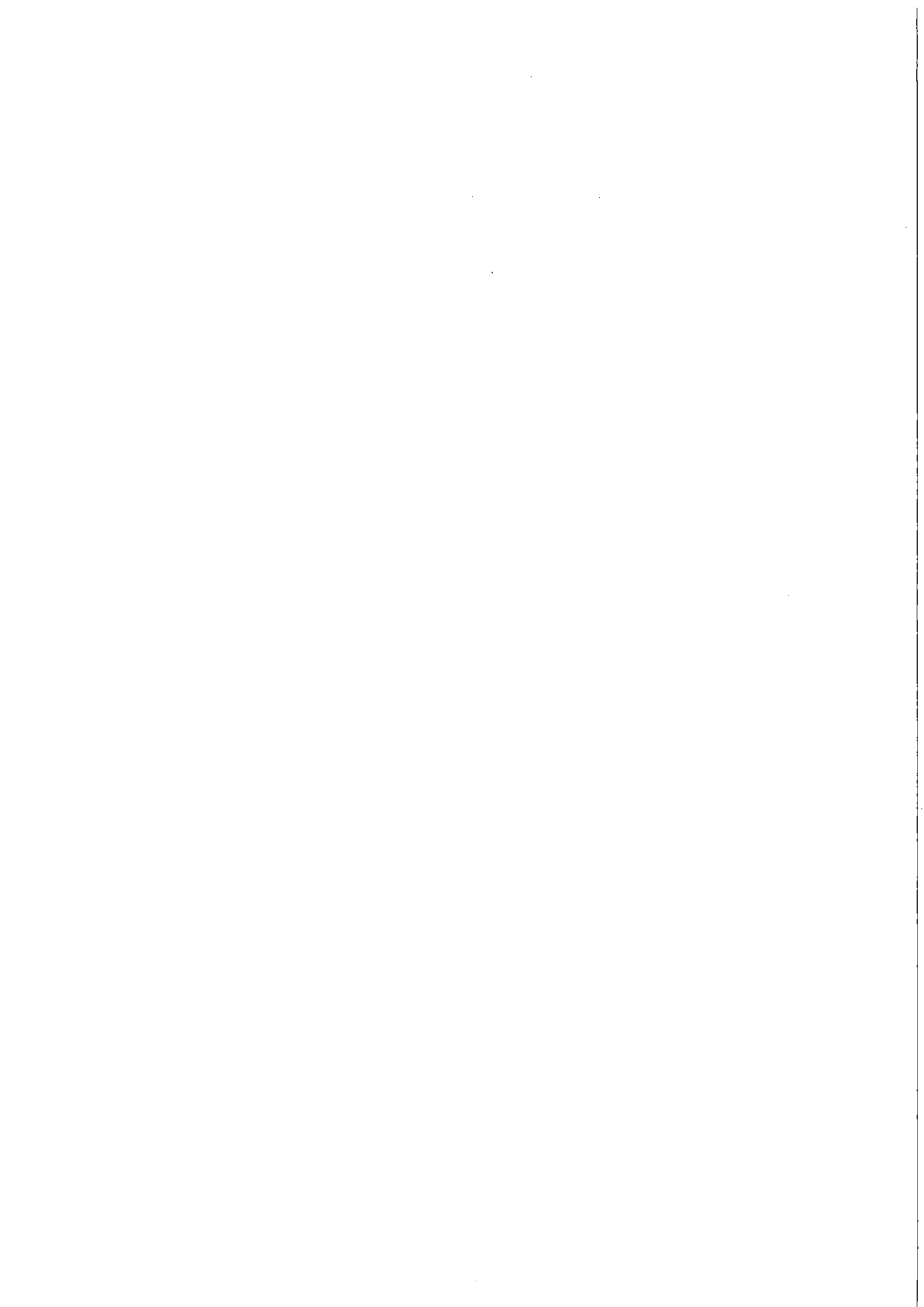


**RURAL YOUTH
AND
THE RURAL YOUTH MOVEMENT.**

**JANE E POOL.
1990.**

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INTRODUCTION.

The Rural Youth Movement has been functional in South Australia since 1951. During its existence it has offered an opportunity for young people living in country areas of South Australia to come together on a regular basis for the purpose of support, socialising, learning and helping the community. Over the past twenty years the membership of the Rural Youth Movement has declined greatly.

This study is aimed at determining the leisure and recreation needs of young people in the Murray Mallee and Mid North of South Australia and whether the South Australian Rural Youth Movement could meet the needs of this group. For this aim to be achieved it is first necessary to consider the characteristics of people that are members of the Rural Youth Movement and what this Movement does in order to meet the recreation and leisure needs of young people (16 to 26 years) in the community. Once this has been established the recreation and leisure needs of those people not members of the Rural Youth Movement will be determined and compared with what the Rural Youth Movement could offer these people. The hypothesis is that the young people living in the communities chosen for research would be interested in joining the Rural Youth Movement provided the organisation offered activities that coincided with their recreation and leisure needs.

Throughout this report the terms "young people" and "youth" are used to describe people in the age range of sixteen to twenty six. This definition was arrived at because sixteen to twenty six is the age range for Rural Youth members.

The State Executive committee of the Rural Youth Movement made the decision on the two regions of South Australia they wished to have researched. From the two regions, the Murray Mallee and the Mid North, five local government districts have been chosen for detailed research into rural youth needs;

1. Murray Bridge.
2. Lameroo.
3. Karoonda.
4. Peterborough.
5. Rocky River.

The Crystal Brook and Lower Murray Rural Youth Clubs were used to determine what Rural Youth offers young people living in their communities.

The underlying theory for this study includes organisational theory and the use of a social research framework. The social research framework has been used as a guide line for the planning and implementation of the project, the analysis of the data and presentation of this report. Organisational theory has been used to analyse the Rural Youth Movement and possible reasons for its decline over the past decade.

This report has the following purposes:-

1. To indicate the recreation and leisure needs of young people in the research areas.
2. To highlight some characteristics of people who are Rural Youth Members.
3. To describe any areas of common ground between what the Rural Youth Movement offers its members and what young people who are not members of Rural Youth see as being their social needs.

4. To make recommendations to the Rural Youth Movement on how they could increase their membership.

The initial pages of the report are dedicated to background information on each of the local government districts and a short history of the Rural Youth Movement in South Australia. This is followed by the methodology used for the research project, the results of the data collected and a discussion of the results. The final part of the report is the recommendations that have been made as a result of this research.

THE RURAL YOUTH MOVEMENT.

The Rural Youth Movement in South Australia was first established in 1939 as the Junior Agricultural Bureau. This organisation was confined to males only with the aim being to;

"bridge the gap which exists between the time boys leave school until they are old enough to take an active part in the senior branches."
(Gray, page 43,1987.)

The focus of the Junior Agricultural Bureau was on teaching the members agriculture. Membership in this organisation steadily grew through the 1940's but by the end of the decade the needs of the young people had changed and it was thought that a much broader range of topics needed to be considered other than technical agriculture.

1950 saw the formation of a national body of Junior and Young Farmers organisations; the Australian Council of Young Farmers. The purpose of this council was to provide a forum for state organisations to come together and discuss problems and co ordinate their activities. This is considered to be the stepping stone for the formation of the Rural Youth Movement.

The Department of Agriculture became involved with the Junior Farmer Organisation in 1950, when the Minister for Agriculture, George Jenkins, appointed a provisional council who recommended that the Department of Agriculture sponsor the organisation and encouraged the Education Department and Agribusiness to participate. These recommendations were accepted by the South Australian Government and in 1951 the Rural Youth Council was appointed. The objective of the Council was;

"to act as the sponsors and counsellors of the Movement during its formative stages and act in general directive when the movement was finally established."
(Gray,page 44,1987.)

In 1951 the name Rural Youth Movement was adopted and the organisation became open to both males and females. The organisation also had two facets, a Junior Rural Youth to cater for those aged 11 to 15 years and a Senior Rural Youth to cater for those aged 16 to 21 years. The first Rural Youth Clubs were not formed until 1952 and a Rural Youth Club was defined as;

"A society for young people who meet together to enjoy themselves and at the same time, learn something of their country and the joys that come from helping others. The club caters for boys and girls from both city and country, and its aims are to interest all members in rural affairs." (Gray, page 45, 1987.)

The organisation had the following broad objective;

"to learn some of the problems of agriculture; to achieve something and aim at leadership; to live a full life; to inspire interest in community organisations, especially the Agriculture Bureau of South Australia." (Gray, page 44, 1987.)

Each junior and senior club had a committee of advisers who acted as guidance officers and as members reached the age of 21 years they left Rural Youth and joined the Agricultural Bureau.

By 1954, the Rural Youth Movement had four advisers and the members of the organisation were advocating for more responsibility in the running of Rural Youth. This led to the state being divided into eight zones. Each zone had its own conference and could communicate directly with

the Rural Youth Council. This did not satisfy those who still wanted more involvement in the running of the Movement. This led to a State Committee being formed. The committee included Rural Youth members elected by each zone. The function of the State Committee was to evaluate zone decisions before they were brought to the attention of the Rural Youth Council, give their own suggestions to the Council and provide feedback to the members from the Council and vice versa.

Over the next five years much discussion took place as to the membership age restriction of 21 years. In 1959 the age limit of membership was officially raised to 25 years.

The Rural Youth Movement continued to gain strength and in 1958 South Australia had 32 Junior Clubs and 61 Senior Clubs with the total membership number being 3097 for the state. The Rural Youth Magazine was first published in 1955. In 1959 Rural Youth declared its aims as;

"To create a love of the country and the country way of life.

To show the importance of rural industry and create an active interest in its affairs.

To learn more of South Australian Agriculture, its crops and livestock.

To encourage self education for the greater fulfilment of life and the proper enjoyment of leisure.

To make known the benefits to health and character of good living.

To bring young people together and demonstrate the advantages of social fellowship and exchange of ideas."
(Gray, page 47, 1987)

The 1960's saw continued growth and development of the Rural Youth Movement. In 1963 South Australia boasted 33 Junior Clubs and 81 Senior Clubs with a total membership of 4690. The Movement had increased its number of advisers to five in 1967 and in 1964 gained representation on the Rural Youth Council. A constitution was first considered in this decade and after much deliberation a constitution was first printed in 1967. However this constitution was not approved by any official body and therefore had no formal status. As the Movement continued to evolve throughout the decade, there was a push by members for the Movement to have a more political orientation. Membership peaked at 4700 but had begun to decline by the beginning of the 1970's. This coincided with a rapid decline in the farm work force.

The decline of the Rural Youth Movement began for earnest in the 1970's. There are many theories as to events that triggered this decline. In 1971 the Department of Agriculture requested that the administration and management of the Rural Youth Movement be officially transferred to the Education Department. The proposal was declined, after two years of negotiation and uncertainty, in 1973. After this the Department of Agriculture began to decrease the number of Rural Youth Advisers from five to three. The Chairman of the Rural Youth Council was unable to give his full support and guidance due to illness. A new Minister of Agriculture held the opinion that the role of the Department should change from adviser/administrator to teacher of agriculture to members. All of these incidences had adverse effects on the Rural Youth

Movement, the result being membership decline. By 1977 only one Junior Club was still in existence, the number of senior clubs had decreased to 63 and total membership was down to approximately 2000.

An official review of the organisation was undertaken in 1976. The recommendations from this review included a constitution and that Rural Youth be incorporated with the Department of Agriculture's regionalisation. This was declined by the Movement. A compromise was formed and the Movement changed its structure from 12 zones to seven areas. In 1979 a constitution was approved.

After the traumas of the 1970's there was a period of stabilisation for Rural Youth. Membership declined slowly to be around 1000 in 1983. In 1987 the constitution and bylaws of Rural Youth were updated. The aim and objectives of the Rural Youth Movement in South Australia are at present:

" AIM; To provide personal and community development opportunities for young people, with an emphasis on the rural sector." (1987 Constitution, page 1.3.)

" OBJECTIVES; The objectives of the Movement are:-
To encourage participation of young people in educational facilities and agricultural activities.

To encourage the development of personal skills through self expression.

To provide resources that will encourage leadership skills.

To encourage member participation in cultural, social and recreational activities.

To create a closer relationship between urban and rural young people through effective communication.

To encourage the active involvement and participation of young people in their local communities."
(1987 Constitution, page 1.3.)

Currently in September 1990, the Rural Youth Movement has 383 financial members, seven areas and 30 affiliated clubs and is funded by the Department of Agriculture to the tune of approximately \$38,000 per year. It is expected that in the future Rural Youth will need to become more self reliant and be expected to be accountable for the funding it receives. This report will help Rural Youth to become more aware of what can be done to increase its membership and the number of areas its services.

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Gray, P.N. A HISTORY OF THE AGRICULTURAL BUREAU, WOMENS AGRICULTURAL BUREAU AND RURAL YOUTH MOVEMENT IN SOUTH AUSTRALIA. 1888 - 1985.

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CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS FOR THE RURAL YOUTH MOVEMENT OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA. May 1987.

1986 CENSUS INFORMATION INTRODUCTION.

The 1986 census figures give the reader of this report some relevant information about each of the local government districts chosen to implement this research project. The information sets the context for the report and justifies why each of the areas was chosen as being viable places not only to implement research, but to start a Rural Youth Club.

The following criteria were used to decide upon which local government districts the research would be implemented in;

1. The local government district had to have enough actual numbers to youth to warrant a Rural Youth Club.
2. The density of youth was considered in relation to the span of each area for travel purposes.
3. The distances between areas was considered so as travelling time and expenses could be made as economical as possible.
4. The presence of Rural Youth Clubs and/or members in the local government areas was taken into consideration as it is for the benefit of this organisation that the proposed research is to be carried out.

From these criteria six local government districts were chosen, three from the Murray Mallee district and three from the Mid North district;

1. Lameroo.
2. Karoonda.
3. Murray Bridge.
4. Crystal Brook.
5. Peterborough.
6. Gladstone.

Crystal Brook was removed from the study due to the difficulty in accessing young people in that region. Crystal Brook does not have a high school, and the young people from that region go to one of Port Pirie's three secondary schools to be educated. This would make finding school aged youth very difficult. Another reason for the difficulty in accessing young people in Crystal Brook is that Port Pirie is close enough to be accessed by young people for their recreational needs. However, the Crystal Brook council has been amalgamated with the Gladstone and Georgetown councils since the 1986 census, to form the Rocky River Local Government District. Therefore Crystal Brook will be represented in the study but not as a separate local government district.

MURRAY MALLEE REGION INFORMATION FROM THE 1986 CENSUS.

The following local government areas from the Murray Mallee region have been chosen to implement the rural youth needs project;

- A. Karoonda.
- B. Lameroo.
- C. Murray Bridge.

Murray Bridge is the largest district council in terms of actual numbers of youth, in the Murray Mallee region. It was therefore decided that the research may need to be limited to the area immediately around Jervois as Jervois has a Rural Youth Group in existence, Murray Bridge is not considered to be a rural town and because the actual numbers of youth are so high the sample size would have to be very big for the project to have validity. This idea was discounted due to the difficulty in accessing youth only of that area.

The numbers of youth aged between 16 and 24 years in each of the areas are as follows;

A. Karoonda	172.
B. Lameroo	167.
C. Murray Bridge	2129.

Therefore according to Isaac and Michael(1981), the sample size for each of these areas needs to be 118 with the exception of Murray Bridge which needs a sample size of 327 to give reliable estimates. Due to time and financial considerations and the number of people on the electoral role, these sample size figures have been altered to show statistically significant results with smaller sample sizes for the electoral role sample.

The following table shows the youth of each district council area as a percentage of the total population (16 - 24 years).

TABLE ONE: MALE AND FEMALE YOUTH AS A PERCENTAGE OF POPULATION.

REGION	SEX	16-19 YEARS	20-24 YEARS
KAROONDA	MALE	6	7
KAROONDA	FEMALE	4	6
LAMEROO	MALE	7	6
LAMEROO	FEMALE	4	7
M.BRIDGE	MALE	7	8
M.BRIDGE	FEMALE	7	8

The male and female youth as a percentage of the total population for the three local government areas are relatively even as percentages of the total population. Except for males in Lameroo, the percentage of 16 to 19 year olds is higher than 20 to 24 year olds. There is a higher percentage of 20 to 24 year old youth in the Murray Bridge district council than any other council area.

The density of youth per one hundred square kilometres varies quite a lot. Karoonda has a youth population density of 4 youth / 100 Sq KM, Lameroo 5 youth / 100 Sq KM and Murray Bridge 116 youth / 100 Sq KM. The much higher density for Murray Bridge is to be expected because the actual population numbers for this area (14 634) are much larger than for Karoonda (1459) and Lameroo (1371).

Other statistics that have been obtained from the 1986 census and can be used to give background information on the three district council areas include; birth place, marital status, numbers of single parents, education levels, occupation and labour status.

TABLE TWO: NUMBERS OF NON AUSTRALIAN BORN RESIDENTS.

PLACE	NO OVERSEAS BORN	NO AUST BORN	% OVERSEAS BORN
KAROONDA	53	1400	4
LAMEROO	44	1318	3
MURRAY BRIDGE	1285	13222	9

None of the council areas chosen for the research have a high percentage of over seas born people living in their communities.

TABLE THREE: PROPORTIONS OF PERSONS BY MARITAL STATUS. 15 YEARS AND OVER AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL POPULATION.

PLACE	NEVER MARRIED	MARRIED	SEP. NOT DIVORCED	DIVORCED	WIDOW ED
KAROONDA	23	68	1	2	6
LAMEROO	22	70	0	2	5
MURRAY BRIDGE	25	62	3	5	6

The three areas also have very similar marital status figures. Murray Bridge has a slightly higher percentage of people who have never been married and who are divorcees and a lower percentage of married couples. Karoonda and Lameroo have 3% of their total populations being single people with dependants. Murray Bridge has a higher percentage of single parents (9%). The majority of single parent families in all three local government districts earn between \$0 and \$15 000 per year.

TABLE FOUR: EDUCATION LEVEL OF PEOPLE 20 YEARS AND OVER AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION OVER 20 YEARS.

PLACE	SEX	DEGREE	DIPLOMA	TRADE	NO QUALIFICATION
KAROONDA	MALE	2	1	7	83
KAROONDA	FEMALE	1	6	2	80
LAMEROO	MALE	4	3	11	82
LAMEROO	FEMALE	2	9	2	77
MURRAY BRIDGE	MALE	3	3	17	73
MURRAY BRIDGE	FEMALE	2	4	1	87

In all three areas there is a high percentage of unqualified persons over the age of 20 years, a low percentage of trades persons and lower percentages of people with diplomas or degrees. Karoonda and Lameroo both have higher percentages of unqualified males than females where as Murray Bridge has a higher percentages of unqualified females than males. In all areas males are more likely to have trades than females but females are more likely to have a degree or diploma.

TABLE FIVE: OCCUPATIONS OF YOUTH AGED 15 - 19 YEARS AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL POPULATION 15 - 19 YEARS.

PLACE	SEX	MANAGER & ADMIN	PROFESSIONAL	PARA PROFESSIONAL	TRADE	CLERK	SALES	PLANT	LABOURER
KAROONDA	MALE	34	0	0	9	0	6	6	46
KAROONDA	FEMALE	0	0	15	0	23	38	0	23
LAMEROO	MALE	14	0	0	22	16	0	5	32
LAMEROO	FEMALE	0	0	0	0	21	43	0	21
MURRAY BRIDGE	MALE	5	1	1	27	3	15	5	43
MURRAY BRIDGE	FEMALE	0	1	1	7	25	40	1	25

There is very little variation in occupations of youth aged 15 -19 years in the three Murray Mallee areas chosen for research. All have high percentages of male labourers, female sales persons and low percentages of professionals or para professionals regardless of sex. The one outstanding figure is the 34% of male managers and administrators in the Karoonda district. This high percentage of administrators and managers may be due to the fact that farmers are classified in this category in the census data. There is a lack of female managers and administrators in any of the three areas. Males are also more likely to have trades than females.

TABLE SIX: YOUTH LABOUR STATUS 15 - 19 YEARS AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL 15 - 19 YEARS POPULATION.

PLACE	SEX	EMPLOYED	SELF EMPLO	EMPLOYERS	UNPAID HELP	U/E LOOK F.T	U/E LOOK P.T	NOT IN LAB FORCE
KAROONDA	MALE	20	8	3	23	9	3	35
KAROONDA	FEMALE	32	0	0	6	6	0	56
LAMEROO	MALE	42	9	0	3	3	0	43
LAMEROO	FEMALE	32	0	0	6	18	0	44
MURRAY BRIDGE	MALE	49	1	0	1	13	1	35
MURRAY BRIDGE	FEMALE	41	0	0	0	8	3	48

The youth labour statistics for the fifteen to nineteen year age group indicate that except for males that live in the district council area of Murray Bridge, less than one half the population have entered the labour force. None of the local government areas have any self employed females.

On the whole these three regions are relatively similar in their demographic features and therefore the same questionnaire should be easily transferred from one region to another. The data obtained from the questionnaire should be able to be compared with out too much trouble. There are also some basic differences between the areas, for example population size, which will allow for some more interesting comparisons of data.

REFERENCES.

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THE 1986 CENSUS INFORMATION MID NORTH REGION.

The areas that will be studied in the north of the state are;

1. Crystal Brook

- has a Rural Youth Club in existence
- has a youth population of 189
- has a high youth density.

2. Peterborough

- Rural Youth club has recently been disbanded
- has high numbers and density of youth in the area is unique in the fact that it has become a "welfare town" since the wind down of Australian National.

3. Gladstone

- youth population is high enough to warrant a Rural Youth Club.
- attempts have been made in the past to establish Rural Youth in the region.

Each local government area would have sufficient youth to warrant a Club provided that the youth in the area are interested in joining a group. Crystal Brook has 189 youth in the age group on 16-24 years, Peterborough 293 and Gladstone 108.

These locations are also small enough for manageable research in this case. The sample sizes needed for valid research in these three locations are as follows; Crystal Brook 127, Gladstone 86 and Peterborough 196.(Isaac and Michael 1981.) As with the Murray Mallee sample, these sample sizes have been decreased for manageable research in a way that will ensure that the results will be valid.

TABLE ONE: YOUTH (16-24 YEARS) AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL POPULATION.

PLACE	SEX	16-19 YEARS	20-24 YEARS
CRYSTAL BROOK	MALE	6	5
GLADSTONE	MALE	6	8
P.BOROUGH DC	MALE	5	5
P.BOROUGH M	MALE	5	7

PLACE	SEX	16-19 YEARS	20-24 YEARS
CRYSTAL BROOK	FEMALE	4	7
GLADSTONE	FEMALE	5	4
P.BOROUGH DC	FEMALE	6	5
P.BOROUGH M	FEMALE	6	6

The three areas have similar percentages of youth even though the actual population numbers differ considerably. Gladstone has the smallest population of 923, Crystal Brook 1632 and Peterborough 2579. The youth density per one hundred kilometres differs considerably in the three areas. Crystal Brook has a youth density of 59 per 100 Sq KMs, Gladstone 36 per 100 Sq KMs, Peterborough district council 1 per 100 Sq KM and Peterborough township 4218 Sq KM.

TABLE TWO: NUMBERS OF NON AUSTRALIAN BORN RESIDENTS.

PLACE	NON AUST BORN	AUST BORN	% OVERSEAS BORN
CRYSTAL BROOK	98	1536	6
GLADSTONE	70	836	8
P.BOROUGH DC	25	313	7
P.BOROUGH M	179	2037	8

These locations do not have very high percentages of overseas born residents.

TABLE THREE: PROPORTIONS OF PERSONS BY MARITAL STATUS: 15 YEARS AND OVER AS A % OF TOTAL POPULATION.

PLACE	NEVER MARRIED	MARRIED	SEP NOT DIVORCED	DIVORCED	WIDOWED
CRYSTAL BROOK	23	65	2	3	8
GLADSTONE	21	67	3	3	6
P.BOROUGH DC	25	66	2	3	4
P.BOROUGH M	24	63	2	4	8

The figures for marital status are relatively similar. There are more married people than not, more widowed than divorced and more divorced than separated.

The majority of single parent families have an income of under \$15 000. 6% of the families in Crystal Brook are sole parent families, Gladstone 5%, Peterborough (DC) 0% and Peterborough (M) 7%.

TABLE FOUR: EDUCATION LEVEL OF 20 YEARS + AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL POPULATION OVER 20 YEARS.

PLACE	SEX	DEGREE	DIPLOMA	TRADE	NO QUAL.
CRYSTALBROOK	MALE	3	2	17	73
CRYSTALBROOK	FEMALE	2	5	2	82
GLADSTONE	MALE	4	3	13	75
GLADSTONE	FEMALE	2	6	2	83
P.BOROUGH DC	MALE	2	0	6	83
P.BOROUGH DC	FEMALE	2	5	2	79
P.BOROUGH M	MALE	3	1	14	70
P.BOROUGH M	FEMALE	2	3	1	88

Table Four indicates high percentages of unqualified people living in each of the three areas. There are more people with trades than with tertiary qualifications and males are more likely to have trades than females. Murray Mallee figures indicate that males were more likely to be unqualified than females, where as in the north of the state there are more unqualified females than males.

TABLE FIVE: OCCUPATIONS OF 15-19 YEAR OLDS AS PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL 15-19 YEAR OLD POPULATION.

PLACE	SEX	MAN ADMIN	PROF	PARA PROF	TRADE	CLERK	SALES	PLANT	LABOUR ER
C. BROOK	M	7	0	0	54	11	11	0	18
C. BROOK	F	0	0	10	10	30	35	0	15
G. STONE	M	12	0	0	53	12	0	12	12
G. STONE	F	0	0	0	22	22	56	0	0
P. BOROUGH DC	M	0	0	0	0	0	40	0	60
P. BOROUGH DC	F	0	0	0	0	100	0	0	0
P. BOROUGH M	M	8	0	0	21	8	8	8	46
P. BOROUGH M	F	0	0	7	0	19	63	0	11

The outstanding figure on this table is the complete lack of professionals in any area regardless of sex. There are no female managers and administrators or professionals and 100% of females in the district council area of Peterborough district council are clerks. Peterborough has the highest percentages of labourers and in all areas males are more likely to have trades than females. The lack of employees in the upper ranges of the census classifications could be related to the high percentage of unqualified youth and the high proportions of youth not in the labour force.

TABLE SIX: YOUTH LABOUR STATUS 15-19 YEARS AS PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL POPULATION 15-19 YEARS.

PLACE	SEX	EMPLOYED	SELF EMPL	EMPLOYERS	UNPAID HELP	U.E LOOK F.T	U.E. LOOK P.T	NOT IN LAB FORCE
C.BROOK	M	36	0	3	0	22	0	39
C.BROOK	F	34	0	0	0	14	3	48
G.STONE	M	43	0	0	0	5	0	51
G.STONE	F	27	0	0	0	17	7	50
P.BOROUGH DC	M	33	0	0	17	17	0	33
P.BOROUGH DC	F	20	0	0	0	30	0	50
P.BOROUGH M	M	28	0	0	4	22	4	42
P.BOROUGH M	F	33	0	0	0	19	2	45

There are no self employed 15-19 year olds in any areas and Crystalbrook is the only district council that has employers in this age group. Peterborough strict council has the highest percentage of females looking for full time Work. Gladstone has the highest percentages of males and females that are not in the labour force. Peterborough local government regions are the only ones that have unpaid helpers

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METHODOLOGY.

Due to the nature of this study, it is necessary to consider the methodology in two categories. The aim of the research is two fold; to determine the characteristics of the members of the Rural Youth Movement and to ascertain whether the Movement could meet the social needs of the population in the following five local government districts;

1. Karoonda.
2. Lameroo.
3. Murray Bridge.
4. Peterborough.
5. Rocky River.

This leads the research into two distinct areas. In this section the methodology used to determine the characteristics of people who are members of the Rural Youth Movement will be considered first. The methodology used to determine the social needs of the young people in each community will be discussed secondly.

The first task to be carried out in this research was to decide upon which local government districts would be used for the study. The methodology for this decision has been discussed in an earlier section of this report as has a description of the population in each of these local government districts. Once the local government areas had been chosen for research, key people, such as Principals of schools, were approached for ideas on accessing youth in the community.

THE RURAL YOUTH MOVEMENT STUDY.

THE SAMPLE

There are two Rural Youth Clubs within these five local government districts. One at Crystal Brook in the Rocky River Local Government District and one in the Murray Mallee Local Government District of Murray Bridge. These two clubs were used as a representative sample of the Rural Youth Movement to determine the characteristics of those who attend and the kinds of activities carried out by the Rural Youth Movement.

DATA COLLECTION

A questionnaire was devised to determine the characteristics of the young people who attend the Rural Youth Clubs in Mid North and Murray Mallee regions of the state. The questionnaire also considered the kinds of things that these young people do with their recreation and leisure time, how long they had been members of the Movement, how they first found out about the Rural Youth Movement and what they like and/or dislike about the club that they attend. A copy of the questionnaire is attached in Appendix One.

The president of each club was approached and their help solicited to distribute the questionnaires to the members of their club. Each club President agreed to the questionnaire being distributed at a Club meeting, with myself attending and being available to give information to members about the study and to answer any questions that may arise.

The Crystal Brook Club had only four members, all agreed to complete the questionnaire. The Lower Murray Club had a membership listing of fifteen, however there were considerably more people at the meeting. The first eighteen people who arrived at the meeting agreed to complete

the questionnaire. This led to a total sample size of twenty two.

As this questionnaire was very similar to the one proposed for the community questionnaire, this part of the methodology was also used as a pilot for the community questionnaire.

LIMITATIONS OF THIS METHODOLOGY

The nature of the population and the data collection method for this section leads to many limitations. Firstly the sample size is small. Twenty two members out of a possible three hundred and eighty were sampled. The sample was not chosen at random because of the defined areas for study. It must be recognised that the membership of other Rural Youth Clubs could be vastly different to that of the two clubs studied. However due to the aim of the research, this was the best way to find out about the Rural Youth Clubs in existence within the designated state regions.

THE RURAL YOUTH COMMUNITY POPULATION STUDY.

THE SAMPLE

The sample of sixteen and seventeen year old youths was obtained by visiting the secondary schools in each area and asking the Principals if questionnaires could be given to their year eleven and twelve students. The sample was not chosen at random but by the Principal of each school selecting the appropriate students.

The sample of older youth was selected randomly from a print out from the South Australian Electoral Commission electoral role, of people aged between eighteen and twenty six years of age. The total sample number is 344 people. The number of questionnaires to be sent to each area was calculated using the following formula from Isaac and Micheal (1981):

$$S = \frac{X^2 NP (1 - P)}{d^2 (N - 1) + X^2 P (1 - P)}, \text{ in which}$$

S = required sample size

N = the given population size, from the electoral role

P = population proportion assumed at .10

= the degree of accuracy as reflected by the amount of error that can be tolerated in the fluctuation of a sample proportion P about the population proportion P the value for d being .05, a quantity equal to +/-1.96 P.

The formula originally assumed P as being equal to .50. This has been changed to .10 so that smaller sample numbers could be used but the results could still be statistically significant. With this change the sample sizes for each area are;

Karoonda	55
Lameroo	61
Murray Bridge	91
Peterborough	67
Rocky River	70

DATA COLLECTION

A questionnaire was devised to determine what young people in the community do with their spare time, what recreation and leisure facilities are available in the community, whether they are members of any clubs, if they have heard of the Rural Youth Movement and if any of the activities conducted by the Rural Youth Movement would be of interest to them. A copy of the questionnaire can be found in Appendix Two. This questionnaire has many similarities to the Rural Youth Members questionnaire and comparisons of demographic data and data relating to what young people do with their spare time will be possible.

To access the youth population aged sixteen and seventeen in each community, the schools in each local government district were approached and the permission gained from the Principals for questionnaires to be distributed to the students aged fifteen and above. This led to 37 questionnaires being responded to by students from Karoonda Area School, 24 from Lameroo Area School, 32 from Murray Bridge High School, 27 from Peterborough High School and 41 from Gladstone High School.

The Electoral Commission was approached for a list of people aged between eighteen and twenty six years of age from each of the local government districts chosen for research. This list was supplied after a proposal was presented to the Privacy Committee at the Attorney General's Department and this committee approved the supply of the information.

Once this information was received, a computer program was developed to randomly select the required sample number from the electoral role print out. A questionnaire was then posted to each randomly selected person with a return paid envelope. One week after the questionnaire was posted a reminder letter was sent to each person (see Appendix Three) asking them to respond to the questionnaire as soon as possible.

LIMITATIONS OF THIS METHODOLOGY

The sampling method used for this component of the research has limitations related to the population sample. Firstly only those sixteen and seventeen year olds at school and present on that particular day were sampled. Any young people that had left school have not been represented. The school aged people were not selected at random. In all schools other than Murray Bridge all sixteen and seventeen year olds completed a questionnaire. At Murray Bridge the 32 students were selected by the teacher. Only those people on the electoral role have been represented in the sample aged eighteen to twenty six. Therefore those people who are not on the electoral role or are on the electoral role for a different region were not included in the sample.

The survey by post method itself has limitations. The response rate is usually relatively low even with return paid envelopes. The method of using questionnaires eliminates those people who are unable to read and/or write.

CHARACTERISTICS OF RURAL YOUTH MEMBERS.

Members of the Rural Youth Movement that completed the questionnaire are most likely to spend their spare time watching television/videos, listening to music and/or socialising at a hotel. They are not likely to be interested in arts or crafts and rarely have an interest in sport. The most outstanding result in this section of the research is the lack of interest in sport by the members of the Rural Youth Movement who completed a questionnaire. Sport and the associated social events that occur with this type of recreation are often the backbone of community activity in rural communities. The Rural Youth Movement may be able to use this information to access the young people in the community who are not interested in sport to fulfil their recreation and leisure needs by offering them Rural Youth as an alternative. A complete print out of the results of this section is available from Rural Youth Head Office. The following table highlights the lack of interest in sport as a recreation and leisure activity by members of the Rural Youth Movement.

TABLE ONE: SPORT AS A RECREATION AND LEISURE ACTIVITY.

	TENNIS	FOOTBALL	CRICKE T	NETBALL	BASKETBALL
OFTEN	10.5%	5.3%	5%	5.3%	16.7%
SOMETIMES	10.5%	0	5%	5.3%	5.6%
RARELY	21.1%	10.5%	10%	10.5%	5.6%
NEVER	57.9%	84.2%	80%	78.9%	72.2%

The majority of Rural Youth Members surveyed found out about their club through friends (59.1%). Their reasons for joining were because they wanted to meet new friends and because the Rural Youth Club sounded interesting. Only one respondent out of twenty two joined because he/she was bored. The young people who are currently members of the Crystal Brook Rural Youth Club or are associated with the Lower Murray Rural Youth Club have had a short affinity with the Rural Youth Movement, being members for less than two years. As few as 14.3% of members have been involved with Rural Youth for longer than two years.

The activities that the clubs offer that are of most interest to the Rural Youth Members are the rallies, the parties, the travel opportunities, the social events and the car rallies. Members least enjoyed the business meetings and the public speaking. Very few respondents had ideas on how to change Rural Youth. Ideas from those who did respond included increasing the power given to the areas having a state function per area per year and increasing the number of female members.

The questions in the questionnaire aimed at determining the demographic data of the Rural Youth Members resulted in showing that the average age of those who completed the questionnaire was twenty years. 77.3% were male and all have a single marital status. The results of this data do not accurately represent the percentages of males and females in the Movement as a whole. Of the 401 financial members of Rural Youth (November 1990), 53.27% are male and 46.73% are female. The portfolio holders in 1990 are all female. The majority of members are single, and as with the two clubs surveyed, the average age is twenty years.

Very few of those surveyed are currently attending school, which is to be expected as most are over school age. Approximately one fifth of those who responded are not in the labour force, ie they are either attending some educational institution or are unemployed. Of those respondents in the labour force, most hold full time employment and their occupations are categorised as being of labouring or related employment. The industry, business or service provided by their employers is most often related to agriculture. Over half (55%) of the twelve members that responded to this question listed their Fathers occupation as farming of some kind with their Mothers occupation being either farmer or farmers wife. This can be interpreted by saying that those people who are currently involved in the Rural Youth Club are likely to have some connection with the rural industry.

TABLE TWO: EDUCATION STATUS OF RURAL YOUTH MEMBERS.

STATUS	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Secondary School	2	9.5
Tertiary Institution	1	4.8
Other	3	14.3
Not at school	15	71.4

TABLE THREE: EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF RURAL YOUTH MEMBERS.

STATUS	FREQUENCY	PERCENT
Full Time	12	54.5
Part Time	3	13.6
Casual	2	9.1
Unemployed	3	13.6
At School	2	9.1

RESULTS.

The results of this study will be presented in separate sections. The first section of results will consider the actual data received from the questionnaires that were responded to by young people in each of the communities selected for the purpose of this research. The second section of results will consider the data received in terms of proportion of population. The data gathered from Murray Bridge will be considered independently of the other areas in section three as the response rate and sampling fraction for this area were very low. Section four will be a comparison of the characteristics of Rural Youth members and those who are not members of Rural Youth. Due to the way that the information has been gathered, each section will consider the results in two forms. (A) The information from the schools. (B) The information from the electoral role respondents. The reasoning behind this structure of the results is:

1. It is considered important that the Rural Youth Movement have the information that was gathered directly from the questionnaires as this reflects the patterns experienced if a recruitment programme through schools and the electoral role meetings had been held. However it must be recognised that this information is not representative of the entire youth population. The return rate from the schools is much higher than the return rate from people accessed through the electoral role. As well as this imbalance there is a difference in the return rates from each of the areas, lead to a further bias in results. Therefore the results will be presented both in the raw form and in a weighted form. The weighted, or population results, are based on results from the questionnaire respondents but have been adjusted to account for the probability of each person being chosen and responding. They represent the best estimate of the responses for all young people in the study area.

2. It should be noted that when calculating the results of the questionnaire data as a proportion of the population, the assumption is made that the rest of the population, if they had completed a questionnaire, would have responded in the same way as those who did fill out and return questionnaires. The problem with this assumption is that the entire youth population may not give responses the same as those who completed questionnaires.

3. Murray Bridge has been excluded from the weighted results. The response rate for this local government district was so low in relation to the entire population of youth that the result biased the population estimates far too much. The results for Murray Bridge have been presented but should be considered with great caution.

A copy of all the result print outs in their entirety can be obtained from Rural Youth Head Office.

SECTION ONE: UNADJUSTED DATA FROM QUESTIONNAIRES.

RECREATION AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES OF SCHOOL AGED YOUTH OF ALL AREAS.

The number of respondents in this section of the research was 158. The data was collected by surveying sixteen and seventeen year old youths in their school environment. As with Rural Youth Members this group of young people tended to spend their spare time watching television/videos, listening to music and being involved in informal activities with friends. Sport as a recreation and leisure time activity was fairly evenly distributed with about half of the respondents often or sometimes playing sport and the other half rarely or never being involved in sport. Cricket is the least likely sport to be played by school aged youth. Table one highlights the likelihood of sport being played by these young people as a component of their spare time activities.

TABLE 1:1. SPORT AS A RECREATION AND LEISURE ACTIVITY OF SCHOOL AGED RESPONDENTS.

OPTION	TENNIS	FOOTBALL	CRICKET	NETBALL	BASKETBALL
Often	25.6%	23.2%	6.5%	23.7%	20.6%
Sometimes	24.4%	15.5%	23.9%	14.1%	16.8%
Rarely	19.2%	17.4%	16.1%	16%	21.9%
Never	30.8%	43.9%	53.5%	46.2%	40.6%

The questions aimed at determining the what these young people like and dislike about their community were responded to very well. The people and sense of community, the facilities (especially sporting facilities) and the peace and quiet were the most common responses for things most liked about the community. Other responses included freedom and space, absence of pollution and community activities, again pertaining most often to sport. The most frequent responses to the worst things about living in the community that they do lack of things to do, the gossip grapevine, lack of facilities and distance from a larger city. The respondents appeared to be more certain of the things they did like compared to the things that they did not like.

None of the respondents mentioned the Rural Youth Movement in their knowledge of facilitates for recreation and leisure in their community. Sporting clubs were the most often mentioned facilities, and were the most likely clubs that these young people are members of. More than two thirds (67.9%) of people believe that the clubs in their community are meeting their needs, especially pertaining to leisure, fitness and social needs. This opinion was reiterated by the low percentage of people (16.8%) who knew of other clubs or groups in their area that they would like to be apart of. Again the Rural Youth Movement was not mentioned in this section.

When asked if they would be interested in a group that offered the kinds of activities that Rural Youth offers 88.2% of respondents answered positively. However when asked to respond yes or no for interest in the more specific types of activities offered by Rural Youth, and those which are advertised on the Rural Youth Movement flyer the results were very different. Of the fifteen activities advertised in the flyer, less than half had a favourable response. See Table 1:2.

TABLE 1:2. INTEREST IN THE ACTIVITIES THAT THE RURAL YOUTH MOVEMENT OFFERS FOR SCHOOL AGED RESPONDENTS. YES>50%.

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE YES	PERCENTAGE NO	OVERALL INTEREST
Weekends Away	76.8	23.3	Yes
Discos	76.1	23.9	Yes
Camps	74.2	25.8	Yes
Car Rallies	71	29	Yes
Sporting Matches	67.1	32.9	Yes
Recreation Nights	61.9	38.1	Yes
Exchanges Interstate	56.8	43.2	Yes
Cabarets	48.4	51.6	No
Community Projects	24.5	75.5	No
Drama	17.4	82.9	No
Art	17	84	No
Craft	16.1	83.8	No
Educational Events	13.5	86.5	No
Public Speaking	12.3	87.7	No
Domestic Skills	8.4	91.6	No

Only 6.1% of respondents had been a member of a Rural Youth Club but had discontinued their membership. Reasons for discontinuing membership included that the club had disbanded, membership declined or that they had become bored with what Rural Youth was offering.

The demographic data showed that 49% of respondents were female and 51% male. All were single and most were 16 years of age. Twenty five percent of respondents have some kind of paid employment as well as being at school. Of those that are employed, 55.3% have a job related to sales, eg. shop assistant.

RECREATION AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES OF YOUTH AGED EIGHTEEN TO TWENTY SIX.

As with those people who are members of the Rural Youth Movement and the respondents from the schools, the people who responded to the questionnaire for this section, (105), tended to utilise their recreation and leisure time watching television/videos, listening to music or engaging in informal activities with friends. Art and craft were not popular spare time activities. Discos are not as preferred by this age group and on the whole the people who responded were not as interested in sporting activities as their younger counter parts. The following table highlights the types of sport that this age group are interested in. Again cricket is the least likely sport to be played by the respondents. The table 1:3. below indicates the likelihood of sport being a recreation

and leisure activity for this age group.

TABLE 1.3. SPORT AS A RECREATION AND LEISURE ACTIVITY OF RESPONDENTS 18-26 YEARS.

OPTION	TENNIS	FOOTBALL	CRICKET	NETBALL	BASKETBALL
Often	14.9%	20.4%	10.3%	18.2%	11.2%
Sometimes	20.8%	13.3%	15.5%	13.1%	16.3%
rarely	18.8%	7.1%	12.4%	8.1%	13.3%
Never	45.5%	59.2%	61.9%	60.6%	59.2%

The respondents of the questionnaire were very positive about the aspects of their community that they liked. On the whole the facilities that the community has, especially sporting facilities were listed as being the best thing about the community in which they live. The peace and quiet of rural living rated next on best points of the community, followed by the people, their friends and the sense of community. Finally the community activities were mentioned as a positive thing about the respondents community. The negative responses relating to the community were the lack of things to do socially, the lack of employment opportunities, the lack of facilities especially shopping facilities, the gossip grape vine and the distances that have to be travelled to facilities and friends.

Out of the one hundred and five people who responded to the questionnaire, only one person mentioned Rural Youth as a recreation/leisure club that they knew of in their community. People were quite knowledgeable about the types of facilities in their community. 96% of respondents knew of sporting facilities available in their community and 62.7% were members of a sporting club. Art and craft facilities are not well known in the communities and it is unlikely that young people are members of art and craft clubs. Recreation and leisure clubs were known of in the community but it was not likely that people would be members of these clubs, (eg. Apex). Youth that responded to the question relating to whether or not the clubs/groups available in their community meet their needs, tended to respond positively (82.6%). The needs that these clubs met were leisure, social and fitness needs.

The number of people who would be interested in Rural Youth in this age group are considerably less than the school aged youth. Only 51.5% of respondents said that they would be interested in being a member of the Rural Youth Movement. Nine percent of people said that they maybe interested in Rural Youth depending on if their friends were also interested and if Rural Youth offered the types of activities that interested them. When it came to responding to the types of activities advertised by Rural Youth in their flyer, the responses were very negative. Of the fifteen activities a positive response was received to only three activities. The following table illustrates the lack of interest by the respondents in what Rural Youth offers according to its flyer.

TABLE 1:4. INTEREST IN THE ACTIVITIES THAT THE RURAL YOUTH MOVEMENT OFFERS OF 18-26 YEAR OLD RESPONDENTS.

ACTIVITY	PERCENTAGE YES	PERCENTAGE NO	OVERALL INTEREST YES > 50%
Sporting Matches	61	39	Yes
Weekends Away	55	45	Yes
Car Rallies	50	50	Yes/No
Camps	49	51	No
Recreation Nights	45	55	No
Cabarets	42	58	No
Exchanges Interstate	42	58	No
Community Projects	39	61	No
Discos	38	62	No
Educational Events	32	68	No
Craft	31	69	No
Art	17.2	82.8	No
Domestic Skills	15	85	No
Drama	14	86	No
Public Speaking	12	88	No

Some of the respondents had previously been a member of a Rural Youth Club in their area (11%). They had discontinued their membership for a variety of reasons including that the club had disbanded, they had become bored with the club or that the club no longer provided the activities that they wished to be apart of.

The information gathered from the questions related to the demographic features of the respondents indicated that slightly more females responded than males. Females made up 52.5% of the respondents and males 47.5%. The majority were single (61.8%) and all bar one person was born in Australia. The mean age of respondents was 23. Most respondents were not at school, which is to be expected as the age group begins at eighteen years. The employment status of these people is that 72.5% have some kind of employment, the majority being related to agriculture or are of a labouring nature. The industry, business or service carried out by the respondents employers were on the whole either related to agriculture or community service.

SECTION TWO: PROJECTION OF RESULTS TO THE TOTAL YOUTH POPULATION OF THE STUDY AREA.

As previously mentioned, Murray Bridge has been excluded from this section of the results due to the low response rate from this area. This would have resulted in a bias in the population estimates. The results for Murray Bridge alone can be found in Section Three.

RECREATION AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES OF SCHOOL AGED YOUTH.

When comparing these results to the actual numbers of respondents in the previous results section, the percentages vary only marginally. The trends in spare time activities and the same as when considering actual data. Listening to music is the favoured spare time activity of the total youth population, with watching television/videos second and being involved in informal activities with friends a close third. There were distinct differences in the likelihood of the total population playing sport. Tennis is the only sport that has over one half of the population often or sometimes utilising it as a spare time activity (54.1%) Cricket and football are the least favoured sports, 30.1% and 37.4% respectively. Netball and basketball both rate around the 42% mark for popularity.

The best attributes of the community across population were again similar to the previous data. The people, sense of community and the sporting facilities remained the best characteristics of the community with the peace and quiet being replaced with community activities. The worst aspects of the community remained as the lack of things to do, the gossip grapevine and the distance to a larger city, with the lack of facilities becoming of less importance when considered across population.

Across population the school aged youth were more often members of sporting clubs and less often members of recreation and leisure facilities. A 92.4% interest in the Rural Youth Movement occurs when the results of the data are processed across the total youth population. With 7.8% of the population being previous members of Rural Youth. There are definite different trends of interest in the activities that Rural Youth offers when the results of the research are considered at a population level. Table 2:1 presents a comparison of the results of the overall interest in the activities that Rural Youth offers in actual numbers and at a population level. The raw data showed that more than 50% of youth were only interested in seven of the fifteen activities offered. When the results are projected for the population there is an interest in eight of the activities, with cabarets being included in activities in of interest.

TABLE 2:1. COMPARISON OF INTEREST OF SCHOOL AGED YOUTH IN ACTIVITIES OFFERED BY RURAL YOUTH.

ACTIVITY	MORE THAN 50% INTEREST ACTUAL RESPONDENTS	MORE THAN 50% INTEREST PROJECTED POPULATION
Discos	Yes	Yes
Camps	Yes	Yes
Exchanges Interstate	Yes	Yes
Car Rallies	Yes	Yes
Weekends Away	Yes	Yes
Sporting Matches	Yes	Yes
Recreation Nights	Yes	Yes
Cabarets	No	Yes
Community Projects	No	No
Educational Events	No	No
Domestic Skills	No	No
Public Speaking	No	No
Drama	No	No
Craft	No	No
Art	No	No

The demographic data remained for the most part unchanged. The exception being that at a population level the chances of these school aged youth having some kind of employment increased slightly from 25% to 29.8%. This slightly inflated result could be contributed to by the high numbers of young people in one area having some kind of employment.

RECREATION AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES OF YOUTH EIGHTEEN TO TWENTY SIX.

As with the school aged results, the trends did not alter much when the data was projected to the population. In comparison with the school aged proportions, more spare time was spent going to a hotel by this population, which is to be expected when taking into account the age difference. Less than one half of the population spend their spare time playing the sports listed in the questionnaire on a regular basis.

The best qualities of the community remain as the people, sense of community, the peace and quiet and the facilities available in the community especially sporting facilities. The lack of things to do, the lack of facilities, the lack of employment and the distances to be travelled to reach friends and facilities are considered the worst things about the communities studied. The gossip grape vine becomes less significant when considered at the population level. This suggests that the gossip grape vine is more significant in some areas than others.

There is a slight increase in the percentage of population that would be interested in Rural Youth from 51.5% to 53%. However there is still a lack of interest in the activities that Rural Youth offer young people. Table 2:2 compares the interest by eighteen to twenty six year olds in the activities offered by Rural Youth. Car rallies have become a negative rather than a border line interest.

TABLE 2:2. COMPARISON OF INTEREST IN RURAL YOUTH ACTIVITIES IN ACTUAL NUMBERS AND AS A PERCENTAGE OF THE TOTAL YOUTH POPULATION.

ACTIVITY	MORE THAN 50% INTEREST ACTUAL RESPONDENTS	MORE THAN 50% INTEREST PROJECTED POPULATION
Weekends Away	Yes	Yes
Sporting Matches	Yes	Yes
Car Rallies	Yes/No	No
Community Projects	No	No
Educational Events	No	No
Cabarets	No	No
Discos	No	No
Camps	No	No
Recreation Nights	No	No
Exchanges Interstate	No	No
Domestic Skills	No	No
Public Speaking	No	No
Drama	No	No
Craft	No	No
Art	No	No

The demographic data remained basically the same as the demographic data of the actual results of the questionnaires. There were a few minor changes in percentages but the trends in information remained the same. The labour status figures showed a decrease in the percent of employed people from 72.5% to 64%, but the types of employing industries remained as predominantly agriculture and community service. Almost one half (43.1%) of the population are either married or living in a defacto relationship.

Using these weighted results, it can be estimated that if the entire population of 16 to 26 year olds was surveyed, 231 sixteen and seventeen year olds and 417 eighteen to twenty six year olds would be likely to be interested in Rural Youth membership, a total of 648. Bias in responding indicates that this estimate is high should be used as an upper bound for the potential number of members.

SECTION THREE: MURRAY BRIDGE RESULTS.

MURRAY BRIDGE RECREATION AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES OF SCHOOL AGED YOUTH AS A PROPORTION OF THE TOTAL MURRAY BRIDGE YOUTH POPULATION.

It is important that any results from the Murray Bridge region be considered with caution. This is due to a very low response rate from a large population. Which resulted in some bias and a high error because of a small sampling fraction. Therefore when the results of the questionnaires are weighted so as the entire youth population of Murray Bridge is accounted for, it must be expected that there will be a very high probability of error. It is recommended that the following information is used as a guide and hence only obvious discrepancies from previous results will be outlined.

The young people of Murray Bridge do not have a great interest in sport. They have the same likes and dislikes of their community as young people from other areas, except that the river is considered to be one of the good things about Murray Bridge and the high incidence of pollution to the environment and the crime and violence that occurs in the community are recognised as being undesirable characteristics of Murray Bridge. 71.4% of the population registered an interest in the Rural Youth Movement but there is interest in only six of the fifteen activities offered by the Movement. The labour status of these school aged youth show that 21.4% of the population have some kind of employment but none in the agricultural industry. All employment is related to the whole sale and retail industries.

MURRAY BRIDGE RECREATION AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES OF YOUTH EIGHTEEN TO TWENTY SIX AS A PROPORTION OF THE TOTAL YOUTH POPULATION.

Again this age group is not sport orientated, it is not likely that this age group are even members of a sporting club in the community. The high incidence of crime and violence is considered to be one of the negative attributes of the community, as is the gossip grape vine. The interest in Rural Youth by this population is not at all high. Only 33.3%. one third of the population would be interested in what Rural Youth offers young people. There was a registered interest in four out of the fifteen activities offered by Rural Youth, two of these the interest was only 50%. 88.2% of this population were employed mainly in manufacturing, sales and community service.

SECTION FOUR: COMPARISON OF RESULTS.

The interest in Rural Youth tends to vary with the age group of the respondents. The younger population is more interested in joining a club such as Rural Youth and have a greater interest in the types of activities that Rural Youth offer. An interesting result considering the average age of Rural Youth members is twenty years. The following table indicates how interested in Rural Youth young people are.

TABLE 4:1 PERCENTAGES OF INTERESTED YOUNG PEOPLE IN THE RURAL YOUTH MOVEMENT.

	ACTUAL SCHOOL AGED RESPONDENTS	ACTUAL 18-26 YEAR OLD RESPONDENTS	PROPORTION OF POPULATION SCHOOL AGED	PROPORTION OF POPULATION 18-26 YEARS
YES	88.2%	51.5%	92.4%	53%
NO	7.9%	39.4%	5.2%	39.5%
MAYBE	3.9%	9.1%	2.5%	7.6%

TABLE 4:2 COMPARISON OF THE INTEREST IN THE ACTIVITIES THAT RURAL YOUTH OFFERS TO YOUNG PEOPLE. Yes>50%, No<50%

ACTIVITY	ACTUAL SCHOOL AGED RESPONDENTS	PROPORTION OF POPULATION SCHOOL AGED	ACTUAL 18 TO 26 YEARS RESPONDENTS	PROPORTION OF POPULATION 18-26 YEARS
Discos	yes	yes	no	no
Camps	yes	yes	no	no
Exchanges Interstate	yes	yes	no	no
Community Projects	no	no	no	no
Educational Events	no	no	no	no
Cabarets	no	yes	no	no
Weekends Away	yes	yes	yes	yes
Sporting Matches	yes	yes	yes	yes
Recreation Nights	yes	yes	no	no
Car Rallies	yes	yes	yes/no	no
Domestic Skills	no	no	no	no
Public Speaking	no	no	no	no
Drama	no	no	no	no
Craft	no	no	no	no
Art	no	no	no	no

This table indicates that young people are not interested in what Rural Youth is offering according to its flyer. The only activities that all age groups have an interest in are week ends away and sporting matches. The younger population have an interest in discos, camps, exchanges interstate, recreation nights and car rallies. No interest was registered in domestic skills, public speaking, drama, craft and art.

The people who are members of the Rural Youth Movement have a lesser interest in sporting activities than those people who are not members.

TABLE 4.3. COMPARISON OF INTEREST IN SPORT AS A RECREATION AND LEISURE TIME ACTIVITY.

SPORT	RURAL YOUTH MEMBERS	ACTUAL SCHOOL AGED RESPONDENTS	ACTUAL 18-26 YEAR OLD RESPONDENTS
TENNIS	21%	50%	35.7%
FOOTBALL	5.3%	38.7%	33.7%
CRICKET	10%	30.4%	25.8%
NETBALL	10.6%	37.8%	31.3%
BASKETBALL	22.3%	37.4%	27.5%

The table indicates the probability that people that are potential members of Rural Youth are those who do not utilise sport as a recreation and leisure time activity.

DISCUSSION.

The results of this study have presented some interesting points for discussion, especially when considering membership recruitment. Firstly the apparent lack of participation in sport by Rural Youth Members indicates that the Rural Youth Movement may be able to increase membership by concentrating its recruitment on those people who do not spend their spare time playing sport. In rural communities sport is often the back bone of the social calendar of the community and those who live in it. Young people are expected to like and be a part of sporting teams and clubs. Rural Youth could offer an alternative for those who are not sport orientated.

The age range of those who are most interested in joining Rural Youth centres around the sixteen and seventeen year olds. However the average age of Rural Youth members is twenty years. This age difference could well be related to the decline in new members to Rural Youth for two reasons:

1. Because the average age of members is 20 years it is highly probable that the activities conducted by Rural Youth are being driven by older people. This may serve to be a barrier for the recruitment of younger people to Rural Youth.

2. Sixteen and seventeen year olds are not legally old enough to buy or consume alcohol. The public perception is that a considerable component of the activities offered by Rural Youth are alcohol related. The parents of the minors may not approve of their off spring attending Rural Youth functions.

The Movement may wish to consider having less alcohol related activities and/or a publicity campaign aimed at school aged youth and their parents advertising non alcohol related functions and/or conducting activities directed towards the younger age group. The drug and alcohol policy being developed by State executive could be a good starting point for addressing this issue and attempting to upgrade the public image of Rural Youth.

The re-introduction of Junior Rural Youth clubs could be a way of recruiting the younger population into Rural Youth and having younger members to take on the positions of the older members on retirement from active service in the Movement. Junior Rural Youth clubs would be dependant on older members for support, supervision and guidance. It would require present members of Rural Youth to be responsible and accountable for the re-introduction, recruitment of members and running of Junior Rural Youth.

Publicity appears to be a problem for the Rural Youth Movement. The results indicate that there are young people in the community who are interested in what Rural Youth has to offer in the way of recreation and leisure activities but are not members of a club. The Rural Youth advertising flyer covers activities that young people are not interested in. If these are the activities that Rural Youth is actually offering then some consideration needs to be given to adapting Rural Youth activities to suit what young people are interested in. If the activities advertised on the brochure are out of date and/ or misleading it may be time to consider revamping the flyer. If individual clubs are offering their own unique activities, these need to be communicated to young people who are potential members of Rural Youth.

If the Rural Youth movement wishes to capture the interest of the eighteen to twenty six year old age group, then it appears necessary to reconsider the kinds of activities being advertised as there was very little interest by the older age group in the activities that Rural Youth is offering. The provision of child care or conducting family type functions may be the best way to entice these people to Rural Youth because approximately 43% of the population in the study areas are

either married or living in a defacto relationship.

The State Executive meeting held in September 1990 indicated that there is some unrest in the ranks of the Rural Youth Movement. The financial situation of the Department of Agriculture may well result in Rural Youth becoming accountable for the \$38,000 funding it receives each year. With funding at this level, the Department of Agriculture is subsidising each financial member to the tune of around \$100 per member per year. At this rate and in the present economic climate, it must be expected that the Rural Youth Movement will be called upon to justify this funding in the future. Attention may need to be given to young people who are associated with Rural Youth but are not financial members.

It appears that the State Executive is frustrated by the lack of membership. However there tends to be an assumption that Rural Youth Clubs will form by themselves and exist with little support from other clubs. Group formation is a complex, diverse process. Groups of people will not form and maintain themselves in a club with out extensive support from the leaders of the Movement and other clubs in the area. A lesson may be learned by the Rural Youth Movement about what happens to unsupported newly formed clubs by assessing the situation that occurred with the Peterborough Rural Youth Club. This club disbanded after eighteen months and it appears that lack of support from the Rural Youth Movement may have had some effect on the situation. A series of workshops on group formation and maintenance may dispel some of the myths that the Rural Youth Movement has on group dynamics.

RECOMMENDATIONS.

1. In an effort to increase membership, a recruitment drive aimed at school aged youth be carried out.
2. A publicity campaign to improve the public image of Rural Youth be conducted.
3. A policy on drugs and alcohol which takes into account the position of younger members be written and implemented by the State Executive in conjunction with the members of the Movement.
4. The possibility of Junior Rural Youth being re-introduced to cater for younger people be considered.
5. The advertising brochure that Rural Youth has be updated to specify activities that are of more interest to prospective members.
6. Each area design an insert for the brochure to advertise activities of individual Rural Youth Clubs.
7. That Rural Youth review the types of activities that it is offering and whether these are the activities that are of interest to young people in the community.
8. That an evaluation of Rural Youth be implemented to review current aims and objectives of the Movement and formulate future plans, aims and objectives.
9. That people who are associated with Rural Youth who are not financial members be encouraged to become financial members as soon as possible.
10. That Lib McClure be approached to conduct training on group formation, development and dynamics so as new clubs are given as much support as possible in the first two years of existence.

If the Rural Youth Movement is to work its way out of its present decline, it is necessary for drastic changes to occur immediately. The decline in the Movement has been obvious over the past decade and some of the blame can be directed to the rural decline and the number of people leaving the land. However Rural Youth members need to take responsibility for and make a commitment to reconstruct the Movement to an active, credible organisation. The potential is there in the 400 people that are currently members of the organisation and the possible 648 potential members living in the study areas alone.

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APPENDIX ONE.

RURAL YOUTH MEMBER QUESTIONNAIRE.



Rural Youth Movement of South Australia Inc.

GPO Box 1671 ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Rural Youth Member,

I am a fourth year social work student currently undertaking my final placement at the Department of Agriculture, Rural Affairs Unit.

As a part of this placement I will be planning and implementing a social research project looking into rural youth needs in South Australia's Murray Mallee and Mid North regions.

The purpose of the attached survey is to determine whether some of the rural youth's needs can be met by young people attending organised functions such as those arranged by the Rural Youth Movement of South Australia.

All information will be confidential and there is therefore no reason for names and addresses of respondents to be given. The information gained from this survey will be used in conjunction with information gained from young people living in rural areas, in an effort to improve the service that Rural Youth provides to young people living in country areas of South Australia.

Your co operation with this research, by responding to the attached survey, will not only be appreciated but will also aid future studies in this area. The survey can be returned to me by using the addressed envelope provided. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me during working hours on (08) 226 0439.

Yours Sincerely,

Jane Pool.
Social Work Student,
Rural Affairs Unit.

RURAL YOUTH GROUP MEMBERS QUESTIONNAIRE

INSTRUCTIONS: PLEASE TICK THE APPROPRIATE ANSWER IN THE BOX(ES) PROVIDED AND GIVE ADDED INFORMATION WHERE REQUIRED.

1. WHAT SORT OF THINGS DO YOU DO WITH YOUR SPARE TIME AND HOW OFTEN?
PLEASE TICK AS MANY AS NECESSARY.

	OFTEN	SOMETIMES	RARELY	NEVER
WATCH T.V./VIDEOS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
LISTEN TO MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
READ	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
DO ARTS OR CRAFTS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
INFORMAL ACTIVITIES WITH FRIENDS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GO TO DISCOS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
GO TO A HOTEL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PLAY TENNIS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PLAY FOOTBALL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PLAY CRICKET	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PLAY NETBALL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
PLAY BASKETBALL	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
ATTEND CLUBS	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER: (PLEASE SPECIFY) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

2. HOW DID YOU FIRST FIND OUT ABOUT RURAL YOUTH? (TICK ONE ONLY)

SCHOOL/TEACHERS	<input type="checkbox"/>
FAMILY	<input type="checkbox"/>
FRIENDS	<input type="checkbox"/>
MEDIA (T.V. RADIO)	<input type="checkbox"/>
PAMPHLETS/POSTERS	<input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER GROUP MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>
DON'T KNOW	<input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER: (PLEASE SPECIFY) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

3. DID YOU JOIN RURAL YOUTH BECAUSE: (TICK AS MANY AS APPROPRIATE)

YOU WERE BORED	<input type="checkbox"/>
YOU WANTED TO MEET NEW FRIENDS	<input type="checkbox"/>
YOUR FRIENDS WERE MEMBERS	<input type="checkbox"/>
IT SOUNDED INTERESTING	<input type="checkbox"/>
IT PROVIDED TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES	<input type="checkbox"/>
YOU WERE INTERESTED IN THE SOCIAL ACTIVITIES	<input type="checkbox"/>
OTHER: (PLEASE SPECIFY) _____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>

4. HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN A MEMBER OF A RURAL YOUTH GROUP?

0 - 2 YEARS	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 - 5 YEARS	<input type="checkbox"/>
6 - 8 YEARS	<input type="checkbox"/>
MORE THAN 8 YEARS	<input type="checkbox"/>

11. SEX: MALE
FEMALE

12. MARITAL STATUS: (TICK ONE)
SINGLE
MARRIED
WIDOWED
DEFACTO
SEPARATED
DIVORCED

13. WHAT YEAR WERE YOU BORN?

14. WERE YOU BORN IN AUSTRALIA?

YES

NO IF NO, IN WHAT COUNTRY WERE YOU BORN?

HOW MANY YEARS HAVE YOU LIVED IN AUSTRALIA?

15. ARE YOU ATTENDING SCHOOL OR ANY OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION?

YES TICK BOX CORRESPONDING TO THE TYPE OF EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION BEING ATTENDED.

SECONDARY SCHOOL CURRENT GRADE _____
TERTIARY INSTITUTION
OTHER SPECIFY _____

NO

16. ARE YOU CURRENTLY EMPLOYED?

YES WHAT IS YOUR OCCUPATION?
ARE YOU EMPLOYED FULL TIME
PART TIME
CASUAL

NO

17. WHAT KIND OF INDUSTRY, BUSINESS, SERVICE IS CARRIED OUT BY YOUR EMPLOYER?
PLEASE EXPLAIN:

5. WHAT ARE THE ACTIVITIES THAT YOU ENJOY MOST AT RURAL YOUTH? (PLEASE EXPLAIN)

6. WHAT ACTIVITIES DO YOU ENJOY LEAST AT RURAL YOUTH? (PLEASE EXPLAIN)

7. IF THERE WAS ANYTHING YOU COULD DO TO MAKE RURAL YOUTH GROUPS BETTER AND MORE ENJOYABLE, WHAT WOULD YOU DO? (PLEASE EXPLAIN).

8. WHAT IS THE NAME OF THE RURAL YOUTH GROUP THAT YOU BELONG TO?

9. WHAT OTHER ORGANISATIONS IN YOUR AREA ARE YOU A MEMBER OF?

10. IN WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS DO YOU LIVE? (TICK ONE)

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|
| CRYSTAL BROOK | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| GLADSTONE | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| KAROONDA | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| LAMEROO | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| MURRAY BRIDGE | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| PETERBOROUGH | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| OTHER: (PLEASE SPECIFY) | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> |

18. WHAT IS/WAS YOUR PARENTS OCCUPATION?

MOTHER:

FATHER:

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

APPENDIX TWO

COMMUNITY YOUTH QUESTIONNAIRE.



Rural Youth Movement of South Australia Inc.

GPO Box 1671 ADELAIDE SA 5001

I am a fourth year social work student currently undertaking my final placement at The Department of Agriculture, Rural Affairs Unit.

As a part of this placement I will be planning and implementing a social research project looking into rural youth needs in South Australia's Murray Mallee and Mid North regions.

The purpose of the attached survey is to determine whether some of the rural youth's needs can be met by young persons attending organised functions such as those arranged by the Rural Youth Movement of South Australia.

All information will be confidential and there is no reason for names and addresses of respondents to be given. The information gained from this survey will be used in conjunction with other information received from young people who are members of a Rural Youth Club, in an effort to improve the service that Rural Youth provides to young people living in country areas of South Australia.

Your co-operation with this research, by responding to the attached survey, will not only be appreciated but will also aid future studies in this area. Please return the questionnaire to me within seven days, using the pre paid envelope. If you have any queries please do not hesitate to contact me on (08) 226 0439 during working hours.

Yours Faithfully,

Jane Pool.
Social Work Student,
Rural Affairs Unit.

RURAL YOUTH NEEDS QUESTIONNAIRE.

INSTRUCTIONS: PLEASE TICK THE APPROPRIATE ANSWER IN THE BOX(ES) PROVIDED AND GIVE ADDITIONAL INFORMATION WHERE REQUIRED.

1. WHAT SORT OF THINGS DO YOU DO WITH YOUR SPARE TIME AND HOW OFTEN?

	OFTEN	SOME TIMES	RARELY	NEVER
Watch t.v./ videos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Listen to music	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Read	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Do arts or crafts	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Informal activities with friends	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Go to discos	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Go to a hotel	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Play tennis	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Play football	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Play cricket	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Play netball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Play basketball	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Attend clubs	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Other: please specify _____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
_____	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**2. WHAT ARE THE THREE BEST THINGS ABOUT LIVING IN YOUR COMMUNITY?
PLEASE EXPLAIN.**

1.

2.

3.

**3. WHAT ARE THE THREE WORST THINGS ABOUT LIVING IN YOUR COMMUNITY?
PLEASE EXPLAIN.**

1.

2.

3.

4. WHAT RECREATION / LEISURE / ART / SPORTING / CRAFT FACILITIES EXIST WITHIN YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY? PLEASE LIST.

5. DO YOU BELONG TO ANY GROUPS OR CLUBS SUCH AS THE ONES YOU HAVE MENTIONED IN QUESTION 4? PLEASE SPECIFY.

6. DO YOU THINK THAT THESE CLUBS AND GROUPS MEET YOUR NEEDS?

Yes

No

If YES, what needs do they meet?

If NO, what needs don't they meet?

What can be done by these clubs or groups so that your needs are being met?

7. DO YOU KNOW OF ANY EXISTING GROUPS IN YOUR AREA THAT CONDUCT THE ACTIVITIES THAT YOU WOULD LIKE TO BE APART OF?

Yes What are the names of the organisations?

No

8. IF THERE WAS A GROUP OR CLUB IN YOUR AREA FOR PERSONS AGED BETWEEN 16 AND 26 YEARS WHICH INCLUDED ACTIVITIES SUCH AS TRAVEL, SOCIAL EVENTS (B.B.Q.S,DISCOS,SPORTS) AND COMPETITIONS, WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN JOINING?

Yes

No

9. IF SUCH A GROUP EXISTED, WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING ACTIVITIES WOULD YOU BE INTERESTED IN DOING? TICK AS MANY AS APPROPRIATE.

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Discos | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Camps | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Exchange trips interstate | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Community projects | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Educational events | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Cabarets | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Weekends away | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Sporting matches | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Recreation nights | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Car rallies | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Personal development: domestic skills | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| public speaking | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| drama | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| craft | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| art | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other: please specify | <input type="checkbox"/> |

10. HAVE YOU EVER BEEN A MEMBER OF A RURAL YOUTH GROUP AND DISCONTINUED YOUR MEMBERSHIP?

Yes Why did you discontinue your membership?

No

11. IN WHICH OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS DO YOU LIVE? TICK ONE.

- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| Gladstone | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Karoonda | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Lameroo | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Murray Bridge | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Peterborough | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Other: please specify | <input type="checkbox"/> |

12. SEX.

- | | |
|--------|--------------------------|
| Male | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Female | <input type="checkbox"/> |

13. MARITAL STATUS. TICK ONE.

- Single
- Married
- Widowed
- Defacto
- Separated
- Divorced

14. WHAT YEAR WERE YOU BORN?

15. WERE YOU BORN IN AUSTRALIA?

- Yes
- No If no, in what country were you born?

How many years have you lived in Australia?

16. ARE YOU ATTENDING SCHOOL OR ANY OTHER EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION?

- Yes Tick box that corresponds to the type of educational institution being attended:

- Secondary school Current grade
- Tertiary institution
- Other Specify

- No

17. ARE YOU CURRENTLY EMPLOYED?

- Yes What is your occupation?.....

- Are you employed full time
- part time
- casual

- NO

18. WHAT KIND OF INDUSTRY, BUSINESS, SERVICE IS CARRIED OUT BY YOUR EMPLOYER?

Please explain.

19. WHAT IS / WAS YOUR PARENTS OCCUPATION?

Mother:.....

Father:.....

20. ANY OTHER COMMENTS.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME.

APPENDIX THREE.

REMINDER LETTER.



Rural Youth Movement of South Australia Inc.

GPO Box 1671 ADELAIDE SA 5001

Dear Respondent,

Last week a questionnaire seeking information on what kinds of social activities and facilities are available to you in your community and asking your opinion on whether the Rural Youth Movement could be of service to young people in your area was mailed to you. Your name was chosen at random from the State Government Electoral role along with approximately five hundred other people throughout the Murray Mallee and Mid North of South Australia.

If you have already completed and returned this questionnaire to me thank you very much for your time and effort. If you have yet to complete and return the questionnaire it would be appreciated if you could do so promptly. The questionnaire has been sent to a relatively small but representative sample of young people in each region of South Australia, so it is important that as many people as possible respond to ensure that the research results accurately represent the opinions of people in your community.

If by some chance you did not receive the questionnaire, or it has been misplaced, please telephone me as soon as possible on (08) 226 0439 and I will post another to you.

Yours Sincerely,

Jane. E. Pool.
Social Work Student,
Rural Affairs Unit.

