

A Placement Profile

A 1	Presbytery	Western Victoria Presbytery	
A2	Name of Placement	Corangamite Otway Region – West Cluster	
А3	Placement city/suburb/town	Cobden - Terang - Timboon	
A4	Church/Office location(s)	Cobden	
A5	Congregations and agencies associated with this placement	Cobden, Terang & Timboon	
A6	Ministry leadership being sought	Specific ministry role:	Preaching, Pastoral Care
		Minister of the Word 🗵	Deacon 🗵 Ministry of Pastor 🗵
A7	Specific details	Additional placement	Replacement placement
		Full Time \square Part Time \boxtimes	Time fraction 0.5 negotiable
		Earliest Start Date:	1/11/2023
A8	Placement term	Undefined 🗵 Up to 10	years (see Reg 2.7.3(a))
			or non-congregational (see Reg 2.7.3(b))
A9	To be completed by Presbytery, with reasons given on page :		
	Is permission sought to advertise?		Yes 🗆 No 🗆
	Is a Priority F	Placement recommended?	Yes 🗆 No 🗆
A10	Contact Person		
A 11	Email address		
A12	Website		
A13	Social Media	Facebook Page – "Timboon Uniting Church"	
A14	Google map link	https://goo.gl/maps/WgSmFKV4hwa94F7z6	
		Nullawarre C163 Brucknell Timboon	Chocolyn Citst Camperdown Weerite Bostocks Creek Cobden Citst
A15	Area map (paste image)	Nirranda	Simpson

B The Congregation

B1 Tell a potential minister about this placement and yourselves, in your own words and pictures, in no more than one page. Share something of your congregation's values, beliefs and ways in which you live out and share the gospel message.

Include comment about why you need a new minister. How will this placement be exciting, challenging, and attractive to a minister? How can God be served in new ways here? What do you want the Minister to do with you and for you?

This is your chance to 'be creative' and catch the attention of someone who is thinking of sharing their call, their gifts, their life with you.

- The Corangamite Otway Region, West Cluster is set in a picturesque area in Southwest Victoria centred in small townships, including farming and small industrial enterprises surrounding these centres.
- The congregations have been working together closely and cooperatively, sharing a minister for about eight years, and Terang and Timboon have shared a minister for many years prior to that.
- Each of the congregations has active lay preachers and/or worship leaders willing and qualified to take services, conduct funerals, etc. Each congregation has a dedicated leadership team and a small, regular attendance.
- Our cluster is seeking a minister to guide and re-invigorate us and to suggest ideas to help us grow our membership and continue to maintain and revitalise our worship services and church life.
- Our priorities are worshiping, witnessing, and serving the Lord, with our main focus being leadership in worship and proclamation of the Gospel, nurturing people of all ages in their faith, spiritual development and capacity to share faith with others, fostering ecumenical understanding and practice, pastoral care and visitation, working with older people, and fostering mission and service in our local communities. We are open to change, and willing to be guided by our new minister.
- The make-up and number of worship services and other activities undertaken by the Minister will be negotiated with the placement to suit a 0.5 ministerial workload. with our lay preachers leading the remaining services. We do not expect the minister to attend every committee meeting, we expect them to undertake some visitation, although the elders would continue to carry out most of the visitation.
- We each have traditional Sunday church services at present but are willing to try other worship styles to grow our membership.

Our congregations are:

- **Cobden,** a small congregation with an Opportunity Shop as the main mission. This shop gives congregation members the opportunity to interact with community members and is a major contributor to the congregational finances. During recent bushfires, this op shop was the hub for people burnt-out or unable to return to their homes for clothing etc.
- **Terang,** a small, devoted congregation that would like to have a minister lead it into a new chapter of its life. We have an active choir, mission activities include an Art Show, Pancake night, Ecumenical Services and Stations of the Cross.
- **Timboon,** a small congregation, which operates an After-School Activities group on a monthly basis. It also has a Fete each year as a mission and as a fundraiser. The congregation participates in ecumenical activities and services.
- B2 List and explain any particular priorities which the congregation has identified and which it will address in the next two to five years?

Cobden – to explore a new direction the holy spirit is guiding us with our church.			
Terang's need for ecumenical development with other churches in town and district. Continue to be viable.			
Timboon – exploring the use of our property with the community.			
B3 Does this placement relate to more than one congregation? If so, provide details on page.			
What ethnic and language groups are represented in the congregation? What proportion of the congregation does each represent?			
Predominately English language. Timboon has one Australian/Filipino family.			

Describe any involvement your congregation has in covenanting activities.

congregation has an existing relationship.

B8 List any UCA Schools and/or agencies (Uniting VicTas, Uniting AgeWell) with which the

Cobden - No Terang - No Timboon - No.

Nil

G Mission

G1 List three of your missional activities that your congregations does best?

Cobden – Church Op-Shop as community mission, outreach and welfare to the community. Terang -Hosting an annual charity concert. Works, in partnership with the local F-12 school to plan, organise and evaluate the local bi-annual Art Show, money raised is used for employment of a school counsellor.

Hosts pancake meal yearly.

Timboon - A member of the Timboon congregation started and continues to operate the Timboon Op Shop, not as a Church-run shop, but as a community mission. Many of the congregation members, as well as many nominal church people volunteer at the shop, and profits are donated to Community causes.

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The Timboon UC Fete is attended by most of the locals and many visitors. Many nominal UC people help with the running of the fete.

G2 What are three missional activities your congregation would like to develop?

Cobden – Where are we being led for the future, i.e. what do we do with infrastructure?

Terang - Continue to be visible and work within the community.

Timboon – An Aged care facility on our property.

- Low-cost housing on part of our property.

G3 How has the congregation changed in the past two years?

Cobden - A decline in attendance as our members are getting older.

Terang – A slow decline in attendance as our members become frail or die. Some members are concerned about returning to worship after COVID.

Timboon – A slow decline in attendance as our members become frail or die. Some members are concerned about returning to worship after COVID.

G4 What changes and developments are anticipated in the next three to five years?

Cobden – guidance to our mission call and what can be done with our infrastructure for God's purpose. **Terang** – continue to develop mission activities in the wider community, e.g. Hospital Auxiliary, pub choir and service clubs

Timboon – use of our property for some purposes other than Sunday Services.

J The Community

J1 Describe the wider community in which your ministry is located.

Cobden – is a small township in a farming area, with a number of industries serving the farming community. **Terang** – is a community with aged and disability services, a hospital, excellent medical and educational facilities. Regular passenger rail services to Warrnambool and Melbourne. Viable retail centre. Excellent sporting facilities.

Timboon – is a small township in a farming area. It has a large P-12 School with over 600 students, a Health Care Complex with 4 GP's and a wide variety of visiting specialists and a range of ancillary services. Timboon is a tourist hub, with a variety of community and tourism-based retail businesses. It has a trades businesses employing approximately 100 tradesmen, most primarily serving the farming community. Employment in the retail, health and trade sectors is readily available. Recreation and tourism facilities such as the Rail Trail, and Twelve Apostles Trail for walking/cycling recreation

J2 What makes this an enjoyable place to live?

Each of the townships are friendly, welcoming communities, with shopping centres, and retail services, service clubs, medical facilities and easy access to the coast. Each has sports ovals, tennis and basketball courts, golf clubs and bowling clubs, and community facilities.

J3 What are the points of stress and pain in the wider community?

Cobden – employment, Housing and accommodation is difficult to obtain. Many with debts are in financial stress.

Terang- Affordable accommodation and housing, lack of preferred employment for some professionals. **Timboon –** Availability of rental housing. Businesses are experiencing difficulty in getting enough staff.

J4 How closely does your congregation reflect the demographics of your local area?

Cobden – Mixed ages in the Community, with young families too. Elderly couples and singles.

Terang – local area is multi age groups, congregation is mainly seniors.

Timboon - The Church members are predominately senior or aging, with some school aged children, whilst the Community is spread across all age groups

J5 What community facilities are present in the local area?

Each of the communities in the cluster have a range of facilities, including Community Hall, library, aged care centre, primary and secondary schools, outdoor swimming pool, IGA supermarket, numerous hospitality businesses catering to locals and tourists, Police station, football/netball ground and club, tennis courts and club, golf course and club, bowling club, senior citizens group, Op-Shop and service clubs. Cobden has a Special School and a heated indoor swimming pool/gym, plus an extensive miniature railway. Terang has a regular passenger rail service to Melbourne and Warrnambool; Cobden and Timboon have bus services connecting with the rail service.

The area surrounding the communities has rail trails for walking and cycling, areas of historic dry-stone walls, extinct volcanos and crater lakes, a thriving equine industry, trotting track and racecourse. It is close to the Great Ocean Road with its many attractions including the 12 Apostles.

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Placement Profile Uniting Church in Australia, Synod of Victoria & Tasmania