2021 Regional Telecommunications Review



24 September 2021



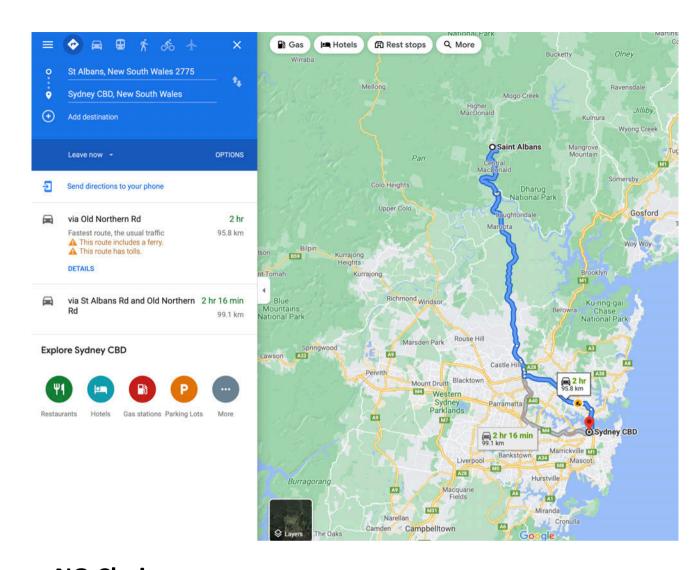
The Macdonald Valley, including the community of St Albans, is in a **black hole** when it comes to telecommunications. We live in the **'Forgotten Valley'**.

It is hard to believe we:

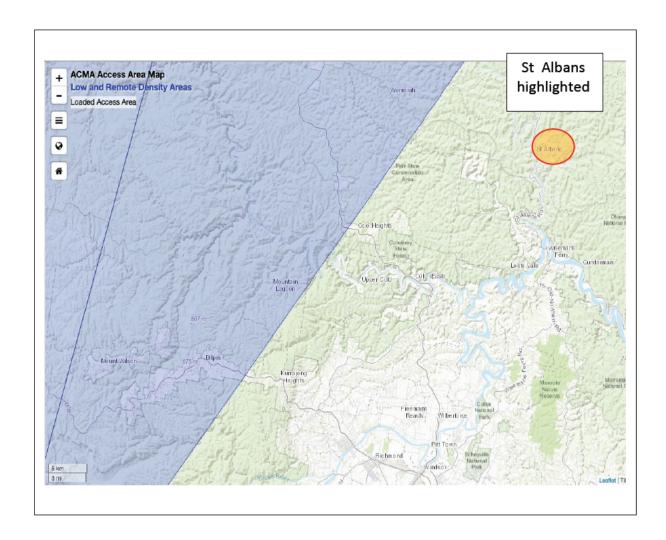
- DO NOT HAVE MOBILE COVERAGE;
- our land lines are often out;
- our internet is poor.

This state of affairs in 2021 is not acceptable.

Incredibly we are only 90 KM from Sydney CBD and are still part of Greater Sydney, in the Hawkesbury LGA. See google map below:



We have **NO Choice** when it comes to telecommunications. We were hanging on for satellites in the form of Starlink but NO, again our valley is not included – see screen shot of coverage



St Albans highlighted in the centre of Macdonald Valley (it runs north/south) in the excluded zone of Starlink coverage.

There is potential life-threatening danger of not having good telecommunications borne out by:



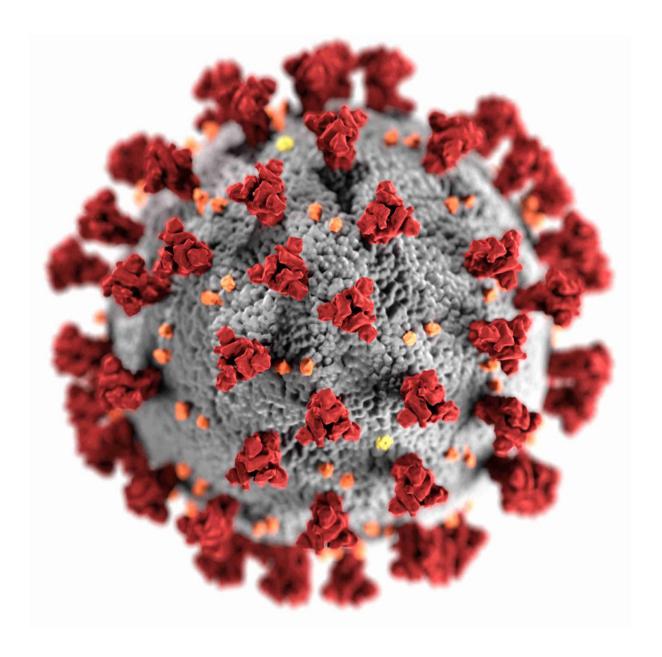
2019-2020 Gospers Mountain fire;

And



2020 floods

And 2020- ongoing COVID



Furthermore, during the pandemic working from home, need reliable telecom.

In a region of remote valleys, sandstone escarpments and dirt roads we require guaranteed access to Starlink or A 5G mobile tower.