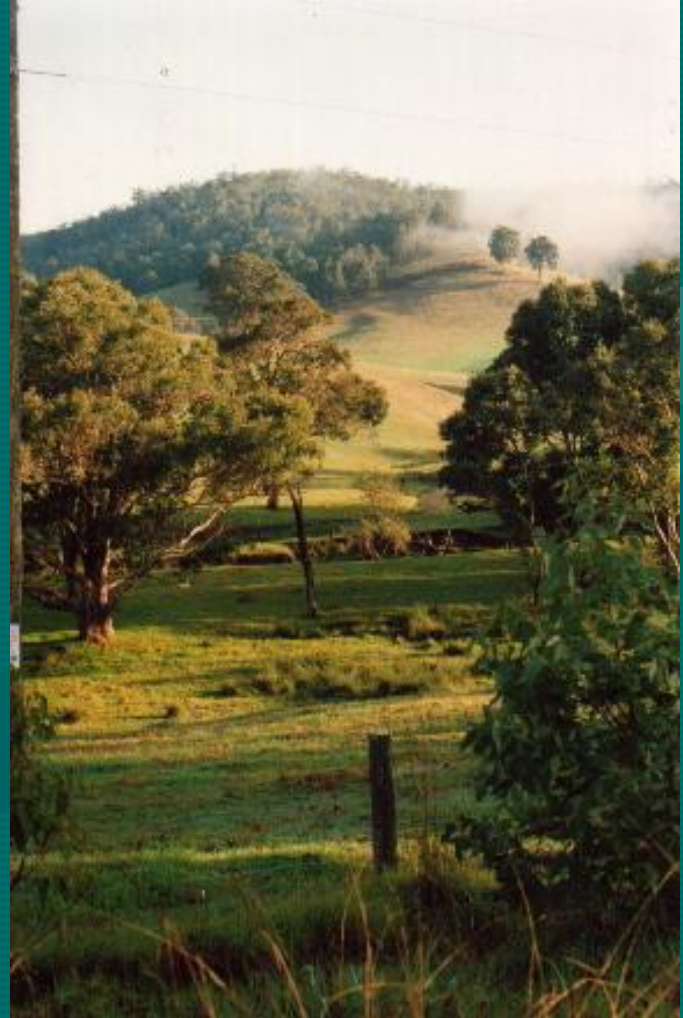


Acknowledgement of Country



Balingup

3 hours south of Perth

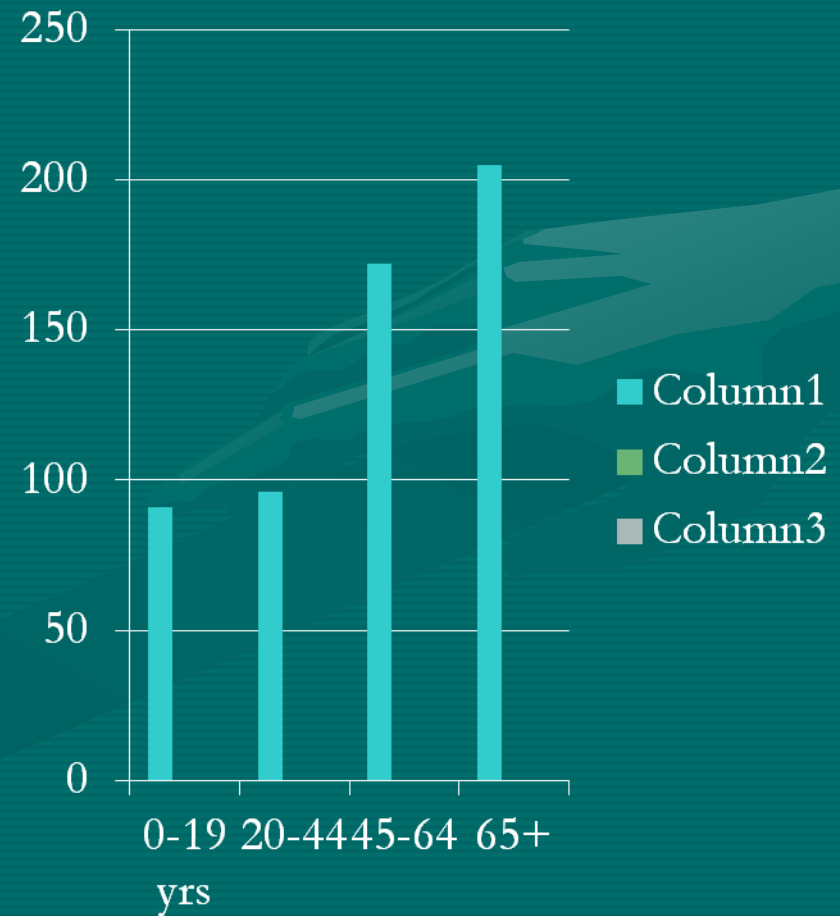


- Population 565
- Median income \$944 (Aust \$1746)
- Voluntary work 39% (Aust 14%)
- No of community groups >40
- And we love to dress up.



Demographics

- 16% aged 0-19 years
- 17% are 20-44
- 67% are 45 +
- Median age 58.



Community Enterprises



Businesses/ community enterprises in town = 28

- Run by volunteers = 10 (35%)

Golden Valley Tree Park



- State owned land. Largest arboretum in WA. Run by volunteers

Recreation Centre



All community
managed

Community Centre



Workspace



Vintage Home Town for Life (7 cottages)



Unbelievable.....!

Balingup Doctors & Pharmacy



Small Farm Field Day



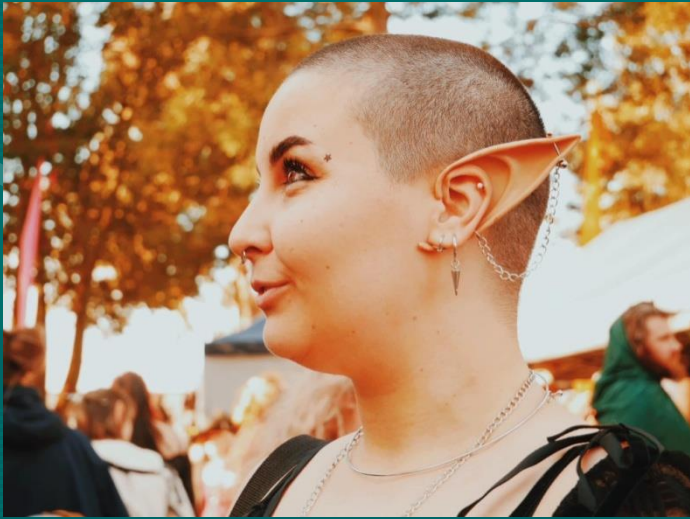
- Started in 1991
- Up to 10,000 visitors each year.
- SFFD profits shared through a Trust Fund with other community groups.



Medieval Carnivale

The workers
and dragon







Burning of the dragon

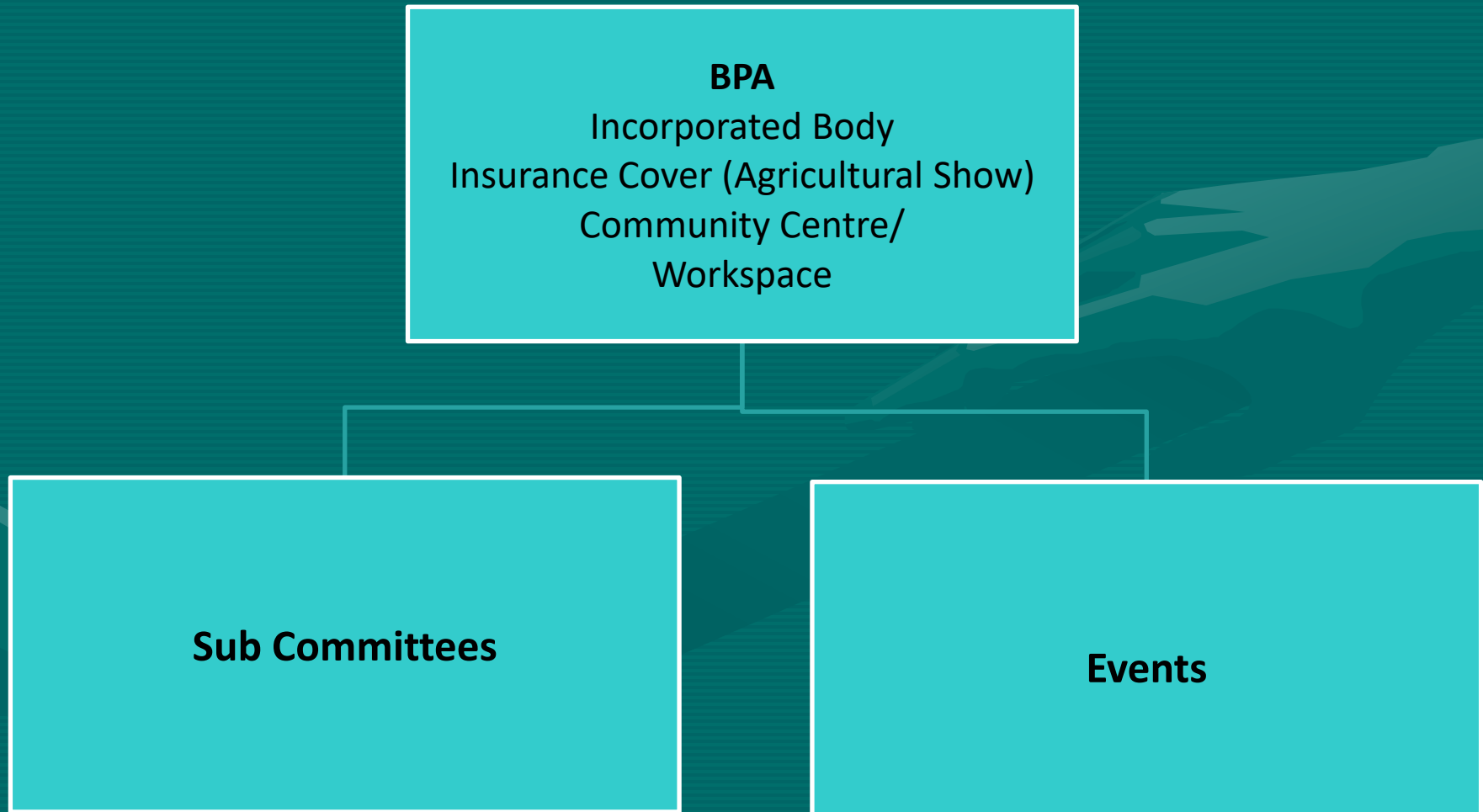


Photo courtesy Shane
Woods August 2024

2025 – 30th anniversary



BALINGUP PROGRESS ASSOCIATION (BPA)



18 sub committees and still growing.....

- Balingup Art & Craft Affair
- Balingup Community Forest Garden
- Balingup Heritage Exhibition
- Balingup Medieval Carnivale
- Balingup Men in Sheds
- Balingup Patches and Craft
- Balingup Rail Group
- Balingup Small Farm Field Day
- Resilience Group
- Balingup Townscape
- Birdwood Park Avenue of Honour Group
- Telling Tales in Balingup
- Mullalyup Improvement Group
- Paths, Tracks and Trails
- Balingup Health and Wellness
- BalingUpCycle
- Balingup Art & Culture Hub
- Balingup Night Markets

This is how we encourage volunteers

- Person comes to BPA meeting.
- Asks to set up sub committee (whatever they are passionate about).
- We say yes.
- We send summary to insurance brokers.
- Group operates independently – very little oversight from BPA.
- Group reports annually at BPA AGM.
- MINIMAL PAPERWORK

Another strategy to enroll volunteers

- Strategic Plan – April 2021
- Open space meetings



BPA AGES

2021 70

2011 60

2001 50

STRATEGIC PLAN 2021

OF 600 PEOPLE, 10% (60) INVOLVED

OF THIS 10%, 20 INVOLVED

13 PROJECTS

3 ACTION TEAM

2 UNDERWAY

7 FOLLOW UP WITH INDIVIDUALS E.G. KATE & SONYA

SFFD + CARNAVAL. CHANGES FUNDING MODEL. GIVE MORE TO BADSA / LESS TO INDIVIDUAL GROUPS.

BADSA \$10K per annum Enough?

Rest -> Trust Fund Managed by SFFD / CARNAVAL.

They approve requests as they come rec'd - not one-off annual

PARENTS MEETING AREA

BADSA MAIN HALL KIDS FREE PLAY AREA. - ALL AGES SCHOOL HAS KEY EQUIP AREA

COMMUNITY MEETING AREA

FREE TO COMMUNITY GROUPS

ACTION RAIDS ONLY FINANCES FORMAL

Formal meetings

MEETING VENUES / COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS

BADSA DURING DAY PRE-SCHOOL KIDS ACTIVITIES

MEALS MEAT @ BADSA

VILLAGE GREEN - RESO / PARKING

AT SCHOOL WITH PPC

BPA Community CONNECTORS / LEAVERS

Let the people in touch with others

BPA just needs small governance than the insurance site

Political Lobby Group No!

Community can use it to run workshops - school / visitors

GIVE COMMUNITY CENTRE TO CARNAVAL. CARNAVAL PAY INSURANCE / MAINT

COMMUNITY BUILDINGS HUB OF COMMUNITY

TOWN HALL. DON'T USE IT. LET STATE COME TO US FOR A GREAT DEAL.

IF THERE'S NO INCOME, THEN WE KNOW CURRENT RES & CHARGES MORE IS BROKEN

Tonight

Focus on

Big picture goals

Environment	Balingup is a centre of environmental sustainability.
Economy and Tourism	Balingup is a resilient, thriving community with a vibrant village feel.
Lifespan and Living	Balingup is a community that creates, learns and grows together.
Community and Governance	Balingup Progress Association is an intergenerational, community-led, representative, change and innovation group.

Outcome #1 BalingUpcycle

- Returned \$10,000 profit to the community.



#2 Balingup Arts & Cultural Hub (BACH)

- Revitalise the Town Hall.
- Concerts, weddings, community events, forums.
- Run by young people.





Our young people ARE volunteering (17% are aged 20-44yrs)

- Blackwood United is the only soccer club in the Blackwood area :
- 30 volunteers, 9 teams and over 200 registered players.
- Plus 56 children in miniroos program.



Futures Fund

- \$500,000 profits from Field Day returned to community via Community Trust Fund in past 20 years.
- Carnivale figures unknown (gave money direct to school /community)
- Balingup joined WA Community Foundation but the Foundation failed .
- In 2023, we set up our own in-house version.

Balingup Futures Fund (2023)



2023 Community Trust/ Futures Fund.

- Aim is to raise significant capital for future projects
- May only be spent with the written approval of the BPA Futures Fund committee.
- Committee comprises people who raised the money (SFFD, Carnivale etc)

How it will work

- There must be a minimum of \$50,000 in the Futures Fund before money can be withdrawn.
- Projects must have (equal) co-funding from another source.

Resilient Communities



DFES Community Resilience Workshops have stressed:

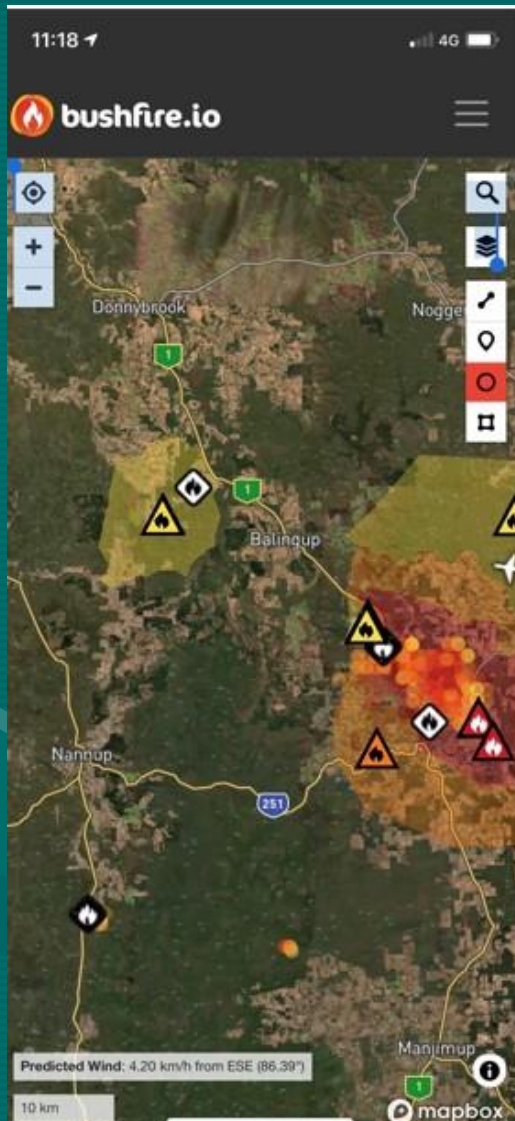
- the unexpected will occur more and more in future, and
- communities cannot rely on government to save them.

Emergency Response

- The power went off in Balingup 24th May 2020 for 18 hours during a bush fire.
- We lost ALL telecommunications – landlines, mobile phones and pay phone.
- 6 -8 hour battery backup.
- We complained to Telstra, Shire etc



February 2022 it happened again



- Organised a meeting of Telstra, NBN, Shire, Western Power etc.
- Outcome:
 - Balingup Resilience Group formed ('CWA on steroids')
 - Community Information & Social Centre with generator (at Recreation Centre)
 - Satellite phone & Skymuster pop-up internet (VOIP phone calls for 70-100 people)
- It took 4 years.

Written Activation Process

Activation Process		
+		
	Step	Comment
1	Contact a member of Recreation Centre Committee (BADSA) and check Centre is available. Request it be opened.	See Annex B for contact details. There will be no hire fee charged by BADSA but it must be left clean after use. A key to the Recreation Centre is held at the General Store. This key ring also holds keys to the Balingup Shire Depot and Balingup Oval chain locks.
2	Arrange for collection of generator (on trailer) from Balingup BFB Fire Shed. Check the fly-wire cable is attached to the generator. This generator uses diesel fuel. If BFB volunteers are available, request that they deliver it. If not, arrange for a community member to collect.	IMPORTANT: If power will return in less than 6 hours, DO NOT <u>organise</u> the generator. If a generator is not available, consider sourcing a smaller generator. See Annex C for details. <i>The person who orders the generator is responsible for ensuring its safe return when the CISCO closes.</i>
3	Contact CWA and ask if they can provide volunteers.	CWA will pay for the purchase of light refreshments. If needed, any member of the BPA Executive can authorize CWA to buy food at the General Store on the BPA account.

Resilience Group meets annually to update plans & contact details.

Detailed instructions

5	Go to the wall mounted connection socket (external) – on southern wall of the building. Connect the fly-wires to the generator and wall mounted socket, while the generator is in the OFF mode.		Note: To remove the cover, turn the orange collar anti-clockwise.
6	Go to the power distribution board in the foyer and locate the generator switch as shown in photo. Flick the switch over to OFF mode on the panel (Do not start the generator before performing this action.)	Internal Manual Change-Over <u>Switch BMSB</u>. 	

Vision - to connect other communities

- Boyanup
- Nornalup
- Walpole
- Northcliffe

Common issues:

- No community plan in place
- Poor telecommunications
- No generator



Walpole Shire Councillor:

- “Unless I was asleep under a rock, I can’t recall Skymuster being advised to the community. I’ve been mouthing off something chronic all this time and no one corrected me”.
- Isn’t it nice – it’s mates helping mates again.
- I’ve been here for 53 years and learned so much today. There was so much I didn’t understand.
- (During the last emergency) I went to the shop for fruit and came back with camels.

Barriers to volunteering

What's the difference between these two cakes?



Insurance

- BPA insurance covers BPA, two major events and 18 sub-committees. It doesn't cover stallholders or paid entertainers.
- 129 pages of legalese and we don't understand it.
- I have lobbied MP and others. Brick wall.

	2020	2024
Association/ Management/ Employee Liability	\$1676	\$3491
Personal Accident volunteers	\$130	\$1527
Combined Public and Products Liability	\$76	\$87
Agricultural (buildings and contents)	\$3582	\$7095
	\$5464	\$12,200

Tried to get other quotes.....very
hard/unsuccessful.

Action needed

- Community Group Insurance Pack.
- Insurance companies already have Business Packs – developed to suit small businesses.
- Why not one for communities?

**Sample -Minimum recommended cover for community groups.
(Community Insurance Packs)**

Type of cover	Liability amount
Volunteer personal accident	\$2,500,000
Professional liability	Nil
Management liability	\$5,000,000
Association liability	\$5,000,000
Employment practices liability	\$5,000,000
Employee fraud ¹	\$100,000
Public liability	\$50,000,000
Product liability	\$50,000,000
Property in care	\$1,000,000
Owner liability of animals	\$50,000,000
Trade space liability	\$50,000,000
Volunteer entertainers	\$1,000,000
Negligent acts/ errors and omissions	\$1,000,000
Car parking	\$100,000
Buildings insurance	Valuation
Removal of debris	\$500,000
Contents insurance	Valuation
Gate takings	Nil
Money in transit/ in strong room/safe	\$50,000
Theft	\$15,000
Burglary (forced)	\$50,000
Theft of property in possession	\$15,000

- Document that would allow community groups to select the level of cover needed, depending on their individual circumstances

But it's hard work.....and
sometimes I feel “all jestered out”



Wendy Trow

brookview@wn.com.au

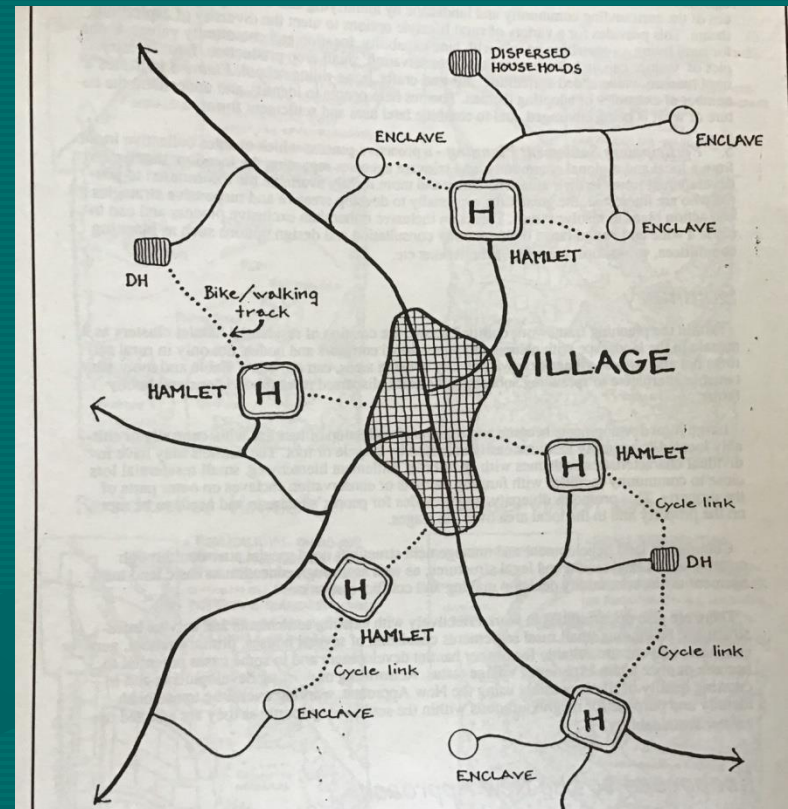
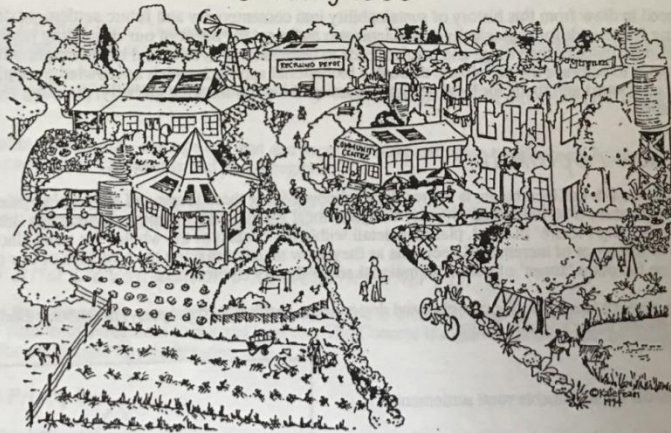
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Latest Projects

Cluster Developments

Human Settlement - A New Planning Approach

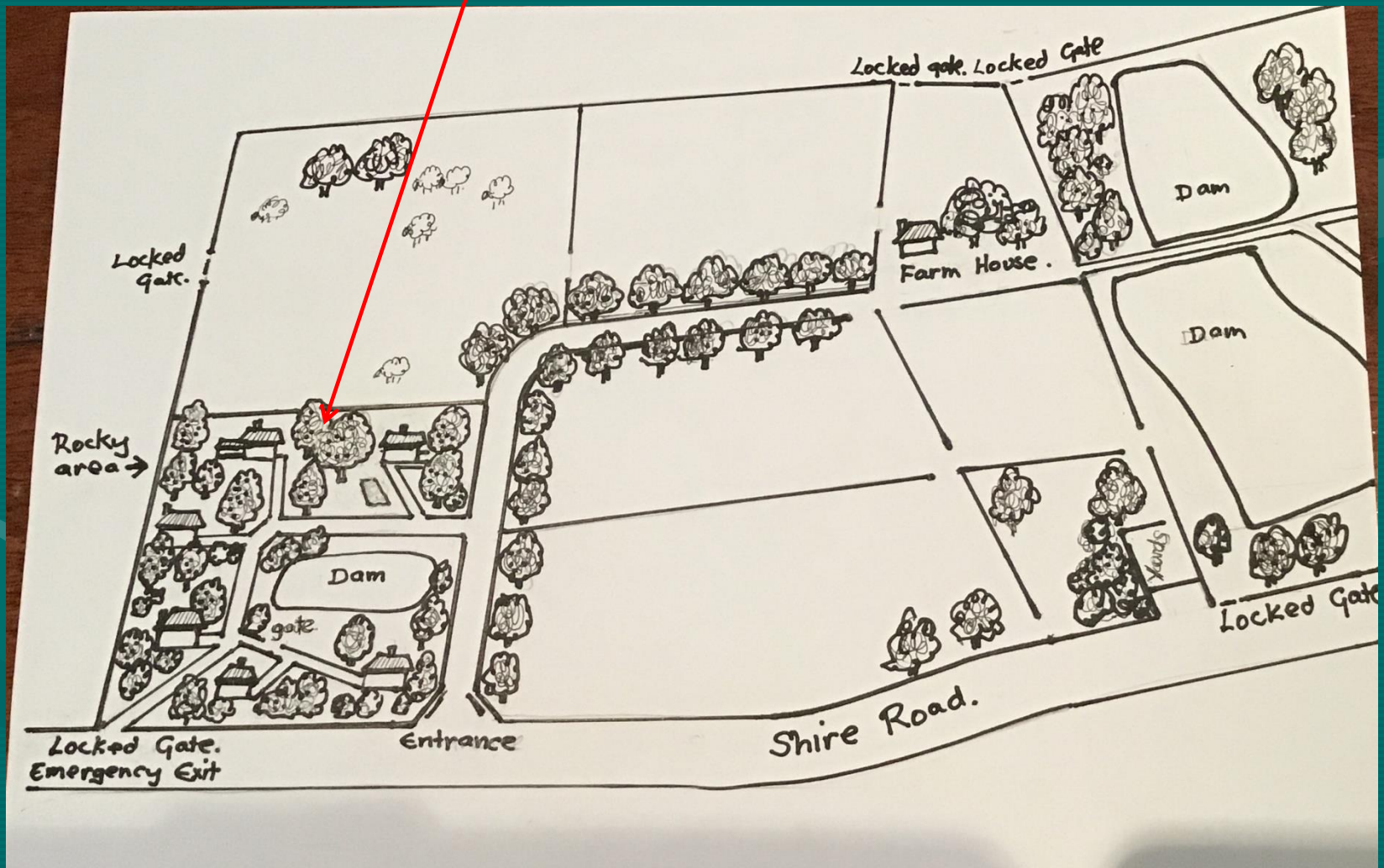
Peter Cuming and Robyn Francis
January 1995



Current – no new sub division below 100 acres

10	10	30
10	15	25

Small **off grid** communities instead of sub divisions?



Current status of Cluster Developments

- Concept has in principle support of WA Planning Commission.
- Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup has included in their draft Local Planning Strategy - within 3km radius of Balingup only.