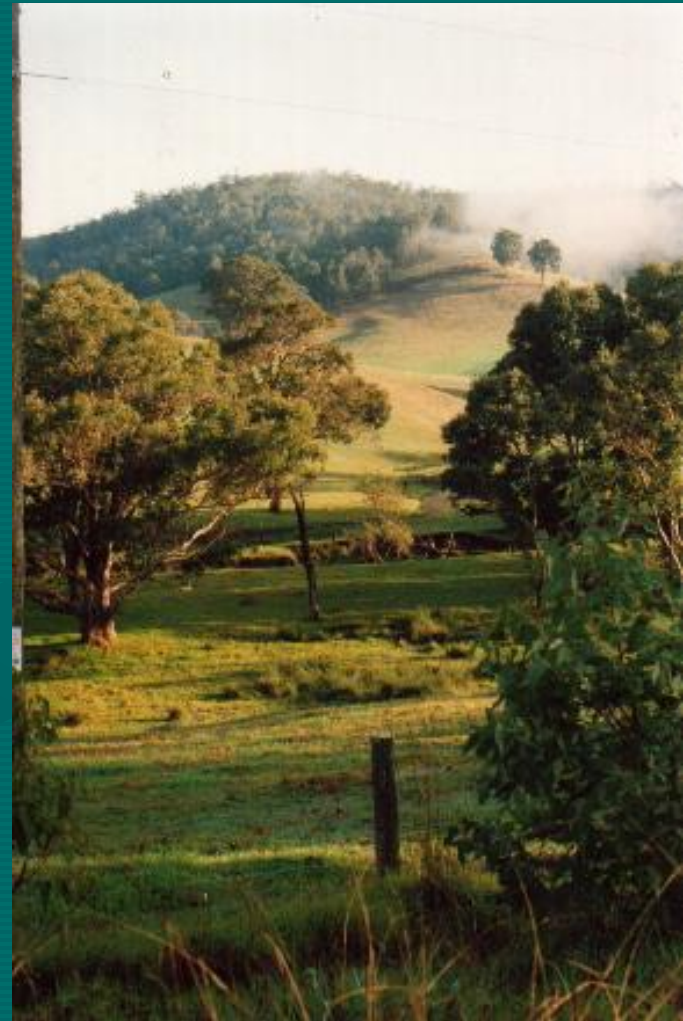


Balingup –Wadandi/Kaneang country

3 hours south of Perth



- Population 565
- Median age 58
- Voluntary work 39% (Aust 14%)
- No of community groups >40



“Volunteers run 3 of the shops (Pedlars, Upcycle and Tourism), all helps with the sense of community.”

Recreation Centre



Community Centre



Workspace



Golden Valley Tree Park 1990s



“Old farming families accepted new hippies because they were desperate – the town was dying”.

- Largest arboretum in WA.
- State owned land.

Vintage Home Town for Life

7 cottages



Balingup Doctors & Pharmacy



Small Farm Field Day



Started in 1991

**\$500,000 profit – used to create
other events/ seed funds**

Telling Tales
July



Medieval Carnivale







Burning of the dragon



Photo courtesy Shane
Woods August 2024

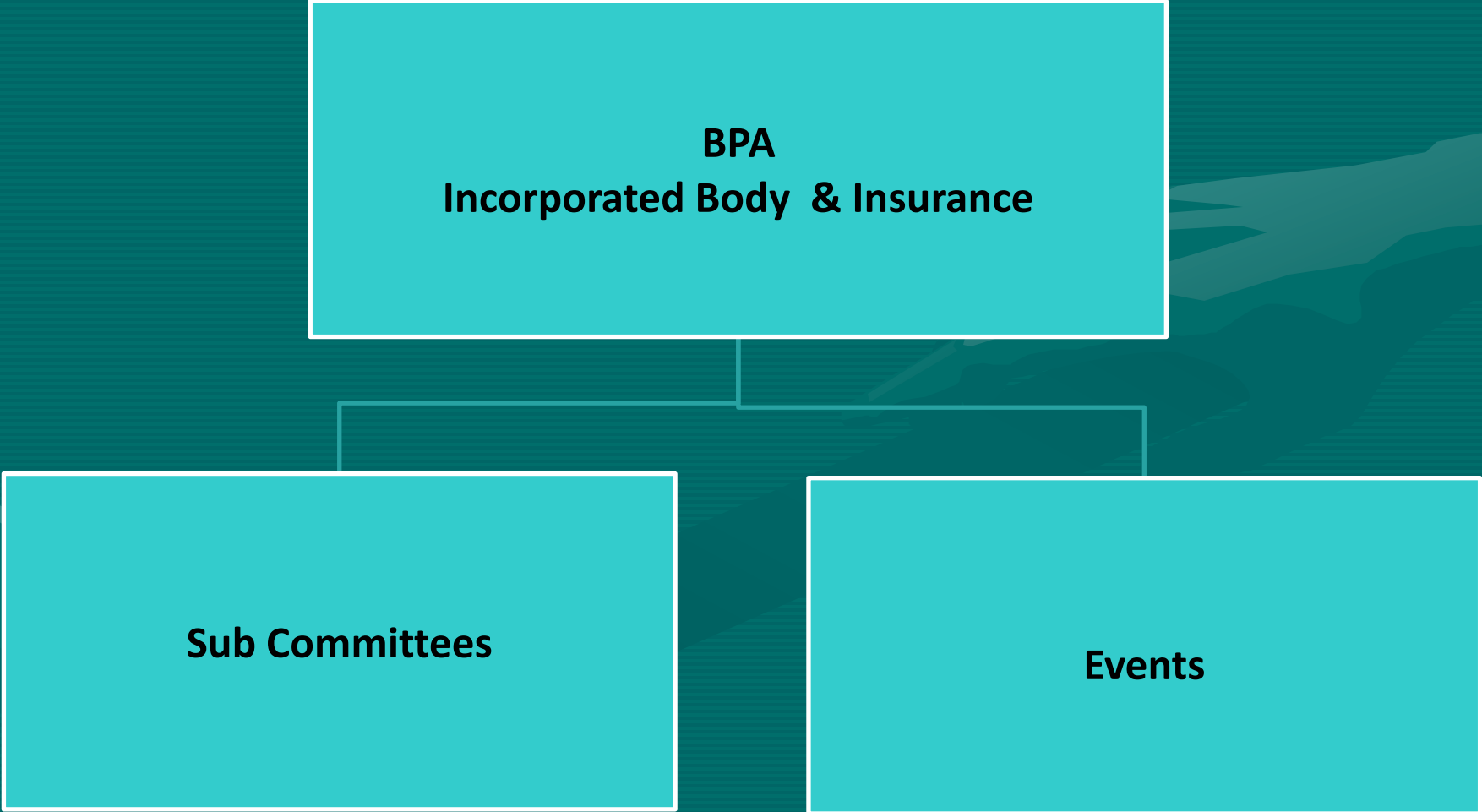


2025 – 30th anniversary



“Balingup has a large number of wise elders – almost all are women. They are there to remind us of our core values –don’t worry about profits, just create an amazing event.”.

BALINGUP PROGRESS ASSOCIATION (BPA)



```
graph TD; A["BPA  
Incorporated Body & Insurance"] --> B["Sub Committees"]; A --> C["Events"]
```

BPA
Incorporated Body & Insurance

Sub Committees

Events

17 sub committees and still growing.....

- Community Forest Garden
- Heritage Exhibition
- Medieval Carnivale
- Men's Forum
- Patches and Craft
- Rail Group
- Small Farm Field Day
- Resilience Group
- Health & Wellness
- Townscape
- Birdwood Park Avenue of Honour Group
- Telling Tales
- Mullalyup Improvement Group
- BalingUpCycle
- Art & Culture Hub
- Tourism Group
- Balingup Academy

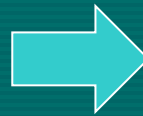
This is how we encourage volunteers

- Person comes to BPA meeting.
- Asks to set up sub committee (whatever they are passionate about).
- We say yes and send summary to insurance brokers.
- Group operates independently and reports annually at BPA AGM.
- MINIMAL PAPERWORK/
RADICAL TRUST

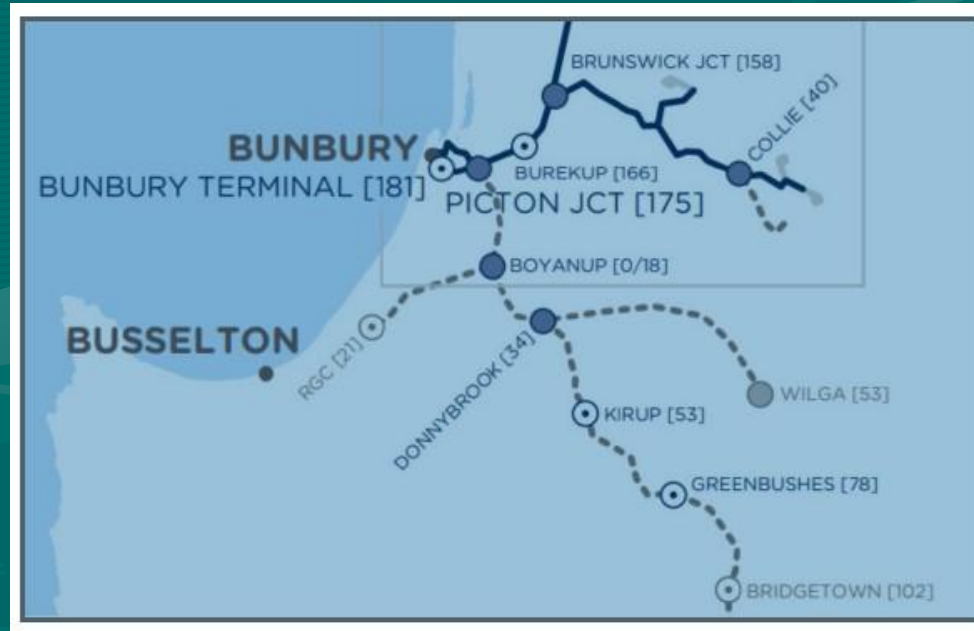
We encourage people who have big ideas

Balingup Rail Group:

- State government
- Local governments



Restoring railway
line Bunbury-
Greenbushes



Balingup Arts & Cultural Hub (BACH)



“Encourage young people to do what
THEY are passionate about”.

Our young people ARE volunteering

- Blackwood United
- 30 volunteers,
- 200 registered players.

“We have plenty of role models - younger people are now stepping up and doing a great job.”



Resilience Group

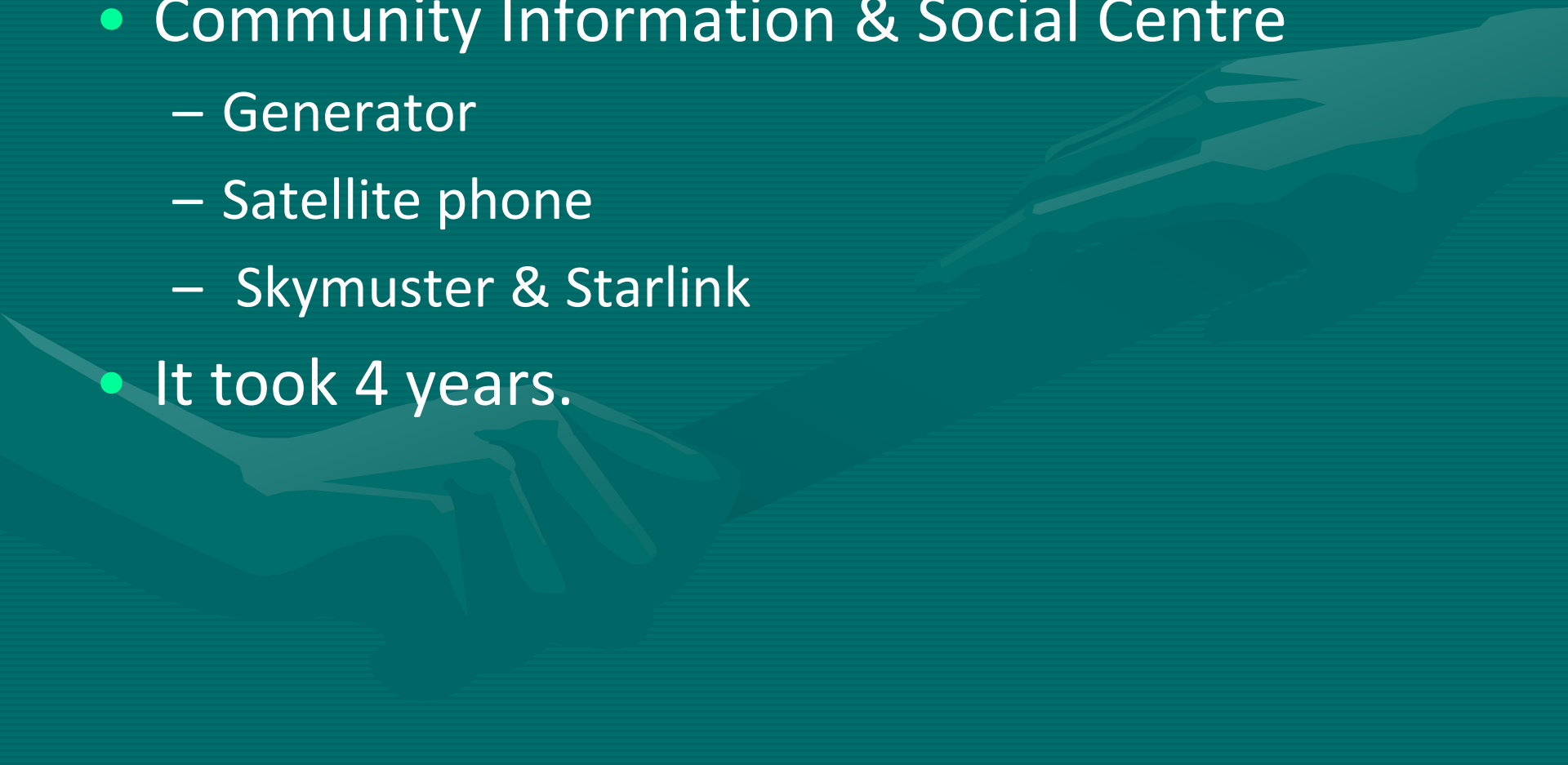
The power went off
in May 2020 for 18
hours during a bush
fire.

After 8 hours we lost
ALL telecommunications
– including landlines.



February 2022 it happened again



- Met with Telstra, NBN, Shire, Western Power etc.
 - Balingup Resilience Group
 - Community Information & Social Centre
 - Generator
 - Satellite phone
 - Skymuster & Starlink
 - It took 4 years.
- 
- A faint, stylized illustration of two hands shaking, symbolizing agreement or partnership, is visible in the background of the slide.

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.

2025

Asset mapping – 9 need help during Watch & Act

- Asked for CISCO to be included in Local Emergency Management Arrangements.
 - Request denied.
 - “volunteer liability”.
- Offered to attend a DEMC session to discuss community engagement.
 - Declined.
 - “It’s only for local government and emergency services”.

Other communities wanted to get on board

- We shared model with four other communities.
- Biggest stumbling block – how to manage spontaneous volunteers.

Who can insure spontaneous volunteers?	
Local government	No
DFES	No
Department of Communities	No
Volunteers WA	No
Red Cross	No

Roadblock to Volunteering #1

Insurance

	2020	2024	2025
Annual premium	\$5464	\$12,200	\$15891

Stamp duty and GST add 17 % to cost of premium.

	2020	2025
BPA Premium	\$5464	\$15891
Gov't received	\$928	\$2701

Action needed

- Exempt stamp duty & GST.
- Introduce Community Group Insurance Pack.

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*	\$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 contents	\$15,000

ROADBLOCK #2 GOVERNANCE

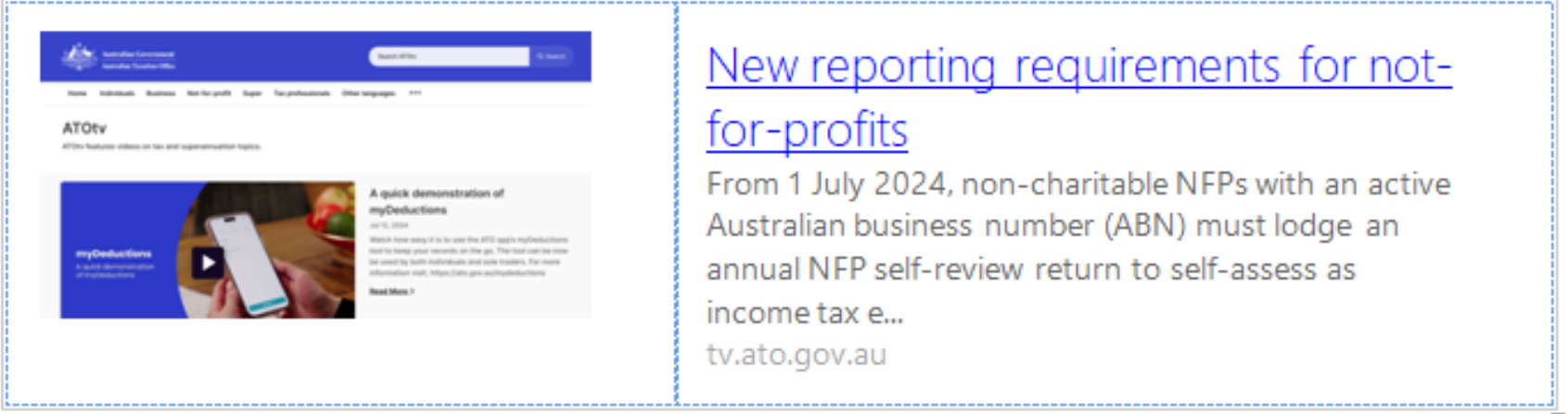
What's the difference between these two cakes?



Australian Tax Office self assessment

- Members of community group have to use their personal Mygov account to complete the assessment.

<https://tv.ato.gov.au/media/c-b6bh5x9/bi9or7orfgpdsu>



The screenshot shows the ATOtv website interface. On the left, there is a video player with a play button and a thumbnail showing a person using a smartphone. The video title is 'A quick demonstration of myDeductions'. On the right, there is a link to 'New reporting requirements for not-for-profits' with a sub-headline 'From 1 July 2024, non-charitable NFPs with an active Australian business number (ABN) must lodge an annual NFP self-review return to self-assess as income tax e...'. The URL 'tv.ato.gov.au' is also visible at the bottom of the right-hand section.

[New reporting requirements for not-for-profits](#)

From 1 July 2024, non-charitable NFPs with an active Australian business number (ABN) must lodge an annual NFP self-review return to self-assess as income tax e...

tv.ato.gov.au

Worksafe Regulations

- New WA Worksafe legislation (February 2025).
- One or more employees = apply the same OH&S training/procedures to volunteers.

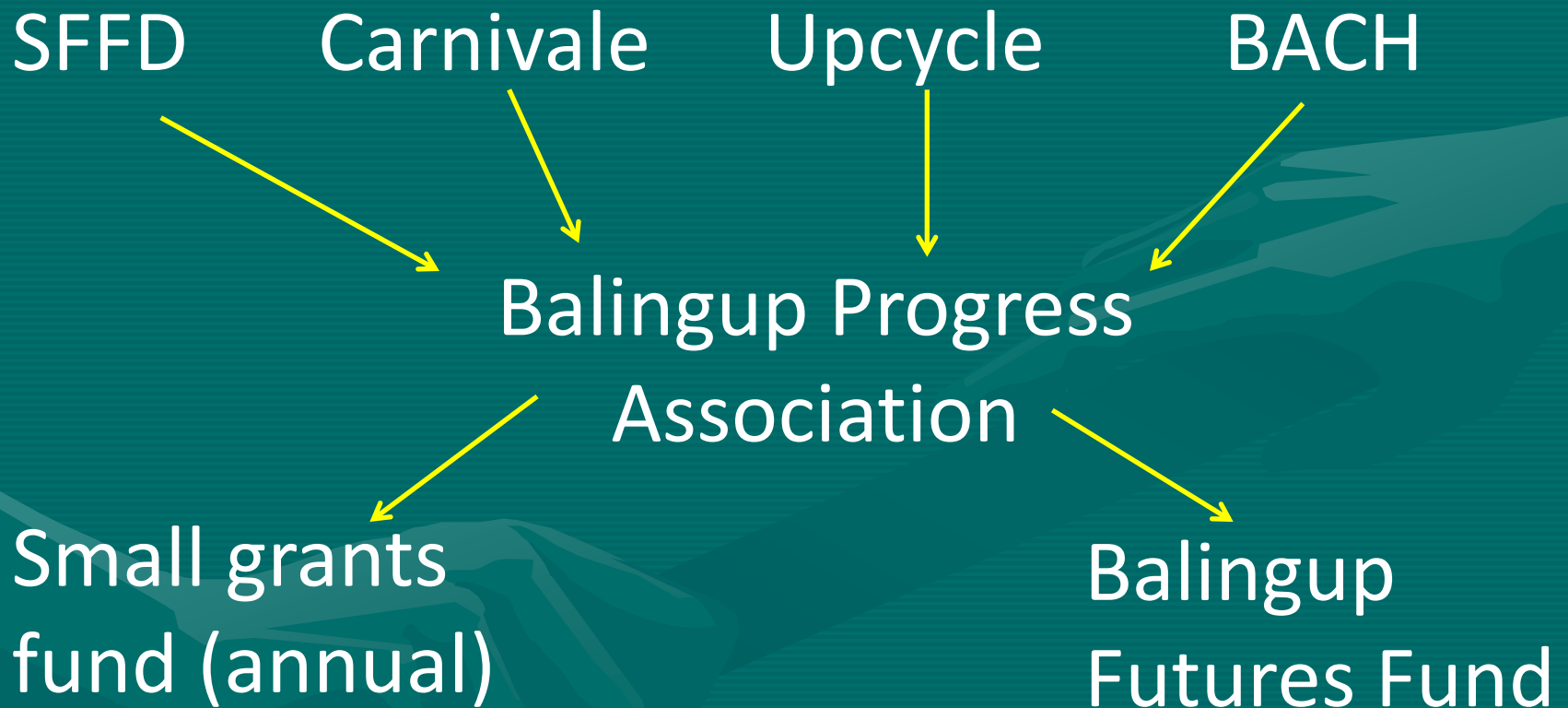
worksafe.wa.gov.au/publications/work-health-and-safety-volunteer-organisations-guide

What are our strengths?



“We know each other. We know who to trust”.

2023 Balingup Futures Fund

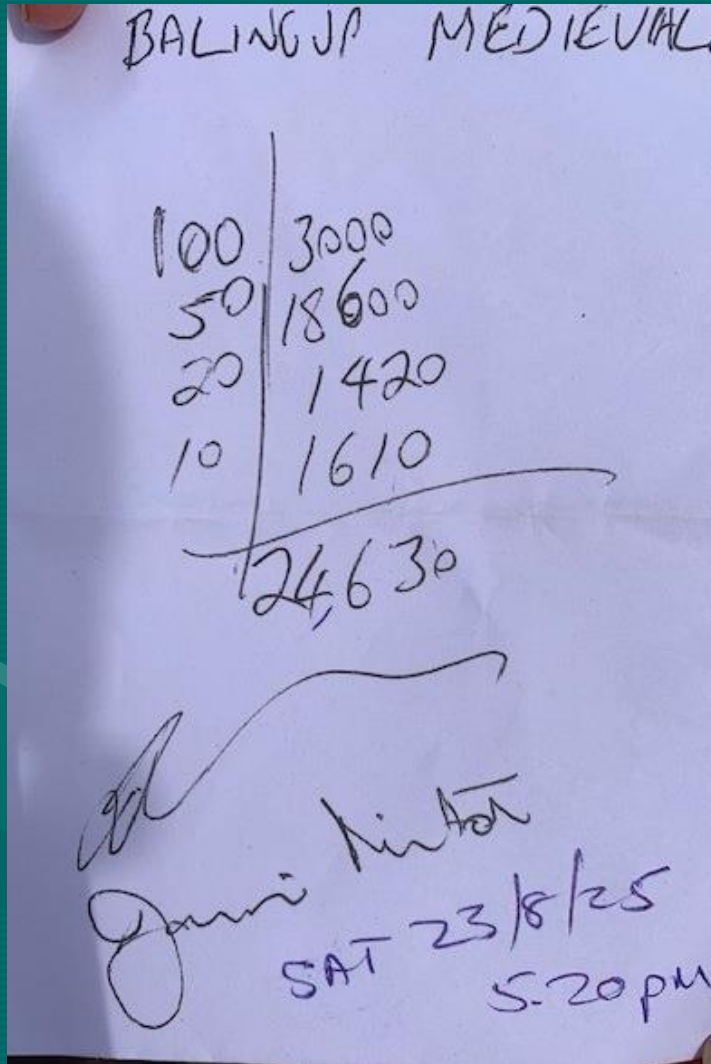


More big ideas (work in progress 2025/26)

Balingup Community Fund
(Fremantle Community
Foundation)

Staying in Place
Aged Care Packages

It's all about trust



Wendy's 'secrets' to leadership and volunteering.....

Find people who have skills that you need. One on one conversations.

Tell them what they CAN do, not what they CAN'T do.

Pat them on the back
.....LOTS



Wendy's solution to stress and small town politics.

- Will this be a problem in six months time?
- Find your sanity spot.....walk the dog or eat a banana.

Wendy Trow

brookview@wn.com.au

0457404571

