

SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK-BALINGUP MUNICIPAL HERITAGE INVENTORY



PREPARED BY LYNNE FARROW ARCHITECT
WITH ROBIN CHINNERY HISTORIAN
ADOPTED 27TH NOVEMBER 2013

TABLE OF CONTENTS

1. Introduction	1
2. Thematic Framework - Historic Overview	1
2.1 Introduction To The History Of The Shire Of Donnybrook-Balingup	2
2.2 Aboriginal Society At The Arrival Of The European Settlers, 1829	2
2.3 The Period 1830 – 1850: Sparse Settlement	3
2.4 1.4 The Period 1851 – 1875: Convicts And Growth	4
2.5 The Period 1875 – 1901: Railways And Gold	5
2.6 The Period 1902 – 1939 War And Survival	11
2.7 The Period 1940 – 1960: War And Recovery	20
2.8 The Period 1961 – 1980: Industry And Diversity	24
2.9 The Period 1980 – 1993: New Directions	25
2.10 The Period 1994 – 2012 Continuing New Directions	27
3. Thematic Matrix 1830-1939:	29
4. Thematic Matrix 1940 - 2012	30

APPENDICES

APPENDIX 1 List of Places

APPENDIX 2 List of sites

APPENDIX 3 Town Planning Scheme Places of Heritage Value

TABLE OF HISTORIC PHOTOGRAPHS

Photo 1 Trigwell's House at Minninup, with jail/lockup on end (photo taken 1979)	5
Photo 2 Single Men's quarters. The men were employed to clear land and plant Cherrydale orchard	7
Photo 3 Blackwood Road (later renamed South Western Highway), Donnybrook c. 1900	7
Photo 4 Typical mill worker's house c. 1900	8
Photo 5 Horse team working at clearing pre-1900	8
Photo 6 Hunter's Valley gold mine c. 1902	9
Photo 7 Balingup Railway Bridge	9
Photo 8 Balingup cricket team c. 1900	10
Photo 9 Early Balingup	10
Photo 10 Yungerup (now part of Golden Valley Tree Farm) January 1904. Grass tree 22 ft high. This grew down by the creek and died about 1922.	13
Photo 11 Tom Armstrong's homestead c. 1905	13

SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK-BALINGUP MUNICIPAL HERITAGE INVENTORY

Photo 12 View from old golf course (Bluehills area) of level crossing one mile south of Donnybrook c. 1908	14
Photo 13 Kirup Mill October 1910	14
Photo 14 Lowden School building and children c. 1908	15
Photo 15 Bullock team with load of piles at Donnybrook Railway Station yard, with jam factory in background, c. 1918	15
Photo 16 Horse team and loaded jinker at timber mill c. 1920	16
Photo 17 Railway Hotel, Donnybrook	16
Photo 18 Main Street of Noggerup c. 1920	17
Photo 19 House moving from Windmill Gully	17
Photo 20 South Western Highway Donnybrook c. 1925	18
Photo 21 The stone quarries Donnybrook c. 1930	18
Photo 22 First school bus in Donnybrook c. 1927	19
Photo 23 Clearing Preston Valley Road c. 1930s	19
Photo 24 South Western Highway, Donnybrook	20
Photo 25 Balingup Black and White Dance Band (1940s to 1960s)	22
Photo 26 Killerby's Store, Donnybrook, 1935-1941	22
Photo 27 Stationary hay baler c. 1940s	23
Photo 28 Blade shearing c. 1920s	23
Photo 29 Preston Producers' Co-operative, South Western Highway c. 1958	24
Photo 30 Tinderbox, Balingup - a thriving commercial business and tourist attraction	27

1. INTRODUCTION

This Municipal Heritage Inventory has been updated by Lynne Farrow, Architect, and Robin Chinnery, Historian, from the original document which was prepared in 1996 by the local community under the direction of O'Brien Planning Consultants.

Under the Heritage Act of 1990, local governments are required to compile a Municipal Inventory of Heritage Places, to identify the places and areas that, in the opinion of the local government, are of cultural heritage significance for the local government district. The inventory is required to be reviewed regularly.

The Heritage Act of 1990 is administered by the State Heritage Office, which has prepared a document called "Basic requirements for Local Government Inventories" which states:

- Local Government Inventories (also called Municipal Heritage Inventories) can best be described as 'local heritage surveys'. As such, they are common practice in WA and throughout Australia, as the foundation of sound local heritage planning.
- They identify local heritage assets in a systematic fashion, and provide the base information needed for local heritage planning to achieve consistency, strategic direction, and community support.

The Inventory has no statutory control, but informs the Local Government Planning staff of the heritage assets of the Shire. Statutory control is applied to the places that are deemed by the Shire to have sufficient heritage significance that require recognition under the Shire's Town Planning Scheme.

The original Municipal Heritage Inventory had 54 places and a number of sites. A further 14 places were included on a supplementary list. These supplementary places have all been investigated and 12 of them have been added to this list.

The review process is intended to:

- Ensure that the existing inventory meets the minimum standards, and to bring the findings into line with the standards if deficient
- Review changes in the local heritage in the preceding period such as demolitions of places, changes in their condition, or the availability of other new information.

2. THEMATIC FRAMEWORK - HISTORIC OVERVIEW

This part of the Inventory addresses the history of the physical development of the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup. It identifies and explains the themes or 'story lines' that are crucial to understanding the area's historic environment as it exists today, provide a context for the comparative assessment of heritage places in the locality and may provide preliminary information about some local places of potential significance (which may subsequently be documented separately, in individual place record forms).

Again, the basis for the information was taken from the "Shire of Donnybrook Municipal Heritage Inventory" prepared by O'Brien Planning Consultants in 1996, and expanded to include the period since then and amended according to new information that has come to light.

2.1 INTRODUCTION TO THE HISTORY OF THE SHIRE OF DONNYBROOK-BALINGUP

At the turn of the twentieth century, Donnybrook and Balingup were two separate areas, both in the early formative stages of settlement. While the local histories of the two areas have many similarities, there are features unique to each. By 1970, the practicality of having a number of small Roads Boards administering country areas was questioned, and the decision was made to amalgamate the two areas as the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup in 1971. The union brought the Shire a more viable financial base from which to ensure sound administration and progress for the region, and the Shire now encompasses an area of 1450 sq. kms.

The Donnybrook-Balingup district was first settled in the mid-1800s, and since that period development has been slow and steady. There have not been spectacular booms or slumps, even during the gold boom period, and with a sound economy based on agriculture and timber, and a geographic location within close proximity of major tourist attractions in the South-West, the area should continue to provide a pleasant and healthy lifestyle for the local community and a welcome interlude for visitors from the city and elsewhere.

2.2 ABORIGINAL SOCIETY AT THE ARRIVAL OF THE EUROPEAN SETTLERS, 1829

The arrival of European explorers and settlers in the Swan River Colony in the late 1820s was to set in motion a period of major change for the Aboriginal inhabitants of the area. Living in closely knit groups, the Aboriginal people had evolved a sound social framework and a finely tuned established order. The rich culture and traditions were passed down to the younger generations through art, painting, dance, story and song. Their art was closely integrated with the religious and secular life of the people.

Entirely dependent on nature, the Aboriginal people were constantly in search of food and water. In a harsh climate, this limited the size of the groups of Aboriginal people, who understood the implications of territorial boundaries and sacred places. They did not often congregate in large groups, nor did they build permanent shelters or acquire many material possessions. Sometimes in good times larger groups came together. At such meeting times celebratory and religious ceremonies such as corroborees were performed. Goods were traded, information was passed on, elopements took place, old grievances were settled and sometimes even violent fighting took place until justice was restored.

The movement of the Aboriginal people followed definite routes determined by seasonal supplies of food and water, and these routes sometimes became road routes following European settlement. Aboriginal people took great care not to waste precious resources. Traditionally, the men were the hunters while the women took responsibility for gathering seeds, roots, berries, nuts, some insects (Bardi grubs) fungi, nectar as food supplies. The women carried digging sticks ('wana'), bark or wooden scoops for collecting food and kangaroo skin bags. Groups of hunters with their clubs, axes ('koitj'), long spears ('kitj'), and snares sought out kangaroos, wallabies, possums, bandicoots and various birds. Boomerangs (karli) were not used much in thick bush, rather on open land. Snakes, lizards, frogs, marron, gilgies and fish (which were speared by hand) were also important food sources. The skins, bones and fur of the animals were used to make garments and implements. The 'booka' was a kangaroo skin cloak worn draped over one shoulder, with the fur side inside for warmth. The women spun possum fur into twine, which was woven into headbands, carry-bags and bindings. Sometimes small shelters were made by bending young gum trees over and lashing them together, and then the structure was thatched with zamia palms and leaves.

At the date of European settlement in the Swan River Colony the South-West portion of Western Australia was occupied by several Aboriginal language groups, and the term

Nyungar (Noongar) was given to the languages spoken throughout the area. Figures vary, but it has been suggested that there were around 6,000 Aboriginal people in the South-West region in the late 1820s.

2.3 THE PERIOD 1830 – 1850: SPARSE SETTLEMENT

In the period prior to European settlement of the districts that comprise the present day Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup, there is evidence of scattered Aboriginal presence. The sites recorded by the Department of Aboriginal Affairs are primarily artefact scatters and occasional quarries from the production of stone tools. There are also some known burial sites, and the Blackwood River was a major mythological and economic feature in Aboriginal culture. It would appear that very little research has been done in the area other than for major development projects (mines, power or water lines). There are undoubtedly sites in the area that have not yet been recorded by the Department.

Early European explorers and surveyors including Surveyor General John Septimus Roe, Preston, Collie, and Bussell, made their way into the district between 1829 and 1835. Following settlement by five Irish settlers (including James Bessonett and George Nash) in 1842, Leschenault Location 55 was surveyed and mapped. It is believed they named the area Donnybrook, probably after the Dublin suburb from which they came.

Early settlers lived in tents, in very difficult conditions, struggling to clear the dense native bush for agriculture with primitive and inadequate hand tools. Roads were rough bush tracks, and the lack of bridges made river crossings difficult or impossible for horses and carts. Many tracks followed in the wake of sandalwood cutters who passed through the area.

Social activities were kept to a minimum. Owing to the distance between early settlers and the need to survive in sometimes harsh conditions, their meetings were generally restricted to times of mutual help for road clearing and sharing supplies and tools. In 1849, a church was partially built at Donnybrook, but it remained unfinished and eventually collapsed.

Stories were told by the settlers of nomadic Aborigines and sometimes hostile groups of Aboriginal people. The arrival of the Europeans, with an entirely different approach to land settlement and ownership, changed forever the once established order of Aboriginal life. The Aboriginal inhabitants of the Swan River Colony were to see their camping and food grounds, springs and swamps covered by houses and enclosed by the fences of the European settlers. The fertility of the land was quickly recognised and turned into productive gardens and fields for food production by the settlers. Their intrusions on traditional hunting grounds saw the Aborigines move further and further afield in their search for food. Flocks and herds displaced the wildlife the Aboriginal men had hunted. In following their food supply, the Aboriginal people could no longer keep within their traditional boundaries, but trespass on the preserves of other Aboriginal groups created friction. Disorientation and conflict often followed.

The early European settlers faced a harsh existence and made slow progress towards clearing the land, a task that required intensive labour. After requests from the settlers to the colonial government for aid, convict transportation was introduced to the Swan River Colony in 1850.

2.4 THE PERIOD 1851 – 1875: CONVICTS AND GROWTH

Survey records for this period show an increase in pastoral leases with the introduction of cattle as the major livestock. John Trigwell, Thomas Chapman and Walter Padbury were among the early landholders and pastoralists in the region. Agricultural production included wool and meat from sheep and small acreages were cleared for cultivation. Oats and wheat were planted, but at this stage they were mainly for the settlers' own chaff and flour needs. Owing to the lack of fencing, shepherds were employed, including some Aboriginal people.

Some settlers still lived in tents while others built simple slab huts or wattle and daub huts with dirt floors, and primitive packing case and split jarrah furniture. Some early homes were built, including Ferndale (Nelson Loc. 3) and Southampton (Nelson Loc. 4) in the Balingup district. There were a number of pockets of settlement including at Minninup, Kirup, Brookhampton, Donnybrook, Balingup, Mullalyup, Lowden, Mumballup and the Upper Capel area.

Supplies were obtained from Bunbury, a day's trip by horse and cart, and the improvements to roads and bridge building by convict labour enabled progress. The convicts or ticket-of-leave men were based at a camp called 'Toerag', near Donnybrook, under the watchful eye of Sergeant Henry Trigwell. Convict labour built the first jail in the area and a policeman, Trooper McAlinden, was appointed. Convict transportation ended in 1874, and expeerees continued as part of the labour force, contributing to development.

Employment with the settlers was generally scarce for Aboriginal people except in the field of tracking. Attempts were made to teach them skills to become servants to the settlers, but often there was only seasonal part-time work available - as shepherds, farmhands and general house-hold help. Aboriginal people proved themselves invaluable for tracking escaped convicts or wrong-doers and for guiding explorers and surveyors. There were instances when lost sheep, and even the occasional lost child, were saved as a result of their skills. Aboriginal men could be employed as police aides or constables and, by the 1850s, a 'Kingships' system gave certain Aborigines authority of office to assist in maintaining law and order.

Consequent to employment of convicts and ticket-of-leave men there were fewer Aboriginal workers, which led to hardship for older dependent Aborigines in the wake of the breakdown of traditional systems. Prohibitions against hunting on farming properties increased the hardships for the once self-contained Aborigines.

In the early period of European settlement ignorance by both groups led to uncertainty and fear. Settlers did not understand that conflict between Aboriginal groups was governed by their traditional law and believed it would lead to outright warfare. British settlers regarded fighting between Aborigines as breaches of the peace. The capture of poultry and livestock from settlers' farms incensed the farmers, who did not always understand the situation of the Aboriginal people. Aborigines were sometimes wrongly blamed for misdeeds in the colony, and Aboriginal dogs were sometimes blamed for wild dog attacks on sheep. European farmers were concerned that the Aboriginal custom of burning off the land posed a danger to crops and livestock.

Communication with the wider world was difficult for the early settlers. The first mail run to Bunbury was made by foot in this period. Later the journey was made by pony express from Bunbury to Bridgetown and then by horse and buggy. Mail was collected from a central point and delivered to neighbours or given to someone else to pass on further down the line. Bullock teams were used to transport timber used in building.

The first coach run was established, and commercial establishments like the Anchor and Hope Inn and the Balingup Inn (Nelson's Arms) opened for business. Service industries, such

as the small flour mill established by Richard Jones, of Southampton, supported the local farmers.

A small community began to develop with permanent settlers. The first of numerous one-teacher schools was established in the Minnipup area. Owing to the lack of trained medical people, midwifery was practised by mostly untrained women. To address their spiritual needs, people banded together to establish the Congregational Mission in Donnybrook.

In these early years of European settlement, large numbers of Aborigines died as they were introduced to illnesses like measles, influenza and a form of wasting disease. Traditional Aboriginal practices gave way to a different pattern of life, fitting in with the farming communities. Changes took place in the customs relating to dress, accommodation, utensils, tools and means of livelihood. There were an increasing number of children of mixed Aboriginal and European descent.



Photo 1 Trigwell's House at Minnipup, with jail/lockup on end (photo taken 1979)

2.5 THE PERIOD 1875 – 1901: RAILWAYS AND GOLD

Records show that at the beginning of this period there were 22 settlers in the Donnybrook area, and, by 1898, there were 101 people in Donnybrook and 250 people living in the Balingup district. Donnybrook and Balingup became official townships. There were other pockets of settlement, including those at Thomson's Brook and Brookhampton. Conditions were difficult, and sometimes water had to be carried for miles before wells were sunk closer to where people lived. The settlement became more permanent with the building of residences, like Sunnyvale, Avalon, the Junction, Newlands, Ferndale, Woodlands, Crendon and Landsdale. Most houses were built near permanent water supply, by rivers and creeks.

The mail coach from Bunbury delivered mail on a weekly basis to the first Post Office in Donnybrook, and the coach run led to the opening of coach inns at Donnybrook, Mullalyup and Balingup. The first telegraph was sent from the area in 1892. The link with other settlements was further expanded with the extension of the railway from Bunbury, via

Boyanup to Donnybrook and then later to Balingup, and the opening of sidings provided transport for goods and produce.

Agriculture was beginning to flourish with farmers running cattle, pigs and sheep, and also growing various grains, including wheat, and also potatoes. Apples and grapes were first introduced during this period. Significantly, the "Chapman's Late" apple was introduced, which was a forerunner of the renowned "Granny Smith" apple. At peak times, like harvesting and planting, the community banded together to share the tasks and share the tools. The mechanisation of agriculture began in this period though most of the old methods and equipment continued to be used. Possum and kangaroo trapping sometimes supplemented settlers' incomes.

The native forests of Jarrah and Marri trees attracted many people to the area. Jarrah timber became an important resource owing to its strength, durability and resistance to termites. Timber mills were established, and the task of providing railway sleepers and timber for building was very labour intensive. Sleepers were trimmed with broad axes, while boards were produced by pit sawing. Logs were hauled on whims pulled by horses and bullocks, and later steam tractors were introduced to haul logs in the bush.

The lure of gold brought many hopeful prospectors into the area in 1899. Leases were staked, the Donnybrook Goldfields Ltd was established, with a five head stamp battery, and the Goldfields Hotel catered for the increased activity. Although the boom was short lived and the gold too costly to extract, many of the miners stayed on in the area, turning their hands to agriculture or the timber industry. Another industry commenced late in this period was the quarrying of Donnybrook Sandstone.

This period saw the establishment and growth of a number of community organisations to facilitate the expansion and progress of the district. The Preston Roads Board and the Upper Capel Roads Board (later renamed the Balingup Roads Board) were to become the major governing bodies in the Donnybrook-Balingup area for the next 60 years. The Roads Boards needed revenue so as elsewhere cart, carriage and dog licences were introduced. The first doctor in Donnybrook, Dr. Frederick Elliot, became an influential Chairman of the Preston Roads Board for the next decade.

A police station and lockup, permanent schools (the first school in Balingup opened in October 1895), a maternity hospital, a library and an agricultural hall were added to the services available to the communities. Progress Associations and Farmers' Associations were formed. Community sports became popular, and there are records of regular horse racing, two-up schools, football, cricket, athletics and log chopping events in the district. General sports days for all the family were held, with events like foot races, jumping, skipping, three-legged races, and throwing the rolling pin enjoyed by many.

The spiritual needs of the community were provided for when representatives of the Catholic, Congregational and Anglican Churches came to the district.



Photo 2 Single Men's quarters. The men were employed to clear land and plant Cherrydale orchard



Photo 3 Blackwood Road (later renamed South Western Highway), Donnybrook c. 1900



Photo 4 Typical mill worker's house c. 1900



Photo 5 Horse team working at clearing pre-1900



Photo 6 Hunter's Valley gold mine c. 1902

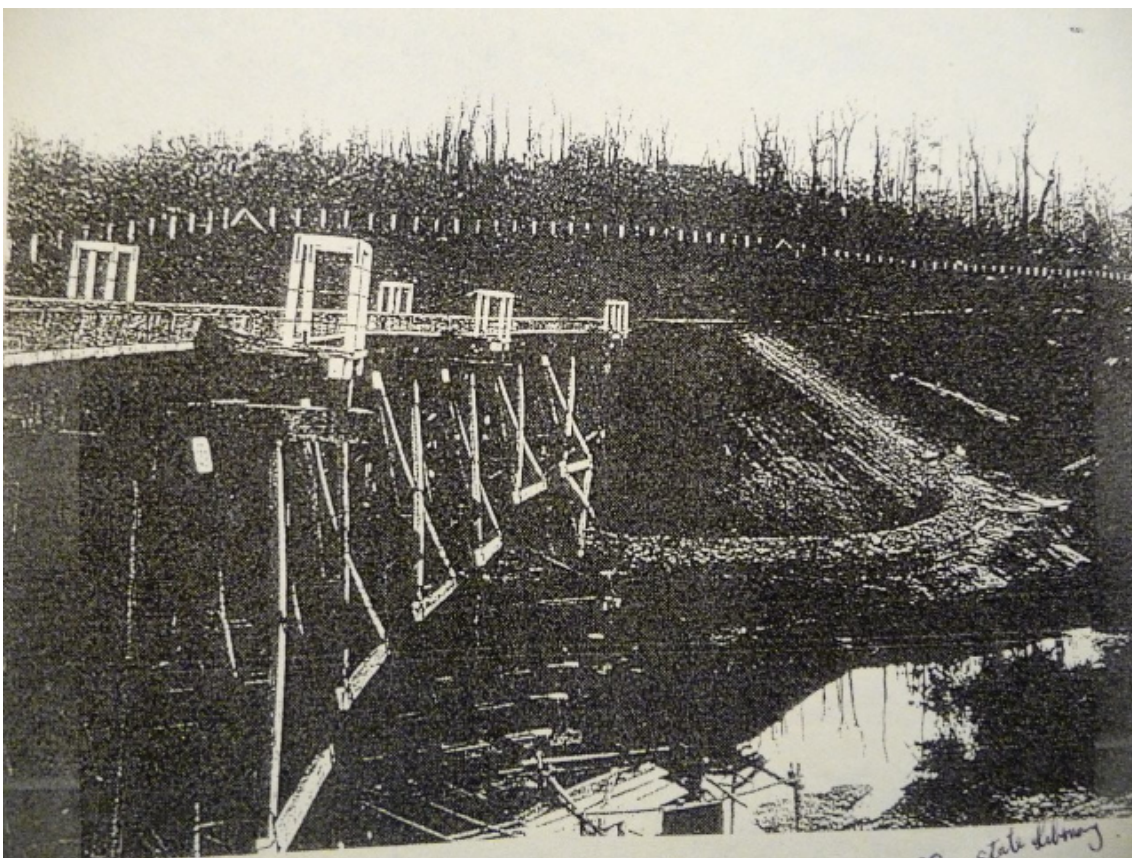


Photo 7 Balingup Railway Bridge



Photo 8 Balingup cricket team c. 1900



Photo 9 Early Balingup

2.6 THE PERIOD 1902 – 1939 WAR AND SURVIVAL

This period saw the outbreak of two major wars, World War I in 1914, and World War II in 1939. These had a marked effect on some aspects of life in the district, when men left the area to enlist.

In this period the district grew steadily, and after World War I the areas of Brooklands and Ferndale in the Balingup area were subdivided into small plots for settlement by returned soldiers. Some plots were too small to be viable, and the lack of experience and capital led to difficulties for these farmers and the Balingup Roads Board, which was unable to secure rates income from them.

The area was enriched by the establishment of an immigrant Italian farming community who initially farmed potatoes, cabbages and onions, and later tomatoes. Their subsequent contribution to the fruit industry was very valuable.

From 1911, Harry Mead's Oldsmobile and William Hill's Essex (which became the first taxi) introduced a new era of motor travel and communication. Steam tractors and a light rail system operated in some timber mills, and the Government rail line was opened, enabling transport of timber and fruit. Outlying areas such as Lowden, Noggerup and Mumballup began to have better services with the establishment of general stores that also supplied petrol.

The introduction of irrigation along the Preston River made possible further advances in agriculture. The Donnybrook Fruit Preserving Company was established, and with the opening of the Balingup Cheese Factory cream no longer needed to be sent to Bunbury for processing. The Preston Producers' Co-op and the Donnybrook Fruitgrowers' Association did much to promote the new variety of apple, the Granny Smith, which was exported overseas. The introduction of Grade Herd Testing and Recording increased yields in the dairy industry. However, attempts at growing tobacco in Balingup did not have long term success. Sunnywest had a butter factory in Boyanup, with cream cans transported initially by company owned 'cream trucks' and then by train to the factory.

The timber industry progressed steadily, with mills operating at various places including Irishtown, Lowden, Queenwood, Kirup (Preston Timber Mill), East Kirup (Millars Timber and Trading Company) later renamed Grimwade, and Bunnings took over the Argyle Mill, situated between Boyanup and Donnybrook, in 1905. A new mill opened on the Noggerup/East Kirup Road (Windmill Gully). A busy township developed around each of the mills, with company provided huts for single men, cottages for married men, and more substantial houses for the staff.

During World War I, the curtailment of shipping and shortages of labour affected the timber industry, and some mills were closed, then re-opened after the war and continued to prosper. Use of light rail in the bush for timber haulage increased efficiency of the operations.

In the 1930s, the timber disease dieback was found to be affecting jarrah forests. It is thought to have been introduced into Western Australia in the 1870s, but was not detected until the 1930s. The market demand for softwoods led to the development of pine plantations from 1933. The Forests Department took over the East Kirup Mill and the area was renamed Grimwade.

The goldfields were a hive of industry for a few short years in the early 1900s, but after the collapse and closure of the Goldfields Company many miners remained in the area and took up agriculture. Oats and barley were important crops until the introduction of motor transport, which came to replace horse drawn transport, and large supplies of chaff were no longer required.

An important source of employment and income were the Donnybrook Sandstone Quarries which, over the next decades, made a significant contribution to the architecture of Western Australia. Donnybrook Sandstone was used for a number of major public buildings in Perth, including the Supreme Court, Parliament House, the Commonwealth Bank in Forrest Place, Claremont Teachers' College, Fremantle Railway Station and Guildford Grammar School Chapel. Other industries included mica mining, a jam factory and slaughter-houses.

This period saw a tremendous increase in the level of community activity, and a number of civic organisations were established, which included:

- The Balingup Progress Association
- The Donnybrook and Balingup Agricultural Societies – with the ensuing annual shows
- The Traders' Association
- Donnybrook Fruitgrowers' Association
- Preston Producers' Co-op
- South-West Roads Board Association – who took up the issues of vermin (particularly rabbits and foxes) and noxious weeds.

A local cemetery was proclaimed in Donnybrook and rates were introduced. A ward system, comprising four wards – Donnybrook, Thomson's Brook, Preston and the Goldfields, was established in the Donnybrook area. Six acetylene streetlights were installed in Donnybrook, and street trees were planted. These trees were to be an ongoing saga in both Balingup and Donnybrook. The push for electrification in Donnybrook and Balingup townships was later realised, with streetlights and general electricity being laid on by 1934. The approach to form a Fire Brigade was refused on the grounds that there was no reticulated water in the area. However, the Bush Fire Brigades were established and fire lookout towers were erected by the Forests Department. The main streets of the townships were tarred in both districts and in Donnybrook the Roads Board purchased its first truck.

At the end of World War I, a Returned Soldiers' Association (later the R.S.L.) became active in both areas and, after much controversy, the Soldiers' Memorial Hall was opened in Donnybrook. At Balingup, the 'Avenue of Honour' was planted, and the relatives of fallen soldiers and branch members of the Soldiers' Association placed name plates along this row of oak trees.

A Catholic school was established, and interested parents of State School children formed the Parents and Citizens' Association. A general hospital was opened in 'Kiera' homestead, and an infant health service was introduced. Further churches were built.

There is evidence of a rich social and recreational life for the local communities. The Balingup Dramatic Society, the Thomson Brook Music Club (later the Brookhampton Bell Ringers), the Literary and Debating Society and the Brookhampton Dramatic Club became active. Films were shown in halls in both areas (accompanied by local pianists before the advent of the talking pictures), and Saturday night dances and Fancy Dress Balls became gala events.

Golf, tennis, bowls, croquet, hockey, rifle shooting and trotting became available for local people. The Country Women's Association (C.W.A.) began its good work, and the youth were catered for by the Girl Guides, Scouts and the Junior Farmers Movement (later Rural Youth).

This period saw major fluctuations in the fortunes of the local economy. In 1914, men enlisted in patriotic spirit, some never to return. After a post-war period of recovery, came the Depression, which caused considerable hardship for the local community. The markets collapsed, so butterfat, fruit and potatoes were almost worthless. Some innovative schemes to

use surplus apples were attempted. The Roads Board offered some relief for unemployed men by paying sustenance wages ('susso') in exchange for road building labour. Some farmers worked part-time in their own area for the local authority, to pay off their rates.



Photo 10 Yungerup (now part of Golden Valley Tree Farm) January 1904. Grass tree 22 ft high. This grew down by the creek and died about 1922.



Photo 11 Tom Armstrong's homestead c. 1905



Photo 12 View from old golf course (Bluehills area) of level crossing one mile south of Donnybrook c. 1908



Photo 13 Kirup Mill October 1910



Photo 14 Lowden School building and children c. 1908



Photo 15 Bullock team with load of piles at Donnybrook Railway Station yard, with jam factory in background, c. 1918



Photo 16 Horse team and loaded jinker at timber mill c. 1920



Photo 17 Railway Hotel, Donnybrook

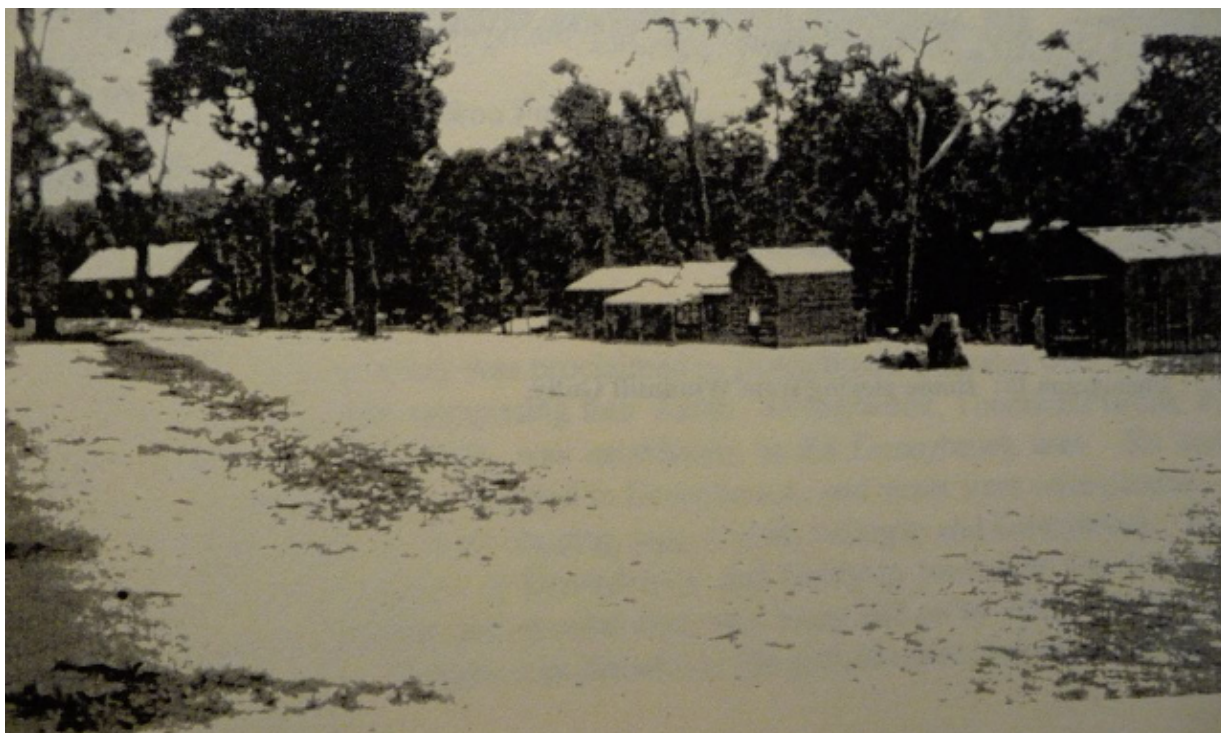


Photo 18 Main Street of Noggerup c. 1920

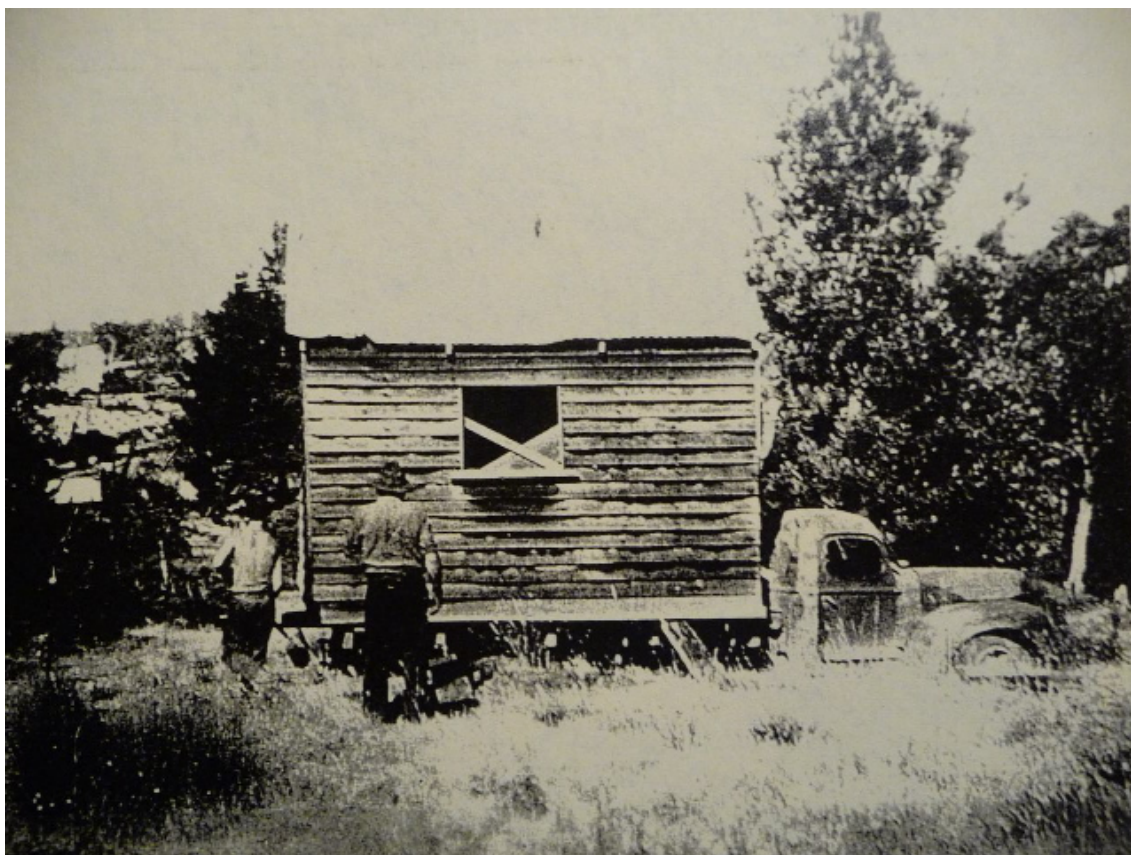


Photo 19 House moving from Windmill Gully

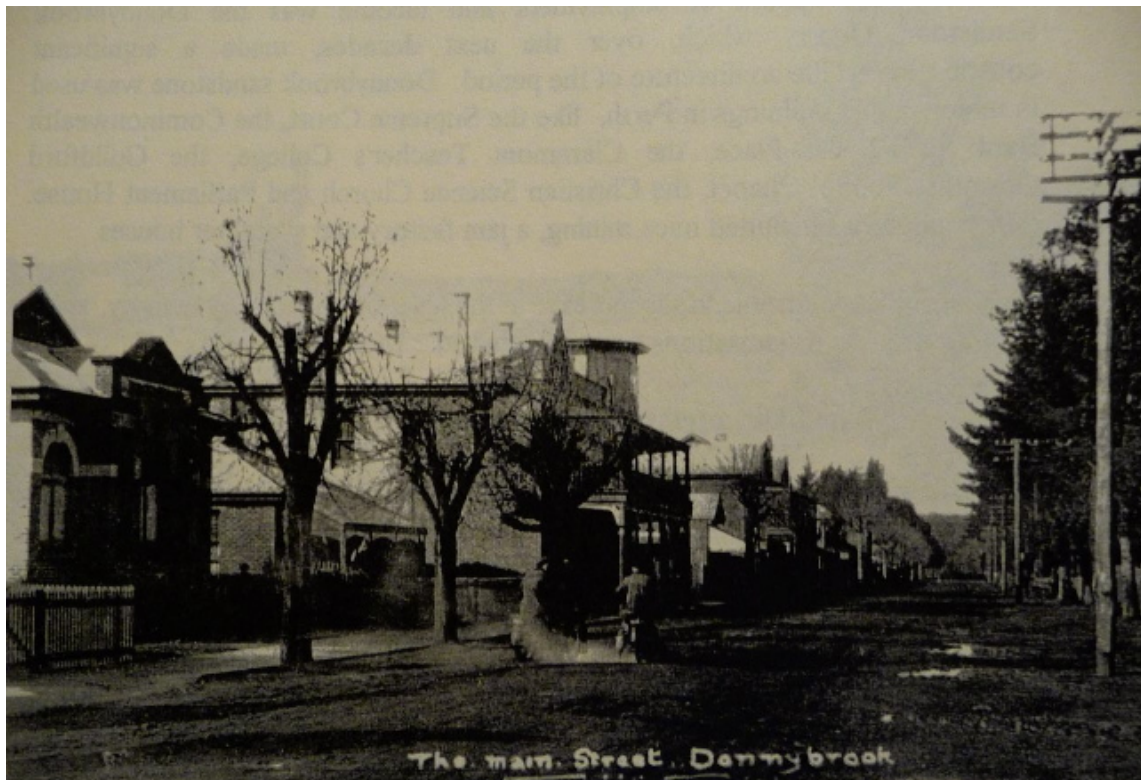


Photo 20 South Western Highway Donnybrook c. 1925



Photo 21 The stone quarries Donnybrook c. 1930



Photo 22 First school bus in Donnybrook c. 1927

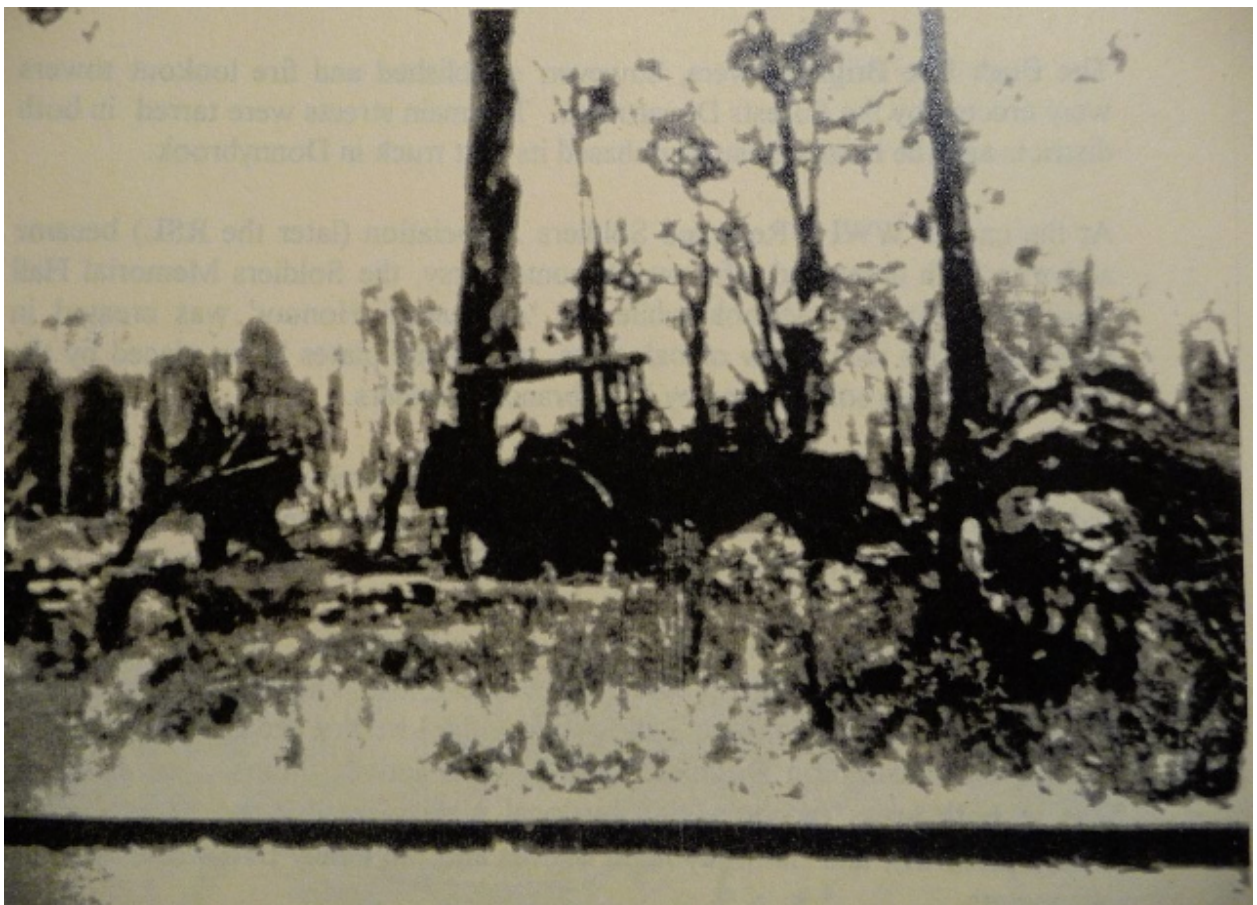


Photo 23 Clearing Preston Valley Road c. 1930s



Photo 24 South Western Highway, Donnybrook

2.7 THE PERIOD 1940 – 1960: WAR AND RECOVERY

During World War II, activities in some industries slowed or ceased. The timber industry suffered from reduced markets due to curtailment of exports and wartime restrictions on building, and also from a shortage of skilled labour as many men enlisted, and some mills were closed. The Argyle township dwindled and died after the closure of the mill in 1940. The Windmill Gully Mill was transferred to Noggerup. The resulting unemployment caused a major problem for some people and shelters for the homeless were established, and benefit functions were organised for needy families. The Women's Land Army was established to overcome the agricultural labour shortfall.

An exception to this slow down in activity was the need that the war created for flax. A flax factory was established for milling locally grown flax, but this venture was short-lived and ceased at the end of the war. During the war, the Italian community was unsettled by the internment of Italian immigrants because of the alleged political sympathies of those who had not taken up Australian citizenship. Nevertheless, in the post-war period, there was an increase in Italian immigration. Wartime rationing of petrol led to some creative, if dangerous, car modification schemes that kept the school bus on the road. Organisations like the Red Cross, R.S.L., Volunteer Defence Corp, and Volunteer Air Observation Corp were active. A welcome home dinner for 200 returning servicemen was laid on at the end of the war.

The outlying areas had a variety of experiences during this period. Some railway sidings were closed; and some small schools closed as educational facilities were consolidated. However, some communities experienced some growth, including Kirup, where a Catholic Church was built.

With the collapse of overseas markets, surplus apples were utilised when a Dehydration and Canning Factory was established to meet wartime needs for these products. Drinks, liqueurs and cider were also processed, but Australia was predominantly a beer drinking country so the demand for cider was not high, and the cider and canning factory closed 10 years later. In the post-war years, the apple industry recovered and production was improved with

mechanical grading and central packing sheds. Italian migrants boosted the industry, and bulk handling and bulk shipping enhanced overseas exports. The era of the Apple Festivals began in 1954, and continued for more than a decade. The export market to Asia became attractive and was significant for the future direction of the industry.

In this period the advent of bulldozers enabled clearing of more agricultural land. Lupins, new types of clovers, rye grasses and generally improved pastures gave a boost to agriculture. Potatoes were a very important crop during this period. Grimwade Mill was taken over for pine timber production. The Forestry Department's expanded pine planting programs were blamed by some people for the decline of agriculture in the area and for the decline of activity in the township of Balingup

By the middle of the period, the population of Donnybrook grew to 2,500, and in Balingup peaked at 1,350.

After the wells began to run dry in Donnybrook, reticulated water was finally laid on and a water supply was introduced to Balingup soon thereafter. The State Electricity Commission (SEC) took over electricity production at Donnybrook and Balingup.

A new industry, Hume's Concrete Pipe Factory, was established in Donnybrook.

Donnybrook Roads Board experienced a period of controversy and dissension, resulting in the temporary dissolution of the Board. Mrs. E. Long made history as the first woman to be elected to a Roads Board. After moving to new premises, the Board finally made way for the new Donnybrook Shire Council, which was established in 1960. Balingup Roads Board likewise became Balingup Shire Council.

It was a time of monuments and celebration with the memorial to the early settlers, the Memorial Gardens, the entry gates and pillars and later the 'Welcome Sign' being erected in Donnybrook. The Jubilee of the Commonwealth of Australia was celebrated in style.

Health care was given attention with the establishment of the Ambulance Association in 1952, the purchase of an Ambulance vehicle, and with the hospital rebuilding program. On the education front, the Donnybrook State School was elevated to the status of a Junior High School, and the State Government encouraged local government authorities to establish libraries in the area. Bridgetown Junior High School opened in the early 1950s, enabling high school education to be locally available to Balingup students via a school bus scheme.

Communication was improved by faster and expanded telephone and mail services. Government passenger buses and school buses were introduced. This period saw the end of 'party lines' and the phasing out of manual telephone exchanges as automatic telephone exchanges with STD facilities were introduced.

This period saw the advent of a very active drama organisation in the district.



Photo 25 Balingup Black and White Dance Band (1940s to 1960s)



Photo 26 Killerby's Store, Donnybrook, 1935-1941

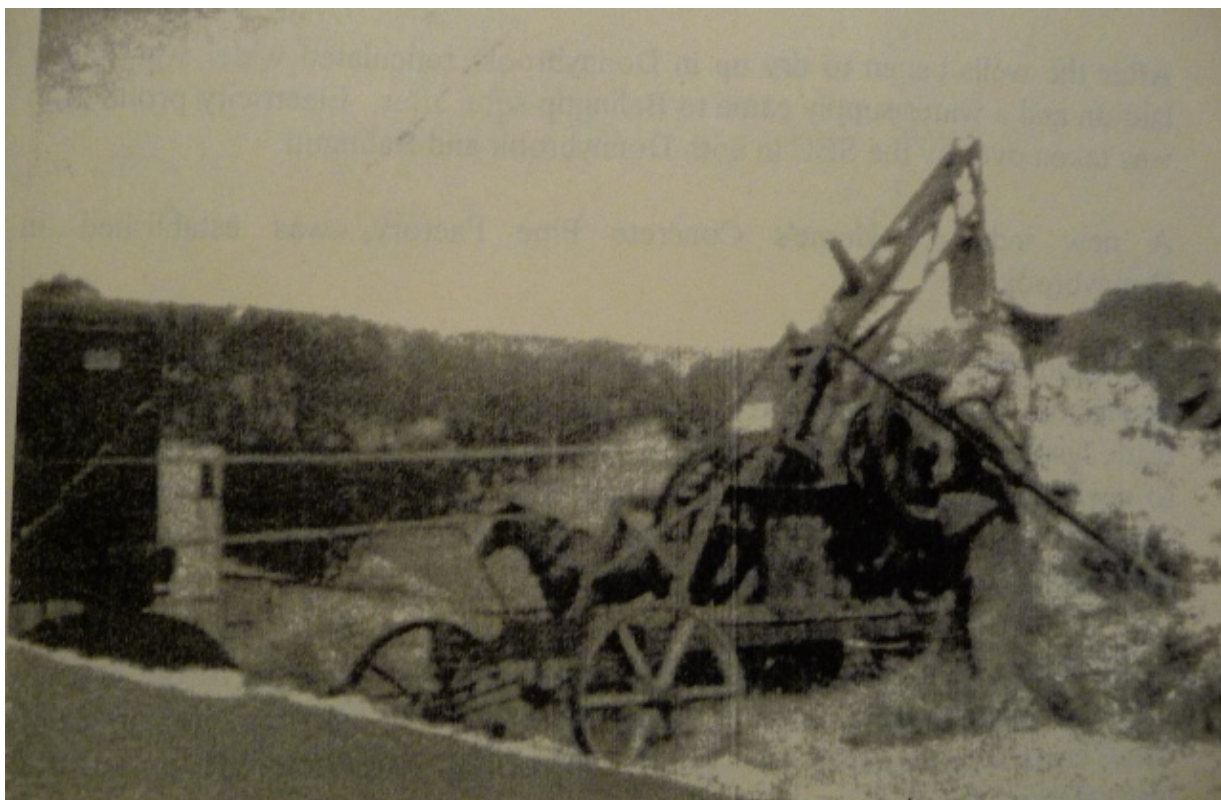


Photo 27 Stationary hay baler c. 1940s



Photo 28 Blade shearing c. 1920s



Photo 29 Preston Producers' Co-operative, South Western Highway c. 1958

2.8 THE PERIOD 1961 – 1980: INDUSTRY AND DIVERSITY

During this period Donnybrook and Balingup saw the collapse of some landmark events such as the Agricultural Shows, and the Apple Festival that had been initiated in 1954, and the local picture shows. The decline in the population of Balingup led to amalgamation with the Shire of Donnybrook, somewhat reluctantly at first, in 1971, to become the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup.

The saga of the street trees in both areas continued, resulting in felling and removal of most of these trees.

The advent of television saw the Picture Halls rapidly lose custom and cease operation. The local dance band in Balingup, the Black and White Band under Bert Walton, continued to entertain the local people until it was disbanded in 1976.

In 1969, the opening of the Glen Mervyn Dam resolved the long irrigation saga, benefiting all the farms in the area. The ACI cardboard factory was set up to produce cardboard cartons for the packing of local fruit, meat and drinks. The introduction of Crendon machinery, the squirrel picking platform and tractor mounted fork lift that helped to handle apples in bulk bins, gave a boost to the industry.

Income began to be derived from a variety of new sources. While horticulture continued to expand, dairying was largely phased out. In the Balingup area previously pastoral land was planted with pine plantations, which caused community concern and some dissension between the Shire Council and the Forests Department (later C.A.L.M., latterly D.E.C.). Research plantings of blue gum trees were made between 1977 and 1986.

The tourism industry was boosted by visitors to the area who stopped to view arts and crafts at the Old Cheese Factory. Other new directions were taken in engineering and light industry.

The introduction of decimal currency, weights and measures caused some difficulties for local producers and merchants.

A Donnybrook landmark, the Anchor and Hope Inn, received a new lease of life, and after restoration by Hugh and Pat Browne, it operated as a Tourist Centre, and then a restaurant. The apple shaped light standards erected in 1973, known as the Apple Lights, became a Donnybrook landmark.

Community needs and aspirations continued to be met by the formation of the Pre-school centre and clinic, Apex and Rotary Service Clubs, the Rural Youth Movement and the Donnybrook Country Club in 1977 (an amalgamation of the Donnybrook Golf Club and Donnybrook Bowling Club). The C.W.A. achieved the building of their hall during this period. There was continuing interest in the football and cricket clubs, which were very active, while tennis was played only at a social level. The new basketball courts were a popular addition to recreational facilities for younger members of the community, and senior citizens were cared for by the building of Minninup Cottages.

The re-formation of the Balingup Progress Association strongly influenced many of the changes and the social issues of the district from the late 1970s.

It was a period of change for the Italian communities, with the younger generation moving away from their old traditions, and the Australian-born children becoming prominent in community affairs.

Cyclone Alby left its mark on the district in 1978, when its strong winds fanned fires that destroyed local assets like Cherrydale and Herne Hill (Beelerup), and blew St Therese's Catholic Church in Balingup off its stumps. New churches during this period included St Therese's Church, a new Catholic Church in Donnybrook, and the Four Square International Church.

The Universal Brotherhood established itself in the Balingup district, incorporating the Rudolph Steiner School.

2.9 THE PERIOD 1980 – 1993: NEW DIRECTIONS

In the 1980s and early 1990s the area continued to be a valuable agricultural region, being the biggest apple growing area in Western Australia. New methods of irrigation and close planting of new varieties of apples (Pink Lady and Sundowner) strengthened the industry. There was an increase in pear and stone fruit production and pecan nuts, persimmons, and nashi were introduced at a commercial level. A new wine industry was growing up and a fruit winery was established. Emu farming was also attempted. Tourism became a major industry. Ventures like Glen Karalea Deer Park (est. 1981), produced venison and attracted visitors, but later closed as a commercial prospect. There were a number of other deer farms in the Shire. The restored Anchor and Hope Inn was a welcome refuge for city weary travellers, national and overseas visitors.

Hobby farming increased markedly in the region with the continued subdivision of large properties. Community cohesiveness was reflected in many popular events such as the Balingup Golden Valley Picnic Day and the biennial Donnybrook Apple Festivals. A Small Farm Field Day in Balingup each year attracted many visitors and farmers alike.

Other developments during this period were:

- The controversial Sunklands project, which entailed the clearing of native forest for pine plantation, divided the community, even though the area was not considered to be prime forest.
- The emergence of new development in old subdivisions, and the push for the opening up of new subdivisions, led to the establishment of a Town Planning Scheme, which is required by the Department of Planning and Urban Development to be updated and reviewed at regular intervals.
- A new newspaper, the *Donnybrook-Balingup Mail*, made a valiant attempt to take off in 1982, but owing to lack of support it collapsed in the same year. It was taken over by the *Collie Mail*, which covers the Donnybrook, Bridgetown, Boyup Brook and Nannup areas.
- 1982 saw flood damage to the Southampton Bridge, which was later rebuilt.
- Local historical items have been collected, stored and displayed for appreciation by locals and visitors alike.
- The Lions Club was formed in 1982.
- The Old Cheese Factory was established as a landmark tourist attraction for local arts and crafts.
- 1980 Uda Bremer Medical Centre was established.
- 1981 Preston Village was opened.
- 1981 New Hospital was built at Donnybrook.
- 1980 Primary School annexe built.
- Establishment in three stages (1979, 83, 93) of the Minnipup Cottages for well-aged accommodation. Tuia Lodge was created for frail aged accommodation.
- The establishment of the Golden Valley Tree Park.
- The opening of the Balingup and Districts Recreation Centre, and the Balingup Community Centre and Workspace.
- The district celebrated 150 years with numerous displays and activities. A time capsule was buried under the Old Oak Tree.
- The "Village Green" and the Children's Playground in Balingup.
- People travel much further for sport and entertainment. A day trip to Perth became more common – for both sporting events and special shows and events.
- Donnybrook Recreational Centre: Stage 1 1990, Stage 2 1994.
- Origins Centre, Jayes Road, Balingup – meditation and retreat centre.



Photo 30 Tinderbox, Balingup - a thriving commercial business and tourist attraction

2.10 THE PERIOD 1994 – 2012 CONTINUING NEW DIRECTIONS

Donnybrook-Balingup continues to be an important agricultural area with fruit and vegetable growing and vineyards. Apples remain especially notable as celebrated in the popular biennial Apple Festival held at Easter at Donnybrook. A cider factory and a fruit leather industry reflect further diversification in the fruit industry. While beef cattle have largely replaced dairying, there have been efforts to recommence cheese production, including goats' cheese. Donnybrook Station Market at Ayers Gardens attracts local residents and visitors. Stone quarrying expanded in this period with the re-opening of the old government quarry at Irishtown. Timber plantations continue to grow and to be harvested, and there is some timber milling.

Tourism continues to be a major industry in the Shire and is actively promoted by local organisations. There has been further development of chalets and bed and breakfast accommodation, including farm stay accommodation. New attractions have been developed including the Apple Fun Park, believed to be the largest free entry playground in Australia, which was enabled by a local benefactor and many volunteers, and is greatly enjoyed by the local community and visitors. An annual outdoor concert at Brookhampton Estate Winery was a popular event for many years. Other annual events include the Food and Wine Fair at the Amphitheatre at Donnybrook and the Small Field Day at Balingup. A number of properties participate in the Open Garden Scheme, and the spring wildflower season attracts visitors, as does the Bibbulmun Track. Arts and crafts are popular and local studios and galleries provide

retail outlets. The Donnybrook Theatre Troupe produces an annual theatre show at the Big Apple, Grist Road, Donnybrook.

Completion of Stage 2 of Donnybrook Recreational Centre provides up-to-date facilities for the community. Preston River Walk, Crooked Brook Nature Reserve, Gnomesville, Apex Park, Golden Valley Tree Park and Arboretum, Grimwade Townsite and Racecourse Flora Reserve are among numerous areas that are popular for outdoor recreation.

Many community organisations are active, including sporting clubs, art and craft groups, gardening clubs, Bush Fire Brigade, State Emergency Service, Balingup Progress Association, Lions' Club, South-West Fruit Growers' Association, St John Ambulance, RSL, Country Women's Association National Seniors, Donnybrook Historical Society, the recently formed Balingup Historical Project Group, and others.

3. THEMATIC MATRIX 1830-1939:

	1830-1850 SPARSE SETTLEMENT	1851-1875 CONVICTS AND GROWTH	1876-1901 RAILWAYS AND GOLD	1902-1939 WAR AND SURVIVAL
DEMOGRAPHIC SETTLEMENT AND MOBILITY Why people settled Why they moved away The things they left behind	Lechenault Loc 55 1842 first settlement Donnybrook; early exploration by J. S. Roe; Brookhampton area settled; Gregory surveyed Blackwood area	Surveyed Leases; Nelson Location 3 and 4; simple housing; convict camps; some early homesteads; wattle and daub huts built	Donnybrook and Balingup official townships; more permanent settlements; water supply difficult; gold discovered	Soldier settlement schemes; Italian immigrant community; electrification
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS How people and goods moved How people communicated and exchanged information	Primitive bush tracks; no bridges; river crossing at fords; horses and carts; sandal wood carters created tracks up the Preston valley	Improved roads and bridges-convict labour; bullock drays; walking- wheelbarrows; first mail run; coach run established; supplies from port at Bunbury	First post office; first telegraph; Rail link from Bunbury 1896 Donnybrook Town	Advent of motor car; steam tractors; light rail for mills; motor bikes; early valve radios
OCCUPATIONS What people did for sustenance or to add quality to life; paid and unpaid labour	Native bush cleared for farming; Labour shortage, request for convicts; timber and pit sawing of Jarrah	Pastoral leases – cattle, horses; first timber mills; hospitality inns; service coach runs	Agriculture – cattle, pigs, sheep, dairy, wheat, potatoes; Timber - native hardwoods, labour intensive; Gold – alluvial diggings and shaft	Pine trees; commercial fruit growing; Granny Smith exports; tobacco; cheese factory; collapse of goldfields; Donnybrook stone quarry
COMMUNITY EFFORTS What people did together as a community; the issues that divided them; the structures they created to serve civic needs	Mutual assistance among settlers	First school built at Minninup; community midwives; congregational mission; church services in homes	Schools, police station, churches established; Roads Boards; community halls; sporting organisations; doctor; maternity services	Agricultural societies and shows; progress association; tarred streets; street trees; RSL active; Infant health services; further sports clubs; CWA; BFB; Brookhampton Bell Ringers; Balingup Golf course
OUTSIDE INFLUENCES Events, decision or changes which affected the community but were beyond its control	Government exploration and surveying	Era of convict labour, convict camp “Toerag”; Convict labour Padbury Rd, Balingup	Access to outside world broadened by rail and telegraph links, Federation	Bushfire I Brookhampton; Fire destroys school; depression; collapse of export market; Internment of Italian Migrants; WW1- Women support groups

4. THEMATIC MATRIX 1940 – 2012:

	1940-1960 WAR AND RECOVERY	1961-1980 INDUSTRY AND DIVERSITY	1981-1993 NEW DIRECTIONS	1994-2012 CONTINUING NEW DIRECTIONS
DEMOGRAPHIC SETTLEMENT AND MOBILITY Why people settled Why they moved away The things they left behind	Population peaks in Balingup; Pine planting programmes; Reticulated water; SEC takes over electricity	Glen Mervyn Dam; Universal Brotherhood; water supply to Balingup and Kirup; Historic Homestead bought by DEC; Subdivision of large holding; 'Lewana' closed, reopened under DYSR	Tourism attracts visitors to the area; Grimwade closed; alternative life stylers	Tourism attracts visitors to area; expansion of commercial fruit growing to include olives, avocados, vineyards; new comers seeking a 'tree change'
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS How people and goods moved How people communicated and exchanged information	Wartime petro rationing; TV affects picture halls; telephone and mail service improved; school bus services; bulk handling apples	Regional TV; Automatic telephone exchanges; outlying post offices closed; two way radio for Bush Fire Brigades; road transport; Doctor served Donnybrook by plane; railway sidings closed	TV – GWN; end of telegram; electronic age; Kojonup rail discontinued; Balingup PO downgraded	Road transport; increasing use of electronic communication
OCCUPATIONS What people did for sustenance or to add quality to life; paid and unpaid labour	Irrigation; recovery of apple industry; apple festivals; women's land army; flax grown; canning industry/cider; potato marketing board; lupins; new clovers; timber slump during WW2; POWS; wool boom	Lady Williams apple; ACI cardboard; Dairying phased out; art and craft horticulture; more sheep and fat lamb; trickle irrigation; export decline in apples; fruit industry depressed; cheese factory closed; outlying services close	Tourism – deer park, wine, Newlands vineyards; Pink Lady and Sundowner apples; pecan nuts; Bluegum plantation; Freshwest potato washing and packing; increase in export stone fruit; seasonal workers; Murphy's chips; tinderbox; export wild flowers; veg growing; fruit wine; pottery	Tourism; fruit and vegetable growing, vineyards, some seasonal workers; fruit leather industry and cider factory; timber industry, mainly plantation; stone quarries; tinderbox; arts and crafts
COMMUNITY EFFORTS What people did together as a community; the issues that divided them; the structures they created to serve civic needs	First woman on Roads Board; Shire councils; Junior farmers; Black and White dance band; junior high school status; hospital; St. John's Ambulance; more halls and churches; sports to larger centres	Break in apple festival; end of agricultural shows; Minnip cottages; amalgamation of service clubs; removal of street trees; donnybrook country club; Sunlands project; Guy Fawkes night ends.	Town planning scheme; D'brook/Balingup Mail; dance er a ends; picture shows end; restoration of Anchor and Hope; recreation centres; TUIA Lodge	Recreation centres; apple fun park; racecourse flora reserve; community groups/organisations including Balingup historical project group
OUTSIDE INFLUENCES Events, decision or changes which affected the community but were beyond its control	WW2 unemployment; markets collapse; volunteer organisations; floods often cut roads; WW2 ; Korea	Cyclone Alby damage to Cherrydale and St. Therese's church; metrication; Vietnam war	Floods damage Southampton Bridge and Bridge House; Balingup tavern burnt down	Global financial crisis; Royalties for Regions program