



# ***OUR CULTURE, OUR VIEW***

## ***SHIRE OF DENMARK COMMUNITY CULTURAL PLAN 2010 – 2015***

### **PART 1 – THE PLAN**

**PART 1: THE PLAN**

**PART 2: PROCESS, CONTEXT AND RESOURCES**

**PART 3: DOCUMENTATION**



**Attachment 8.2.1**

---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*More selflessness – better arts/business coordination and linking...the South Coast and Denmark a guiding force in sustainable futures....we all feel like we belong and are proud to live in this special place....keep the rural feel – embrace the spiritual, environmental and cultural opportunities...bring back the hippies....create an “officer for the future”....a constitutional commitment to sustainable, environmentally and socially friendly development....a place for truthfulness, compassion and tolerance....A buzzing, vibrant community celebrating achievements and embracing difference....*

---

## **WELCOME**

***We acknowledge the Noongar people as the traditional owners of the land in which and for which this plan is devised and implemented.***

## **MESSAGE FROM THE SHIRE OF DENMARK**

***To be inserted***

## **MESSAGE FROM DENMARK ARTS COUNCIL**

Denmark Arts has welcomed the opportunity to partner with the Shire of Denmark in the formation of this cultural plan. We believe this document is a platform upon which future ideas, processes and collaborations can be built, ensuring the essence that is Denmark is enhanced into the future.

Denmark Arts believes culture extends beyond arts; however creative and artistic expression has been, is and will continue to be fundamental to the vitality and wellbeing of our community, alongside a healthy environment.

We look forward to the direction the Cultural Plan will take once it is launched and welcome the opportunity for participation and future collaboration.

***Elizabeth Jack Chairperson Denmark Arts 2009***

## **STRUCTURE OF *OUR CULTURE OUR VIEW***

<b>PART 1</b>	<b>THE PLAN</b>
<b>PART 2</b>	<b>PROCESS, CONTEXT AND RESOURCES</b>
<b>PART 3</b>	<b>DOCUMENTATION</b>

## **Part 1 Contents**

What is cultural planning	3
The way we made this plan	5
Community Values	6
Community Vision 2030	7
Ingredients for success	8
Oceans and forests of opportunities	9
Actions 2015	10
Governance	15
Appendix A – Sample Action Plan	17

---

### ***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*Don't make the town look like every other place....The more parks the better-we'll appreciate them in the future....Let's go around rather than demolish or destroy....functional, low energy, low impact, 'seamless' development....Replace the East River Rd Bridge....harmony between old and new, traditional and modern....Not another Mandurah/Margaret River/Dunsborough....bike paths everywhere please....paths for all-prams, wheelchairs, bikes, horses....corridors of forest between subdivisions....keep our rivers and our beaches free and clean....sacred places to remain sacred....interconnect..*

---

## **WHAT IS CULTURAL PLANNING?**

### **What is culture?**

*Our Culture, Our View* defines culture as:

*The intangible elements of a community created by us as members of that community and passed on and developed from generation to generation.*

Culture includes:

- Our dreams, values, beliefs, customs and traditions, our history and our heritage and how we communicate these with each other.
- Our knowledge, art, morals, law and other capabilities and habits.
- Our shared experiences, memories and identity.
- How others see us.

Our culture may be expressed through:

- The media; print, broadcast, electronic
- Film
- Tourism
- Heritage buildings, places, museums and keeping places
- Libraries
- Architecture and buildings
- Our engagement with and pursuit of the arts in all of its forms
- Sports, associated events and facilities
- Parks, gardens and landscaping
- Recreation and facilities
- Streets, roads, paths
- The countryside
- Our treatment of and response to our natural environment, including our plant and animal life, waterways, catchments, shorelines and oceans
- The kind of work and business we do, commercial endeavours
- Cultural backgrounds
- Sacred places, and expressions of faith and religion

### **How can we plan for culture?**

Cultural planning is about identifying and celebrating community culture. Cultural planning brings people together to express what is most important now and into the future, for both the intangibles and the physical. Cultural planning is not about needs but is about shared aspirations. In cultural planning, the communication and celebration of values and aspirations are as important as the plan itself.

---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*Outdoor cinema.....designated equine community only....expand international connections, such as Living Lakes Network for Wilson Inlet....support CSL to expand arts and cultural programs....Bulletin to profile a community group each issue....Welcome pack for new residents...start working together.....Meeting eyes campaign....home delivery of purchases.....assist community groups with business and marketing skills and resources.....keep out fast food franchises....allow businesses to open whenever they want....more environment and arts partnerships....music venues....*

---

Stages in developing a cultural plan include: orientation; steering committee formation; cultural mapping/community consultation; visioning; developing a plan; implementing; celebrating; and evaluation and ongoing management and renewal.

The Shire of Denmark has an extraordinary arts community with a long history of contributing to and giving voice to the cultures of its diverse communities. *Our Culture Our View* brings together work that has been done, and builds on it.

---

### ***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*A streetscape with character and warmth that makes me want to linger and explore....close Strickland St to traffic and create a community area for people, exhibitions and performances....promote positive attitudes to our natural environment by celebrating its wonder and educating about its structure....the natural environment is suffering the death of a thousand cuts....I'm not blindly opposed to progress, just opposed to blind progress....create community parks and gardens, in all development....natural beauty is the key to Denmark's culture....I would love to see more dog friendly zones....more arts.*

---

## **THE WAY WE MADE THIS PLAN<sup>1</sup>**

*Our Culture Our View* has been supported by funding from the Shire of Denmark and the Denmark Arts Council (supported by Community Arts Network WA). Cultural mapping and consultation was undertaken through integration of the project with Denmark Arts program, interviews, survey, focus groups, culture café and stakeholders' forum.

The project was guided by a Working Group, made up of representatives of the Shire of Denmark and Denmark Arts, and a Community Reference Group, made up of 11 people nominated from the general community.

### **What does *Our Culture Our View* do?**

- Identifies a 20 year cultural vision for the communities of the Shire based on shared values and principles with actions for the next 5 years shared across organizations and Government.
- Identifies and celebrates the cultural assets and identity of the communities of the Shire of Denmark; and
- Provides the framework for the development of cultural initiatives.

### **How do we make it work?**

- *Our Culture Our View* captures diverse views and voices from across the communities of the Shire of Denmark, all of which reside within the plan as opportunities for the future.
- The Actions are those opportunities where there are community and/or government bodies who have stepped forward to pursue them.
- *Our Culture Our View* will be overseen by the *Our Culture Our View* Committee, an Advisory Committee of the Shire made up of a broad section of community leaders and the Shire. The Committee will monitor implementation of the Plan, make adjustments as necessary and provide a public progress report once a year.
- *Our Culture Our View* is the product of a described process undertaken in a specific moment in time. Its strength will be in its engagement with the community and its ongoing review and renewal.

---

<sup>1</sup> A detailed report on the development of *Our Culture Our View* is provided in Part 2 Context.

*I look at our nice flat oval, but still see the old sloping one, hard work playing uphill for half a game....I love this place to my bones....What about the roads?....sacred to me-the place on the river bank, near old boatshed, used for Noongar welcomes and ceremonies....what a load of rubbish....maintain and support heritage buildings.....care should be taken in placing heritage value – costs of upkeep....rail link to Albany – hydrogen bus services, Albany and key points across the Shire....Need to keep the young employed....industrial area accessible to new and small industry....hubs for sole traders, remote workers*

---

## **COMMUNITY VALUES**

### ***Respect for the natural environment***

Our natural environment is loved. We keep our touch light. We manage it with a view to its preservation, the protection of its flora and fauna and the safety of human life and property.

### ***Sustainability***

- Development that meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs,<sup>2</sup>; and
- The ability of organisations to continue over time and to develop and change in a planned manner within available resources.

### ***The celebration of inspiration, creativity and innovation***

Inspiration, creativity and innovation are part of our business and our community lives.

### ***Community involvement, inclusion and capacity building***

Diversity within our community is respected and is recognised as one of our great assets. Community decisions are made and implemented with reference to the views of the communities across the Shire and to opportunities for the continuous enhancement of community skills, knowledge, resources, networks and partnerships.

---

<sup>2</sup> World Commission on Environment and Development

*A sustainable community which has the record for the lowest mains water and electricity consumption in Australia...A buzzing, vibrant community who celebrate achievements and who embrace difference...strive for uniqueness, diversity and liveability – these things make for a strong, vibrant and happy community...valuing of our selves, our bodies and our minds – nurturing of our own and others, spirit...Denmark to have constitutional commitment to sustainable, environmentally and socially friendly development - generate its won supply power and water...community harmony*

---

## **CULTURAL VISION FOR THE YEAR 2030**

**Uniqueness and diversity across the Shire of Denmark are expressed through its natural beauty, the diversity of its communities and through the engagement of its citizens with community life. We pursue a balance in the tension between human growth and development, and the preservation and vitality of our natural environment. Denmark's creative life provide an ongoing communication between past, present and future, build bridges across sectors and experiences, and reflect, challenge, inform and celebrate community vision.**

*Our built places compliment our natural landscapes, with hubs of development and community bounded by natural environments and linked by walking, cycling and riding pathways. Our built environments are places where art is seen and equal consideration is given to aesthetic impacts, the impacts on the natural environment and the achievement of cultural, economic and social diversity.*

*Accessible and environmentally sensitive public transport links key centres across the Shire and Albany. The East River Bridge is an important secondary access point in and out of the Shire.*

*Our community facilities are well managed and maintained. All members of the community are able to access the Denmark Aquatic Centre, with a strong flow of users from outside of the Shire. The Denmark Cultural Centre is at the heart of the Denmark Cultural Precinct, providing professional performance and exhibition space and studios, co-located with other creative and community organisations and services. The Cultural Precinct is linked by walkways and cycle paths to the Tha House Youth Precinct.*

*New technologies provide virtual bridges across the Shire and to the world, creating information and ideas pathways for business and community.*

*The Shire's industry and commercial sectors are focussed on quality and innovation. Denmark is a hub of excellence for niche and boutique industries, creative industries and the arts and environmental enterprises. Cultural tourism, sustainable agriculture, viticulture and hospitality sectors are of international standard.*

*There are diverse and thriving community groups across the Shire. The community is actively engaged in decision-making, coming together for community discussion and debate. Diversity is a key part of community vigour. Our leaders, artists, innovators, teachers, mentors, and volunteers are supported and valued.*

*The communities of the Shire are inclusive, with strong programs and services supporting people with disability or at disadvantage, or experiencing depression, addiction or violence.*

*Young people have access to places that respect their privacy but also provide for their safety and wellbeing. Learning about our local environment and heritage is included in formal schooling. There are links across business, community and creative sectors encouraging skills building and engagement. Young people contribute to the shaping of their own opportunities and growth.*

*Learning, formal and informal, is a hallmark of our culture; about the past and present Noongar culture, about our environment, our heritage and about other cultures and experiences. The Denmark Arts College provides summer programs focussed on our visitors and winter programs focussed on residents. In partnership with community organisations, schools and Government Agencies, Denmark is a centre for wellbeing and sustainability research and development.*

---

### ***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*Community arts as the culture of Denmark – community identifies and celebrates its own unique talents....free community radio and TV....more local organic food....vibrant local industry and marketplace....encourage businesses to ecome involved in community building and celebrations....harness the creativity of the place and opportunities for micro business in the town centre....support for professional people working in isolation....rents too high for locals....More imagination! Create a “Denmark” brand/personality....beauty test for buildings....night lit paths – Strickland St to Tha House....*

---

## **INGREDIENTS FOR SUCCESS**

Working as partners, across community, across sectors.

Inclusiveness of views and opportunities regardless of background or ability.

Responsiveness to opportunity rather than need.

Inclusion of opportunities for young people and skills development and social, cultural and economic engagement.

Pursuing relationships across creative and business sectors, including skills and capacity development and marketing and promotion.

Continued and growing inclusion of Noongar people in planning, conservation, development, heritage and arts.

## **TO ACHIEVE**

- A reinvigorated community.
- Greater community pride.
- Increased potential for partnering across groups, sectors and communities to increase the capacity of everyone to achieve shared objectives.
- Decisions that have community impacts are better informed and more relevant.
- A focus on opportunities that are inclusive of people regardless of ability, position or background and on behaviours contributing to positive, shared benefits.
- Within an environment of cultural diversity, stronger across-community communication, recognition and respect.



---

*The Our Culture Our View blue wren started life from the brush of local artist Susie Cooper and was the logo of the Shire of Denmark Community Culture Plan project, appearing first on the information sheets, then surveys, invitations and reports, and articles in Denmark's Bulletin. But even as the project is completed, our little blue wren lives on...Have you checked out the Bulletin's title banner recently?....*

---



---

### ***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*Creative business hubs for sharing resources, skills and ideas....bicycle bays and lockers for workers....greater support for addiction problems and domestic violence and depression....create a central hub – town square – meeting place, cafes, library....a community consisting equally of red necks, retirees and ferals ...a new facility in town including individual studios for visual/media artists/photographers etc, as well as rehearsal space for theatre/dance/community classes with a sprung floor...exhibition and performance space....honour Noongar people....Denmark a Centre of Excellence in the arts*

---

## **OCEANS AND FORESTS OF OPPORTUNITY AND IDEAS**

### ***Derived from Our Culture Our View Consultations***

Beyond the actions identified in *Our Culture Our View*, the Plan embraces community engagement with any of the ideas and opportunities identified, or any new opportunities or ideas.

#### **Our Community**

New ways to share stories across generations and cultures....Welcome and information for new residents....New community officer – for future, vision, community development, collaboration....Ensuring a disability and access friendly community, places and events....More involvement of police in community groups and schools....More inclusion of Noongar people in planning, preservation, development and heritage and arts....More support for volunteers – register....Better information between and about our community organisations - register of community organizations....Old hospital for community groups....Acknowledgement and protection of sacred places....Vitality & vigour of our community organisations....Better local services for addiction, depression, domestic violence....greater support women having their babies in Denmark....Better and more beautiful signage of streets, places, informative plaques....Development of our parks & gardens – Town/Community Park/Garden....

#### **Being active**

Improvement of dog exercise areas and paths, bridle paths and facilities....Improve pathways, walkways and for cycles, seniors, people with disability, people with prams....A combined sports centre – combined clubhouse and facilities....Aquatic Centre....

#### **Arts and culture**

Triennial Denmark Cultural Festival....Denmark Arts or Cultural Centre – theatre, music venue, gallery, studios, wood craft.... More art – sculptures, in new buildings, in lighting, seating, signage etc....Great Southern Chamber Orchestra....Stronger links between our arts organisations and commercial arts activity....Greater cooperation between arts groups and inclusion of all artforms....More arts for young people, youth radio....Venues for local musicians

#### **Young People**

Exciting, stimulating park for children....Development of park or precinct for young people – Tha House....Young people safe camp, scouts food van, fishing mentors....Youth employment initiatives....

#### **Denmark Town**

Development of Town Centre – Town Square....

#### **Heritage**

Increase knowledge about our heritage, extend the museum, Heritage Park....

#### **Getting around**

Better transport and parking - public transport between Albany, across the Shire – Hydrogen bus, light rail....Bike Lockers, nighttime booze bus....East River Road Bridge....

#### **Residential and commercial development**

Include affordable, sustainable group house in planning, including artist housing, bridle developments....Better commercial and residential development – no sprawl, natural reserves, hubs, affordability....Development of Local or Place Plans....

#### **Our Economy**

Economic Development Officer, Centre and Plan....No limits on trading hours....Support for business development, mentoring, training and incubators, creative industries hub, link mainstream with creative....Industrial area accessible to small business....Promotion of Denmark, a unique brand....

#### **Environment and resources**

Annual environment event....Energy & resources planning....Managing our natural environment – feral species control, health, weed control, replanting....

#### **Knowledge and learning**

Extend the Library....Teach local history, biology, arts in our schools....Create an Art College....

---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*Treasure our sacred places and share them appropriately....How about everything is a sacred place? Bring beauty into everything....We can only understand who we are by knowing and understanding our collective heritage-teach and celebrate....a swimming pool please....recreation and leisure-food for the physical and emotional body....sporting facilities generally well provided....support the maintenance and membership of existing clubs....the arts-soul food....encourage growth out of a healthy, vibrant, creative community....we are immersed in and surrounded by the arts....local, local, local*

---

**ACTIONS TO 2015**

***Opportunities and ideas supported by community organisations committed to pursuing them***

- 1. New ways to share stories across generations and cultures.**
- 2. Better information between and about our community organisations including up to date and accurate register of community organisations, volunteers register and community calendar.**
- 3. Old hospital as accommodation for community groups.**
- 4. Establishment of a Denmark Cultural Centre – supporting all artforms including performing arts, visual and fine arts and craft.**
- 5. More public art – sculptures, in the design of new buildings, in public lighting, seating, signage and other public facilities.**
- 6. More arts for young people.**
- 7. Development of Town Centre – Town Square.**
- 8. New community officer – for future, vision, community development, collaboration.**
- 9. Birthing in Denmark – support for birthing in Denmark with choices about the way our babies are born, including potential for a Denmark Birth Day.**
- 10. Provision of affordable, sustainable group housing.**

---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*Stem the flow of fear and negativity....greater variety of people encouraged to nominate for council positions....SWIMMING POOL....Denmark has the lot; we can produce a new paradigm of community and we have a responsibility to make the most of it....survey and identify area of town designated as equine community only....Education is fundamentally important – please focus on the young people....Not only land development but housing development....greater communication between privately run gallery studios and Denmark Arts....be good citizens....*

---

---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*We have such diverse, interesting people....we have a rich source of arts/media which needs to be developed in a way that is inclusive of the whole community....What makes Denmark unique is its valuing and celebration of its plants etc and its understanding of the link between people's wellbeing and the land....work towards nontoxic eradication of feral species.... More exposure for our talented artists....more workshops for creativity....I love all the festivals....parks that embody the spirit of our natural environment, artistic capacity and community values....*

---

## **PROGRESSING THE ACTIONS**

### **1. New ways to share stories across generations and cultures**

Team: Telecentre, Denmark Arts Council (DAC)

Stakeholders include:

Historical Society, Denmark Library and Living Books Program, Schools and Spirit of Play, Tha House, South Coast Natural Resource Management (SCNRM), Centre for Sustainable Living (CSL), Denmark Bulletin

Context: This is already being done in a number of ways, but is recognised as an important element of cultural heritage and cultural development.

### **2. Better information between and about our community organisations including up to date and accurate register of community organisations, community calendar and more support for volunteers including development of up to date and accurate register.**

Team: Telecentre –Community Connects website, Community Resource Network, DAC, Denmark Education and Innovation Centre (DEIC)

Stakeholders include:

Regional Volunteers Support Association, based in Albany, sporting groups, Denmark Chamber of Commerce (DCC), Denmark Community Foundation

Context: Southern Regional Community Leadership and Cooperation Forum, 2 to 4 September 2009 – focus Volunteering. Is happening, about breathing life into the portal, communications, development, growth and evaluation.

---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*Research a Denmark Festival – celebrate Denmark's diversity of people and allow all groups, organisations, subcultures, races, lifestyles and differences to be expressed....Bulletin to profile a community group each fortnight....desperate need in our community to enhance community relationships and connections with individuals – more jobs in community building – with a stronger commitment by government....encourage the police to frequently walk down the street and meet people....better community consultation on Shire activities/decisions and easy access via web....*

---

**3. Old hospital as accommodation for community groups**

Team: DAC, Telecentre

Stakeholders include:

Shire Working Group, Old Hospital Advocacy Group, Historical Society

Context: Work in progress with the Shire. Survey of space requirements and opportunities for use completed by the Old Hospital Advocacy Group.

**4. Establishment of a Denmark Cultural Centre – supporting all artforms including performing arts, visual and fine arts and craft.**

Team: DEIC, DAC

Stakeholders include:

Shire, TAFE, Denmark High School, Old Hospital Group, Library, Historical Society.

Context: Related to extension of the Library and development of the town centre. Potential of supporting arts college/arts education initiatives. Relationship to opportunities for economic diversity, social diversity, innovation, cultural vigour. Supported by extent of Denmark arts and cultural activity. Responds to existing opportunity. High quality new works, telling Denmark stories, challenging Denmark culture a key component of Brave New Works. BNW characterised by community working with professional artists. However, works with only a 2 performance life, with many people turned away due to limited capacity of the Civic Centre – opportunity lost.

**5. More public art – sculptures, in the design of new buildings, in public lighting, seating, signage and other public facilities.**

Team: DAC

Stakeholders include:

Tidy Towns Committee, Shire, Historical Society, DCC.

Context: This is a priority initiative contributing to a range of actions including better and more beautiful signage of streets, places, informative plaques, information and heritage, development of the town centre,

---

### **Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire**

*Skills audit/information source – a free listing for people's interests and passions....meeting eyes campaign – say hello and stop for a chat....use retired experts with training skills....how can we help each other – start working together....support community resource network and get funding to develop central email notification system, centralised community calendar and volunteer database....shire should employ a community development officer....more support for people with depression....lessen absentee landlords/empty holiday homes....keep trying....*

---

development of a cultural centre, parks and gardens, the nature of our built environment and development. It also contributes to opportunities for the employment and development of local artists – and contributes to the affordability for artists living in the Shire. In addition to public art, there are issues regarding the custodianship and protection of works of art given to the community. For example, the six seasons painting.

#### **6. More arts for young people**

Team: DAC, Telecentre

Stakeholders include:

TAFE, Tha House, Southern Edge Arts

Context: Contributes to the development of activities and skills building for young people. There is already a lot happening, but huge opportunity to develop and leverage additional resources and partnerships. Note Government focus on young regional people. Including youth radio.

#### **7. Development of Town Centre – Town Square**

Team: Shire of Denmark

Stakeholders include:

Shire's Townscape Working Group, Tidy Towns Committee, DAC

Context: Links to development of an arts/cultural centre, signage and public art.

#### **8. New community officer – for future, vision, community development, collaboration.**

Team: DEIC, Shire of Denmark

Stakeholders include:

DAC, Greenskills and all community groups and organisations.

Context: Strongly supported, with invitation to consider options for an officer not necessarily based within the Shire. Potential to work across a number of budgets. Current visioning being done by Greenskills

---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*When I first came to live in Denmark all people of all ages attended social gatherings, dances at the Civic Centre and other community events – I don't see that happening any more....safe project to support and mentor youth with big parties at Parry's Beach and for young men wishing to do the manhood thing/outdoor camping....program for emotional development for businesses, local government and community groups....business and arts to work together to create experiences that benefit both....don't let the CBD explode....home delivery service for goods....*

---

noted. Links to greater communication and connection between and about community groups and organisations.

**9. Birthing in Denmark – support for birthing in Denmark with choices about the way our babies are born, including potential for a Denmark Birth Day.**

Team: Lisa Freeman and Sarah Martin with the Birthing in Denmark Group, Denmark Health Campus.

Stakeholders include:  
Open invitation to all wishing to engage.

Comments: For ongoing dialogue. Potential awareness raising through annual Denmark Birth Day.

**10. Provision of affordable, sustainable group housing**

Team: To be identified.

Stakeholders include:  
Mia Mia, Great Southern Community Housing, Affordable Housing Group, Shire, DCC

Context: Urgent issue that of affordability and ensuring the Shire retains a diverse community. A specific idea has resolved around the development of a group housing initiative for artists. Team not identified at the Stakeholders' Forum, but issue one to be retained as active within the cultural plan. Direct link to other strategic areas relating to the strength and vigour of the Shire's communities, public art, arts/cultural centre, and economic development.

---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*Workshops for business to improve service and train/maintain staff....need to alter our perception of what it means to work or operate a business....assist groups to obtain better business management and marketing skills and resources (i.e. artists etc)...."shop in Denmark"....community bus transport cooperative – bicycle locker system for employees in all businesses....make Denmark the art centre of Australia....dare to dream....make it easier for people to set up own practices – sharing affordable business premises in town..... more dynamic CCI that works for all local business*

---

---

### ***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*nodes of settlement with dispersed infrastructure for ease of travel between and within nodes....walk trails and bike paths as alternatives to main roads....increase CBD parking....creation of community gardens, including new developments....no cars in the main street....better roads...look for, unique architecture....include the arts in every development.... weed program with lots of resources....avoid intrusion of man-made facilities to the exclusion of birds and wildlife....ban lawns....the arts council does a good job....*

---

## **GOVERNANCE**

### **OUR CULTURE OUR VIEW COMMITTEE**

***Our Culture Our View* is vested in the *Our Culture Our View* Committee, and advisory committee of the Shire. The Committee is made up of a broad range of community representatives.**

Composition:

- Community leaders noted for their integrity, independence, and ability to respond to and champion whole of community aspirations.
- Across-sector engagement, not representative of individual groups or enterprises, but people with links across a number of community groups or enterprises.
- Champions – ability and willingness to stimulate debate and engagement with *Our Culture Our View*.
- Sensitivity to and ability to provide guidance on inclusion of all sectors of the communities of the Shire of Denmark.

Role:

- To champion *Our Culture Our View* and community engagement.
- To advise the TeamS on opportunities.
- To monitor implementation of *Our Culture Our View*, including making amendments in response to changes in circumstances and opportunities to ensure its integrity and relevance.
- To advise on controversial issues and to assist where relevant in conciliation processes.
- To report to the community once a year on *Our Culture Our View*.

### **TEAMS**

***Our Culture Our View* will be implemented by across-sector teams, and will be inclusive of new teams coming forward to support new actions consistent with the Vision and complimentary to existing community consultation and feedback.**

#### **Pre-first meeting**

- Each team member confirms the endorsement of its Board or Management Committee.
- Consideration of additional team members and stakeholders.

---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*Keep our fast food franchises.....support CCI Economic Development Plan and employment of an Economic Development Officer.....small business centre.....sustainable business.....business sustainability assessments for all local businesses (taught by Geenskills/SLC).....I think everyone in Denmark needs a pay rise.....apprenticeship/training/management incentives, including youth.....mobile noticeboards for community notices.....chip green waste to give back to locals.....a consciousness for all of us to be occupied and engaged and independent....great southern chamber orchestra....*

---

## **Agendas for first team meetings:**

- Select Chair
- Identify and invite other team members
- Agree what is to be achieved
- Start developing the action plan<sup>3</sup>
- Assess available resources

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

The Our Culture Committee shall meet as often as it deems necessary but at least twice a year.

Teams shall report to the Committee twice a year:

- October
- March – to inform the Committee’s annual community report, published during or around the time of Brave New Works.

---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*More arts....Cafe Bazzo and its predecessor, the Van Bon Gogh Café gave the community something no other establishment has provided in Denmark.....more environment art partnerships....planning for a performing arts centre in conjunction with Denmark High School.....grow Denmark Arts.....include all creative and innovative thinking – gardening, architecture, innovative business, innovative or creative community organisers.....arts in infrastructure an facilities....open performance space....shared artists space for creating and exhibiting workds and as meeting place....*

---

---

<sup>3</sup> Sample Action Plan Appendix A



# APPENDIX A

## SAMPLE ACTION PLAN

**Title**

**Team members and Chair**

**Purpose**

**Related Projects**

**Objectives**

**Scope – Who benefits, with what, when, how, where?**

**Key Stakeholders: What engagement and how?**

**Schedule**

Action/Activity	Milestone Date	Responsibility

**Budget and Resource Plan**

Deliverable/Milestone/Phase	Resource	Cost

**Project Risk Assessment**

Risk	Level (high/Medium/Low)	Mitigation
Environmental:		
Financial:		
Reputation:		
Operational:		

**Communications and Reporting**

Who	Information Required	When

**Monitoring and Evaluation**



# ***OUR CULTURE, OUR VIEW***

## ***SHIRE OF DENMARK COMMUNITY CULTURAL PLAN 2010 – 2015***

### **PART 2 – PROCESS, CONTEXT AND RESOURCES**

**PART 1: THE PLAN**

**PART 2: PROCESS, CONTEXT AND RESOURCES**

**PART 3: DOCUMENTATION**



---

### ***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*What about the roads?...I have never been to a town that has been so welcoming...We don't want to be another Dunsborough....If you always keep in mind the reason you chose to live in Denmark then you can't go wrong....slow and steady wins the race....better public toilets....NO large shopping centre...bring in better shopping so we don't have to go to Albany....Ban cars from the town centre....cycling lanes....playground for very young children....plant more trees....Eco-friendly everywhere....forests between subdivisions – bush corridors....progressing world heritage listing....*

---

## **Part 2 Contents**

The way we made this plan	2
• Governance	2
• Development of the plan	4
• Implementation	14
Context	15
• Community Snapshot	15
• Stories from the consultation	18
• Our stories as we tell them	31
Resources	40

---

### ***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*...a cultural/community with a large gallery space which can be divided into smaller spaces for small exhibitions....a cinema/theatre/performance area...office space with conference areas and meeting spaces....amphitheatre ....native plantings along roads and verges architecturally landscaped – visitors coming to see the interesting streetscapes as well as the numerous natural, cultural and business activities and attractions....multi use trails/paths – well spaced and sheltered seating, bbqs, watering stations and long drop compost toilets....playground toddler to teenager....*

---

## **THE WAY WE MADE THIS PLAN**

Our Culture Our View has been supported by funding from the Shire of Denmark and the Denmark Arts Council (supported by Community Arts Network WA). The Plan was developed through the engagement of a Cultural Planning Consultant (the “Consultant”) and Cultural Planning Coordinator (the “Coordinator”) working to the Cultural Planning Working Group and Reference Group. Cultural mapping was undertaken through integration of the project with Denmark Arts program, interviews, survey, focus groups, culture café and stakeholders’ forum. A secondary aim of the cultural planning project was the development of the cultural planning skills of local people and organisations.

## **GOVERNANCE**

### **The Shire of Denmark:**

- Providing support for consultation – contacts, mail outs, venue for focus groups, meetings.
- Promoting cultural planning in the Denmark Bulletin “Council Conversation” page and on website, [www.denmark.wa.gov.au](http://www.denmark.wa.gov.au)
- Providing existing Shire research and reports informing the project.
- Supporting recruitment of the Reference Group.
- Ongoing liaison and update reports to be provided to the Shire.
- Participation in the Working Group.

### **The Denmark Arts Council (“DAC”):**

- Acquittal of Community Arts Network and Shire funding.

- Promotion of cultural planning in Denmark Bulletin “Denmark Arts” column and on website, [www.denmarkarts.com.au](http://www.denmarkarts.com.au)
- Management of contracts for services with the Consultant and the Coordinator.
- Providing support for consultation – contacts, mail outs, venue for focus groups, meetings.
- Providing DAC research and reports informing the project.
- Supporting recruitment of the Reference Group.
- Ongoing liaison and update reports to be provided to the DAC.
- Participation in the Working Group.

### **The Cultural Planning Working Group:**

The Working Group was established by the Shire of Denmark and the Denmark Arts Council.

Members:

- Liz Jack – Working Group Chairperson, President Denmark Arts Council
- Councilor Jeanette Plowman, Shire of Denmark.
- Councilor Ken Richardson-Newton, Deputy Shire President, Council Delegate Denmark Arts Council.
- Chris Ritter, Executive Officer, Denmark Arts – replacing Annette Carmichael in December 2008.
- Mel Sheverton, Director of Community & Regulatory Services, Shire of Denmark.

Role:

- Ensuring that the Consultant and Coordinator properly discharge their obligations and that due process is exercised delivering on the project.
- Providing information and advice to the Consultant and Coordinator.
- Providing final recommendations to the Shire and to DAC.
- Providing reports to the Shire and DAC.

### **The Community Reference Group:**

A public call for nominations was made by the Shire and Denmark Arts. All nominees were appointed to the Reference Group.

Composition:

- Community leaders – respected, integrity, independence, ability to respond to and champion whole of community aspirations.
- Across-sector engagement, not representative of individual groups or enterprises, but people with links across a number of community groups or enterprises.
- Champions – ability and willingness to stimulate debate and engagement with the cultural planning process.
- Sensitivity to and ability to provide guidance on inclusion of all sectors of the communities of the Shire of Denmark.

Members:

Andre Steyl	Sofie Lines	Valeska Wood
Bev McGuinness	Barney Arvidson	Jane Blades
Kevin Piesly	Deborah Rice	Vernice Gillies
Nigel Levinson	Carole Powley	

#### Role:

- To champion the cultural planning process and community engagement.
- To advise the Consultant and Coordinator on opportunities, on groups and individuals to be consulted, on the composition of focus groups.
- To check the process to ensure its integrity and relevance.
- To advise on controversial issues and to assist where relevant in conciliation processes.
- To provide introductions if and as necessary.
- To provide feedback on instruments and processes prior to publication.



*Culture Café, Centre for Sustainable Living, 12 and 13 April 2009*

## DEVELOPMENT OF THE PLAN

### September 2008

- Carol Whish-Wilson, Consultant engaged by the Denmark Arts Council with the support of the Shire in Denmark.
- Meeting with Shire, introducing process.
- Publication of Information Sheet.

### October 2008

- Document review and research including analysis of Shire of Denmark and Denmark Arts Council documentation informing Plan Framework and consultation.
- Appointment of Dawn Atkin, Coordinator.
- Appointment of Community Reference Group (RG).
- Bulletin article Cultural Planning for Communities of the Shire of Denmark – what is it, when, how, by whom.
- TAFE partnership - research past Denmark arts and cultural projects.
- Branding, risk and communications plans confirmed.
- Working Group (WG) meeting.
- Shire meeting.
- Bulletin Article announcing RG, survey, Coordinator.

### November 2008

- Community Survey published.

### December 2008

- Focus Group
- What is My Culture? Bulletin article by Carole Powley
- RG meeting
- One on One meetings: Susan Clarke, Aaron Bailey - Tha House, Annette Carmichael - DAC, Basil Schur - Greenskills, Tony King - TAFE, Mel Cheverton - Shire, Chris Ritter - DAC
- Community Market, survey stall

**January 2009**

- Survey closure extended to end of February.
- Focus Groups – postponed due to lack of availability over school holidays.
- Bulletin article – snapshots of survey responses.

**February 2009**

- Bulletin article “What is my vision?” themes – Reference Group snapshots.
- RG meeting.
- Focus Groups.
- One on ones: Southern Edge Arts, Annette Carmichael, Mel
- Cheverton - Shire, Liz Jack and Chris Ritter - DAC, Jo Harcourt Smith – DAC, Brave New Works.
- Survey Responses collated – summary data available on disc. 139 responses, plus 9 submitted past closing date.

**Our Culture My View Community Survey<sup>1</sup>**

A further 9 surveys were received after final data collection – qualitative responses were included in plan development.

**Age:**

18-29	30-49	50+
3	2	4

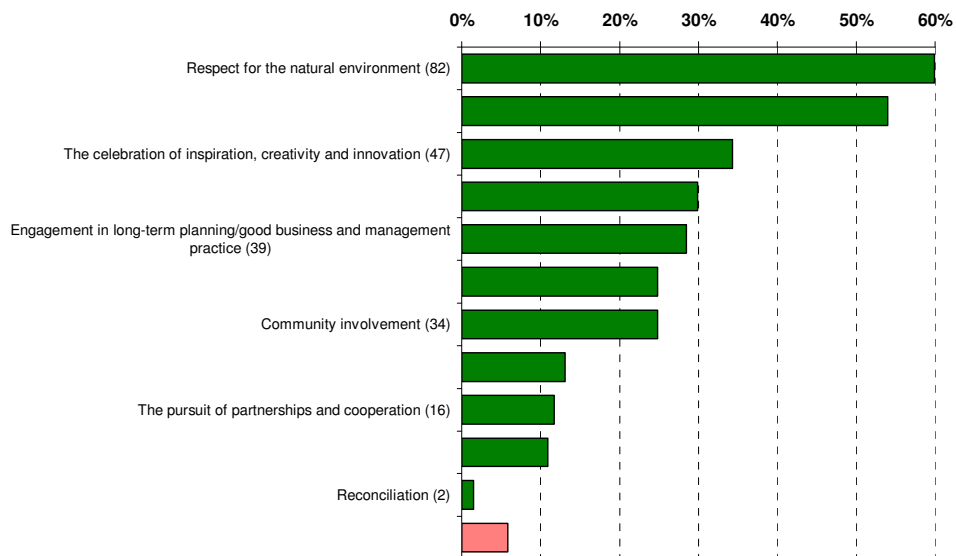
**Gender:**

F	M
7	2

**Location:**

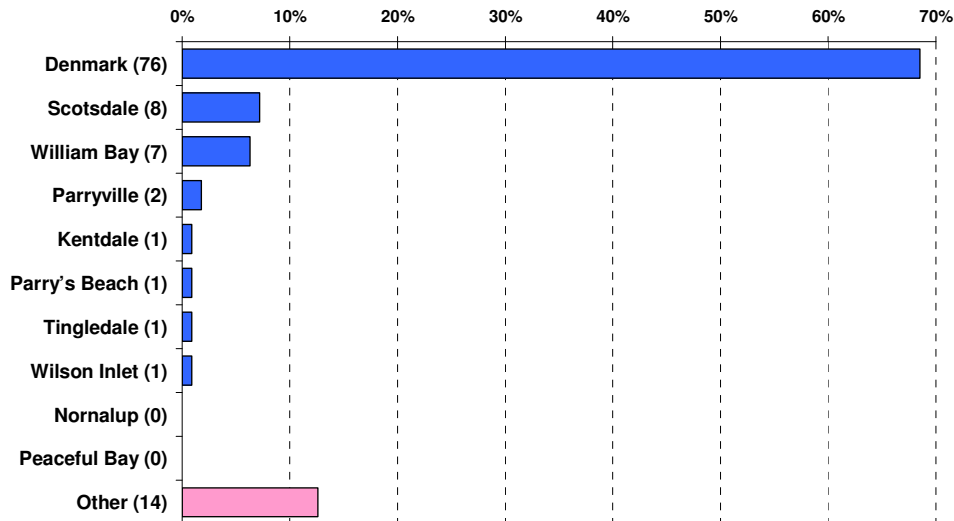
Denmark	Shadforth	William Bay	Kendale	Nornalup	Other
4	1	1	1	1	1

**Denmark Cultural Plan Survey Responses: Principles and Values**

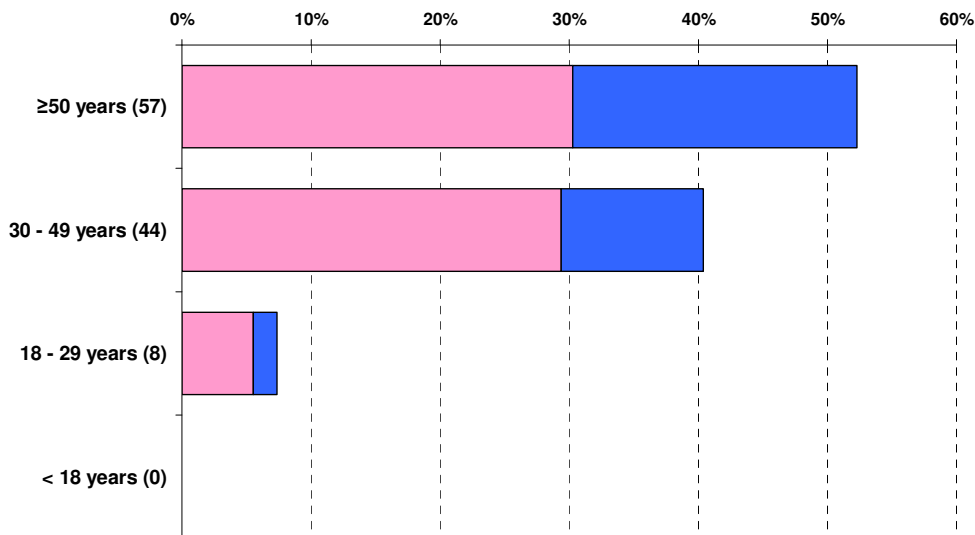


<sup>1</sup> Full electronic summary of survey responses available on request Shire of Denmark, Denmark Arts

Denmark Cultural Plan Survey Responses: Location



Denmark Cultural Plan Survey Responses: Age vs Sex



**March 2009**

- Bulletin article “What is my vision?” themes – announcing Culture Café – Vision and Values.
- Draft Vision and Values published for comment.
- WG Meeting.
- One on one meetings: Disability Services Commission, Great Southern Development Commission, Paul Docquile, Amy Hastie, Deborah Rice, Agricultural College, Chris Ritter - DAC.

**April 2009**

- Bulletin Articles x 2 – Café Culture and Stakeholders Forum.
- Culture Café – held at Centre for Sustainable Living for 2 days over Brave New Works, open opportunity for community to consider ideas arising from

the surveys and focus groups and provide further comment and to comment on the draft Vision and Values.

- Brave New Works – My Stories
- Connections – What Connects You to Denmark, Telecentre Photo Competition.
- Vision and Values finalised.

## **May 2009**

- Bulletin Article – advising of Stakeholders Forum and Draft Plan.
- Stakeholders' Forum – invitations issued to all community groups and Government agencies having a relationship to actions further refined from Culture Café. At the Forum, each of the actions were considered, and those for which a community organisation or group committed to pursue were to be considered for inclusion in the Plan and others to be retained in ideas bank.

## **Stakeholder Forum**

**6.00 p.m. to 9.00 p.m., Monday, 25 May 2009, Denmark Recreation Centre.**

### **Registered Attending:**

Andre Steyl	Dawn Atkin	Donald Clarke	Debbie Rice
Jeanette Plowman	Valeska Wood	Josephine Iebbing	Christine Ritter
Libby Foster	Gill Seller	Nigel Levinson	Lisa Freeman
Barney Arveld	Sarah Martin	Andy Ducker	Carole Powley
Ken Richardson-Newton		Carol Whish-Wilson	

### **Opening**

Councillor Ken Richardson-Newton, Deputy Shire President, Council Delegate Denmark Arts, Our Culture Our View Working Group

### **Values and Vision**

Andy Ducker, Board member, Denmark Arts Council

### **How did we get here?**

Carol Whish-Wilson, Our Culture Our View Consultant

### **Cultural thoughts**

Carole Powley, Our Culture Our View Reference Group

### **Actioning the Actions**

Each action put to the forum:

1. Any group already working on this, part of another process?
2. Consider current planning, mission.
3. Consider relevance to our culture our view values and vision.
4. Leader – report, coordinate.
5. Other team members – groups with interest.
6. Other stakeholders – groups not represented at the forum, but identified as having a key interest.

### **Our Community**

1. New ways to share stories across generations and cultures

Team: Telecentre, Denmark Arts Council (DAC)

Other stakeholders:

Historical Society, Denmark Library and Living Books Program, Schools and Spirit of Play, Tha House, South Coast Natural Resource Management (SCNRM), Centre for Sustainable Living (CSL), Denmark Bulletin

Comments:



The Forum noted that this is already being done in a number of ways, but important in contribution to cultural heritage and cultural development.

2. Welcome and information for new residents

Other stakeholders:

Denmark Environment Centre (DEC), Shire, Denmark Visitors' Centre (DVC), Library.

Comments:

DEC already has material for new residents. May be worth revisiting. Also an opportunity to ensure it includes information for people in need. Consultant notes her experience of moving into a new City, receiving substantial information about community groups and activity as well as City Council information plus a voucher to obtain 3 free native plants from the City's nursery. Addresses community concerns about culture changing with the number of new residents without connection to existing strengths and networks.

3. New community officer – for future, vision, community development, collaboration

Leader: Denmark Education and Innovation Centre

Team: DAC

Other stakeholders: Shire, Greenskills

Comments:

Strongly supported, with invitation to consider options for an officer not necessarily based within the Shire. Potential to work across a number of budgets. Current visioning being done by Greenskills noted.

4. Ensuring a disability and access friendly community, places and events

Other stakeholders:

Leadership is vested in the Shire's Disability Advisory Committee, keen to work with other organisations. Also the Shire's Paths Committee, Over 50s, schools, Denmark Chamber of Commerce (DCC), Department of Sport and Recreation and Lower Great Southern Assisted Living Association (LGSALA).

Comments:

Strategy informs all other actions relating to development of infrastructure and to the Economic Development Strategy currently being worked on.

5. More involvement of police in community groups and schools.

Other stakeholders: Tha House, Police, Spirit of Play, Primary School.

Comments:

There is an opportunity for development of the relationship with Tha House. There is some relationship with schools, but may be worth developing.

6. More inclusion of Noongar people in planning, preservation, development and heritage and arts.

Team: DAC

Other stakeholders:

SCNRM, Arts South, Historical Society, Shire, Great Southern Aboriginal Lands Council.

Comments:

Already meaningful things being done through the arts – great opportunity in ensuring this continues. Need to avoid disenchantment. Risk of working with and relying on the same Noongar people for everything – need to ensure initiatives are about Noongar priorities and opportunities. A consideration across all cultural initiatives.

7. More support for volunteers – register

Team: Telecentre –Community Connects website, Community Resource Network.

Other stakeholders: Regional Volunteers Support Association, based in Albany.

Comments:

Southern Regional Community Leadership and Cooperation Forum, 2 to 4 September 2009 – focus Volunteering.

8. Better information between and about our community organisations - register of community organizations

Leader: Telecentre - Community Connects website

Team: DAC, DEIC

Other stakeholders: Sporting groups, DCC, Denmark Community Foundation, DVC

Comments: Importance of an up to date Community Calendar.

9. Old hospital for community groups

Team: DAC, Telecentre

Other stakeholders:

Shire Working Group, Old Hospital Advocacy Group, Historical Society

Comments: Work in progress with the Shire.

10. Acknowledgement and protection of sacred places

Other stakeholders:

Oscar Colbung, the Williams family, GSNRM, Department of Indigenous Affairs

Comments:

Municipal Heritage Inventory and Williams Bay Study undertaken by the Shire. Forum focus was on Noongar sacred places.

11. Vitality & vigour of our community organisations

Comments: Tied to overall effectiveness of the cultural plan.

12. Better local services for addiction, depression, domestic violence.

Other stakeholders:

Palmerston, Great Southern Mental Health Services, Great Southern Domestic Violence, Police, Denmark Drug Action Group, Denmark Community Collective, churches, noting the Anglican Church, RSL, Legacy, Safe Community Committee, Health, Safe House.

Comments:

Denmark light on in terms of community service organisations. Often these are issues supported by organisations such as Rotary or Lions Clubs. DCC considers support, but not part of the DCC role and detracts from other business. A key issue for young people. Forum recalls former idea of use of the Lodge.

Birthing in Denmark – support for birthing in Denmark, and being able to have choices about the way we have our babies. Annual Birth Day – information and planning.

Team: Lisa Freeman and Sarah Martin with the Birthing in Denmark Group, Denmark Health Campus.

Comments:

For ongoing dialogue. Potential awareness raising through annual Denmark Birth Day.

13. Better and more beautiful signage of streets, places, informative plaques.

Comments:

Cross-referenced to development of town centre/town square (31) and public art (21).

## Being active

14. Improvement of dog exercise areas and paths, bridle paths and facilities.

Comments: Included with improvement of pathways, walkways generally (15).

15. Improve pathways, walkways and for cycles, seniors, people with disability, people with prams

Other stakeholders:

Shire's Paths Working Group, Safe Community Committee, Greenskills, Department of Indigenous Affairs.

16. A combined sports centre – combined clubhouse and facilities

Comments:

Shire study into combined golf, bowls and tennis facilities found such is not necessary. At the same time, there are plans for extensions to the gym. A Clubs Development Officer may be a more useful initiative. A further initiative may be for having gym equipment near playgrounds.

17. Aquatic Centre

Other stakeholders: The Aquatic Centre Committee, Shire

## Arts and culture

18. Triennial Denmark Cultural Festival

Comments:

Brave New Works is a strong program. Support for diversity of events throughout the year and ensuring the quality and sustainability of those.

19. Denmark Arts or Cultural Centre – theatre, music venue, gallery, studios, wood craft

Leader: DEIC

Team: DAC

Other stakeholders: Shire, TAFE, Denmark High School, Old Hospital Group

Comments:

Related to extension of the Library (46) and development of the town centre (31). Potential of supporting arts college/arts education initiatives (48). Relationship to opportunities for economic diversity, social diversity, innovation, cultural vigour.

20. Development of our parks & gardens – Town/Community Park/Garden

Other stakeholders:

Denmark Weed Action Group, DEC, Shire, Korobup Community Park.

Comments:

Cross-referenced with park for young people (28). Potential of the new hospital grounds. Shire Concept Plan to be released before the end of May for consultation. Also potential of the old hospital grounds.

21. More art – sculptures, in new buildings, in lighting, seating, etc

Team: DAC

Other stakeholders:

Tidy Towns Committee, Shire, Historical Society, DVC, DCC.

Comments:

This is a priority initiative relating to public art and contributing to a range of actions including signage, information and heritage, development of the town centre, development of a cultural centre, parks and gardens, the nature of our built environment and development. It also contributes to opportunities for the employment and development of local artists – and contributes to the affordability for artists living in the Shire.

22. Great Southern Chamber Orchestra

23. Stronger links between our arts organisations and commercial arts activity.

Team: DAC

Other stakeholders: Arts South, DCC, DVC, the wineries, commercial galleries.

Comments:

Importantly relates to the ability of artists to continue to live in Denmark, and contributes to the diversity and uniqueness of Denmark and its economic base.

24. Greater cooperation between arts groups and inclusion of all artforms

Comments:

Not realistic to impose cooperation. Strategies with shared benefits relating to a cultural centre, public art and relationships between arts organisations and commercial arts activity work to progress opportunities for shared ground and cooperation.

25. More arts for young people, youth radio

Team: DAC, Telecentre

Other stakeholders: TAFE, Tha House, Southern Edge Arts

Comments:

Is an action area that compliments actions relating to activities and skills building for young people. There is already a lot happening, but huge opportunity to develop and leverage additional resources and partnerships. Note Government focus on young regional people.

26. Venues for local musicians

Comments:

May actually about the need for better venue management. May also relate to development of town centre(31), development of cultural centre (19), and creation of opportunities for young people (25).

## **Young People**

27. Exciting, stimulating park for children

Comments:

Plan for development of Tha House precinct has been submitted to Council. The Plan includes a park for young children, encouraging involvement of families.

28. Development of park or precinct for young people – Tha House

Comments:

Cross-referenced to development of community park/garden (20) and exciting park for young people (27).

29. Young people safe camp, scouts food van, fishing mentors

Other stakeholders: Scouts, Surf Club, Angling Club

30. Youth employment initiatives

Team: DAC, DEIC

Other stakeholders:

Denmark Chamber of Commerce, TAFE, Greenskills, Tha House, DEIC, Denmark Senior High School, Denmark Agricultural College

Comments:

To be addressed in the Denmark Economic Development Strategy.

## **Denmark Town**

31. Development of Town Centre – Town Square

Team: DAC

Other stakeholders: Shire's Townscape Working Group, Tidy Towns Committee

Comments: Cross-referenced to cultural centre (19) and signage (13)

## **Heritage**

32. Increase knowledge about our heritage, extend the museum, Heritage Park.

Team: DAC

Other stakeholders: Historical Society

Comments: Related to the Living Books Program.

## **Getting around**

33. Better transport and parking - public transport between Albany, across the Shire – Hydrogen bus, Bike Lockers, nighttime booze bus

Other stakeholders: CSL, Shire, DCC, DVC

Comments: Note existing community bus.

34. East River Road Bridge

Other stakeholders: DCC, Greenskills, DVC, Trails and Paths Committee

Comments:

The Shire is already examining options, but further along the River than East River Road.

## **Residential and commercial development**

35. Include sustainable group house in planning, including artist housing, bridge developments

Other stakeholders:

Mia Mia, Great Southern Community Housing, Affordable Housing Group, Shire, DCC

Comments:

Urgent issue that of affordability of housing for artists. Team not identified at the Forum, but issue one to be retained as active within the cultural plan. Direct link to other

strategic areas relating to the strength and vigour of the Shire's communities, public art, cultural centre, economic development.

36. Better commercial and residential development – no sprawl, natural reserves, hubs, affordability.

Other stakeholders: DCC, Shire, DEIC

Comments:

Issue is considered in current Shire planning and future strategic plan. Both processes include community reference groups.

37. Development of Local or Place Plans

Comments:

To be considered in relation to commercial and residential development generally (36).

## **Our Economy**

38. Economic Development Officer, Centre and Plan

Comments: To be addressed within the Economic Development Strategy.

39. No limits on trading hours

40. Support for business development, mentoring, training and incubators, creative industries hub, link mainstream with creative

Team: Telecentre, DAC, DEIC, Wellbeing Collective.

Other stakeholders:

DCC, DVC, Tourism, Small Business Development Commission, TAFE

41. Industrial area accessible to small business

Comments: Relates to a number of regional Government agencies.

42. Promotion of Denmark, a unique brand

Other stakeholders: DCC, DVC, DT

Comments: Initiatives already underway.

## **Environment and resources**

43. Annual environment event

Other stakeholders: CSL, GSNRM

44. Energy & resources planning

Other stakeholders:

Shire's Climate Change Advisory Committee, South Coast Regional Power, CSL, Climate Action Group

Comments: Shire with work on this underway.

45. Managing our natural environment – feral species control, health, weed control, replanting

Other stakeholders:

Regional Government agencies, Denmark Agricultural College, DEC, Denmark Weed Action Group, Greenskills, CSL.

## **Knowledge and learning**

46. Extend the Library

Other stakeholders: Denmark High School, Library, Shire, DEIC

Comments: Relationship with community hub and cultural centre concepts.

47. Teach local history, biology, arts in our schools

Team: DEIC

Other stakeholders:

Historical Society, Environment Centre, Centre for Sustainable Living, Denmark Arts Council.

Comments:

Relationship with Living Books Program. Already happening through partnerships between the schools and community organisations. Opportunities for education of visitors.

#### 48. Create an Art College

Team: DAC, DEIC

Other stakeholders: CSL, TAFE

Comments: Link with Cultural Centre (19)

#### **New Issues Identified:**

- Perceptions of lack of attention from regional Government Agencies.

#### **Conclude**

Andre Steyl, Our Culture Our View Reference Group

#### **June 2009**

- Submission of draft plan to WG, RG and Shire for comment.

#### **September 2009**

- Planning meeting workshopping draft plan – agreeing structure, actions.

#### **Planning Meeting**

Joint meeting of Working Group and Reference Group with invitations to team members nominated at Stakeholder Forum being DEIC, Zac Webb SCNRM, Community Resource Network, 6.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m., 30 September 2009 at the Shire of Denmark Offices.

#### **Attending:**

Liz Jack

Jane Blades

Nigel Levinson

Jeanette Ploughman

Andre Steyl

Valeska Wood

Chirs Ritter

Greg Harwood

Barney Arvidson

Facilitated:

Dawn Atkin

Carol Whish-Wilson

#### **Goals and Targets**

Amend to reflect the diversity of opportunities and ideas expressed through the consultations. Ensure that the plan properly sets the context for how the actions have been identified within the context of the broad range of ideas put forward. Concerns that the plan appears too arts focussed. The meeting acknowledged the process by which actions identified by having organisations committing to pursuing them. The meeting also acknowledged the very strong commitment of Denmark arts and the arts community to the cultural planning process – and there are elements of the plan that may be reflective of that. There were concerns that other sectors had not been sufficiently approached. Carol and Dawn confirmed with the meeting the efforts made. In order to affect difference, WG and RG members were invited to pursue other groups themselves. Ultimately, the plan is to be structured so it is clear that the door is open to new initiatives.

#### **Strategies**

Rename as Ingredients for Success – and meeting identified number of actions which may in fact apply across all initiatives, and therefore be identified as Ingredients for Success: Such as Noongar inclusion, greater links between arts and business sectors, importance of marketing and promotion.

#### **Actions**

The meeting agreed that the number of actions likely to exceed the capacity of organisations to pursue and confirmed the value in considering further each of them.

Each workshop participant rated each of the actions with regard to capacity of the community to progress and the value of the benefit to be delivered.

After individual ratings, the group then considered the actions again as a whole, and the following actions were agreed as the most likely to be acted upon whilst delivering important benefits and advancement of the vision:

1. New ways to share stories across generations and cultures.
2. Better information between and about our community organisations including up to date and accurate register of community organisations, volunteers register and community calendar.
3. Old hospital as accommodation for community groups.
4. Establishment of a Denmark Arts or Cultural Centre – supporting all artforms including performing arts, visual and fine arts and craft.
5. More public art – sculptures, in the design of new buildings, in public lighting, seating, signage and other public facilities.
6. More arts for young people.
7. Development of Town Centre – Town Square.
8. New community officer – for future, vision, community development, collaboration.
9. Birthing in Denmark – support for birthing in Denmark with choices about the way our babies are born, including potential for a Denmark Birth Day.
10. Provision of affordable, sustainable group housing.

### **Governance**

In order to maximise the long-term integration of the cultural plan into community planning, the meeting agreed that the oversight committee should be an advisory committee of the Shire. Gregg advised that February (when Shire requires budget submissions) and September (budget announcements) would be good times for the committee to meet.

### **Actions**

Carol to provide revised plan in one week's time for comment.

Comments to be provided prior to 13 October – final draft for submission to Shire and DAC 15 October 2009.

### **October 2009**

- Submission of final draft plan for comment.

### **November 2009**

- Submission of final plan to Shire and Denmark Arts.

## **IMPLEMENTATION**

The key to the success of the plan is the inclusion of actions to which community organisations or other groups or agencies have committed to pursuing.

All other ideas arising from the consultation are retained in the plan as opportunities that can be actioned as the community comes forward to pursue them.

Action plans will be developed by each team responsible. Teams will report to the Our Culture Our View Advisory Committee twice a year.

Implementation of the plan as a whole will be monitored and evaluation by the Our Culture Our View Advisory Committee. It is envisaged that the Committee made up of a broad section of community leaders, will meet at least twice a year to monitor implementation, make adjustments as necessary and publish a progress report to the community once per year.

*What a load of hogwash...."sacred to me...the place on the river bank, near old boatshed, used for Noongar welcomes and ceremonies".... so poor, used to be ashamed to say you were from Denmark. Now a matter of pride...I drove through the trees and came into town – "###, that's beautiful", and stayed... We were arguing about the opening of the bar when I first came to Denmark in the 1950's, and we've been arguing about it every year since....Our young people are almost too busy...almost all play at least a bit of guitar....ventilate the Civic Centre....More public art/murals/sculptures....*

---

## **CONTEXT**

### **COMMUNITY SNAPSHOT**

<sup>2</sup>The Shire of Denmark has a population of just over 5,000 and is located on the south coast of Western Australia approximately 50 kms west of Albany and 400 kms south of Perth. The Shire has an area of 1843 sq kms extending 70 kms in an east-west direction and 30 kms north-south.

Denmark's human history begins with its ancient and living Noongar culture. Its non-Indigenous history is characterised by waves of settlement, beginning with the timber industry, followed by group settlers and soldier settlers and agriculture. The "hippies", artists and people seeking alternative lifestyles began arriving in the 70s. As a result, Denmark has a great diversity of population, making for a huge variety of interests/occupations. With tourism being a major industry, many people have developed lifestyles combined with various cottage industries to cater for tourists. The main local industries include – tourism, viticulture, horticulture, beef/dairy/sheep/pig/tree farming, cottage industries and agriculture. Denmark was awarded the title of "Australia's Tidiest Town" in 1998.

The Shire of Denmark website lists over 90 community, arts and sporting organisations.

Community cultural assets include The Six Seasons by Andre Steyl, Jo Williams and Donny #, held by the Shire of Denmark and the Cork Mural at the Civic Centre by a range of community artists. There are community concerns that both works are held for the community but without any policy regarding maintenance, copyright or moral rights.

### **Our facilities**

In addition to its much loved natural and outdoor spaces, the Shire has a range of well-used facilities, marked by a large degree of sharing across community groups and functions.

#### **Tha House – Denmark Youth Centre**

A new purpose built facility adjacent to the Scout Hall and Recreation Ground. Programming including Break Dance, Cooking, Pool, Guitar Hero, Silk Screening and Design, Didge, Drumming and Guitar, Visual Arts including Spray Art, Health and Lifestyle, Information Technology, Study and Work Groups.

#### **Denmark Recreation Centre**

---

<sup>2</sup> Shire of Denmark Website



A high quality facility offering diverse programming including fitness, tai chi, mixed social games for diversity of sports, Denmark Basketball Association program – for adults and children, tae kwon do, Tha House Youth Community Basketball, Toddler Gym, and skating, as well as having facilities available for meetings and functions. The Centre has a sprung floor.

#### Denmark Civic Centre

With a sprung floor and removable seating, the Civic Centre in the Library and Telecentre precinct in the centre of Denmark Town, is a focus for town meetings and performances. There are difficulties in staging performances in a Centre not designed specifically for that purpose, including sight lines, staging and backstage technical capacity.

The Cork Mural at the rear wall of the main auditorium, one of Denmark's early community arts projects, is lost to view behind the seating.

#### Centre for Sustainable Living

Housed in the old Agricultural College, CSL has multiple indoor and outdoor space for workshops, exhibitions, and conferences and has its own facilities for accommodation.

Wineries and galleries, restaurants and hotels – across the Shire are all important live venues and exhibition spaces.

#### Denmark Halls



Kentdale Hall



Parryville Hall  
Parryville Hall Committee



Scout Hall  
1<sup>st</sup> Denmark Scouts



Nornalup Community Hall  
Nornalup Residents & Ratepayers Association



Scotsdale Hall  
Scotsdale Progress Assn

Tingledale Hall – Tingledale Hall Committee

Denmark Public Library

Denmark Telecentre

Denmark Visitor Centre – Exhibition space.

The Tip Shop – a jewel in the Shire's environmental and artisan crown.

## Connections across the community

Denmark Bulletin “What’s on in Denmark”

Community events including meetings, launches, schools’ events and entertainment.

Community Connect Website – Community Portal

Managed by the Telecentre and launched in 2009. Aspirations for Community Connect to be the key source for information, contacts, opportunities and resources.

Denmark – town of notice boards – Quickly apparent to visitors to the town, notice boards and notices in shop windows, and foyers and facades of public and commercial buildings.

---

### ***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*More focus on inclusion in our arts and promoting health....do not reticulate the golf course.....a climbing club.....competitive sport over catered – more participation for simple joy....don't keep getting bigger and bigger facilities – focus on our community having a good time.....more parking at Ocean Beach....a few more forest walk trails of reasonable length – 2 to 8 km....do not support Wicca rituals – bring true spirituality into everyday lives, not witchcraft....more activities for older and infirm citizens....safe bike paths around town....picnic tables in national parks....more public spaces....*

---

---

### ***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*Please focus on the young people of tomorrow....increase fines for dope smoking....free mulch and cheap native plants....SWIMMING POOL....hold a community forum to discuss views and priorities....survey and identify area of town to be designated as equine community only for future development....Denmark has the lot: we can produce a new paradigm of community and we have a responsibility to make the most of it....start now for 20 year outcomes....learn to be a good citizen....Denmark needs a big injection of pride....Support CSL to expand its support of culture and the arts....*

---

## **STORIES FROM THE CONSULTATION**

### **Interviews undertaken on request**

9 December 2008: Susan Clarke, Aaron Bailey, The House, Basil Schure, Greenskills  
10 December 2008: Tony King, TAFE  
18 February 2009: Jo Harcourt Smith  
23 March 2009: Sonia #, Great Southern Community Living Association  
24 March 2009: Gabrielle Rosen, Disability Services Commission, Nicola Shaw, Great Southern Development Commission  
25 March 2009: Kevin Beale, Kevin Osborne, Nigel Levinson, Denmark Agricultural College  
26 March 2009: Paul Doquile, Amy Hastie

#### **CONTEXT**

##### Facilities

###### Tha House

- Arts
- Study
- Cooking

Centre for Sustainable Living – marriage between the arts and environment.

###### Tip Shop

- Art and recycling

###### TAFE

- Arts Management
- Music Industry – incl agency role
- Music Industry Reference Group

##### Economy

###### Markets

##### Projects

Gwondana Link - Nicki Greene, Walpole – Esperance – Kalgoorlie, about youth and environment.

Ravensthorpe artists residency.

School Spirit of Play – Jo Williams murals, bush camp.

##### Noongar

BNW 12 Corroboree attracted thousands of people. Following year healing ceremony. Now key to BNW Noongar welcome and ceremony.

#### **OPPORTUNITIES**

##### Centres of Excellence

Development of Tha House – Youth Precinct

##### Relationships

Determine leaders for places and services

Communications critical, but people run out of time.

Strengthen broader engagement with the Ag College.

Everyone is working so hard in their own patch and suddenly the trees get cut down.

##### Cost of living

Impacts on diversity – plan to support diversity in communities.  
Keeping artists living in the area.

##### The arts

Public art - % for art  
Cooperative/public galleries  
Link the arts and economic development  
Develop opportunities for the visual arts  
Venues for live local music, opts for original music.

SEA, Greenskills, DAC, environment society project.

##### Community Inclusion and Equity

Creation of a community kitchen – and look to the vision of the LGSCLA vision.

## Assets

Cork mural

Six Seasons

## Inclusion

The Unhiding Project – Denmark artists supporting Albany based project for the Great Southern

Denmark issue intellectual disability, but very active, strong Disability Services Advisory Committee.

## Denmark Agricultural College

Regular school visits. Facilities used by community organizations.

Ensures that farmland is preserved right up to entrance of Denmark town.

Industry Advisory Committee ensuring strong link between school and local industry.

Brings resources to the Shire – 50 professional staff, 80 students and attraction of public funds.

## Links between Agricultural College and community

Better communication of willingness to respond to community requests – but perhaps look at enhancing communication. There are opportunities for cultural events.

Essentially, the students are all back home when the main cultural stuff is happening in Denmark.

Interest in being able to offer the students a fuller experience.

There are visitors, e.g. CSIRO scientists, chance to consider broader engagement of such visitors with Industry, community.

## **Focus Groups**

### **Focus Group 10 December 2009**

Bev McGuinness

Phil #

George Mumford

Nigel Levinson

#### CONTEXT

#### Acknowledging other sectors

#### How I came to be here

I've never moved into a town that is so welcoming.

I drove through the trees and into town – “### that's beautiful”, and stayed.

#### Value what we have

Our coast, forest, arts and history

Artists celebrating our beauty through their work

A single ray of sunlight over the cliffs

The stories of our heros, St John's, the Bushies, Fire and Rescue.

#### OPPORTUNITIES

#### Centres of Excellence

Cultural Centre.

#### Arts

#### Relationships

Keeping forums for community disagreements to be aired, debated.

Getting Council to value the same things the community does.

#### Housing

#### The Town

A cultural precinct, Telecentre, Library, Civic Centre, include Cultural Centre

## Our people

Diverse population – greenies, antigreen, retired, investors, single mums, business people.

No longer dominated by the long-term families.

Example of local business pro-windfarm, but anti-windfarmers still come in and talk.

Surfing at Ocean Beach since I was 6.

Fights over changes in the landscape, development. Very passionate, many different points of views.

We've grown up with one another's children

## Past events/Traditions

Timber, to group settlement, to wineries about 3 dairies left in the Shire.

Rebuilding the sea wall and saving the surf club.

## Housing

### Facilities

#### Surf Club

- Perceptions it owns the beach.
- More members than Albany

Strong sharing of facilities – Surf Club, Scout Hall

## Economy

Farmers sitting on \$m land, but generating little income

## Cultural assets

Heritage Society and Museum – Book on the last 10 years of the Surf Club.

- More members than Albany

Film of the rebuilding of the sea wall.

Volunteers – significant contribution to all elements of community life.

Boating heritage.

## Opportunities lost

McLeans Mill.

## Relationships

Heritage precinct – up Mitchell St, Strickland St into the SC Highway at Ricketts shop.

Keep it unique – not looking like any other town.

Get trucks off the main street.

## Sustainability and capacity

Need time to help people do things more easily, respond to opportunities, to partner and to plan.

## Economics

Enabling artists to sell their work.

## Facilities

Extend car park at Ocean Beach.

Good planning to determine fate of old hospital in light of opportunities identified in cultural plan, and community needs pursuant to Shire Strategic Plan.

Plan for Heritage Museum – too small, important research being done.

Acquatic Centre/pool – safety, training, therapy. Possible attraction for Walpole.

Moorings second rate.

## Volunteers

Action to support recruitment and retention and avoiding burn out. Capturing the value of their contribution.

## Signage

More of it, more informative, more engaging.

## Learning and celebrating

Our boating heritage.

## Young People

Opts for young people returning during Uni breaks etc.

Quilters work for Surf Club anniversary

Sharing facilities – Kung fu and Quilters at the surf club.

## Focus Group 17 February 2009

Gary Quinn (Denmark Village Theatre)  
Nadine Laphorne (Denmark Environment Centre)  
Chris Randall (Acquatic Centre)  
Karen Mills (Denmark Telecentre)  
Beth Franz (Scouts)

### CONTEXT

#### Disagreement in Denmark

The opening of the bar, being argued about on first visit to Denmark in the 1950s – and argued about every year since.

#### Community Resource Centres

Development of Telecentre network arising from Royalties for Regions. Establishing Denmark Community Portal – promoted through Photography competition being held over BNW next week. Using the visual to portray the spirit and reach of the portal. Portal is about communication beyond Denmark.

Access to grant up to \$1m for Community Resource Centre.

Response to local media limited.

#### Facilities

Rec and Civic Centres both have sprung floors.

#### Young People

Tha House - A celebration of young people.

Interaction with young people occurs in lots of ways, arts, sport, work and training, volunteering.

“Fact is, Denmark kids are too busy”

“Kids do start working early in this town. When they can get a job, they do.”

#### Alcohol and drug dependence, depression

No local program – no opportunity for community service in the justice system.

#### Business

“Most of the businesses are small

### OPPORTUNITIES

#### Acquatic Centre

Needs assessment required for DSR.

Supports school kids, newborns and the elderly.

Need to weigh up the annual maintenance costs (ratepayer funded) against the community value.

#### Young People

Dead keen on being included in arts stuff. A sense that we are not using what we have, but young people are living and breathing the arts.

Arts a way in for young people to learn additional skills such as project management, seeking funding, reporting.

Create a basic stage-craft course.

Create a Community Resource Pack for working with young people.

Let young people organise themselves or through existing organisations – give them a choice. Let them learn through doing – including advocacy.

Do anything possible to help young people into jobs.

Support young people to be their own leaders.

#### Communication

Need to include ways of getting information to people not on email or with access to the internet.

Calendar of events.

Death notices are not put in papers anymore,

businesses”

### Events

Flag Day - Midwinter’s Day – the Sunday before Midwinter.

Wickerman @ Inlet Drive.

Scout Hall – boot scooters, Tai Kwon do, Che gong, weekend markets, reggae, panto used to be there. All the party hire.

or appear after the funeral – desire of older people to be kept better in touch.

### Development

Increase the density of residential developments, avoid sprawl and keep people close to centres and services.

Keep the trees.

### Cultural Centre

Can be focussed around the old tennis courts. Shed on-site could be converted for meeting rooms, gallery.

Festival of the Voice, not enough seating.

Need open, multi-use space and lockable.

### Denmark Art Library

### Community Resource Centre

Supporting volunteers, putting register of volunteers online. Helping to keep the interest up.

A portal that takes its shape from what the community wants.

Creation of a professional mentoring group.

### Club Development Officer

## **Focus Group 18 February 2009**

Josephine Lebbing

Ian Osborne

### CONTEXT

“I love this place to my bone”

“so poor, used to be ashamed to say you were from Denmark. Now a matter of pride”

“I look at our nice flat oval, but still see the old sloping one and remember the home game advantage...”

“healthy communities celebrate the weirdo!”

### Economy

Horticulture, fishing, timber, farming – dairy and beef, now tourism a genuine chance for sustainable business.

Links between businesses and community organizations – Thornton’s and the Surf Club, businesses generally and the Bush Fire

### OPPORTUNITY

### Signage and heritage

Need to consider development of signage, keep sympathetic and give close consideration to the best way to capture stories of what was, what is important.

Not just text, but include artwork in signage to evoke stronger sense of story and place and engagement.

### Development

Don’t wipe out what was there blindly. As spaces for people to live, enable connection, enable people to express themselves. Integrate art, value the artwork.

In losing landscape, we lose the memories and storylines through a place.

Brigade.

### The arts

“Sense that Old Denmarkians go to the Country Club. Arts is something that new settlers do – but huge loss for everyone without it.”

Need to retain affordable housing, so locals, and the families of locals, can stay.

### Business

Promoting professional, corporate support for community – professional mentors and volunteers, businesses partnering with schools – strengthens the fabric for all.

Look at a Wellbeing Collective – the value of micro businesses.

### Town

Have a welcome to Denmark event. Create a Community Hub. More meeting places.

### Community Development Officer

### Assets

As well as our physical, look at mapping our people assets, who we are, the skills we have.

### Mens shed

## **CULTURE CAFÉ Our Cultural Ideas Bank**

10.00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m., at Centre for Sustainable Living, Sunday, 12 April and Monday, 13 April 2009.

Attendances: Sunday 43  
Monday 25

Comments from the community members posted against range of actions:

### **Local or Place Plans**

- Area across road from Bowling club, plan to manage this, to respect users, past, present, future, for people bush, cars, boats. Stakeholders – boatys, Noongar people, locals, Community park Group, Greenskills....
- Plans and communication essential if we are to preserve our special sense of place.

### **Dog exercise areas and paths, bridle paths and facilities**

- Accessible paths to Ocean beach dog walk area
- Survey riders for what works and what could be added
- Info impact dogs on waders Nov-Feb
- Enforce dog-free areas

### **Denmark Cultural Festival**

- Amphitheatre
- Brave New Works
- Flag Day
- Harmony Day Celebration
- Erect huge stand over the river between the park and the sound shell.
- Village Theatre pantomimes moved from Berridge Park to indoors – risk of rain, protection of gear and to allow for performances over a number of nights.

### **Develop and maintain our parks & gardens – Town/Community Park**



- Wildness of community park – asset or change it
- Plus activities, play inviting
- Keep bbq etc facilities clean
- No petunias, only water wise plants
- Complimentary to native bushland
- Our native bushland will gradually disappear from urban/pen-urban areas so it is important to capture its essence in our parks. Plant local, be proud of what we have inherited.
- Foot bridge from Berridge Park to Music Shell

### **Town Square**

- Strickland St access to Civic centre as town sq.
- Consider established areas.
- Remove M-S extension of old Shire offices to open up area to East of Civic Centre and North of Telecentre/Library. Level it. Lots of seating, community chess board, waterwise garden strips.

### **Exciting, creative children's playground**

- Natural landscape as our playground, rocks, etc
- Rain shelter
- In the Community Park

### **Welcome and info new residents**

- Use new technology, touch screen central, local knowledge
- A friendly face at the community cultural centre, someone to welcome and point people to info like community group database
- Continue the welcome kit informing new comers about the natural environment and putting them in touch with individuals/groups working to preserve it.
- Use the welcome pack more widely and wisely
- Telecentre to be agency to organise info and link communication between groups and community – website, blogs, virtual meetings

### **New community officer – future, vision, community development, collaboration**

- Autonomy of community owned agencies, so local and state govt cannot scuttle community decided action.
- Support already existing organizations to communication and collaborate – DAC, Greenskills, Telecentre, Library
- Central accessible database of groups and possible community groups meeting.

### **Better street, place, building signs and informative plaques**

- Hospital and police – international signage.
- More focussed signage, but don't overdo it

### **Ensure a disability and access friendly town, places and events**

- Access for all people, footpaths that are finished

### **Cultural Centre**

- Needs analysis for bigger performance venue – at least 300 capacity
- Needs analysis for community exhibition space
- Do local Indigenous people want to be included in this?

### **A combined sports centre and clubhouse and facilities**

- Tennis practice walls
- Better high schools tennis courts
- Create overall sport body that manages all clubs and groups “Denmark Sports Club”
- Needs analysis for performing arts centre
- Practice wall in Community Park south of new health facility

### **More involvement of police in community groups and schools.**

- YES

### **More inclusion of Noongar people in planning, preservation, development and heritage and arts.**

- Yes!

### **Increase knowledge about our heritage**

- Facilities to support elders with the recording of their stories and histories etc
- Very important in recognition of senior community members and previous generations and community values and understandings of development pathways.
- Varied learning opportunities, not all written, and for everyone, young and old, residents and non-residents
- Preserve historical buildings
- Encourage inclusion of all community members

### **Better transport and parking**

- Yes
- Reconsider roundabouts and divert heavy traffic
- Don't let the car dominate planning. Introduce v. slow speed limits in town, one way routes, bike lanes everywhere with lots of bike parking
- Bike hire, Shire supported to ease insurance and power assisted bikes.

### **More art – sculptures, in new buildings, in lighting, seating, etc**

- % for art policy
- Street scape, show case different work
- Site specific art to be developed, suggest around the river
- Don't build in the natural areas, nature cannot be improved upon
- Keep artworks in the built environment and don't intrude it into the natural environment, which doesn't need humans improving it
- Public place lighting in Denmark is poorly designed – light spills into surrounding areas, whilst often not illuminating the ground
- Yes

### **More support for volunteers**

- More infrastructure support and communication
- Database – doesn't have to be high tech – a listing in the Bulletin
- Training & skills development
- Database – hard copy – already available
- Central body with a focus on volunteers from all areas – sports, arts environmental social, health and care, etc

### **Improve pathways, walkways and for cycles, seniors, people with disability**

- More walkways and cycle paths for families
- Path access from Rushton St across common land to avoid walking along street.
- For town and school. Dangerous lack of path behind old hospital, children in danger crossing highway, need crosswalk or overpass or lollypop people.
- Short path needed at end of Rushton St of Scotsdale Road so we don't have to walk into the park down the main hospital entrance.
- Seats everywhere, to walk and rest, walk and reflect
- Cycle path along Scotsdale Rd to Steiner School

### **Great Southern Chamber Orchestra**

- Great idea
- All the best
- And a choir

### **Big, big central sign what's on where and how to find out more**

- Town Sq
- Coordinate info – more connections, more \$ to find out and help compiling

### **Include sustainable group house in planning**

- Volunteer built housing
- Encourage Land corp to have affordable building blocks for lower cost housing

- Introduce Eco village as zoning type
- Alternative retirement villages as industry at heart of eco village 50m<sup>2</sup> sound proofed and sustainable building principles in group housing, small units for singles, elderly, youth
- Co-housing community

#### **Human assets register – voluntary listing commitment, passion, skills**

- Plus groups needing volunteers
- Yes
- Yes
- Already done, volunteers register

#### **New ways to share stories, across generations and cultures**

- Support Living Books initiative
- Program of elders sharing stories at schools or Library
- Support groups that already exist.
- Living stories great idea, managing it/them?

#### **Stronger links between our arts organisations and commercial arts activity.**

#### **Greater cooperation between arts groups and inclusion of all artforms**

- Probably won't happen you can only try ☺

#### **Economic Development Officer, Centre and Plan**

- More human resources and facilities for Denmark Arts
- Currently too fragmented, Shire/Chamber of Commerce

#### **No limits on trading hours**

- What about quality of life, for staff. Part of charm, tread lightly with this.
- Mediterranean hours for tourist seasons
- Keep present limits
- Preserve time out from trading unique to Australia.
- 7 to 7 must be enough for anyone, think of the proprietors and staff.

#### **Create Heritage Park**

- Vital as underpinning knowledge centre and link for boutique agricultural industries – shows pathways for development.
- Chance lost to create a heritage park with the removal of the station master's house and other farm relics previously. Now just left with 3 oak trees. Maybe it can all be recalled through plaques/photos.
- Community Park adjacent to hospital must have sufficient resources to implement plans being currently developed over 5-10 year period.

#### **New bridle development – stables instead of garages**

- Local laws developed for covenants on Eco Bridle developments and trails.

#### **Artist development – affordable housing**

- Eco Village – coop building, eg North American eco coop designs, townhouse communities
- Habitat for humanity
- Singles accommodation

#### **Park or precinct for young people**

- More sculptures
- Interactive playground – music sound sculptures
- As a part of town centre, not isolated
- Tha House, ovals, Rec Centre, Aquatic centre
- More housing for young people
- No segregation please
- Ask the young people, what they want

#### **Develop Denmark Town Centre**

- Beautify town centre – ugly!
- More parking before shopping centres
- 50 year plan for town centre, so planned obsolescence aids new development.
- Recycling service facility for shops and businesses in town. Recycling bins for public use.
- Trees up centre of Strickland St
- We need more room than the Fig Tree area – perhaps a pedestrian mall to encourage musicians, exhibits etc
- Identify what is uniquely Denmark. Suggest rural and informal and carry this them in town garden beds, sing mainly local plants
- Yes to a pedestrian mall.
- Pedestrian mal between SCH and Mitchell St. Lots of seats. Lighting for evening use. Cultural centre
- Recycling bins

#### **Better information and register of community organizations**

- Combine with volunteer data base
- Outdoor recreation club for hikers, bikers, to get together.
- Database already established.
- A walking group/club is something that could develop from this.

#### **Public transport between Albany, across the Shire – Hydrogen bus, Bike Lockers, nighttime booze bus**

- Minibus to the beach
- Denmark desperately needs this service
- Yes
- Yes, bus, hydrogen, local only daily, once a month to Albany
- Climate Action Denmark is working on this, seeking funding for several focus groups, support them when they occur!

#### **Aquatic Centre**

- Denmark swim levels behind Albany
- Environmentally sound, north aspect to heat water and building, salt water etc
- Arthritis sufferers in need of heated hydrotherapy
- Mental and physical health
- Safety, health, recreation
- Albany Centre, very expensive to run per head of population, but for us a lead to population increase
- Not yes, but when!
- Yes, yes, yes
- No
- Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes, please
- Yes
- Yes please, urgent
- Yes please

#### **East River Road Bridge**

- Foot bridge only, for cycle, walk, horse
- Re-build for tourism and access Scotsdale residents.
- Yes please
- Yes, yes, yes, yes, yes please
- A must and not too hard
- Yes, but must be accessible for vehicles in an emergency, e.g. Fire

#### **Old hospital for community groups**

- Art centre
- Safe house at old hospital lodge
- Asbestos nightmare
- Soup kitchen
- Community collective
- Collocation of diverse community groups

- Home for Arts Council, Unite arts groups, workshop in one building.
- Design a proper culture centre
- Overcome the challenges
- Low rent spots in old hospital for groups such as the craft shop, crafty quilters etc
- Grounds should be a beautiful park in the middle of town, green lawns, picnic benches, seats, peaceful place overlooking town
- Old hospital new birth centre
- Good venue for markets, indoor, outdoor community hub

#### **Better commercial and residential development – no sprawl, natural reserves, hubs, affordability.**

- Environmental apartments, townhouses – less land used, share solar panels, rainwater
- Great idea, good for down sized retirement
- Manage natural parkland reserves o they are not whittled away
- 2 storey narrow front town houses in limited zones
- Our buildings complement the landscape and people, solar passive and human friendly
- yes

#### **Acknowledgement and protection of sacred places**

- Signage
- Have a variety of forums and mechanisms to discuss, listen, talk about what area's are sacred to us – Me, land across from bowling club and Poison Point.

#### **Vitality & vigour of our community organizations**

- A central body with focus on supporting our groups and volunteers by providing opportunities for them to connect and grow. Building confidence and skills in connecting and working with others. Sharing skills, knowledge and resources.

#### **Annual environment event**

- Umbrella group for all seasonal events on equinoxes etc so nothing clashes and everybody gets to attend – like on BNW weekend.
- Encourage this town to be the showcase for renewable energy, frequent workshops, tours etc
- Great idea, everyone needs to support those with the resources and energy who already mount an annual expo.
- A really good 3 day party! ☺

#### **Rewards/incentives for sustainable building and development**

- Water tanks all houses
- I agree
- Shire to promote the buildings that have won their award. Perhaps increase the size of the prize.
- Big carrot, not big sticks, we must do it.

#### **Support for business development, mentoring, training and incubators, creative industries hub, link mainstream with creative**

- Yes
- Agree
- Recycling green waste to create useful product – small business

#### **Young people safe camp, scouts food van, fishing mentors**

- Yes
- yes

#### **Better local services for addiction, depression, domestic violence.**

- Link in with community cultural centre and central hub and community resource network, don't separate health and wellbeing and arts and culture
- Better links between arts, health, and environment.

#### **Energy & resources planning**

- Very important

- Strategy to save farms, create process to transform into community farms and/or shared farms using rural strata title
- Stop the loss of farming land to urban development
- Get going on wind and solar power in town, individual incentives to help install solar and water tanks could help blackouts, solar power street lights, car pooling coop
- Encourage every house to have water tanks – no more running out of water.
- Yes to wind, get going on selecting a site and agreeing first.
- Wave energy makes sense
- Denmark needs to supply self sufficient power asap
- Be the first energy renewable town, solar powered, street lighting and water saving in all town council projects – set Denmark on the Sustainability map.

#### **Managing our natural environment – feral species control, health, weed control, replanting**

- Toxic free Denmark tap water – no chlorine, fluoride etc
- Natural earth burial site
- Reforest cleared land as natural earth burial
- Active management need for our natural areas, code of practice, training for all shire staff and contractors.
- More funding to support this
- Recognise what is beautiful about our natural environment and care for it at all levels

#### **Arts/cultural centre**

- History, stories, music
- Multi-use community centre, especially in winter for meeting place for parent with young children, for mens groups or any
- Civic centre become cinema, build a new arts centre or precinct
- Need for performance space and arts centre
- Community Art Centre, Old hospital or anywhere but somewhere.
- To also be a community centre/hub. A place for everyone to thrive, space for community groups, for workshops, meetings, forums on community issues, a place to heal, learn, grow and celebrate
- Why doesn't Denmark have a community arts centre?
- Performing arts centre please.

#### **More arts for young people, youth radio**

- More creative workshops
- More music and dancing in all aged youth

#### **Industrial area accessible to small business**

#### **Youth employment initiatives**

- Very important
- More apprenticeships are needed
- The youth is our future, they need to be able to work where they live

#### **Promotion of Denmark, a unique brand**

- Denmark eco village, green town developed and built on green principals, solar passive environmentally friendly, sustainable.
- A place where outside the box living and thinking is valued, people can slow down, connect with themselves, others and this unique land, the human spirit can heal and thrive
- Pioneer natural earth burial in WA, cremation and convention burial are not good for the environment
- Promoted by all parties, visitor centre, CCI, Shire, currently fragmented and detracts from cohesive vision
- Amphitheatre
- Come to Denmark and relax, you can even see the stars at nights; this is if you are not near the visitor centre spot lights!

#### **Extend the Library**

- More junior fiction novels ages 10-12

- More tennis books
- Library size and resources linked to use not population
- Free internet in line with rest of WA, more books, and space
- Specific section for agriculture/farming, permaculture etc, encourage farmers to donate manuals for tractors etc as reference books
- More books
- Creation of library reference file for local groups contacts and newsletters
- Caution! Leave library in town centre
- Yes, lets have a bigger library with greater room to do research/study

#### **Extend the museum**

- Focal point in heritage park
- Yes, and services
- Yes, lets have the museum in the heritage park or within the old hospital precinct and more community open days to involve the greater Denmark
- Create community art centre

#### **Teach local history, biology, arts in our schools**

- Yes
- Yes please
- agree

#### **Venues for local musicians**

- Live in facilities with recording studio for musicians and students
- Old hospital?
- Yes
- Old hospital and Scout Hall

#### **Create an Art College**

- Art club for kids, 8-12
- Denmark creative learning centre or Denmark school of arts
- Yes, taking into account all schools in area. Streaming into it and recognising their philosophies etc. Steiner School, Woodbury Boston, State School.
- Vital for youth of town and development – career, pleasure, recreation.
- Definitely and why can't we even do cert IV arts
- Very good idea. Denmark is already a centre of learning, build on that.

#### **Other**

- Listen up Denmark Shire – I would like the culture of our council to truly reflect the culture of the involved, committed people they represent e.g. wind farm debate.
- Birthing in Denmark – being able to have our babies in Denmark, and being able to have choices about the way we have our babies. Annual Birth Day – information and planning.
- And/or natural birthing centre
- Old hospital facility into alternative complementary healing centre
- Community midwifery program re-established
- Recycling, expand options at the tip, presently quite limited, process materials onsite that can be distributed to community, e.g. mulch, insulation, be prepared to accept the cost in marketing loss offset by improving sustainability/sense of community.
- Healing and reconciliation in regards to our past Noongar heritage, for us whities!
- Community relationship building, we don't have to like each others ideas or points of view, but let's look for ways to work together on issues that affect us all, respect differences.
- Publicity campaign – value of the arts

#### **Reference Group**

Reference Group Meeting 8 December 2008

**Attending:**

Nigel Levinson, Carole Powley, Jane Blades, Deborah Rice, Sophie Lines, Andre Stahl, Barney Arvidson, Dawn Atkin (coordinator), Carol Whish-Wilson (consultant)

**CONTEXT**

Acknowledging other sectors

Agriculture  
Maritime

How I came to be here

Born here, dad a group settler.  
Diversity of life's journeys around the world,  
all leading to Denmark.

Value what we have

Look at what we have at the moment, and  
don't lose it. Remember the life that went on  
before the new people came to town.

Our people

So much talent, old and new.

Denmark is characterised by change –  
population, wealth, different goals.

Most kids play an instrument.

Changes over the last 20 years, diluting the  
colour and vibrancy – what are we gaining  
from these changes?

"Bring back the hippies"

Past events/Traditions

Diversity Dinners

Opening the bar

Housing

Denmark Community Housing Collective – a  
model for inclusive development.

**OPPORTUNITIES**

Centres of Excellence

Fine wood

An artists village – housing collective.

Learning precinct

Arts

Greater opportunities for Ag College student  
body.

Relationships

Beat the fragmentation, harness the talent,  
the ideas and build on them.

Housing

Retain affordability, retain diversity.

Balance development with unique landscape,  
natural environments, rural and small town  
character.

The Town

Parking

Sustainability

Windfarm



---

### ***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*Support the small, small groups of people doing the little things for recreation and leisure – as important as the larger things....craftspeople to come up with ideas for use of indigenous materials for parks and gardens....alternative transport routes....restoration and more interpretation for railway heritage....develop Museum....commission an art piece to honour Indigenous heritage....more awareness of heritage....sacred grove part of community park....contact Noongar elders and historians to find out best way to preserve sacred places....smarten up cemetery....name trees/flora on walk trails....*

---

## **OUR STORIES AS WE TELL THEM**

### ***A snapshot of the Shire's cultural expressions***

“Oral History Live”, Hypertheatre, Denmark 6333

“Carton – Freight with Destiny”, “Karried Away”, theatre works supported by film and stills.

## **Denmark Arts 2008/09 Program of Activities**

### **LIBRARIAN OF BASRA (AUSPICED PROJECT)**

By Denmark's Hypertheatre. A colourful young people's theatre piece shimmering with middle eastern inspired music, sensuous contemporary dance, and compelling storytelling. The play is based on US children's author Jeannette Winter's book *The Librarian of Basra*, and is a sensitive portrayal of a librarian's heroic struggle to save the vast collection of books in Basra Central Library from destruction during the 2003 invasion of Iraq. The production had already performed to over 800 school children at Albany Library during Children's Book Week in August 2007, at the Fairbridge Festival as family entertainment (April 2008), had sell-out performances at the Denmark Civic Centre, as well as Denmark and Albany High School performances (August 2008), and was the premier event for Children's Book Week at the Northern Territory Library in Darwin (August 2008). A tour of Darwin followed, with five performances and workshops held at various schools throughout the suburbs of Darwin to more than 1000 children and young people, all incredibly well received. With ongoing support from Denmark the *Librarian of Basra* toured WA libraries in the second half of 2009.

### **VISUAL ARTS EXHIBITION SPACE AT DENMARK VISITOR CENTRE**

Included:

- Fuiloro East Timor Society Exhibition
- Denmark Wood Turners
- Children's Exhibition
- Aperitif (Great Southern Art Trail)
- Nesta Forest: A Retrospective
- Andre Steyl, Anna Steyl and Lucia Golobowski
- June Smith

Unfortunately financial pressures on the Denmark Visitor Centre mean that it must charge commercial rates for the space making it unsuitable as a community arts facility. The Visual Arts Sub-committee will remain active co-ordinating a range of activities for local visual artists and the community.

### **DYSCORD AND THE GREAT SOUTHERN EXPERIENCE**

Metal and punk band Dyscord headed down to Denmark to rock the Civic Centre stage with Denmark's very own Hells of Iron and Twisted Logik. FREE workshops on band management, stage presence and metal vocals were run as well as a session on recording a CD facilitated by Rob from Goanna Studios. These workshops gave more depth to the gig and provided a great chance to meet the band. This event promoted young people and young artists throughout the Great Southern and provided them with skills that they could only access by bringing these professional artists into our community. Parents and community members supported the gig by volunteering. A bus from Albany was provided. Promotion for the gig also featured on Denmark Arts newly created MySpace page [www.myspace.com/denmarkarts](http://www.myspace.com/denmarkarts)

Two local young people co-ordinated the whole event gaining skills in project management, grant applications, marketing and financial management.

### **COLIN OFFORD IN CONCERT**

Colin Offord, singer, composer, multi-instrumentalist and inventor of original instruments. Colin accompanies his voice with the most noted of his many instruments, the "Great Island Mouthbow", a complex string instrument that can be bowed, plucked and played percussively. Colin is a nationally recognised musician who came to Denmark after a tour of the Kimberley before flying back to Queensland. The Anglican Church's acoustic qualities allowed his music to be presented in the best possible way. Two workshops with Colin were also offered: Composing through Improvisation and The Endless Voice.

#### **APERITIF (PART OF GREAT SOUTHERN ART TRAIL)**

All Denmark residents and visitors were invited to partake in "Aperitif", an exhibition showcasing Denmark's vibrant art community. Denmark artists exhibited in over 20 venues as part of ArtsouthWA's Great Southern Art Trail. Denmark artists have a strong presence on the Trail, putting Denmark on the map as an art enclave. "Aperitif" provided a sample of the exquisite work of Denmark artists participating in this year's Trail.

#### **DECEMBER JANUARY EASTER SATURDAY, BERRIDGE PARK, DENMARK MARKETS**

The Denmark Markets create a village of colour and festivity with a bustling blend of music, art and food. Happening four times a year between December and Easter, the markets aim to promote the work of local artisans and craftspeople alongside a full program of performing arts. Children and young people were the focus of the December Market. Danica Logan from Rainbow Ocean provided a welcoming space for children to paint and sculpt, while The Fairy Queen wove her magic with special story times. A 'Not So Big' Buskers site was in action all day for young people to show off their skills from juggling to playing ukulele. Grown ups also a chance to busk at the 'Big' Buskers site, featuring poetry, music and Tai Chi demonstrations. Young people hit the main stage with the Denmark Fiddlers kick-starting the BIG DANCE EVENT, followed by a line-up of much loved dance bands including Mandala, Xave Brown Band and The Fungals with Dave Rastrick. The BIG DANCE EVENT celebrated the talents of Denmark percussionist Matt Lyons before his departure for the less temperate shores of Scotland.

#### **BRAVE NEW WORKS #16 – The Denmark Festival of the Arts 2009**

**Brave New Works** is Denmark's premier community arts festival held every Easter. The aim of the festival is to encourage the people of Denmark to explore and experience all art forms in new and innovative ways around a chosen theme. This is done by supporting local artists to engage their community in arts focused projects and encouraging all participants to bravely go where they've not been before. The theme for Brave New Works#16 (BNW#16) was "Sharing Stories". The theme was chosen to encourage people to explore personal or shared stories within historical or contemporary contexts. **Brave New Works#16** employed a number of local and imported artists to guide the broader community through the development and production of high quality visual and performance arts. BNW#16 empowered and offered skill exchange to local participants by choosing a person from each project to coordinate their project, done in consultation with the Brave New Works Coordinator and sub-committee.

Festival's features for 2009 included:

- **Noongar Welcome Ceremony:** The Noongars of Koorabup welcome to country. Joey Williams, in collaboration with other Noongar performers, created a ceremony mixing traditional and contemporary styles performed by firelight on the banks of the Koorabup River on the opening night of the Festival. The performers continued to have a presence throughout the Festival at the markets and at the performance pavement.
- **Living Books:** This initiative was started in 2000 by a Danish NGO and has spread across Europe and now to Denmark Australia. It is a library resource which turns people into books, catalogues them to be offered as a community resource. This is collaboration between the Denmark Library, Denmark Arts and the Shire and run by a committee of local people. Brave New Works will launch the Living Books, Denmark.
- **Unravelling: Denmark Stories:** A multi-media production developed through a series of workshops with the local community. Writing and Performance workshops were offered to develop personal stories which were the spring board for sound and visual responses. Local musicians had the opportunity to work with Perth based New and Experimental musician Jonathan Mustard in creating soundscapes while photographer Michael Hemmings worked with a visual artist to create the video-scape. The performance was a patchwork of personal stories,

memorable moments and poetic reflections expressed in words, music and video imagery – all woven together into our shared vision of a larger unifying story: one that reflects the journey from childhood into womanhood, and of unravelling from pain and isolation into transformation and acceptance.

- **Word Nests:** From the women of Unravelling, located around the town, for looking for and digesting.
- **Site Specific Art Project:** Tasmanian based Site Specific artist Liz Woods was invited to mentor local artists for three weeks resulting in the installation of artwork at the CSL, Springdale and eastern riverbank near Boatshed, with workshops and artist talks.
- **Artistories:** Professional Albany artist Trish Wares was invited to deliver workshops on working with visual diaries to a diverse range of emerging artists, resulting in an exhibition by 10 Denmark artists of their visual diaries based on “Sharing Stories”. The exhibition displayed diaries by a range of the community’s artists including young and emerging artists as well as established professional, painters, sculptors, printmakers and graphic artist, who have worked on the books for three months. The Exhibition featured a digital projection of images from the diaries.
- **East of Us:** A collaboration between 11 artists from Denmark and members of the Ravensthorpe community. The artists spent a week in late March exploring cultural ties and sharing stories. Music, photography, sculpture, painting, print making and the written word were all used to explore what makes this area to our east unique.
- **La Petite Sirene:** Local choreographer Nari Lees, running two movement and self expression workshops with students at the primary school. The students were choreographed into a representation of the story of the Little Mermaid. An exciting mix between performance installation and traditional dance performed around the town over the weekend.
- **Performance Pavement:** On the main intersection in the centre of Denmark there are four expansive curbs. During the weekend each of these curbs had performances installed on them. It was programmed but open to any one willing to try their hand at something.
- **Festival Club:** Three young adults were invited to help coordinate this project. The club ran over the weekend with an open floor to perform, play music, dance, recite etc. Food and drinks were served in an informal setting.
- **Outdoor market:** over 100 stalls of art and craft and food on Easter Saturday with a program of performances presented free to the public during the Market Day at Berridge Park including the Kids Village.
- **Brave New Banners:** The streets and venues of BNW #16 decorated with banners from Denmark community groups and artists sharing their stories with colour and imagination.
- **MoveMENT:** A group of men working with local dancers Annette Carmichael and Nari Lees and performer Paul Doquile over 8 months to develop skills and techniques resulting in dance works inspired by the inherent physicality of nine Denmark men, wherein dance is uncovered in a collective story.
- **Funk ‘n’ Junk:** A community based project where young people were invited to explore their stories through sculpture and painting. The project provided young people with creative, artistic and social activities. Local artists Todd Jackson and Kye McAllister supported participants in the use of recycled materials, resulting in an exhibition.
- **The BNW BIG Show:** A variety show and a strong tradition in Brave New Works. On the closing night, the Festival offers the Civic Centre stage complete with sound & lighting, and a Stage Manager, to anyone or group in the community brave enough to expose their hidden talents. An open invitation is sent out to the community inviting them to produce a small piece in response to the theme of Sharing Stories. This is a fun night when the community gets together on equal terms.

## **PERTH INTERNATIONAL ARTS FESTIVAL DIRECTIONS IN GROOVE**

Directions In Groove (DIG), best remembered as Sydney's flagbearer during the acid jazz craze that flourished in the '90s. Part of the 2009 Perth International Arts Festival in Perth, Albany and Denmark. A local Denmark band programmed as a support act to DIG. This will offer the benefit of increased profile for the Denmark band and an opportunity for them to connect with these exceptional musicians. Setting up the Denmark Civic Centre as a hip jazz bar with couches and cocktail tables, creating a great vibe for the coolest night out this summer!

### **DENMARK FESTIVAL OF VOICE BUSINESS PLANNING**

To develop plans for the future that will accommodate the rapidly growing number of voice enthusiasts keen to participate in this popular festival. In 2008 the Festival sold out a month in advance and many local residents were unable to purchase tickets. The Festival's box office is seriously limited by issues of venue size and accommodation availability in Denmark. It has become urgent that an assessment of the Festival and its potential for growth occur. We are keen to develop a model that equally supports the needs of local residents while attracting an increased number of visitors to the region. A Business Plan for the event will help address existing challenges and lay down a sustainable path forward. The management of the Festival is largely performed by a small group of dedicated volunteers and their ability to sustain this effort is diminishing. A new management structure for the Festival also needs to be considered.

### **DVTV**

An on going project administered by Denmark Arts to promote and appreciate the art of filmmaking, provide a forum for independent filmmakers and film festivals through screenings for members and the public. dvtv has video cameras and facilities to document community events and make movies through community arts projects or by arrangement. Copies from most video formats can be digitised and converted to DVD, VHS or back onto the camera's tape. Titles, soundtracks and special effects can be added with dvtv's Final Cut Pro software and Mac computers. dvtv has successfully attracted funding to purchase a dvd burner and printer in order to make multiple copies of video footage for community groups such as Denmark Village Theatre and Serendipity Dance as well as for Denmark Arts projects.

### **V'VACI EARLY MUSIC GROUP**

Denmark Arts provides support to this music group in its presentation of concerts promoting classical music. On Friday 12 September 2008 the concert, Remarkable Recorder featured the skill of guest artist Ruth Wilkinson at the Old Butter Factory playing music from the 14th to the 21<sup>st</sup> century. Ruth is in demand as a tutor in Early Music all over Australia and is in Denmark as tutor to the V'vacI Early Music Group. V'vacI will present a range of concerts throughout the year.

### **TOURING PERFORMANCES**

Denmark Arts selects a program of professional touring performances as they become available through Country Arts and associations with UWA and directly with artists.

### **GONDWANA COMMUNITY ARTS PROJECT DEVELOPMENT**

Work commenced on the development of a new youth arts initiative Gondwana Link Arts Project. Planned for the second half of 2009 the project aims to engage schools across the Gondwana Link ([www.gondwanalink.org](http://www.gondwanalink.org)), from Denmark to Esperance in carrying out rich learning tasks, inspired through the arts, in order to raise awareness about what's special in their 'own backyard'. This project has a direct partnership with Albany's "Gondwana Link" which is: "a landscape scale vision involving individuals and local, regional and national groups. We are working together to achieve reconnected country across south-western Australia in which entire ecosystems, and the fundamental ecological processes that underpin them, are restored and maintained." In 2009 the project was tested through a pilot arts project with three schools. The aim is to increase the scope and possibilities of the project over the next few years in partnership with the Gondwana Link offices and the Denmark Centre for Sustainable Living.

### **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT/TRAINING**

In 2008/09 year Denmark Arts focussed on increasing skills in project co-ordination, arts management and technical skills:

Art at the Heart Regional Arts Conference, Alice Springs attended by Sofie Lines, Nari Lees, Ubik Freeman and Andy Ducker

Department of Culture and the Arts, Arts Development Grant Application Training Day attended by Jo Smith

Department of Culture and the Arts, Navigating and Negotiating Workshop for Theatre Producers attended by Silvia Lehmann, Peter Keelan and Simon Neville

Ongoing facilitation of training opportunities

## **“Connections” – What Connects YOU to Denmark Telecentre Network Photo Competition**

### **Denmark Gig Guide 3 years of live music, local venues, local artists, world artists**

*Do you remember?*

#### **2009**

Venues: Greenpool at Forest Hill, West Cape Howe Wines, The Lake House, Matilda's Estate Winery, Wilson's Restaurant, Denmark Arts Markets Live music local artists, Matilda's Estate Winery Wicked Winery Wined-up Festival, Denmark Tavern, Karriview Wines, CWA Hall Transmission - Open Floor Café

Artists: Katie White, Sue Cunningham, Lez Karski, Xave Brown, Tusong, Miche Suite, Matt Cal, simon & Tamy London, Two Left Feet, Colin Reeves, Ten Cent Shooters, Andi Adams, Evan Holmes, Simone Keane, Ashleigh Evans, Shaky Reed, Alan Keys Trio, Arons Crusade, Jason Bonhomm, Michael Chapman, Sam Carmondy & The Warning Birds, Blumanna, The Juice& Moodswingz

#### **2008**

Venues, Events & Opportunities: Denmark Tavern Open Mic Night, Greenpool at Forest Hill, Denmark Hotel, Springdale Beach Market Day, Denmark Xmas Fest Busking Competition, Emery's (house concert), Denmark Civic Centre 'Sing Christmas', Eclectica & Cantare Choirs Carols by Candlelight with Denmark High School students, Albany City Band members, & more, Denmark Arts Markets Big Buskers Site, Not so Big' Buskers Site, The BIG Dance Thing, Karriview Wines, Anglican Church, West Cape Howe Wines, Karli Dore First Solo Art Exhibition, CWA Hall Transmission - Open Floor Café, The Lake House, Matilda's Estate Winery, Wilson's Restaurant, Denmark Country Club, Greenpool at Forest Hill, Matilda's Estate Winery 'Sound Surgery' *End-of-year TAFE Music students' concert*, McLean Park Brazier St Safe Community Day featuring local musicians & TAFE bands, Boating & Angling Clubroom, Living Waters Beltane Wickerman Festival, live music, *DVT play, performance dancers, Wickerman burning, fire twirling, Morris men, community art works, market stalls*, WAM / Music Managers Forum tour Denmark TAFE Campus Music Room Nigel Bird (WAM regional officer), Luke Rinaldi (Perth booking & management legend), Heath Bradby (Hopetoun's favourite son now managing national Australian acts), Local performers sought for Safe Community Day at McLean Park 18th October. Any age or playing level but all performances need to be polished & well rehearsed, Down South Festival looking for artists to perform 7/8 Nov., Expressions of interest sought Perform at the Boatshed Markets, Albany Sundays, The Wolery (house concert), July School Holiday Program Denmark Youth Centre, FREE workshops Ambulance Hall DISCOURD providing workshops on band management, stage presence & metal vocals, with Rob from Goanna Studios talking about recording, WAM SONG OF THE YEAR 2008 - Online Entries Open, Café Lilly Pilly, Denmark Recreation Centre, Southern End Restaurant, Albany Blues Club, Matilda's Estate Winery TAFE Music Students' End of Term Concert, Robyn's (house concert), Denmark Community Market Live music Local Artists, Nornalup Teahouse, Denmark Primary School, Denmark Hill, Denmark Festival of Voice, The Fig on Strickland, Scout Hall, West Cape Howe Wines, Brave New Works #15 Big Show - music, performance, dance and puppetry, Bibbulmun Café, Denmark Visitor Centre W A T E R ... (the exhibition) Opening featuring emerging musicians & performances by Hypertheatre & others, Denmark Arts Markets The Denmark All Star Band Show, Valley of the Giants Café, Southern End Restaurant, Recipe for Jam National Youth Week Song Writing Workshops for Youth The Vancouver Arts Centre, Albany, Denmark Festival of Voice 2008 with a wide variety of voice workshops and blues, folk, world music, choirs, contemporary story telling, rapping, vocal percussion, Indigenous stories & bush poetry, The Wolery (house concert), 2008 Denmark Buskers Festival, , Denmark Music Foundation Bursary Competition showcasing potential candidates for the Dnk Music Foundation Bursary (\$3000 and opening for the John Butler Trio/The Waifs/Clare Bowditch Union of Soul Tour), Madfish Winery.

Artists: Billy Rufus & Band, Xave Brown & Band, Arons Crusade, Lez Karski & Band, Shaky Reed, Alan Keys, Toy Big Men Working Koolabar Drive, Southern Shades of Grey, Still, Baluji Shrivastav, Vicki, Mark Cain, Denmark Fiddlers, Mandala, Mat Lyons, the Fungals, Dave Rastrick, V'Vaci Early Music Ensemble, Albatross Trio, Shaky Reed, Alan Keys Trio, Sweetlip, Slap My Thighs & Call Me Barbra, Simone Keane, Blumanna, Damien Thornber, Emily Chris Edmondson, Keith Potger, Katie White, Hussy Hicks, the Quiet Excitement, Sam Carmody, the Warning Birds, The Untouchables, Katie White, Mary Greenaway, Andi Adams, Evan Holmes, Mr Sister CD Launch, Mel Robinson, Steve Richter, Mark Cresp, Matt Lyons, Sue Cunningham, Emma McKay, Andi Adams, Dave Rastrick, Paul Ubana, Jones Mister, Sunbird, Marie Limondin, Trevor Owen, Jarrah, Mardae Selepak, Colin Reeves, Minute 36, Miles To Go Trio, Mark Easton, The Moonlight Brothers, Steve Larkman, Brigid Morigan, Jeff Turnbull, Adam Hole, Marji Curran Trio, The Black Faction, Knipple, Two Song, Rabble Rabble, Flea Ridden Ferals, The Sneaky Weasel Gang, Mandala, Descarga & Dance, Wots-A-Name, Brother Malcolm Sister Sue, Cathy Fotios, Doris, The Vans, Simon London, Billy Rufus, Ross Seymour, Local dancers & video projection, CD launch Caravans of Colour, Luciole, Bexx Sharman, Matt Whittingstall, tony King, Jude Iddison, Two Left Feet, James Southwell, Toby & Band, The Comfort Zone, Xave Brown 'Whalebone Beach' CD launch, The Comfort Zone, Lin van Hek & Joe Dolce, the festival's artists in residence, will merge the community's stories & talents with their award winning production *Difficult Women*, Leon & Tara's ;The Mighty Quinn', The New Stiffs, Shanks' Pony, DJ Tim, Avril Steyl, Mandala & Afro-Brazilian Dancers, Joe dolce, Lin Van Hek, What About Molly, Ahina Trio, Mercureal Dance excerpt, Delta Forse & Southern Edge Arts Hip Hop Dancers, The Groovesmiths, Alan Burnfield, Gabrielle Scherrer, Irene Shaw, that 1 Guy, the Shingle Backs, Mahina Quartet, The Resonators, Miles To Go Trio, Husy Hick, Nervous, Totally Gourdgeous, Kavisha, Mazzella, Valanga Khoza, the Spooky Men of the West, Lena Trajkovska, Cobber WA's state champion yarn spinner, Denmark African Dancers & Drummers, Dream State Circus featuring Sophie and Jacob McGrath, Freya, Charlie Lemann, young Denmark fiddlers, Mark McGlue, Double Entendre, Flag twirling workshop with Amy Hastie, Hanly, The Wise Family Band, John butler Trio, The Waifs, Clare Bowditch, The Feeding Set.

## 2007

Venues, Events & Opportunities: Matilda's Estate Winery End of Year TAFE Music Students' Concert, Denmark Community Market Scout Hall with local artists and live music, The Fig on Strickland, Greenpool at Forest Hill, Southern End Restaurant, Wilson's Restaurant, West Cape Howe Wines, Denmark Civic Centre, CWA Hall, Denmark Tavern, Denmark Hotel, Karriview Wines, Robyn's (house concert), Musicians invited to perform at the Walk Against Warming, Denmark Country Club, Call for volunteers State Arts Conference, Bibbulmun Foods, Forest Hill Winery, Living Waters Pagan Festival, Matilda's Estate Winery, Karriview Wines, Anglican Hall, Civic Centre Charity Concert in aid of Medicins sans Frontieres, Denmark Youth Festival, Brave New Works #14, Leon & Tara's, Easter Markets, THE EXPECTATIONS Fundraiser for Denmark Community Collective Winter Firewood Appeal, Anglican Church, Observatory Restaurant, Denmark Boating & Angling Club, Denmark Surf Club Ocean Beach, The Wolery, Café Bazzo, DVT Pantomime 'Jill & the Beanstalk', Denmark Skate Park, Anglican Hall THE EXPECTATIONS *Christmas Hamper Fundraiser for Denmark Community Collective (Soupy). Meals & cuppas for sale.* Denmark Civic Centre CAROLS BY CANDLELIGHT with Denmark-Albany Brass Ensemble.

Artists: Lonely Brothers, Blumanna, The Sway, Sweetlip, Dave Rastrix, DJ K-Hawk, Jillaine Jones, Evan Holmes, Shaky Reed, Alan Keys Trio, Kyla Brox, Slap My Thighs & Call Me Barbra, Luciole, Mukti, Denim, Blue Shaddy, Lez Karski & Band, Repact, Mandala, Pete Stone, Xave Brown, Sue Cunningham, Katie White, Simone Keane, Ethan Benson, Bronton Ainsworth & Co, Rockin Eddie & Ray, Saz Lockyer, Graeme, Colin Reeves, Fungal Injection, A Dance Party, Jasmine Jones and The Creatures of Habit, Aaron McDougal, Mandala, Ivan Zar's Deltones, Lez Karski, Denim, Annabelle Harvey, Dreamtree, Songs Without Words Internationally renowned musicians Karin Schaupp & Genevieve Lacey, Repact, Toy Boyz, The Albany Sinfonia, Albany City Brass Band, Albany String Group Gaelic, TAFE music students mid-year gig, Oricle, the Expectations, Deltaforce, Death Lilly, Apex, V'Vaci, The Lonely Brothers, Clarke's Gray Vest, the Sway, Arons Crusade, Billy Rufus, Ross, Rusty Giggs, Sandy Dam, Daniel Martin, Dylan Grogan, Sarah Gamble, Peter Greenaway, Freya Hanly, David Hyams, DJ Jamoo, Twisted Logik, Rapt in Chains, Mr Speaker, West Australian Piano Trio, Electric Kora Land, DJ Tim Dunn, The New Stiffs, Shanks' Pony, DJ Tim, Steve Larkman, Sahara Bellydancers), Denmark African Dancers, Narasirato Pan Pipers with Tok Pan Tok, Acoustic Impedence, Noongar dancers & musicians, Trevor Corbett Youth Talent Quest, The Deadly Bunch presents Delta Force, Rapt In Chains,

Death Lily, Bec & Aero D, Midnight Mahina, Double Entendre, The Juice, Earl, Eddy Summers, *Soundscape meditation* with musicians Cathy, Barry & Marie, with Jude, "In Two Minds" A country rock musical featuring Luke Hewitt with music by Lee Buddle, Toby Red, Kyla Brox, Thrust the Oafs, Mr Sister, Bernard Carney, David Hyams, Khin Myint, Still, Sophie Jane, Beware The Groove, Simon Nield, Mike O'Shaughnessy, Andrejs Van Bufgel, Conan Greenway, Ashley Young, Claire Hollingsworth, Graeme Kontoolas, Flaming Sheilas, Naomi Tester, Cathy Fotios & Friends *Soundscape meditation*, Sky Rocket Fights, Double G, Matt Emmet, Lara Stevens, Jeffrey Newman, Tim Island, *Old Time comedy* TAFE CONCERT, Organikdance Golden Hill Steiner Schools, Susan Clarke, Tony King, Nadine Laphorne, Billy Rufus.

## **RESOURCES**

### **PLANNING AND INFORMATION**

Key plans for integration and compliment with Cultural Planning.

- Shire of Denmark Strategic Plan (Draft)
- Denmark Economic Strategy (In Development)
- Nornalup Character Study
- Denmark Community Park Concept Plan
- October 2008, Community Organisations Space Requirements Study, Old Hospital Advocacy Group, Phil Barnes.
- South Coast National Resource Management Committee – Cultural Heritage Mapping Wilson Inlet.
- Shire of Denmark Reconciliation Statement 1998.

### **LEADING SOURCES OF CULTURAL FUNDING**

#### **Federal**

Australia Council for the Arts

- Community Partnerships – funding for projects undertaken in partnership across communities, sectors or organisations.
- Arts grants in all artforms and for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander arts.

#### **State**

Department of Culture and the Arts

- Looking Forward – funding for regional projects undertaken in partnership.
- Cultural Facilities Fund – funding for the development of cultural facilities in partnership with Local Government.
- Arts grants across all artforms.

Great Southern Development Commission

- Funding supporting community capacity building.

Lotterywest



- A range of grants supporting community projects and the improved management and infrastructure of community organisations.

#### Country Arts WA

- A range of modest arts grants for artists and organisations in regional WA.

#### Community Arts Network

- Grants for community arts projects.

### Corporate partnerships and sponsorship

A growing field for the support of community organisations and projects. The Australia Business Arts Foundation provides a series of workshops relating to developing partnerships with business. ABAF's Arts Connecting Communities Program is offered to Local Government Authorities and supports increased understanding in the business sector of the value of supporting the arts, provides workshops for community organisations in the development of arts business partnerships and creates networking opportunities for local business and community organisations.

ABAF also provides business development workshops for visual artists.

### Philanthropic Support

Some of the key Philanthropic Foundations supporting community and cultural activity are:

#### International

**Alcoa Foundation** is a non profit US corporate foundation that actively invests in the quality of life in Alcoa communities worldwide.

<http://www.alcoa.com/global/en/community/foundation/overview.asp>

**American Express Foundation** supports visionary not-for-profit organisations that preserve and enrich diverse cultural heritage, develop new leaders for tomorrow and encourage community service where their employees and customers live and work. [www.americanexpress.com/corp/philanthropy](http://www.americanexpress.com/corp/philanthropy)

**BHP Billiton** participates in national social programs in addition to local community activities.

<http://www.bhpbilliton.com/bb/sustainableDevelopment/socialResponsibility/communityPrograms.AndFoundations.jsp>

**Christensen Fund** focuses its grantmaking on maintaining the rich diversity of the world—biological and cultural—over the long run, by focusing on five geographic regions. [www.christensenfund.org](http://www.christensenfund.org)

**Fred Hollows Foundation** is committed to improving the health of Indigenous Australians and to reducing the cost of eye health care and treatment in developing countries. <http://www.hollows.org.au/>

#### National

**Angior Family Foundation** is a perpetual charitable trust established by will, with a portion of the income to be paid to charities having as their main purpose the support of the performing arts in Australia. Email [royce\\_harris@national.com.au](mailto:royce_harris@national.com.au)

**Anna Wearne Trust** " will, by ensuring funds are provided to appropriate charitable institutions, create opportunities for young people to reach their

potential, where such potential is hampered due to disadvantage or inequality."

[www.annawearnetrust.org.au](http://www.annawearnetrust.org.au)

**ANZ Trustees Ltd** It is the sole trustee or co-trustee of approximately 400 charitable trusts, settlements and foundations.

[www.anz.com/aus/fin/Trustees/charitable\\_Grants.asp](http://www.anz.com/aus/fin/Trustees/charitable_Grants.asp)

**Balnaves Foundation** provides philanthropic support to organisations that aim to create a better Australia through the arts with a focus on young people, the disadvantaged and indigenous communities. [www.balnavesfoundation.com](http://www.balnavesfoundation.com)

**Besen Family Foundation** has been established to build on the philanthropic tradition that encompass three broad area- Arts and Culture, Health and Welfare and Jewish Interests. [www.besenfoundation.org.au](http://www.besenfoundation.org.au)

**Caledonia Foundation** is a private philanthropic foundation which seeks to make a significant, sustainable difference in the lives of disadvantaged young Australians through creative community partnerships.

[www.caledoniafoundation.com.au](http://www.caledoniafoundation.com.au)

**Colonial Foundation Trust** aims to make a positive contribution to society by supporting organisations that work to find solutions for those in need or improve the quality of community life. [www.colonialfoundation.org.au](http://www.colonialfoundation.org.au) (*Not currently accepting applications until March 2010*)

**Fosters Community Grants** aims to support high quality charitable and community outcomes by making cash grants to genuine not for profit groups.

[www.fosters.com.au/about/fosterscommunitygrants.htm](http://www.fosters.com.au/about/fosterscommunitygrants.htm)

**Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal** supports the development of regional community foundations, and uses seed funding and challenge grants to move regional development project funding into a more dynamic context.

[www.frrr.org.au](http://www.frrr.org.au)

**Foundation for Young Australians** is an independent national grant-making organisation, funding and working in partnership with youth-led projects, which aim to positively contribute to young people and their communities.

[www.youngaustralians.org](http://www.youngaustralians.org)

**Gordon Darling Foundation** supports visual arts programs undertaken by Public Institutions throughout Australia and assists in the dissemination of knowledge and enjoyment of the visual arts to as wide an audience as possible.

<http://www2.communitybuilders.nsw.gov.au/funding/2856.html>

**Graeme F Smith Peace Trust** supports grass roots projects that work for peace through the arts. [www.artspeacetrust.org/](http://www.artspeacetrust.org/)

**Harold Mitchell Foundation** joins with others who wish to improve our society to create positive change by recognising new opportunities in the arts.

[www.haroldmitchellfoundation.com.au](http://www.haroldmitchellfoundation.com.au)

**Holden Australia** provides support in many ways.

<http://www.holden.com.au/wwwholden/>

[jsp/environmentcommunity/environmentcommunity.jsp?link=communitysupport&heading=overview](http://www.holden.com.au/wwwholden/jsp/environmentcommunity/environmentcommunity.jsp?link=communitysupport&heading=overview)

**Ian Potter Foundation** makes grants for general charitable purposes in Australia that advance knowledge and benefit the community in the areas of the arts.

[www.ianpotter.org.au](http://www.ianpotter.org.au)

**IOOF Foundation** provides grants that support Australian not-for-profit organisations working with disadvantaged families, disadvantaged children and youth and aged care. [www.iooffoundation.org.au](http://www.iooffoundation.org.au)

**James N Kirby Foundation** distributes grants to charitable, educational and technical bodies throughout Australia in the areas of health, education, technology and science, art, literature.

PO Box 332, Broadway, NSW, 2007. Contact: Jocelyn Sinfield. Phone (02) 9212 2711

**John T Reid Charitable Trusts** support a range of creative and innovative arts and cultural projects and programs which would advance the interest of both individuals and groups. [www.johntreidtrusts.com.au](http://www.johntreidtrusts.com.au)

**Macquarie Group Foundation** focus on initiatives which help young people build skills, knowledge and appreciation of the arts. In particular they support programs that help young people from disadvantaged communities access arts education. [www.macquarie.com.au](http://www.macquarie.com.au)

**Matana Foundation for Young People** provide assistance to disadvantaged young people in Australia providing them with the opportunity to reach their full educational and social potential. [www.matanafoundation.org.au](http://www.matanafoundation.org.au)

#### **Western Australia**

**Feilman Foundation & Feilman Family Foundation** includes support of mainly visual arts and ballet, but not excluding the other arts, in Victoria and WA. 22 Cook Street, Crawley, WA 6009. Contact: Dr Margaret Feilman. Phone (08) 9389 5245

**Fogarty Foundation** fund projects that have a direct benefit to the community through encouraging endeavours in excellence through education, the community and in life. [www.fogartyfoundation.org.au](http://www.fogartyfoundation.org.au)

**Rio Tinto WA Future Fund** supports State-wide projects that contribute to a stronger and more sustainable Western Australia [www.wafuturefund.riotinto.com](http://www.wafuturefund.riotinto.com)

**HBOS Australia Foundation** is part of our commitment to corporate responsibility and recognises our role in helping to improve the lives of disadvantaged Australians. [www.hbos.com.au/corporate-foundation/](http://www.hbos.com.au/corporate-foundation/)

## **A MODEL OF ONGOING COMMUNITY CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND ENGAGEMENT**

### **City of Melbourne Cultural Development & Engagement Team**

The Cultural Development & Engagement Team creates opportunities for diverse communities to make, experience, participate in and contribute to an enlivened and accessible Melbourne. It achieves this through producing and funding cultural programs and projects and developing creative partnerships for artists and communities.

The Cultural Development & Engagement Team sits within the City of Melbourne's Arts and Culture branch.

[www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/ccd](http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/ccd)  
[www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/conversations](http://www.melbourne.vic.gov.au/conversations)

***OUR CULTURE, OUR VIEW***  
***SHIRE OF DENMARK COMMUNITY CULTURAL***  
***PLAN 2010 – 2015***  
**PART 3 – DOCUMENTATION**

PART 1: THE PLAN

PART 2: PROCESS, CONTEXT AND RESOURCES

PART 3: DOCUMENTATION



---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*An eastern opening of the inlet....stop the current siting of the windfarm....make sure there are lots of trees planted....more natural energy solutions – solar, grey water, wind energy, rainwater...we are doing well on the environment but don't relax....money for weed control, board walks....art/photographic competitions raising awareness of natural environment....urgent action for Wilson Inlet – a trial of eastern openings....educational nature walks....start putting people first....develop the parkland between hospital and river by plantings and paths....weeding programs....*

---

## **INFORMATION SHEET**

### **Published at commencement of project**

#### **Background**

The Shire of Denmark and Denmark Arts are undertaking a Community Cultural Plan for the communities within the Shire of Denmark.

#### **What is culture?**

Culture is created by us as members of society and is passed on and developed from generation to generation.

Culture includes:

- Our dreams, values, beliefs, customs and traditions, our history and our heritage and how we communicate these with each other.
- Our knowledge, art, morals, law and other capabilities and habits.
- Our shared experiences, memories and identity.
- How others see us.

Our culture can be seen through activities and places including:

The media	Film	Broadcast
Heritage buildings	Heritage places	Museums
Keeping places	Architecture	Landscaping
Residential buildings	Libraries	Writing
Literature	Commercial buildings	Public buildings
Sporting events	Sporting grounds	Streets, roads, paths
Recreational facilities	Recreational activities	Parks
The countryside	Wildlife habitat	Rivers, lakes
Shorelines and ocean	Cultural backgrounds	Religion
Tourism	Leisure pursuits	Our work
Commercial endeavours	Sacred places	Places of worship

#### **How can we plan for culture?**

Cultural planning is about identifying and celebrating the intangible and physical elements of community culture. Cultural planning brings people together to express what is most important now and into the future, for both the intangibles and the physical. Cultural planning is not about needs but is about shared aspirations. In cultural planning, the communication and celebration of values and aspirations are as important as the plan itself.

The Shire has an extraordinary arts community with a long history of contributing to and giving voice to the cultures of its diverse communities. Our Culture My View aims to bring together all the work that has been done, and build on it with further community consultation, including establishment of a Community Reference Group to oversee the process, a community wide survey and focus groups across diverse elements of the community.

The aim is to develop a 20 year cultural vision for the communities of the Shire, agreement of critical values and principles underpinning that vision, and agreement about the most important things to be developed over the next 5 years.

## **What do we get out of cultural planning?**

Our Culture My View will:

- Identify and celebrate the cultural assets and identity of the communities of the Shire of Denmark; and
- Provide the framework for the development of cultural initiatives in the future.

Our Culture My View will contribute to:

- A reinvigorated community.
- Greater community pride.
- Increased potential for partnering across groups, sectors and communities to increase the whole of community capacity to achieve shared objectives.
- Decisions that have community impacts are better informed and more relevant.
- A focus on opportunities that are inclusive of people regardless of ability, position or background and on behaviours contributing to positive, shared benefits.
- Within an environment of cultural diversity, there is stronger across-community communication, recognition and respect.

## **How do we make it work?**

- An action only gets included in the plan where there is a community or government body willing to assume leadership for it.
- With the identification of a leader, there will also be identification of other groups or bodies with an interest or role.
- Action plans will be developed by leaders in partnership with relevant groups and bodies.
- Reports will be made to an Our Culture Our View Committee twice yearly. The Committee will monitor implementation of the Plan, make adjustments as necessary and provide a public progress report once a year.

**For further information, please contact Our Culture Our View Coordinator Dawn Atkin on 0404 147 207.**

---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*Sustainable infrastructure to maintain healthy environment....agitate for the Shire to spend more on 'people' projects....prevent Denmark's urban sprawl looking like metro suburbs...walking, cycling, skateboarding, gophering, bussing – the preferred method for getting around urban Denmark....add a couple of roundabouts to make it safer for traffic....more bike and walk paths....make the surrounds of the hospital beautiful – cultural woad, sculpture, big trees, benches....plan for beauty....keep development high density in urban nodes....bus service to Albany....better public toilets*

---

**COMMUNITY SURVEY<sup>1</sup>**  
***For individuals and organisations***

*Culture is our dreams, values, beliefs, customs and traditions, our history and our heritage, our knowledge, morals and laws, our shared experiences, memories and identity, created and passed on by us as members of society from generation to generation. We express our culture through:*

- *Our buildings, streets, paths, parks and gardens*
  - *How we relate to our natural environment*
  - *Our sacred places*
  - *Our heritage*
  - *Our recreation and leisure*
  - *Our sport*
  - *Our art*
  - *Our work and business*
  - *And our connections and relationships across our community*
- 

***My view matters***

***Do not need to comment on everything - There are no wrong ideas***

---

**PRINCIPLES AND VALUES**

What do I think are the **three (tick no more than 3)** most important principles or values for Denmark's Cultural Plan?

The celebration of inspiration, creativity and innovation	
Community involvement	
Respect for and developing the capacity of people and communities	
Respect for the diversity and inclusion of communities and individuals	
Engagement in long-term planning/good business and management practice	
Reconciliation	
The safety of all communities, cultures and individuals	
Equity and social justice	
The pursuit of partnerships and cooperation	
Sustainability	
Respect for the natural environment	
Other (describe):	
Further comments:	

---

<sup>1</sup> Survey published November 2008, closed February 2009. Original Survey and responses available from the Shire of Denmark and Denmark Arts.

## VISION FOR THE FUTURE

Do not need to comment on everything – your view matters.

Over the next 20 years, what are the most important things I want preserved, developed or introduced **for the culture of the Shire of Demark?**

### My Comments

Buildings, streets, roads, paths, parks...
Natural environment...
Sacred places...
Heritage...
Recreation, leisure...
Sport...
Arts, media...
Work and business...
Relationships/connections across the community...
Other:



**ACTIONS FOR NOW**

Do not need to comment on everything – your view matters.

What are the most important things I think we should do now **for the culture of the Shire of Denmark?**

**My Comments**

Buildings, streets, roads, paths, parks...
Natural environment...
Sacred places...
Heritage...
Recreation, leisure...
Sport...
Art...
Work and business...
Relationships/connections across the community...
Other:

**MY PERSONAL DETAILS**

**My locale: (please circle)**

Denmark      Scotsdale      Tingledale      Kentdale      Parryville      Nornalup  
Peaceful Bay      Parry's Beach      William Bay      Wilson Inlet      Other

**My age: (circle)**

< 18      18 - 29      30 - 49      50+

**My gender: (circle)**

F      M

**IF I AM AN ORGANISATION OR COMMUNITY GROUP:**

**Name of my group or organisation:**.....

**Email Address:**.....

**Contact Ph Number:**.....

**Number of people involved with my group or organization each year (approximately):**

Members	
Visitors, clients, customers / audiences	
Volunteers	
Other participants ( <i>Describe</i> ):	

**Would you or your organisation like to be involved in a focus group considering the development of the cultural plan? (Please circle)      Yes      No**

**Please RETURN YOUR SURVEY to:**

- The Shire of Denmark, the Denmark Library, the Denmark Telecentre or the Denmark Recreation Centre; or
- By post, marked "Our Culture My View" to the Shire of Denmark, South Coast Highway, DENMARK WA 6333;
- By email, [Mel.Cheverton@denmark.wa.gov.au](mailto:Mel.Cheverton@denmark.wa.gov.au) ; or
- The Bow Bridge General Store.

**Additional survey forms can be obtained from the above centres, downloaded from or filled in online at [www.denmark.gov.au](http://www.denmark.gov.au) or [www.denmarkarts.com.au](http://www.denmarkarts.com.au)**

***THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO COMPLETE THIS SURVEY***

**For further information, please go to [www.denmark.wa.gov.au](http://www.denmark.wa.gov.au), or contact 'Our Culture: My View' Local Coordinator Dawn Atkin on 0404 147 207.**

---

***Our View – Voices of the people of the Shire***

*All planning approvals should abide by Council rules...all new buildings to comply with solar passive principles...a Denmark makeover...refuse developments that do not support our dream of being recognised as a sustainable community, retaining our rural feeling and incorporating art, environment and spirit into the design...work with local groups to bring absentee owners into our community rather than 48% of our rate base being hidden...comet to hour history in the CBD streetscape...historic precinct plan - interpretive signage.....slow and steady wins the race....integrated development*

---

## **DENMARK BULLETIN ARTICLES**

### **October 2008**

#### **Shire of Denmark Community Cultural Plan ... not just about the arts! ...**

The Shire of Denmark and Denmark Arts, with additional support from Community Arts Network WA, are undertaking the development of a Community Cultural Plan for the communities of the Shire of Denmark.

Liz Jack, Chairperson of the Denmark Arts Council and of the Cultural Planning Working Group says “Cultural planning is about identifying and celebrating the dreams, values, and beliefs of the people living in the Shire. It is about our customs and our history, and our social standards and laws. This is a very exciting and important project for us as citizens, and for the Shire in making decisions that affect us all.”

Jeanette Plowman, Shire of Denmark Councilor, is one of 5 members of the Cultural Planning Working Group. “The Shire has an extraordinary arts community that has long given voice to the dreams and issues of the people of Denmark. The Shire of Denmark Community Cultural Plan aims to build on what has been done with broad community consultation to identify and celebrate the cultural assets and identity of Denmark and provide the framework for the development of initiatives in the future.”

A Community Cultural Plan Reference Group is currently being established to oversee a community wide survey and focus groups to run through November and December. Dawn Atkin, Coordinator Shire of Denmark Community Cultural Plan encourages as many people as possible to get involved with the Cultural Plan. “Getting comments and ideas from as many residents of the Shire as possible is critical to its relevance and authenticity.”

**For further information, please go to [www.denmark.wa.gov.au](http://www.denmark.wa.gov.au), or contact Dawn Atkin, Coordinator, Shire of Denmark Community Cultural Plan on 0404 147 207.**

#### **Shire of Denmark Community Cultural Plan ... OUR CULTURE MY VIEW**

The Shire of Denmark with Denmark Arts have announced the appointment of the Our Culture My View Reference Group, including Andre Steyl, Valeska Wood, Sofie Lines, Bev McGuinness, Deborah Rice and Jane Blades. Additional members are being sought from the Denmark Telecentre, from business and agricultural interests and representing Indigenous views. The Reference Group has been appointed to champion the cultural planning process and to provide ongoing information and advice.

Alongside the appointment of the Reference Group is the publication of the Our Culture My View Community Survey. “The quality of cultural planning is dependent on including the views of as many people as possible. Discuss your ideas with your partner, your family. Complete a survey with your sporting group, environment group or other community organisation.” Deborah Rice encourages all residents and community groups to complete the survey.

“The Survey is a sharp tool. It’s fairly brief as these things go. It is asking us all to think very hard about the things that are most important. There’s certainly no room for wish lists – the survey is the first step in agreeing real action.” says Dawn Atkin, Our Culture My View Coordinator.

Additional copies of the Our Culture My View Community Survey can be obtained from the Shire of Denmark offices, and from the Denmark Library, Telecentre and Recreational Centre. Surveys can also be completed online or downloaded from [www.denmark.wa.gov.au](http://www.denmark.wa.gov.au). The Survey closes at the December markets ###.

**For further information, please go to [www.denmark.wa.gov.au](http://www.denmark.wa.gov.au), or contact Dawn Atkin, Our Culture My View Coordinator on 0404 147 207.**

## **December 2008**

I was born in Denmark and have lived here but for a few years and I feel our culture stems from the attitude, the strength of character, that open friendliness of the people who live and love Denmark. The drive to preserve the natural environment and improve within those boundaries goes back to the free settlers and the groupies, with their courage, determination and hard work, their wonderful picnics, football matches, dances and mateship. I see this is the building block of Denmark's culture.

What do I love about Denmark? This is very hard to define ..... I love that dark, serene river on a clear day when the reflections of the karri trees go deep, deep. When I was kid and even when I was first married, everyone knew everyone. It was a rare thing to see a stranger in town. Now I could go to town and not see anyone I know. I met this lady the other day and I asked her did she live in Denmark and she said, 'I have been here for 17 years': 17 years, and I'd never seen her, I could hardly believe it.

But I loved those people of my childhood, the shop keepers, the farmers, the mill workers, they were such characters, sort of wild and colourful who did crazy things for fun yet helped their neighbours at the drop of a hat. And the dances: every Saturday night there was a dance somewhere, satin dresses, taffeta and tulle dresses in bright colours. My Mum played the piano for the Scotsdale hall dances and I would not get under the seats to go to sleep until the 12 dancing princesses came (they were the young teenage girls of the day. They would come into the hall in a group in their beautiful long gowns ... God... it was so exciting, like a fairy story)

How to improve Denmark? Environmentally, Do nothing ... leave it as it is ... In town I would like to see that market place in the centre of town .... Something like what is on the cut off corner in Peel Place Albany, but bigger..... and I would like to see a mini tree top walk going off the end of Strickland Street, high in the karri trees, to the youth centre and rec centre but they are just my dreams for the town. And more trees planted in the actual town.

Please note Denmark is a **town**, not a village ... village is an English word, it is not Australian .... Let's be true to Australia ... no Scotsdale Brook, it is Scotsdale CREEK, don't change the names of roads when they have been called a certain name for years .... (the Powleys came to DNK in 1907, they walked out to their block through the bush, Mum, Dad and 3 little kids) and later made a road to their farm using axes and a horse. It was called Powley Road. Then about 10 years ago it was changed to Jackson road, named after an English family that had been here about 5 years and have now left and I could name other roads that have changed) Yes, use the pioneers names for the roads, parks etc .... I would like to see a mural, depicting the lives of the settlers, painted in sepia (with a hint of green and a splash of blue) on one of the towns blank walls (Reeves Butchers or the Surf Shop) I would like to see a Group House (not called a settlers cottage ... we all lived in group houses) erected perhaps in the old hospital grounds with all the stark facts of life that these people had to cope with, but plant the pink dog roses around the door... everyone had them.

I love the trees, especially the Karris, the weather, the stories of the first settlers, the people of that era and the enthusiasm of the new settlers. But I guess the best part for me is that Denmark is my home, my roots are here .... I like to go into the untouched forest and just sit and let the silence flow around me ... it's very good therapy.

As I said, how to assist improvement ... the less we do the better ... be careful all you new enthusiasts ... progress is not always the answer ...sometimes doing nothing is a better solution. Didn't you come to DNK because you loved it as it is ... well?

How to appreciate the pioneers ....My sister recently said a film should be made of the time of our childhood years before it is too late and we are not around to advice. I thought she was a bit nuts at the time but on thinking about it, yes, if it was possible it would be great ... you want colour in a community ... well there was certainly colour then. The rest I wrote last night about my ideas for town.

Tidy Towns originally was formed to help keep the town tidy, paint the street furniture, the curbing in the streets, pick up, clean up, but now it is all about the environment and what is DNK doing about it. I feel DNK has reached the peak of the subjects needed in the criteria and we need to go back to cleaning up the district and seeing that what we have is kept in good order... paths, trails, gardens, parks, those sorts of things. I personally don't think the Tidy Towns awards are of much value to DNK ... we are on the map now and we won't go away.

**Carole Powley**

## **January 2009**

### **Shire of Denmark Community Cultural Plan ... OUR CULTURE MY VIEW**

#### ***Community Survey – Deadline extended to 28 February 2009***

More than 100 responses to the Our Community My View Survey have been received to date: 2/3 of responses have come from women, 40% from people over 50 and the majority from people aged 30 and 49.

The celebration of inspiration, creativity and innovation, respect for and the development of the capacity of people and communities, sustainability and respect for the natural environment are leading as core values.

There is consistent acknowledgement of the diversity and need to maintain the recreational, leisure and sporting activities available and pursued by the community, including the desire for a local indoor pool.

There is strong focus on the importance of Denmark's natural beauty and the need to balance the built environment with the preservation of our natural environment, respect for and protection of sacred places and our local settlement and Noongar heritage.

There is a solid call for more prominent acknowledgement of diversity of artistic expression and practice within the Shire. This is articulated through desire to see a Community Cultural Centre and Public exhibition space to accommodate visual and performing arts, music and cultural activities in the Town of Denmark

Our business community is considered strong, and is encouraged to use creative engagement across community. There are consistent calls for increased training opportunities for small business development. The key action identified for community development is the establishment of a coordinated central community database and network strengthening the links between community groups and businesses. There is also repeated mention of examining the feasibility of a community bus service to support access to community events and facilitate economic ties and opportunities with Albany.

There are strong sentiments for a stronger and vigilant Denmark in accommodating the challenges of depression and addiction.

The Our Culture: My View Cultural Plan Survey deadline has been extended so fill out your copy now. More information and Surveys can be accessed online at [www.denmarkarts.com.au](http://www.denmarkarts.com.au) or [www.denmarkwa.gov.au](http://www.denmarkwa.gov.au) or collected from the Shire of Denmark offices, Denmark Library and Recreational Centre and the Telecentre.

We are currently organising focus groups so if you think your community group should be part of this process please contact **Dawn Atkin, Our Culture My View Coordinator on 0404 147 207.**

## March 2009

### Shire of Denmark Community Cultural Plan... OUR CULTURE OUR VIEW

#### *OUR CULTURE MY VIEW – OUR CULTURE OUR VIEW*

“Welcome to the Culture Café”, says Liz Jack, Chairperson of the Denmark Arts Council. “The Culture Café will be open for all comers, providing people with a smorgasbord of actions for the next 5 years. Make your selection and have a chat about the draft Our Culture Our Vision 2029 and Values.”

The aim of the culture café is to get your input about what is important. Bring your family, bring your friends.

How important is a Cultural Centre? What do we mean by greater acknowledgement and understanding of Noongar Culture? Should we apply a “beauty test” to new buildings? Can we get together for a performance by the ocean to celebrate the surf club’s 60<sup>th</sup>? Do we want a town square? What is the value of a register of community organizations? These are just a taste of the ideas on offer.

The Culture Café will take place at the Centre for Sustainable Living, South Coast Highway, Denmark. Doors will be open between 10.00 a.m. and 4.00 p.m. on Easter Sunday and Monday, 12 and 13 April 2009.

The draft Our Culture Our Vision 2029 and Values are also available for comment at [www.denmark.wa.gov.au](http://www.denmark.wa.gov.au), DAC, Telecentre. Comments close 30 April 2009.

The Shire of Denmark and Denmark Arts Council thank all those who submitted surveys and participated in focus groups. “The challenge for us now is distilling individual views into a collective vision; Turning My View into Our View”, says Cr Ken Richardson-Newton.

**For further information about the Culture Café or to comment on the draft Our Culture Vision 2029 and Values, please go to [www.denmark.wa.gov.au](http://www.denmark.wa.gov.au), DAC or Telecentre, or contact Dawn Atkin, Our Culture Our View Coordinator on 0404 147 207.**

## April 2009

### Shire of Denmark Community Cultural Plan... OUR CULTURE OUR VIEW

#### *OUR CULTURE MY VIEW – OUR CULTURE OUR VIEW*

The Our Culture Our View Culture Café, held over Easter Sunday and Monday, saw nearly 70 people of all ages taking time to view, to comment and to discuss actions for community culture.

“Affordable and sustainable housing that ensures that Denmark’s young people, its seniors, its artists and its niche businesses can continue to live and work here continues to bubble through as a lead issue.” Says Carol Whish-Wilson, the Our Culture Our View Consultant. “Other issues that caused a lot of discussion included development of a Community Park and Garden, development of a Town Square and making arts a more visible part of the fabric of the Shire including more public artwork and the development of a cultural or arts centre”.

The future of services enabling births in Denmark was a new issue brought to the discussion.

The end of May will see a meeting of relevant community, Shire and Government organisations and agencies for the identification of leaders for specific actions.

Copies of the Culture Café Report and the draft Our Culture Our Vision 2029 and Values are available for comment at [www.denmark.wa.gov.au](http://www.denmark.wa.gov.au), [www.denmarkarts.com.au](http://www.denmarkarts.com.au) and # Telecentre.

Comments close 30 April 2009 and can be submitted to Denmark Arts or be emailed to [carolww@bigpond.com](mailto:carolww@bigpond.com) or [dawnatkin@westnet.com.au](mailto:dawnatkin@westnet.com.au).

**For further information about the Shire of Denmark Community Cultural Plan, please contact Dawn Atkin, Our Culture Our View Coordinator, on 0404 147 207 or at [dawnatkin@westnet.com.au](mailto:dawnatkin@westnet.com.au)**

**May 2009**

**Shire of Denmark Community Cultural Plan... OUR CULTURE OUR VIEW**

***OUR CULTURE MY VIEW – OUR CULTURE OUR VIEW***

The Our Culture Our View Culture Café, held over Easter Sunday and Monday, saw nearly 70 people of all ages taking time to view, to comment and to discuss actions for community culture.

“Affordable and sustainable housing that ensures that Denmark’s young people, its seniors, its artists and its niche businesses can continue to live and work here continues to bubble through as a lead issue.” Says Carol Whish-Wilson, the Our Culture Our View Consultant. “Other issues that caused a lot of discussion included development of a Community Park and Garden, development of a Town Square and making arts a more visible part of the fabric of the Shire including more public artwork and the development of a cultural or arts centre”.

The future of services enabling births in Denmark was a new issue brought to the discussion.

The end of May will see a meeting of relevant community, Shire and Government organisations and agencies for the identification of leaders for specific actions.

Copies of the Culture Café Report and the draft Our Culture Our Vision 2029 and Values are available for comment at [www.denmark.wa.gov.au](http://www.denmark.wa.gov.au), [www.denmarkarts.com.au](http://www.denmarkarts.com.au) and # Telecentre. Comments close 30 April 2009 and can be submitted to Denmark Arts or be emailed to [carolww@bigpond.com](mailto:carolww@bigpond.com) or [dawnatkin@westnet.com.au](mailto:dawnatkin@westnet.com.au).

**For further information about the Shire of Denmark Community Cultural Plan, please contact Dawn Atkin, Our Culture Our View Coordinator, on 0404 147 207 or at [dawnatkin@westnet.com.au](mailto:dawnatkin@westnet.com.au)**

