

LOWER KALGAN COMMUNITY PLAN OVERVIEW



Lower Kalgan Community Association Incorporated

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Prepared and developed by the LKCA Committee

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Ken Matts (some photos)
City of Albany

WHO WE ARE

The Lower Kalgan Community Association is a not-for-profit community group located in the historic Lower Kalgan district, approximately 18 kms east of the centre of Albany, WA.

The Lower Kalgan area includes the surrounding areas of the Kalgan River from the Upper Kalgan Bridge to Oyster Harbour, Gull Rock National Park and Two People's Bay reserve.

According to the ABS Census, the Kalgan District (including Upper and Lower Kalgan) has a population of 800 and 200 families. There are approximately 100 members in the Lower Kalgan Community Association.

It is recognized as a pristine natural playground, one of the earliest farming districts in Western Australia, and a community which is expanding with new residents, families and retirees.

The Lower Kalgan Community Association (previously known as the Lower Kalgan Progress Association) is:



a **link** to information and communication for the Lower Kalgan community



the **custodian** of the Lower Kalgan Hall and the Bridge Park Reserve, on the banks of the Lower Kalgan River



a **supporter and enabler** of community events and activities within the Lower Kalgan area.

The Lower Kalgan Hall is located on Nanarup Road and is the central heart and the home of the historic Lower Kalgan Community Association (LKCA).

OUR VISION

A connected, healthy, safe and resilient community

OUR HISTORY

Albany was the original settlement in WA. Access to the north east of Albany was barred by the rivers that flowed into Oyster Harbour. As the settlement developed, the Kalgan River was crossed some miles upstream, then by boat, a manual ferry, and even a flying fox. Such difficulty of access restricted development in the area until the Lower Kalgan Bridge was built, over 100 years ago and helped to spread the settlement quickly.

In those days, the Kalgan River valley was so remote that settlers were heavily dependent upon one another. As they settled in, they formed a succession of organizations to represent their

common interests. Informal to start with, it led to the formation of the original Settlers Association (1926). It underwent a sequence of name changes, splits and amalgamations over the years until being incorporated as the Lower Kalgan Progress Association (LKPA). In 2017 the LKPA underwent a name change, to the more contemporary Lower Kalgan Community Association (LKCA).

Formed over 95 years ago, the Lower Kalgan Community Association continues to represent the common interests of neighbours in a rural community and remains the glue that binds them together.

OUR KEY CHALLENGES



A CONNECTED COMMUNITY

With busy lives, we try hard to stay connected. The pool of volunteers and those able to lend a hand sometimes diminishes with the generations. Reinforcing the importance of community, staying in touch and contributing in any capacity remains essential for our community's health, well being and safety.



OUR HISTORIC ASSETS

Unlike many community organisations, we are vested with the responsibility and upkeep of two of the most important community assets in the district: the historic Lower Kalgan Hall and the Bridge Park recreational reserve.

These facilities require ongoing maintenance and upkeep to ensure they will be here for future generations to enjoy.



OUR NATURAL ENVIRONMENT

Surrounded by National Parks, reserves and pristine waterways we are all connected to the land. Sustaining and supporting our fragile natural environment is an imperative. We need to support key groups who maintain the reserves. We all need to do our part to look after our properties in an environmentally sustainable and ethical way.

The challenges and opportunities were identified through a community survey, members workshop and in discussion with the LKCA Committee.

OUR VALUES & PRINCIPLES

WE VALUE:

- Our space and the natural environment and surroundings
- The safe, friendly and welcoming nature of our community

WE RESPECT:

- The tradition and history of those who came before us

WE APPRECIATE:

- The way our community comes together
- How we look out for each other
- The diversity of the people that make up our community



CONNECTED

To continue to connect our community through regular community events and activities.

To encourage and extend the use of the Hall for social events and celebrations

What will we do?

QUARTERLY

- ✓ With support from our members, hold regular community social events, such as:
 - Neighbourhood days
 - Movie nights
 - Produce swap markets

ANNUALLY

Hold annual open community events such as:

- ✓ Lower Kalgan Pumpkin Fair
- ✓ Lower Kalgan Art Trail
- ✓ Lower Kalgan Christmas Tree

BY END OF 2022

- ✓ Plan, develop and deliver a series of community themed talks/activities covering
 - Art/History/Culture
 - Safety
 - Food and Wine
 - Nature
- ✓ Include activities and events for youth, children and families
- ✓ Plan, develop and trial holiday youth sport & recreation activities, in conjunction with other organisations

HOW WILL WE MEASURE OUR SUCCESS?

- ✓ Events held and community support
- ✓ Community survey and feedback
- ✓ Increase in revenue
- ✓ Ideas and suggestions for other events



OUR PEOPLE

To promote the benefits of being part of our community.

To encourage more people within the Lower Kalgan region to be involved.



What will we do?

ANNUALLY

- ✓ Personally invite people to be involved – what can you do, how would you like to help?
- ✓ Continued use of social media and web-page
- ✓ Welcome Pack for new residents (linked through neighbours and real estate agents)
- ✓ Community Champions – engage, encourage and entice
- ✓ Survey members and undertake skills audit

BY END OF 2021

- ✓ Cross promotion with Upper Kalgan community
- ✓ Short video series on our website, with snapshots on our community
- ✓ Additional Committee member - Communication and Marketing

BY END OF 2022

- ✓ All committee positions filled
- ✓ Succession plan in place

HOW WILL WE MEASURE OUR SUCCESS?

- ✓ Increase in membership
- ✓ More people volunteering
- ✓ Number of social media likes/hits
- ✓ At least 50% of residents members

PLACES

Our community assets are well used, well managed and well maintained.



What will we do?

ANNUALLY

- ✓ Bridge Park Reserve Busy Bee and Plantings
- ✓ Kalgan Community Hall Busy Bee

BY END OF 2021

- ✓ Hall internal and external improvements costed and prioritised
- ✓ Confirm alignment with Fire Brigade Shed
- ✓ Consider and clarify access and usage of Bridge Park by recreational user groups

BY END OF 2022

- ✓ Stage 2 Hall internal improvements - painting, community memorabilia, security
- ✓ Stage 2 Hall external improvements - parking, floodlighting, entry statement, tennis court decommissioning
- ✓ Community Notice Boards - at Bridge Park and Lower King Store
- ✓ Install seating and shelter at Bridge Park

BY END OF 2023

- ✓ 10 year Facility Master Plan completed

HOW WILL WE MEASURE OUR SUCCESS?

- ✓ Hall usage increased
- ✓ Community survey and increased awareness
- ✓ Increased use of Bridge Park for passive and active recreation
- ✓ Facility Master Plan Completed and staged projects identified