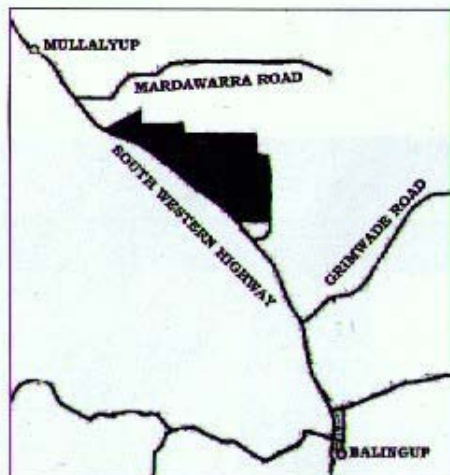


northwest of Balingup.



### Background

In 1999 the Balingup community identified bushland in three adjoining reserves. Together these reserves provided abundant flora, along with other high conservation values, and were considered worthy of protection. The reserves included the site of the old racetrack and gymkhana. The three reserves are now amalgamated and vested with the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup as one 'A' class reserve for the purpose of conservation and recreation.

The reserve (approximately 108 ha) is an island of bushland surrounded by cleared land. It straddles the Mullalyup Brook/ Balingup Brook divide and is underlain by the Kirup Conglomerate, a geological formation uncommon in the area.

While some areas within the reserve are degraded from previous activities, many areas are in very good condition. The Balingup Friends of the Forest, with the help of supporters, continue to both protect the high conservation value bush and restore degraded areas.

In spring, the reserve becomes a blaze of colour, with an amazing abundance and diversity of wildflowers. Each week of spring sees change until early December. *Banksia grandis* (Bull Banksia) is one of the last plants to flower, with its wonderful bright yellow candle, which then forms into the well-known Banksia 'seed' or 'nut'.

A copy of the herbarium for the reserve is held at the Balingup Tourist Bureau. The herbarium contains photocopies of the plants identified on the reserve, along with their botanical names.

Native Buttercup  
Sundews, various  
Trigger Plants  
Tassel Flower  
False Boronia  
Fan Flowers  
Fringe Lily  
White Myrtle  
Bluebell  
Native Violet  
Golden Shower  
Running Postman  
Native Wisteria  
Purple Hovea  
Pepper and Salt  
Honeypot Dryandra  
Wattle species, e.g. Prickly Moses,  
Golden Wreath  
Orchids, e.g. Cowslip, Donkey, Spider,  
Sun orchids, Enamel  
Candle Cranberry (red flowering)  
Banjines  
Flag Lily (yellow and purple)  
Old Man's Beard  
Southern Cross  
Granny's Bonnet  
Kangaroo Paw  
Milkmaids  
Tetradleas (pink flowers)  
Yellow Candles



*Honeyeaters use their long tongues to feed on blossoms and insects among the leaves.*

Though most of the flowers bloom in the springtime, the forest is alive and you will be able to find something in flower at any time of the year.

*Owls sleep in tree hollows during the day, but at night come out to prey on rats, mice, frogs and other small animals.*



# Racecourse Flora Reserve



Prepared with assistance from  
the Shire of Donnybrook-Balingup

# RACECOURSE FLORA RESERVE WALK TRACKS



**The times allotted are based on a relaxed pace, ideal for enjoying the forest.**