



Visions for an ideal healthy built environment

An interactive exercise to vision the healthy built environments we should all aim for was a key part of the **Making It Happen Symposium** held by the Healthy Built Environments Program (HBEP) on 7 April 2014 at the University of NSW. The aim of the Symposium was to explore different ideas about activating healthy built environments, reinforcing the HBEP's work over the last four and a half years in getting many of the foundations for a healthy built environment in place.

The visioning exercise was led by Professor Peter Sainsbury. Working in small groups, the Symposium attendees were asked to suspend judgements or cynicism about practicalities and logistics and freely explore how they would like to live in the future - reflecting on the bigger picture and our deepest hopes for a healthy and sustainable future. Participants responded enthusiastically, prompted also by the two earlier inspiring keynote presentations by Jonathan Daly and Dr Iain Butterworth.

The following statements are a summary of the ideas each group developed through their discussions. The accompanying illustrations by Emily Mitchell, HBEP Senior Research Officer, inspired by the visioning exercise, also highlight some of these key ideas.



HBEP Making It Happen Symposium
07.04.2014 @ Scientia UNSW

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Visioning a Healthy Built Environment Seminar - Outcomes Report

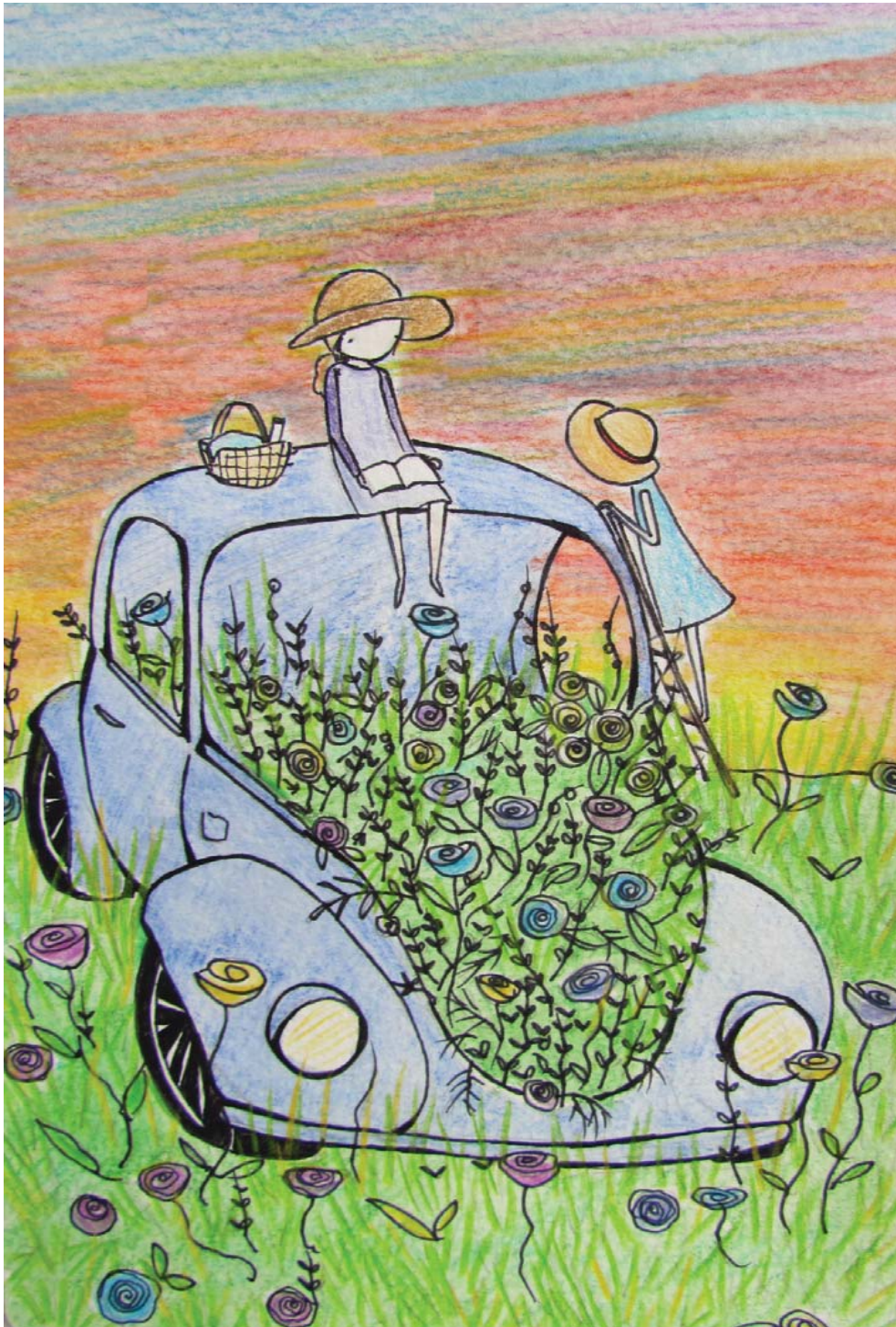
Never Stand Still

Built Environment

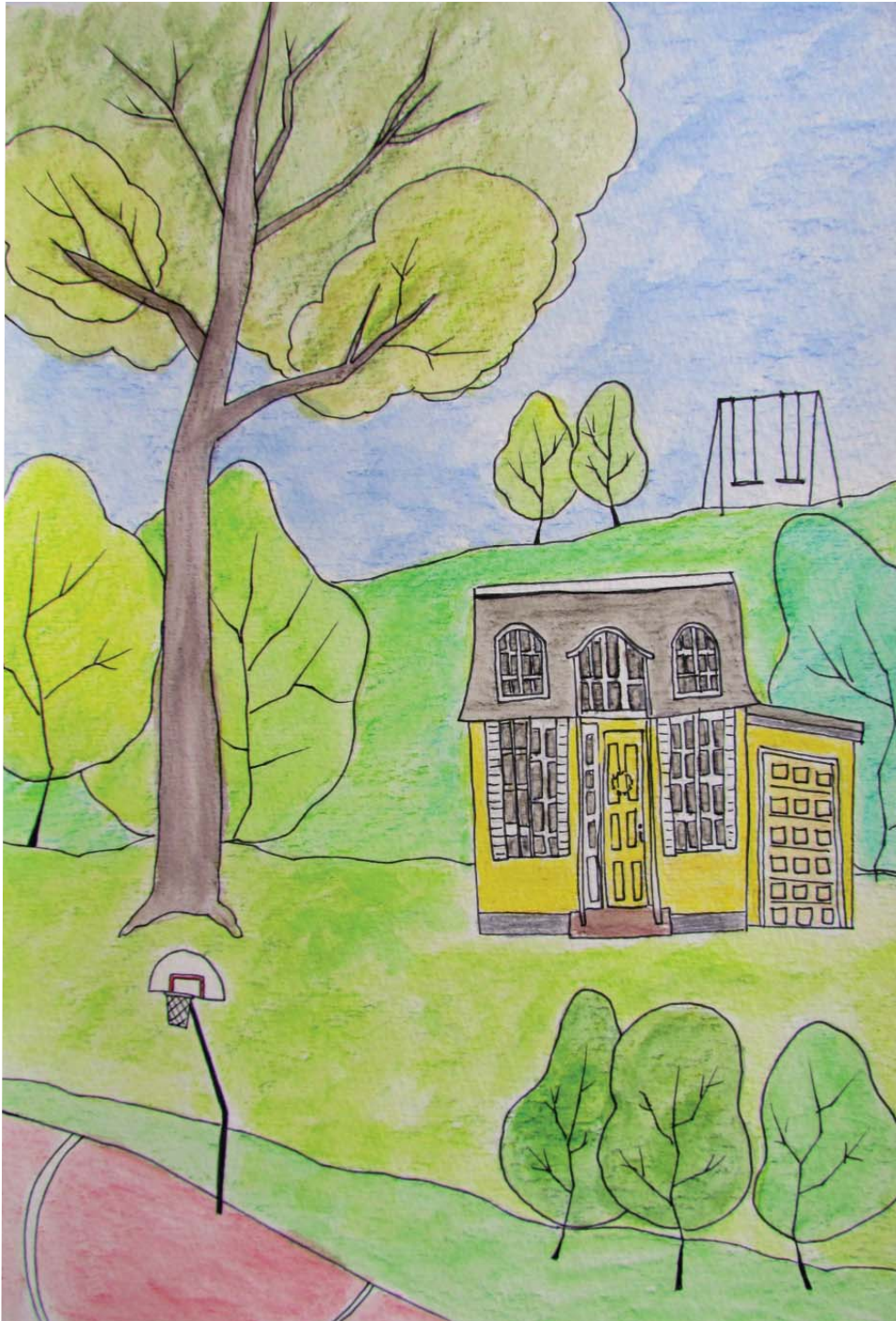
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Vibrant, connected places that are close by and pleasurable, where people and place are prioritised over cars and traffic.

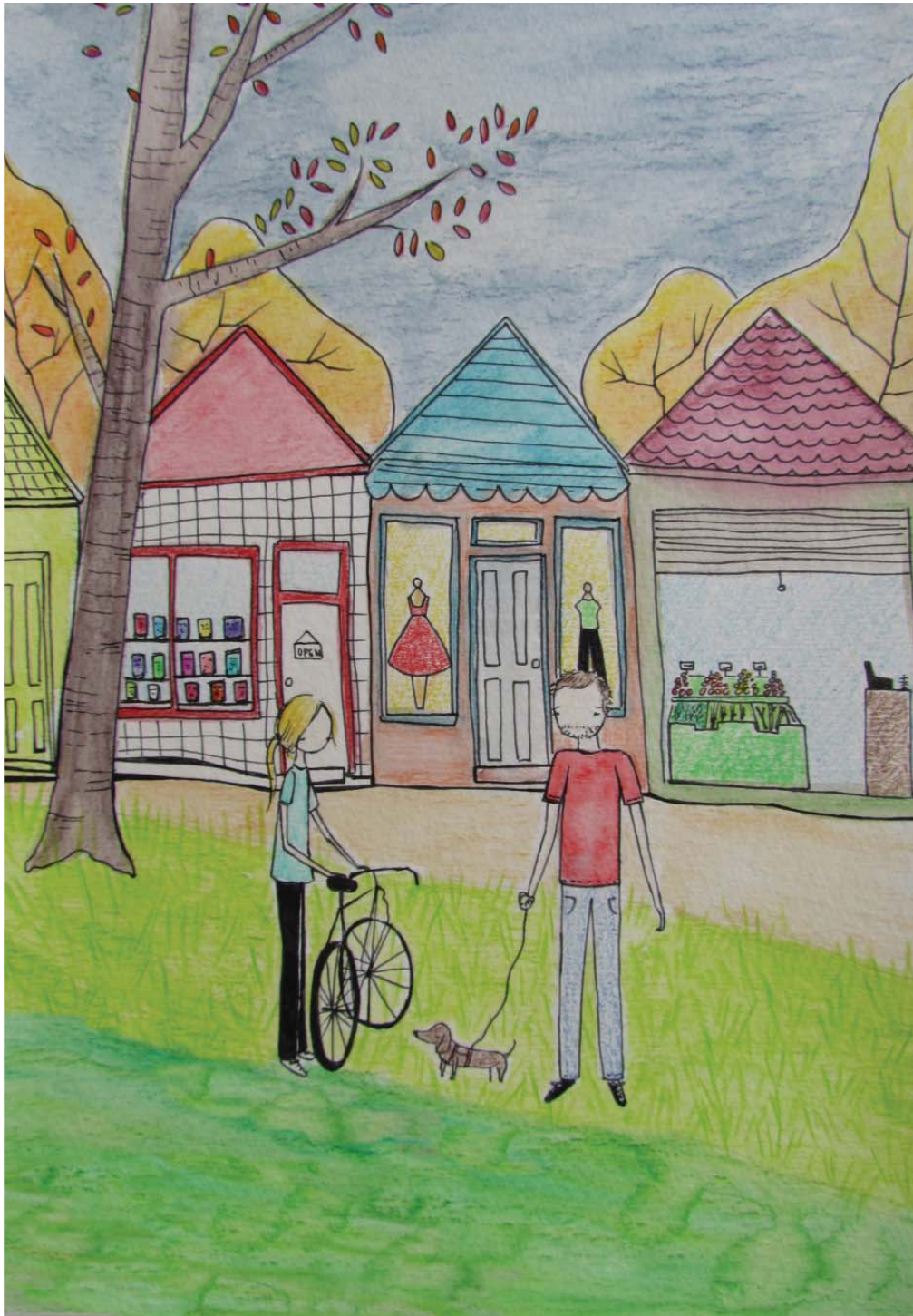


Open sunny comfortable homes, surrounded by plentiful local green spaces that promote community interaction and activity for all age groups.

Our ideal environment is an intimate community that provides community life and opportunities for solitude, and has sustainable green spaces, and promotes access and opportunities for all kinds of people.



A city shared with trees and animals, with transport that is wonderful (efficient, energising, engaging). This city is in touch with natural cycles (light/dark, hot/cold, food cycle). This city is alive (socially and ecologically connected).



The space, design and green environment of our ideal city promotes active living, allows for convenience and gives us greater flexibility and time to enjoy our lives.

Human paced, socially interactive (across generations), where village life accommodates a variety of small scale entrepreneurs, and we walk to work and can access restorative open spaces.



In a beachside village of mixed density - our house is open, has a pleasant outlook and is close to public space where people can gather, converse and enjoy, and can walk to food sources.

Short active trips to work, school, leisure and services via edible urban interactive foodscapes and open space, in a sunny village with plentiful free time.



THE HEALTHY BUILT ENVIRONMENTS PROGRAM

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