



December 2023

# SHIRE OF VICTORIA PLAINS

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YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

Drawing by: Hallie Edmonds  
Year 2  
Calingiri Primary School



# From the Shire President: Pauline Bantock



December has arrived and another year has flown by. The early finish of harvest has felt rather strange. While the lack of yield has been a shame, I must focus on the positive aspects. I've seen members of the community get together before the year comes to a close.

Socialising is so important for our mental health, and we often express the desire to catch up with friends and family more. We should grab this opportunity to reconnect with those we cherish.

The Shire has continued to progress through our schedule as we close out 2023.

Councillor Woods, Lovelock and Johnson joined me for part two of the council induction. The 3 hour session covered many topics. While there are different levels of experience within our Council, we all took away worthwhile information and enjoyed the entire session.

After our training session, we moved into the Audit Committee, and I thank our members for selecting me as Chair of the Committee. The Auditors and representative from the State Government's Auditor General met with us via teleconference. The Shire should be very proud of the audit result, delivering our best result in recent memory. The focus areas change each year and foster continual improvement in the local government sector.

After the Audit Committee, Cr Penn joined the rest of Council for the December OCM. We conducted an early budget review as of 30<sup>th</sup> September, which coincided with the final Audit of the 22-23 financials. A surplus is predicted however a cautious approach will continue as we progress through the remainder of the year.

Council commenced the annual CEO performance review which must be completed by February. Council authorised the Shire President to liaise with the CEO and appoint an independent facilitator to guide Council through the process.

Council entered confidential session to discuss the 2024 Australia Day arrangements. It was pleasing to see a number of community groups put their hand up to hold the event. Council selected the Calingiri Club as the host, and we look forward to working with their committee to make the day a big success. We also thank the community for submitting nominations for the 2024 Community Citizen of the Year Awards. The winners will be announced on the 26<sup>th</sup> of January.

On behalf of the Victoria Plains Shire Council, I wish you a happy and safe Christmas. I hope you get a chance to relax and refresh. I encourage you to look after each other and remember the real things that are important in life.

I look forward to working with our community to make 2024 even more productive.

Kind Regards,

**Cr. Pauline Bantock**  
Shire President



# From the Chief Executive Officer: Sean Fletcher



I know I don't have to remind you how quickly the year has passed by. For the Shire, 2023 has been one of significant change and also in terms of delivering projects put on hold previously and with very good improvements to our services and facilities. For such a small local government., we are punching above our weight and I have my staff and the support of Council to thank for that.

From a good governance point of view, the Shire has a very strong result regarding its level of compliance, risk and financial management. The 2022/2023 annual audit was highly successful, with one low value finding. This is a substantial improvement on the previous year's seven findings. The Shire's level of compliance exceeded expectations and a new risk profile was implemented.

In terms of our strategic priorities, Council and I, along with my management team were able to deliver on a number of key objectives including: effective seniors activities (Senior's Christmas in July lunch), the ongoing employment of the community development officer, and the successful rollout of the revised community grants.

We were also able to continue our support regarding a number of successful community events including Australia Day and Anzac Day. We completed year one of a five year program to replace key plant, improved drainage infrastructure (Old Plains Rd Elbow), installed the new inspection hatches to the Yerecoin Sewerage Scheme and successfully installed the new amenities at the Bolgart Caravan Park.

We also implemented the Shire's key informing strategies i.e. the corporate business plan (Implementation plan), the long term financial plan, asset management plan and workforce plan. We also selected a new operating system (ERP), which is being rolled out right now. Also, we have undertaken effective representation at the regional level (AROC, the Avon Midland Zone and the Northern Wheatbelt Regional Road Group).

A key objective this year was to catchup on the WSN Mogumber-Yarawindah Road project as well as deliver this year's program. I am pleased to advise that we were able to deliver nearly 9kms of upgrades for this road at a cost of \$3.7M. This now leaves the final 3.2kms to be undertaken in 24/25.

A key priority for me has been to work more closely with all six community representative bodies and New Norcia. I believe we have started to bridge some key gaps in this regard including being able to catch up with each group and staff and I attending meetings where possible. This has been reflected through the budget roadshows in Mogumber and Bolgart this year, helping some of these groups receive grant funding, providing improvements to local facilities as requested and letters of support regarding grant funding opportunities.

Under the Tranche One Local Government Reforms, Council resolved to reduce the number of councillors from seven (7) to five (5). Also, as part of the required transition pathway, Council abolished all wards, effective from the October 2023 local government elections. The latter is mandatory for all Class 3 and Class 4 local governments. The Shire is a Class 4 local government.

Finally, I would like to share some lyrics from my favourite Christmas song – Have Yourself a Merry Little Christmas from the movie Meet Me in St Louis and sung by Judy Garland:

Have yourself a merry little Christmas  
Let your heart be light  
From now on  
Our troubles will be out of sight  
Have yourself a merry little Christmas  
Make the yuletide gay  
From now on our troubles will be miles away

# Continued from the Chief Executive Officer: Sean Fletcher



Here we are as in olden days  
Happy golden days of yore  
Faithful friends who are dear to us  
Gather near to us, once more

Through the years  
We all will be together  
If the Lord allow  
Hang a shining star  
Upon the highest bough  
And have yourself a merry little Christmas right now

Here we are as in olden days  
Happy golden days of yore  
Faithful friends who are dear to us  
Gather near to us, once more

Through the years  
We all will be together  
If the Lord allow  
Hang a shining star  
Upon the highest bough  
And have yourself merry little Christmas now

Kind Regards,  
**Sean Fletcher**  
Chief Executive Officer



## Confidential Matters

When sending confidential matters to the Shire,  
please ensure emails are  
forwarded to

[reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au](mailto:reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au)

Labelled 'Private and Confidential'



## NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION CUTOFF

Newsletter submissions are due by  
4:00pm on the last Friday of the month.

All submissions to be emailed to:  
[candice.watson@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au](mailto:candice.watson@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au)

Late submissions may not be accepted.

# From the Community Development Officer: Katrina Humphries



On the 2<sup>nd</sup> of December we held the Shire of Victoria Plains Movie Night that was funded by the CBH Grass Roots Program. It turned out to be a great night (a bit chilly) with about 60 people turning up to watch the movie *The Nutcracker & The Four Realms* on a big 6 meter inflatable movie screen. We had the Mobile Thai food van there for anyone wanting to purchase dinner and Calingiri Progress Association selling popcorn and refreshments as a fundraiser.

Our Seniors Bingo Fun morning was held on the 8<sup>th</sup> of December with a bit of a Christmas theme and morning tea supplied by Yerecoin Traders. We all had a lovely morning with prizes won by some and we hope that those that came, enjoyed themselves.

With Christmas now fast approaching, we have the Christmas Lights Displays being judged on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December and, we have also had some fantastic entries sent in from the Primary schools for our Christmas Drawing Competition.

I would also like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a Merry Christmas and a safe and Happy New Year.



Kind Regards,  
**Katrina Humphries**  
Community Development Officer

# From the Deputy Chief Executive Officer: Colin Ashe



As we wind down for the Christmas period, I would like to take the opportunity first up to thank my team for the outstanding work they have and continue to do. Some of them are the first contact (Naomi, Bridget, Eleni) many customers engage with initially and I have had nothing but positive feedback, even when they cop the odd rant, they are always very professional and courteous in their dealings.

Whilst I take nothing away from the overall shire team as it takes all of us to be cohesive in our approach – I see my team as a critical part to overall operation, without them much of what we see physically taking shape, simply would not happen.

In other matters such as finance and projects, the evidence is there in the audit report 22-23 we have just received as well as some of the projects we're rolling out (as well as Dept of Transport, which can be a beast in itself!) – it's a big financial year with lots going on and they are embracing the challenge with gusto – a testament to their dedication to the shire.

## Annual Financial Report 22-23

The Audit Report 22-23 has been received from the Auditors and there were no findings to report on for the second year running in my tenure. This is a team effort so congratulations to my crew (Glenn, Ericha, Sue) as a lot goes into ensuring good governance, transparency and process is reviewed and adhered to. Without it, we don't get the result.

From a Management Audit Report 22-23 we reduced 7 items raised in 21-22 to just 1 outstanding which again is an excellent outcome. This one remaining item was an interesting debate I had with the auditors, which for me did not warrant raising but they are the umpire and I will abide by the decision and hopefully remediate.

The Shire is planning to hold the Electors Meeting in Feb 24 and I will present this in detail along with the Annual Report 22-23 jointly with the CEO.

## Finance Update 23-24

As at the 30 Nov 23 the following progress has been made on Capital Activities:

Activity	Cost (\$)	Status
Retaining Wall – Calingiri Aged Persons Units	17,537	In Progress
Oval Pump Shed	12,441	In Progress
Bolgart Kerbing	6,531	In Progress
Footpaths	23,885	In Progress
Old Telegraph Road	165,544	Complete
Calingiri – Carani East Road	62,573	In Progress
Mogumber-Yarawindah Road	2,248,521	In Progress
Piawaning Desalination Plant	35,966	In Progress

# Continued on from Colin Ashe....

## Other Projects / Strategic Planning

As mentioned earlier, along with their operational duties, my team is contributing or leading a number of projects including but not limited to:

- A new Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) – computer operating system to replace the current obsolete one. The Customer Relationship Management System has now gone live (thanks to the support of a couple of casuals Lachy and Josie) with Payroll, Finance in progress and Records Management to commence in the new year.
- Sport and Recreation Management Plan (SRMP) – through Katrina and Naomi, stakeholder engagement meeting are to be held in Dec 23 and again in Feb 24 to set the expectations and which will include a survey / questionnaire to be completed.
- Chronicle Cemetery software – will be up and running early in the new year (thanks Marie) with a portal for public access and will have a number of user friendly features vastly improving the current customer experience.

I would like to close off by wishing everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year – hopefully you are seeing some major improvements in how the shire is doing business and the team is enjoying the challenge of contributing to make the shire a better place to work, live and play.

Kind Regards,

**Colin Ashe**

Deputy Chief Executive Officer



## Ordinary Council Meeting

Will be held  
**Thursday**

**14th December 2023**

Commencing at 2:00pm in the  
Calingiri Council Chambers

## DIGITAL NEWSLETTER

Did you know the Shire offers digital  
copies of the Newsletter?

Simply email  
[reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au](mailto:reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au)  
to register for a digital copy.



## HARVEST AND MOVEMENT BAN

To register for the SMS service  
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[www.victoriaplains.wa.gov.au](http://www.victoriaplains.wa.gov.au)

Or Email:

[reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au](mailto:reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au)



# From the Manager, Works and Services: Silvio Brenzi



Works are near completion at the intersection of Carani East and Wongan Hills Road. This project was funded under the Blackspot program to improve safety for road users.

As can be seen from the images, the re-aligned 'T' junction not only allows for safer stopping but also meets Main Roads WA requirements for the Wongan Hills Road to a 90 degree approach and depart angle.

Vegetation was also causing a major influence to the sight lines of east approaching traffic towards the intersection.

This has now been rectified giving a clear view of oncoming approaching traffic.

Main Roads WA will conclude the project with an inspection to confirm project guidelines were met.

This funding is a two-thirds state and one-third shire funded project of \$130,000.00

Once completed, the shire will look for other projects that will meet the requirements for this funding in the coming financial year.



Kind regards,

**Silvio Brenzi**

Manager - Works and Services



# From the Community Emergency Services Manager: Nicholas Parry



The Shire's last bushfire training session of the year, held recently, was a success, with 21 spontaneous volunteers from various backgrounds participating. This essential training focused on basic bushfire response techniques, emphasising situational awareness and communication with the incident management team. It also helped local employers align with the Work Health and Safety Act 2020 requirements to ensure their staff are appropriately trained for the tasks they are requested to carry out. Further courses will be run in 2024 after the bushfire season comes to a close. Interested individuals can register for the next free course by contacting [reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au](mailto:reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au), enhancing community preparedness for future bushfire seasons.

Kind regards,

**Nic Parry**

CESM





# Waterways Excursion

## Bolgart Primary School



Another generation of Wheatbelt land managers stretched their legs at Boshack Outback in Bolgart this week to learn about the impacts of water quality on aquatic macroinvertebrates in the very special Wattening spring complex of wetlands. The entire Bolgart Primary School spent the day sampling the lake waters at Boshack in an enthusiastic whirlwind of discovery and adventure guided by staff from Wheatbelt NRM and macroinvertebrate experts from EcoAction. The students discovered that the lake supported a moderately healthy array of organisms, typical of a waterbody that has experienced change in hydrology and ecology due to historical land use changes. The aquatic macroinvertebrates found were dominated by the south-west glass shrimp





# YERECOIN PRIMARY SCHOOL



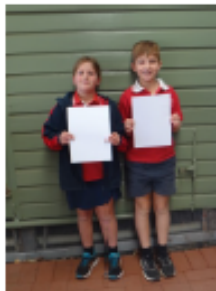
Congratulations to Abeeha for being chosen Aussie of the Month for November. Abeeha acts with integrity. She is honest, responsible and displays lovely manners in the classroom. Abeeha has an excellent work ethic and regularly completes set homework.



Maxwell scored in the top 2% of Year 4 participants in Australia in the English ICAS testing and in the top 5% of Year 4 participants in Australia for the Science ICAS testing. Both Eilidh and Maxwell scored in the top 13% of Year 4 participants in Australia in the Digital Technologies ICAS test.

## BIKE EDUCATION INCURSION (PP-YEAR 6) FUNDED BY OUR SPORTING SCHOOLS GRANT

Also, congratulations to Eilidh and Maxwell for being high achievers in the PAT (Progressive Achievement Tests) Testing.



On Thursday, 26th October students learnt safe riding habits and participated in bike riding skills such as: riding in a straight line, riding and turning, indicating, scanning and emergency braking.



The New Norcia Aboriginal Cultural Excursion & Museum / Art Gallery visit greatly value added to our HASS learning area programs on Friday, 3rd November 2023.

Students learnt many facts about New Norcia's history, Rosendo Salvado, the Yuat People, William Monop, Noongar Six Seasons, Bush Tucker and the Apiary.

# CHRISTMAS CRICKET AT MOGUMBER



Sunday 17th Dec 3pm

Social cricket game.

All ability of players & spectators welcome.

BBQ dinner to follow.

BBQ & soft drinks free of charge for  
Mogumber Outback Club Members.

BYO salad to share.

Santa will drop by Mogumber around 5pm

Members receive a free ticket in the  
Christmas hamper raffles.

More info 0416131837

# Christmas Lights

## Competition

HAVE YOUR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS DISPLAY  
READY FOR JUDGING ON THE EVENING OF  
FRIDAY THE 15<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER  
WINNERS WILL BE ANNOUCED ON MONDAY  
THE 18<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER

Anyone within the Shire of Victoria Plains that would like to be  
on the judges list please send an email with your address to  
[reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au](mailto:reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au)

1 December 2023

**One less seat for regional Western Australia under the hands of Labor**

Opposition and Nationals WA Leader Shane Love has expressed his deep disappointment with changes to the state's electoral boundaries, branding them a loss of fair representation for regional voters.

District boundaries are reviewed every four years to maintain similar populations in each electoral seat with the WA Electoral Commission considering communities of interest, land use patterns, Local Government boundaries, means of travel and distance from Perth.

Mr Love, also the Member for Moore, said the changes by the Commission, which amalgamate the seats of Moore and parts of North West Central into a giant seat of Mid West to make way for an additional metropolitan seat, Oakford, is a move that undermines regional voices.

"These changes, which take effect at the 2025 election, compound Labor's attacks on regional representation," Mr Love said.

"In a massive blow to regional communities, the 547 objections to the planned changes have today been set aside, with the Commission handing a win to WA Labor's blatant attacks on regional democracy."

Today's devastating result comes just two years after the WA Labor Government stripped 18 regional members from the Parliament when it abolished the upper house regions in 2021 and four months after they refused to support an amendment to the Electoral Reform Act 1907 to increase the Large District Allowance from 1.5 percent to three percent, which would have had the effect of retaining the current number of regional electorates.

Mr Love said the changes follow WA Labor's submission to the commission, which outlined their plan to abolish another regional voice, making it infeasible for equal representation. "Regional West Australians are suffocating under the hands of Labor," Mr Love said.

"Mid West is a huge electoral seat that will stretch from Muchea to Meekatharra, leaving communities voiceless to make way for yet another metro seat in Perth.

"This giant seat covers 420,000km<sup>2</sup> – more than five times the current seat Moore, double the size of Victoria and half the size of New South Wales.

"WA Labor have now stripped 19 members from the regions, botched cultural heritage laws, failed to support logging jobs and cowered behind the Federal Labor Government's live export ban.

"Today's changes mean when regional West Australians go to the ballot box, the voices of local schools, hospitals, councils and communities will be lost under Labor."

December 04, 2023

## Boosting network resilience in the Mid West and Wheatbelt

MEDIA STATEMENTS



Western Power has begun upgrading 70 distribution transformers across the South West Interconnected System (SWIS), including 19 transformers in the Mid West and Wheatbelt, to increase the resilience of the network.

Distribution transformers, which convert the high voltage used in power lines to a lower voltage that's suitable for residential use, are a vital part of the electricity grid.

Western Power Manager of Operations North Derek Sutherland said the upgrades were part of an extensive package of summer preparedness and bushfire management works to minimise fire risk, strengthen network resilience and improve reliability, with work prioritised based on network requirements.

"With the Bureau of Meteorology signalling increased risk of heatwaves and bushfires this year, we're working hard to ensure the network is as prepared as possible," he said.

"We're upgrading aging equipment and improving the capacity of our assets to prepare for extreme weather conditions.

"We've identified and are upgrading transformers that have previously experienced or are forecast to experience extremely high demand which will help manage overload during peak times.

"While we cannot guarantee 100 per cent reliability, we're doing everything we can to improve network resilience to minimise the duration and number of unplanned outages."

The distribution transformer upgrades commenced in August and involve assets which service more than 6,500 customers across the SWIS.

"Our crews are working to complete the upgrades as quickly as possible to prepare for the warmer weather but some sites are more complex than others so they may take more time to complete," Mr Sutherland said.

"Almost half of the transformers identified for upgrade in the Mid West and Wheatbelt are now complete with the remaining to be upgraded by early 2024."

The transformers selected for upgrade in the Mid West and Wheatbelt are located in Calingiri, Chittering, Clackline, Julimar, Lower Chittering, Moresby, Muchea, Springfield, Toodyay, Waggrakine, West Toodyay, Woorree and Wundowie.





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# Shane LOVE MLA

Your State Member for Moore

**WISHING YOU AND YOUR FAMILY  
A SAFE AND HAPPY CHRISTMAS  
AND A PROSPEROUS NEW YEAR!**

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# RoadWise Tips

## Take Steps to Prevent Driver Fatigue

Driving tired is dangerous. Driving after being awake for 17-19 hours is like having a blood alcohol reading of 0.05. To guard against fatigue, know how much sleep you need and get it regularly.

No-one plans a crash- make every journey safe. The prevalent crash type in the Wheatbelt region is the 'run-off-road' crash, typically where a driver has been fatigued and experienced a 'micro-sleep,' or has been distracted, or taken a bend too fast.

Killed or serious injuries (KSIs) are road crashes that result in death or life-changing injuries. Federal, State and Local Governments are working hard to eliminate KSI crashes: while understanding that people will always make mistakes, we can all do something to improve road safety.

If you're heading away, make sure you get a good sleep the night before your trip, take a break from driving at least every two hours – swap drivers, stop for a walk or a power nap, or enjoy a coffee for the driver at a Coffee Stop or Driver Reviver location.

Watch out for the fatigue warning signs – blinking a lot or squinting, yawning or having trouble keeping your head up, closing your eyes for a moment or losing focus, wandering thoughts, missing a road sign or braking too late, drifting over the centre line or on to the side of the road or seeing 'mirages' ahead.

Sources: Road Safety Commission [Make every journey safe \(www.wa.gov.au\)](http://www.wa.gov.au)



The Shire of Victoria Plains is a RoadWise Council



## Our 3G closure in 2024: your questions answered

Back in 2019 we announced that we'd be closing our 3G network, which you might also know as the Telstra Next G network. Doing so allows us to repurpose the 3G spectrum to offer better coverage and reliability on our 4G and 5G mobile network.

When 3G launched in 2003, we used our mobile devices for calls, texting and accessing very basic information online.

When we say basic, we mean clicking your phone's buttons through a text-only menu, choosing 'footy scores' then waiting 30 seconds for a list of numbers to show up. It was a simpler time!

Today - 20 years later - we use our mobile devices for many data-heavy tasks, and data is central to our experience on them. Demand for mobile data is growing by around 30 per cent every year.

As our technology and our use cases change, we need a network that's fit for today and for the future. That's why we continue to upgrade the technology that underpins our mobile network from 3G to 4G, and now 5G, and in future we will do so again for 6G.

Once we've closed the 3G network, we'll repurpose the radio spectrum that it used to expand the capacity and reach of our 5G network.

We started talking to our customers about saying goodbye to 3G back in October 2019 to make sure they had enough time to understand what changes they need to make.

Over the last few years we have been rapidly rolling out and adjusting our 4G to match our 3G coverage and this work is continuing in the lead up to 3G closure.

This work involves upgrading all existing 3G sites with 4G technology, adding new 4G sites and optimising others to create equivalent 4G coverage in areas where 3G only coverage exists today. As we approach 3G closure further changes in network configuration will also be made to ensure existing 4G is optimised to better ensure equivalence in fringe coverage areas.

It's important to note that mobile coverage is affected by many factors independent of the technology used. The environment, device sensitivity, and how the device is used can all affect your coverage experience.

**The environment around you matters.** Coverage is impacted by larger fixed terrain features such as mountains and hills in a predictable manner, but coverage is also affected by changeable local geographic features such as trees and new foliage growth, and the construction of new buildings, that may reduce or block previously available outdoor coverage.

These factors mean that your coverage experience at any specific location is inherently variable - and especially over time, even when coverage to the area remains unchanged.

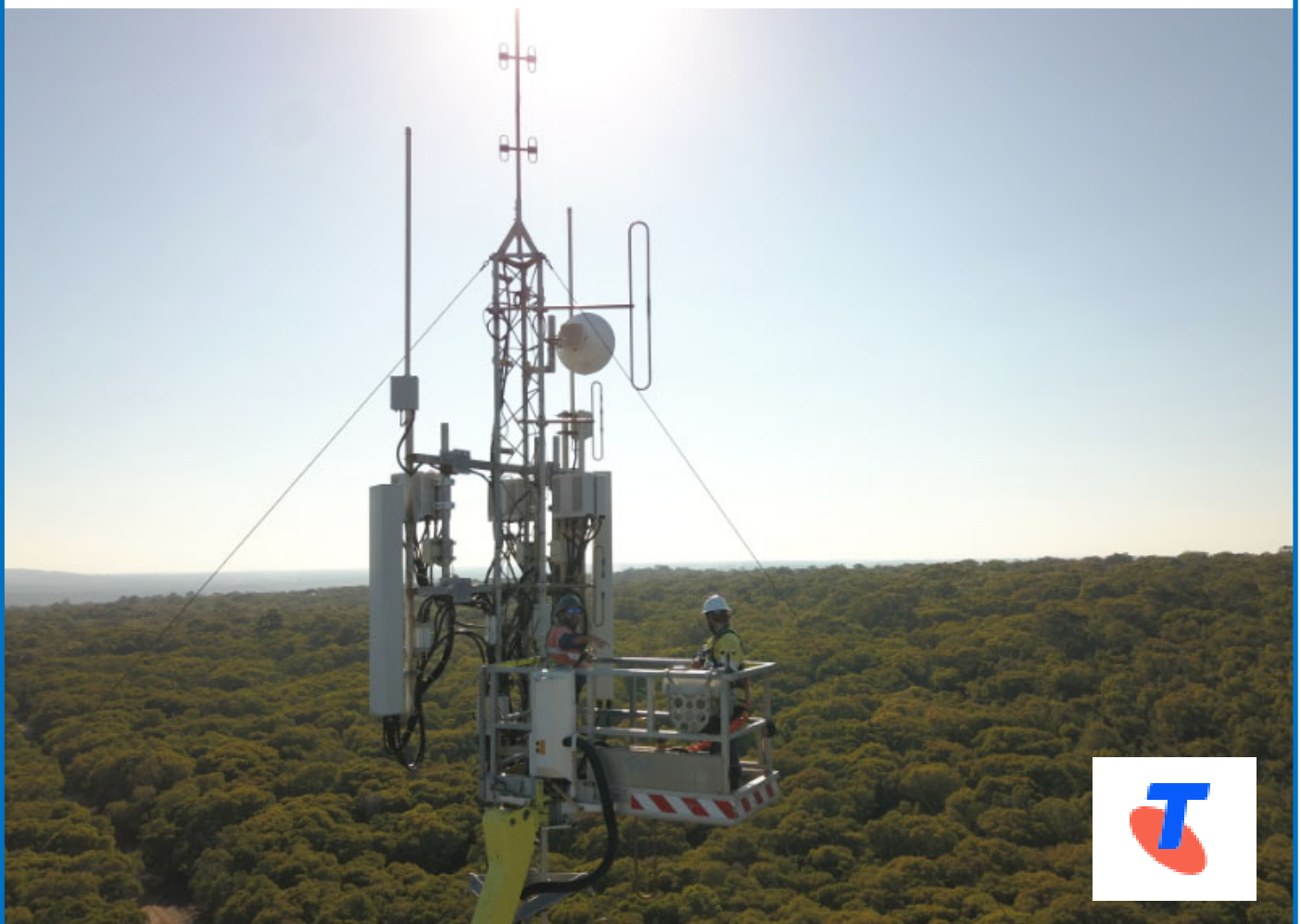
**Not all devices are equal.** Further variability in coverage experience is added by the device used and how it is used. Not all devices are created equal when it comes to network sensitivity – how your device actually detects and connects with our network, particularly at the very edge of coverage, matters.

[Our 'Blue Tick' devices](#) have been thoroughly tested to ensure they're able to maximise coverage reach. The way a device is used will also affect coverage, for example whether held to the head or at waist level, above dashboard or in the centre console will all have an effect.

What this means is that to ensure 4G coverage equivalence, you need to use an equivalent device (e.g. Blue Tick 4G if previously using Blue Tick 3G). The same is true for coverage extension devices (e.g. if you used a 3G T-Go you need a 4G T-Go). Finally, you must use it in the same manner (e.g. if your 3G device is mounted above a dashboard in a vehicle, you need to do the same with your 4G device).

**Signal bars don't mean what you think.** It's worth noting that the signal bars displayed on devices can also give a false impression of the level of coverage when comparing between different devices or mobile technologies.

There are no standards between mobile device manufacturers for signal bars. The same signal on one may show more or fewer bars than another device, and as 4G is specifically designed to work and use a lower signal level than 3G it should – all else being equal – show fewer bars for equivalent service in any case.



# RoadWise Tips

## Don't Take a Chance When Buying a Car

Check out the vehicle safety ratings at [www.ancap.com.au/safetyfeatures](http://www.ancap.com.au/safetyfeatures) for new cars, and <https://howsafeisyourcar.com.au/> for used/older models. The purchase of safer vehicles could result in around one third less people being killed or seriously injured in crashes.

Killed or serious injuries (KSIs) are road crashes that result in death or life-changing injuries. Federal, State and Local Governments are working hard to eliminate KSI crashes: while understanding that people will always make mistakes, we can all do something to improve road safety.



A safer car does not always mean a more expensive car. Even cars and light commercial vehicles priced at the lower end of the market are tested for their safety performance, using a rating system of zero to five stars to indicate each vehicle's level of safety, with a 5-star rating being the best.

Vehicles are rated and evaluated against four key criteria:

- Adult Occupant Protection (AOP)
- Child Occupant Protection (COP)
- Vulnerable Road User Protection (VRU)
- Safety Assist (SA) meaning crash avoidance technology.

Next time you're looking to buy a car, consult the stars- your life could depend on it.



The Shire of Victoria Plains is a RoadWise Council

# About the settlement of the Western Australia Stolen Wages Class Action

Mr Mervyn Street brought a case in the Federal Court against the Western Australian Government on behalf of all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples who weren't paid all their wages or money between 1936 and 1972.

The Western Australian Government has agreed to a settlement of the case in which it will pay up to \$180.4 million (depending on how many people register), which the Court will need to approve before any money is paid out.

A detailed notice giving information about the proposed settlement has been published and can be obtained using the contact details below.

## What do you need to register for the settlement?

If you are part of the class action and want to get a payment from the settlement, you need to complete and send in a registration form by **30 June 2024**.

You are part of the class action and able to register if:

- a. you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person born before 9 June 1962;
- b. between 11 December 1936 and 9 June 1972 you worked in Western Australia and worked at some time for little or no wages;

OR

- c. you are representing a family member who qualifies and has since passed away (if you are their spouse (husband/wife/partner – married or defacto) or child).

If you don't want to claim compensation, you don't need to do anything. But you will still be part of the case, and you will lose your legal rights if the settlement is approved.

## If you want to find out more about the case, the settlement or ask for a registration form, you can:

- Call Shine Lawyers on 1800 976 150
- Email Shine Lawyers at [wastolenwages@shine.com.au](mailto:wastolenwages@shine.com.au)
- Go to [shine.com.au/stolenwageswa](http://shine.com.au/stolenwageswa)
- Come to an information meeting at a town near you. You can call Shine Lawyers or visit the website to see the schedule of meetings.

1800 976 150 [shine.com.au/stolenwageswa](http://shine.com.au/stolenwageswa)

 SHINE LAWYERS



The background of the entire page is a night sky featuring the Milky Way galaxy. In the lower portion of the image, there is a building with a dome, likely a church or community center, illuminated from below. To the left of the building are several palm trees, and to the right are large, leafy trees with a reddish-orange glow, possibly from autumn lighting or a fire. The overall scene is a serene night landscape.

# The Benedictine Community of New Norcia

Invites you to the  
31st Annual Ecumenical Carol Service

Saturday 30th December 2023

Featuring the Georgian Singers  
Afternoon Tea in the Parlour 4.00pm  
Carols 5.00pm

# Christmas 2023 Trading Hours

## Christmas Eve

Roadhouse: closes at 3pm  
Museum & Art Gallery: 9.30am-3.30pm  
(no afternoon tour)

## Christmas Day & Boxing Day CLOSED

## Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> December 2023

Roadhouse: usual trading hours  
Museum & Art Gallery: usual trading hours

## New Year's Eve & New Year's Day

Roadhouse: usual trading hours  
Museum & Art Gallery: usual trading hours

Administration will be closed Christmas Day  
until Tuesday 2nd January 2024



**NEW NORCIA**  
BENEDICTINE COMMUNITY



DID YOU KNOW PART OF YOUR SERVICE IS AN INSPECTION? DURING AN INSPECTION A TECHNICIAN MAY PICK UP ON REPAIRS OR MAINTENANCE THAT MAY NEED DOING ASAP OR IN THE FUTURE. THIS CAN SAVE YOU DOWN TIME AND MONEY.

## **CALINGIRI AUTO CENTRE**

- Log Book Servicing On ALL Makes and Models
- Minor and Major Repairs to all your light vehicles and light trucks
  - Tyres & Batteries
  - 4x4 Accessories: Supply & Fitting
- Service & Repairs on all small engines, gensets to motorbikes. Everything in between
  - Windscreen Replacement
  - Air conditioning service & repairs
- Loan car available, if needed please enquire with your booking

0499 206 527

6 CAVELL STREET CALINGIRI WA 6569

CALINGIRIAUTOCENTRE@OUTLOOK.COM

**AU 58157**

**ABN 60537135800**

**MRB 10826**



GET READY FOR THE  
**HOLIDAYS**

GOING AWAY THESE CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS?  
Make sure your vehicle is in top shape so you don't get caught out.

**WE CAN HELP BY**

- Vehicle Inspection
- Vehicle servicing
- Battery testing
- Checking tyres
- Checking wheel bearings on vehicles, trailers and caravans



*Christmas Holiday  
Hours*

Last day Friday 22nd December  
Re-open Monday 8th January 2024

WE HOPE EVERYONE HAS A SAFE AND HAPPY HOLIDAYS!  
MANY THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT THROUGHOUT 2023  
FROM US AT CALINGIRI AUTO CENTRE



January 26th  
From 8:30am

# AUSTRALIA day

THIS YEARS SHIRE OF VICTORIA PLAINS  
AUSTRALIA DAY EVENT WILL BE HELD AT THE  
**CALINGIRI SPORTS CLUB**

More details will be advertised in the January Newsletter.

Spread the word and Save the date!

'Assisted by the Australian Government through the National Australia Day Council'



**Australia Day**  
Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.



## Local Containers for Change Member numbers accepting donations

- Calingiri Primary School P&C Association—C10344336
- Yerecoin Primary School P&C Association—C10283746
- Bolgart Primary School P&C Association—C10324137
- Mogumber Outback Club—C10671492
- Gillingarra Sport & Recreation Club—C10291910
- Calingiri Sports Club—C10232342
- Mogumber & Districts Progress Association Inc - C10480955
- Calingiri Progress Association - C10399453
- Piawaning Expo Inc - C11085061

If you would like your group to be included on this list please email [reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au](mailto:reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au)



PLEASE  
JOIN US FOR A

# Christmas

LUNCH

SUNDAY

17  
DEC

FROM 11AM

CALINGIRI SPORTS CLUB

FREE FOR MEMBERS

\$15 FOR NON MEMBERS

*Santa will be coming to visit the kids!*



# YERECOIN TRADERS

*Little Country Store & Café*



Licensed café with alfresco dining



Country inspired gifts & homewares



Plants & plant care products



Catering & event hosting



Wholefood & fresh produce



**Make the trip to Yerecoin today and experience our warm, friendly, country hospitality.**

38 Miling Road Yerecoin



(08) 9654 6015

**Open Monday to Friday 7am to 5pm | Saturday 8am to 12pm**

Follow us on social media



@yerecointraders



@yerecointraders