



November 2023

# SHIRE OF VICTORIA PLAINS

Please also see our user friendly website at <https://www.victoriaplains.wa.gov.au> or  
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YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



# From the Shire President: Pauline Bantock



The Local Government Elections were finalised on the 21<sup>st</sup> October and it's great to see the Victoria Plains Community leading the way. We achieved the highest return rate across the state, with 62.24% of postal votes returned.

Congratulations to our newest Councillor, Rebecca Johnson, who was elected to Council with the highest first place preferences.

Personally, I would like to thank the Victoria Plains community who supported me through the re-election process.

The Shire of Victoria Plains Council now has 5 members serving the community.

- Cr Suzanne Woods
- Cr David Lovelock
- Cr Rebecca Johnson
- Cr Stephanie Penn
- Cr Pauline Bantock

The new Council has hit the ground running with our first council meeting on Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> October, albeit just 4 Councillors in attendance with an apology from Cr Penn.

The first order of business was the election of Shire President, and I thank my fellow Councillors for their continued support, electing me unopposed to the role for a further two years.

Congratulations to Cr Suzanne Woods for stepping up to the Deputy President role, also elected unopposed.

Council appointed members to the shire's committees and selected our delegates to advisory groups and external organisations.

Two development applications were given approval at the meeting.

- Telecommunications Infrastructure on Lot 11 Gillingarra-Glentromie Road, Gillingarra
- A domestic storage shed on Lot 38 Yulgering Road, Calingiri.

Council also received the quarterly review of our implementation plan of the Shire's Corporate Business Plan. The review indicates that the Shire is managing the strategic plan well and major projects are ahead of expectations. Council looks forward to working with our Shire Administration, so we can achieve the significant milestones of our strategic plan.

Part one of the new council induction session was also completed on the 25<sup>th</sup> Oct and we look forward to the second session on the 22<sup>nd</sup> November. Training is a requirement for Councillors under the Local Government Regulations.

Kind Regards,

**Cr. Pauline Bantock**  
Shire President

Shire of Victoria Plains

## 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'

# From the Chief Executive Officer: Sean Fletcher



## Hello From The CEO

The local government landscape across WA changed on the back of the local government elections held on 21 October 2023. As you may know, for the Shire of Victoria Plains the size of the council membership was reduced from seven councillors to five. Not only that, but the gender split is now 80% women (4 councillors) and 20% men (1 councillor). I'm not aware of any other council in WA having such a change in representation, although the City of Busselton comes close.

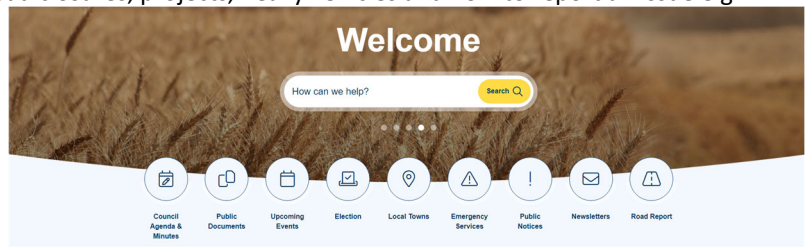
On the 25 October 2023, I conducted the first part of the induction for the new council. This included key updates around the changes to the Local Government Act and new requirements regarding how local governments are to function going forward. Prior to the council meeting I then conducted the declaration of office for returning councillor Pauline Bantock and new councillor Rebecca Johnson. I then opened the council meeting and conducted the election for Shire President. Cr Bantock was elected unopposed. Cr Suzanne Woods was then elected unopposed as the Shire's new Deputy President.

Both staff and I look forward to working with the new look council, which includes the ongoing improvement to services and facilities and delivering key objectives from the Strategic Community Plan.

## New Feature on the Shire Website - Road Reports

There are two key features regarding roads on the Shire's website. Both can be accessed on the home page and they are:

- Road Report. This feature can be accessed by clicking on the Road Report button found on the right hand side of other access buttons. The purpose of this report, which uses Google Maps, is to show where key road works are being undertaken in the shire, so that road users can make better informed decisions regarding their travels and road usage;
- Road Condition Report. This is found at the bottom of the home page and links through to the Main Roads website that contains information across WA regarding road closures, projects, heavy vehicles and how to report an issue e.g. damaged signs, debris on roads and so on.



I will also be including shortly on the web page, information regarding the Shire's key projects such as the Wheatbelt Secondary Freight Network road works, Regional Road Group Projects, replacement of the Piawaning Reverse Osmosis Plant, the development of the Shire's Recreation Plan, to name a few.

## Emergency Management and the Hot, Dry Summer Ahead

President Bantock, Nic Parry and myself have attended a number of briefings around emergency management and the expected bushfire season ahead. This has included a region wide workshop regarding dealing with hazards, in this case an ammonium nitrate transport incident, what to expect from El Nino going forward and matters of resourcing.

Speaking of resourcing, Colin was successful in having the Shire's Bush Fire Brigade allocation increased by a further \$24,000, so up from \$83,000 to \$107,000.

Both President Bantock and I will be attending the Emergency Management for Local Government Leaders course during November.

## Christmas and New Year Preparations

Just so you know, and although it may seem early, it is planned for the Shire to close from Wednesday @ 12 Noon on 20th December 2023 and reopening on 2 January 2024. There will be some staff working during this period of time and also available for emergency call outs. Wishing you all the best for what lays ahead during November.

Kind Regards,

**Sean Fletcher**

Chief Executive Officer

# From the Deputy Chief Executive Officer: Colin Ashe



Along with councillor elections and some new faces – we also had a ‘junior council’ visit the shire from the Calingiri Primary School with the theme of ‘what does the shire do’. As the class was from the junior room, a light response was required which was Community. I used the analogy for them to think of the shire as their extended family, but we are here to look after the big picture but for the whole of the district or wider Community.

The children seems to understand this but were more intrigued with having a go with the Gavel! Some budding councillors for the future no doubt.



## Annual Financial Report 22-23

The auditors have completed all their requirements and an audit exit meeting with them and the Audit Committee is planned for the 22 Nov 23. The audit also included Annual Reporting on Roads to Recovery funding and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure, both of which were signed off with no audit qualification on findings. Similarly, I am not expecting any adverse findings in the Annual Financial Report 22-23 which means I am planning acceptance by council at the Dec 23 meeting and then electors meeting in Feb 24. Whilst the audit was reasonably smooth in terms of providing the evidence and sampling, it did mean a lot of effort from my team in terms of the continuous back and forth with the auditors. Often this meant having to put down operational tasking in order to address the auditor queries. Accordingly I would like to publicly thank my team and in particular Glenn for coordinating this.

## Finance Update 23-24

As at 31 Oct 23 the following progress has been made on Capital Activities:

Activity	Cost (\$)	Status
Water Tanker purchase	43,900	Complete
Tractor Slasher purchase	7,500	Complete
Old Telegraph Road	47,106	In Progress
Calingiri – Carani East Road	37,850	In Progress
Mogumber-Yarawindah Road	30,795	In Progress
Bolgart Ablution Block	43,803	Complete

# Continued on from Colin Ashe...

Noting the Bolgart Ablution Block has now been completed over two financial years at a total cost of \$231,657. Ratepayers should also expect significant road construction costs reported for Mogumber-Yarawindah Rd in Nov and Dec 23 as invoices are submitted for payment.

## Strategic Planning:

There are a number of strategic outcomes in progress or to be completed in 23-24 in my area and this includes:

- ICT Strategy
- Rating Strategy
- Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP)  
Sport and Recreation Management Plan (SRMP)

This month's focus has been on ERP where staff are starting to plan and insert parameters into the operating system with the new Customer Service module set to be completed indicatively by the end of Nov. Concurrently other work is occurring in financial systems and Records to commence shortly.

Recently OPTIUM Pty Ltd undertook a site visit with staff of all towns within the shire to get a visual of sport and recreation facilities within the shire as part of the first phase of the SRMP. There is a number of actions in terms of additional information we now need to provide as part of the data set to progress this. It was also a great learning curve for staff to see parts of the shire and discover new ways of getting to the destinations.

## Administration:

As the fire season approaches, if you are not on the Fire Ban SMS alerts and would like to be added, please contact the Shire office on 9628 7004 or [reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au](mailto:reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au)

Kind Regards,

**Colin Ashe**

Deputy Chief Executive Officer



## Ordinary Council Meeting

Will be held  
**Wednesday**

**22nd November 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  
please go to  
[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



Main Roads Contractors have completed the bypass deviation road on Calingiri West Rd near CBH. This will now allow them to commence demolition of the existing bridge which has reached the end of its service life. Materials such as railings and timber beams are being salvaged by the Shire for other works and historical projects that may develop at a later time. The bridge is being replaced with a multiple barrel culvert design in place of a bridge. The current pipework in place is only temporary and larger reinforced concrete pipes will be used for the permanent installation in the current bridge location.



Old Telegraph Rd is approaching the completion of the Roads to Recovery program of vegetation and re-sheeting works for the 2km north of Bolgart West Rd. Shire staff have completed this work utilising local gravel and have stored the excess soil from the verge for rehabilitation on older gravel pit sites. White delineator posts are yet to be installed.

Grant funding to enable the upgrading and consolidation of the Piawaning water supply is under way. The new bore is located on Shire managed reserve just north of the CBH sample office. The pump purchased is solar powered and will then have a new line run down to the reverse osmosis (RO) plant where a new filtration system will be installed. With the higher quality of water being put into the plant, less waste water is discharged by the RO plant and thus a higher efficiency is gained from the bore.



Kind regards,  
**Silvio Brenzi**  
Manager - Works and Services

# From the Community Development Officer: Katrina Humphries



On the 28<sup>th</sup> of October we held our Teddy Bears Picnic for Childrens Week 2023. This event was funded by Meerilinga in partnership with Fuel To Go & Play and supported by Lotterywest, Healthway and Department of Communities. Big thanks to those parents who came along for the morning with their kids. We had face painting, lots of art, playdough, drawing, books and a special surprise guest Sunny the Unicorn.

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of November we are holding a Bingo morning for seniors as part of Seniors Week. This event is funded by COTA WA, and for those that are interested in more info please see the poster in this newsletter that has all the details.

Christmas is coming and with that means Christmas lights. The Shire of Victoria Plains is running the Christmas lights competition again this year with prizes to be given away to the best Christmas light display. To enter your house for the Christmas lights competition, please register your address with the Shire and the lights will be judged on the 15<sup>th</sup> of December.



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

19 Mofflin Street, Calingiri WA 6569

# EXPRESSION OF INTEREST

PRICE FROM  
**\$225,000**

## About Property

Located in the town site of Calingiri, north-east of Perth, near New Norcia in Western Australia. It is in the Shire of Victoria Plains. Walking distance to Calingiri Primary School, bus services for secondary schools and Local convenience store with post office.



## Awesome Features

- ✓ 2 Bedrooms
- ✓ 1 Bathroom
- ✓ 54 Square metre Extension
- ✓ Concrete Driveway through to back patio
- ✓ Large Shed
- ✓ Just over 1000 Square metre block



**Call Pamela on 0428 661 878**



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST ANGLICAN  
CHURCH CALINGIRI

Sunday 19th

The Church Building will be  
Deconsecrated on the 19th November at  
2:00pm

Afternoon Tea to follow at the Calingiri  
Sports Club



# 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)



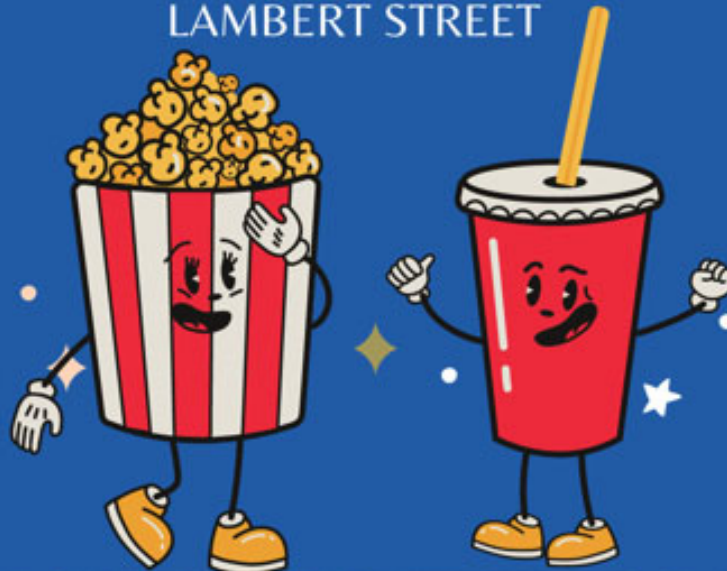
# UNDER THE STARS SHIRE OF VICTORIA PLAINS OUTDOOR MOVIE NIGHT

## THE NUTCRACKER & THE FOUR REALMS

7:30PM 2ND OF DECEMBER 2023

CALINGIRI SPORTS OVAL

LAMBERT STREET



BRING YOUR CHAIR, PICNIC BLANKET, BEANBAG OR A PILLOW.  
MAKE YOURSELF COMFORTABLE AND KICK BACK AND WATCH  
A MOVIE UNDER THE STARS

POPCORN

DRINKS

DINNER

**FREE  
ENTRY**

FAMILY  
NIGHT

THIS IS AN ALCOHOL FREE EVENT



# SENIORS BINGO FUN

*At this exciting event, get ready to shout "BINGO!" and win some fantastic prizes.*

**10AM TO 12 NOON ON 15TH OF NOVEMBER 2023**

**BOLGART HALL, BOLGART**

**MORNING TEA & REFRESHMENTS PROVIDED**

This event is proudly funded by COTA WA for Seniors Week 2023

*To attend, please RSVP to [katrina.humphries@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au](mailto:katrina.humphries@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au) by the 8th of November 2023*





VICTORIA PLAINS SHIRE WAR MEMORIAL  
YULGERING ROAD  
CALINGIRI WA 6569

**REMEMBRANCE DAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2023**

**Protocol**

The Australian and New Zealand flags will be flown at the Victoria Plains Shire War Memorial in Calingiri at the peak of the flag masts from 8:00am to precisely 10:30am when they will be adjusted to the half mast position. At 11:00am a minutes silence will be observed. At 11:02am, the national flags will be adjusted back to their peak until dusk.

On the 11th November 1918 at precisely 11:00am. The guns on the Western Front fell silent after four years of continuous warfare.

With their armies retreating and close to collapse, German leaders signed an armistice, bringing the First World War to an end.

From the summer of 1918, the five Divisions of the Australian Corps, lead by Sir John Monash, had been at the forefront of the Allied victory. Beginning with their stunning success at the battle of Hamel in July, they helped to turn the tide of war at Amiens and Villiers Bretonneau, followed by the capture of Mont St Quentin and Peronne, and the breaching of the formidable German defences at the Hindenburg Line in September.

By early October the exhausted Australians were withdrawn from battle.

They had achieved a fighting reputation out of proportion to their numbers, but victory had come at a heavy cost.

They suffered almost 48,000 casualties during 1918, including more than 12,000 dead.

In the four years of WWI more than 330,000 Australians had served overseas. More than 60,000 of them had died.

The social effects of these losses cast a long shadow over the post war years.

On the 11th Month, the 11th Day and the 11th Hour we remember them.





## VICTORIA PLAINS SHIRE WAR MEMORIAL

The present War Memorial was formally consecrated and dedicated by Ministers of Religion during the first Anzac Day service at the current site on April 25th 2001. The Memorial and its precincts became known and accepted by the VP Shire Council at the time as the Victoria Plains Shire War Memorial and upon RSL recommendation the Shire consequently accepted ownership and responsibility for it.


This state of affairs was reaffirmed at the February 2014 Council meeting.

Mr Gary McGill was nominated by Council to the position of Warden of the Victoria Plains Shire War Memorial and precinct.

During consideration of the position of Warden the following outline of responsibilities of the Warden were considered and accepted by Council.

- The Warden should demonstrate a deep understanding and commitment to the commemorative sentiment associated with the Victoria Plains Shire War Memorial and its precincts and ensure that the sanctity of the War memorial and its precinct be preserved.
- Provide comment and advice to Council on matters relating to promotion and use of the commemorative site.
- Provide a means of communication between community groups and Council in relation top the War Memorial.
- Facilitate a coordinated approach in the provision of commemorative services associated with Anzac Day remembrance service and other historical links with the site.
  - Identify strategies for the development of the site.
- Examine and recommend to Council the implications of current policies and procedures affecting the site in relation to its use and presentation.
- Make recommendations to Council on budget provision for preventative maintenance and capital items.
- The Warden to defer to advice from the Returned and Services League (RSL) on such matters if required.

Gary McGill can be contacted on 96287058 or 0427287058



SHIRE OF VICTORIA PLAINS

# Community Grant

**SUBMISSIONS CLOSE 4PM WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 2023**

Find the Grant Submission Guidelines and Submission Form on our Shire Website

For more information contact Katrina on 0896287004 or [katrina.humphries@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au](mailto:katrina.humphries@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au)



## 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

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)





**LOCAL GOVERNMENT ORDINARY POSTAL ELECTION  
NOTICE OF RESULTS  
Shire of Victoria Plains**

The result of the Ordinary Election conducted as a postal vote on Saturday, 21 October 2023 is as follows:

District 2 Councillors	Candidates	First Preferences	Final Votes	Expiry of Term
	JOHNSON, Rebecca	137	119	16 October 2027
	O'BRIEN, Gary	33	35	
	BANTOCK, Pauline	111	123	16 October 2027
	KELLY, Jim	74	74	
	<b>Total Formal Votes</b>	<b>355</b>		
	<b>Total Informal Ballot Papers</b>	<b>1</b>		

**Rebecca Maureen JOHNSON** is elected as Councillor for the Shire of Victoria Plains and will hold office until 16 October 2027.

**Pauline Anne BANTOCK** is elected as Councillor for the Shire of Victoria Plains and will hold office until 16 October 2027.

Notice is further given that the following person **Jim KELLY** is the first unelected candidate and the following person **Gary O'BRIEN** is the second unelected candidate for the purposes of Schedule 4.1A of the *Local Government Act 1995*.

**Robert DEW**  
RETURNING OFFICER  
0486 026 330



WESTERN AUSTRALIAN  
Electoral Commission

2023 Ordinary Election Shire of Victoria Plains (Councillor) Calculation Steps Report 2 Candidates to be Elected									
		JOHNSON, Rebecca	O'BRIEN, Gary	BANTOCK, Pauline	KELLY, Jim	Exhausted	Lost Fractions	TOTALS	Elected
Total Votes: 356 Informal Votes: 1 Formal Votes: 355  Quota = 355/(2+1)+1 = 119									
<b>First Preferences</b>	<b>Votes</b>	<b>137</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>111</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>355</b>	1st. JOHNSON, Rebecca
JOHNSON, Rebecca	Surplus	Votes Rec'd	-18	2	12	0	2	2	2nd. BANTOCK, Pauline
		Progress Votes	119	35	123	74	2	2	355



# 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

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