

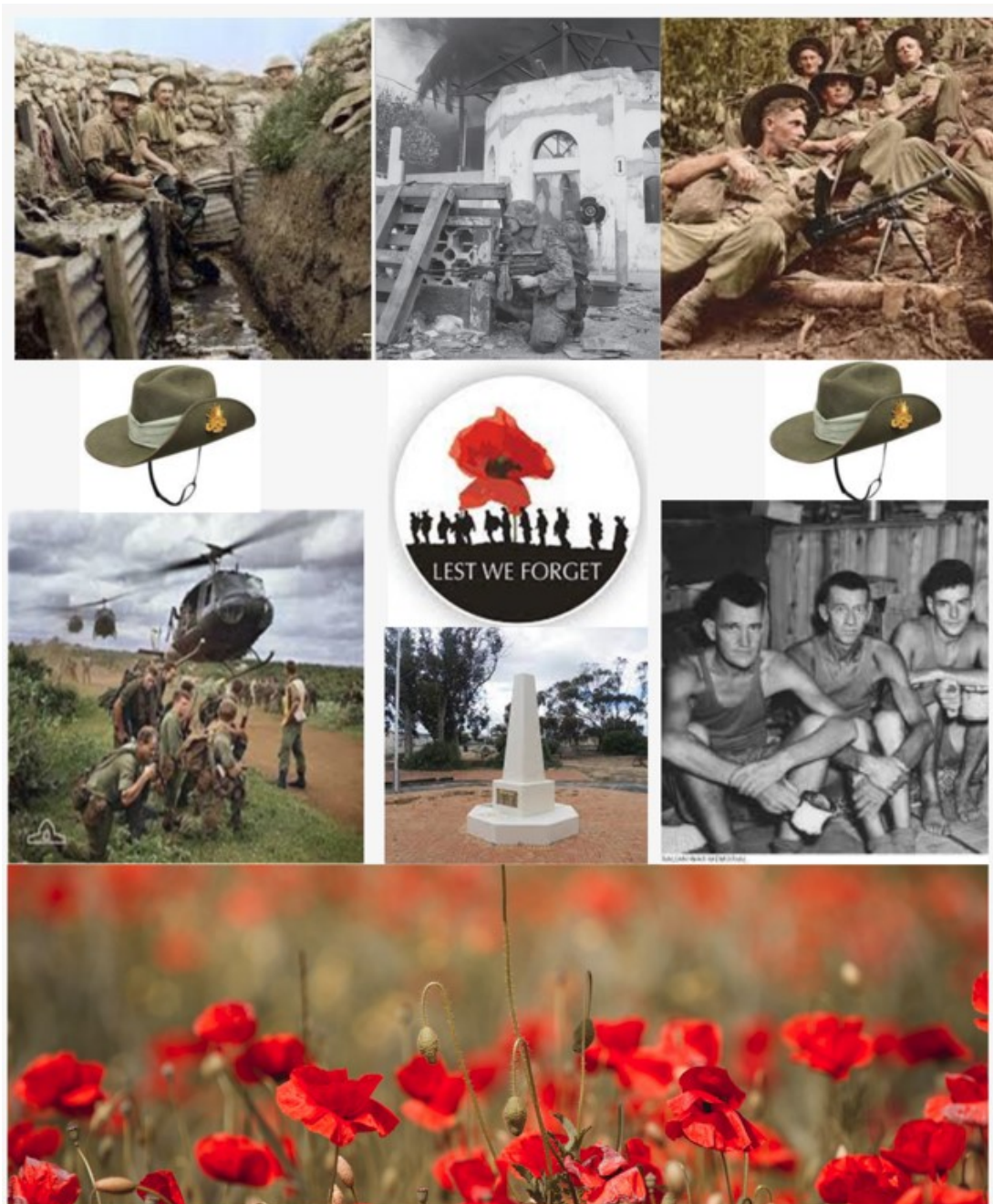


April 2024

SHIRE OF VICTORIA PLAINS

Please also see our user friendly website at <https://www.victoriaplains.wa.gov.au> or
Follow us on Facebook

YOUR LOCAL COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER



From the Shire President Pauline Bantock



The seasons are changing and I'm hoping some rain is just around the corner. I wish our farmers all the best during seeding. Please be safe during the process.

The Shire has commenced work on an economic development plan. This strategic work really gets me excited. Mega trends are right on our doorstep and growth is a certainty. In order to stay on track, we need to jump on the train and steer economic development in our preferred direction. We have engaged Mark Wallace from Econisis to undertake the research and data analysis that we can model into the Shire's economic development plan, ultimately to help us with our decision making and ability to secure critical funding & project approvals. I'm so pleased the Shire can spend some time on this subject.

The Audit Committee met again in March. We recommended to Council a policy on disposal of Shire assets. This will ensure the shire complies with section 3.58 of the Local Government Act. Council adopted the policy at their meeting on the 27th March.

I attended the Bushfire Advisory Committee meeting on the 26th March. The meeting was well attended with representatives from our local Brigades, the Department of Fire & Emergency Services, and the Shire. We continued to highlight and discuss the difficulties our volunteers face, including fit for purpose fire trucks. Brigade leaders have committed to a couple of training sessions and the Shire will ensure the sessions are arranged on the requested calendar dates to enable maximum attendance.

And on the final workday of March, I attended the blessing of the roads ceremony at New Norcia. We remembered the lives lost on WA roads and said thanks to our emergency service personnel. Road safety is so important and taking this reminder just before the Easter long weekend helps us save lives.

Confidential Matters

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

reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au

Labelled 'Private and Confidential'

Kind Regards,
Cr. Pauline Bantock
Shire President



Ordinary Council Meeting

Will be held
Wednesday

24th April 2024

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
to register for a digital copy.



From the Chief Executive Officer

Sean Fletcher



Hello From the CEO

I hope you had an enjoyable Easter with family, friends and community.

A couple of weeks ago, Linda and I attended the world premiere of the WA movie *Before Dawn*. It is a World War One movie about young West Aussies in France/Belgium (The Western Front), based on the actual war diaries of diggers who came from all over WA. We were invited to attend the premiere (1,500 people were there including Silvio and his wife) and be on the red carpet as my daughter was the set/production designer for the movie and my wife was head of catering. The movie is screening from 4 April and has world wide release to 90% of countries. It would be awesome if you get to see it.

So, following on from the above, the next big community event in the Shire is Anzac Day here in Calingiri at the war memorial. It would be fantastic if you can pop along and be part of the commemoration.

Economic Development Strategy

Following on from my last update, a big thank you to those business owners who participated in the survey to help identify key drivers for the Shire's new economic development strategy.

We will now be issuing a modified version of the survey for all community members to participate in throughout most of April.

Development of the Shire's Water Strategy

I am pleased to advise that the Shire was successful in receiving key funding to help us develop a shire wide water strategy during 2024/25. The purpose of the strategy is to help us clearly identify the Shire's water sources, who has responsibility for these sources and implement a plan to help secure an effective water source for those communities not covered by the supply provided through the Water Corporation.

Improvements to the Shire's Landfill (Waste) Sites

The Shire has prepared a suite of actions based on its waste management plan to rationalise the use of our three landfills (Calingiri, Bolgart and Mogumber) and the waste services the Shire provides. It is expected that the plan to implement the suite of actions will cost approximately \$500,000 and is broken down as follows:

- We applied for an e-Waste grant, which was successful - \$230,795. This includes funding that will allow us to install sorting sheds and bins regarding such waste for example old tvs, computers, radios and the like;
- The WasteSorted Made Easy grant of \$135,000 allows the Shire to install concrete bays and skip bins at each location for the management and diversion of construction and demolition material. In particular, it will allow us to install truck bin bays and ramps that are specifically designed for transfer stations.
- Unfortunately, the application for the waste education grant was unsuccessful, but we will be reapplying for this on the back of how successful the above grants have been;

We are applying next for funding of \$102,000 to allow us to support the above actions by expanding on the types of waste we can receive and redirect e.g. mattresses and putrescible household waste.

So, it can be seen that the Shire has so far secured \$365,795 in funding to help make these actions a reality.

Kind Regards,
Sean Fletcher
Chief Executive Officer

From the Deputy Chief Executive Officer Colin Ashe



The financial year is literally flying past and I cannot believe the shire is approaching end of financial year. The management team has accordingly commenced some preliminary discussions and work on the 2024-25 budget at the strategic level reviewing and taking into account the shire's high level documents such as the Strategic Community Plan, Plant Replacement Program and Road Construction Program.

Concurrently the team continues to deliver on the 2023-24 budget activities with many of the capital projects either already delivered or on track to be delivered. During the recent Audit Committee and Council meeting I made comment that there were perhaps only one or two items that may slip into 2024-25 and if they do, will likely only be a couple of months out. This is an excellent effort in my view and continues to be consistent with the unofficial mantra of 'do what we say we would do'.

Finance Update 23-24

The budgeted activities for 2023-24 continue to track well and on track for completion where applicable. As at the 29 Feb 24 the following progress has been made on Capital Activities:

Activity	Cost (\$)	Status
Staff Housing Fencing	27,180	In Progress
Depot Office Renovations	11,441	Complete
E-Waste Transfer Station	14,368	In Progress
Parker Road Bore	31,996	Complete
Calingiri – New Norcia Rd Intersection	645,937	In Progress
Calingiri – Carani East Road	87,308	In Progress
Mogumber-Yarawindah Road	2,518,447	In Progress
Piawaning—Waddington Road	86,662	Complete
Gillingarra-Glentromie Road	41,365	Complete
Gillingarra-New Norcia Road	67,255	Complete
Goomalling - New Norcia Road	24,725	Complete
Piawaning Desalination Plant	58,211	In Progress
RV Dump Point - Bolgart	10,287	In Progress

Administration:

Gym Access – due to the security system and access reaching the end of its useful life we have had to change the system and therefore swipe cards. My team has attempted to make contact with all members but if somehow you have been missed and still have a current membership, please drop into the shire office and pick up a new access token. By the way, memberships are only \$25 per month – cheapest in WA I reckon so if your feeling energetic, want to get fit for the coming winter sport season or simply for your health, come and get a membership at the shire.

Log a job – as part of the new computer system the shire has rolled out a customer relationship management system (CRMS) where we capture all requests from the public. Previously you may have rung the Depot, Works Manager or even the CEO but of course this can be prone to simply getting missed in the day to day operations. The best way for any issue to be registered and more importantly is logged in the system for action and follow up is to contact the shire office on 9628 7004 in the first instance. If the call is after hours, still ring this number as we have also implemented an after hours service and it will be logged and actioned depending on the urgency.

Continued on from Colin Ashe....

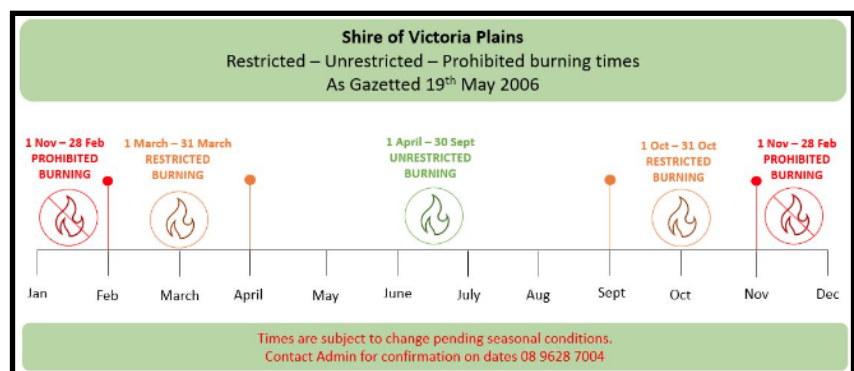
Harmony Day – the team participated in Harmony Day during Mar 24 which is all about inclusiveness, respect and belonging for all Australians, regardless of cultural or linguistic background, united by a set of core Australian values. Many of the staff brought along some food dishes of their cultural background which the shire team demolished even though it was mid-morning! A shout out to Ericha for organising the event which we all enjoyed, increased our awareness and increased our appreciation of the different backgrounds we come from.



Other Projects / Strategic Planning

Sport and Recreation Master Plan (SRMP) – thank you to all groups that participated in the questionnaire, there were some interesting results and feedback which firstly is very helpful in developing the next stage of the plan but as some general feedback on a range of issues. I anticipate the first draft will be provide at the end of Apr 24 and once reviewed, we will circulate to stakeholders for some further feedback before finalising and having it approved by council.

Kind Regards,
Colin Ashe
Deputy Chief Executive Officer



From the Manager Works and Services

Silvio Brenzi



The Shire has received delivery of two more items in this year's plant replacement program. This being a 6 wheeler replacement and a new track loader. The truck is designed with shorter sides to the tipper to allow for easier use for loading with the new track loader. It is also fitted with in built attachments for the slide in water cart. This allows for use on call outs to fallen trees with the track loader and grapple bucket and road construction with water on site. The reduced body size still allows for full loading to the specified tonnages with gravel.

The Main Roads contract on Great Northern Highway is progressing well. Old Plains Road intersection to the south side will have a temporary shift whilst GARLI replace a culvert as part of their works. Normal traffic will be able to flow during these works and will be returned to the current alignment once completed.



Firebreaks

The coming fire season is still many months away. However, this year, inspections will take place on residential and rural properties. This means that farmers will need to keep in mind not to seed or crop up to 4 meters from the boundary fences of their properties. If your farm is made up of more than one lot, you will need to ensure each lot, not paddock has the 4 meter break installed by October. This should limit any problems with unharvested crop causing compliance issues for the owner once inspected.

Kind regards,
Silvio Brenzi
Manager - Works and Services

From the Community Development Officer Katrina Humphries



On the 28th of March, the Shire of Victoria Plains and the Benedictine Community held a Blessing of the Roads ceremony in New Norcia. Blessing of the Roads was first organized in 1999 and has been running for 25 years. It is an event to raise awareness of road safety in the lead up to and during the easter long weekend, when many people travel long distances to visit family, friends or holiday destinations.

We had a great turnout of invited community members and representatives of community groups. This was a lovely morning with Victoria Ford who is a descendant of Apical Ancestors Yuroba and Utonga doing the Welcome to Country and a prayer from her family. Father John from New Norcia read out the beautiful prayers and performed the Blessing. Guests that attended also had the opportunity to lay a white rose in commemoration of lives lost on our roads and a minute of silence was held to pay our respects. We were then all treated to a lovely morning tea at the St Ildephonsus Refectory.



Kind Regards,
Katrina Humphries
Community Development Officer



WHAT'S ON AT CPS

Phone: 96288 500 - Email: Calingiri.ps@education.wa.edu.au - Address: 18 Cavell Street Calingiri



WEST COAST EAGLES

Recently 5 Eagles players- Tim Kelly, Loch Rawlinson, Callum Jamieson, Jeremy McGovern and Tom Cole spoke to our students via zoom about being an EAGLE, resilience and goal setting. They told stories about Kicking their first AFL goal, what it was like being drafted and their most memorable moments. We are looking forward to starting training after Easter and hopefully watching AFL at Optus stadium during the season.



WE ARE HERE



CAL TO KAL

The students are walking to Kalgoorlie. Every morning we have walking/running club, where students complete laps to make our way to Kalgoorlie. They are making great progress so far.

Total Distance = 555kms
Distance Walked = 67.3kms



HARMONY DAY

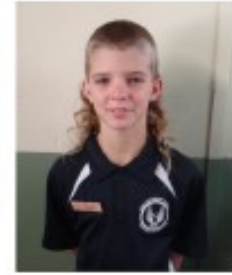
Our Junior Room staff, students and parents enjoyed a lovely afternoon of activities, lunch, Easter Egg hunt and classroom visits during Harmony Week.





Yerecoin Primary School

Our School Captain (Abeeha) and Vice Captain (Leo) attended the National Young Leaders' Day at the Perth Convention Centre. They learnt a variety of leadership skills, heard keynote speakers and met students from other schools.



Crazy Hair Day



The funds raised (\$60) will go to 'Wigs for Kids - Monetary Donation'.



On Thursday, 7th March Yerecoin PS students were able to interview current West Coast Eagle players. We were informed about healthy eating, regular exercise and the importance of 8-10 hours sleep each night. We really enjoyed finding out about how they train, what their host families do and to personally meet players such as Tom Barrass. We taught them all about living on a farm.

Interview With A West Coast Eagles Player



Kindy's

Our Kindergarten students have been learning the following letter sounds: s,a,t,p,i,n. Here are our Kindy's dressed up as 'p' for princesses.



Our lovely new trikes.



Year 3-6 Wheatbelt Cricket Blast School Cup

The students from Yerecoin PS combined with students from Bolgart and Callingiri PS in an all-day cricket carnival called the 'Calcoinar' Cricket Blast Cup.

Students participated in one of four teams (mixed schools). Participation, teamwork, sportsmanship and persistence were important values that had been emphasized on the day.

The day was co-ordinated by Melinda Williams (Cricket Manager - Wheatbelt).



CARBON FARMING INFORMATION SESSION ON THE 15TH OF APRIL 2024

Alinta Energy invites landowners in the Shire of Victoria Plains to attend a meeting on Monday the 15th of April at Calingiri recreational centre, 7 Yulgering Rd, Calingiri from 5:00pm till 7:00pm, to learn more about opportunities to sequester carbon in your property and the benefits to biodiversity.

The Information sessions will cover the potential to generate Australian Carbon Credits Units under the ACCU Scheme, generating additional income streams for landowners.

Local landowners who are interested in learning more about this opportunity are encouraged to contact Alinta Energy on **08 9422 5971** or **naturebasedsolutions@alintaenergy.com.au**

Learn more at

alintaenergy.com.au/about-us



alintaenergy

CALINGIRI

Hockey Club

Senior Coach Wanted

Women's Team Training TBC
Games on Sundays at 2pm

Junior Players Wanted

Kids from Year 3 to 15 years old
Training TBC
Games on Sundays at 12:20pm

Contact us...

calingirihockeyclub@gmail.com

0477152154



We're switching off 3G on 30 June 2024

On 30th June 2024 Telstra will be closing our 3G network. In the lead up to this, we are upgrading our mobile network in areas that only have Telstra 3G coverage to ensure the same or better 4G coverage is available.

Your area is now Telstra 4G ready

I'm pleased to let you know that our program of work to deliver this in your Local Government Area is now complete, meaning the area is 4G ready. Simply put, if residents could only get 3G on the Telstra network before, they should now be able to enjoy the extra speed and capacity that 4G brings and will continue to have Telstra mobile coverage after the 30th of June.

What you need to do

We know that the vast majority of our customers' mobile devices are able to access the 4G network. However, locally there are still a small number of 3G-only mobile devices accessing our network that will need to be replaced or upgraded before this time if they wish to remain connected.

It is important to note such devices may not be limited to phones and may also include 3G only Telstra Cel-Fi GO Repeaters, 3G only Telstra Mobile Smart Antennas (TMSA), and Internet-of-Things (IoT) or Machine-to-Machine (M2M) devices such as eftpos, telemetry & medical devices.

There will be no loss of 3G coverage prior to 30th June 2024. Once we have closed the 3G network, we will repurpose the spectrum so that we can use it to expand our 5G network. We are committed to continuing our long tradition of investment in rural and regional Australia by providing more state-of-the-art services and this is an important step to transition to 5G.



Contact Main Roads

Our team is available 24/7 to help you with any questions you have or information you may need regarding our road network. You can call us on 138 138

<https://www.mainroads.wa.gov.au/contact-us/>



mainroads
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

ANIMAL CONTROL AND RANGER ISSUES

The contract ranger and the manager of works and services have continued with the Corella control program and feral cat management. This has required trapping of cats at 3 locations and shooting of Corellas mainly around Calingiri. In the past month the following has occurred:

- Corellas removed on 7 occasions totaling 61. Whilst this is not a large number in comparison to the total flock size, they are learning that the townsite is not the best place to be. It is anticipated to continue this program in conjunction with the Corella Co-Ordinator and their up and coming programs.
- Feral cats removed in the past month have totaled 72. This will also continue as the Shire applies for grant funding to support this important environmental program.

Please note the Shire ranger has monitored and photographed several stray dogs roaming the streets and some not on leashes with the owners. Infringements will be issued on this type of evidence as it is not safe for other members of the public. Please ensure your gates and fences are set up correctly for your dogs and you have them on a leash when out on the footpaths. During the month of May, another dog and cat registration day will be held in Calingiri as this is a discounted month for registration's.



ANZAC DAY 25th April 2024

The Victoria Plains Shire advises residents that an Anzac Day commemorative service will be on Thursday 25th April 2024 at the Shire War Memorial, Yulgering Road , Calingiri.

Assemble by 10:30am—Commences at 11:00am

The Chairman of the Victoria Plains Shire Advisory Committee, Gary McGill, invites any veterans or family thereof to contact him to discuss involvement in the service.

Gary can be contacted on 0427 287 058.



UNRESTRICTED BURNING

Victoria Plains is now in unrestricted burning season.

For emergencies call 000, for Alerts & Warnings
visit www.emergency.wa.gov.au

To be added to the Shire's SMS list for Fire and Harvest ban updates please go to:
<https://www.victoriaplains.wa.gov.au/your-shire/services/emergency-management.aspx>
to register your details.

Thank You!

Many thanks to all in the shire who have paid respects and offered sympathy to myself and my children on the unexpected passing of our dear husband and father, Arthur (Slim) Jones.

We, myself in particular, have been overwhelmed by the number of people who attended his funeral and wake, and by the number of cards sent to us. So many friends have offered to help me that I am afraid I cannot remember all of you. Please realise that I am very grateful for your offers, even if I haven't taken you up on them.

Your kindness is not forgotten,

Dorothy, Steven, Sonia, Ann and Janine and families.



NEWSLETTER SUBMISSION CUTOFF

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

All submissions to be emailed to:
candice.watson@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au

Late submissions may not be accepted.



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



**If any community groups would like to lay a wreath on ANZAC day please contact the Shire of Victoria Plains to register your wreath.
(08)96 287 004**

The Shire has been provided with a Public Trustee DVD available to the public “Understanding the Financial Impacts of Mental Illness”

If you would like a copy of the DVD please come into the Shire of Victoria Plains office or Library at Bolgart and Mogumber to collect one.

Mental illness is a significant issue in Australia, with approximately one in five people experiencing a mental health disorder every year. Around two to three percent of adults will experience a more serious mental disorder (such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder) during their lifetime.

This DVD is designed to help health and welfare service providers understand the financial and legal consequences of mental illness. These consequences have a significant effect on families, with the quality of support and service delivery to families and affected family members being crucial. The Public Trustee offers a range of services that assist clients in financial management but all service providers can play a role in minimising the financial hardship suffered by people with mental health issues.



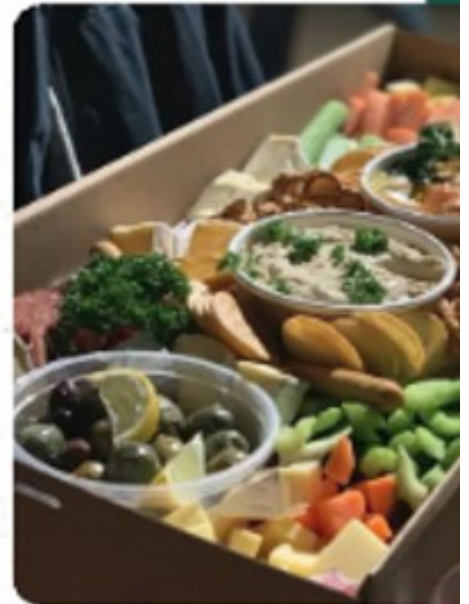
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