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## Hello from the Shire President

I commence our March newsletter by congratulating our Chief Executive Officer, Mr Sean Fletcher. Following a comprehensive evaluation process during the annual performance review, Councillors provided overwhelmingly positive feedback on Sean's leadership and performance. Council acknowledged his strategic insight, professionalism and commitment to driving progress for the Shire of Victoria Plains.

One of the key strategic matters the CEO and Council have been working on in recent years is our advocacy around Western Australia's energy transition and ensuring regional communities hosting infrastructure are recognised within that transition. We are therefore pleased that the Shire of Victoria Plains has been selected as one of only four local governments in Western Australia to participate in the State Government's Community Benefits Guidelines Pilot Program.

Through this pilot, the Shire will work alongside the Shires of Dandaragan, West Arthur and Narrogin to help shape how Community Benefits Plans operate in practice for renewable energy developments. Importantly, this program ensures regional communities like ours have a clear place at the table when it comes to how benefits from major renewable energy projects are delivered and invested locally. The pilot program will also help establish governance models, engagement processes and funding frameworks so that any benefits flowing from renewable energy development reflect the priorities of our local communities.

At a regional level, I recently attended the AMP-UP meeting, which provided a valuable opportunity to continue advocating on several key issues affecting our region. Emergency services capacity remains a major focus for many Wheatbelt communities, and discussions again reinforced the importance of ensuring our volunteer brigades are supported with fit-for-purpose fire trucks and reliable communications during fire incidents. These are practical issues that directly affect the safety of our communities and the effectiveness of our local emergency response, and Council will continue to advocate strongly for improvements in these areas.

Finally, I would like to thank Deputy President Suzanne Woods for chairing the February Council meeting while I attended a medical appointment with my neurologist. While it was necessary for me to be absent, it was certainly a strange feeling to miss my first Council meeting in more than 10 years.

I also appreciate Councillors supporting my request for a month of leave at that meeting. At this stage I am taking leave only when necessary, as I have been experiencing both good and bad days. I am currently awaiting further tests, and we hope this will provide clearer treatment options that will see me back to full health as soon as possible.



**Everyone is welcome**  
**ANZAC Day Dawn Service**  
**Mogumber Memorial Arch (Oval)**  
**Gather at 5.15am for 5.30am**  
**Tea, coffee and barbecue breakfast provided**

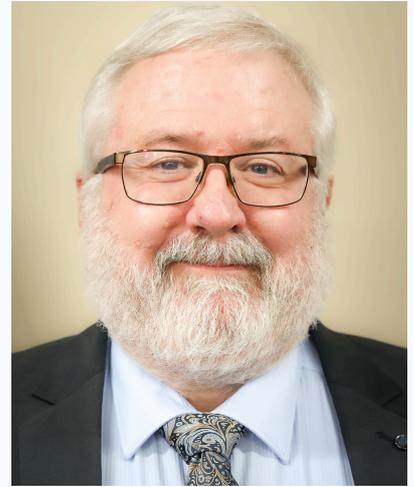
## Hello from the CEO

As we move into March, I'd like to reflect on a productive February and provide an update on some of the important work underway at the Shire.

## Strategic Community Plan Review Underway

One of the most significant milestones in February was the commencement of the major review of our Strategic Community Plan (SCP). This plan sets the long-term direction for the Shire and guides how we prioritise services, infrastructure, advocacy, and investment for our community.

The review is an important opportunity to take stock of where we are, consider future challenges and opportunities, and ensure the Shire's strategic priorities continue to reflect the needs and aspirations of our community.



## Community Reference Panel – First Meeting

A key part of the SCP review is strong community involvement. In February we held the first meeting of the Community Reference Panel, and I would like to thank those community members who have volunteered their time and experience to be part of this important group.

The panel brings together a broad cross-section of the community and will help inform the review process by providing local insight, feedback, and perspective. The first meeting was constructive and encouraging, with valuable discussion around community priorities now and into the future.

Further engagement opportunities will occur as the review progresses, and I encourage residents to participate when consultation activities are advertised.

## Annual Meeting of Electors

February also saw the Annual Meeting of Electors, providing an opportunity to review the 2024/2025 financial year and discuss matters of interest to the community. These meetings are an important part of local government transparency and accountability, and I thank those who attended and contributed to the discussion.

The meeting also provided an opportunity to report on what is unfolding across the organisation, including advocacy priorities, funding opportunities, and key projects currently being progressed or planned.

## Advocacy, Funding and Key Priorities

Advocacy continues to be a key focus for Council and administration, particularly in securing external funding and influencing outcomes that support community safety, resilience, and sustainability.

During February, work continued on progressing road safety improvements to Wongan–Waddington Road and Toodyay–Bindi Bindi Road, which remain high priorities for the Shire due to their importance for safety, connectivity, and freight movement.

In addition to infrastructure advocacy, the Shire is also:

- Pursuing the establishment of an Emergency Management Roundtable, aimed at strengthening coordination, preparedness, and shared understanding across agencies and stakeholders.
- Progressing input into the Energy Transition, ensuring local perspectives are considered as State and national energy policy and infrastructure planning continues to evolve.
- Advocating for affordable housing options for key workers, recognising the importance of attracting and retaining essential staff to support services and economic activity in our community.

Council and staff continue to actively engage with State and Federal agencies and funding bodies to position the Shire for future investment and positive outcomes.

### Progress Across the Organisation

Beyond these key milestones, February was a busy month across the organisation, with staff continuing to deliver day-to-day services, progress planning for upcoming works, and manage increasing regulatory and reporting requirements.

I would like to acknowledge the ongoing professionalism and commitment of Shire staff, who work diligently behind the scenes to support our community.

### Looking Ahead

The months ahead will see continued progress on the Strategic Community Plan review, further community engagement, and ongoing work on advocacy, funding submissions, and service delivery.

I encourage residents to stay informed through the Shire's communication channels and to take part in engagement opportunities as they arise. Your involvement plays a vital role in shaping the future of our community.

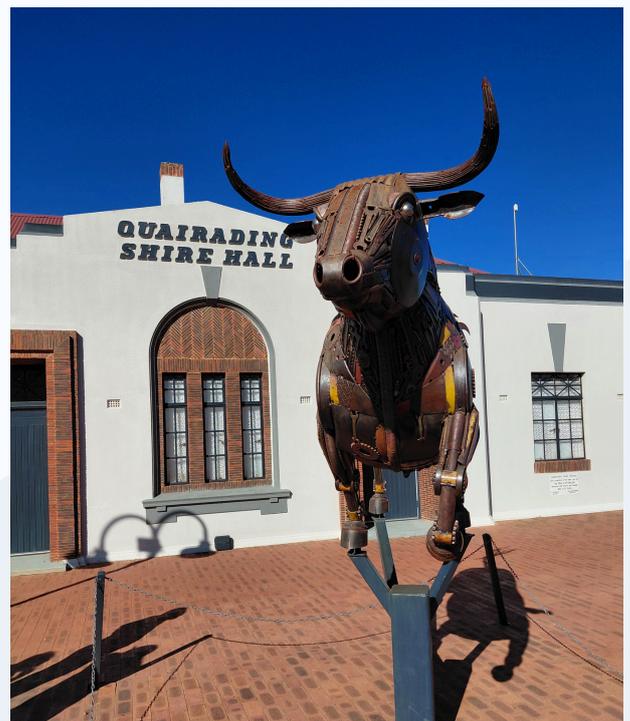
Thank you for your continued interest and support.

### Regional Development Australia (RDA)

RDA Wheatbelt works behind the scenes to support strong, sustainable communities right across our region by connecting local priorities with Australian Government programs and funding. As a member of the RDA Wheatbelt Board, I'm pleased to share that we are increasing our engagement with communities and councils to advocate for initiatives that matter locally.

This includes progressing a Wheatbelt Infrastructure Fund proposal to help unlock future investment, delivering the Wheatbelt Readiness Project to ensure our region is well-prepared for emerging industries and opportunities through the Defence Industry, and continuing governance and financial management training for Aboriginal communities to build long-term capacity.

RDA Wheatbelt also oversees the Lumen Wheatbelt Regional University Study Hub, which provides local study spaces and support so residents can access university education without leaving the Wheatbelt. Looking ahead, we are also exploring a Wheatbelt Natural Tourism and Land Transformation Strategy to support diversification, protect our landscapes and create new economic opportunities for local towns and communities.





## Hello Residents and Ratepayers

The Finance and Admin team are well and truly back into the swing of things, as I have mentioned before, the end of Dec and Jan period is the quieter time though like most years that seems to pass quickly. The focus has turned to ensuring we complete those tasks allocated for 25-26 and now formulating the budget for 26-27. Auditors will be visiting shortly for the interim audit and then EOFY year will be upon us.

Before I get into the detail of this report it was good to see the shire was consistent in Corporate Bowls out at Bolgart, coming last again! I only played the last game and tried to lift the side but to no avail. One of the positives was that a lot of the teams were lobbying to play us next year - not sure why 😊.

We may have to look at 1<sup>st</sup> round draft picks next year - I believe the Calingiri Primary School have been talking a bit of game saying we were better last year with their presence so we may need to explore this further!

Of course all banter aside, it was another successful corporate bowls function, well organised and supported by the community and most importantly we all had a great time so we look forward to lifting the trophy next year!

## Administration

I'm sure the Community Development Officer will communicate more on this but the move of the Library from the Shire to the Old Road Board has progressed well and been a success. There are some finishing touches to be placed on it but from all reports there has been a number of positive comments. If you haven't visited, I would encourage you to do so during opening times.

Change of Banks - the Shire is currently transitioning its banking services from Bendigo Bank to the Commonwealth Bank. There were a number of reasons for this decision suffice to say its probably systemic of change in a number areas we are all experiencing. From an end user point of view, you should not see any difference to the level of service, process or payments to and from the shire, it will be business as usual.

Calingiri Playground Equipment - the installation of the new equipment has now been completed and whilst there will be some finishing touches - its ready for use. This is basically the last legacy project the shire needed to complete which had a component of grant funding attached to it.

## Finance

The majority of Capital projects have been completed and consistent with commentary above, just some finishing touches on a couple of the major ones. During the period of the current management team, this is first time in 3 years we are tracking to be on schedule or ahead. Its also unusual that a capital progress is essentially completed by Mar but testament to the effort of all the workforce to make this happen. Whilst management may take the accolades (and at times the criticism), it's the behind the scenes engine room of the team that actually make this happen so a shout out to them.

Activity	(\$)	Status
Depot Renovations	43,182	In Progress
Digital Speed Signs	23,895	In Progress
Toodyay - Bindi Bindi Road North (RRSP)	1,940,682	In Progress
Wongan Hills Waddington Road (RRSP)	661,465	In Progress
Edmonds Street Subdivision	82,276	In Progress
Calingiri Playground Equipment	48,820	In Progress
Calingiri War memorial	13,914	In Progress
<i>Previously Reported</i>		
Calingiri Pavilion Boiler	27,309	Completed
Depot Carpark	17,294	Completed
Tabletop Truck	112,971	Completed
Depot Utility	33,419	Completed
Mogumber Toilets	13,697	Completed
Yerecoin South East Road	783412	Completed
Bolgart East Road Seal Renewal	77,797	Completed
Poincare Street Seal Renewal	48,437	Completed
Cavell Street and Haig Street Intersection	12,427	Completed
Calingiri Youth Park	11,000	Completed
Calingiri Sportsground Lighting	22,835	C/F 24-25 now completed (total cost \$85,804)
Bolgart Skatepark	5,850	Completed
Hydraulic Claw	20,800	Completed
60" Mower	17,842	Completed
Excavator	137,400	Completed
Footpath Program	16,900	Completed

## Strategic

As previously outlined, several strategic initiatives will be progressed concurrently. Some of these support the development of key strategic outcomes—such as the new Council Plan (formerly the Strategic Community Plan)—while others are standalone projects. These include:

- Long Term Financial Plan
- Disaster Recovery Plan
- ICT Cybersecurity
- Sport and Recreation Master Plan (already adopted and now working towards implementing the various elements)

Together, these plans will shape the long-term outcomes the community wishes to achieve, while ensuring we maintain a safe, resilient, and well-governed environment in which to deliver them. As these initiatives advance it will ensure transparency, alignment, and informed decision-making.



## Community Upgrades Enhance Calingiri's Recreational Spaces

Residents may have noticed a fresh new look around two much-loved community spaces, with recent upgrades completed at the Calingiri War Memorial and the town playground. These improvements form part of Council's ongoing commitment to providing safe, welcoming, and high-quality facilities for local families, visitors, and community groups.

At the War Memorial, the artificial turf surrounding the monument has been replaced, giving the area a cleaner, more uniform appearance and reducing long-term maintenance needs. The refreshed surface not only enhances the visual appeal of the Memorial but also provides a more durable and accessible space for commemorative events throughout the year. Alongside this upgrade, a new sign has been installed, offering clearer visibility and helping preserve the significance of the site for future generations.

Meanwhile, the Calingiri Playground has received a vibrant boost with the installation of brand-new play equipment. The updated structures have been chosen with a focus on safety, inclusivity, and fun—providing exciting opportunities for children of all ages to climb, slide, explore, and engage in active play. The new features complement the existing layout of the playground and create a lively, family-friendly environment right in the heart of town.

These upgrades continue the Shire's program of enhancing community spaces and investing in local amenity. The Council extends its thanks to residents for their patience during works and encourages everyone to visit and enjoy the improved facilities.





We hope everyone had a wonderful February—whether you were celebrating Valentine's Day, Chinese New Year, Ash Wednesday, or even National Love Your Pet Day.

I'm writing this today from the first of what we hope will be many First Aid Training courses organised by the Shire. This session is being held in Piawaning, where nine locals are receiving training from a qualified St John's instructor. If you're interested in taking part, please let me know—we're hoping to run another course in Mogumber or Calingiri in September.

We also welcomed some special guests to the Calingiri Library this month. Jan from the State Library WA and Susan from Christmas Island visited to see our library and explore the new system we've implemented. They were both very impressed with how versatile and user-friendly it is. It's always encouraging to hear that the work happening in our small community is being recognised and appreciated.

The Calingiri Library itself has had quite the facelift recently, now located in the ORB and open all day on Tuesdays. If you haven't popped in yet, I'd love to have you visit and see what's new!

This month I also attended the Quarterly Community Development Officer meeting, hosted by the Shire of Dandaragan at their Jurien Bay office. It's inspiring to see the progress their Shire is making—and even better to receive positive feedback on the ideas and initiatives we're developing here.

Across the Shire, staff have been busy completing AI training. We're learning how to use these tools to improve productivity and consistency while keeping our information secure. The focus is on supporting our work—not replacing people—so we can spend more time serving our communities.

Another highlight was our first Community Reference Group meeting. It was a great success, with lots of helpful feedback about how the Shire is tracking and where we can continue to improve. These conversations, along with input from the community surveys currently circulating, will help shape a new Community Plan to replace the old Strategic Plan. If you haven't completed a survey yet, please jump online or visit the office—your voice genuinely helps guide our priorities.

And finally, a huge congratulations to the Bolgart Bowling and Bolgart Sports Club for hosting another fantastic few rounds of Corporate Bowls! It was wonderful to see everyone out and enjoying themselves. Congratulations to Lester Snooke's team for taking out first place, followed by Colin Guthrie's team in second and Lee Baird's team in third. And yes... the wooden spoon remains with us at the Shire for another year!



## Emergency Management

While the Summer period is over, we are still seeing hot and dry weather across much of the region. While we have entered the Restricted Burning Period conditions have not allowed the issuing of permits. Recovery efforts have also continued post the December 2025 Mogumber bushfire. The Shire has also continued advocacy efforts in the emergency management space.

## Home Fire Safety

Home fires can occur quickly and often without warning, making preparation essential. Residents are reminded to ensure smoke alarms are installed and working, keep escape paths clear, and never leave cooking or heating appliances unattended. Having a simple home fire escape plan and discussing it with all household members can make a significant difference in an emergency.

In the event of a home fire:

- Exit the building as quickly as possible and make sure everyone is accounted for.
- Call 000 and ask for fire.
- Do not re-enter a burning building for any purpose.

## Restricted Burning

As of the 1<sup>st</sup> of March 2026, the whole Shire has entered the RESTRICTED burning period. This means permits are required to conduct any burning operations. Permits can be obtained by contacting your local Fire Control Officer or the Shire office during standard business hours. When burning under a permit take note of the following points

- Permits are SUSPENDED on days of High, Extreme and Catastrophic Fire danger.
- Permits are also SUSPENDED if a Total Fire Band or Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban is in place.
- If denied a Permit by an FCO, it is a Breach of the Bushfires Act 1954 to attempt to obtain a permit from another FCO.
- All permits' conditions must be followed.

You can find information about the fire danger rating and relevant weather information on the BOM website.

Lastly as always, a reminder for our bush fire volunteers, is that the use of PPE and safe practises on the fire ground are essential for everyone's safety. Registered volunteers that have completed the introductory training are eligible for PPE through the Shire. If you require PPE, please contact the Shire office, or one of us.

**Burning Restricted**  
1<sup>st</sup> March – 31<sup>st</sup> March

**Burning Unrestricted**  
1<sup>st</sup> April – 30<sup>th</sup> September

**Burning Restricted**  
1<sup>st</sup> October – 31<sup>st</sup> October

**Burning Prohibited**  
1<sup>st</sup> November – 31<sup>st</sup> December



## Off-Lead Areas and How They Work

The Calingiri Football Oval is the only approved location in our district where dogs may be off their lead. Once inside the oval, dogs may run freely, exercise, and socialise – provided they remain under effective control.

This means your dog should respond to your commands, stay within your sight, and not approach other dogs or people in a way that causes worry or nuisance.

The off-lead privilege applies only inside the boundaries of the oval.



## Leash Requirements in Streets, Parks, and Reserves

When travelling to or from the Calingiri Football Oval, all dogs must remain on a leash at all times, unless they are already inside the designated off-lead exercise area. This rule applies to footpaths, verges, streets, and any other public space outside the fenced oval.

Keeping your dog on a lead until you reach the off-lead zone helps prevent unexpected interactions, keeps other community members safe, and reduces the risk of dogs wandering onto roads.

## Dog Waste Responsibilities and Fines

Please remember to pick up after your dog, whether on a lead or off. Dog waste left in public places creates hygiene issues, attracts pests, and reduces enjoyment for others using the oval and surrounding areas.

Waste bags should be carried at all times and disposed of in the nearest bin. Fines may apply for failing to remove dog waste. The shire provides green waste bags for your convenience. These are located at the dog exercise area.

## Preventing Dog-to-Dog Conflict in Public

Many dog-to-dog incidents occur when dogs are allowed to approach others while off lead in places where they should be leashed.

Keeping your dog leashed until you reach the oval significantly reduces the chance of conflicts or unwanted encounters.

When inside the off-lead area, please keep an eye on your dog, avoid crowding at entrances, and always ask before letting your dog greet another dog. A little awareness goes a long way in keeping our shared spaces enjoyable for everyone



# Community Benefits and Renewable Energy Projects: What It Means for Victoria Plains

The State Government is rolling out new guidelines to ensure communities directly affected by large-scale renewable energy projects receive meaningful, long-term benefits.

The Shire of Victoria Plains has been selected to participate in a State pilot program, alongside the Shires of Dandaragan, West Arthur and Narrogin, to help shape how these community benefits are planned, governed and delivered across Western Australia.

This article explains what the pilot is about, the Shire's role, and what this could mean for our community.

## What are the Community Benefits Guidelines?

The State Government has introduced a Community Benefits Guideline for large renewable energy projects, including wind farms, solar farms and community batteries.

The Guideline sets expectations that where major projects are developed, host communities (in this case, the Shire of Victoria Plains – the District) should share in the benefits, in ways that are:

- Fair and transparent,
- Guided by local priorities, and
- Focused on long-term outcomes for the community.

These benefits are in addition to normal planning approvals, rates should they ever become applicable, environmental conditions and landholder agreements.

## What is the Pilot Program?

To test how the new approach works in practice, the State has established a Community Benefits Plans Pilot in selected regions.

Victoria Plains is participating in the pilot alongside the Shires of Dandaragan, West Arthur and Narrogin. Together, these local governments are helping the State:

- Test proposed governance and funding models;
- Trial how community priorities are identified and agreed; and
- Refine arrangements before they are rolled out more broadly across WA.

The pilot focuses on areas where renewable energy projects are at an advanced stage and where there is strong community interest.

## Victoria Plains Backs Fair Share for Regions in WA's Clean Energy Transition

Victoria Plains selected for State Government Community Benefits Pilot



12 Month Pilot Program

"... this announcement means we now have a clear place at the table in shaping how renewable energy development delivers long-term benefits for our communities."  
- Cr Pauline Bantock, Shire President

## Two parallel roles for the Shire

As part of the pilot, the Shire is working across two connected areas.

### 1. Supporting the State-level pilot

At the State level, the Shire is working with the State Government through PoweringWA, as part of the Department of Energy and Economic Diversification, and the Wheatbelt Development Commission to:

- test draft community benefit planning and governance templates;
- provide practical feedback on how arrangements work in real communities;
- identify issues specific to cross-boundary projects (which are particularly relevant to Victoria Plains); and
- help shape a model that is workable, fair and manageable for local governments.

This work helps ensure future State policy reflects local experience.

## 2. Preparing for local community outcomes

At the same time, the Shire is preparing its own local approach so that, if and when projects proceed, community benefits reflect local needs and priorities. This includes:

- identifying local stakeholders, including Traditional Owners, community groups and businesses;
- planning how community views and priorities will be identified;
- preparing for participation in future governance and advisory groups; and
- ensuring the community is kept informed as matters progress.

### What does this mean financially?

Two large wind farm projects have been proposed within or near the Shire boundary.

Under the State Guideline, community benefit contributions are linked to the size of a project and are paid for the operational life of the development.

Based on current proposals and the Guideline's contribution rates, these projects could generate around \$645,000 per year in community benefit funding for the district. Over a typical 30-year operating life, this represents an estimated \$19 million investment into community-identified priorities.

It is important to note:

- these figures are indicative only;
- projects are still subject to approvals and may change; and
- how funds are used will be guided by community-developed plans, not determined by the Shire alone.

### How are decisions made about spending?

A key feature of the Guideline is the use of Community Benefits Plans. These plans are intended to be:

- developed collaboratively with the community;
- guided by a local advisory group representing a cross-section of the community; and
- focused on place-based priorities identified by residents.

Under the proposed model, the Wheatbelt Development Commission would act as the fund administrator, while local community advisory groups guide priorities and outcomes.

### What happens next?

Over the coming months, the Shire will:

- Continue working with the State Government through PoweringWA, as part of the Department of Energy and Economic Diversification, and the Wheatbelt Development Commission as part of the pilot program;
- Work with the Shire's Community Reference Panel to help establish the Community Benefits Plan, ensuring local priorities guide how benefits are identified and delivered;
- Continue collaborating with the other pilot local governments;
- Provide briefings to Council;
- Keep the community informed as details become clearer; and
- Ensure local voices are central to any future planning and decision-making.

No final decisions have been made, and nothing is locked in. The pilot is about getting the model right, so that if projects proceed, community benefits are delivered in a way that genuinely reflects local priorities.



# Vale Dennis Cometti – A Voice That Shaped Generations

As we recently heard, Australia has lost one of its most distinctive and beloved voices with the passing of Dennis Cometti, aged 76. I thought I would share not just those moments of his life captured by others but my level of appreciation of the great person he was.

For more than five decades, Dennis was a constant presence in our lounge rooms and radios, calling the moments that defined Australian sport and, in many ways, how we experienced it. His family confirmed his passing this week, prompting an outpouring of tributes from across the country, particularly here in Western Australia, where he was rightly regarded as one of our own.

Dennis Cometti's career spanned over 50 years and crossed generations. He called Australian rules football at the highest level, Test cricket, and three Olympic Games, and became best known for his AFL commentary with the ABC, Seven, Nine and on radio. His voice, timing and unmistakable wit turned sporting moments into shared national memories. He was inducted into the Sport Australia Hall of Fame in 2019 and the Australian Football Hall of Fame in 2020, recognition of a career that set the benchmark for sports broadcasting in this country.

What set Dennis apart was not just what he called, but how he called it. His dry humour, intelligence and perfectly timed turns of phrase elevated the broadcast without ever overwhelming the contest itself. Phrases like "centimetre perfect" and "he snuck up on him like a librarian" have become part of the Australian sporting lexicon, still quoted years later. He had the rare ability to make people laugh, think and appreciate the nuance of the game, often all in the same sentence.

For me, Dennis Cometti was more than a great commentator – he was part of my formative years as a sports fan and participant in football, cricket and hockey (Yes, I used to play all three). From a very young age, I remember listening closely to his analysis and commentary, not just following the ball but learning to understand the game through his words. He had a way of explaining what was unfolding that made you feel smarter just by listening. Whether it was a subtle tactical observation or a perfectly weighted line delivered at just the right moment, Dennis taught many of us how to watch sport, not just consume it.

That appreciation extended beyond the microphone. I also enjoyed reading what Dennis wrote over the years – pieces that reflected the same clarity, wit and thoughtfulness that defined his commentary. His writing carried the same respect for the audience: informed without being condescending, insightful without being overbearing. It was clear that behind the humour was meticulous preparation and a deep respect for the craft of storytelling in sport.

Dennis Cometti was often described as a "wordsmith," but that only tells part of the story. Those who worked alongside him spoke of his preparation and professionalism – hours spent studying teams, players and patterns so that when the moment came, his commentary felt effortless. That work ethic ensured that the quip or observation never distracted from the game; it enhanced it.

In Western Australia, his passing feels particularly personal. Born in Geraldton and shaped by WA football, Dennis carried a strong connection to this state throughout his life and career. He was widely acknowledged as a great loss to Western Australia, not just for his broadcasting legacy but for the pride he brought to the state every time he stepped into the commentary box.

Dennis Cometti leaves behind an extraordinary legacy – one that lives on in the calls we still quote, the moments we still replay, and the standard he set for those who followed. For many of us, myself included, his voice is inseparable from our earliest memories of sport. He didn't just describe the game; he enriched it.

Vale Dennis Cometti, and thank you for the moments, the laughter, and the lifelong appreciation of sport you helped instil in so many of us.

Sean Fletcher

Vale  
**DENNIS COMETTI**



# Global conflict and potential fuel impacts: what residents need to know

The Shire of Victoria Plains is closely monitoring the ongoing conflict in the Middle East and its potential impacts on fuel supply chains that service regional Western Australia.

While the situation is occurring overseas, global fuel markets are highly interconnected. Disruption to major international shipping routes, including the Strait of Hormuz, can have flow on effects for Australia and for regional communities such as ours. At this stage, there are no disruptions to Shire services, however the Shire is taking a precautionary and well-coordinated approach to monitoring the situation.

## Why this matters for Victoria Plains

Australia relies heavily on imported refined fuel products that pass through international supply chains connected to the Persian Gulf. While Australia does not import large volumes of crude oil directly from the Middle East, many refined fuels used in Western Australia are processed in countries such as Singapore, South Korea and Japan, which rely on Gulf sourced oil.

If global supply chains are disrupted for a sustained period, regional areas are typically impacted earlier than metropolitan centres due to distance, transport costs and reliance on road and rail freight.

For the Shire of Victoria Plains, this means potential pressure on:

- Fuel availability and pricing at regional service stations
- Freight costs along Great Northern Highway, Toodyay Road and Bindoon Moora Road
- Agricultural operations that rely on diesel and fertiliser deliveries
- Rail freight movements supporting grain transport and export pathways

## Potential impacts over time

If disruptions were to occur, impacts may be experienced progressively.

In the short term, this could include rising fuel prices and tighter availability at smaller regional service stations. Freight operators may also face higher operating costs, which can flow through to businesses and commuters.

Over a longer period, sustained pressure on fuel and fertiliser supply could affect agricultural input costs, freight reliability, rail services and some Shire works programs. Tourism and discretionary travel may also soften due to higher travel costs.

It is important to note that these are planning scenarios, not predictions, and are being used to ensure the Shire is prepared to respond if required.

## How the Shire is responding

The Shire of Victoria Plains is working closely with neighbouring local governments through the Avon Midland Peri-Urban Partnership (AMP-UP) partnership to monitor developments and share information. This coordinated approach supports consistent public messaging, continuity planning and regional resilience.

Key actions include:

- Monitoring fuel availability and impacts on contractors and suppliers
- Ensuring essential services such as waste collection, ranger services and emergency response can continue without interruption
- Reviewing operational priorities if conditions change
- Coordinating with State agencies and regional partners as required

At this time, all Shire services continue to operate as normal.

## What residents should do

Residents are encouraged to:

- Stay informed through official Shire communications
- Avoid panic buying or unnecessary fuel stockpiling
- Continue normal day to day activities

Taking a calm and measured approach helps ensure fuel and services remain available for those who need them most.

## Ongoing monitoring and updates

The Shire will continue to actively monitor the situation and assess any emerging impacts on local services, agriculture and the broader community. Updates will be provided through the Shire website and official channels if there are any changes residents need to be aware of.

**YERECOIN P&C**



**CAR**



**BATTERY**

**= DRIVE =**



**GOT OLD CAR BATTERIES?**

**DONATE THEM & SUPPORT OUR SCHOOL!**

- We Pick Up!**
- Or Drop Off Here!**



Turn your old car batteries into **\$\$\$ \$\$\$\$**   
  **for our school!**

**CONTACT NAOMI ON**

**\* 0408 877 050 \***

*Thank you for your support!*



# Bolgart Primary School

Phone 0896 275 300

[bolgart.ps@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:bolgart.ps@education.wa.edu.au)

The Senior class have also made a great start to the year, settling well into the class routines and leadership roles. We welcome new class members Gilbert, Billie and Thea. It is wonderful how quickly they have settled.

We have re-established our fluency pairs to practice reading out loud to improve our reading comprehension skills. To reinforce our maths skills, we are doing daily Basic facts practice and JEMM lessons. This is improving our maths vocabulary knowledge and increasing our exposure to different question types.

During our regular maths lessons, we have been revising our knowledge of large numbers, place value and rounding of numbers. Students are getting very confident with using number lines and MAB blocks to assist them during maths tasks.

We have begun practicing typing on Typing.com which is fun. This program can be accessed at home if students wish to practice more.

For HASS the year 3/4 group have discovered the Aboriginal language groups traditionally from this area. There are 3 as Bolgart is situated on the intersection of Yuet (Yued/Yuat), Balardong (Balardung) and Wajuk (Whadjuk) country.

In Science we are learning about weather and natural disasters. Did you know a cyclone is called a hurricane or typhoon in the northern hemisphere.

As part of our financial literacy program (Banqer) the students get to spend their money. A favourite purchase is to decide the fitness game or run a 15minute lesson. Jacob chose to do a cricket lesson.

### Whole school fitness

All students get together every day for a 10-minute fitness activity. When the weather doesn't allow for outdoor activities, we improvise with movement in the classroom. Last week it was raining so we joined in Just Dance in the senior room.



In the Early Childhood room, Students have settled in well and are enjoying their new classroom space. we are enjoying learning about 'Earth and Space' in science, especially with our new 'Space Station' in the classroom!

They are working hard to earn tokens so they can buy rewards.

They have been learning about the Zones of Regulation and identifying times when they may be in the red, blue, green or yellow zone.



The children in the Junior Room have got off to a wonderful start. We're settling into our classroom routines, and we've enjoyed welcoming our new Kindy friends into our school community. We have also welcomed Rori and Robert into Year 1 and we hope you're enjoying being here at Bolgart Primary School.

During our first few weeks we have been revising some of our phonics sounds and applying them to our reading and writing. In Science this term we have begun learning all about resources, both natural and man-made, renewable and non-renewable. We will also be exploring toys, transport and lifestyles in the past for History!





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<b>2013 TOYOTA LANDCRUISER GXL (4x4) DOUBE CAB TRAY WITH HARD BACK (WH)</b>	<b>1INL138</b>
Travelled 284,650Kms, 4.5Ltr V8 Turbo Diesel & 5 Speed Manual, Steel Bull Bar, Scrubs, Steps, Rear Canopy, Snorkel, GVM Upgrade & Many Extras.	\$ 76,500
<b>2020 TOYOTA LANDCRUISER PRADO VX 4 DOOR (4x4) WAGON (DL)</b>	<b>1IUG426</b>
Travelled 100,283Kms, 2.8Ltr Turbo Diesel, 6 Speed Auto Trans, Driver assistance, Adaptive Cruise Control, Bluetooth Connectivity & 5 Star ANCAP Safety Rating.	\$ 65,400
<b>2019 TOYOTA LANDCRUISER PRADO VX 4 DOOR (4x4) WAGON (WH)</b>	<b>1IPE801</b>
Travelled 99,007Kms, 1 Owner, Full Service History, 2.8T, Diesel Auto, Red, Tow Bar, Rear Air Bags, Anderson Plug & Electric Trailer Brakes.	\$ 64,890
<b>2018 TOYOTA LANDCRUISER PRADO KAKADU 5 DOOR (4x4) WAGON (WH)</b>	<b>1IQS541</b>
Travelled 299,150Kms, 2.8L Diesel Turbo, 6 Speed Automatic, Alloy Bull Bar, Spotlights & Tow Bar.	\$ 37,500
<b>2022 MITSUBISHI TRITON GLX (4x4) DOUBLE CCHAS (WH)</b>	<b>1IEU439</b>
Travelled 114,897Kms, 2.4Ltr Turbo Diesel, 6 Speed Auto Trans, 3ton Braked Towing Capacity, 5 Seat Interior & Power Assisted Steering.	\$ 35,950
<b>2017 TOYOTA LANDCRUISER PRADO GXL 4 DOOR (4x4) WAGON (WH)</b>	<b>1ISX556</b>
Travelled 225,503Kms, 2.8L Diesel Turbo, 6 Speed Automatic, Alloy Bull Bar, Spotlights & Towbar	\$ 34,900
<b>2009 TOYOTA LANDCRUISER PRADO ZR 3 DOOR (4x4) WAGON (WH)</b>	<b>1HZQ008</b>
Travelled 320,039Kms, 3.0Ltr Turbo Diesel 5 Speed Automatic, 3 Door, Leather Interior, Toyota Alloy Bull Bar, Tow Bar Spotlights, 40 Channel UHF & Rare Find.	\$ 29,450

Six 2017 – 2021 Ford Rangers Dual Cabs with trays Pre-Owned in Stock and ready to go, Enquire to secure one today.



# YERECOIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

## CRICKET CLINIC

In Sport with Mrs Howard, we participated in swimming lessons and we have also been playing cricket and golf. We received a Sporting Schools Grant. A big thank you to Jarred Patmore for helping with lessons.



## GOLF CLINIC



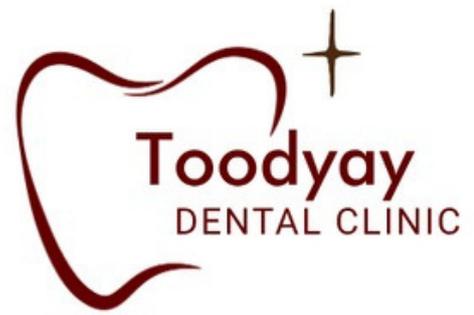
## AUSSIE OF THE MONTH

Congratulations to Rahim for being chosen Aussie of the Month for March.

For listening well and following instructions. Rahim also tries hard to complete all tasks. Thank you for showing respect to adults and caring for others.

# Toodyay Dental Clinic

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We are passionate about personalised care and maintaining high standards of treatment for every patient who walks through our doors.

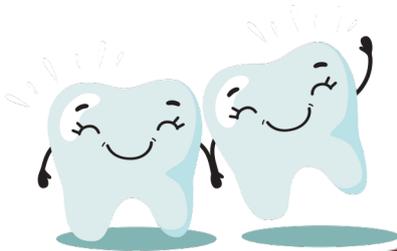
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**Bolgart**



**Bowling Club**

# 2026 Corporate Bowls

After three awesome weeks of fun & freindship, our 2026 Corporate Bowls came to a close tonight.

Thank you to our generous sponsors

- DEC Contracting
- Shire of Victoria Plains
- Lachie McInnes
- Ennis Wilson

Our winners were Lester Snooke's Team

Runner Up was Colin Guthrie's Team

Third was Lee Baird's Team

Many thanks to Neil & Neville for running the competition. Kep, Ennis, Brad, Bevan and Ed for cooking the burgers and delivering.

The ladies in the kitchen - pumping out 236 burgers over the three nights!

Thanks to the Sports Club committee for keeping the drinks up to a thirsty crowd.

Lets do it all again in 2027!



# Upcoming Events in the Shire



Shire of  
**Victoria Plains**  
Space to Grow

MAR  
**13**

9:30 AM

*Mogumber Library  
Ryme Time*

MAR  
**15**

4 PM

*Yerecoin Social  
Tennis*

MAR  
**15**

8 AM

*Bolgart Anglican  
Service*

MAR  
**15**

8 AM

*Bolgart Catholic Mass*

MAR  
**18**

5:30 PM

*Yerecoin Tennis  
Boekman's Night  
Dinner Provided*

MAR  
**19**

6 PM

*Wannamal Social  
Tennis and Dinners*

MAR  
**19**

9:30 AM

*Calingiri Craft Group  
Calingiri Hall*

MAR  
**19**

1:30 PM

*Bolgart Ladies Bowls  
Closing Day*

MAR  
**20**

9:30 AM

*Calingiri Primary School  
Assembly*

MAR  
**20**

9:30 AM

*Mogumber Library  
Ryme Time*

MAR  
**21**

9 AM

*New Norcia Retreat  
Prayer*

MAR  
**21-22**

9AM

*Bolgart Mens Singles  
Championship*

MAR  
**22**

8 AM

*Bolgart Catholic Service*

MAR  
**22**

6 PM

*Yerecoin Social Tennis*

MAR  
**24**

6:30 PM

*Piawaning Progress  
Meeting*

MAR  
**25**

1:30 PM

*Yerecoin Primary School  
Assembly*

MAR  
**25**

2 PM

Ordinary Council Meeting

MAR  
**26**

9:30 AM

Calingiri Craft Group  
Calingiri Hall

MAR  
**26**

6 PM

Wannamal Social  
Tennis and Dinner

MAR  
**26**

9 AM

Calingiri Primary School  
Story Time

MAR  
**27**

9:30 AM

Mogumber Library  
Ryme Time

MAR  
**28**

1:30 PM

Bolgart Bowls Mixed  
Pairs Championship  
G&D McGill

MAR  
**29**

8 AM

Bolgart Catholic Mass

APR  
**29**

9 AM

Yerecoin Social Tennis

MAR  
**30**

7 PM

Bolgart Progress  
Meeting

MAR  
**31**

7 PM

Bolgart Bowls AGM

APR  
**2**

2:30 PM

Bolgart Primary School  
Assembly and  
Afternoon Tea

APR  
**2**

9:30 AM

Calingiri Craft Group  
Calingiri Hall

APR  
**2**

8:50 AM

Wannamal Social  
Tennis and dinner

APR  
**3**

9:30 AM

Mogumber Library  
Ryme Time

APR  
**5**

8 AM

Bolgart Catholic Mass

APR  
**5**

8 AM

Yerecoin Social Tennis

APR  
**9**

9:30 AM

Calingiri Craft Group  
Calingiri Hall

APR  
**9**

6 PM

Wannamal Social  
Tennis

APR  
**10**

9:30 AM

Mogumber Library  
Ryme Time

APR  
**10-12**

7 PM

New Norcia Retreat

APR  
**11**

2 PM  
*Bolgart Bowls  
Presentation Night and  
Dinner*

APR  
**12**

3 PM  
*Yerecoin Tennis Club  
Farm Co. Day*

APR  
**12**

8 AM  
*Bolgart Catholic Mass*

APR  
**14**

9 AM  
*Calingiri Library  
Story Time  
ORB*

APR  
**16**

9:30 AM  
*Calingiri Craft Group  
Calingiri Hall*

APR  
**16**

6 PM  
*Wannamal Social  
Tennis & Dinner*

APR  
**17**

9:30 AM  
*Mogumber Library  
Ryme Time*

APR  
**19**

8 AM  
*Bolgart Anglican  
Service*

APR  
**19**

8 AM  
*Bolgart Catholic Mass*

APR  
**19**

9 AM  
*Cougars Sport  
Calingiri VS Dalwallinu*

APR  
**21**

9 AM  
*Calingiri Primary School  
Story Time*

APR  
**23**

9:30 AM  
*Calingiri Craft Group  
Calingiri Hall*

APR  
**23**

6 PM  
*Wannamal Social  
Tennis and Dinner*

APR  
**24**

9:30 AM  
*Mogumber Library  
Ryme Time*

APR  
**25**

10 AM  
*ANZAC Day  
Calingiri*

APR  
**26**

8 AM  
*Bolgart Catholic Mass*

APR  
**26**

11 AM  
*Cougars Sport  
Dowerin VS Calingiri*

APR  
**28**

9 AM  
*Calingiri Library  
Ryme Time  
ORB*

APR  
**29**

2 PM  
*Ordinary Council  
Meeting*

APR  
**30**

9:30 AM  
*Calingiri Craft Group  
Calingiri Hall*



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