Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

MONTHLY
NEWSLETTER
OCTOBER 2026

Australia Day
Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Community Citizen of the Year Awards

Details on how to nominate are on page 11

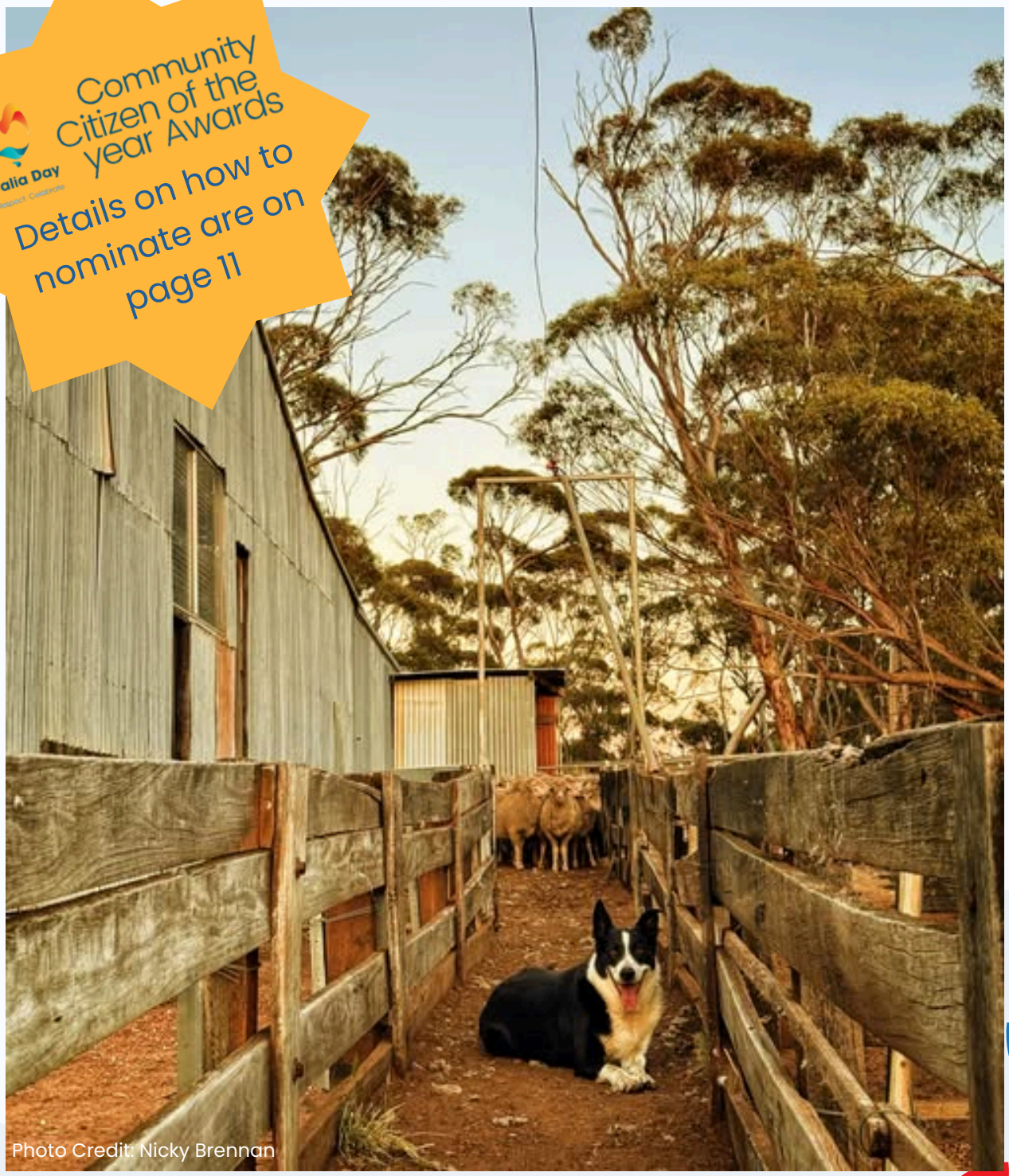

Photo Credit: Nicky Brennan

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Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

FROM THE
SHIRE PRESIDENT

PAULINE BANTOCK

Hello from the Shire President

September and October have been significant months for the Shire of Victoria Plains, with Council adopting important strategic plans that will guide the future of our communities.

Council Plan 2026–2036 – A Place to Grow

At our Ordinary Council Meeting on 7 October, Council unanimously adopted the Council Plan 2026–2036, following extensive community consultation. This important document sets our strategic direction for the next ten years, reflecting the priorities and aspirations shared by residents, businesses and community organisations. Continuing our vision of "A Place to Grow", the Plan focuses on four key areas: Community, Economy, Environment and Civic Leadership. Priorities include housing, community facilities, road infrastructure, water security, economic development and supporting our volunteers and community groups.

The Plan provides a clear framework for Council's future decisions, investment and advocacy. While not everything can be delivered immediately, the Plan gives Council a clear direction and a basis for prioritising projects, seeking funding and measuring our progress over the coming years.
I sincerely thank everyone who contributed to the consultation process. Your input has helped shape the direction of our Shire.
Council also adopted the Workforce Plan 2026–2030, ensuring the Shire has the people and skills needed to deliver on these priorities.

Representing Victoria Plains at State Level

Alongside my fellow Councillors and CEO Sean Fletcher, I attended the WA Local Government Convention in Perth, including WALGA's Annual General Meeting, where councils vote on matters affecting local government across Western Australia.
Sean and I also met with the Minister for the Wheatbelt, providing another valuable opportunity to advocate for the needs of Victoria Plains and strengthen our relationship with the State Government.

Emergency Management and Bush Fire Preparedness

I attended the Bush Fire Advisory Committee meeting on 15 September and the Local Emergency Management Committee meeting on 1 October. With the warmer months approaching, I acknowledge the important work of our emergency services volunteers, agencies and Shire staff in keeping our communities safe.

A Personal Thank You

Finally, I sincerely thank my fellow Councillors, CEO Sean Fletcher and the administration team for their understanding and support during my recent hospitalisation.
I particularly appreciate their flexibility in postponing our October Council Meeting to 7 October, allowing me to return and participate in the adoption of these important plans.

Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

FROM THE
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

SEAN FLETCHER

Hello from the CEO

BACKPACKER VISAS

As we move through October, I want to focus on one issue that has become a significant advocacy priority for the Shire of Victoria Plains: proposed changes to Australia's Working Holiday Maker visa program.

Working Holiday Makers, or as we know them, backpackers, are important to regional Western Australia as both workers and visitors. They support agriculture during harvest, fill roles in tourism and hospitality, spend money in local businesses and help sustain regional economies.

Why the proposed changes matter

The Commonwealth debate has focused heavily on reducing Net Overseas Migration. However, changes to the Working Holiday Maker program must not be considered solely through the lens of national migration numbers. For regional Western Australia, we understand that this is also a workforce, tourism, agriculture and economic development issue.

Our central concern is the Federal Government's proposal to reduce the number of second-year Working Holiday Maker visas from approximately 57,000 to 45,000 and third-year visas from approximately 31,000 to just 5,000. The proposed changes would also introduce a ballot to determine who can extend their stay.

Under the present arrangements, backpackers who complete eligible regional work can qualify for an additional visa. Replacing that certainty with a ballot would significantly weaken the incentive to undertake regional work.

We at the Shire have asked a simple, practical question: why would someone complete 88 days, or a further 179 days, of regional work if there is no longer certainty that they will receive the additional visa?

In case you are not aware, WA is particularly exposed. Backpackers contribute approximately $360 million annually to the State's economy and spend about $5,900 per visitor. They represent 8.2 per cent of Western Australia's international visitors, compared with 3.1 per cent nationally. More than 65 per cent begin their Australian journey in Sydney or Melbourne and often rely on the second and third visa years to reach Western Australia. Industry stakeholders have estimated that the proposed reforms could result in approximately 4,500 fewer Working Holiday Makers coming to our State.

Advocacy since June

Since June, Shire President Cr Pauline Bantock, Deputy Shire President Cr Suzanne Woods, Council and Administration have undertaken a sustained advocacy campaign to ensure the implications of the proposed reforms for regional Western Australia are understood by decision-makers.

This work builds on the Wheatbelt advocacy program undertaken in Canberra by the Deputy President and me, together with representatives of AMP-UP and the Avon Midland Country Zone. The delegation met with representatives across government, the Opposition and the crossbench to advance issues affecting Victoria Plains and the wider Wheatbelt. Those relationships have provided important pathways for taking the Working Holiday Maker issue directly to Commonwealth decision-makers.

As part of this advocacy, the other AMP-UP CEOs and I met with Senator Dean Smith and raised the implications of the proposed changes for the regional workforce and economy. The Shire subsequently provided Senator Dean Smith with its detailed briefing note and three proposed actions to protect Western Australia and the Wheatbelt.

The President and I recently met with Hon Sabine Winton MLA, Minister for Education, Early Childhood and the Wheatbelt. This provided an opportunity to discuss challenges facing regional communities and reinforce the importance of workforce availability and sustainable regional economic development.

Deputy President Cr Suzanne Woods and I, together with other AMP-UP and Avon Midland Country Zone representatives, first met with parliamentarians in Canberra and then, in September, met with Hon Shane Love MLA and Hon Lachlan Hunter MLA to raise regional advocacy priorities, including the proposed Working Holiday Maker changes.

I have also met directly with Hon Steve Martin MLC to discuss the proposed reforms and their likely consequences for Western Australia and the Wheatbelt. These engagements have ensured the issue has been raised with representatives across the political spectrum.

Working with industry

Since late July, the Shire has worked closely with Tourism Council WA, including participating in its industry emergency briefing and the national Working Holiday Maker visa reform webinar.

This engagement has enabled the Shire to draw on industry evidence, contribute the perspective of Victoria Plains and the Wheatbelt, and align its advocacy with the broader campaign being undertaken by tourism, agricultural and regional interests. Through its public messaging, the Shire has also encouraged local businesses, community members and regional stakeholders to support the campaign.

Taking Victoria Plains' concerns to Parliament

During September, the Shire prepared and distributed a detailed briefing note outlining the potential consequences for Western Australia and the Wheatbelt.

The briefing was provided to the Commonwealth Minister, Western Australian senators, our Federal Member for Durack, other federal representatives and State parliamentarians. The issue has also been raised through Regional Development Australia Wheatbelt and the Wheatbelt Development Commission.

The Shire's briefing note proposes three practical actions:

1. Retain guaranteed access to second and third-year visas for Working Holiday Makers who complete eligible regional work.
2. Exempt regional Western Australia from future visa caps or ballot arrangements, or establish a dedicated Western Australian allocation.
3. Delay implementation until a Western Australian regional impact assessment has been completed.

Advocacy gaining traction

Encouragingly, the issues raised by the Shire are now being reflected in the broader political debate.

In a direct response to the Shire's submission, Senator Matt O'Sullivan confirmed that the Coalition shares the Shire's concerns about visa-processing delays and the scale of the proposed reductions to second and third-year visas. He acknowledged that regional Western Australia would be disproportionately affected and stated that the Coalition's position is to reverse the processing changes, clear the backlog urgently and reconsider changes that could deprive regional communities of reliable workers.

Importantly, Senator Matt O'Sullivan also advised that the work undertaken in preparing the Shire's briefing note was "genuinely valuable" and would feed into how the Coalition shapes its migration policy. This is a significant acknowledgement of the Shire's advocacy and the weight being given to the concerns of farmers and regional communities across the Wheatbelt.

The Coalition has since committed not to reduce Working Holiday Maker visa numbers as part of its migration policy. An ABC News comparison published on 6 October reported that both the Coalition and One Nation would leave Working Holiday Maker visa levels unchanged, recognising the importance of these workers to farmers and regional communities.

The Coalition's announced migration policy also opposes the proposed cap and ballot for regional backpackers and would exempt regional backpackers from visa fees. This goes beyond retaining visa numbers by reducing a further financial barrier for Working Holiday Makers who choose to live and work in regional communities.

This contrasts with the Federal Government's proposal to reduce second and third-year Working Holiday Maker visas and introduce a ballot system. Although the wider migration policies of the Coalition and One Nation differ substantially, both have excluded Working Holiday Makers from their proposed cuts.

These developments provide tangible evidence that the issues advanced by the Shire are being heard and are now reflected in the national policy debate. While the Shire cannot claim sole responsibility for these positions, the direct response from Senator Matt O'Sullivan confirms that our briefing note is contributing to the Coalition's policy considerations.

Building public awareness

Since June, public communication has also formed an important part of the Shire's advocacy.

Shire President Cr Pauline Bantock has undertaken an interview with the ABC regarding the impact the proposed changes could have on regional communities. Her interview resulted in the Shire's concerns featuring prominently in regional news.

I have also been interviewed by ABC Midwest regarding the likely consequences for workforce availability, business sustainability and regional economic activity across the Wheatbelt and regional Western Australia.

The President, Deputy President and I have continued working with local businesses, regional organisations and industry stakeholders to reinforce a straightforward message: backpackers are not simply tourists. They are workers, customers and contributors to the resilience and sustainability of regional communities.

Continuing the campaign

Since June, the Shire's advocacy has brought together regional evidence, industry expertise, direct political engagement and public communication.

The Shire of Victoria Plains may be small, but through the work of the President, Deputy President, Council and Administration, and in partnership with AMP-UP, the Avon Midland Country Zone, Tourism Council WA and other regional organisations, we have taken the concerns of our community directly to Commonwealth and State decision-makers.

There is now clear evidence that this advocacy is gaining traction. The Coalition has confirmed that the Shire's briefing will inform its policy development and has announced its opposition to the cap and ballot for regional backpackers, together with a commitment to exempt them from visa fees. Both the Coalition and One Nation have also committed not to include Working Holiday Makers in their proposed migration cuts.

As the Federal Government's proposed changes continue to be debated, the Shire will continue advocating for a fair and practical outcome that protects access to backpacker labour, supports regional businesses and recognises Western Australia's unique circumstances.

Further Information

For more information about the Working Holiday Maker visa program, regional work requirements and the impact of proposed changes, visit:

- Australian Government – Working Holiday Maker program
- Specified work and regional visa requirements
- Tourism Council WA
- Workforce Australia
- Fair Work Ombudsman

Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

FROM THE TEMPORARY

DEPUTY CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

ALAN LAMB

Hello from the temporary Deputy CEO

My name is Alan Lamb. I have taken over from Colin Ashe, who left the organisation earlier in the month, until a replacement has been recruited.

I have been fortunate enough to have had the honour of a career working with several WA local governments and in all regions of this state, plus an external territory.

Any dedicated person seeking challenges, diversity, and the chance to make a difference should find a career in local government as rewarding as I have.

This is a great part of the state, with several interesting towns and communities, natural beauty, and friendly people. In all a great place to live.

My observation is that your Shire Council organisation is well managed by your elected Councillors and appointed officers. Whilst there will always be more that could be done, the number and value of significant projects and initiatives being undertaken is impressive. It is stimulating to be able to play a part, albeit temporarily, in what is being done here.

Annual Audit

The annual audit process is nearing completion (2025/26 accounts) with the onsite work having been conducted last week. The final audit report should be received by the end of October and will be published in the annual report.

Photos from the Community Development Officer

Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

FROM THE

MANAGER WORKS AND SERVICES

SILVIO BRENZI

Works and Maintenance Update

Residents will soon see activity recommence on Cocking Road, with repair works now underway following damage caused by a contractor operating on the closed road last year. The repairs will restore the affected section and ensure the road network remains safe and serviceable for road users. The Shire appreciates the community's patience while these works are completed and will continue to monitor the site to ensure the required standards are achieved.

At the Calingiri Sports Ground, annual turf renovations have been successfully completed this week as part of the Shire's ongoing commitment to maintaining high-quality sporting facilities. The renovation program included verti mowing, overseeding, hollow tyne aeration and fertilising to improve turf health, encourage new growth and ensure the playing surface remains in excellent condition ahead of the upcoming season. These essential works help maintain a safe and attractive facility for local sporting clubs and community users.

Plant replacement activities also continue, with the Shire recently taking delivery of a new multi-tyre roller. The addition of this equipment will enhance the Works team's capability to undertake road construction and maintenance activities more efficiently, while supporting the ongoing renewal of the Shire's plant fleet to ensure reliable service delivery across the district.

Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

FROM THE COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

BRIDGET RALPH

Wow, what a month! There are definitely times when I get to have so much fun in this role, and I feel like the second half of this year has been especially rewarding.

First up, nominations for the Australia Day Awards close at the end of this month, so please jump online and nominate someone from your community who deserves recognition. Whether it's an individual who goes above and beyond or an event that brought people together, we'd love to celebrate the people who make our communities great.

Last month, I had the opportunity to head to Toowoomba for the National Leaders Summit, which focused on the energy transition. The trip was sponsored by RE-Alliance through funding from PoweringWA. It was fantastic to hear from people right across the country about the opportunities and challenges communities are experiencing as renewable energy projects roll out.

I've been working with PoweringWA for a few months now and have gained a huge amount of information and insight from communities across Australia.

It's also given me a greater appreciation for the work being done by our State Government to support this growing industry. If you have any questions or concerns about renewable energy projects, Nat from PoweringWA is always happy to help or point you in the right direction. If you'd like her contact details, just let me know.

I was also lucky enough to host the Community Development Officers from across our region last month. It was a great chance to show off our beautiful Shire and everything we have to offer. We started with a tour of the European Space Agency antenna at New Norcia before returning to Calingiri for a meeting with PoweringWA. We spent time sharing ideas, discussing grants and events, and talking about ways we can support each other. It's fantastic to have such strong relationships across our neighbouring shires and to be able to work together for the benefit of our communities.

Looking ahead, Sean and I have been working on a five-year Christmas Decoration Plan for the Shire. Over the next five years, we'll be purchasing lights and decorations for six key Shire buildings across five communities. The idea is to create something unique in each town, giving residents and visitors something different to see as they travel through the Shire, as well as plenty of opportunities for Christmas photos. We'll be talking with Progress Associations along the way to get their ideas and input for each location.

Speaking of Christmas, the Christmas Lights and Display Competition is back again this year!
Whether you decorate for the day, the night, or both, we'd love to see your displays. You can nominate yourself or put forward someone else's display that you think deserves recognition. The competition is open across the whole Shire, including farm displays that can be viewed from the road. Judging will take place in early December, so please get your nominations to me by the first week of December.

The Disco at the Yerecoin Tennis Club is on Friday 30 October from 5:30pm to 7:00pm. Kids of all ages are welcome to come along for a fun evening of music, dancing and games. Don't forget to dress up in your favourite costume and join in the fun. It's sure to be a great night for families and the community to come together.

Please RSVP to Bridget by 25 October for catering and planning purposes.

Finally, it was great to have Sean Fletcher visiting the Calingiri and Mogumber Libraries recently for community catch-ups. If you missed those sessions, don't forget to pop into the Bolgart Library on 26 October for some fresh scones and a chat with Sean. It's a great opportunity to discuss what's happening in your community and share your ideas for the future.

I look forward to seeing many of you out and about at upcoming community events over the coming months.

My photos are on page 6.

Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

FROM THE
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT OFFICER

JACK VAN VOORST

Hello Everyone

Joint Local Emergency Management Committee – Exercise Fault Line

Last month, the Shire of Victoria Plains and Shire of Wongan-Ballidu Joint Local Emergency Management Committee hosted Exercise Fault Line in Calingiri. The exercise focused on establishing a local evacuation centre after an earthquake. Participants completed refresher training delivered by the Department of Communities. They then travelled to the Calingiri Sports Ground and walked through the process of opening and establishing an evacuation centre.

The exercise was supported by a number of agencies, including St John Ambulance, the Department of Communities, the Department of Education, the Department of Fire and Emergency Services, the Shire of Wongan-Ballidu and the Shire of Victoria Plains.

Firebreaks

Firebreaks were due on 1 October, and properties are now subject to inspection. The Section 33 Firebreak Notice, printed on pink paper and included with your rates, sets out the legal requirements for firebreaks on your property. Failing to meet these requirements can result in penalties of up to $5,000.

Please check whether your property falls into the 4,000 m² and under category or the 4,001 m² and over category, as the requirements differ.

The notice also includes a fire safety booklet. It covers firebreak best practice and other useful information, such as Total Fire Bans, Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans, Fire Control Officer contacts, burning periods and guidelines for farm response units.

More information is available on the Shire's website under Emergency Management.

Restricted Burning Period: 1 October – 31 October*

*Subject to seasonal conditions

The whole Shire is now in the restricted burning period, so a permit is required for any burning. Permits can be obtained from your local Fire Control Officer (FCO) or from the Shire Office during business hours. When burning under a permit, please note:

- Permits are suspended on days of High, Extreme and Catastrophic fire danger.
- Permits are also suspended when a Total Fire Ban or a Harvest and Vehicle Movement Ban is in place.
- If an FCO refuses you a permit, it is a breach of the Bush Fires Act 1954 to try to obtain one from another FCO.
- All permit conditions must be followed.

Fire danger ratings and relevant weather information are available from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM).

Harvesting, Baling and Off-Road Activities

Now that the Shire is in the restricted burning period, landowners are reminded that a firefighting unit must be present and ready for any paddock operations. These include harvesting, chaining, raking stubble, straw baling and related activities. The unit must carry at least 600 L of water, a powered pump and 20 m of hose.

The unit should be parked on bare ground within or close to the paddock where the work is taking place.

Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

FROM THE
RANGER
PETER SMITH

October is Registration Renewal Month!

Annual Registration Renewals Due

Don't forget - annual dog and cat registrations expire on 31 October. Renew your pet's registration before the deadline to remain compliant and ensure your contact details can be used to reunite you with your pet if they become lost.

Annual or Lifetime Registration?

Registration contributes to:

- Ranger response to roaming or nuisance animals
- Pound facilities and care for impounded pets
- Community education and safety initiatives
- Identification systems that help reunite lost pets with their owners

A registered pet is far more likely to be returned quickly and safely if it goes missing.

How to Register Your Dog or Cat

Pet owners can choose between annual, three-year, or lifetime registrations. A lifetime licence can provide long-term savings and eliminates the need to remember yearly renewals.

Why Registration Matters

Registration helps local governments quickly identify and reunite lost pets with their owners. Up-to-date registration details make it easier to return animals home safely and reduce time spent in care facilities.

Penalties for Unregistered Pets

Under Western Australian legislation, dogs and cats over the required age must be registered. Penalties may apply if your pet is found to be unregistered. Keeping registrations current helps support responsible pet ownership across the community.

Need to Renew?

Registration renewals can be completed through the Shire Office. If special registration days, extended office hours, or assistance sessions are available, these will be advertised through the Shire's usual communication channels.

Before You Renew

- Check your contact details are current.
- Ensure your microchip information is up to date.
- Confirm sterilisation information has been provided (where applicable).
- Consider whether a lifetime registration is the best option for your household.

Responsible Pet Ownership Starts with Registration.
Keep your pet protected, identifiable, and registered.

Australia Day
Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Community Citizen of the Year Awards

Presented by

auspire
Inspiring Australians

Australia Day Council of Western Australia

Principal Partner

Pharmacy 777

Media Partners

9 NEWS

WAtoday
News you need to know today

Fulfillment Partner

westcare

Nominate now

If you know someone, or a group, doing great things in our community, nominate them for a 2027 Community Citizen of the Year Award, in our four categories.

- > Citizen of the Year
- > Youth Citizen of the Year
- > Senior Citizen of the Year
- > Active Citizenship (Group or Event)

citizenshipawards.com.au | Closing Date: 31 October 2026

Local Government Recognising Community Champions.

VICTORIA PLAINS SHIRE WAR MEMORIAL
YULGERING ROAD
CALINGIRI WA 6569

REMEMBRANCE DAY 11TH NOVEMBER 2026

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 minute's 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, led 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.

LEST WE FORGET

CHRISTMAS LIGHT AND DISPLAY COMPETITION

IT'S NOT JUST LIGHTS!!!

Field, Farm Gate or House have your Christmas display ready for judging on the evening of Thursday the 3 December

Winners will be announced on Monday the 7 December

Anyone within the Shire of Victoria Plains who would like to be in the running or nominate someone else's display please send an email with your address to Bridget reception@victoriaplains.wa.gov.au

Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

Shire of Victoria Plains
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DISCO

YERECOIN TENNIS CLUB
FRIDAY 30 OCTOBER
5:30PM – 7:00PM
KIDS OF ALL AGES WELCOME!
COME AND HAVE A DANCE
DRESS UP IN YOUR FAVOURITE COSTUME
ENJOY A FUN EVENING WITH FAMILY AND FRIENDS

RSVP TO BRIDGET AT THE SHIRE 9628 7004 BY 25 OCTOBER

lotterywest
Government of Western Australia Department of Communities
Department of Education
Meerilinga promoting positive childhoods

Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

Morning Tea with the CEO

Join Shire CEO Sean Fletcher for a relaxed morning tea and community catch-up.

26th October
Bolgart Library
10am

Everyone is welcome.
We look forward to seeing you there!

Homemade scones provided

WANNAMAL TENNIS CLUB

GIL THOMPSON MEMORIAL DAY

DOUBLES TENNIS TOURNAMENT

MENS A + B GRADES | WOMENS A + B GRADES

DATE: SAT, 7 NOVEMBER 2026
TIME: 9:00 AM
COST: $30 PER PERSON

FOOD & DRINKS:
DRINKS **FOR SALE**
MORNING TEA & LUNCH **PROVIDED**
DINNER AVAILABLE **ADULTS $15 CHILDREN $5**

NOMINATE BY FRIDAY 30TH OCTOBER

MESSAGE WANNAMAL TENNIS CLUB ON **FACEBOOK**
OR CONTACT:

JULIE: 0429 655 701 | JENNA: 0433 087 770

YERECOIN TENNIS CLUB
OPEN DAY

Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

ALL WELCOME!

Sunday 25th October
From 3PM
6PM BBQ dinner

COME & TRY

- Traditional Tennis
- Pop Tennis
- Beginner Friendly
- No Experience Needed
- Equipment Provided

ACTIVITIES & PRIZES

- All Ages Welcome
- Family Friendly

Event funded by the Shire of Victoria Plains

Ruth Young
0427 220 463

Come for the tennis,
Stay for the friendships.

What's Been Happening at Yerecoin PS?!

SPORTS GALORE

Our amazing PP-Year 6 students participated in the annual CALCOINART Athletics Carnival on Friday, 4th of September with Bolgart PS & Calingiri PS. Yerecoin Primary hosted a well-run faction carnival. A huge thank you to all of our wonderful helpers and spectators on the day. Hawks & Tigers competed fiercely, however, TIGERS took away the shield, as the winning faction. Well done to our Yerecoin students who came home with Champion & Runner Up placements (L-R: Emily, Rocco, Ksenija, Georgia, Sophia - Bryson (absent for photo).

2026 CALCOINART ATHLETICS CARNIVAL CHAMPIONSHIP RESULTS			
Award	Name	Faction	Points
Pre Primary Runner Up Girl	Sophia Bruse	Hawks	52
Year 1/2 Runner Up Girl	Ksenija Rojnic	Tigers	56
Year 3/4 Runner Up Girl	Emily Wiley	Tigers	79
Year 3/4 Runner Up Boy	Bryson Skerritt	Hawks	64
Year 5/6 Champion Girl	Georgia Glass	Hawks	112
Year 5/6 Champion Boy	Rocco Rojnic	Tigers	104

What's Been Happening at Yerecoin PS?!

SPORTS GALORE

The VPSSA Interschool Sports carnival was held in Week Nine of Term Three on Friday, 18th September at the Goomalling Football Oval. Goomalling Primary School hosted the event, and this year two new schools, Miling PS & Kalannie PS joined Yerecoin PS, Calingiri PS, Bolgart Goomalling PS, Sacred Heart Catholic College and Cadoux PS. This was a great day with all of the children showcasing some amazing talents.

2026 VPSSA Championship Results

Award	Name	School	Points	Award	Name	School	Points
Girls Pre-Primary							
Champion Girl	Georgina Martin	Miling	46	Runner Up Champion Girl	Hadley Millington	Sacred Heart	44
Boys Pre-Primary							
Champion Boy	Otis Woods Parker Renata	Calingiri Calingiri	44	Runner Up Champion Boy	Kiahn Wright	Bolgart	26
Girls Year 1/2							
Champion Girl	Ellie Watson	Goomalling	54	Runner Up Champion Girl	Lucy Martin	Miling	42
Boys Year 1/2							
Champion Boy	Alby Thomson	Sacred Heart	60	Runner Up Champion Boy	Ollie Riddick	Calingiri	58
Girls Year 3/4							
Champion Girl	Olivia Elliot	Miling	59	Runner Up Champion Girl	Sophie Watson	Goomalling	43
Boys Year 3/4							
Champion Boy	Sam Thomson	Sacred Heart	80	Runner Up Champion Boy	Ryan Glass	Calingiri	78
Girls Year 5/6							
Champion Girl	Lauren Smith	Kalannie	88	Runner Up Champion Girl	Georgia Glass	Yerecoin	54
Boys Year 5/6							
Champion Boy	Rocco Rojnic	Yerecoin	96	Runner Up Champion Boy	Noah Marriott	Kalannie	62

2026 VPSSA - Championship Results

JD Milner Trophy – Champion School		
1st	Sacred Heart	841 points
2nd	Goomalling	772 points
3rd	Calingiri	682 points
4th	Miling	461 points
5th	Kalannie	427 points
6th	Bolgart	292 points
7th	Yerecoin	240 points
8th	Cadoux	48 points

Meritorious Shield - Handicapped		
1st	Calingiri	1006 points
2nd	Goomalling	897 points
3rd	Yerecoin	817 points
4th	Kalannie	746 points
5th	Miling	713 points
6th	Bolgart	677points
7th	Cadoux	572 points

Records Broken

Event	Name	School	Old Record	New Record
#1 Boys Yr 3/4 200m	Sam Thomson	Sacred Heart	31.36	31.31
#2 Girls Yr 3/4 200m	Leah Lantzke	Goomalling	33.81	33.65
#31 Girls Year 1 50m	Ellie Watson	Goomalling	9.75	8.91
#32 Boys Year 1 50m	Mac Leeson	Sacred Heart	9.31	9.16
#33 Girls Year 2 50m	Lucy Fulwood	Kalannie	8.95	8.47
#38 Boys Year 4 75m	Sam Thomson	Sacred Heart	11.44	10.63
#40 Boys Year 5 100m	Rocco Rojnic	Yerecoin	14.54	14.13
#44 Boys Pre-Primary Flag	Otis Woods	Calingiri	18.57	18.31
#53 Mixed Yr 5/6 Tunnelball		Calingiri	46.37	43.85
#56 Girls Yr 1/2 50m	Lucy Martin	Miling	8.97	8.15
#59 Boys Yr 3/4 75m	Sam Thomson	Sacred Heart	11.14	11.03
#64 Mixed Yr 5/6 Leaderball		Calingiri	1.15.34	1.12.06
#69 Mixed Yr 3/4 4x75m Relay		Sacred Heart	52.12	52.06

Vortex Records Set

Event	Name	School	Record
#16 Boys PP Vortex	Otis Woods	Calingiri	12.45m
#20 Girls PP Vortex	Charlotte French	Bolgart	9.72m
#9 Boys Yr 1/2 Vortex	Ollie Riddick	Calingiri	24.90m
#13 Girls Yr 1/2 Vortex	Atarangi Takimoana	Calingiri	15.60m
#22 Boys Yr 3/4 Vortex	Rory Smith	Kalannie	39.01m
#25 Girls Yr 3/4 Vortex	Evelyn Edmonds	Sacred Heart	20.71m
#27 Boys Yr 5/6 Vortex	Noah Marriott	Kalannie	42.41m
#28 Girls Yr 5/6 Vortex	Maddisyn Bell	Goomalling	31.99m

What's Been Happening at Yerecoin PS?!

Assembly Term 3

HONOUR CERTIFICATES

Rocco

This award is presented to Rocco for his focus and positive attitude towards learning. He consistently produces work that is neat and well-presented, demonstrating pride in his effort. Rocco is also a wonderful role model for younger students, showing kindness, responsibility and respect.

Ellie

Ellie has settled into school life really well. She is a delightful student who demonstrated a growing love of learning and she approaches new experiences enthusiastically. Ellie is a valued member of our class and she should be proud of her positive attitude and effort.

Aussie of the Month

Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.

Abdul

Our Term 3 Assembly had a wonderful presentation from the Senior Room students called the "Directors Skit." Please enjoy some of the photos!

Yerecoin PS-Enrol your child now!

You need to apply to enrol your child preferably <u>before 24th July 2026</u> if they are:

- Starting Kindergarten at a school or community kindergarten - 4 years old by 30 June.
- Starting Pre-primary and enrolling in their first year of compulsory schooling - 5 years old by 30 June.
- Changing schools.
- New to Western Australia.

Please ring Yerecoin Primary School Admin for further student enrolment information on 0896 532 300.

Bolgart Primary School

Phone 0896 275 300

bolgart.ps@education.wa.edu.au

Kindy PP

Another term has flown by in the Early Childhood room!

We really enjoyed our visit to the Dowerin Field Days, despite the cold windy weather! They especially liked the robots and having a turn of flying a drone. Also, climbing up on some shiny, new tractors was a big hit! Thanks so much to our wonderful parent helpers for braving the wild weather!

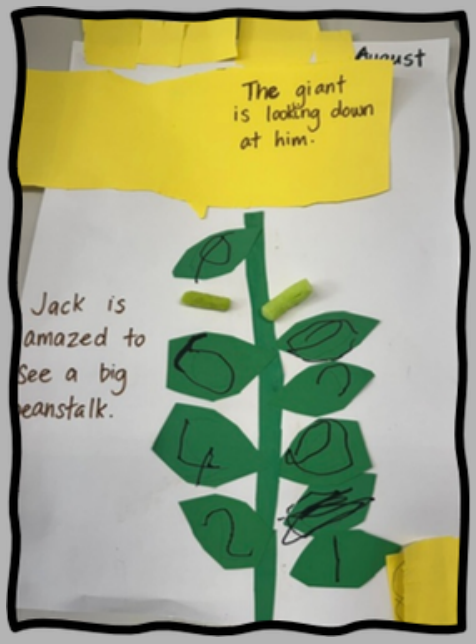
The children have been exploring the 'Jack and the Beanstalk' area by measuring, making playdough leaves to match the bean numbers, finger puppet retells and rhyming leaves.

Writing has still been focused on Information Reports, and we are still learning about specific animals, such as reptiles. Our 'free collage' area is always popular to encourage their fine motor skills such as cutting, gluing and stapling. They have been using their imagination to create all sorts of things, such as kites, which has been good timing with the windy weather!

We also have a 'Grocery Store' and 'Dress up' corner to practice using money as well as many other skills such as turn taking, communication and knowledge of fruit and vegetables. The 'Grocery Store' changes into a 'Lemonade Stand', so we made fresh lemonade during outdoor play, which was very popular.

In Science we are learning about the different parts of the plants and how they change and develop from a seed to a flower and beyond.

In Design and Technology, we are making a bird bath for the six-season garden. The children came up with great ideas, and we are going to mosaic the outside.



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Junior Room

In the junior room we finished our Science and Technology for the term by repurposing containers into pots for our mini carrot garden. We researched plants, including what they need to survive, where they grow and how they grow. We had some donations of containers which we painted and poked holes into before filling with soil and planting the tiny carrot seeds! We hope they will grow nicely in the vegetable garden over the next few weeks.

In Maths we have been learning about giving and following directions. Learning our lefts and rights is a bit tricky, but we are working out strategies to help us remember. We placed pictures on grids which we then needed to describe to our partner without them looking. It was lots of fun to see if the pictures turned out the same and whether our partner followed the directions correctly or if the describer gave clear directions.

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Senior Room

In the senior Room we read the Novel Storm Boy and have enjoyed learning about the Coorong in South Australia. It is a narrow stretch of coastline between wetlands and the ocean that is an animal sanctuary for migratory birds.

We have harvested our potatoes and decided to make mashed potato and gnocchi. Miss Woodhouse also made some meringue with the leftover egg whites. They were all delicious.

In Science we are studying biology. Did you know that mushrooms are decomposers and one of the toughest animals, the tardigrade, is microscopic?

In HASS we are each studying a chosen country. So far, we have created maps, learnt about flags and symbols and the locations of the countries in the world. We are now looking and the climate and landscapes of each country and how the climate impacts the landscape and how humans adapt.

Staying in Place

Want to stay living at home longer as you age or do you have a home care package you need more from? Come and learn about Staying in Place or hear about your Support at Home Aged Care options.

The Shire of Wongan-Ballidu together with the Shire of Victoria Plains would like to invite you to an information session at:

CALINGIRI PUBLIC LIBRARY
10AM - 11AM
TUESDAY 20TH OCTOBER

MORNING TEA PROVIDED

Sacha will be available to answer all your questions and assist you with your home care needs.

Shire of Wongan-Ballidu

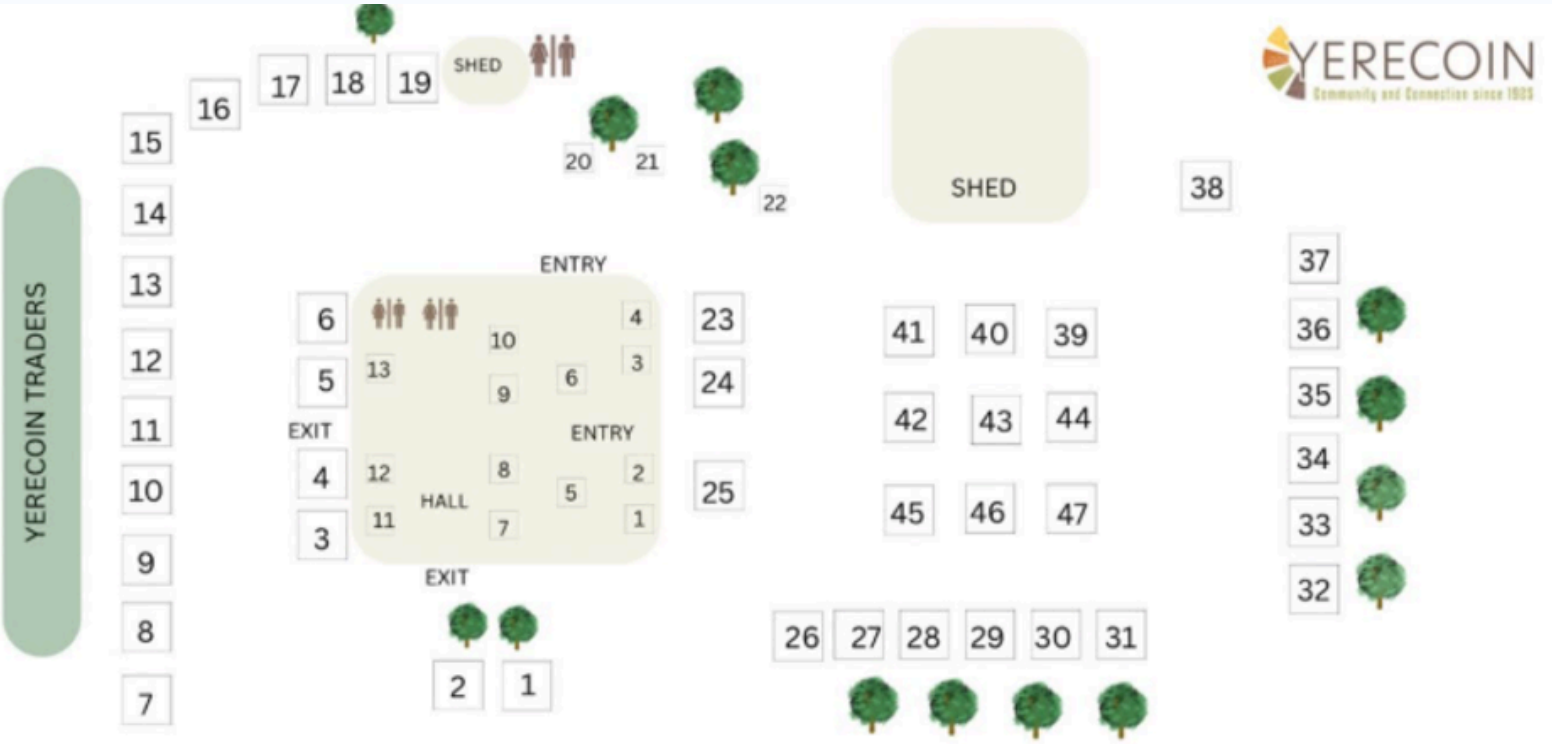
Staying in Place

Wongan Hills Community Resource Centre

Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

60 Makers | Outdoors | Free

21st Nov | Yerecoin Hall | 830-1pm



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Inside Stalls

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morsels
9 @tayhadesigns
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13 @feetwithflair

Upcoming Events

Shire of Victoria Plains
Space to Grow

15 OCTOBER
9am - Ladies Bowls - Club Day - Bolgart Sports Club
9:30am - Craft Group - Calingiri Hall

16 OCTOBER
9:30am - Reformer Pilates - Yerecoin Hall
9:30am - Rhyme Time - Mogumber Library

18 OCTOBER
8am - Catholic Mass - Bolgart Church
8am - Anglican Service - Bolgart Church

20 OCTOBER
9:00am - Calingiri Story Time - Calingiri Library
10am - Staying in Place - Calingiri Library

21 OCTOBER
8:30am - Reformer Pilates - Yerecoin Hall

22 OCTOBER
9am - Ladies Bowls - Championship Day - Bolgart Sports Club
9:30am - Craft Group - Calingiri Library
6pm - Wannamal Social Tennis and Dinner - Wannamal Tennis Club

23 OCTOBER
9:30am - Reformer Pilates - Yerecoin Hall
9:30am - Rhyme Time - Mogumber Library

25 OCTOBER
8am - Catholic Mass - Bolgart Church
3pm - Yerecoin Tennis Open Day - Shire of Victoria Plains
Mixed Social Bowls - Bolgart Sports Club - Serena 0427 351 775

26 OCTOBER
10am - Morning Tea with the CEO - Bolgart Library

27 OCTOBER
9am - Story Time - Calingiri Library

28 OCTOBER
8:30am - Reformer Pilates - Yerecoin Hall
2pm - Shire of Victoria Plains Council Meeting - Chambers Calingiri

29 OCTOBER
9am - Ladies Bowls - Club Day - Bolgart Sports Club
9:30am - Craft Group - Calingiri Hall
6pm - Social Tennis and Dinner - Wannamal Tennis Club

30 OCTOBER
9:30am - Reformer Pilates - Yerecoin Hall
9:30am - Rhyme Time - Mogumber Library
5:30pm - Children's Disco - Yerecoin Tennis Club

1 NOVEMBER
8am - Catholic Mass - Bolgart Church
3pm Tennis - Glentromie Cup - Yerecoin Tennis Club
Mixed Social Bowls - Bolgart Sports Club - Serena 0427 351 775

3 NOVEMBER
9am - Story time - Calingiri Primary School

4 NOVEMBER
8:30am - Reformer Pilates - Yerecoin Hall

5 NOVEMBER
9am - Ladies Bowls - Club Day - Bolgart Sports Club
9:30am - Craft Group - Calingiri Hall
6pm - Social Tennis and Dinner - Wannamal Tennis Club

6 NOVEMBER
9:30am - Reformer Pilates - Yerecoin Hall
9:30am - Rhyme Time - Mogumber Library

7 NOVEMBER
9am - Doubles Tournament - Gil Thomson Memorial Day - Wannamal Tennis Club

8 NOVEMBER
8am - Catholic Mass - Bolgart Church
4pm - Social Tennis - Yerecoin Tennis Club
Mixed Social Bowls - Bolgart Sports Club - Serena 0427 351 775

10 NOVEMBER
9am - Story time - Calingiri Library

11 NOVEMBER
8:30am - Reformer Pilates - Yerecoin Hall

12 NOVEMBER
9am - Ladies Bowls - Club Day - Bolgart Sports Club
9:30am - Craft Group - Calingiri Hall
2pm - Bingo and Afternoon Tea - Calingiri Hall
6pm - Social Tennis and Dinner - Wannamal Tennis Club

13 NOVEMBER
9:30am - Reformer Pilates - Yerecoin Hall
9:30am - Rhyme Time - Mogumber Library

15 NOVEMBER
8am - Catholic Mass - Bolgart Church
8am - Bolgart Anglican Service - Bolgart Church
3pm - Social Tennis - Yerecoin Tennis Club

17 NOVEMBER
9am - Story time - Calingiri Primary School

18 NOVEMBER
8:30am - Reformer Pilates - Yerecoin Hall

19 NOVEMBER
9am - Ladies Bowls - Club Day - Bolgart Sports Club
9:30am - Craft Group - Calingiri Hall
6pm - Social Tennis and Dinner - Wannamal Tennis Club

20 NOVEMBER
9:30am - Reformer Pilates - Yerecoin Hall
9:30am - Rhyme Time - Mogumber Library

21 NOVEMBER
8am - Yerecoin Markets - Yerecoin Town Hall
7pm - Abbots Dinner - New Norcia Hotel

22 NOVEMBER
8am - Catholic Mass - Bolgart Church
3pm - Social Tennis - Yerecoin Tennis Club
Mixed Social Bowls - Bolgart Sports Club - Serena 0427 351 775

YERECOIN TRADERS

Little Country Store & Café

38 Miling Rd,
Yerecoin WA 6571

(08) 9654 6015

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