

NEW DATE!

**EVENT
DATE**
24 OCTOBER
2026

STORIES BY THE *Fire*

Our Stories, Our Voices.



WE WANT YOUR STORY!

This year, we're inviting you to share your stories about Kulin and the Wheatbelt.



SUBMISSIONS CLOSE
25 SEPTEMBER
2026

Participant Information Pack

STORIES BY THE Fire

Our Stories, Our Voices.

EVENT DATE 24 OCTOBER 2026

ABOUT THE PROJECT

"Every community is built on stories."

The stories of the people who came before us.

The stories shared around kitchen tables, campfires, shearing sheds, sporting clubs and community halls.

The stories of family, friendship, hard work, resilience, laughter and belonging.

Stories by the Fire is a community storytelling project celebrating the people, places and experiences that make Kulin and the Wheatbelt unique.

Whether you have lived here your whole life, recently arrived, grew up here, worked here, volunteered here or simply hold fond memories of this place, we invite you to share your story.

WHY ARE WE DOING THIS?

Communities are more than buildings, roads and paddocks.

They are built from the experiences of the people who call them home.

Stories by the Fire aims to:

- 🔥 Celebrate local people and experiences
- 🔥 Preserve community history and memories
- 🔥 Encourage creativity and storytelling
- 🔥 Capture the voices of our region
- 🔥 Create a lasting legacy for future generations
- 🔥 Every story contributes to the story of our community.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?

Stories by the Fire is open to:

- ✓ Residents of Kulin and the Wheatbelt
- ✓ Former residents
- ✓ Students and young people
- ✓ Community groups
- ✓ Families
- ✓ Writers and non-writers alike
- ✓ Anyone with a connection to our region

YOU DONT NEED TO BE A WRITER

Many people tell us: *"I know a story, but I'm not a writer."*

That's perfectly okay.

Stories by the Fire isn't about perfect grammar, fancy words or professional writing.

It's about preserving the memories, experiences and voices of our community.

Your story might be funny, heartfelt, inspiring, reflective, adventurous or completely ordinary.

Often it's the ordinary stories that become the most treasured.

If you've got a story, you've already got everything you need

Every story matters...

A childhood memory. A family tradition. A harvest story. A local character. A lesson learned.

A moment that changed your life. A place that feels like home.

Whatever your story may be, we'd love to hear it.

STORIES BY THE Fire

Our Stories, Our Voices.

EVENT DATE 24 OCTOBER 2026

WHAT HAPPENS TO MY STORY?

Stories by the Fire is more than a writing project.

Submitted stories will help create a community collection celebrating the people, places and experiences that make Kulin and the Wheatbelt unique.

Selected stories will be shared as part of the Stories by the Fire Community Storytelling Event on 24 October 2026. Stories may be read by the author, a member of the Community Resource Centre team, a local community member or another nominated reader.

FOLLOWING THE EVENT, STORIES BY THE FIRE AIMS TO CREATE:

📖 A Stories by the Fire community publication featuring submitted stories.

🎧 An audio collection allowing community members to hear stories in the voices of those who lived them.

🌐 A digital archive available through the Kulin Community Resource Centre website.

Authors are encouraged to record their own story where possible, as there is something special about hearing a story told in the author's own voice.

However, participation in the audio project is completely optional and assistance can be provided for anyone who would like their story recorded.

Together, these stories will create a lasting record of our community for future generations.

STORIES BY THE Fire

Our Stories, Our Voices.

EVENT DATE 24 OCTOBER 2026

CATEGORIES & STORY IDEAS

Every story is different.

Some stories preserve local history. Some celebrate life in the Wheatbelt. Some are inspired by real events, while others spring entirely from imagination.

Whether your story is funny, heartfelt, adventurous, reflective or inspiring, there is a place for it in Stories by the Fire.

YOUTH

Junior

(Years 1–3)

Stories inspired by family, friends, school, animals, adventures and life in the country.

Primary

(Years 4–6)

Stories exploring imagination, creativity and personal experiences.

Secondary

(Years 7–10)

Stories reflecting the unique experiences of growing up in regional communities.

POETRY

Youth & Community

(Open to all ages)

Poetry can tell a story, capture a memory or express a feeling.

Entries may be:

- Traditional
- Free verse
- Rhyming
- Contemporary

OPEN COMMUNITY

Local History & Heritage

Preserving local memories, traditions and stories.

Bush & Rural Life

Inspired by farming, community life and the Wheatbelt.

Fiction Inspired by Place

Original stories inspired by Kulin and rural Australia.

STORIES BY THE Fire

Our Stories, Our Voices.

EVENT DATE 24 OCTOBER 2026

NEED INSPIRATION?

Not sure where to begin?

Many great stories start with a single memory, a familiar face or a moment that stayed with us long after it happened.

CONSIDER WRITING ABOUT:

- A neighbour you'll never forget
- Your first day in Kulin
- A memorable harvest
- A local character
- A lesson learned growing up in the Wheatbelt
- A place that means something special to you
- A story passed down through your family
- A moment that made you laugh
- A challenge you overcame
- A community event you'll always remember
- A friendship formed in an unexpected place
- A time when someone helped you
- A place that feels like home
- The smell, sounds or sights that remind you of the Wheatbelt
- A piece of local history that deserves to be remembered

*Still not sure where to start?
contact the CRC for a chat and
we'd be happy to help you get your
story underway!*

REMEMBER

Your story does not have to be extraordinary.

Often the stories we treasure most are the everyday moments that reveal who we are, where we belong and the people who helped shape our lives.

If a memory makes you smile, laugh, reflect or feel something important, it may just be the story someone else can't wait to hear.

STORIES BY THE *Fire*

Our Stories, Our Voices.

EVENT DATE 24 OCTOBER 2026

HOW TO SUBMIT

Ready to share your story?

We'd love to hear it!

Before submitting, please take a moment to review the submission guidelines below.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES:

- ✓ Maximum story length: 3,000 words
- ✓ Entries must be the original work of the author
- ✓ Stories should be suitable for a general community audience
- ✓ Minor editing for spelling, grammar and formatting may occur for publication purposes
- ✓ Please include your name, contact number, category and story title with your submission

SUBMISSIONS CLOSE

FRIDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER 2026

HOW TO SUBMIT:



Email:

kulincdo@kulin.wa.gov.au



Printed copy:

Drop off at the Shire Office

All submissions need to include:

- Your name
- Your contact number
- Story title
- Category entered

Attention your submission to:

Kirra Pederick
Community Development Officer

We can't wait to hear your story!