🤝 Introducing: The Ballarat Community Server

A Free Hosting Facility for Non-Profit Organisations and Clubs in the Greater Ballarat Region

The Ballarat Community Server is a dedicated, free service committed to supporting local non-profit organisations and clubs. Its mission is to empower these groups with a professional online presence and essential digital tools, helping them focus on growth and community impact without the financial burden of commercial hosting.

🖥️ Core Services and Tools

The Server provides robust, technical services to give participating organisations a strong, secure online foundation.

Service Category	What is Provided
Web Hosting	Reliable, secure hosting tailored for community groups.
Website Builders	One-click installation for popular CMS like WordPress, Joomla, and Drupal, plus tools for surveys (Lime Survey) and file sharing.
Domain Name Provision	If community groups do not have their own domain name, they can be provided with a ballarat.vic.au domain name, eg: https://*community-org-name*.ballarat.vic.au
Email Hosting	Create and manage professional email accounts. Free domains available: your-name@*community-org-name*.ballarat.vic.au
System Tools	File Management (upload, edit, backups), Database Management (MySQL, phpMyAdmin), Domain Management (subdomains, DNS), and Security Tools (SSL certificates, firewalls).
Collaboration	Internal tools including shared calendars, project management and online surveys.
Community Support	Access to an online forum for networking, information exchange, and mutual assistance among members and developers.

❓ Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

Who Qualifies for the Free Services?

- **Eligibility:** Non-profit community-based organisations and clubs servicing the community of the **greater Ballarat region**.

- **Structure:** Organisations do not have to be incorporated, but they must have a **clear organisational structure and community focus**.

- **Exclusions:** The service is **not available to individuals**. It does not host sites for political causes or for any purpose that is divisive or exclusionary.

What Services are NOT Provided?

The Server is managed and maintained by **Lateral Plains Pty Ltd**, which handles all the backend system maintenance. The free service **does not include**:

1. **Web Design and Development:** The service provides the tools and hosting, but not the actual website building or content management.

2. **'Hands-on' Account Management:** Users are responsible for the management and maintenance of the content and settings within their provided accounts.

📄 Acceptable Use Policy (AUP) – Key Principles

The Server is a shared, community-based facility. All participants must ensure its use is in the best interests of everyone involved. Users are responsible for:

- **Legal Compliance:** Adhering to all Australian laws (e.g., Copyright, Privacy).

- **Prohibited Content:** Not distributing content that is illegal, harmful, discriminatory, or violates the intellectual property of others.

- **Anti-Spam:** Strictly prohibiting the transmission of unsolicited bulk email ("spam").

- **Responsible Use:** Using resources in a manner that does not interfere with other users. The Server is **not a primary backup solution**—users must maintain their own local backups.

Violations may result in the suspension or termination of services.

Ballarat Community Server Administration Contact Information

Contact Method	Details
Website	https://ballarat.vic.au
Email	info@ballarat.vic.au
Phone	03 53 177 123
📍 Address	c/o Lateral Plains Pty Ltd, 220 Sutton Street, Delacombe, Victoria 3356