



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

FEBRUARY 2023

2022/23 Eric Hind Scholarship Awarded

Annually, the Eric Hind Music Scholarship is awarded by the Shire of Merredin to young, talented, and aspiring musicians in the Shire. This scholarship is named in honour of Mr Eric Hind to recognise and acknowledge his contribution to the Shire as a Councillor and his accomplishments as a violinist.

In December last year, applicants for the scholarship were interviewed and performed a piece of music for our panel members, Cr Julie Flockart, Mrs Caryn Adamson and Mr Roy Butler. We are pleased to announce that this year the panel concluded that each of the two applicants were deserving of the scholarship.

The winners of the scholarship were announced at the Australia Day breakfast on Thursday, 26 January 2023. Congratulations to scholarship winners Jacob Billing and Kate Growden (below).



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February Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 28 February at 4:00pm. This meeting will be held at the Shire Administration Building on the Cnr of King and Barrack Streets in the Council Chambers. Members of the public are welcome to attend. The Agenda will be available to view on the Shire of Merredin website. Public questions can be submitted by 2.00pm on the day of the council meeting by completing the form here: www.merredin.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/



Youth Citizen of the Year - Jaden Willis

Each summer, Jaden gives his time to help the Disabled Surfer Association to enable people with disabilities to experience surfing. Over the years he has instigated several fund-raising activities at the Merredin College and has also helped to raise the importance of mental health with the painting of the Blue Tree in the East Quad at Merredin College.

Jaden was also the Summer Camp Councillor/Mentor for 10–12-year-old boys at a children's Youth/Summer camp.



Active Citizenship - Wildflower Society of WA Merredin Branch

The Merredin Branch of the Wildflower Society of Western Australia was formed in 1991, and for over 30 years this small, dedicated group has contributed to the community through its work conserving and promoting the native vegetation of the area. One of the many projects this groups has coordinated includes the Zig Zag Garden, which now has over 40 different native plant species, most of which occur naturally in Merredin.



FIRE SAFETY

Volunteering with the Emergency Services

If your New Year's resolution this year involved things like making new friends, learning new skills or contributing back to your community, why not consider volunteering with the local emergency services?

All of the local brigades, groups or units offer training, so it doesn't matter if you don't have specific experience – but whatever life experience or personal strengths you bring with you will certainly be embraced by your new crew.

Often, what holds people back from volunteering for the local emergency services is not lack of time, interest or commitment, but the fear that they “don't have what it takes” to save lives.

This is almost never true! With the right training, mentoring and support you may be surprised to discover what you are capable of. Furthermore, there are so many jobs that need to be done that if you prefer not to be exposed to people with injuries, you could instead find yourself driving an ambulance for patient transfers between hospitals, operating the SES radios, rolling up hoses to go back on the fire truck, or assisting with administration or catering.

Reach out to one of the following groups to find out what is involved in volunteering, and to discuss how your unique skill set can be put to work for the community:

St John Ambulance

Phone: 9621 1613

Website: changelives.stjohnwa.com.au/changelives/volunteer

Facebook: www.facebook.com/stjohnwa.merredin

Merredin Volunteer Fire & Rescue

Phone: 9041 2522

Email: merredinvfrs@bigpond.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/MerredinVFRS

Merredin SES

Email: merredinses@westnet.com.au

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/MerredinStateEmergencyService>

Merredin Bush Fire Brigades

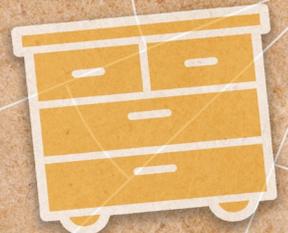
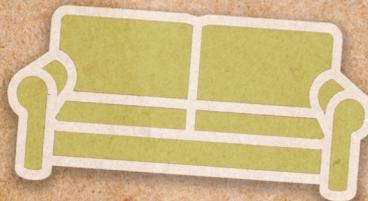
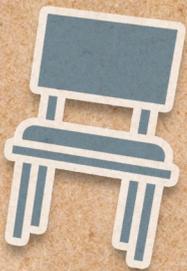
Contact the Shire of Merredin on 9041 1611 to be put in touch with the Captain of your local brigade.

MERREDIN'S TIP SHOP

 **MERREDIN LANDFILL SITE
CHANDLER-MERREDIN ROAD**



EFTPOS ONLY
PRICES UP TO \$150



GRAND OPENING

SATURDAY 11 FEBRUARY

10:00AM - 12:00PM & 12:30PM - 3:00PM



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CONTACT

For more information regarding Merredin's
Tip Shop, please contact the Shire on
9041 1611 or email mp@merredin.wa.gov.au.



Welcoming a new member to the Team

Last month we welcomed Helen to our Corporate Services team as our new Records Officer. Helen has many years of experience in Local Government and has joined us from the Shire of Denmark.

A Message from Helen

“I am delighted that the Merredin community have welcomed me so warmly, thank you.

I love being a public servant, and working in regional Western Australia is pretty special.”



Our new Manager Corporate Services

Lisa Davis will be joining the Merredin team towards the end of this month as the Manager Corporate Services. Lisa has 15 years of experience in local government, and brings with her a wealth of knowledge in finance..

A Message from Lisa

“Having worked at the Shire of East Pilbara for over 15 years, I am extremely excited to apart of the team at the Shire of Merredin and look forward to a new challenge.”



Australia Day at the Pool

The sun was shining and the BBQ was sizzling as families and friends flocked through the gates of the Merredin District Olympic Swimming Pool for the annual Australia Day Pool Party held on Thursday, 26 January 2023.

Around 300 people attended, eager to cool off in the water during the sunny 39 degree day and enjoy the fun inflatables and water slide.

Councillor Ross Billing and the Shire’s Manager of Community and Culture Leanne worked as a team to cook the sausages and onions for the free sausage sizzle lunch that was enjoyed by all attendees.

The Shire would like to thank Auspire – Australia Day Council WA for sponsoring the Pool Party event which allowed us to purchase new inflatables for the pool which were an absolute hit on the day! Thank you also to the pool staff and the Shire’s communities team for once again putting on a fantastic event. We look forward to seeing everyone again next year!

Merredin Twilight International Food Festival

The Merredin Twilight International Food Festival is set to return to Cummins Theatre on Friday, 24 March 2023.

Do you love to cook? The Food Festival is a great opportunity to show off your favourite recipes and test out different flavours of the world!

We are seeking people to whip up some tasty treats from around the world, from secret family recipes to traditional cultural dishes for the festival.

Volunteer cooks will be encouraged to provide 150 small tasting size portions of their dishes, and all required ingredients will be supplied by the Shire—just send us your shopping list! Alternatively, you may shop for your own ingredients then supply the Shire with the receipt. Please note, budgets will need to be approved prior to the purchase of ingredients.

If you’re interested in finding out more about how to become a volunteer cook for the festival, please visit bit.ly/merredininternationalfoodfest.



LIBRARY

Merredin Library presents Blind Date with a Book

To celebrate Library Lovers Day 2023
Come in and grab a 'Blind Date'.
The books are in plain covers so you don't
know what you are going to get.
Who knows, you may 'fall in love' with
a new author.

*Library Lovers' Day
14 February 2023*

February is ...

THE MONTH FOR LOVE

The Merredin Library introduces
a display of wedding photographs
from the collection of
Barbara Hall and Bob Abell.
Can you help us with names?

While you are enjoying the display why not
have a Blind Date with a Book.
Ask staff for details!

**At the Merredin Library all
February**



VISITOR CENTRE

Products of the Month

We have a wide range of platters, chopping boards and resin boards in stock at the Visitor Centre by locals Ken Metcalf, Allan Newbury and Sheree Lowe. Ranging in price from \$40 up to \$120, there is something to suit all budgets. These are the perfect gift for your family or friends, or a great present for yourself!



Merredin Pool Awarded Gold 3 Years Running

The Merredin District Olympic Swimming Pool has been officially recognised as a Gold Waterwise Aquatic Centre for the third year in a row. The Shire of Merredin is one of 19 local governments across WA recognised last year, and the only pool in the Wheatbelt region to achieve gold status.

The Waterwise Aquatic Centre program is run by the Water Corporation in conjunction with the Leisure Institute of WA Aquatics, with the purpose of recognising local governments for their commitment to the implementation of water efficiency actions.





Please be advised that repair works will be taking place on Great Eastern Highway at Cohn Creek Bridge from Monday, 30 January 2023.

Works are expected to continue until Friday, 10 February 2023, and will take place daily from 7am until 5pm.

The speed limit will remain at 40km/h, however, there will also be a single lane closure in place.

Traffic management will be on site for the duration of the works, and motorists are asked to follow all directional signage and allow for longer drive times.

For further information or for any questions, please contact Main Roads WA on 138 138.



Tree Removal Works—Merredin-Naremben Road

A Shire contractor will be completing tree removal works of select trees along the northern section of Merredin-Naremben Rd from Monday, 13 February 2023 onwards.

These removal works will be in line with a clearing permit that has been approved by the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.

The trees that will be cleared have been identified within this permit and are to be removed to make way for future road upgrades.

On completion, the Shire will be planting several new trees in the surrounding areas.

Traffic Management will be in place during the works and motorists are asked to follow all directional signage.

For more information, please contact Lindon Mellor, Executive Manager Engineering Services at the Shire, on (08) 9041 1611.

Drain Cleaning

The Shire has now commenced a staged drain cleaning program within the Merredin townsite.

This on-going program will include the removal of silt, debris and vegetation in sections of our open drain network.

There will also be a vacuum truck in town in the coming

weeks to clear portions of street drains and the pipe network.

Please note, due to the nature of the works there may be some noise and dust in areas where the works are being completed, however, we will try our best to minimise any impact to residents.

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact Lindon Mellor, Executive Manager Engineering Services at the Shire, on (08) 9041 1611.

Merredin Tip Shop

The purpose of the Merredin Tip Shop is to encourage recycling within our community and reduce the volume of valuable items going to landfill. This tip shop will assist in building sustainable recycling practices by ensuring quality reusable items, are salvaged and recycled, therefore having a positive impact on the environment.

Items can be donated during regular landfill site operating hours and it is encouraged that community members bring any items that they wish to discard. These items must be safe and have the potential to hold value to other community members. The landfill site operator will approve items at their discretion after consulting the product acceptance criteria.

There are some items that cannot be donated, for example, cots, gas items, bike helmets, and mattresses. For a full list of items that can and cannot be accepted, please visit bit.ly/MerredinWasteManagement.

Bulls Head Road

Road widening works on Bulls Head Road, between Norpa Siding Road and Arnold Road have now been completed.

During these works, the road width was increased from 6m to 7m, to improve traffic flow and safety on the road.

Merredin-Naremben Road & Goldfields Road

The Shire of Merredin has engaged contractors to complete reconstruction works on both Merredin-Naremben Road and Goldfields Road.

The road works are scheduled to commence in late February/early March 2023.

Traffic Management will be in place for the duration of the works and motorists are asked to follow all directional signage and allow for longer drive times during this period.

Further information will be made available via the Shire of Merredin website closer to the commencement date of the scheduled works.



Morning Melodies

Cummins Theatre
Friday, 10 March 2023

Morning Tea at 10:30am

Concert starts 11am

Bookings Essential

\$15

Morning Tea is included in ticket price

Get Tickets at cumminstheatre.com.au
or Central Wheatbelt Visitors Centre



JOB VACANCY

Parks and Gardens Officer

Commencing: Immediately

Position Status: Full Time

The Shire of Merredin is offering an opportunity for an enthusiastic, self-motivated person to join the Parks and Gardens team. If successful, you will work across a range of worksites assisting in the development, maintenance and construction of parks, gardens, building surrounds, streetscapes and other assets. You will also provide relief cover for the Shire's construction and maintenance teams.

We are looking for someone who is motivated and passionate about providing high quality outcomes for our community. The Shire is willing to provide training and development opportunities to the right candidate.

Conditions of employment will be in accordance with the Shire of Merredin Outside Staff Enterprise Agreement 2022 with the current salary range being Level 3-4 plus industry allowance.

A position description is available on our website www.merredin.wa.gov.au. Please forward your resume to careers@merredin.wa.gov.au. Applications close 4pm on Monday, 13 February 2023.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Lindon Mellor, Executive Manager Engineering Services, on (08) 9041 1611.

Lisa Clack

Chief Executive Officer

Amendment to Landfill Site 2022/23 Fees and Charges

The Shire of Merredin wishes to advise that amendments to the Landfill Site 2022/2023 Fees and Charges were adopted at the January Ordinary Council Meeting, held on 24 January 2023.

The amended Fees and Charges apply ONLY to the Tip Shop.

These amendments will apply from Friday, 3 February 2023

Yours sincerely,

Lindon Mellor

Acting Chief Executive Officer





MERREDIN REGIONAL LIBRARY



FRIDAY, 24 FEBRUARY
1.30PM-3PM | MERREDIN LIBRARY

FREE OVER 50'S EVENT
FEEL FREE TO BRING ALONG SOME NIBBLES!
TEA AND COFFEE PROVIDED



FUN, WACKY PRIZES FOR WINNERS!

WEST AUSTRALIAN OPERA 2023

24TH FEB 2023



CARMEN

In association with Perth Festival
LOTTERYWEST LIVESTREAM FROM WACA GROUND TO
CUMMINS THEATRE | MERREDIN

LEARN MORE VISIT CUMMINSTHEATRE.COM.AU

Featuring the West Australian Opera Chorus & the West Australian Symphony Orchestra




CELTIC ILLUSION

THE MAGIC RETURNS



7.30PM, 3RD APRIL 2023
CUMMINS THEATRE, MERREDIN




Memphis Rockers

Present
The American Rock and Roll Experience
- The Early Years -
Playing the HITS from the 50's and 60's
Featuring Special Guest - Alix Jordan as Dusty Springfield

CUMMINS THEATRE- MERREDIN
SATURDAY 13TH MAY 2023 7PM

TICKETS AVAILABLE FROM
CENTRAL WHEATBELT VISITORS CENTRE
OR CUMMINSTHEATRE.COM.AU

GREAT MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT
Hits From All The Legends Of Rock and Roll



NOT TO BE MISSED • ONE SHOW ONLY
HURRY GET YOUR TICKETS TODAY

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