



SHIRE OF  
**MERREDIN**  
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

# MERREDIN

## COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

APRIL/MAY 2024



## CEO APPOINTMENT

The Shire of Merredin is pleased to announce the appointment of new Chief Executive Officer, Mr. Craig Watts, for a five-year term.

Council approved the appointment of Mr. Watts earlier in the month in a unanimous decision, which was finalised at the Ordinary Council Meeting held on 26 March 2024.

Mr. Watts is currently the Director Regulatory Services at the Shire of Port Hedland, but comes with a wealth of Local Government experience, spanning across three decades.

His diverse Local Government portfolio includes Environmental Health, Emergency Management, Ranger Services, Economic Development, and Town Building and Planning.

Shire President Mark McKenzie said that he looked forward to working closely with the new CEO to deliver the community's vision, while also addressing challenges and opportunities that are currently facing our community.

"We are confident that Mr. Watts possesses the leadership qualities, vision, and dedication necessary to effectively lead our Shire and serve our residents," he said.

Mr. John Merrick will continue to act as Temporary Chief Executive Officer until Mr. Watts commencement at the Shire of Merredin on 4 June 2024.

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## APRIL COUNCIL MEETING

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 30 April 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's 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/](http://www.merredin.wa.gov.au/council-meetings/)





# ENGINEERING

## Water Tower Restoration Project

The Shire is excited to announce the commencement of restoration works on the Merredin Water Tower, with the installation of scaffolding to start from Monday, 15 April 2024. These works will include improving the structural integrity of both the wooden tower and its metal tank, while ensuring minimal impact to, and preservation of, the aesthetic of the tower in order to maintain historical accuracy.



Shire President Mark McKenzie expressed his enthusiasm for the commencement of this project, which has been in development for five years.

“We would like to extend our gratitude to the Public Transport Authority and the Wheatbelt Development Commission for their financial support, to allow us to save the Merredin Water Tower, which has become an icon of not only Merredin, but of the Wheatbelt,” he said.

During the works, some areas of Pioneer Park will be temporarily closed to the public. However, access to the park and the adjacent museums will be maintained. The restoration works will take approximately 3-4 months to complete.

If you have any questions or queries, please contact the Shire of Merredin on 9041 1611.

## Merredin Tip Shop Update

We are pleased to inform the community that the upgraded Merredin Tip Shop is now open to the public DAILY, as of Monday, 15 April 2024!

This announcement comes following the construction of a new shed at the Merredin Waste Management Facility made possible by a grant from the Department of Water and Environmental Regulation.

Operational hours of the Tip Shop will align with the opening

hours of the landfill site, and payments are to be made at the gatehouse through EFTPOS.

For those interested in contributing items to the Tip Shop, kindly seek approval from the gatehouse operator and upon approval, they will direct you to the location for unloading.

We thank you for your patience while the construction of the new shed was completed, and we look forward to welcoming you back soon.

## Road Reconstruction Works

Please be advised that due to road reconstruction works on Merredin – Narembeen Road between Barnes Road and Briant Road, small delays of 15 minutes should be expected until Monday, 22 April 2024.

We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause.

## CBD Redevelopment Project

**Town Centre:** In the Town Centre, earthworks are currently in progress, focusing primarily on the removal of fill (dirt) to facilitate necessary construction works. Once this phase is completed, the finalisation of electrical and irrigation pre-lays will follow. Simultaneously, excavation for new drainage systems will be completed alongside the fill removal efforts. This work will mitigate flooding issues that have previously occurred in the carparking area alongside the Town Centre.

To better address the community's needs, a temporary toilet block has been installed adjacent to the Merredin Train Station, replacing the previous port-a-loos. This new toilet block aims to provide more accessible facilities during the CBD Redevelopment Project.

Additionally, intersection works have been rescheduled to commence towards the end of the overall project timeline in order to optimise project delivery. This adjustment is anticipated to reduce the duration of the intersection closure. Dates for the closure will be confirmed and communicated to the community in due course.

**Apex Park:** Significant progress has been made following the completion of demolition works. This milestone has paved the way for the finalisation of electrical and irrigation pre-lays, marking the commencement of fine leveling and site set-out activities.

The design for the 9m high slide tower has now been finalised, which means the structure will now undergo manufacturing. In addition to this, construction of the raised earth mound for the slide tower and flying fox is well

underway, with rock work due to be completed in the coming weeks. Earthworks for the skate park have also been completed, with retaining walls for both the skate park and garden beds nearing finalisation.

Concrete pouring for the skate park, as well as other park features, is scheduled to begin in the coming weeks.



### Expressions of Interest—Cash for Containers

The MRCLC is calling for expressions of interest from sporting clubs / community groups to participate in a Containers for Change program. The MRCLC's aim is to promote recycling and sustainability within our community while supporting our clubs and groups.

As part of this initiative, we are offering containers to interested sporting clubs / groups to support their fundraising efforts.

If your club / group is interested in participating in the containers program with the MRCLC, please submit an EOI with the following details:

1. Club Name
2. Containers for Change Number

Please submit your expression of interest by 4:00pm on Friday, 19 April 2024 to [mrclc@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:mrclc@merredin.wa.gov.au).

For queries, please contact Mel on (08) 9041 3033.



### Sign Up for the 2024 Gala Night Committee

The Shire of Merredin's annual Gala Night is one of the biggest events on Merredin's calendar, drawing locals and our surrounding wheatbelt community to celebrate the years end. It is where Merredin comes together to showcase the best of what our businesses and community have to offer as we collectively host a late night shopping experience with fun, food and entertainment for all the family.

Would you like to be a part of planning and delivering Merredin's Annual Christmas event in 2024?

The Shire of Merredin would like to invite local stakeholders, business groups, organisations, and individuals to nominate to be involved in the Gala Night 2024 working group. If interested, please complete the Expression of Interest form on the Shire website: [bit.ly/galanightworkinggroup](http://bit.ly/galanightworkinggroup)

For further information, please contact Leanne Bryant, Manager Community & Culture at the Shire, by calling (08) 9041 3295 or emailing [mcc@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:mcc@merredin.wa.gov.au).



### RFQ27-23-24—East Barrack St Drainage Improvements

The Shire of Merredin is seeking quotes from suitably qualified and experienced contractors to undertake drainage improvements on East Barrack Street (Mitchell Street) between Adamson Road and Saleyards Road.

Submissions are to be lodged electronically via [tenders@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:tenders@merredin.wa.gov.au) by 2:00pm on Monday, 22 April 2024.

Late submissions will not be accepted.

## Meet Mel, the new Recreation and Aquatics Manager!

Mel Warren started with us last December, as the Recreation and Aquatics Manager. Mel is based at the Merredin Regional Community & Leisure Centre, however she oversees the Merredin Swimming Pool and other sport & recreation services within the Shire of Merredin also.

Mel has been working in the Sports and Leisure industry for over 20 years, delivering many exciting new facilities and upgrades on older facilities. Mel brings a wealth of experience in the Sports and Leisure Industry and we are excited to have her on board as we enter a new and exciting period.

### *A message from Mel*

“Having worked across the country in some places that barely rate a mention on a map, it is awesome to return to a place that I have heard so many stories about - as my mum grew up here.

I can hardly claim being from Merredin but I did spend my first 12 months of life here before my Dad transferred with Railways to Geraldton.

Sports and Leisure has always been a big part of my life and I am really excited to see what we can do in Merredin!

It is nice to be home.”



## COMMUNITY FUNDING PROGRAM



## APPLICATIONS NOW OPEN

We're thrilled to announce that the 2024/25 Annual Grant is officially OPEN for applications.

If you have a project in mind that could benefit from cash funding, in-kind contributions, or fee waivers of up to \$10,000, this is your opportunity to make it happen!

### Key Dates:

- ▶ Application Period: 8 April 2024 – 10 May 2024
- ▶ Notification of Outcomes: July 2024
- ▶ Funds Released: August 2024 (pending budget approval)

Whether it's enhancing our neighbourhoods, fostering sustainability, supporting local artists, or any other initiative that enriches our community, we want to hear from YOU!

To learn more, or to download an application form, visit [bit.ly/communityfundinggrants](https://bit.ly/communityfundinggrants)

### Corella Survey

The Wheatbelt NRM in conjunction with CBH, WEROC and AROC are working on a project on corella management across the Central Wheatbelt, and as part of this, are conducting a survey.

This survey is to work out how you experience the corella issue in your area. It is important to gather this information so that an overall plan can be made to manage the corellas within the Wheatbelt.

Complete the Survey: [bit.ly/corellasurvey](https://bit.ly/corellasurvey)



## eRATES

In our ongoing efforts to enhance our services and embrace technology, we have launched an Online Form for residents to sign up for Electronic Rates.

Why go electronic?

### **Fast Delivery**

Receive your rates notices directly to your email inbox, ensuring you get them promptly without any delays.

### **Environmentally Friendly**

By opting for electronic rates notices, you contribute to the reduction of paper usage, helping us make a positive impact on the environment.

### **Convenience**

Access your rates notices from anywhere at any time, without the hassle of sorting through physical mail.

If you have any questions or need assistance with the sign-up process, please don't hesitate to contact our Rates Department at [rates@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:rates@merredin.wa.gov.au).

Sign up today by visiting [bit.ly/electronicrates](http://bit.ly/electronicrates)



## CWVC

### **New Location**

Get ready, the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre is on the move! Soon, you'll find this tourism hub settling into its brand-new home at the Merredin Train Station. This exciting relocation promises to make access to information, event tickets, and local attractions easier and more convenient than ever before.

Wondering when you can expect the grand opening of this exciting new space? While the official opening date is still to be confirmed, we encourage you to keep your eyes peeled for an official invitation to the community soon.

It'll be your chance to check out the new space, chat to the friendly staff, and enjoy a bite to eat over morning tea. So, spread the word, and stay tuned for more updates!



## LIBRARY

### **Lego Club**

Did you know that the library now hosts a **FREE** LEGO Club catered specifically for 5 to 14-year-olds? It's true! If you've got a young builder or enthusiast at home, this is the perfect opportunity for them to unleash their creativity and have a blast with bricks.

The club sessions take place on the last Monday of each month during the school term, and the next session is scheduled for Monday, April 29, 2024, starting at 4:00PM. Mark your calendars and get ready for an afternoon filled with imaginative construction and friendly competitions!

For our younger builders aged under 10, we kindly ask that a parent or guardian accompanies them to the sessions.

For more information, please contact the Merredin Library on (08) 9041 1222.

### **New Facebook Page**

As part of the Shire's ongoing commitment to community engagement and communications, the Shire have created a dedicated Facebook Page for the Merredin Regional Library: [www.facebook.com/merredinregionallibrary/](http://www.facebook.com/merredinregionallibrary/)

This Facebook Page is now active.

It is hoped by creating an online presence for the Library, we can drive community engagement, increase participation, and promote Library events and initiatives such as Lego Club and School Holiday Activities.

### **Public Holiday Building Closures**

Please be advised that a number of Shire facilities will be closed for the ANZAC Day public holiday on 25 April including:

- ▶ Shire Administration Building;
- ▶ Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre;
- ▶ Merredin Regional Community & Leisure Centre.

The Merredin Waste Site will be operational from 10:00am until 3:00pm, while Cummins Theatre will be operating throughout the day for ANZAC Day activities but will be closed for general walk-ins and phone enquiries

### **Public Holiday Rubbish Collection**

Please note, there will be **NO CHANGE** to rubbish collection for the ANZAC Day Public Holiday on Thursday, 25 April 2024.



## BRUCE

Thirty-eight residents, along with students from Southern Cross District High School, were treated to an intimate puppeteer experience unlike any other on Thursday, 28 March 2024, when Cummins Theatre played host to BRUCE, a floating block of yellow foam with a heart of gold.

Crafted by the ingenious minds of Wyatt Nixon-Lloyd and Tim Watts, BRUCE unfolded as a side-splitting journey of redemption. With remarkable minimalism, BRUCE was brought to life through puppetry, with two people employing a staggering array of 21 different voices to animate the character.



From his origins as a self-proclaimed hero-cop turned novelist-astronaut, BRUCE's story was both hilarious and heartwarming. Against the backdrop of the Cummins Theatre stage, audiences found themselves drawn into BRUCE's world, sharing in his triumphs and tribulations with laughter and empathy.

As the laughter echoed within the halls of Cummins Theatre, BRUCE served as a poignant reminder of the power of simplicity in storytelling. In an age where extravagance often overshadows substance, Nixon-Lloyd and Watts proved that sometimes, all it takes is a floating block of foam to capture the hearts of an audience and leave a lasting impression.



## JOB VACANCY

### Administration Officer—Corporate Services

*Commencing: Immediately | Position Status: Full Time*

*Salary: Level 6/7 range of \$62,136 - \$67,300*

Applications are invited for the position of Administration Officer – Corporate Services. The successful candidate will provide confidential and effective administrative support for the Shire of Merredin, including the management of our records and the efficient and courteous delivery of customer services.

You will be working in the Corporate Services directorate which delivers Financial, Human Resource, Information and Communications Technology (ICT), Procurement, Risk, WHS and Customer Service activities for the Shire. In addition to the general administration and customer services responsibilities of this role, it is anticipated that over time you will develop skills in administration of payroll, payment of creditors and other financial tasks, alongside your records role.

We are a small team and are looking forward to welcoming a new team member. Ideally, we are looking for someone that is experienced working in a similar environment, however, your ability to adapt and quickly gain the necessary knowledge and skills will be highly regarded.

Working at the Shire offers excellent benefits, including;

- ▶ A fantastic work life balance;
- ▶ A small, personable team environment;
- ▶ Training and development opportunities; and
- ▶ A great employee Health and Wellbeing Program including flu shots, skin cancer checks and an Employee Assistance Program.

If you would like further information about this position please contact Leah Boehme, Executive Manager Corporate Services on (08) 9041 1611 during office hours. If you require information on how to apply, please email [careers@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:careers@merredin.wa.gov.au).

Applications are to be received by no later than 4.00pm, Monday, 29 April 2024, and should be marked "Private and Confidential" and emailed to [careers@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:careers@merredin.wa.gov.au) or sent via post to PO Box 42 Merredin WA 6415.

**John Merrick, CEO**

# SHIRE OF MERREDIN

## SURPLUS OF REQUIREMENT SALE

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> April 2024



### Lot # Item - Description

#### Item Listing

LOT	1	Howard Slasher with PTO – Towed
LOT	2	CAT BP15 Sweeper – Towed
LOT	3	Robi 8 Grabber attachment Ser 3625
LOT	4	Bucket Scoop – Jaws Ser 52543
LOT	5	Sweeper – Towed
LOT	6	Auger Bit
LOT	7	Digger Clena Sweeper Attachment
LOT	8	Fibre Fum Tank – Mountable
LOT	9	2003 Loadstar Boxtop Trailer
LOT	10	John Papas Tandem Trailer
LOT	11	Swill Lockable Single Axle Trailer
LOT	12	Water Cart Tank Tandem Axle Trailer
LOT	13	Hydraulic Rotary Attachment
LOT	14	Assorted Wire Fence Rolls
LOT	15	Hose Reel White
LOT	16	Maletti Till Attachment
LOT	17	Honda Concrete Mixer W Cradle
LOT	18	Canopy Galvanized
LOT	19	Canopy Wire White
LOT	20	Kubota RTV – X900

### Lot # Item - Description

#### Item Listing

LOT	21	Tree Planter
LOT	22	Roller – McDonald Steel
LOT	23	Polmac Yellow Tipping Trailer
LOT	24	Yellow Box Trailer with Seed Hopper
LOT	25	Small Plant Trailer
LOT	26	High Side Tandem Trailer
LOT	27	Water Cart Trailer
LOT	28	2020 Masport Ride on Rear Bagger
LOT	29	Hustler Ride on Mower SZ HD FX1000
LOT	30	Toro Reelmaster 3100D Non-Sidewinder
LOT	31	2018 Nissan Navara D23 Kling Cab 4X2
LOT	32	2019 Nissan Navara Tray Top
LOT	33	Rigid Polmac 6-10 Tonne Trailer
LOT	34	2015 Hino 300 Series 917 Dump Truck
LOT	35	2018 Mitsubishi ASX LS 2WD (92,610kms)
LOT	36	2020 Mitsubishi Sport QF (74,897kms)
LOT	37	BC935 Chatfield Direct Seeder
LOT	38	2018 Nissan Navara RX Dual Cab

Any Additional items will be added to the Website or Facebook Event Page (Elders Merredin)  
<https://elders.com.au/our-services/buy-and-sell/clearing-sales/>

Elders Merredin  
Contact : Andrew Peters  
Mobile : 0438 847 871

Technical Details  
Contact : Lawrie Carr  
Mobile : 0458 663 852



# ANZAC DAY

THURSDAY, 25 APRIL 2024

AT THE GOING DOWN OF THE SUN  
AND IN THE MORNING,  
WE WILL REMEMBER THEM

DAWN  
SERVICE

MERREDIN CENOTAPH

6:00AM

MID MORNING  
SERVICE

CUMMINS THEATRE

11:00AM

PARADE COMMENCES FROM POST OFFICE  
15 MINUTES PRIOR TO EACH SERVICE

GUNFIRE BREAKFAST

TIVOLI ROOM

7:00AM



Contact: Leanne Bryant  
P: (08) 9041 3295  
E: [mcc@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:mcc@merredin.wa.gov.au)

# 40+ FABULOUS



"COMEDIC GENIUS"  
"ABSOLUTELY AMAZING"  
FRINGEFEED



15  
MINUTE  
SQUATS

COZ YOUR ASS  
IS MASSIVE

CHOCOLATE  
CHEESECAKE

COZ YOU  
DESERVE IT

WORLD  
PEACE  
ARE YOU DOING  
ENOUGH?

"LAUGHED SO HARD" "BRILLIANT" "MUST-SEE SHOW!" "LAUGHTER-THERAPY SESSION"

CUMMINS THEATRE  
MERREDIN

7:00PM FRIDAY, 3 MAY 2024

ADULT \$30 | CONCESSION \$25 | TABLE OF 6 \$150

CUMMINSTHEATRE.COM.AU  
OR AT THE CENTRAL WHEATBELT VISITOR CENTRE

TICKETS



"A NATURAL TALENT. I LAUGHED ALL EVENING" "REAL LIFE, RELATABLE, HILARIOUS COMEDY"

YIRRA YAAKIN PRESENTS

# SONGBIRD

Cummins Theatre | Friday 24 May, 7pm



WRITTEN BY SHAKARA WALLEY

Tickets Adult \$35 | Concession \$30

Book Online at [cumminstheatre.com.au](http://cumminstheatre.com.au) or at Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre

# SHANNON ★ NOLL



THAT'S  
WHAT I'M  
TALKING  
ABOUT

20TH ANNIVERSARY TOUR 2024

SATURDAY MAY 25

CUMMINS THEATRE, MERREDIN  
[SHANNONNOLL.COM](http://SHANNONNOLL.COM) [SBMPRESENTS.COM](http://SBMPRESENTS.COM)

