



COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

JUNE 2023

Synergy Visits Merredin

Representatives from Synergy, along with the President of the Tesla Owners Club WA Inc. Harrauld Murphy, met with Shire President Mark McKenzie and Shire Staff at the Shire Administration Office on Monday, 22 May 2023.

Synergy are currently working with Horizon Power and the State Government to create Australia's longest Electric Vehicle charging network. Once completed, EV drivers will have access to 98 EV charging stations across 49 locations (including Merredin) from Eucla at the South Australian border to Kununurra in the far north of Western Australia.

The purpose of the visit was to discuss the challenges faced by electric vehicle (EV) owners traveling in regional Western Australia. Additionally, the benefits of EV ownership, including advanced safety features and positive environmental impacts, were highlighted.



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To sign up to receive hard copies of the Shire's newsletter, please email media@merredin.wa.gov.au with your name and postal address. Alternatively, if you would like to sign up for the E-newsletter, please head to the Shire website at merredin.wa.gov.au and complete the form located at the bottom of the home page.

June Council Meeting

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 27 June 2023 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/





JOB VACANCY

BUILDING MAINTENANCE OFFICER

Commencing: Immediately

Salary range \$59,000 - \$74,000 (negotiable, depending on experience)

An exciting opportunity has emerged at the Shire of Merredin for a suitably experienced Building Maintenance Officer to join our team. This is a brand-new role which has been created as part of a restructure of the organisation which will expand the services currently provided by the Development Services department, as well as increase resources to allow for a stronger focus on areas highlighted in the Shire's strategic vision.

This position offers excellent benefits for an enthusiastic and driven individual who in return will be offered:

- 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, hearing tests, skin cancer checks, free health assessments and an Employee Assistance Program.

Working under the direction of the Executive Manager Development Services, the Building Maintenance Officer will oversee the carrying out of identified and budget building related works, as well as undertake data collection, preparation and creation of asset reports, risk assessments, condition assessments, review budgets and is responsible for engaging and overseeing the work of contractors carrying out the required works.

The ideal candidate will have experience in both contract and project management, or possess a trade qualification. However, we will consider candidates with transferrable skills and experience with the right mindset who would be committed to the role and further technical development.

Applications are to include a CV and covering letter (max 2 pages) addressing the selection criteria and indicating your ability to meet the role requirements. A position description can be obtained online via the Shire of Merredin website.

Applications are to be received by **no later than 5:00pm, Tuesday, 13 June 2023.**

Applications are to be marked "Private and Confidential" and emailed to careers@merredin.wa.gov.au or sent via post to PO Box 42, Merredin WA 6415.

If you are interested in the role and would like more information, please contact **Peter Zenni**, Executive Manager Development Services on **(08) 9041 1611**.

Lisa Clack

Chief Executive Officer



JOB VACANCY

TOURISM OFFICER

Level 5 full time or part time (hours negotiable)

\$54,544 to \$58,116

TOURISM SUPPORT OFFICER/S

Level 4/5—Casual

\$32.46—\$36.76 p/h (inclusive of casual loading)

The Shire of Merredin is seeking candidates with strong customer service experience and an interest in tourism and visitor servicing, to support our Visitor Centre team.

The successful applicant/s for the Tourism Officer role will have experience in the tourism industry (or similar) and able to provide quality and professional customer service in visitor servicing, Transwa bookings and Eastern Wheatbelt regional tourism, and to provide administrative support to the Visitor Centre Manager.

Ideally, candidates for the Tourism Support Officer role will have experience in the delivery of customer services in a similar environment, have knowledge of the local area and have a desire to share this with visitors to the region.

Both roles require the ability to work under pressure at times, particularly through the wildflower season, and to demonstrate they can work in a supportive team environment - a degree of flexibility on working days and hours is a must.

To ensure the successful candidates are able to take up their roles effectively, there will be 3 weeks full-time training. Casual work is available through the peak wildflower season, July-September 2023 and during this time, casuals will be required to support a 7-day rotational roster. Note: it is expected that there will be some ongoing employment for casual staff after October 2023, however this will be on an ad hoc basis.

If you are interested in either (or both) position/s, but are concerned about meeting all the requirements of the position description, please contact Robyn McCarthy on 08 9041 1666 for a confidential discussion. We are keen to talk to people that are open to learning and we offer a supportive workplace where you can further develop your skills.

If you wish to apply for both positions, please state this in your application and forward your resume and covering letter outlining your ability to meet the selection criteria (no more than 2 pages) to careers@merredin.wa.gov.au by 4.00pm Friday 23/06/2023. The Shire will be assessing applications as we receive them and may undertake interviews prior to the closing date.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact us on (08) 9041 1666.

Lisa Clack

Chief Executive Officer



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

RESTRICTED BURNING

16 SEPTEMBER 2023 - 31 OCTOBER 2023

& 18 FEBRUARY 2024 - 16 MARCH 2024
(PERMITS REQUIRED)

PROHIBITED BURNING

1 NOVEMBER 2023 - 17 FEBRUARY 2024

(NO BURNING)

TO REPORT A FIRE
PLEASE CALL

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ENGINEERING

Merredin-Narembeen Road Works

Upgrade works on the Merredin-Narembeen Road are still underway, with the section closest to Great Eastern Highway currently being completed.

It is anticipated that these upgrades will conclude by the end of June 2023, however, subsequent works along the road will be taking place after the winter period later in the year.

Merredin Tip Shop Next Opening Date

The highly anticipated next date for the Shire's Tip Shop is just around the corner! The Tip Shop will open to the public again on Saturday, 10 June 2023, from 10:00am - 3:00pm.

Thanks to your incredible support, our first two openings were a tremendous success, diverting an impressive 63m² of waste from landfill! We want to extend our appreciation to everyone in the community who donated their unwanted goods. Your contributions have given new life to these items, making a positive impact on both our community and the environment.

Our Tip Shop still has plenty to offer this month, with a fantastic range of bikes, furniture, sporting equipment, chairs, picture frames, and many other treasures waiting to be discovered. So, why not come down and take a look? Remember, it's first in, best dressed, so be sure to mark your calendars and be among the first to check out these amazing finds!

And here's an important reminder: If you have any items you're planning to throw out that still hold value, we invite you to drop them off during landfill opening hours.

For more information, visit our website or contact the Tip Shop directly. See you there!

RFT 02 2022-23 Operation and Management of the Merredin Regional Community & Leisure Centre

The Shire of Merredin is seeking tenders from suitably qualified and experienced facility management specialists to undertake the management of the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre (MRCLC). Lease options for the bar and restaurant are also included.

The deadline for submissions is 10:00am AWST, Monday, 3 July 2023. Late submissions may not be accepted. Tenders are to be submitted via the Shire's Tenderlink portal: <https://portal.tenderlink.com/merredin>

Should you have any questions on how to download the documentation or how to submit a response please contact Meg Wyatt, Executive Officer on (08) 9041 1611.



VISITOR CENTRE

Merredin Resident Packs

Are you new to town? Call into the Visitor Centre for a New Resident Pack. They are packed full of information on Merredin including business lists, community groups, Shire information along with maps and brochures to help you settle into town.

We can also advise on upcoming events and things to see and do throughout the region.



Souvenir Coin

The Merredin Souvenir Coin features the iconic Cummins Theatre. There are 106 coins to collect on your travels throughout Western Australia.

Coins are \$2 or coin in capsule is \$4, we also have Coin Collectors albums for \$29.95.



Fire Control Officer Appointments

Bush Fires Act 1954

Notice is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed to the designated positions within the Shire of Merredin for the 2023-24 fire season in accordance with section 38(1) of the Bush Fires Act 1954.

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer: Mr Michael Caughey

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer: Mr Glenn Crees

Fire Control Officers: Chris Barnett – Burracoppin
Nigel Edgecombe – Burracoppin South
Matt Barnett – Burracoppin South
Glenn Crees – Collgar
Kael Crees – Collgar
Stephen Crook – Collgar
David Last – Collgar
Cam Gethin – Hines Hill
Luke Growden – Hines Hill
Colin Miller – Hines Hill
John Flockart – Korbeka
Chris Hooper – Korbeka
Sam Hooper – Korbeka
Darren Major – Muntadgin
Paul Wanless – Muntadgin
Michael Caughey – Nukarni/Nokaning
Marshall Crook – Nukarni/Nokaning
Daniel Giles – Nukarni/Nokaning
Phil Gray – Nukarni/Nokaning
Neil Smith – Nukarni/Nokaning
Sheree Lowe – Shire of Merredin

These positions remain in effect until revoked. All previous appointments published and not listed above are hereby revoked.

Lisa Clack,

Chief Executive Officer

26 May 2023

Proposed Closure of Gazetted Road

At the April Ordinary Council Meeting, an application was presented to Council for the permanent closure of a portion of road identified in the map linked below:

► bit.ly/proposedroadclosure

Pursuant to Section 58 (3) of the Land Administration Act 1997, the Shire of Merredin hereby gives notice of its intention to resolve to approach the Minister responsible for the administration of the Land Administration Act 1997, requesting the closure of a portion of the gazetted road identified as the parcel of land with a Polygon ID Number 3150496, forming portion of Coghill Street, extending between Watson Road and Doyle Street, Merredin.

In accordance with the requirements of the Land Administration Act 1997, this proposal is being advertised for public comment for a period of 35 days.

Anyone wishing to lodge an objection in relation to the above should do so in writing to the Chief Executive Officer of the Shire of Merredin, PO Box 42, Merredin WA 6415, on or before Thursday, 22 June 2023, or via email to ea@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Council will consider all submissions received during the public comment period before approaching the Minister.

Please note, all submissions received will be made public in the corresponding Council Agenda, unless a submission specifically requests otherwise.

Should you have any queries regarding this process please contact the Executive Manager Development Services, Mr Peter Zenni, on 9041 1611.

Lisa Clack,

Chief Executive Officer

16 May 2023

Report local issues in a Snap!



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT





FIRE SAFETY

Fire Safety in the Home

By Sheree Lowe, Emergency Services Officer

As the weather continues to cool down and we start looking for more ways to warm up, we enter the higher risk time of year for fires in the home. A small fire can engulf a room in a couple of minutes, and your house can be beyond saving before the fire brigade can even get there. Most home fires are preventable though, and here are some of our best tips for doing so:

Install and maintain smoke alarms

In April we talked about smoke alarms, and how to test and maintain them. A working smoke alarm will alert you if a fire starts in your home, giving you time to escape.

Home fire escape plan

A home fire escape plan is really important for everyone in your home, but is especially important if you have children. It's really simple to make a home fire safety plan, and practicing it with your kids will make sure everyone knows what to do instinctively – most of us don't think well in a crisis!

The DFES website has more information on developing a home fire escape plan, but the key things to keep in mind are:

- ▶ Identify all the exits in your home, and more than one way out of each room (including windows).
- ▶ Make sure all windows and doors can be easily opened from the inside. If they're locked with keys, make sure your keys are kept close by.
- ▶ Identify a meeting place outside the house (like a letterbox, a big tree, etc), and make sure everyone in the house knows to go there if they need to evacuate.
- ▶ Make sure everyone knows what to do in the event of a fire such as:
 - ◇ Evacuate via the nearest exit;
 - ◇ Crawl low under smoke;
 - ◇ Go to your safe meeting place;
 - ◇ Call 000 and wait for the fire brigade to arrive (they will want information from you to help them, including how and where the fire started, whether all members of the household are accounted for, and the layout of your house – so make sure they can find you easily when they arrive); and
 - ◇ Do not re-enter a burning house for any reason.

Practice this with everyone in your household (especially your kids) to make sure that everyone knows what to do in the event of fire.

Lithium-ion batteries

Lithium-ion batteries are a major cause of house fires in WA.

We talked about this in more detail last month, but the main things to remember are that it's super important to never overcharge your rechargeable devices; never charge your devices on a soft or flammable surface; only use the correct charger for the device you're charging; and never use damaged chargers, batteries or devices.



Wood Heaters and Wood Smoke

By Meghna Dalwadi, Environmental Health Officer

In Australia, many households rely on wood heaters to warm their homes during winter. However, it's important to be aware that wood heaters can contribute significantly to local air pollution during the colder seasons.

Residential wood smoke can originate from a number of sources such as wood heaters, open fireplaces, backyard burning, wood-fired pizza ovens, and chimineas. If not properly maintained, indoor wood burning appliances can retain up to 70% of wood smoke, posing potential health risks.

Improper operation of a wood heater can also result in excessive smoke and reduced heat output. In fact, a poorly operated wood heater may produce up to 30 times more smoke and only half as much heat compared to a properly functioning one.

Woodsmoke can be particularly problematic on cold, calm nights due to the following reasons:

- ▶ More people keep their wood heaters burning overnight;
- ▶ People overload their heater with wood, starving the fire of oxygen and causing it to smoulder and produce a lot of smoke; and
- ▶ Smoke hangs in the air at ground level without a breeze to blow it away.

Woodsmoke contains a range of pollutants that are harmful to human health, such as particulates, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs). Some pollutants from wood heater smoke, such as particulates and formaldehyde, are carcinogenic. Chronic exposure to woodsmoke can also cause heart and lung disease. Pregnant women, children, older people, and people with respiratory illness are especially

vulnerable to the health impacts of woodsmoke.

There are steps you can take to decrease the health effects of wood smoke:

- ▶ Only use well-seasoned hardwoods that are not stained, treated or painted;
- ▶ Chop your wood into smaller pieces;
- ▶ Use plenty of kindling and paper to establish a fire quickly and only use big logs for slower burning;
- ▶ Stack your wood so there is 2cm between each log to allow for air to get into the hot area of the fire;
- ▶ Do not over fill the heater / fireplace;
- ▶ Ensure there is enough air circulation your wood heater by adjusting the air intake or flue; and
- ▶ Check your wood heater and chimney regularly to ensure no excessive smoke is being produced.

If you have an old wood heater, consider upgrading to a low-emission wood heater that meets the Australian/New Zealand Standard 4013:1999. You can check for the wood heater compliance plate on the back of the appliance.

Alternatively, you can explore gas or electric heating options for the winter season, which have lower environmental impact and fewer health risks associated with air pollution.



Government of Western Australia
North Metropolitan Health Service



Women 40 years or over,
have a **FREE** breast screening
mammogram every two years.
Once is not enough.



BreastScreen WA's mobile service will be at:

Merredin

Behind Wheatbelt Visitors Centre, 85 Barrack Street

21/06/2023 - 10/07/2023

Dates may be subject to change

For an appointment
book **online** or phone **13 20 50**

www.breastscreen.health.wa.gov.au



AUG 2022



Lumen Wheatbelt Regional University Centre is
now open for student registrations at the
Merredin study hub!

Lumen WRUC provides access to a study space, free access to internet, printing and IT equipment as well as a student support officer for Wheatbelt uni, TAFE or RTO students. If you are studying online, on campus or a bit of both you are welcome to use our facility. We are here for students doing any course at any higher education provider in Australia!

All you need to do is register to access what ever meets your needs at the Merredin study hub located at the Merredin Regional Library.

To register for free have your USI and course
details handy and go to:

<https://lumenwruc.edu.au/register/>

If you have questions just send us an email.

hello@lumenwruc.edu.au



LAST FRIDAY OF EVERY MONTH

1:30PM - 3:00PM

MERREDIN LIBRARY

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

FUN, WACKY PRIZES FOR WINNERS!



**MERREDIN REGIONAL
LIBRARY**



Bel Canto Performing Arts presents

A Salute to The Crooners



Frank Sinatra



Dean Martin



Sammy Davis Jr



Nat King Cole

Join Perth performer Justin Freind as he sings the great hits...
Fly Me To The Moon - That's Amore - Unforgettable - My Way
Come Fly With Me - Ain't That A Kick - and many more.

THURS 29 JUNE Mukinbudin Rec Centre
25 Cruickshank Rd, Mukinbudin
Doors open 10.30am
Concert 11.00am - 12.00pm

To book call Mukinbudin CRC (08) 9047 2150 or
Scan the QR code below



Mukinbudin

FRI 30 JUNE Cummins Theatre
31 Bates St, Merredin
Doors open 10.30am
Concert 11.00am - 12.00pm

To book call Cummins Theatre (08) 9041 3295 or
Scan the QR code below



Merredin

ALL TICKETS \$20

Book now at www.trybooking.com



CUMMINS
THEATRE

Morning Melodies

DAVID SCHEEL IN...

**DON'T SHOOT ME,
I'M ONLY THE
PIANO PLAYER!**

A MORNING OF CLASSICAL
MUSIC AND COMEDY



**Cummins Theatre
Friday, 4 August 2023**

Morning Tea at 10.30am

Concert starts 11am

**Bookings Essential
\$15**

Morning Tea is included in ticket price

Tickets available at Cumminstheatre.com.au
or Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre

MERREDIN YOUTH COMMITTEE PRESENTS

BLUE LIGHT DISCO



**GOLD
COIN
ENTRY**

FRIDAY | 28TH JULY 2023

**DRESS AS SOMEONE
INSPIRATIONAL TO YOU**

CUMMINS THEATRE

CHECK OUT OUR FB PAGE FOR MORE INFO

