

# COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION



## KICKFLIPS & NINJA KICKS: LOCAL YOUTH ENJOY DAY OUT AT APEX PARK | DANJOO WAABININY BOODJA

Apex Park | Danjoo Waabininy Boodja was buzzing with excitement last school holidays as the highly anticipated Skateboarding and Ninja Warrior Workshops attracted a fantastic turnout. On Sunday, September 29, 2024, kids of all ages flocked to the park, eager to test their skills, learn something new, and enjoy a day filled with outdoor fun and challenges.

The day kicked off at 11:00am with the Build Up Skateboarding Workshop, drawing participants of all skill levels. From seasoned skaters to beginners, the workshop was designed to help everyone improve their technique and build confidence while having fun. Experienced instructors guided participants through essential skills and safety tips, fostering a supportive environment where kids could practice their moves and feel encouraged. Lucky participants even had the chance to win some exciting merchandise giveaways, adding to the day's excitement!

Just after 12:00 PM, the Ninja Academy launched its Ninja Warrior Workshop, focusing on agility and coordination through an array of thrilling challenges and obstacle courses. Children engaged in various activities, including swinging, climbing, jumping, and balance exercises, all crafted to develop their strength and coordination. The workshop encouraged kids to conquer the ninja course at the park, where they tackled obstacles and tested their skills in a fun and engaging setting.

At 12:30pm, the Shire staff served a delicious sausage sizzle lunch for the community, generously provided by Merredin IGA. Families gathered to enjoy the tasty treats while connecting with one another, adding to the day's wonderful atmosphere.

It was great to see the Merredin Police out and about in the park after lunch, actively engaging with the kids and watching the exciting activities unfold, even getting involved in one or two!

From mastering skateboard tricks to conquering the challenges of the Ninja Warrior course, the kids had an absolute blast.

We would like to extend our gratitude to the event sponsors Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries, Merredin Blue Light WA Unit, Avon Community Services, and Merredin Youth Committee for making these workshops possible.



## NEW STAFF PROFILE



### Meet Sharni

We are thrilled to introduce the community to our new Aquatics Supervisor, who will be overseeing the District Olympic Swimming Pool for the upcoming season starting in November 2024.

Sharni began her journey in the aquatics industry at just 16, earning qualifications as a Lifeguard and Swim Teacher. Her career quickly expanded, working FIFO and DIDO as a Swim Teacher with Royal Life Saving Australia. During one of her assignments in Newman, Sharni developed a keen interest in pool operations and was mentored by two experienced Pool Managers, gaining valuable skills and insights. In March 2024, Sharni completed the Aquatic Technical Operator Course and went on to manage the Kojonup Pool throughout the winter season.

We're excited to have Sharni bring her expertise and passion to Merredin, ensuring a fantastic pool season ahead!

### *A message from Sharni*

"My first experience of Merredin was VacSwim Program 2 2024, where I was Regional Centre Supervisor and was lucky enough to meet some amazing locals who made me feel very welcomed and appreciated. I'm excited to immerse myself back into this stunning community and give back as much as I can (with the massive bonus of having someone as experienced as Mel to learn from!)."

## ART ACQUISITION PRIZE

The 2024 Wheatbelt Art Prize, hosted by Hon. Mia Davies MLA, was a resounding success, showcasing the depth and diversity of artistic talent within the Wheatbelt. The exhibition opened at the iconic Cummins Theatre on Friday, 11 October, drawing in a crowd of art enthusiasts and community members alike.

We are proud to announce that the 2024 Shire Art Acquisition Award was presented to Rosemary Lambert for her stunning painting 'Evening Stroll'. This exceptional piece stood out for its beauty and craftsmanship, and it was chosen by Cr Hayley Billing and Cr Brad Anderson to join the Shire's growing art collection.

In the coming weeks, Lambert's award-winning artwork will be displayed in the foyer of the Shire Administration Building, allowing residents and visitors alike to enjoy this remarkable addition to the Shire's art assets.



## UPCOMING COUNCIL MEETING

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 26 November at 4:00pm. This meeting will be held at the Shire Admin 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 on the Shire website.

Visit [bit.ly/merredinmeetings](https://bit.ly/merredinmeetings) for more information.





Community  
Citizen of the  
year Awards 2025



# Nominate now



Presented by:



Australia Day  
Council of  
Western Australia

Principal Partner:



Government of Western Australia  
Department of Communities

Media Partners:



## EXTENDED TRADING HOURS FOR THE CHRISTMAS SEASON & PUBLIC HOLIDAYS

The Department of Energy, Mines, Industry Regulation and Safety has announced extended trading hours for the Christmas period, running from 1 December 2024 to 31 January 2025, for select regional local government areas, including the Shire of Merredin. This variation also includes extended trading on Public Holidays in 2025 from 8:00am to 6:00pm.

The Shire is pleased to support these extended hours, providing local retailers and businesses with greater flexibility to accommodate the holiday season and cater to festive shoppers.

Please note that participation in the extended hours is entirely voluntary – businesses are under no obligation to open during these times and can determine what best suits their operations.

**FOR AGES 5 - 14 YEARS**

# LEGO CHALLENGE

**28 OCTOBER 2024**

**4:00PM - 5:00PM**

**MERREDIN LIBRARY**

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

THIS IS A FREE PROGRAM RUN BY THE MERREDIN LIBRARY!

For more information please contact Wendy at the Library  
 Telephone: (08) 9041 1222  
 library@merredin.wa.gov.au  
 www.merredin.wa.gov.au  
 facebook/merredinregionallibrary

**MERREDIN REGIONAL LIBRARY**

## 2024/25 POOL SEASON UPDATE

We are currently in the process of getting the pool ready for opening on Monday, 4 November 2024.

Our dedicated Aquatics team has been working tirelessly behind the scenes to ensure the facility is in top shape, making sure everything is ready for you to dive into a fantastic summer of swimming.

While we are still awaiting the final water quality tests to be completed, we are confident that everything is on track for the pool to open as scheduled. We'll keep you updated if there are any changes, but for now, mark your calendars for 4 November!

Whether you're looking to enjoy a leisurely swim, train for fitness, or bring the family for some fun in the sun, we can't wait to welcome you back for another exciting season!

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### EXTENDED RESTRICTED BURNING

*BUSH FIRES ACT 1954*

PART III PREVENTION OF BUSH FIRES  
SECTION 18 – RESTRICTED BURNING TIMES

Please be advised the Shire President, in consultation with the Chief Bush Fire Control Officer, has declared an extension to the Restricted Burning Period up to and including Thursday, 14 November 2024, for the Shire of Merredin local government area.

This extension is to allow for the Merredin Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service to conduct important hazard reduction burns around the Merredin townsite.

Craig Watts  
Chief Executive Officer

23 October 2024

### CROOKS ROAD PRELIMINARY WORKS

The Shire has commenced preliminary works at the Crooks Road / Rail Intersection, including the removal of trees under a permit, in preparation for vital safety upgrades.

Your patience during this phase is appreciated as we work to make this intersection safer for our community.

## 2024/25 POOL ADMISSION FEES

Ticket	Price
Adult	\$4.50
Children / Seniors	\$3.50
Adult Season	\$140
Child Season*	\$100
Family Season	\$265
Family Season Additional Child	\$20
Vac Swim Lesson	Free
Family Half Season Pass	\$140
Family Half Season Additional Child	\$15
Adult 10 Day Pass	\$40
Child 10 Day Pass*	\$30
Private Hire (per hour)	\$141.50

\* Children must be currently attending school to qualify for children's rates



## EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### Reticulation Officer

**Commencing: Immediately**

**Position Status: Full-time**

**Level 5 – \$67,325.26 p/a\***

**\*Plus industry allowance of up to \$72.00 per fortnight – based on ordinary hours worked**

The Shire is seeking an experienced person to join our team as the Reticulation Officer. The successful applicant will ensure that the Shire's water infrastructure network remains active and fit for purpose, as well as trouble shooting reticulation issues and completing general reticulation maintenance and repairs.

This position offers great benefits, including:

- A fantastic work-life balance;
- A small, personable team environment;
- Training and development opportunities should you want to progress your career;
- A great employee Health and well-being program including flu shots, hearing tests, skin cancer checks and an Employee Assistance Program;
- Industry allowance of up to \$72.00 per fortnight;
- Additional superannuation through the Shire's co-contribution program; and
- Salary sacrifice options.

Conditions of employment are in accordance with the Shire of Merredin Outside Staff Enterprise Agreement 2022 - [SoM EA 2022](#).

A position description for this role is available on the Shire of Merredin website, or please email [careers@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:careers@merredin.wa.gov.au) to obtain an electronic copy.

To apply, please send your resume to [careers@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:careers@merredin.wa.gov.au) or drop it off to Anke Bruyns at the Shire Administration Building, **by 4:00pm on Friday, 1 November 2024**.

If you would like to have a confidential chat about the role or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Anke Bruyns (HR Admin) or Amer Tawfik (Executive Manager Engineering Services) on (08) 9041 1611.

Craig Watts  
Chief Executive Officer

### Bar Coordinator - MRCLC

**Commencing: Immediately**

**Position Status: Permanent Part-time, Minimum 14 hours, up to 38 hours per week**

**Salary: Level 6 – range of \$64,311 to \$65,199 (pro-rata)**

Applications are invited for the position of Bar Coordinator with the Shire of Merredin. This role will coordinate and maintain operations at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre Grandstand Bar. This will include providing an efficient and courteous service to the public, maintaining a safe and secure workplace, managing casual staff and completing stock control. This position requires evening and weekend work, with a minimum of 14 hours offered per week, up to 38 if required.

The suitable applicant will have previous experience in a similar role and be enthusiastic about working in a team environment. They will be able to work under pressure and will demonstrate excellent time management and organisational skills. This is an amazing opportunity to build relationships with the Merredin community and local sporting user groups who utilise the facility.

If you would like further information about this position please contact Melissa Warren, Recreation and Aquatics Manager, on (08) 9041 3033 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 include a Curriculum Vitae, response to the Selection Criteria, and a Cover Letter (max 2 pages), outlining your ability to meet the role requirements. A position description, containing the Selection Criteria can be obtained online on the Shire of Merredin's website, or via email at [careers@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:careers@merredin.wa.gov.au).

Applications are to be received by no later than **4:00pm, Monday, 28 October 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.

Craig Watts  
Chief Executive Officer



## *Eric Hind* **SCHOLARSHIP**

The Eric Hind annual scholarship, valued at \$1,000, is awarded to a young, talented music or performing arts student by the Shire of Merredin.

Applications are now open for the 2024. To apply, please scan the QR code below.

**Applications Close:** Friday, 8 November 2024

### **ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:**

- ✓ Aged between 7 and 20
- ✓ Studied music or performing arts for at least 12 months
- ✓ Resident in the Shire of Merredin or a student of music or performing arts in Merredin
- ✓ Have not previously won this scholarship





## WHEATBELT BUSINESS EXCELLENCE AWARDS



This year, the Shire of Merredin proudly supported the Wheatbelt Business Excellence Awards by sponsoring the 'Business 1-5 Employees' category. The awards took place on Saturday, 19 October 2024 at the historic Cummins Theatre where Shire CEO Craig Watts proudly presented the winner of our category to Mind Your Money, a successful small business that supports female led businesses in regional WA to be both profitable and sustainable. We would like to congratulate Mind Your Money, along with all the finalists and winners of the awards! Your accomplishments are truly remarkable. *[Pictured left is Shire CEO Craig Watts with Enrika Grogan, owner and founder of Mind Your Money.]*

## FIRE SAFETY

### Restricted Burning and the Firebreak Deadline

We are now approaching the end of the restricted burning period (16 September – 14 November) meaning that permits will only be issued for the purpose of reducing fire hazards on a property where no alternative method exists to reduce the hazard, particularly now that we are approaching the end of October and the weather is heating up.

### Firebreaks: What are land occupiers' obligations under the Bush Fires Act?

For properties in town under 2000sqm, your land must be cleared of flammable materials; for properties over 2000sqm, you must install a firebreak 3m wide, completely clear of flammable materials to a height of 4m. For all town properties, all grass must be no higher than 5cm, and you must ensure all roofs, gutters, and walls of buildings are free of flammable matter.

These conditions must be in place by 31 October 2024, and maintained until 16 March 2025.

For more information or a copy of the Firebreaks Notice, contact the Shire on (08) 9041 1611, or visit the Shire's website at [www.merredin.wa.gov.au](http://www.merredin.wa.gov.au).

### Harvest Bans and Total Fire Bans

As we come into fire season, we will start to encounter Harvest and Vehicle Movement Bans and Total Fire Bans.

*Harvest and Vehicle/Machinery Movement Bans* are put in place when conditions are such that the use of engines, vehicles, plant, or machinery constitute high bushfire risk activities. They are imposed when the expected weather predictions indicate that if a fire were to start, it would be dangerous, destructive, and difficult to stop.

*Total Fire Bans* are declared by DFES when severe weather conditions are forecast, or when widespread fires mean they don't have the resources to fight more. On Total Fire Ban days, it is illegal to light an open-air fire or conduct any activity that could start a fire, including using barbeques or pizza ovens that burn solid fuel, using welders or grinders outside, or using equipment powered by an internal combustion engine in area with vegetation. Visit [www.dfes.wa.gov.au](http://www.dfes.wa.gov.au) to see a full list of what you can and can't do in a Total Fire Ban, and [www.emergency.wa.gov.au](http://www.emergency.wa.gov.au) to check if there's a Total Fire Ban in effect.

To check if there is a Harvest Ban in place in the Shire of Merredin, ring 9041 2999. To sign up to receive SMS alerts from the Shire of Merredin advising of Harvest Bans, please visit [bit.ly/HarvestandFireBans](http://bit.ly/HarvestandFireBans) or call the Shire on (08) 9041 1611 during business hours.



**MERREDIN REGIONAL  
LIBRARY**

# WEDNESDAY MORNING CRAFT GROUP



*Social catch-up for crafters!*

Bring along your own craft projects

Tea & coffee provided for  
\$2 per person

Feel free to bring a plate of  
nibbles to share



 **MERREDIN LIBRARY - 22 CORONATION STREET**

**WEEKLY**  
9:30AM - 11:30AM

**FOR MORE INFO CALL**  
9041 1222

*Lest We Forget*



# Remembrance Day

11 NOVEMBER 2024  
10:30am | Merredin Town Centre

*All welcome to attend*



SHIRE OF  
**MERREDIN**  
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

## John Wood - Dave Allen "Our Rock & Roll Journey"

**SUNDAY, 17 NOVEMBER**  
**2:00PM SHOW**  
**CUMMINS THEATRE**  
GENERAL \$20 CONCESSION \$15




**SENIORS WEEK**



Book your tickets  
by scanning the QR  
code, or heading  
into the Central  
Wheatbelt Visitor  
Centre



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INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT



**CUMMINS  
THEATRE**

# GALA NIGHT

**SAVE THE DATE**

FOOD • MUSIC • MARKETS

**THURSDAY 12 DECEMBER**

 **MERREDIN**

JOIN THE 2024 GALA NIGHT COMMITTEE TODAY!  
SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW OR VISIT THE SHIRE WEBSITE

**SCAN ME!**




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**MERREDIN**  
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT