

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

UPCOMING UPGRADES - CROOKS ROAD

The Shire of Merredin is set to commence significant upgrades to Crooks Road in early February 2025, following the completion of the harvest season. The proposed works include:

- Strengthening the pavement
- Widening the existing sealed surface to 8 metres
- Enhancing the return curves at the intersection with Great Eastern Highway
- Improving sight distance at the northern railway crossing approach
- Widening the return curves at the intersection with Gabo Avenue

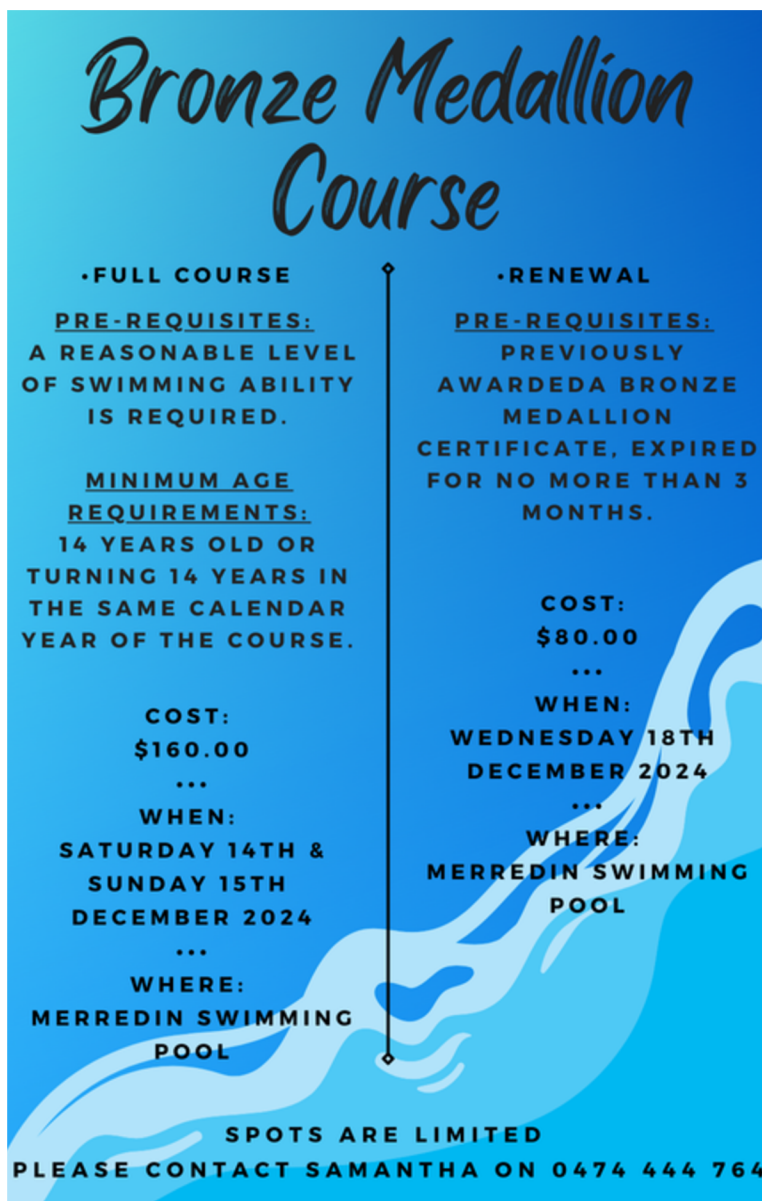
Preliminary works are already underway, including:

- Securing approvals for vegetation removal
- Relocating affected utilities, such as Telstra lines, railway traffic signals, and pits
- Obtaining Main Roads' approval for widening the entry curves on Great Eastern Highway

The construction phase is expected to take approximately 3 to 4 months. During this time, delays are anticipated, and road users are strongly advised to seek alternative routes where possible.

This project is made possible through funding from the Australian Government's Safer Local Roads and Infrastructure Program and the WA State Government's Regional Road Group.

For more information, please contact Amer Tawfik, the Shire's Executive Manager Engineering Services, at (08) 9041 1611 or email emes@merredin.wa.gov.au.



Bronze Medallion Course

<p>• FULL COURSE</p> <p><u>PRE-REQUISITES:</u> A REASONABLE LEVEL OF SWIMMING ABILITY IS REQUIRED.</p> <p><u>MINIMUM AGE REQUIREMENTS:</u> 14 YEARS OLD OR TURNING 14 YEARS IN THE SAME CALENDAR YEAR OF THE COURSE.</p> <p>COST: \$160.00</p> <p>...</p> <p>WHEN: SATURDAY 14TH & SUNDAY 15TH DECEMBER 2024</p> <p>...</p> <p>WHERE: MERREDIN SWIMMING POOL</p>	<p>• RENEWAL</p> <p><u>PRE-REQUISITES:</u> PREVIOUSLY AWARDED A BRONZE MEDALLION CERTIFICATE, EXPIRED FOR NO MORE THAN 3 MONTHS.</p> <p>COST: \$80.00</p> <p>...</p> <p>WHEN: WEDNESDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2024</p> <p>...</p> <p>WHERE: MERREDIN SWIMMING POOL</p>
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SPOTS ARE LIMITED
PLEASE CONTACT SAMANTHA ON 0474 444 764

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 for more information.

NEW STAFF PROFILE



Meet Martina!

We are thrilled to welcome Martina to the Shire team! With 15 years of experience in healthcare, Martina has decided to embark on an exciting new journey in local government as our Executive Support Officer.

A Message From Martina

"I have moved to Merredin from Perth with my family, and we now live just out of town. As a family, we enjoy getting outside to explore the local area, at the local skatepark, or exploring the history of the Wheatbelt.

I am keen to work at the Shire of Merredin. Everyone is so welcoming, and it is a great place to work."

CHRISTMAS GIFTS AT THE VISITOR CENTRE!

Our shelves are stocked with an incredible selection of one-of-a-kind creations, perfect for Christmas gifting. Come and explore a treasure trove of handmade wonders from talented local artisans, including:

- 🌸 Stunning Polymer Clay Earrings by Sheree Lowe
- 🍷 Luxurious Soaps by Sow Seeds of Wellness
- 🏺 Beautiful Pottery by Black Cockatoo Pottery
- 🌳 Intricate Woodwork by Anita Metcalf
- 🪵 Wooden Platters by Ken Metcalf
- 🌈 Dazzling Suncatchers by Pamela Jays
- 🧺 Rustic Rope & Natural Baskets by Glenda Blyth
- 📖 A fantastic selection of Local History Books



NEW WHEATBELT TOURISM WEBSITE

We're beyond excited to announce the launch of our brand-new website, designed with you in mind! Whether you're a local resident, a business owner, or a visitor eager to explore our beautiful region, our revamped online platform offers a seamless experience with fresh features, improved navigation, and all the information you need at your fingertips.

We're also thrilled to introduce our new online store, where you can browse a fantastic selection of locally crafted products, all from the comfort of your home. Discover unique gifts and artisanal creations, including handmade jewelry, pottery, woodwork, and more by visiting www.wheatbelttourism.com.au.

Government of Western Australia
WA Country Health Service

Merredin Community Immunisation Drop In Clinic

- Pfizer COVID-19 vaccinations for ages 12 years and above* (eligible clients).
- School aged immunisations (for Yr 7 and Yr 10) and catch up for any childhood vaccinations.

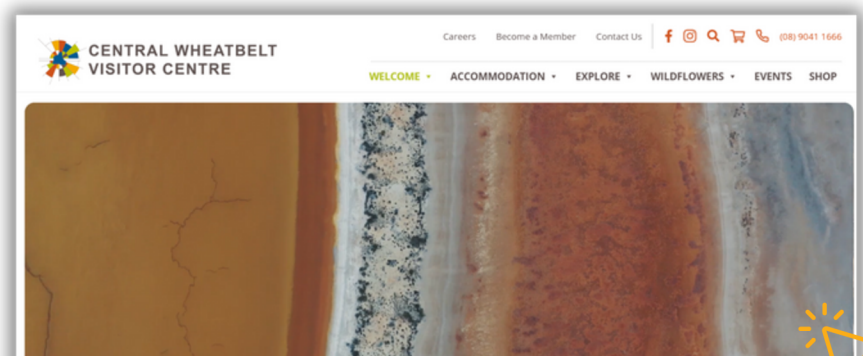
Dates: Friday 22nd November Friday 20th December 2024

Time: 9:00am – 11:00am

Location: Merredin Hospital, Ambulatory Care

No appointment is needed

WA Country Health Service
Merredin Hospital
Kitchener Road
Merredin, Western Australia 6415
Telephone: 9081 3222



DISTRICT OLYMPIC SWIMMING POOL

With the swimming season now well underway, we wanted to remind everyone of the updated operating hours at the Merredin District Olympic Swimming Pool. Whether you're stopping by for a quick morning swim, looking to beat the afternoon heat, or planning a weekend outing, our new hours offer a variety of options to suit your schedule.

Monday: 6:00am – 7:30am, 2:00pm – 7:00pm

Tuesday: CLOSED

Wednesday: 6:00am – 10:00am, 2:00pm – 7:00pm

Thursday: 12:00pm – 7:00pm

Friday: 6:00am – 7:30am, 2:00pm – 7:00pm

Saturday, Sunday & Public Holidays: 12:00pm – 6:00pm

These hours may be extended during school holidays, so keep an eye out for any updates!



PUBLIC NOTICES

2025 COUNCIL MEETING AND AUDIT COMMITTEE MEETING DATES

The Shire of Merredin welcomes ratepayers and members of the community to Council Meetings and Audit Committee Meetings that are open to the public on the following dates for 2025.

All Council Meetings will be held at 4:00pm in the Council Chambers, Corner King and Barrack Streets, Merredin on the following dates:

28 January 2025	29 July 2025
25 February 2025	26 August 2025
25 March 2025	23 September 2025
29 April 2025	28 October 2025
27 May 2025	25 November 2025
24 June 2025	16 December 2025

All Audit Committee Meetings will be at 1:30pm in the Council Chambers, Corner King and Barrack Streets, Merredin on the following dates:

25 February 2025
27 May 2025
26 August 2025
25 November 2025

Craig Watts
Chief Executive Officer

HEALTH AND WELLBEING SURVEY

WEROC is conducting a Health and Wellbeing Survey to better understand the needs of our community and work towards creating a healthier, happier future for everyone.

Your feedback will help identify concerns and develop strategies to improve health services. Your participation is vital for shaping a happier and healthier future. Thank you for your contribution.

Survey closes on Tuesday, 26 November 2024.

Complete the survey by scanning the QR Code (right) or by visiting bit.ly/healthandwellbeingsurvey.

HEALTH AND WELLBEING SURVEY

Merredin, help us to help you!

Assist WEROC in developing healthier and happier community.

SCAN HERE FOR SURVEY ACCESS

Survey closes: 26 November 2024





Calling All Community Members

HAVE YOU GOT SOME EXTRA CHRISTMAS SPARKLE TO SHARE?

Are you a community volunteer wanting to help us transform our Christmas decorations to new condition again?

Can you help with repainting and decorating the Tyre Christmas tree, oversized Christmas ornaments, and decorations?

We want you to share your Christmas spirit by decorating our town. We are currently seeking donations of a particular range of Christmas decorations to be displayed in Barrack and Bates Street of Merredin, this season and for future years.

To register your interest/donations contact Leanne at the Cummins Theatre
mcc@merredin.wa.gov.au
 08 9041 3295




KIDSPORT

Access your local regional pool through KidSport!

The State Government's KidSport Regional Pools Program seeks to increase physical activity and water awareness of children aged 5-18 years by subsidising the cost of a season pass to your local community pool.

The program is available to children in selected local government areas and is delivered in partnership with the Department of Local Government Sport and Cultural Industries (DLGSC).

Is your child eligible?



Aged 5 - 18 years



Residing in WA



Listed on a valid Services Australia concession card

New season passes only - cannot be used for a previously purchased pass.

Contact your local government to apply



dlgsc.wa.gov.au/regional-pools



Creative Bytes

CREATIVE YOUTH CODING PROGRAM - EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Calling All Year 5 to 7 Students! Interested in learning to code by building your own game with Scratch? "Creative Bytes" has offered to team up with the Merredin Library to bring an exciting coding program to Merredin! Over 10 sessions, you'll learn to create a game from the ground up, incorporating scoring, movement, sound, and more.


We need at least five eager coders to make this program happen! If you're interested, let the library staff know at 9041 1222 or email library@merredin.wa.gov.au. Don't miss this chance to unleash your creativity through coding!

CORELLA MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

The Shire has recommenced using a non-lethal gas cannon to deter the corellas that have recently returned to town.

These cannons will be set off in designated areas, and you may hear occasional loud 'bangs' during the day.

We appreciate your understanding as we work to manage this issue.



SUCCESSFUL SUNDOWNER

The Shire successfully hosted a Business After Hours Sundowner on Wednesday, 20 November 2024, at the Shire's Function Centre. The event brought together 35 representatives from local businesses to discuss the key challenges they face and explore opportunities for collaboration with the Shire.

Key topics of discussion included the Shire's procurement policy, tender and RFQ processes, and the Regional Price Preference policy, aimed at supporting local businesses in accessing Shire projects, together with a feedback discussion led by the Deputy President. These presentations provided valuable insights into how businesses can better engage with the Shire and take advantage of available opportunities.

The Shire is committed to fostering ongoing dialogue with local businesses and will aim to hold these sessions quarterly moving forward. This will allow businesses the opportunity to share their experiences, network, and strengthen their connections within the local business community.

We look forward to seeing more representatives from our local businesses at future events as we continue to work together to build a stronger, more connected community.



FIRE SAFETY WHILE ON HOLIDAY

Did you know that over 90% of WA is considered bushfire prone? Large-scale bushfires can, and do occur, at all of our favourite holiday spots, and as many of us will be heading out of town for Christmas or after harvest, it's important to take some time to consider what we need to plan for in the event of a fire at our holiday destination.

Bushfire Season

For WA south of Coral Bay and Newman, bushfire risk is at its highest between October and April, whereas to the

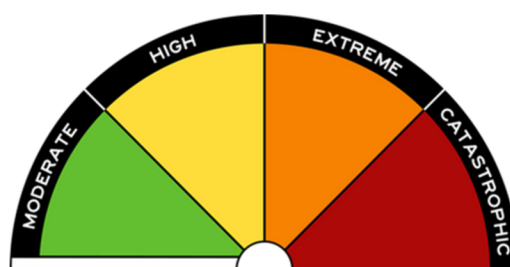
north the bushfire risk is at its highest between June and October.

Bushfires are most dangerous during hot, dry, and windy conditions. If you're travelling during such weather conditions, it's a good idea to keep to towns and cities and out of the bush.

Fire Danger Ratings

The Fire Danger Rating (FDR) gives an indication of how dangerous a fire would be if one started. It is updated daily, and is different for different areas. It is recommended that you be aware of the FDR for the locations you're travelling to or through.

You can find out the FDR by visiting the Emergency WA website and clicking the FDR icon (pictured here) at the top of the page, and then selecting "map view".



Total Fire Bans

You can also use the Emergency WA website to check if there is a Total Fire Ban (TFB) in your area – next to the FDR symbol is the TFB symbol (pictured below). TFBs will impact whether it's legal for you to do things like have a barbeque, light a campfire, or drive off road.



Specific information about what you can and can't do during a TFB can be found at bit.ly/totalfirebans.

Harvest Bans and Restricted/Prohibited Burning

Harvest Bans (HVMB) and whether the Restricted (RBP) or Prohibited Burning Period (PBP) is in effect are also going to impact whether you can have a barbeque, light a campfire, or do certain other holiday activities. Both of these are set by the Local Governments, so you'll have to contact the relevant Local Government to find out whether a Harvest Ban has been called (and what it specifically bans in that particular Local Government area). Most Local Governments will list their Restricted and Prohibited Burning Periods on their website.

For more information, visit bit.ly/hazardinformation.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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.

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.

Applications are to be received by no later than **4:00pm, Friday, 29 November 2024**, and should be marked "Private and Confidential" and emailed to careers@merredin.wa.gov.au or sent via post to PO Box 42 Merredin WA 6415.

Craig Watts
Chief Executive Officer

Town Maintenance Officer

Commencing: Immediately

Position Status: Permanent Full-time

Salary: Level 1/2/3/4/4A (Depending on skills and qualifications) \$27.11– \$30.97 per hour

***Plus industry allowance of up to \$36.00 per week – based on ordinary hours worked**

Applications are invited for the position of Town Maintenance Officer with the Shire of Merredin. This role will undertake duties that ensure the upkeep and maintenance of all parks, gardens, street spaces, sports grounds, and reserves within the townsite and surrounding area, to a high standard in a safe and efficient manner that contributes to a positive image for the Shire.

This position offers great benefits, including:

- A fantastic work-life balance;
- Fortnightly Rostered Day Off (RDO) – work a 9-day fortnight!
- 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](#).

Applications are to include a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae, and a separate Cover Letter (max 2 pages), outlining your ability to meet the selection criteria. A position description, containing the selection criteria can be obtained on the Shire of Merredin's website, or via email at careers@merredin.wa.gov.au. To apply, send your resume and cover letter to careers@merredin.wa.gov.au or drop it off to Anke Bruyns at the Shire Administration Building, **by 4:00pm, Friday, 29 November 2024**.

Please note: The Shire reserves the right to assess applications and interview candidates as they are received and may appoint a suitable candidate prior to the advertised closing date.

Craig Watts
Chief Executive Officer

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Executive Manager Engineering Services

**Total package \$200,000+ on offer (base salary of \$130,000+, housing, utilities, vehicle and professional development provided)
3-5 year negotiated contract available**

The Shire of Merredin is looking for a full-time Executive Manager Engineering Services to join the team in Merredin, WA. You'll work closely with the Executive Leadership Team and take charge of Road Construction, Asset Management, Town Maintenance, Merredin Cemetery, Roads and Projects Grant Funding, Waste Management, with potential to include some Regulatory Services in mid 2025.

This role is both strategic and hands-on and it will be crucial that you can manage various elements of developing and delivering strategic infrastructure projects, in addition to ensuring high standards of service delivery with parks and gardens, and roadworks in Merredin.

Ideally, you will have engineering or leadership experience in providing both strategic and operational direction to a multi-disciplinary team. However, we will also consider candidates with the right experience and mindset that are committed to undertaking further professional development with the Shire's support. Experience working in Local Government, or in a similarly community focused and governance driven environment, will be well regarded.

Applications are to include a comprehensive Curriculum Vitae, and a separate cover letter addressing the Selection Criteria (max 3 pages), indicating your ability to meet the key requirements of the position. A position description containing the Selection Criteria can be obtained online on the Shire of Merredin website, or via email admin@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Applications are to be received by no later than 5:00pm, **Friday, 29 November 2024**. Applications are to be marked "Private and Confidential" and emailed to admin@merredin.wa.gov.au. For a confidential discussion or further information, please contact me on (08) 9041 1611 or 0408 366 774.

Please note: The Shire reserves the right to assess applications and interview candidates as they are received until the position is filled.

Craig Watts
Chief Executive Officer

Casual Cleaner

Commencing: Immediately

Position Status: Casual

Salary: Level 3 between \$33.68- \$34.08 p/h (inclusive of casual loading)

Applications are invited for the position of Casual Cleaner with the Shire. This role will provide casual cleaning services at Shire of Merredin facilities, community buildings and public amenities, when required.

In this role you will be responsible for maintaining immediate cleanliness and routine cleaning to ensure facilities are maintained and well-presented during hours of operation through adherence to cleaning roster duties.

Working in conjunction with other Shire staff, this position is key to ensuring the facilities are clean and well maintained to meet the expectations of patrons, when usual cleaning staff are unavailable. Ideally, we are looking for someone who takes pride in their work, is flexible with working hours, is available at short notice and has some experience in commercial cleaning.

How To Apply

Applications are to include a Curriculum Vitae, 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.

This casual pool will remain open until **4:00pm, Friday, 20 December 2024**. Applications are to be marked "Private and Confidential" and emailed to careers@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Note: The Shire reserves the right to assess applications and interview candidates prior to the closing date.

Craig Watts
Chief Executive Officer

The Shire of Merredin is an equal-opportunity employer. We promote the principles of merit and fairness in our employment practices and select the best person for the job.

DISABILITY INCLUSION DAY

Merredin Regional community and Leisure Centre
Tuesday, 3rd December 2024
11:00am - 3:30pm



Cupcake fundraiser.
All proceeds donated to Essential Personnel

Join in a match game of Volley Ball, and enjoy mingling with local services.
Sausage sizzle provided.







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

CHRISTMAS POOL PARTY

FRIDAY, 6 DECEMBER 2024 | 10AM - 12PM
@ MERREDIN DISTRICT OLYMPIC SWIMMING POOL

SANTA SING-ALONG • FRUIT SALAD • FUN ACTIVITIES & GAMES



ALL FAMILIES WITH CHILDREN AGED 0 - 5 YEARS ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS FUN EVENT! FREE ENTRY FOR KIDS UNDER 5 AND PARENTS/CAREGIVERS.

PLEASE RSVP BY CALLING THE LIBRARY ON 9041 1222, OR SCAN THE QR CODE BELOW!



GALA NIGHT

12 DECEMBER

MERREDIN CBD | 5:30PM - 8.30PM

CELEBRATE THE YEARS END

INFLATABLES - FASHION SHOW - MARKETS - FOOD
LIVE ENTERTAINMENT - SANTA - STILT WALKERS
BASKETBALL COMPETITION - MEN'S SHED TRAIN
FAIRIES & MORE!





