

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

MRCLC REVITALISATION PROJECT UPDATE

In October 2024, the Shire of Merredin submitted an application for funding through the Growing Regions Program (Round 2) to support the revitalisation of the MRCLC. Unfortunately, our application was not successful.

While this outcome is disappointing, the extensive research and planning undertaken for this application have laid a solid foundation for future funding opportunities. We're committed to securing the resources needed to enhance the MRCLC, ensuring it continues to meet the needs of our community and the broader region.

Next Steps:

- The Shire will be issuing a Request for Quote for the replacement of one of the Bowling Greens at the MRCLC in the coming weeks, with the works expected to be completed outside of the current bowls season.
- Community consultation for the Strategic Recreation Master Plan will begin next month. This plan is a critical next step, providing a clear direction for the future of the MRCLC and Merredin District Olympic Swimming Pool. By identifying priorities and addressing community needs, it will strengthen our ability to secure funding and deliver the enhancements our community deserves.

We sincerely thank the community and the local sporting clubs and associations for their ongoing support, and look forward to receiving valuable feedback during the upcoming consultation process.

If you have any questions regarding the above, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Shire on (08) 9041 1611 or email admin@merredin.wa.gov.au.

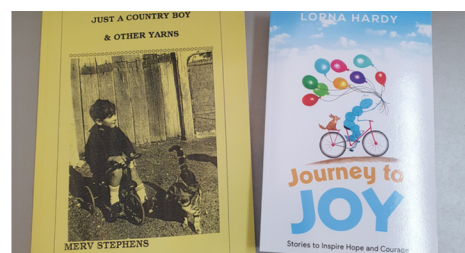
COUNCIL MEETING

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 28 January 2025 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 PRODUCTS AT THE VISITOR CENTRE



Body Coolers (\$14.95): Experience instant relief on hot days - perfect for work, festivals, or anywhere you need to stay cool. Simply soak them in water and enjoy long-lasting refreshment. Various colours and designs.

Fly & Mosquito Nets (\$9.95): Shield yourself from pesky insects with our lightweight, breathable headnets. A must-have for camping, hiking, and all your outdoor adventures.

Just a Country Boy & Other Yarns – Merv Stephens (\$35): Written for his grandson to answer his many questions, "Just a Country Boy" is a collection of stories about growing up in small West Australian country towns including Merredin in the 1920s and 30s, Joining the army in the 40s as well as snippets of interest.

Journey to Joy – Lorna Hardy (\$45): Journey to JOY is a collection of beautifully illustrated short stories of hope and resilience.

JOIN OUR CODING PROGRAM!



MERREDIN REGIONAL
LIBRARY



Creative Bytes

CREATIVE YOUTH CODING PROGRAM EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

Calling all 8-14 year olds! 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 in 2025! 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 via email library@merredin.wa.gov.au, or call 9041 1222.

Don't miss this chance to unleash your creativity through coding!



PHOTO COURTESY RICHARD RILEY

Can you host a couple of medical students for three nights?

Wheatbelt Medical Student Immersion Program
TUESDAY 11 TO FRIDAY 14 MARCH 2025

Share what **living in the Wheatbelt** is like with **doctors of the future**

One hundred medical students will be coming to the Wheatbelt in March 2025.

During their stay, they will visit local farms, industry, general practices, hospitals and schools, and participate in community activities.

We need you to provide real-life experiences that will give them an understanding of what it is like to live in the Wheatbelt and perhaps inspire them to become rural doctors.

The students will visit the following towns:

- Bruce Rock
- Cunderdin
- Kellerberrin
- Merredin
- Narrogin
- Southern Cross
- Tammin
- Westonia

As a host, we will ask you to provide accommodation for two or three students, to assist with transporting them to/from town, and share what it is like to live in your town with the students. You are invited to come along to a Thank You Dinner with the students on the Thursday night.

Why host?

This is a life-changing experience for the students, with many having no previous exposure to rural life or the Wheatbelt.

By providing these rural immersion opportunities early in their degree, it has been proven that students are:

- more likely to explore rural career opportunities; and
- better able to provide patient-centred care to rural people.

Some students, who have previously been hosted through this program, continue to keep in touch and visit their host families, some return to do seasonal work and placements, others have joined mentoring programs, some have inspired host family members to pursue tertiary studies in health and medicine, and numerous students are now doctors in the Wheatbelt and other parts of rural/remote WA and Australia.

For further information, contact **Rural Health West**:

T 08 6389 4567

E futureworkforce@ruralhealthwest.com.au

We want to hear from you if you would like to host, even if you need the students to roll out a swag in the living room.



ROAD UPDATES

Crooks Road

The Shire of Merredin is pleased to announce that construction for the Crooks Road upgrades will commence in March 2025. This significant project will enhance road safety and improve driving conditions for the community and visitors alike.

The works will be completed in two stages. Stage one will involve stabilising the road base to improve its structural integrity. This will be followed by stage two, which will see the application of a new asphalt surface to provide a smoother and more durable roadway.

Motorists are advised that major traffic disruptions are expected during the construction period. To minimise inconvenience, drivers are encouraged to plan ahead and seek alternative routes. The Shire appreciates the community's patience and cooperation during this time.

The project is expected to be completed by June 2025, delivering safer and more reliable infrastructure for the benefit of the region.

The Crooks Road upgrades have been 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 Lawrie Carr, Acting Executive Manager Engineering Services, at the Shire of Merredin on (08) 9041 1611 or via email at emes@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Chandler - Merredin Road

The Shire of Merredin advises that essential culvert works will be carried out on Chandler-Merredin Road (SLK 13.24) starting Wednesday, 22 January 2025. The works are expected to take approximately three days to complete.

The project involves the installation of a new culvert pipe, replacing the existing damaged concrete pipe to ensure improved road safety and drainage.

Motorists may experience short delays during this period and are kindly requested to follow all traffic management directions for their safety and the safety of our workers.

Your understanding and cooperation are greatly appreciated as we work to enhance our local infrastructure.

BUSINESS

After Hours

SUNDOWNER



WEDNESDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2025



6:00PM



**FUNCTION CENTRE
SHIRE ADMIN - CNR KING & BARRACK ST**

Save the Date

Following the success of the first event in November 2024, the Shire of Merredin will once again be hosting a Business Sundowner for local businesses to share their experiences, network, and strengthen their connections within the local business community.

Max 2 people per business to attend.

Beer, wine or soft drink on arrival and light nibbles will also be provided.

Please RSVP by 12 February 2025 by scanning the QR code or emailing ea@merredin.wa.gov.au.



PUBLIC NOTICES

Change of Meeting Date

The Shire of Merredin wishes to advise that the Audit Committee Meeting to be held at 1:30pm on Tuesday, 25 February 2025, and the February Ordinary Council Meeting to be held at 4:00pm on Tuesday, 25 February 2025, have been rescheduled.

The new date and time for the Audit Committee Meeting is as follows;

- 1:30PM on Monday, 17 February 2025

The new date and time for the February Ordinary Council Meeting is as follows;

- 2:30PM on Monday, 17 February 2025

Members of the public are welcome to attend the Council Chambers located on the corner of King and Barrack Streets.

For further information, please contact Meg Wyatt, Executive Officer at the Shire of Merredin, on (08) 9041 1611 or by email at ea@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Craig Watts

Chief Executive Officer - 8 January 2025

Disposal of Property

The Shire of Merredin invites offers for disposal of the following property:

- Lot 81, 44 Jackson Way, Merredin, WA, 6415, Diagram 51893, Certificate of Title Volume 1471, Folio 586

Further information is available by contacting Leah Boehme, Executive Manager Corporate Services, on (08) 9041 1611 or emcs@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Offers are to be marked "Private and Confidential – Disposal of property D01-2025," addressed to the Chief Executive Officer, and will be received up to 2:00pm WST on Wednesday, 5 February 2025.

Offers are to be submitted via email to admin@merredin.wa.gov.au (preferred), posted to PO Box 42, Merredin, WA, 6415, or hand delivered to the Shire Administration Office, corner of King and Barrack Streets, Merredin, WA, 6415, during ordinary business hours. Late offers will not be accepted.

Craig Watts

Chief Executive Officer - 6 January 2025

Notice of 2023/24 Annual Report

Pursuant to section 5.55 of the Local Government Act 1995, public notice is hereby given that the Shire of Merredin's 2023/24 Annual Report has been adopted by the Council and is available to access by the public on the Shire's website or at the Administration Building on the corner of King and Barrack Streets.

View the 2023/24 Annual Report by visiting bit.ly/merredinannualreport.

For further information, please contact the Shire on (08) 9041 1611.

Craig Watts

Chief Executive Officer - 8 January 2025

Corella Control Works

The Shire of Merredin has engaged Volunteer Animal Management Conservation and Control Agents Inc. (VACCA) to undertake corella control works on the weekend of 18 & 19 January 2025, between 7:00AM and 7:00PM.

These essential works will involve the use of firearms to humanely manage the corella population in key areas, ensuring minimal disruption to residents and the environment.

Areas of Operation:

- Roy Little Park Reserve
- Merredin Regional Community & Leisure Centre Grounds (and surrounding reserves)
- Tamma Parkland
- Shire dams (behind Railway Ave/Collins St)

To ensure public safety, access to these areas will be restricted during the works period. Letters have been distributed to nearby residents, and Merredin Police are aware of the planned activities.

VACCA will be operating under the Shire's "Fauna Causing Damage License", issued by the Department of Biodiversity, Conservation, and Attractions. The group is fully insured, and all personnel hold appropriate firearms licenses.

If you have any questions or need more information, please contact us at (08) 9041 1611 or email admin@merredin.wa.gov.au.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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.

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 **5:00pm on Friday, 28 February 2025**. 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.

Building Maintenance Officer

Commencing: Immediately

Position Status: Full Time

Salary: Level 6/7 (depending on skills and experience) \$64,311 - \$69,656 per annum

An exciting opportunity has emerged at the Shire of Merredin for a suitably experienced Building Maintenance Officer to join our team. This role currently sits within the Development Services Directorate and is key to completing and managing maintenance and repairs on Shire assets and facilities.

The Building Maintenance Officer will primarily be responsible for the carrying out of identified and emergency repairs and maintenance to Shire assets and facilities. However, the position also includes works related to the development of the Shire's Annual Budget, the undertaking of building-related data collection, as well as the preparation and creation of asset reports, risk assessments, and condition assessments. The building maintenance officer is also responsible for engaging and overseeing the work of contractors carrying out required works, and ensuring these contractors have necessary insurance and qualifications prior to their engagement.

The ideal candidate will have experience in the oversight of contractors, 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 cover letter (max 2 pages) addressing the selection criteria and indicating your ability to meet the role requirements. A position description can be obtained on the Shire's website or requested via email: careers@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Applications are to be received by no later than **4:00pm on Thursday, 30 January 2025**. 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.

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 careers@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Applications are to be received by no later than 4:00pm, **Friday, 7 February 2025**. Applications are to be marked "Private and Confidential" and emailed to careers@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

Town Maintenance Officer

Commencing: Immediately

Position Status: Permanent

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**

Reporting to the Town Maintenance Leading Hand and working in conjunction with other Town Maintenance staff, this position is key to ensuring the Shire is clean and well maintained to meet the expectations of residents and visitors. Ideally, we are looking for someone that takes pride in their work, is flexible with working hours, and has some experience in a similar role.

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 Wellbeing Program including flu shots, hearing tests, skin cancer checks and an Employee Assistance Program;
- 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, Wednesday, 22 January 2025**.

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



FLAG FOOTBALL

TUESDAY 21 JANUARY 2025
10:00 AM - 01:00 PM
FREE
MERREDIN REGIONAL COMMUNITY & LEISURE CENTRE



 Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries
 
SHIRE OF MERREDIN
 INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT



Merredin Community Resource Centre
AUSTRALIA DAY
BREAKFAST
SUNDAY JANUARY 26
MERREDIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE
110 BARRACK STREET, MERREDIN
 Free Aussie breakfast from 8am
 Presentations for
 Citizen of the Year Awards
 2025 Eric Hinds Scholarship Award
 Mr Edward Johnston Award
 Winner of the free colouring competition announced!





 Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development

REFLECT, RESPECT, CELEBRATE



Australia Day

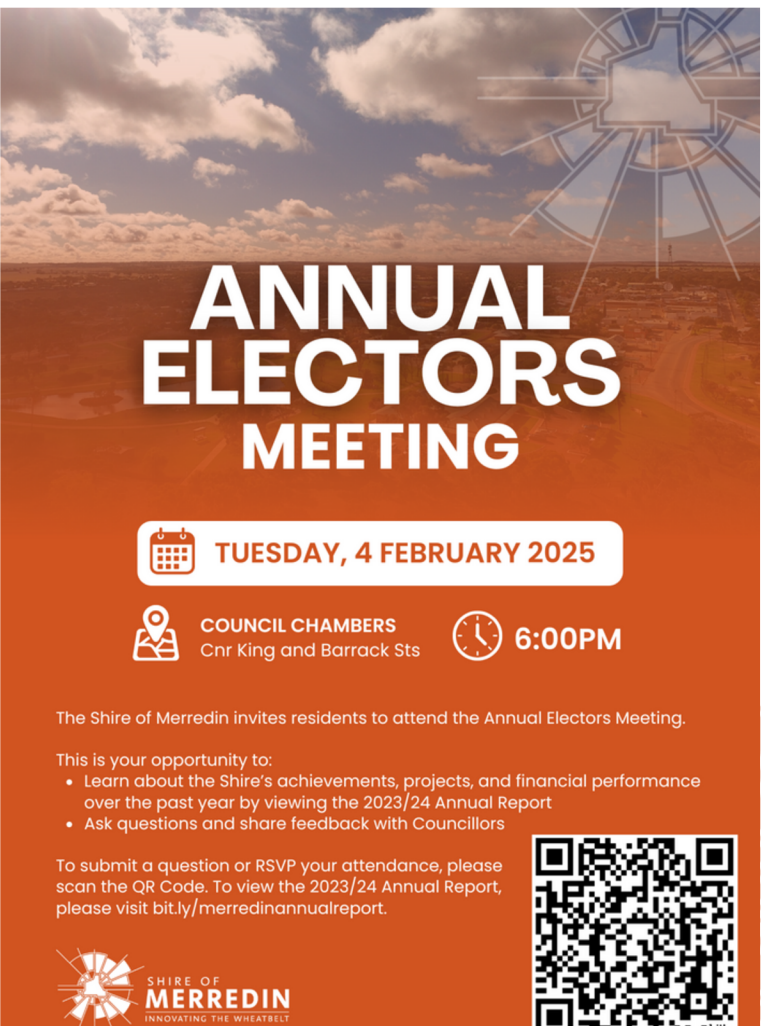
POOL party

JANUARY 26 12:00 PM
MERREDIN DISTRICT OLYMPIC SWIMMING POOL

FROM 12:30PM - FREE SAUSAGE SIZZLE
 FROM 4:15PM - FREE ICE CREAM
 LIVE ENTERTAINMENT BY ACOUSTIC DRAGONS
 GOODIE BAGS FOR KIDS
 INFLATABLES, GAMES, & MORE!



FREE ENTRY
FREE ENTRY
FREE ENTRY


SHIRE OF MERREDIN
 INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT
 
Australia Day
 Reflect. Respect. Celebrate.



ANNUAL ELECTORS MEETING

TUESDAY, 4 FEBRUARY 2025



COUNCIL CHAMBERS
 Cnr King and Barrack Sts
 
6:00PM


The Shire of Merredin invites residents to attend the Annual Electors Meeting.

This is your opportunity to:

- Learn about the Shire's achievements, projects, and financial performance over the past year by viewing the 2023/24 Annual Report
- Ask questions and share feedback with Councillors

To submit a question or RSVP your attendance, please scan the QR Code. To view the 2023/24 Annual Report, please visit bit.ly/merredinannualreport.




SHIRE OF MERREDIN
 INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

Kickstart to 2025

Lets celebrate the return to school with a disco at the pool!



FREE & FREE

FRIDAY, 14 FEBRUARY 2025
4:00PM - 5:30PM

MERREDIN DISTRICT OLYMPIC SWIMMING POOL

FREE ENTRY | CANTEEN AVAILABLE |
 LAWN GAMES | MUSIC & DANCING |
 PLUS WATER FUN!



SHIRE OF MERREDIN
 INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

Merredin Community Resource Centre

MERREDIN CRC

Twilight

MARKETS

Friday, February 21st 2025
 4.30pm to 7.30pm

SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE

110 Barrack Street, Merredin



THEATRE 180 PRESENTS

THE LIGHTHOUSE GIRL SAGA

By Jenny Davis & Hellie Turner • Directed by Stuart Halusz
 Based on the Novels by Award-Winning Author Dianne Wolfer

"Superbly directed & performed with such heart & conviction by the actors. A spectacular fusion of theatre & cinema...prepare to be deeply moved."
 - Billie-Jo Whitbread

WHEN THE WORLD IS DARK WITH WAR, COURAGE AND HEART LIGHT THE WAY HOME.



Thursday, 6 March 2025
7pm | Cummins Theatre | Tickets \$15-\$20
 Book online at cumminstheatre.com.au
 or in person at Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre




THE ULTIMATE CLIFF RICHARD TRIBUTE

FEATURING RON FISCHER


CUMMINS THEATRE
Friday, 14 March 2025
10:30am

Morning Melodies




SCAN ME

TICKETS \$15 INCLUDES MORNING TEA
 Book your tickets online at by scanning the QR code above or head into the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre



CUMMINS THEATRE



SHIRE OF MERREDIN
 INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT