

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

MERREDIN'S HARMONY WEEK FESTIVAL CELEBRATES CULTURE, COMMUNITY, AND CONNECTION

Over the weekend of 21-22 March 2025, Merredin embraced the spirit of inclusivity as approximately 200 people gathered for the Harmony Week Festival. Held across Friday night and Saturday, the festival was a vibrant and engaging event filled with delicious food, captivating cultural performances, and hands-on workshops, creating a space for the community to come together and celebrate diversity.

The event kicked off on Friday night at 6:00PM with attendees enjoying an array of international food tastings, sampling flavours from different cultures, from Italian Crostoli, to Mexican Tacitos, and New Zealand Island Doughnuts, just to name a few. The evening also featured dynamic performances from Wheatbelt locals Sophie Jane and Natalie Murray-Forth, as well as a creative friendship bracelet station for the kids to enjoy.



Despite the warm weather, Saturday's activities drew enthusiastic crowds to the Town Centre from 10:00AM onwards, offering a range of engaging and interactive workshops. Kids (and their parents too!) eagerly took part in Traditional Indigenous Games, Tribal Face Painting, a Planting Workshop, the Paint the Town WA Community Art Project, and story time with Wendy, before enjoying a free sausage sizzle lunch. A highlight of the day was the Bollywood dance performance, where dancers Chenuli and Parami not only entertained the audience but also invited local children to join in and learn some moves!



The Harmony Week Festival would not have been possible without the generous support of Collgar Renewables, whose sponsorship played a key role in making the event a success.

Thank you to the numerous volunteers, as well as everyone who participated in the celebrations! Your involvement made this festival a truly fun, engaging, and memorable occasion.



APRIL COUNCIL MEETING

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 29 April 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 prior to the meeting. 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.

NATIONAL AWARDS FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Voting for the 2025 National Awards for Local Government is now OPEN! The Shire of Merredin has entered the Merredin CBD Redevelopment Project in this year's National Awards, and we need YOUR vote to win. The project is in the Regional Growth category.

Vote Here: tinyurl.com/NALG2025 (Please note you will require an account to vote)

The National Awards highlight projects implemented by local governments that are innovative, display excellence, make a difference to their local communities, and have outcomes that are replicable across the country.

SHIRE NOTICES AND UPDATES

New Ranger Mobile Number

Please be advised that the contact number for the Ranger has changed. The new number for the Ranger, who is contracted through WA Contract Ranger Services, is **0437 531 354**.

Reticulation Update

Our extensive reticulation network has experienced several failures, and we acknowledge the challenges that come with maintaining an aging system. Our dedicated Reticulation Officer has gone above and beyond to ensure our watering capacity is maintained despite these issues.

We recognise the need for long-term improvements and will be raising a replacement schedule for consideration in the new financial year. In the meantime, we remain committed to responding promptly to customer requests as they arise.

Parks and Gardens

Staffing levels have presented some incidental capacity challenges; however, our Parks and Gardens Supervisor has demonstrated outstanding task prioritisation to ensure key work is completed efficiently.

The Works and Services Manager is pleased with the direction of the team as they focus on the following priority areas:

- Support for sporting club requests;
- Preparations for the official CBD Grand Opening;
- Apex Park | Danjoo Waabininy Boodja maintenance;
- CBD area beautification;
- Roy Little Park maintenance;
- Upkeep or minor parks and gardens;
- Rubbish removal; and
- Responding to customer requests and household support.



GRANDSTAND UPDATE

The Shire of Merredin Council has endorsed the lease of the Grandstand Bar and Restaurant at a Special Council Meeting held on Monday, 10 March 2025.

This will see the Civic Bowling Club Merredin Inc. operate the bar and provide extended services over a minimum of a two-year period with options to renew.

The Shire looks forward to working with the Civic Bowling Club to provide sporting clubs and the broader community with these services.

The Bar will be open Tuesday to Sunday, please see their Facebook page for further information: bit.ly/merredinsportsbar

END OF POOL SEASON

As we wrap up another fantastic pool season, we want to take a moment to thank all of our amazing patrons!

We have now officially closed for the season as of 30 March 2025.

Sharni and the Merredin Pool Team look forward to welcoming everyone back next season!



Grand OPENING



TUESDAY

APRIL

15

10 AM

2025

Join us for the Grand Opening of the redeveloped Merredin CBD. Speeches will commence at 10:15am, followed by the ribbon-cutting ceremony and a community sausage sizzle lunch.

Please RSVP by 4 April by scanning the QR Code or visiting bit.ly/cbdgrandopeningsrsvp



Project Partners



EASTERN WHEATBELT VISITORS GUIDE

Hot off the press! The latest edition of the Eastern Wheatbelt Visitors Guide has just arrived, and it's jam packed with inspiration for your next adventure. Discover self-drive trails, iconic granite rock formations, fascinating museums, and a lineup of must-see attractions and annual events across the Eastern Wheatbelt.

Proudly produced by the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre (CWVC) on behalf of 21 local shires, this guide is your ultimate companion for exploring the region.

Visit the CWVC today to grab your FREE copy and start planning your journey!



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REC MASTER PLAN - NEXT STEPS

Following a two-month consultation period, URBIS presented the community with the feedback gathered from surveys and one-on-one discussions with sporting clubs on 12 March 2025. We sincerely appreciate everyone who took the time to participate and engage with our consultants throughout this process.

Over the next three months, URBIS will develop two draft Master Plans outlining the proposed options for discussion. The community will then have the opportunity to provide feedback on the preferred option.

Following this, URBIS will move into the next phase, which includes developing a draft Master Recreation Plan, Concept Plan, and Recreation Infrastructure Asset Management Plan for presentation to Council.

The final plans are expected to be completed by June/July 2025.

PETE MURRAY

20 25

ALL AGES

FIRST EVER SOLO ACOUSTIC TOUR

WITH RACHAEL FAHIM & BRETT WOOD

CUMMINS THEATRE

WEDNESDAY 23 JULY

MERREDIN

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Media and Executive Officer

9-Month Parental Leave Cover with Possible Extension

Commencing: Immediately

Position Status: Full Time

Salary: \$65,422.25 - \$69,656.04 per annum

An exciting opportunity has emerged at the Shire of Merredin for a suitably qualified Media & Executive Officer to join our team while our existing officers take parental Leave. This role will sit within the Officer of the CEO Directorate and will support the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) to achieve strategic outcomes relative to the department.

The Media & Executive Officer will provide efficient, effective and compliant administrative and secretarial support to the CEO and ensure the coordination of organisational executive support functions, including the management of governance and risk management functions. The role will provide high-level, professional support to the CEO including coordinating minutes and agendas for Committee, Council, and Executive Leadership Team meetings, arranging meetings and travel for the CEO along with liaison with external stakeholders to facilitate activities such as Citizenship Ceremonies, visiting dignitaries and other ceremonial events.

In addition to the above, the Media & Executive Officer will plan, develop, and deliver day-to-day media and content requirements for the Shire including the preparation of media releases and media statements, as well as producing and managing content and communication strategies and conveying information from the community back to the Executive Management Team. This role will also deliver emergency services communications when required and assist in the timely dissemination of information in an appropriate and digestible format to the community.

This role will assist other staff within the Office of the CEO Directorate that are responsible for governance, risk, and elected member support, as directed by the CEO. This role 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;
- Access to additional superannuation through the Shire's co-contribution program;
- Salary sacrifice options; and
- A great employee Health and Wellbeing Program including flu shots, skin cancer screens, and an Employee Assistance Program.

The ideal candidate will have experience in social media management, and secretarial or administration positions, and be willing and able to work outside of office hours (to attend Council meetings) and travel if required.

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, which includes the selection criteria, 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, Friday 4 April 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 Craig Watts, Chief Executive Officer, on (08) 9041 1611.

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.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

Coordinator Asset Management

Commencing: Immediately

Position Status: Full Time

Salary: \$65,422 - \$74,645 per annum

An exciting opportunity has emerged at the Shire of Merredin for a suitably qualified Coordinator Asset Management (CAM) to join our team. This role will sit within the Engineering Services Directorate and will support the Executive Manager Infrastructure Services (EMIS) to achieve strategic outcomes relative to the department.

The CAM is responsible to the EMIS for the provision of organisation wide asset management, technical services, project management and support. They collaborate with all stakeholders within the organisation to help implement an asset management approach towards managing infrastructure, and work side by side with the Building Maintenance Officer to ensure that all Shire facilities are well maintained and capital works are strategically planned and budgeted for.

The CAM will contribute to the development and maintenance of the Asset Management Plan and Framework, including data collection and development of operational plans and strategies for the Shire. They will also support the management of projects throughout the organisation and participate in budget development and reviews, while maintaining effective communication and the highest standard of confidentiality.

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;
- Access to additional superannuation through the Shire's co-contribution program;
- Salary sacrifice options; and
- A great employee Health and Wellbeing Program including flu shots, skin cancer screens and an Employee Assistance Program.

The ideal candidate will have a working knowledge and understanding of local government regulations, local laws and policies, as applicable to the Engineering Services unit. They will have experience in managing local government funding arrangements for roads programs and planning, development and implementation of projects. They will also have a sound knowledge of Workplace Health and Safety and Risk Management in this field.

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, which includes the selection criteria, 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 Tuesday, 8 April 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 Lawrie Carr, Acting Executive Manager Engineering Services, on (08) 9041 1611.

Craig Watts
Chief Executive Officer

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COUNCIL PLAN

COMMUNITY SURVEY

The Shire of Merredin is currently undergoing the process of developing its first-ever Council Plan, and we are calling on our community to help us shape the future of the Shire across our key service themes.

The Council Plan will combine the Shire's Strategic Community Plan and Corporate Business Plan into a single document, outlining the long-term priorities, goals, and vision that guide Council's decision-making.

Scan the QR Code below to complete the survey, or visit www.merredin.wa.gov.au.



Town Hall Meetings

Join us for one of our upcoming town hall meetings, where community members are invited to come together to discuss the Shire's new Council Plan.



2:00pm Wednesday, 2 April 2025

6:00pm Wednesday, 2 April 2025

All meetings will be held in the Tivoli Room at Cummins Theatre

RSVP by visiting bit.ly/rsvptownhallmeeting



Merredin
ON THE MOVE



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

0-5 years

EASTER in the PARK

FRIDAY, 4 APRIL 2025

APEX PARK | DANJOO WAABININY BOODJA

9:30AM - 11:30AM



Merredin EARLY YEARS NETWORK

WINNERS OF THE COLOURING IN COMPETITION ANNOUNCED
STORYTIME | WHEATBELT COFFEE TIME | EGG HUNT
CRAFTS & ACTIVITIES | YUMMY FRUIT

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



Dr. Seuss' **The LORAX**

SATURDAY, 12 APRIL 2025
6PM-9PM

FREE!

**TOWN CENTRE,
 BARRACK STREET, MERREDIN**

MOVIE UNDER THE STARS



Enjoy a movie under the stars with your family and friends at Merredin's Town Centre! Bring a picnic dinner or snacks, your bean bags, blankets, or picnic chairs!

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| 15 April | Clay Fun MAKE MULTI COLOURED CLAY CREATURES OR FUN CLAY ANIMALS |
| 17 April | Easter Craft MAKE A FUN EASTER RABBIT, EGG BOX OR CARDS JUST IN TIME FOR EASTER |
| 22 April | Paper Dragons TWO FUN PAPER DRAGONS TO MAKE |
| 24 April | Sand Painting MAKE FUN PICTURES WITH COLOURED SAND |

BOOKINGS ESSENTIAL | LIMITED TO 40 PARTICIPANTS | NO WALK-INS
PARENTAL SUPERVISION REQUIRED FOR ALL CHILDREN UNDER 10
ALL SESSIONS RUN FROM 10:30AM TO 11:30AM - COME DRESSED FOR FUN!

ALL SCHOOL HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES ARE \$2 PER PARTICIPANT

Book your place by contacting Wendy at the Library

Telephone: (08) 9041 1222
 library@merredin.wa.gov.au
 www.merredin.wa.gov.au
 facebook/merredinregionallibrary



MERREDIN REGIONAL LIBRARY

EASTER IN THE PARK

GOLDEN EGG HUNT

APEX PARK | DANJOO WAABININY BOODJA



0-17 YEARS

SATURDAY, 19 APRIL 2025
10AM-1PM
GAMES & ACTIVITIES

SHIRE OF MERREDIN
 INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

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