

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

MERREDIN CELEBRATES CBD GRAND OPENING

The Shire of Merredin officially unveiled its revitalised Central Business District on Tuesday, 15 April 2025, marking a major milestone in the town's transformation. Community members, business owners, and special guests gathered to celebrate the formal opening of the newly redeveloped spaces located at Town Centre, Pioneer Park and Apex Park | Danjoo Waabininy Boodja.

The Grand Opening was attended by the Senator for Western Australia, Mr Varun Ghosh, whose presence highlighted the significance of this regionally important project. The Senator addressed the crowd and congratulated the Shire for delivering this important project.

The \$10.5 million redevelopment was made possible with support from the Federal Government through the Building Better Regions Fund and Local Roads and Community Infrastructure Program, as well as Lotterywest, the Public Transport Authority of Western Australia, and the Wheatbelt Development Commission.

Shire President Donna Crook said the project was a proud achievement for the Council.

"Each space has been meticulously designed to enhance walkability, draw in visitors, improve key sightlines, and support our local business community, while delivering high-quality, accessible infrastructure for residents and tourists alike.

The improvements you can see - landscaped gathering spaces, new play and recreation areas, modern amenities, better pedestrian access, and infrastructure upgrades, are already breathing new life into our CBD. And it's not just about what's visible; beneath the surface, critical services like drainage, lighting, and power have also been upgraded to support future growth," Councillor Crook said on the day.

The Shire would like to extend its thanks to the many people who contributed to the success of the project, including the contractors, consultants, local businesses, community members, and funding partners.

While all of the major infrastructure works have been completed, some final finishing touches on the Water Tower will continue over the coming months, including the installation of a lid on the tank, with the estimated completion date June 2025.



MAY COUNCIL MEETING

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 27 May 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.

HONOURING OUR ANZACS

Before dawn on Friday, 25 April 2025, silence fell across town as hundreds of locals, Wheatbelt residents, and travelling visitors gathered at the Merredin Cenotaph to honour the legacy of the ANZACs and all who have served our country.

The ANZAC Day commemorations began at 5:45AM with a parade, led by the stirring sound of bagpipes played by Reagan Jones. Veterans, current service personnel, cadets, and members of the Merredin Pathfinder and Adventurer Clubs marched from the Australia Post building to the Cenotaph, where approximately 400 people assembled for the Dawn Service.

Shire of Merredin Councillor and Captain of Merredin Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service, Phil Van Der Merwe, who served as MC for the Dawn Service, welcomed those in attendance and shared the story of the ANZACs, honouring the courage and sacrifice of our veterans.

“We gather here, at this early hour, on this day every year, to honour the memory of those gallant men and women who willingly sacrificed and risked their lives in the fight for the safety and freedom of their beloved homelands of Australia and New Zealand.”

Following this tribute, Mr Joel Hammen led the ANZAC Prayer and the Lord’s Prayer, before community groups and organisations were invited to lay wreaths at the Cenotaph. Aub Tompkin then delivered a heartfelt reading of the Ode, followed by Natalie Warnock’s performance of the Last Post and Reveille. The service concluded with a beautiful rendition of the Australian and New Zealand National Anthems, sung by Jade Healy-Ratima.

After the service, attendees were invited back to the Tivoli Room for a traditional Gunfire Breakfast, kindly provided by Collgar Renewables and Merredin IGA, and prepared by the members of the Merredin Men’s Shed.

Later in the day at 11:00AM, a Mid-Morning Service was held at Cummins Theatre, which was attended by approximately 80 people. This service was also led by Councillor Van Der Merwe, and followed a similar format to the Dawn Service, with the addition of Guest Speaker veteran Frank Weber and performances by A Chaired Taste, while the ANZAC and Lord’s Prayers were led by Father Philip Perreau.

Following the Mid-Morning Service, a light lunch was held in the Tivoli Room, once again provided by Collgar Renewables, and prepared by the CWA, Frank Weber, and the Merredin Community Garden.

The Shire of Merredin would like to thank everyone who contributed to this year’s ANZAC Day commemorations, from our veterans and guest speaker to our committee volunteers, community groups, performers, and attendees. Your involvement ensures that the ANZAC legacy continues to be remembered with honour.



PUBLIC NOTICE

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST SOUGHT FOR LEASE FOR CROPPING / GRAZING PURPOSE

The Shire of Merredin is seeking expressions of interest from community organisations for the lease of Reserve 17767 and Lot 1443 (bounded by Golf Road, Telfer Avenue, Old Goldfields Road and McDonald Street) for the purposes of cropping and/or grazing.

EOIs are to acknowledge that lease fees of at least \$550 per annum or better are applicable, the costs of preparing and maintaining firebreaks during fire season shall be borne by the Lessee and the term of the lease will be for a maximum of 5 years.

EOIs close at 4:00PM on Friday, 16 May 2025, and are to be submitted in writing addressed to the Chief Executive Officer. They can be posted to PO Box 42, Merredin WA 6415, emailed to tenders@merredin.wa.gov.au or hand delivered to the Shire Administration, Cnr King & Barrack Streets, Merredin during business hours.

EOIs received will be presented to Council’s May 2025 meeting for consideration. Canvassing of Councillors or staff will disqualify.

Craig Watts
Chief Executive Officer

24 April 2025

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Administration Officer – Corporate Services

Commencing: Immediately

Position Status: Full Time

Salary: Level 6/7 range of \$64,311 - \$69,656

Applications are invited for the position of Administration Officer – Corporate Services. The successful candidate will provide confidential and effective administrative support for the Shire of Merredin and the efficient and courteous delivery of customer services.

You will be working in the Corporate Services directorate which delivers Financial, Human Resources, Insurances, Risk Management, Information and Communications Technology (ICT), Procurement, Internal Audit, and Customer Services activities for the Shire. In addition to the general administration and customer services responsibilities of this role, it is anticipated that you will develop skills in the administration of payroll and take responsibility for this area.

We are a small team and are looking forward to welcoming a new team member. Ideally, we are looking for someone that is experienced in working in a similar environment, however, your ability to adapt and quickly gain the necessary knowledge and skills will be highly regarded.

Your commencement salary will be within the Level 6/7 range and will depend on your level of qualifications, skills, and experience.

If you would like further information about this position, please contact Leah Boehme, Executive Manager Corporate Services on (08) 9041 1611 during office hours. If you require information on how to apply, please email careers@merredin.wa.gov.au.

Applications are to be received by **no later than 4:00pm, Monday, 12 May 2025**, 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

Environmental Health Officer

Commencing: Immediately

Position Status: Full Time

Salary: \$70,714 - \$74,645 per annum

**PLUS subsidised housing*

An exciting opportunity has emerged at the Shire of Merredin for a suitably qualified Environmental Health Officer (EHO) to join our team. This role will sit within the Strategy & Community Directorate and will support the Executive Manager Strategy & Community (EMSC) to achieve strategic outcomes relative to the department.

The EHO will undertake activities which relate to the Shire's delivery of Health, Building, Planning, Environmental and Waste Management Services. They will provide professional assistance, information, advice and reports to the Executive Manager Strategy & Community, staff and the public in relation to the Shire's Environmental Health statutory functions, programs and projects in the Shire of Merredin. The position also involves a limited level of involvement in Building and Town Planning activities and applications.

The ideal candidate will have a working knowledge and understanding of local government regulations, local laws and policies. They will have experience in the delivery of Environmental Health Services and 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 Monday, 12 May 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.

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.

MOTHERS DAY GIFT IDEAS

Looking for the perfect gift for a special mum? The Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre has a beautiful selection of locally crafted products that are sure to delight!

Drop in and explore our unique range, featuring:

- Polymer Clay Earrings, handmade soaps, candles and bath salts by Sheree Lowe
- Soaps and bath salts by Sow Seeds of Wellness
- Pottery by Barbara Greaves
- Wooden Platters by Ken Metcalf
- Sandalwood Nuts and Dukkah by The WA Sandalwood Nut Company
- Honey by The Cheesemans
- Jams & Preserves by Devon Delights
- Jewellery by Vanessa Australia and Pamela Jays

We're open Monday to Friday, 8:30am – 4:30pm. Come in and find something truly special, made right here in our region.



FIRE CONTROL OFFICER APPOINTMENTS

Bush Fires Act 1954

Shire of Merredin – Appointments

Notice is hereby given that the following persons have been appointed to the designated positions within the Shire of Merredin for the 2025-26 fire season in accordance with section 38(1) of the Bush Fires Act 1954.

Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Mr Glenn Crees

Deputy Chief Bush Fire Control Officer

Mr Paul Wanless

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

Leigh Dolton* – Korbeka

Sam Hooper – Korbeka

Craig Last* – 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

* Subject to training

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

Craig Watts,
Chief Executive Officer

30 April 2025

MERREDIN FAMILIES ENJOY A CRACKING GOOD TIME AT EASTER IN THE PARK

Apex Park | Danjoo Waabininy Boodja was buzzing with excitement on Saturday, 19 April 2025, as families gathered for Merredin's inaugural Easter in the Park celebration. With more than 50 children taking part, the morning was filled with laughter, energy, and festive cheer.

Children darted across the park in search of golden eggs, while parents and carers looked on with smiles, soaking up the relaxed atmosphere and autumn sunshine. It was a perfect blend of fun and togetherness that brought families from all corners of the community.

After the egg hunt, the kids had the opportunity to participate in arts and crafts, as well as play fun lawn games, while the adults mingled and caught up over delicious coffees and treats served by Wheatbelt Ice Cream Time. The Easter Bunny even made an appearance, sharing hugs, high-fives, and plenty of photo opportunities that added extra sparkle to the day.

Thank you to Merredin IGA for their generous donation of chocolate eggs, which brought delight to many little hands. Events like these wouldn't be possible without the incredible support from our local businesses, volunteers, and community members.



PUBLIC NOTICE

Planning and Development Act 2005

Shire of Merredin

Notice of Public Advertisement of Planning Proposal

The local government has received an application to use and develop land for the following purpose and public comments are invited.

Lot No: 1 Street: Totadgin Hall Road Suburb: Merredin

Proposal: Extension to existing solar farm consisting of additional 150 rows of ground mounted panels, four packaged battery systems, single central inverter substation, one 50kl concrete firewater tank and additional road access point/crossover.

Details of the proposal are available to the public at the Shire of Merredin administration building Cnr Barrack Street and King Road, Merredin.

Submissions may be made on the proposal in the period ending on the 26th day of May 2025. Comments on the proposal may be submitted to the local government in writing on or before that day.

Comments on the proposal may be submitted to the local government in writing on or before that day, to the Chief Executive Officer via email admin@merredin.wa.gov.au or may be delivered to the Shire Administration Building.

Signed:

Craig Watts

Chief Executive Officer

Dated:

9 May 2025

For and on behalf of the Shire of Merredin

Merredin Peak parkrun



*A Health and Wellbeing
Community Initiative*

When: Every Saturday morning 8:00am.

Where: Merredin Golf Course Telfer Road

Cost: Free

Who can participate: parkrun is for everyone, volunteers, walkers, joggers, runners, prams, dogs (one dog per person must be on a lead)

What you need to do: Register with parkrun.com.au and receive your barcode, bring this along Saturday morning to get your results recorded. Registration is free



[Merredin Peak parkrun](https://www.facebook.com/MerredinPeakParkrun)

merredinpeak@parkrun.com

BUSINESS *After Hours* SUNDOWNER



WEDNESDAY, 21 MAY 2025



6:00PM



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

Save the Date

Join us for our next Merredin Business Sundowner – an engaging evening for local businesses to connect, collaborate, and share insights.

Max 2 people per business to attend.

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

Please RSVP by 7 May 2025 by scanning the QR code or emailing ea@merredin.wa.gov.au.



The Heart of Our Community - Our Volunteers

Head to the Town Centre to celebrate our volunteers, the work they do and how you can get involved.

Date: Friday, 23 May 2025

Time: 4:30PM to 7:30PM

A FREE community sausage sizzle with live entertainment for all to enjoy!

