July 2025



Issue 12

# **COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION**

#### **LUCKY COMPETITION WINNERS CLIMB OUR HISTORIC WATER TOWER**



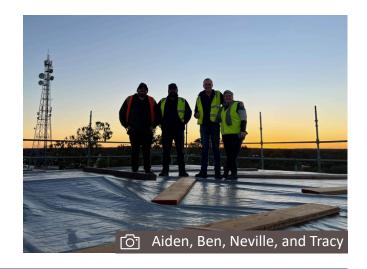
Last month, the Shire ran a competition for five residents to win a trip to the top of our historic water tower. This incredible local landmark has undergone intensive restoration over the past year. Every measure has been taken to ensure these vital works preserve this town icon for generations to come.

These lucky residents were randomly selected from the 130 registered entries: Maddy Zweck, Aiden Postans, Norm Munro, Nathaniel Barnes, and Neville Middleton. Norm wasn't available to receive this opportunity, so his wife Jenny attended in his place. The residents and their chosen guests were treated to an exclusive 45-minute tour of the tower complex, including a climb to the top.

"It's a privilege to be able to come to the top of the tower to see the view and the works that have been done. It's great that we have been able to save this piece of Merredin history," Jenny Munro told CEO Craig Watts (pictured left).

There were smiles all around as the first group made the trip up the tower last Thursday at dusk. On Friday, the second group braved the chilly morning to enjoy a glorious Wheatbelt sunrise (pictured right).

This opportunity would not have been possible without the hard work from the Hi Construction team. Thank you to all the residents who showed their enthusiasm for this competition and congratulations to the participants who made the climb. We can't wait to unveil the water tower when the scaffolding is removed in the coming months.



## JULY COUNCIL MEETING

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 29 July 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.

# JUNE COUNCIL MEETING OUTCOMES

#### **Community Annual Grant Awarded**

During a second round of applications for 2025/26, Council received a request to support playground upgrades and shade structures at St Mary's School. The Shire is proud to announce that an allocation of \$10,000 cash was approved at the June Ordinary Council Meeting.

If you missed this Annual Grant application deadline, an allocation will also be made to allow Quick Grants to be available throughout the financial year for eligible projects. Find out more via this link: <a href="https://bit.ly/3bhZeJw">bit.ly/3bhZeJw</a>

#### **Merredin CRC Lease Endorsed**

Council has endorsed the lease of Lot 200 Barrack Street to the Merredin Community Resource Centre (CRC).

The new lease agreement was finalised after public notice proceedings and discussions between Council, Shire Staff and representatives of the Merredin CRC. The premises will be leased at a significantly reduced rate in recognition of the valuable services this organisation provides for our community.

The Shire is committed to working closely with local organisations to deliver the community's vision for Merredin. We look forward to continuing our support of the Merredin CRC over the coming years.

#### **Disability Access and Inclusion Plan Adopted**

The 2025–30 Disability Access and Inclusion Plan (DAIP) has now been adopted by Council. This plan addresses access barriers for people with disabilities and their families, and is the Shire's commitment to making Merredin accessible and inclusive for all.

The review process involved extensive consultation between staff, the public, and the Department of Communities. A survey and a stakeholder group meeting were also undertaken as an avenue for people with disabilities, their carers, service providers and local government representatives to contribute their valuable insight.

The Shire strives to meet community needs by exploring contemporary trends and good practice in access and inclusion. Our focus will be on the ongoing areas of improvement and priorities identified through this review process. A copy of the 2025–30 DAIP will be made available on the Shire website.

## **SHIRE NOTICES**

#### **New Ranger Mobile Number**

Please be advised the contact number for the Ranger has changed to **0409 195 867**.

# Vandalism at Apex Park | Danjoo Waabininy Boodja

The Shire is saddened to report the recent destructive behaviours at Apex Park | Danjoo Waabininy Boodja. We are currently reviewing the CCTV footage from the incident. Until further notice, only one toilet will remain open in the park at night to provide this essential service to the community.

We know most residents share our pride in this town, so we ask anyone with further information about this vandalism to come forward.

#### **Power Pole Upgrades**

The Shire would like to advise Merredin residents of the upcoming power pole upgrades planned by Western Power.

#### 9 July 2025

Replacements will take place on Throssel Road between 9:00am and 4:00pm on Wednesday, 9 July 2025.

#### 16 July 2025

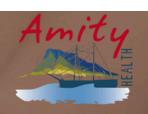
Replacements will take place on Priestly Street and McDonald Street between 8:30am and 4:00pm on Wednesday, 16 July 2025.

Drivers are advised to proceed with caution and avoid these areas where possible. We thank residents for their patience while the new poles are installed.

If you have any queries about these upgrades, please contact Western Power on **13 13 51**.







# NAIDOC WEEK YOUTH ACTIVITY DAY

Join Us For Our Fun-Filled Youth Activity Day

MONDAY 7 JULY 2025
10:00 AM-1:00 PM
CUMMINS THEATRE







**CONTACT US** 

cdo@merredin.wa.gov.au 08 9041 1611 THE NEXT
GENERATION:
STRENGTH,
VISION &
LEGACY
6-13 JULY 2025

**BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL FOR CATERING PURPOSES** 



# LANDFILL NOTICE

The Shire would like to advise residents of the following tip procedures:

Mattresses dropped at the tip will incur a fee of \$31.20. There are no exceptions between commercial and/or residential accounts.

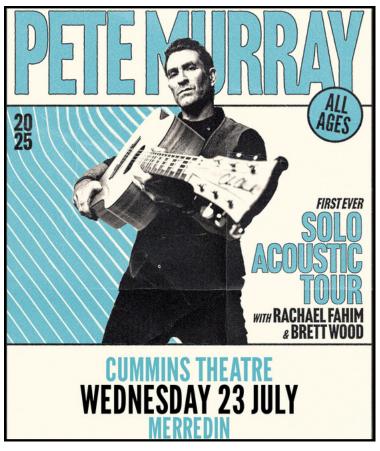
E-waste must be dropped at the e-waste bins. Residential e-waste can be disposed of for free, while the commercial rate is \$5.00 per item.

E-waste is defined as the following:

Any item that has an electrical cord to operate, including toasters, blenders, heaters, vacuum cleaners, televisions, and air conditioning units.

Any item that has a battery for operation, including toys, remotes, calculators, phones, clocks, and flashlights.

For any questions or further information, please contact the Shire at **(08) 9041 1611**.







Women 40 years or over, have a FREE breast screening mammogram every two years. Once is not enough.



BreastScreen WA's mobile service will be at:

#### Merredin

Merredin Town Centre , Barrack Street 18/06/2025 - 10/07/2025

Dates may be subject to change

For an appointment book online or phone 13 20 50



www.breastscreen.health.wa.gov.au

# COMMUNITY PLANTING DAY

In December 2024, the Shire of Merredin was awarded a 4 star rating in the Wildflower Excellence Rating Scheme from the Wildflower Society of Western Australia. The award comes with over 200 native plants that are native to our wheatbelt region.

**How You Can Help** 

Join us to plant over 200 native shrubs and trees to create a Native Garden at Roy Little Park





## Join Us

- Wednesday, 9 July 2025
- 10:30am
- Roy Little Park, Duff St

Contact Central Wheatbelt
Visitor Centre to register
9041 1666

visitor@merredin.wa.gov.au



#### **COMMUNITY PLANTING DAY**

The Shire is proud to have received a 4-Star rating in Wildflower Society of Western Australia's Wildflower Excellence Rating Scheme 2024.

This recognition highlights Merredin's rich biodiversity, including an abundance of wildflowers flourishing across our natural reserves, road verges, and Flora Road.

As part of this amazing achievement, the Wildflower Society of Western Australia has provided a consignment of locally native tube stock to be planted at Roy Little Park to create a native garden.

Groundworks have already commenced to remove the grass ahead of the event. Register to join us for the Community Planting Day on Wednesday, 9 July 2025 from 10:30am.

Bring your hat, enclosed shoes, gloves, and water. Plus a trowel, if you have one!

#### **Planting Plan**

Pictured below is the planting plan to show how the native garden will look once the plants are fully established.



# **EMPLOYMENT OPPRTUNITY**

#### **Executive Support Officer**

Commencing: Immediately

Position Status: Permanent Full Time

Salary: Level 6/7 \$64,311 - \$69,656 per annum\*
\*Starting level will depend on skills and experience

\*Annual salary subject to increase in new Financial Year

The Shire is seeking an experienced person to join our team as the Executive Support Officer. The successful applicant will provide confidential and efficient administration support to the Executive Managers of the Shire of Merredin and ensure that clerical, administrative and other tasks, as directed by the Executive Managers, are carried out in an efficient and timely manner and to a professional standard. This position will report directly to the Executive Manager Strategy and Community.

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 Wellbeing Program including flu shots, skin cancer checks and an Employee Assistance Program;
- Additional superannuation through the Shire's co-contribution program; and Salary sacrifice

#### **How to Apply**

Applications are to include a comprehensive resume and a separate cover letter (max 2 pages) outlining your ability to meet the selection criteria. A position description for this role is available on the Shire of Merredin website, or please email careers@merredin.wa.gov.au to obtain an electronic copy.

To apply, send your resume and cover letter to careers@merredin.wa.gov.au or drop if off at the Shire Administration Building, by **4.00pm on Tuesday, 8 July 2025**.

If you would like to have a confidential chat about the role or require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact Codi Brindley-Mullen (Executive Manager Strategy and Community) on 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.



#### **WINTER HOME FIRE SAFETY - PART TWO**

As the weather continues to cool down and we start looking for more ways to warm up, we enter the higher risk time of year for fires in the home. A small fire can engulf a room in a couple of minutes, and your house can be beyond saving before the fire brigade can arrive. Most home fires are preventable. Last month we discussed some tips around home fire safety – here are a few more!

#### **Kitchen fires**

Never leave cooking unattended – according to DFES, unattended heat sources are responsible for one in seven house fires. Keep flammable materials and loose fabric (like tea towels and curtains) away from the stove; keep your oven, range hood and grill free of built-up grease' and don't put anything metallic in the microwave.

Putting water on a fat or oil fire is dangerous and will cause the fire to spread and potentially cause you injury. You should use a fire blanket instead. Fire blankets are not very expensive and can be purchased from a number of retailers in Merredin. Keep one in your kitchen, and practise using it – there are directions on the blanket housing, and easy video demonstrations on YouTube.

#### **Electrical Appliances**

Only use licensed electrical contractors (Merredin has plenty of great ones!) to install or repair your electrical components or appliances.

Never leave electric blankets on while you sleep or leave the house and never store them folded.

It can be very dangerous to overload or piggy-back power boards, extension leads or adapters. Always ensure you have plenty of ventilation around power boards and adapters. We have a lot of old houses in Merredin, and the wiring can be quite old too – if you have multiple computers or other electrical devices in the house, have one of our amazing local electricians check or upgrade your home's wiring.

Always change the lint filter every time you put a load in the clothes dryer, and never overfill the dryer.

If you see any visible damage to any electrical appliance or cable, have it inspected by an electrician or replace it.

#### Fireplaces and chimneys

Make sure your fireplace meets approved standards and has been installed by a reputable tradesperson. Fires can start from a build-up of soot from previous winters, so it's worth going to the effort to clean and maintain your fireplace and chimney each year.

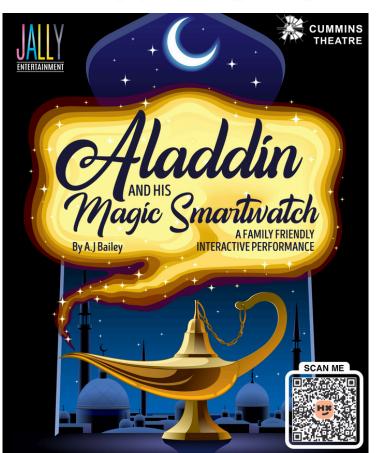
And when putting more logs on the fire, take care that you haven't dislodged any embers – burning embers landing on carpet can very easily and quickly develop into a fire.

For more information on anything contained in this article, please visit <a href="http://bit.ly/40tZ384">http://bit.ly/40tZ384</a>





Parental supervision required for all children under 10. Bookings essential, limit of 40 participants, no walk-ins. See you there, come dressed for fun. Call 90411222 to book your place or email library@merredin.wa.gov.au

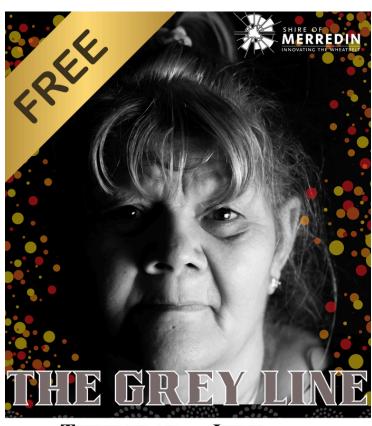


# **CUMMINS THEATRE**

TUESDAY, 22 JULY 2025 | 10:00AM - 11:00AM

**TICKETS \$10.00** 

SCAN THE QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS OR POP INTO THE CENTRAL WHEATBELT VISITOR CENTRE



# THURSDAY 10 JULY 2025 CUMMINS THEATRE

09:30 AM | Doors Open 10:00 AM | Show Starts

SCAN THE QR CODE TO BOOK YOUR TICKETS OR POP INTO THE VISITOR CENTRE BOOKINGS ARE ESSENTIAL

