

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

SUCCESSFUL COMMUNITY PLANTING DAY AT ROY LITTLE PARK

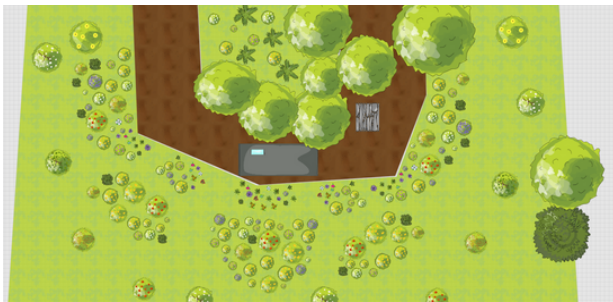
In December 2024, the Shire was awarded a 4-star rating in the Wildflower Excellence Rating Scheme. As part of this award, around 200 plants, native to our unique region, were cultivated for the Shire to further enhance the natural beauty of our town.

On 9 July 2025, we held a Community Planting Day, welcoming all to join in the fun and take pride in this exciting development. This wonderful event marked a major step towards establishing our Native Garden at Roy Little Park.

Over 35 people contributed their time and effort on the day, soaking in the sunshine and community spirit. The event kicked off with a quick demonstration before everyone worked together to plant the new additions, adding wire and mulch to give them the best start.

The Shire would like to thank the dedicated volunteers of all ages, and the committee members from the Merredin branch of the Western Australian Wildflower Society, who worked alongside Shire staff to make this event possible. We also extend our deepest gratitude to Two Dogs Mitre 10 for generously delivering supplies.

We're excited to nurture this revitalised green space into a vibrant and beautiful area for all to enjoy. Stay tuned for the official opening date to be announced in coming weeks.



Pictured left:
A map of how
the native garden
will look once
established.



AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 26 August 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.

CITIZENSHIP CEREMONY

On Monday 21 July 2025, a Citizenship Ceremony was held in the Function Room at the Shire Administration building. Matthew Fegan has already lived in Australia for around 50 years, but he expressed the feeling it was time to make it official.

It was our absolute pleasure to officially recognise Matthew's citizenship, further cementing his valuable place within our community. With his wife in attendance, Matthew made his pledge of commitment, guided by Shire President Donna Crook and supported by CEO Craig Watts and other Shire staff in the audience.

Another Citizenship Ceremony will be held on Monday 4 August where 5 more wonderful individuals will be officially recognised as Australian citizens in our community.



Shire President Donna and Matthew

FESTIVE NIGHT OUT

We're excited to announce that our annual Gala Night has undergone a refreshing rebrand. The new name, Festive Night Out, reflects our new direction towards a more community-led, collaborative celebration.

The first committee meeting was held last week, but there's still time to join either the Executive Committee or the Sub-Committee.

We look forward to making this annual event better than ever! Register to join here: <http://bit.ly/3IHhdgT>

FAREWELL, PETER!

After more than 9 years with the Shire, Peter is leaving his role as Executive Manager Development Services.

Peter brought his unwavering leadership and precision to a variety of essential services, including health, planning, and emergency services. We will miss the expertise and guidance he always offered to Shire staff and Council.

On behalf of everyone, we thank Peter for being a valuable member of the team and wish him success for the future.

A festive-themed graphic for 'Festive Night Out 2025'. The top features a close-up of Christmas decorations including red and gold baubles, gold tinsel, and a red ribbon bow. Below this, the text 'Festive Night Out 2025' is written in a large, elegant, gold cursive font. Underneath, 'EOI COMMITTEE REGISTRATION' is written in bold, gold, sans-serif capital letters, followed by 'SCAN ME!' in a similar font. A large QR code is centered below the text, framed by a gold border. At the bottom, there are two logos: on the left, the 'SHIRE OF MERREDIN' logo with the tagline 'INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT' and a stylized sun/star icon; on the right, the 'Merredin Community Resource Centre' logo with the tagline 'Your local connection' and a colorful circular graphic. The background is dark blue with white snowflake and star patterns.

NEW STAFF PROFILE



Meet Xinyi!

We're excited to introduce our new Development Services Officer, Xinyi.

Xinyi has joined us from an architectural background, and we look forward to working with her in the Infrastructure Services Directorate under the Executive Manager Infrastructure Services.

A message from Xinyi

"Hi, I'm Xinyi. I've worked as an architectural draftsman, but it is more attractive for me to work with the Shire and contribute my knowledge about planning and building. In my spare time, I enjoy gaming, reading, and DIY. I'm also waiting for the swimming season."

MRCLC NEWSLETTER

You can now subscribe to receive the newsletter from the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre!

Stay up to date with all things MRCLC by subscribing via the website:
merredinsportandrecreation.com.au



2025/26 Budget Highlights

Operating Budget
\$15.4M

Capital Budget
\$8.5M

Funds to Reserve
\$735K



\$240K Building and
Housing Capital
Improvements



\$5.5M Roads and
Roads Infrastructure
Capital



\$215K Kerbs and
Footpaths



\$50K CCTV
Improvements



\$400K Swimming
Pool Reserve



\$990K MRCLC
Improvements



\$1.2M Road
Maintenance



\$1.1M Parks
and Oval
Maintenance



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

At the July Ordinary Council Meeting this week, Councillors endorsed the 2025–26 budget. The infographic above shows some of the priorities for this budget, including improvements to housing, footpaths, CCTV, the MRCLC, and more!

Now the budget has been endorsed, the Shire will proceed with issuing rates at the end of August. With the Rates notice, you will also receive your firebreak notice, changes to the tip pass system, and other important information. Please ensure you read closely and contact the Shire if you have any queries.

You still have time to sign up for e-rates notices before the new rates cycle begins. Say goodbye to paper clutter and hello to hassle-free updates straight to your inbox.

eRates

Sign Up Now



bit.ly/electronicrates



Instant delivery



Environmentally Friendly



Convenience



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT

2025

Eric Hind **SCHOLARSHIP**

The Eric Hind annual scholarship, valued at \$1,000, is awarded to a young, talented music or performing arts student by the Shire of Merredin.

Applications are now open for 2025. To apply, please scan the QR code below.

**Applications Close: 12:00pm Friday
31 October 2025**



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- ✓ Aged between 7 and 20
- ✓ Studied music or performing arts for at least 12 months
- ✓ Resident in the Shire of Merredin or a student of music or performing arts in Merredin
- ✓ Have not previously won this scholarship



(08) 9041 3295



www.merredin.wa.gov.au



mcc@merredin.wa.gov.au

Are you hiring a children's party entertainer?

- ✓ Ensure you validate their WWC details online



NEW ARRIVALS - VISITOR CENTRE

Experience the distinctive, earthy aromas that make the Aussie Bush so unforgettable with the new arrivals at the Visitor Centre!

Created by the talented Sheree Lowe from *Paint the Town*, this range includes:

🌸 **Aussie Bush Soap** – Handcrafted for a truly refreshing cleanse.

🌸 **Moisturising Cream** – Nourish your skin with the beauty of our local landscape.

🏠 **Reed Diffuser** – Fill your home with the captivating scents of the Australian bush.

Perfect for treating yourself or finding the special gift that captures the essence of our beautiful region! Prices range from \$8 to \$25.

Pop into the Visitor Centre and discover these gorgeous new additions – your skin (and home) will thank you! Opening hours are Monday to Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm.



Annual General Meeting

For more information please email merredinshow@gmail.com



Date & Time
13TH AUGUST
AT 6.00PM



Location
MERREDIN COMMUNITY RESOURCE CENTRE



Everyone is welcome to attend! We would love to see you there!!

Committee Registration 2028

Cummins Theatre Centenary Celebration

TO REGISTER YOUR INTEREST AND BE PART OF THE PLANNING COMMITTEE, SCAN THE QR CODE.



HONOURING VIETNAM VETERANS 59 YEARS ON
FROM THE BATTLE OF LONG TAN

LONG TAN DAY

Lest We Forget

MONDAY, 18 AUGUST 2025

REFLECTION POND - ROY LITTLE PARK

PLEASE ARRIVE BY 3:45PM FOR A 4:00PM START

ALL ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT



EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

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 options.

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 it off at the Shire Administration Building, by **4:00pm on Tuesday 12 August 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 (08) 9041 1611.

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 **5:00pm on Friday 29 August 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.

FIRE EXTINGUISHERS AND FIRE BLANKETS

Fire extinguishers are great to have around the home – if a small fire starts, correct use of the correct type of fire extinguisher can ensure you get on top of it before it grows and does serious damage. However, using the wrong kind of fire extinguisher can be dangerous and make the situation worse.

There is no single fire extinguisher that will work on every type of fire. However, if you're looking for a multi-purpose fire extinguisher for around the home, choose an ABE dry powder extinguisher. You will be able to recognise it by the white stripe on a red extinguisher, and it should also be labelled "ABE" ("BE" powder extinguishers are different and have different capability, so make sure it definitely says "ABE").

ABE dry powder extinguishers can be used on:

- 🔥 solid fuel (like a fire in a paper bin, or if curtains behind a stove catch fire)
- 🔥 liquid fuel (like a small puddle of petrol or diesel – but NOT cooking oils or fats)
- 🔥 a fire started by or involving electrical equipment.

ABE dry powder extinguishers CAN NOT be used on cooking oils or fat fires. It is therefore useful to also have a fire blanket in your kitchen. There are multiple retailers in Merredin who sell both fire extinguishers and fire blankets at affordable prices.

Using fire extinguishers and blankets

Fire extinguishers and fire blankets are both very simple to use – however, most people use them for the first time during an emergency, which is not ideal.

If you have to use a fire extinguisher, remember the acronym **PASS**:

Pull the pin

Aim at the base of the fire

Squeeze the handle to start the extinguisher

Sweep the extinguisher from side to side until the fire is extinguished

Fire & Rescue NSW have a good video on YouTube demonstrating how to use a fire blanket, and there are several reputable fire safety organisations with videos on YouTube demonstrating how to use a fire extinguisher. Take 5 minutes to have a look at these videos and familiarise yourself with the process.

If you have access to a fire extinguisher at home or work, practise holding it, get a feel for the weight, and identify where the pin and the pressure gauge are. You can practise the fire blanket technique with any blanket or towel you have around the home.

Remember!

Fire extinguishers and fire blankets should only be used on small fires. If you feel unsafe, or that the fire is too big for the extinguisher or blanket, get everyone out of the building immediately and **call 000**.

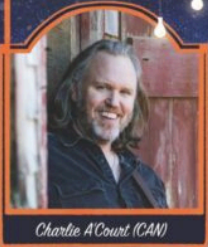
For more information on fire extinguishers and fire blankets, visit the DFES website here: <http://bit.ly/44HWS3y>.



WOODFORDIA INC. PRESENTS

Coming to a Small Town Near You

Festival of Small Halls



Charlie A'Court (CAN)



Emily Barker (AUS)

Winter Tour 2025

Cummins Theatre

Sunday, 17 August 2025

Doors Open 6:30pm | Show Starts 7pm

Adult \$20 | Concession \$15 | Child \$10

6th August - 30th August 2025

Western Australia

WWW.FESTIVALOFSMALLHALLS.COM

WOODFORDIA INC

Department of Local Government, Sport and Cultural Industries

BUSINESS *After Hours* SUNDOWNER

WEDNESDAY, 20 AUGUST 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 6 August 2025 by scanning the QR code or emailing ea@merredin.wa.gov.au.



TICKETS \$10

Dreams of a
Lonely Planet

Cummins Theatre
Wednesday, 3 September 2025
10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

SCAN ME!

Scan the QR Code or pop into the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre to purchase your tickets.

CUMMINS THEATRE

JOIN US FOR THE
ST MARY'S SCHOOL FETE

SATURDAY
18TH OCTOBER 2025
9.30AM-1PM

FREE ENTRY

SOUTH AVENUE, MERREDIN

*FACE PAINTING
*WINE WHEEL *MYSTERY BAGS
*SECOND HAND STALLS
*LOLLY BAGS
*LIVE ENTERTAINMENT
*SLUSHY STALL
*SIDESHOW GAMES *ICE CREAM
*BISCUIT DECORATING,
*SILENT AUCTION *BALL DROP
*TRAIN RIDES
*FRESH CUT FLOWERS
*PLANTS AND MORE!!

PLEASE JOIN THE ST MARY'S FETE EVENT ON FACEBOOK TO KEEP UP TO DATE WITH EVERYTHING FOR THIS EVENT.