

COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION

COUNCILLOR MARK MCKENZIE TENDERS RESIGNATION

At the August Ordinary Council meeting, Councillor Mark McKenzie tendered his resignation from Council ahead of the upcoming Local Government elections. Cr McKenzie has been a dedicated member of Council for the past 6 years, taking up the role of Shire President in 2021 before being re-elected in 2023. He stepped down as Shire President in 2024 and has diligently served as a Councillor since.

From his first week, Cr McKenzie listened and responded to community feedback. He said, "There was huge community concern around saving the Water Tower. As a young person who didn't live in town but always drove through, the Water Tower was a beacon to guide me home. The restoration process has been a long journey, but Council worked hard to make it happen, and now we've saved this iconic Merredin landmark."

When asked about the highlight of his time on Council, Cr McKenzie shared, "Working with all the amazing Councillors who came before and are still on Council, all intent on supporting each other and doing the right thing for the community." Cr McKenzie added, "It was an honour to be Shire President, especially through a time of great hardship. I'm proud of the things Council achieved by listening and finding out what was needed, especially the redevelopment of Apex Park | Danjoo Waabininy Boodja. This was a huge financial decision, but we were able to achieve it. Now we see kids playing there all the time, even in the rain."

Cr McKenzie has tirelessly offered his time and effort to improve our town and provide local opportunities for all. He shepherded in our incredible CBD Redevelopment Project, including the honour of cutting the ribbon alongside Hon. Darren West MLC at the re-opening of Apex Park | Danjoo Waabininy Boodja. He has also proudly presented community members with awards, such as the Eric Hind Music Scholarship and Community Citizen of the Year.

During the August Council Meeting, Deputy Shire President Renee Manning said Cr McKenzie led with both humour and discipline. He took his role as a conduit between the local community and the Shire very seriously, being a strong voice and advocate for significant capital projects.

On behalf of everyone at the Shire Council and Administration, we thank Cr McKenzie for his dedication to the betterment of our community. We wish both Cr McKenzie and his wife Toni all the best for the future.



SEPTEMBER COUNCIL MEETING

The next Ordinary Council Meeting is scheduled to be held on Tuesday, 16 September 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.

The Merredin Branch of the Wildflower Society of WA invites you to come on the

\$10

Collgar Scenic Wildflower Tour

MEET AT THE MERREDIN HERBARIUM
BEHIND THE LIBRARY

Sunday 21st September 2025
1pm (12.30 registration) – 5pm

Afternoon tea provided under the salmon gums
Local wildflower experts onboard
Please book your seat on the bus
at the Central Wheatbelt Visitors Centre on 90411666






For more details inquire on our Facebook page

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 their website:
merredinsportandrecreation.com.au



AUGUST COUNCIL MEETING OUTCOMES

Council Plan 2025-2035 Adopted

At the August Ordinary Council meeting, the Shire of Merredin Council Plan 2025-2035 was officially adopted. We undertook a major review of our Strategic Community Plan 2020-2030 and Corporate Business Plan 2022/23-2025/26, which resulted in an integrated Council Plan outlining the long-term priorities, goals, and vision that guide Council's decision-making.

We consulted with Council and the community every step of the way to meet the residential, commercial and industrial needs of our unique Shire. Every voice mattered in this process, so we hosted town meetings, online surveys and feedback postcards to gain valuable insight from residents on how best to shape the future.

Based on over 560 responses, the Council Plan was shaped to prioritise areas including pedestrian safety, housing, childcare, recreation facilities, road connectivity, and business development. The Shire is proud to present our Council Plan to the community, and we look forward to the next 10 years with you all!

Organisational Values Endorsed

Council has also endorsed the new Shire Organisational Values, which formed part of the new Council Plan. Commencing in May 2025, we sought to review our Organisational Values to better reflect our current staff members and to uphold our responsibility to lead with transparency and efficiency.

We held four consultation sessions to discuss what the values mean and what staff consider to be acceptable and unacceptable behaviour. The following refreshed values were endorsed by Council and will now be adopted by Shire Administration: Respect, Integrity, Collaboration, and Excellence (RICE). Acceptable and unacceptable behaviours have also been sorted into "above the line" and "below the line" categories, to promote respectful discussions within the organisation and when interacting with Merredin's broader community.

The Shire is committed to delivering timely information and services, and we look forward to supporting our staff by providing a safe and effective workplace.

NEW STAFF PROFILE



Meet Naddy!

We're thrilled to welcome our new Administration Officer, Naddy.

With over 6 years in logistics and administrative roles in Thailand, Naddy chose Merredin for our friendly, close-knit community and the chance to make a difference locally.

A message from Naddy

"The team has been so welcoming, and I'm really excited for this opportunity. I'm eager to learn everything about local government and contribute to the Shire's projects. In my free time, I love cooking Thai food for friends and exploring new places in WA."

BURNING PERIODS 2025/26

OPEN PERIOD

17 March - 15 September
Burning Permitted

RESTRICTED BURNING

16 September - 31 October
Permit Required to Burn

PROHIBITED BURNING

1 November - 17 February
Burning Prohibited

RESTRICTED BURNING

18 February - 16 March
Permit Required to Burn

CWVC WILDFLOWER ADVENTURES

Whether you're a serious botanist, weekend hiker, or just love discovering the hidden gems in your own backyard, we have the guide for you. These books will transform every walk into a treasure hunt!

Stop by and browse our collection - we can help you find the perfect guide for your next adventure.



Prices range from \$12.00 to \$49.95

Updated Hours

The Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre is now open 7 days for the wildflower season!

Monday to Friday

8:30am to 4:30pm

Saturday and Sunday

9:00am to 1:00pm



📷 Blue Fairy Orchid

Wildflowers on Display

The Blue Fairy Orchid, Ant Orchid, and Spider Orchid are just three of our spectacular wildflowers waiting to be found!



📷 Spider Orchid



📷 Ant Orchid

Want some expert wildflower advice through a fun and social setting? Join the Collgar Scenic Wildflower Tour this September (see page 2).

For information on What's Flowering and Wildflower Tours in the region, head to bit.ly/cwvcwildflowerinfo



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

MERREDIN LANDFILL UPDATES





Please be advised the Shire has implemented new procedures at the Merredin Landfill for the 2025–26 financial year. These updated procedures are designed to simplify landfill management and improve overall efficiency and sustainability of our waste disposal.

These changes have been introduced in response to misuse of the current system, where some users have accessed the landfill beyond what is considered typical residential use. Most residents who use the service as intended will not be impacted.

Tip Passes

-  Your tip pass provides twelve (12) entries to the Merredin Landfill during the financial year to dispose of residential general waste and contaminated green waste.
-  From the thirteenth (13th) visit onward, standard waste disposal charges will apply based on the type of rubbish being deposited. This will reset as of 1 July 2026.
-  Rural and/or farming properties with a residence on site that are not serviced by the weekly Avon Waste service are the only exception. These property owners can apply for a 52-visit tip pass to dispose of residential general waste and contaminated green waste.
-  All tip passes allow the disposal of up to one (1) cubic metre of waste material. Anyone without a tip pass must pay the applicable waste disposal charges.

Green Waste

-  If you are a Merredin resident, you can dispose of CLEAN/UNCONTAMINATED green waste free of charge (unlimited number of visits).
-  If you are a business, you can dispose of CLEAN/UNCONTAMINATED green waste from a property in the Shire of Merredin free of charge (unlimited number of visits).
-  If you are a resident or business outside the Shire of Merredin boundary, you will be charged the applicable rate to dispose of CLEAN/UNCONTAMINATED green waste.
-  Whether you are a property owner, occupier, or business (from inside or outside of Merredin), you will be charged the applicable rate to dispose of CONTAMINATED green waste. This will either be a tip pass or the relevant cost as per our updated fees and charges.

Residents must display a tip pass or driver's licence as proof of a Shire of Merredin address. Businesses must provide proof of address for the Merredin property the green waste has been removed from.

These changes apply to all ratepayers and came into effect upon the distribution of 2025–26 rates notices. For further information or if you have any questions, please contact the Shire on (08) 9041 1611.

For eligibility requirements or to apply for the Rural/Farming Property 52-Visit Tip Pass, fill in the online form on our website at bit.ly/52-VisitTipPass or download the fillable PDF under Waste Management > Disposal Fees.





Community
Citizen of the
year Awards



SHIRE OF
MERREDIN
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT



Presented by:



Australia Day
Council of
Western Australia

Principal Partner:



Government of **Western Australia**
Department of **Communities**

Media Partners:



WAtoday
News you need to know today

Nominate now



If you know someone, or a group, doing great things in our community, nominate them for a 2026 Community Citizen of the Year Award, in our four categories.

- > Citizen of the Year
- > Youth Citizen of the Year
- > Senior Citizen of the Year
- > Active Citizenship (Group or Event)

citizenshipawards.com.au | Closing Date: 31 October 2025

Local Government Recognising Community Champions.

FRENCH AVENUE PLAYGROUND UPDATES

We're excited to share the playground works at Upper and Lower French Avenue are now completed. After identifying safety issues through our annual inspection program, the Shire immediately removed the concerning equipment.

We recognised how valuable this play space was for families, so we immediately ordered replacements. Despite the weather, the new equipment was installed promptly to get the play spaces back in action. Pictured right are the new additions at Lower French (yellow set) and Upper French (blue set).

We thank the community for your patience while we upgraded the playground equipment and hope to see you out there soon.

The Shire would like to remind residents about the free **Snap Send Solve** app available for reporting local issues. It takes 30 seconds to use and can really make a difference to the community. If you notice anything concerning around the Shire of Merredin, such as damage to play equipment, you can let us know by taking a picture, filling in the location and other details, then hit send.

Other things you can report through Snap Send Solve include potholes, rubbish dumping, abandoned trolleys, graffiti, and more!



Report local issues in a Snap!

Free from the App Store & Google Play

Snap
Send
Solve



Download App

Download on the
App Store

GET IT ON
Google Play

2025/26 RATES NOTICES

Electronic rates notices have been distributed to all individuals who signed up. If you registered to receive your rates notice via email and have not yet received it, please check your spam or junk folder. If the notice is not there, kindly contact the Shire at 9041 1611 for assistance. Hard-copy notices were also posted last week.

The 2025/26 rates are due by **3 October 2025** if paying in full. Alternatively, if you have elected to pay in instalments, an interest rate of 5.5% will be imposed with the due dates provided in the table to the right.

First Instalment:	3 October 2025
Second Instalment:	5 December 2025
Third Instalment	6 February 2026
Fourth Instalment	10 April 2026

Please contact the Shire if you are having difficulty making the payment dates. If you do not, an interest rate of 8% will be imposed and legal action may be taken if payments are not paid on time.

Wednesday, 3 September 2025

CircuitWest, Flying Bicycle Collective and
Shire of Merredin present a Playing WA tour of



10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

Tickets \$10.00

SCAN
ME!



CUMMINS
THEATRE

Proudly supported by the WA Government. Scan the QR code for tickets. Show suitable for adults and children alike.



CUMMINS THEATRE

MORNING *Melodies*

*Robert &
Manuela*

Bringing to you, the music of Irish Dance

SCAN ME



Friday, 5 September

DOORS OPEN

10:30 AM

SHOW STARTS

11:00 AM

SCAN THE QR CODE TO PURCHASE TICKETS OR
POP INTO THE VISITORS CENTRE
TICKET PRICE \$20-\$25

DIESEL

BY REQUEST



20 SEP

CUMMINS THEATRE
MERREDIN

NEW
WORLD
ARTISTS

TICKETS ON SALE NOW
DIESELMUSIC.COM.AU

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.