

SHIRE OF MERREDIN COMMUNITY NEWS & INFORMATION



Merredin Railway Station Employees c.1900

Early Photos Adorn Visitor Centre

In tribute to the early residents of Merredin, the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre has restored a series of photographs of Merredin CBD dating back over 100 years.

The four images show a glimpse of Merredin life in the early 1900s and include visions of railway workers from 1900, trains transporting wheat in 1930, Merredin Railway Station in 1932 and the Barrack Street CBD in 1920.

These photographs were reproduced as a window feature on 20 September and can be seen at the front of the Visitor Centre building.

This project was made possible with contributions from the Shire of Merredin and Royalties for Regions Regional Visitor Centre Sustainability Grant Program.

COUNCIL MEETING

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at the Shire Administration Building, in Council Chambers, on Tuesday 18 October 2016 and will commence at 3:00pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend.

The agenda will be available to view on Council's website on Monday 17 October 2016.

2017 Council Meeting Dates

Council Meetings are usually held on the third Tuesday of every month at the Shire Administration Building. Due to Easter, the April Council Meeting will be held on Wednesday 19 April 2017.

Meetings are open to the public and members of the public are welcome to attend.

Tuesday 17 January 2017

Tuesday 21 February 2017

Tuesday 21 March 2017

Wednesday 19 April 2017

Tuesday 16 May 2017

Tuesday 20 June 2017

Tuesday 18 July 2017

Tuesday 15 August 2017

Tuesday 19 September 2017

Tuesday 17 October 2017

Tuesday 21 November 2017

Tuesday 19 December 2017

Reporting to Your Shire

Have you seen something that needs attention in your town? Shire of Merredin aims to provide quality facilities and high level services to all our residents and ratepayers. Our services include (but are not limited to) waste management, works services, community development, environmental health, Ranger services and town planning. If you see anything in your town that requires work or attention you can contact the Shire Administration team

directly who can arrange for the relevant staff to take action. The nature of some incidents will require immediate response or an action request or report to be submitted. For this reason, we ask that you contact a staff member in person or over the phone. We advise against reporting through social media channels as they are not likely to be received immediately.

Reports can be made in person to the **Shire** office or by phoning **9041 1611**.

October is Pet Registration Month

Dogs Day Out on 11 September saw some of Merredin's residents and their pooches visiting Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre for a day of socialising, fun and education. Experts in the field of dog behaviour and health also attended the event including Merredin Veterinary Clinic, AB Physiotherapy, Country K9 Care Dog Grooming and Dog Hub Australia. Seeing such beautiful, healthy and socialised dogs with their responsible owners was a wonderful sight. Being a responsible dog or cat owner involves providing them with a healthy diet, a secure home, plenty of exercise and mental stimulation as well as regular health check-ups. It also includes

registering your dog or cat with your local Council, which is a compulsory (and inexpensive) obligation. Microchipped and sterilised dogs and cats can be registered for \$20 per year, or a lifetime registration costs \$100. Pensioners may be eligible for a discount on these rates. Dog and cat registrations expire on 31 October and can be renewed at the Shire office.

For more information on dog and cat registrations please visit our website on www.merredin.wa.gov.au



COMMUNITY EVENTS

Every Monday		Tales of Times Past	Senior Centre	Free
4 October	10:30am	Making Paper Planes	Library	Free
6 October	10:30am	Making Paper Bag Puppets	Library	Free
6 October	11:00am	Rock & Town Challenge	Visitor Centre	Free
10 October	2:00pm & 7:00pm	Movie, Coffee & Cake - Theatre's 87th Birthday	Cummins Theatre	\$10
13 October	10:30am	In a Dark, Dark Wood	Cummins Theatre	\$3/\$5
13-16 October	Various	Fine Art Society Exhibition	Railway Museum	\$5
14 October	3:00pm	Afternoon Tea at the Visitor Centre	Visitor Centre	Gold Coin
14 October	6:30pm	Elders Golden Sausage	Tivoli Room	\$5 Tasters
15 October	10:00am	Soccer, Bocce & Cards	Recreation Centre	Free
15 October	Various	Cooking Demonstrations - 11:30am & 2:00pm	Recreation Centre	\$10
15 October	6:30pm	Dinner and Entertainment	Cummins Theatre	\$30(Sold Out)
22 October	11:00am	Lunchtime Escapes - Cole	Cummins Theatre	\$20
22 October	7:30pm	Cole - Michael Griffiths (Dinner show)	Cummins Theatre	\$55



Shire Welcomes New Recreation Centre Management

Shire of Merredin has appointed Belgravia Leisure to take over the management of Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre from 1 October 2016. Belgravia Leisure is an aquatic, fitness and recreation management specialist. Belgravia was selected because the company is able to bring benefits to Merredin and the regional community with its broad variety of skills and experience in sporting and leisure aspects of community life. Welcoming the new partnership, Belgravia Leisure Chief Executive Nick

Cox stated “We look forward to building on, and introducing high quality and innovative recreational programs suited to the needs of every member of the community.”

Shire of Merredin Chief Executive Officer, Greg Powell adds, “Both Council and staff look forward to working with Belgravia Leisure to increase the usage and range of activities available at the Merredin Regional Community and Leisure Centre.”

Reduced Recycling Charges

Avon Waste, the Shire’s waste services provider, has adjusted their pricing structure in accordance with recent market demand and increased profit return for cardboard as a recyclable product. As a result, the Shire amended its Fees and Charges, which were adopted in its September Council meeting. This allows the commercial sector in Merredin to benefit from the decrease in relevant recycling charges (roughly

25%), encouraging businesses to dispose of their recyclable product in an increasingly responsible manner. The decrease in the cost of recycling cardboard is also set to benefit the landfill’s capacity considerations as businesses opt to receive the service and cease to dump the bulky waste in to the general refuse area.

Christmas Opening Hours

	Administration	Visitor Centre	Cummins Theatre	Library
Fri 23 Dec	8:30am-12:00pm	8:30am-4:30pm	10:00am-12:00pm	10:00am-5:00pm
Sat 24 Dec	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Sun 25 Dec	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Mon 26 Dec	CLOSED	10:00am-2:00pm	CLOSED	CLOSED
Tue 27 Dec	CLOSED	10:00am-2:00pm	CLOSED	CLOSED
Wed 28 Dec	CLOSED	10:00am-2:00pm	CLOSED	CLOSED
Thur 29 Dec	CLOSED	10:00am-2:00pm	CLOSED	CLOSED
Fri 30 Dec	CLOSED	10:00am-2:00pm	CLOSED	CLOSED
Sat 31 Dec	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Sun 1 Jan	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Mon 2 Jan	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED
Tue 3 Jan	8:30am-4:30pm	8:30am-4:30pm	10:00am-4:00pm	10:00am-6:00pm

Festa Italiana

The Italian Festival in October is set to be one of the biggest events of the year and celebrates our Italian families and their history.

All Festa Italiana events and activities are listed in the event schedule to the right. For more information on any of the events contact **Marilyn** on **9041 3033**.

Positions Vacant

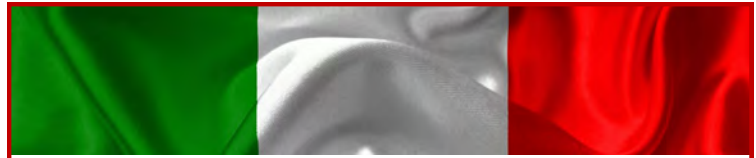
There are two exciting positions available at the Shire of Merredin. If you are interested in becoming the next Records Officer or Community Liaison Officer, please visit our website: www.merredin.wa.gov.au and click on 'Work With Us' to view the position descriptions. Alternatively a position description can be obtained from **Vanessa** at the **Shire** office.

New Fire Control Officers

At its September meeting, Council appointed Shire of Merredin Ranger, Kim Friis, as Fire Control Officer. Geoff Ryan (Baandee Bush Fire Brigade) and John Nicholls (Doodlakine Bush Fire Brigade) were also appointed as Dual Fire Control Officers for the Shire of Merredin as well as the Shire of Kellerberrin. This increases the availability of fire control officers to our community.

Lookout for Locusts

The Australian Plague Locust has the ability to cause severe damage to crops and pastures. As locust hatching season approaches, the Department of Agriculture and Food (DAFWA) are urging landowners to check their paddocks for locust activity and prepare for control if necessary. If locust activity is observed on their property during autumn, they are reminded to remain vigilant as this activity is likely to result in eggs hatching in spring. DAFWA staff has commenced surveying for locusts in Merredin and surrounding areas. These studies aim to help landowners to become more informed on effective and timely control of locusts. DAFWA can provide information on the identification and control for locusts to landowners and encourage them to use the free PestFax Reporter app or to call the Disease Information Service (PaDIS) to report locust activity. This data will help DAFWA monitor and map locust movement.



Festa Italiana Event Schedule

MOVIE, COFFEE & CAKE **10 OCTOBER**

Enjoy coffee and cake to celebrate Cummins Theatre's 87th birthday and two sessions playing 'Le Meraviglie'

Cummins Theatre | \$10 pp | 2:00pm & 7:00pm

ART EXHIBITION **13-16 OCTOBER**

Merredin Fine Art Society Exhibition at the Merredin Railway Museum. Museum entry fee.

Railway Museum | Thursday 6pm-8pm | Friday 9am-5pm | Saturday 10am-4pm | Sunday 10am-12pm

AFTERNOON TEA **14 OCTOBER**

Join us for afternoon tea on the Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre lawn.

Visitor Centre | Gold Coin Donation | 3:00pm

ELDERS GOLDEN SAUSAGE **14 OCTOBER**

All are welcome to Elder's annual Golden Sausage Competition at Cummins Theatre. Dinner and gelato will also be available for purchase on the night.

Cummins Theatre | \$5 for Tasters | 6:30pm

SOCCER, BOCCE & CARDS **15 OCTOBER**

Learn the art of soccer, or join in on a game of bocce or cards. All games held at Merredin Rec Centre from 10am. Lunch and gelato will be available for purchase throughout the day.

Merredin Recreation Centre | Free | From 10:00am

COOKING DEMONSTRATIONS **15 OCTOBER**

Daniela and Stefania are sharing their love of cooking in two demonstrations at the Recreation Centre. Tickets available on TryBooking.com or at the Visitor Centre.

Merredin Rec Centre | \$10pp | 11:30am & 2:00pm

DINNER SHOW **15 OCTOBER**

Cummins Theatre are hosting a night of delicious Italian cuisine and amazing entertainment. Buon appetito! (Please note there are no more tickets available)

Cummins Theatre | Sold Out | 6:30pm

CHURCH, TOURS & LUNCHEON **16 OCTOBER**

Wind down with a Church service or tour of the town followed by lunch at the Tivoli Room.

Services (Various locations & times) Town Tours (Contact Visitor Centre) Luncheon at Tivoli Room