

# Shire of Merredin Community News & Information

May 2019

Photos from around our Shire | Youth Fest 2019, Merredin Leisure Centre Oval, WA

## ANZAC DAY 2019

~Lest We Forget~

Each year on 25 April communities across Australia and New Zealand gather together to honour the memory of those gallant men and women who willingly risked and sacrificed their lives in the fight for the safety and freedom of their beloved homelands.

In Merredin commemorations commenced as the sun rose over the cenotaph at dawn. The service was preceded by a parade of Merredin's military veterans, relatives of those veterans, serving members of Merredin's Police Force, St Johns Ambulance, Merredin's Military Cadets and others. Standing alongside our military veterans to honour our service men and women were over 300 community members. The dawn service was eloquently led by Cr Mal Willis who marked for the crowd the fact that 2019 not only marks 104 years since the Gallipoli campaign but it also marks 80 years since the commencement of WWII in 1939.

After the service individuals and families retreated to the warmth of the Tivoli Room at Cummins Theatre for a traditional Gun Fire breakfast cooked by the Men's Shed. The ingredients for the breakfast were kindly donated by Merredin IGA.

Later that day the mid-morning service took place at the Cummins Theatre with over 200 community members in attendance. Again the service was preceded by a parade led by the pipers and drummers from the Australian Army Band from Perth. The second commemoration was slightly longer than the first as it featured Snr Sgt. Mark Tobiasen as a guest speaker as well as A Choired Taste (Merredin's local choir) performing 'My Country' and leading the hymns for the service. Following the service attendees enjoyed a light lunch of sausage rolls, scones and ANZAC biscuits.

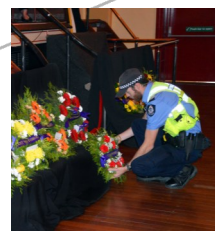
Similar services took place across the nation and it is important to note the power that ANZAC Day holds in uniting Australians. It is also important to acknowledge the effort of so many members of the Merredin community in ensuring that both of the services for ANZAC Day held in Merredin ran smoothly.

It is with an abundance of gratitude that the Shire would like to thank the Return and Services League WA – Merredin Sub Branch, Merredin Men's Shed, St John

Ambulance – Merredin Sub Branch, Merredin Volunteer Fire and Rescue Service, Merredin Military Cadets, Hon Mia Davies, Hon Melissa Price, Merredin Police, Njaki Njaki, A Choired Taste, Australian Army Band, Father Andrew Bowron, Father Brett Guthrie, Snr Sgt. Mark Tobiasen, Jade Healy-Ratima, Justin Freind, Rochelle Willis, Merredin College, St Mary's Primary School, Merredin IGA, the Department of Veterans' Affairs, Collgar Windfarm and Lotterywest.

Lastly a very big thank you to the working group for ANZAC Day which included Cr Mal Willis, Aub Tompkin, Su Riley, Rob Endersbee and Langley Smith. The group tirelessly put the two ANZAC Day services together with the Shire's Community Liaison Officer, Hannah Martin.

The Shire hopes that Merredin will continue to remember the men and women who sacrificed their lives for our great nations in 2020 and beyond.



## NEXT COUNCIL MEETING

The next Ordinary Council Meeting will be held at the Shire Administration Building in the Council Chambers on Tuesday, 21 May 2019 at 3:00pm. Members of the public are welcome to attend. The Agenda will be available to view on Council's website on Monday, 20 May 2019.







As part of Youth Week 2019, the Shire of Merredin organised a youth event called 'Youth Fest'. This free event for youth featured a combination of activities, entertainment and career expo.

Youth Fest kicked off the start of the school holidays with a whole lot of fun. The theme for Youth Week 2019 was 'Nurture the Now'. Minister for Housing; Veterans Issues; Youth; Asian Engagement, the Hon. Peter Tinley, stated "In saying 'Nurture The Now', we're

encouraging young people to validate their achievements and progress right now and to create a positive impact during this stage of their life."

This theme was fostered throughout Merredin's Youth Fest event with stallholders that provided information, guidance and support. The Shire also acknowledged the notion of "Nurture the Now" by providing surveys to the youth to empower them to have their say in the creation of a Shire youth strategy which will shape the future of their community.

In terms of entertainment Merredin's Youth Fest featured DJ MG who worked alongside event MC, Ryan "Trooth" Reynolds, to create beats for hilarious freestyle rap.

Additionally Youth Fest featured some fun activities including a bucking bull (or more accurately a 'mad cow') which created a whole lot of falls and fun. There was also face painting which transformed the children into anything from clowns to fairies. Just to make it a little more fun there was bubble soccer too. For those that haven't seen bubble soccer before picture this: a classic game of soccer while wearing an enormous inflatable bubble. To be fair there was probably less soccer played then there was running into each other from a distance or being involuntarily rolled around the oval.

As with all events of this magnitude, there was a team of wonderful supporters that made it all happen. Firstly a huge thank you to event sponsors Collgar and Lotterywest for underpinning not just this event but the entirety of the Shire's youth program for 2019. Secondly thank you to Avon Community Services for providing the bucking bull, fruit, water and the chill out zone.

Thank you to all of the volunteers that dedicated their time: Merredin Police, Merredin Central Regional TAFE, AMA Traineeships and Apprenticeships, Holyoake, Shire of Merredin representatives and Belgravia.

Finally thank you to the Men's Shed (once again) their expert barbecue cooking knowledge and skills. Youth Fest will be back in 2020.

*Attendees and organisers celebrating Merredin Youth Fest 2019*



## STORIES FROM THE SILO TOWNS

The Central Wheatbelt Visitor Centre has received new marketing resources and materials to promote Merredin and the Public Silo Trail.

"Stories from the Silo Towns" features stories from local Merredin residents Paddy & Joan Crook, Spike Jones, Renee Manning, Jim Flockart, Michelle Gethin and Eddie & Margaret Johnston. The publication retails at \$20.



## ERIC HIND SCHOLARSHIP AWARDED

Congratulations to Ms Siena Shelton for being the recipient of the 2018/19 Eric Hind Scholarship.

Siena currently attends Merredin College and is in Year 9. Siena has been playing the violin for 4 years and studies this online with her music teacher via Skype. Siena applied for the scholarship in order to replace her current violin which is  $\frac{3}{4}$  quarter size and requires her to upgrade to a full size violin to assist in her passion for the violin. Siena studies classical music and has recently started Irish fiddling. She plays her violin at the local church.

An interview was conducted on 28 March 2019 with the judges being Mrs Esther Robartson, Cr Brad Anderson, Cr Roy Butler and Mr Justin Freind (Manager Cummins Theatre). Siena performed two pieces for the judges and spoke of her love of the violin. Siena has met the selection criteria outlined in Policy 3.10 – Eric Hind Scholarship and it was unanimous that she is a worthy recipient of this award.

## REPORT IT!

Spotted an issue around town? Report it to the Shire via the FREE Snap, Send, Solve app (compatible with iPhone and Google Play phones) and get it sorted ASAP. Just snap a photo, input the location and any details and send it through to us. We can then get right on resolving it.



## PIONEER CEMETERY SIGNAGE

Pioneer Cemetery is sporting some new signage of late with a sign depicting a map of the cemetery being installed adjacent to existing signage within the cemetery.

In years gone by the cemetery had plot identification markers but currently many of the plot markers have been moved and there is no signage identifying the different sections of the cemetery which has made it difficult for visitors to the cemetery to find the graves of loved ones and ancestors.

The installation of this sign is yet another step forward in the process to look at improving the cemetery following damage sustained to several graves in March 2018. The Shire will continue to collaborate with the 'Friends of Pioneer Cemetery' group and community volunteers.



## INVITATION FOR PUBLIC COMMENT STREET TREE MASTER PLAN

Public comment is invited for the Shire of Merredin's draft Street Tree Master Plan (STMP). The need for the STMP was identified by Council. Staff have been progressively working on a draft STMP over a number of months. Adoption by Council at its March 2019 meeting of a new policy governing use of street verges (CMRef 82332) was a precursor and compliments the draft Master Plan.

Of key importance is the list of recommended species and their descriptions. Advice from a qualified horticulturalist was sought to complete the list. In the STMP the Merredin town site has been divided up into a number of zones which show the existing predominant species in each area and the recommended species for new plantings in each area.

To view the STMP – visit [www.merredin.wa.gov.au/employmentnotices/tenders-employment.aspx](http://www.merredin.wa.gov.au/employmentnotices/tenders-employment.aspx). The submission period for comments will close **4pm, Friday, 10 May 2019**. Comments should be in writing and submitted to [media@merredin.wa.gov.au](mailto:media@merredin.wa.gov.au).

Queries should be directed to the Executive Manager Engineering Services on 9041 1611.



# SAVE THE DATE!

18 - 20 OCTOBER

**This fabulous event is back for 2019!**

# Festa Italiana

~ Merredin WA ~

- **Friday, 18 Oct** - Golden Sausage Competition
- **Saturday, 19 Oct** - Bocce, soccer, card games & demonstrations at the Leisure Centre followed by an Italian Dinner with live entertainment
- **Sunday, 20 Oct** - Brunch

Enquiries - call (08) 9041 1611



SHIRE OF  
**MERREDIN**  
INNOVATING THE WHEATBELT





# Fun Day Disability Program

STARTS 7 MAY 2019 | 10-11.30am

First Tuesday of every month

Sport, Cooking, Art & Craft,  
WADSA Sport Equipment

A different activity each month | Cost \$5

For queries contact the Merredin Regional  
Community & Leisure Centre on 9041 3033



MERREDIN REGIONAL  
COMMUNITY & LEISURE CENTRE



DATE CHANGED TO 9 MAY!



MERREDIN REGIONAL  
LIBRARY

22 Coronation St, Merredin - 9041 1222

## AUTHOR VISIT Fleur McDonald

THURSDAY, 9 MAY 2019, 1PM

Come and meet Fleur McDonald  
and discuss her latest book,  
'Without a Doubt'. If you're a keen  
writer yourself you may even pick  
up some writing tips!

Afternoon tea will be provided.  
RSVP by Tuesday, 7 May 2019  
for catering purposes by calling  
Wendy & the team on 9041 1222.



### ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Fleur McDonald has lived and worked on farms for much of her life. After growing  
up in the small town of Orroroo in South Australia, she became a jillaroo before  
spending twenty years farming 8000 acres, east of Esperance, WA.

Fleur likes to write about strong women overcoming adversity, drawing  
inspiration from her own experiences in rural Australia. She is the  
best-selling author of Red Dust, Blue Skies, Suddenly One Summer,  
Fool's Gold and many more, which began the story of the popular  
Det. Dave Burrows. Fleur currently lives in Esperance with her  
two children, an energetic kelpie and a Jack Russell terrier.

Featuring stars from the West End's Lord of the Dance  
"THE BEST IRISH DANCE SHOW IN OVER A DECADE..."



## A TASTE OF IRELAND

THE IRISH MUSIC AND DANCE SENSATION  
2019 AUSTRALIAN TOUR

Tuesday 21st May 2019  
Cummins Theatre - Merredin

Book online or in person at the Cummins Theatre  
or at Central Wheatbelt Visitors Centre

TICKETS ON SALE NOW  
[www.atasteofirelandshow.com](http://www.atasteofirelandshow.com)

sensorium  
theatre

Cummins Theatre presents  
Sensorium Theatre's

## WHOOSH!

A sensory space adventure  
For young explorers with disabilities  
and their friends



Prepare your child for WHOOSH!

Download Sensorium Theatre FREE Digital App



on



VENUE

CUMMINS THEATRE - MERREDIN

DATES & TIMES

30 May @ 4:30pm, 31 May @ 10am & 1pm, 1 June @ 10am

INFO & BOOKING

\$15 (inc 1 child & 1 adult) [www.cumminstheatre.com.au](http://www.cumminstheatre.com.au)

AGE

Recommended for learning age 5-10yrs

